

Pharos looks locally

The Pharos Trust presented a recital with percussionist Nicolas Papageorgiou, cellist Aude Marie Auphan and flautist Virginie Bove as part of the Cyprus Artists Series at the Casteliotissa Hall in Nicosia on Wednesday evening. The Cyprus Artists Series is presented concurrently with the internationally established annual Concert and Recital Series and is dedicated to the promotion and support of leading musicians of Cypriot ancestry as well as musicians residing and pursuing a career in Cyprus.

The concert was well attended and had an interesting and varied programme due to the instrumental combinations and because lesser known composers were incorporated.

The trio began with Bach's *Sonata for Flute and Continuo BWV1033* with the continuo part taken by cello and vibraphone. This sonata allowed Bove to display her complete mastery of the flute with both long, cantabile lines musically executed as well as the fast semiquaver passages of the second movement.

Although the acoustics of Casteliotissa are difficult for the resonating qualities of the vibraphone, Papageorgiou was sensitive together with Auphan in their accompaniment.

The Jolivet *Pipeaubec for Flute and Percussion* written in 1971 followed. The work begins with a rhapsodic

CYPRUS MAIL

Παρασκευή, 30 Νοεμβρίου 2007, p. 47





flute melody against the clapping of hands, with Papageorgiou showing his rhythmic sense while creating an exciting crescendo before repeating the rhythms on the snare drum with mallets which altered the timbre of the instrument. A very interesting and exciting piece.

The final work in the first half was Martin Bresnick's *Songs of the Mouse People for Violoncello and Vibraphone* written in 1999 by the avant-garde American composer who is Professor of Contemporary music at Yale. The work is an illustration of the mouse diva Josephine and her art and audience with the highly virtuosic songs based on Franz Kafka's work *Josephine the Singer, or the Mouse People*. Auphan (pictured) is known for her interest in modern music and when asked what constituted a worthy piece of contemporary music, said "it must somehow move the audience in some way." Bresnick's music makes use in the second movement of stamped feet against the vibraphone melody and definitely

left an impression.

Papageorgiou's premiere of *Echoes* followed. He is an interesting composer and this was another worthy piece of music. It was easy to listen to, and yet not simplistic but rather stylish showing the composer's innate knowledge of the parameters of the flute with plenty of flutter tonguing.

Heitor Villa Lobos' *Assobio a Jato for Flute and Violoncello* displayed the virtuosic elements of both instruments and the competence of both Auphan and Bove. It was a musical performance, stylistically played with a good dynamic variety.

The final work, Bodin de Boismortier's *Sonata in E Minor for Flute and Continuo* was well chosen to bring the concert to a close with a link to the opening work.

The following concert in the Cyprus Artists Series will showcase the Mavroustaki sisters in a piano and violin recital.

By Saskia Constantinou

CYPRUS MAIL

Παράσκευη, 30 Νοεμβρίου 2007, π. 47





CYPRUS MAIL

Παρασκευή, 30 Νοεμβρίου 2007, σ. 47

