



## Talent Unlimited Newsletter no:9 – November 2016

Dear Friends

So much has happened since my last Newsletter. I will give a quick synopsis of the events. As mentioned in Newsletter 7, we had a number of concerts, many of them free Lunchtime Recitals either at St James's church Piccadilly or at St Mary Magdalene Church Munster Square, NW1. St James's is home from home for Talent Unlimited and its musicians. We have our own Free Lunchtime Recitals series at SJP. We like using this church very much for our lunchtime series and also for evening concerts when we can afford it.

St Mary Magdalene is going through a number of restoration projects which will make this beautiful church much more comfortable to use. It does need a good heating system as it gets very cold except in mid-summer. We were very lucky that Gülsin Onay's concert took place on 10 June 2015 and it was warm. She played most beautifully of course. We had our last lunchtime recital there with Jinah Shim on 19 October and it really was too cold already. So we shall wait to see how the restoration goes before booking any further dates with them.

A new venue for us is 1901 Arts Club. We have a few dates booked with them and the very first one is coming up on 1 December. Emre Engin, violinist, whom we have supported financially over 4 years during his Undergraduate studies at the RCM is coming back to London for a few days and is going to give a concert at the Club. You can see the details of the concert and also buy tickets by going through our website. Here is the link to our Future Events.

<http://www.talent-unlimited.org.uk/future-events.html>

We have over 130 musicians at the moment and this means that in order to give exposure to them we are obliged to go for showcase concerts with a number of them at the same time. Our Asia House festivals, January 2015 and September 2016 provided us with the right vehicle to do this. We gave exposure to 27 musicians in 7 concerts over 4 days during 26-29 September 2016. It was a spectacular event altogether in the beautiful Asia House building. This was the result of a very good collaboration. Everyone was happy and a large number of people became acquainted not only with Talent Unlimited but also Asia House.

We opened the festival with AyşeDeniz Gökçin's spectacular performance and followed on in a thematic manner with a focal point around each concert giving exposure to three musicians. For example one lunchtime concert was devoted to music influenced by folk melodies and one of the evening concerts had as its theme music of the Romantic Era. We reserved the last day to voice and both concerts on that day delighted us with music from opera and the musical theatre.

In addition to the concerts we also had our second Induction Day, a day of mentoring for all music students with the contribution of music professionals, composers, agents, teachers, media people, social media experts, website designers etc. Short talks are followed by groups forming around each speaker for more in-detail discussions around specialist topics. I hope to continue with these yearly as they appear to do a great deal of good to the music students who attend for free. The Induction Day is open to all music students of Undergraduate and Graduate years. They do not have to be part of the Talent Unlimited family.

Another collaboration we had was with Carlton Club whose CEO/Secretary Jonathan Orr-Ewing is an opera-lover. Together we organised a spectacular evening with great songs and arias in October 2015. Then a year later our baritone Jacob Bettinelli organised another opera evening at the club.

We do so many concerts that it is impossible in the space of a newsletter to go into great detail of each and every one of them. So I shall just touch on a few salient concerts. We had Erzhan Kulibaev, violinist of outstanding form and our wonderful pianist Ilya Kondratiev give an evening concert on 12 May 2016 at SJP. It was a most memorable concert for me and I shall remember their rendition of the Spring Sonata always with great feeling. I am sure Beethoven would have approved.

Another great concert was our last big one, our first Christmas concert on 17 November 2016 with Snowman Rhapsody, World Premiere performance of Howard Blake's work arranged for piano. The pianist was the astonishing Julian Trevelyan, a force to be reckoned with in years to come as he is only 18 now. The second half of the concert was devoted to songs of seasonal flavour sung by Alison Langer, Nicola Said, Lawrence Thackeray and Jacob Bettinelli.

If you wish to have the details of all our past concerts please click on this link:

<http://www.talent-unlimited.org.uk/archive.html>

It would be impossible to go into all the awards and prizes won by our musicians as there are so many of them and they have been very successful. Musicians like Erzhan Kulibaev, Ilya Kondratiev, Julian Trevelyan, Luka Okros and I can go on and on keep on winning prizes and others launch their CDs.

I can easily say that our musicians are doing us proud at Talent Unlimited.

Hoping to speak to you soon...

Canan Maxton

Founder & Director

Talent Unlimited

[www.talent-unlimited.org.uk](http://www.talent-unlimited.org.uk)