

- [Hüseyin Gündoğdu](#), cello; Ana Šinkovec, piano, *Talent Unlimited series*, 27 November 2015, free lunchtime cello recital at St James's Church, Piccadilly, London.
- [Sam Brown](#) in concert at the Cholmondeley Room, House of Lords, 26-11-2015 - [photo](#).
- [Donat Bayer](#), free lunchtime piano recital - [programme](#) - at St Mary Magdalene Church, Munster Square, 11 November 2015.
- [Jamal Aliyev](#), free lunchtime cello recital at St James's Church, Piccadilly, London, 19 October 2015.
- [Irina Loskova](#), Soprano, free lunchtime recital at St Mary Magdalene Church, 14 October 2015, Munster Square, NW1 3PT.
- **Talent Unlimited Showcase concert** - [poster](#), 1 October 2015, [Yaroslava Trofymchuk](#), [Salih Can Gevrek](#), [Leyla Cemiloğlu](#), [Ilya Kondratiev](#), [Özlem Çelik](#), [Yume Fujise](#), St James's Church, Piccadilly, London
- [Erzhan Kulibaev](#), violin; [Robert Stoodley & Linda Ang Stoodley](#), piano, 28 August 2015, free lunchtime recital at St James's Church, Piccadilly, London.
- [Nihat Ağdac](#), violin, and Emil Duncumb, piano - Duo Attitude, 25 July 2015, free lunchtime recital at St Mary Magdalene Church, Munster Square, NW1 3PT - [details](#):
- [Sam Brown](#), guitar, Duncan Appleby, piano - free lunchtime recital at St James's Church, Piccadilly, London, 22 July 2015 - [video](#)
- [Gülsin Onay](#) Concert with reception, 10 June 2015, St Mary Magdalene Church, Munster Square, London NW1 3PT
- **Spring Concert** - Songs from film and musical theatre inspired by Spring, Raphaela Papadakis, soprano, Phoebe Haines, mezzo, Lawrence Thackeray, tenor, Keith Beresford, piano, 21 May 2015 - [flyer](#)
- [Jason Bae](#) free lunchtime piano recital at St James's Church, Piccadilly, London, 18 May 2015
- İdil Biret Masterclass for Talent Unlimited, 13 April 2015
- [Will Dutton](#), violin, BBC Young Musician of the Year (2014) -, St James's Church, Piccadilly, London - Free recital, 30 March 2015
- [Aurèle Marthan](#) concert & reception at Steinway Hall, London W1, 16 March 2015, 7.00 pm - Works by Scarlatti, Mozart, Ravel, Liszt - [details](#)
- **Talent Unlimited Music Festival**, a three day music festival with Asia House on 19, 20, 21 Jan with a total of 9 events - [flyer](#) - 63 New Cavendish Street, London W1G 7LP

Dear All

It is no good apologising yet again for failing to come up with the goods and providing you with the Talent Unlimited Newsletter No 8 at an earlier time, despite timely prompts from Craig Encer, our website engineer. I do need a secretary but our charity does not have the sort of resources that would make this luxury possible. So I shall plod on at my own pace when it comes to writing newsletters.

The last newsletter was penned on 2 March 2015 and since then we have been very busy. You could see most of the events we have organised under the ARCHIVES page on our website. I am also copy-pasting these above. Start reading them from the bottom up as the one at the top is the latest entry.

If you have already read the previous Newsletter, you might remember that we had our first Asia House collaboration under the name of Asia House-Talent Unlimited Music Futures back in January 2015. This was a great success...more about this later on in the newsletter.

Aurele Marthan, Will Dutton, Jason Bae all gave successful recitals and made us all proud to be working with such wonderful musicians.

Idil Biret's Masterclass at my home proved to be highly beneficial to our musicians: Vitaly Pisarenko, Salih Can Gevrek and Tolga Atalay Un who all went on to win various awards and prizes. I could spend a lifetime explaining and writing about all the prizes our musicians keep on winning but there isn't enough time and that is why I cannot wax lyrical about them but I can single out one prize: Vitaly Pisarenko won the 3rd Prize at the Leeds International Piano Competition. Back in 1975 Andreas Schiff had won the 3rd Prize too!! We have great hopes for Vitaly! Salih Can Gevrek won the Gumusluk Festival Prize and Tolga Atalay Un won the Musical Odyssey Piano Prize. Our "kids" are doing well!!

