

## Talent Unlimited Newsletter No 4



Dear All

I had a look at the Newsletter No 3 to give you further news in Newsletter No 4.

29 November concert with Martin Jacoby as the solo pianist went very well. He played Debussy, Ravel and Poulenc with a romantic and melodious touch bringing an air of enchantment into the recital room at Steinway Hall. Our indebtedness to Steinway & Sons is growing as they help us tremendously by letting us hold concerts at their prestigious premises. The reception following the concert was jolly with a lot of familiar faces. Ulrich Gerhartz was our host with his great big generous smile. We had Full House

24 January 2013, we were at Leighton House Museum for Timothy Connor's song Recital. He was accompanied by Justin Snyder on the piano. Timothy is a rich baritone and the programme of songs and arias he chose was very well received. He sang to a Full House. I am sure Timothy will mark a very important place in the world of singing. He is among those who have benefited from the financial aid that Talent Unlimited provides.

I have been contacted by the Jonathan Bloxham of the Busch Ensemble to attend one of their concerts. I did attend it and was very pleased to have come across them. They are a charming trio of highly talented young men. We have added them to the Profiles on our website. Like all musicians finding a good piano for rehearsals is not easy and they came to my home to rehearse on our wonderful Steinway. Subsequently they won the third prize at a competition in Italy beating 61 other entrant trios.

We had a couple more concerts which were not announced in our last newsletter and they took place at my home. On 2 March we had Julian Clef, Indian pianist, who had never had the opportunity to benefit from a formal musical education until he was discovered by Linda John in Kerala at a concert. He is studying at the Royal Northern College of Music and he has been signed up by Hazard Chase, artists' agency. He played very well and his Chopin pieces were particularly well executed.

Following the concert we had supper provided by my kitchen at no expense to Talent Unlimited or to Julian Clef's Fund. Some of my friends and in particular Esti Barnes, award winning designer of rugs, were very generous to Julian. We all had a good evening.

The next concert, again at my home, was on 9 March. We held this concert to present Emre Engin and the Saubat Trio to our sponsors like Ayse and Ted Dickson and Esti and Russell Barnes. Neil Johnson, Executive Chairman of the London Chamber Music Society was among the guests. He would like to give the opportunity of playing at a foyer concert at King's Place to the musicians of Talent Unlimited.

The Saubat Trio were remarkable for such a young trio. I have great hopes for them. The pianist Oxana Shevchenko and Zoe Saubat, cellist, are very accomplished young musicians. The programme consisted of Mendelsohn and Beethoven. Emre Engin has done me proud. He is still being helped financially by Talent Unlimited.

Again we had a good supper, compliments of my kitchen. Our sponsors were very pleased with the evening.

I have been extremely busy organising all these concerts but of course the next concert on 25 April is the challenging one. The challenge took the form of Hannah Tarley not being able to take part in the concert after I had the flyers printed. There was a clash between the concert date and a competition Hannah had to take part in. Understandably, the competition being so very important we had to let Hannah go and have another 5000 flyers printed. Hannah has been replaced by a wonderful young violinist, Mevlan Mecid from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. Mevlan is one of the protégés of Talent Unlimited. The rest of the ensemble is unchanged with Emre Engin, violin, Nazli Erdogan and Opal Beşli, viola, Cansin Kara, cello, Emre Erşahin, double bass and our wonderful pianist AyşeDeniz Gökcin, piano.

I am delighted to announce that some of our musicians have been particularly singled out recently. AyşeDeniz had made arrangements of three Pink Floyd pieces under the name of "Pink Floyd Lisztified". They liked them so much that Pink Floyd put them on their website and of course AyşeDeniz's feet do not touch the ground now. She is receiving all sorts of wonderful offers from all over the world. I can easily say soon she will be seen as a star of the world of music. She has always been a star in my eyes since the first time I heard her.

Cansin Kara, our young cellist from the Yehudi Menuhin School has been awarded the prize of The Young Soloist of the Year for Istanbul Festival. He will be performing with a big orchestra in June this year. The same award was given to Emre Engin last year. I am absolutely delighted that Talent Unlimited has two of its musicians already with this prestigious award.

I have attended two Purcell School of Music concerts in which Emre Ersahin performed. The first one was his showcase at Wigmore Hall. He is an impressive young man. I have never heard the double bass played in such a superb manner. He definitely makes that instrument sing like a violin. No wonder why the Yehudi Menuhin School wanted very much to have him but unfortunately Talent Unlimited could not pay the rather large amount they required. Purcell gave him 85% scholarship. At the Queen Elizabeth Hall concert although he was part of the orchestra it was quite easy to pick him out in terms of the sounds he was producing. He will go far. Again he is one of the protégés of Talent Unlimited. He will be playing solo at our concert.

The other person who will be playing solo is one of our viola players Opal Beşli. She has chosen to play a Vieuxtemps piece for solo viola.

On 22 May, Gülsin Onay is going to give a fundraising concert for the benefit of Talent Unlimited at the Turkish Ambassador's Residence. HE Ünal Çeviköz and Mme Emel Çeviköz have been very generous towards us. Out of 80 seats, 50 will be

allocated to Talent Unlimited guests. We are most obliged to his Excellency for his generosity. Gülsin Onay has been a long standing friend who has always been very generous towards Talent Unlimited and other charities. She has a heart of gold. As always I am truly grateful to her for her kindness.

Towards the end of June, Linda Ang and her husband Robert Stoodley, pianists, would like to give a fundraising concert at my home for the benefit of Talent Unlimited. Thank the gods of music for our good friends!

Further towards the distant future we have another booking with St James's church Piccadilly on 20 November for a concert for Mevlan Mecid, violin.

Another really ambitious event ...that is if we can manage it financially...is going to be an opera production in Feb 2014. Aylin Bozok will be masterminding this as director.

I must say I am very pleased with the way Talent Unlimited is progressing. However, I need to clone myself!!! Far too much work for one person. Is there anyone out there amongst you who is willing to help out with their time and expertise to further the ambitions of our musicians? Please write to me!

Wish me luck and also please help us out with your donations as we can only exist with your generosity and your interest in what we are doing.

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