

Amphion Consort

Early Music

On period instruments

Burgh House Museum

Hampstead



June - September 2009

Sunday 7 June 2 pm

Stylus Fantasticus

17th century instrumental music composed in the '*fantastic style*' was bound to nothing but the composer's fancy and imagination. Included in this programme are Dietrich Buxtehude's wonderful trio sonatas for violin, viola da gamba and basso continuo, Heinrich Biber's violin sonatas and Kapsberger's daring toccatas for theorbo.

Jennifer Bennett (*baroque violin*)

Richard Campbell (*viola da gamba*)

Yair Avidor (*theorbo*)



Sunday 21 June 2 pm

L'infedele

Sylvius Leopold Weiss was the last important lutenist and one of the most distinguished German musicians in the 18th century, writing in a beautiful cantabile style often reminiscent of his great contemporary J S Bach. This programme features some of his best works that were kept exclusive to the Dresden Court in his lifetime, alongside music by David Kellner, whose book of lute pieces from 1747 was one of the last publications in lute history.

Yair Avidor (*baroque lute*)

From the Court of Versailles

Sunday 19 July

La Gamme 2 pm

Chamber music for violin, bass viol and continuo by Marin Marais including *la Gamme* (the Scale) one of his most original pieces which, "surprised musical connoisseurs. It imperceptibly ascends the steps of the octave, then descends; thereby going through harmonious songs and melodious tones, the various sounds of music." Also included is the famous *Sonnerie* imitating the bells of St. Genevieve, and pieces heard on the film "*tous les Matins du Monde*".

Les Baricades Misterieuses 8 pm

Robert de Visee was Louis XIV's guitar tutor and one of the greatest composers of the French baroque. Following on from the French theme



of the afternoon concert, this solo recital includes suites for theorbo by de Visee as well as transcriptions of music by fellow musicians at the court of Versailles: orchestral music by the brilliant Lully and the enigmatic piece by Francois Couperin which gives this concert its title.

Yair Avidor (*theorbo*)

Sunday 26 July 8 pm

Concorde of Sweet Sound

An English programme of consort music by Matthew Locke, improvisations on ballad tunes, viol music by Tobias Hume and violin sonatas by Henry's younger brother, Daniel Purcell.

Sunday 6 September 2 pm

La Belle Homicide

Solo recital of French baroque lute music, exploring the exquisite and colourful works of Charles Mouton (seen in the portrait), Francois Dufaut, Jacques Gallot and Robert de Visee.



Yair Avidor (*lute*).

Friday 18 September 8 pm

Bach and Telemann

Unaccompanied violin music including the D minor partita with its concluding monumental chaconne and some of Telemann's fascinating musical miniatures of diverse moods he titled *Fantasie*.

Jennifer Bennett (*baroque violin*).



Sunday 27 September 2 pm

L'Arpeggiata

The *Chitarrone* or *Tiorba* was invented in the last decades of the 16th century in Florence as a revival of the ancient Greek *Kithara*.

Yair Avidor plays a programme of toccatas and dances written for this wonderful instrument by Kapsberger, Piccinini and Castaldi.

Welcome to our series of concerts all taking place in the lovely music room of Burgh House Museum in Hampstead, first build in 1704.

We present varied programmes of Baroque Music written between 1600-1750 on period instruments using gut strings and playing from original sources. The Amphion Consort takes its name from the mythological lyre player who built the walls of Thebes by moving the stones to fall in their places by the sheer beauty of his playing. To find out more visit us at: www.amphionconsort.com

About the players:

Richard Campbell is professor of viola da gamba at the Royal Academy of Music and a founder member of the viol consort Fretwork.



"Yair Avidor played some beautiful French music by Robert de Visee, and brought a splendid, warm sound out of his instrument. With great musical sensitivity he expressed the subtleties and nuances of this repertoire which deserves to be better known. The audience was won over". Aude Gotto, King of Hearts, Norwich

"Jennifer Bennett and Yair Avidor have a genuinely magical chemistry as performers delivering a passionate, soulful and intelligent interpretation of these fascinating works. As exceptional musicians, they play with great sensitivity, warmth and vigour combined with a dash of quirkiness, and are equally compelling to watch"



Jane Cockcroft, Handel House Museum, London

All tickets are £10 or at a special subscription rate with 20% discount for 4 concerts or more.

They are available on the door, from 0208-3402230 or by emailing: tickets@amphionconsort.com

Burgh House Museum is located in New End Square in Hampstead. www.burghouse.co.uk



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Monday to Friday

10am - 6pm

Saturday

10am - 4pm