Our "Spring" concert was greatly appreciated by the audience and all our singers did very well.

What can one say about Gulsin Onay apart from, "brilliant"! We had a wonderful concert at our new venue which is St Mary Magdalene Church, Munster Square, NW1. Beautiful surroundings, very good Yamaha, a mesmerising performance in the presence of a very good crowd...all followed by some good food and wine! We will be using this church again for evening performances in addition to other venues.

Sam Brown, Nihat Agdac, Erzhan Kulibaev accompanied by Linda Ang and Robert Stoodley did us all proud. I had asked Aidan Woodcock to give Erzhan Kulibaev a concert at his home before our lunchtime recital at SJP and Aidan very kindly did so. The result is that Aidan has asked Erzhan to perform again at his home and this is going to take place on 10 May 2016 two days before an evening concert for Talent Unlimited on 12 May. Erzhan will be accompanied by Ilya Kondratiev, another multi-award winner. Erzhan is one of Moema Parrott's musicians and I am indebted to Moema for introducing me to Erzhan. He is an extraordinary violinist. Check his website and listen to him. Do the same for Ilya too, you won't regret the effort. I really hope you will put the date of 12 May in your diaries and attend our concert at St James's Church Piccadilly. I cannot recommend it more highly!

We have over 100 musicians at Talent Unlimited and it is impossible to give everyone as much exposure as I would like to do. So I am doing what colleges and music schools are doing: Showcase concerts! We had our first one on 1 October. Although in the archives, Salih Can Gevrek appears as one of the musicians, due to ill health he could not take part and at the last moment Nazan Fikret, our wonderful soprano stepped in to save the day. Showcase concerts are very useful but in the

future I shall give each musician 20 minutes playing time rather than 30 so that we can accommodate more musicians. I have noticed that this is also what many colleges do.

Irina Loskova, Jamal Aliyev, Donat Bayer and Huseyin Gundogdu all gave recitals at our two churches and our great new friend John Naulls, a former BBC cameraman, recorded them very kindly. We are most grateful to John for his help in promoting our musicians. So far he has recorded a number of concerts for us.

From time to time we are asked to find musicians for various events and we put our musicians forward. One such event was a charity afternoon tea at the House of Lords for the benefit of One Westminster. Sam Brown, guitarist, performed at this concert. More recently, Alison Langer, soprano, delighted the members of FIWAL, Federation of International Women's Associations League at another afternoon tea, a Christmas celebration. They were very grateful to Talent Unlimited for introducing them to Alison. Alison herself was very happy too.

Again following on the same theme, Jonathan Bloxham organised a musical event at John Bell & Croyden, using his Northern Chords musicians. I like to encourage further collaborations to give our musicians more and more exposure.

Our collaboration with the Musical Odyssey Masterclasses in Greece whose Artistic Director is Katya Lebedeva has been very successful. Jacob Bettinelli, baritone and Tolga Atalay UN, pianist, have both won prizes. Jacob has won the Talent Unlimited prize and will be given a lunchtime recital at SJP together with Veronika Krashennikova, piano. They will also be sharing the prize money. This is on 7 March, at 1.10pm if you wish to attend. I would like to continue sending musicians to this masterclass.

We have two Free Lunchtime Recital Series. We have 10 lunchtime concerts at St James's Church Piccadilly and another 10 concerts at St Mary Magdalene, Munster Square. These are very successful collaborations as Talent Unlimited does not have to pay to hire the venue, the musicians get good exposure and the churches benefit from the collection on the door as people are leaving. So everyone is a winner! This of course is possible because our musicians are VERY GOOD!

We have a good working relationship with Markson Pianos as they let us use their Yamaha at St Mary Magdalene Church and of course we pay for the piano tuning for each concert, the free lunchtime recitals and the ticketed evening concerts. This is a fairly recent working relationship and we hope to keep it up.

