

Amersham Concert Club's 55th Season

London Serenata – Saturday 26 March 2022

Emma Fielding – oboe, Sarah Thurlow – clarinet, Katey Thomas – flute,
Philip Gibbon – bassoon, Caroline O'Connell - horn

“Potpourri Europa” a programme of music for wind quintet

An appreciative audience enjoyed the final concert of our 2021-22 season at the Amersham Free Church. London Serenata's programme “Potpourri Europa” took us from Italy, through France, Austria, Hungary and Spain before returning home to England with a performance of Malcolm Arnold's Sea Shanties.

Whether playing as a trio, for Ibert's 5 Pieces en Trio, a quartet or as the quintet, the communication and understanding between the musicians was excellent and the joy in their music-making was evident to everyone. A long-standing member of the Club said afterwards “It was so refreshing to hear such varied music composed for a specific number of players, rather than transcriptions, and played with obvious enjoyment”.

All of the works were introduced by a member of the ensemble which aided the audience's enjoyment of the music, especially less-familiar pieces such as the Ibert and Ligeti's 6 Bagatelles. Well-known pieces such as Rossini's “Overture to the Barber of Seville” and Mozart's Serenade in C minor needed less introduction and were superbly played.

Altogether, a lovely end to a season which began with great uncertainty about the possible impact of the pandemic on our audiences. We have been delighted to welcome back many regulars and to meet many new people. Clearly, there is still a real appetite for live music and we look forward to welcoming audiences back to our 56th season in October.