Another brilliant collaboration is with Carlton Club whose CEO/Secretary has become a good friend of Talent Unlimited singers. Jonathan Orr-Ewing organised an Opera Evening at the club and we sent four of our singers and Luka Okros, another multi-award winning pianist. Alison Langer, Bethan

Langford, Lawrence Thackeray and Jacob Bettinelli sang beautifully to the members of the club. Jonathan is so happy with the evening that he would like to have another opera evening together with the Talent Unlimited musicians. I am very happy with this development.

Another collaboration we have is with Heather Turnham who organises concerts in Bedford. We promote each other's artists as much as possible. This way our musicians get more exposure. We have developed a good working relationship.

We had a few memorable house concerts and amongst the most salient ones were Stefan Ciric's and Samson Tsoy's concerts. Stefan's concert was attended by a number of music lovers and music professionals including his teacher, Sulamita Aronovsky and Samson after having performed beautifully himself, accompanied Sir John Boyd, baritone, on the piano. Both evenings were well attended. We had supper after all the house concerts.

Having noticed the gap that exists between the knowledge imparted by colleges and what life demands of young musicians once they graduate, I have decided to help the latter as much as we can within the parameters of Talent Unlimited. It is sometimes very difficult for young people to recognise what is going to be very important for them once they finish their studies. Sometimes I receive emails or calls from musicians saying this sort of thing: "I have finished college, what can I do now?" I try to guide them as well as I can while knowing full well that the question should have been phrased a few years earlier on! This is why I decided on a new venture called The Induction Day. We had the first Induction Day on 19 September 2015 at St Mary Magdalene Church. We had about 45 students attending it. I put together a number of music professionals, about ten, and gave each person about 5 minutes to speak on his subject. Subjects ranged from websites, business cards, biographies, stage presence, importance of social media to prevention of injury, starting up on one's own or organising an event, relations with the press in addition to getting the best out of colleges and schools. After the initial five minutes, the students gathered around each speaker and discussed their particular problems and received individual advice from the speakers.

This venture was very successful and that is why we are going to repeat it with different speakers in the morning session on 26 September 2016. The afternoon session will be devoted to a Question & Answer Panel chaired by Mark Stephenson, cellist, conductor, inventor and businessman in addition to being a very good friend. Mark is going to put together a number of illustrious music professionals from different fields of the music industry for this panel. I am looking forward to a most fruitful afternoon during the course of which our musicians and in fact music students from any or all colleges whether or not they are affiliated with our charity, will be able to meet and discuss various aspects of Music making successfully.

The Induction Day is going to be part of our second collaboration with Asia House as it will be the very first day of our four day festival: Asia House-Talent Unlimited Music Futures Festival 2016. Last year our festival was over three days this year it is going to take place 26-29 September, one more

day. 27th and 28th will have two instrumental showcase concerts per day, one in the afternoon and the other one in the evening and 29th will be reserved to singing, opera and musical theatre.

Just before Christmas I attended a concert in Istanbul at Albert Long Hall, the concert hall of Bosphorus University. Emre Engin, violin, Cansin Kara, cello and Oxana Shevchenko, piano, performed beautifully. I felt very proud. Emre is doing his Master's Degree at the Manhattan School of Music and Cansin is studying in Munich. I had not heard them play for over a year and it was good to see their progress.

We are continuing to support financially as many music students as our limited resources permit. We are also continuing to add very capable, highly talented young people to our Talent Unlimited family.

We are most grateful to all those who help us at Talent Unlimited. Angela Brownridge, one of our Supporting Artists will be giving a masterclass on 30 January at my home and help five of our pianists with their understanding of "Colour" in music.

Some of our future plans involve looking for different and interesting venues which are not too expensive but have good pianos, creating useful collaborations, finding sponsors, setting up websites for those musicians of ours who need them and creating more music projects.

I would like to express my deep felt gratitude to those friends of mine who are giving their time and energy to helping this charity stay healthy.

Wishing you all a bountiful, healthy and gloriously happy new year....

Canan Maxton

3 January 2016