

Ayyub Malik 1935 - 2007

Architect - Painter - Ceramicist - Writer
A celebration of his life with music, art and tributes
at The Parry Rooms, Royal College of Music
9th September 2008



Extracts from "Fantasia for a Gentleman" (1954)

Joaquin Rodrigo (1901 - 1999)

"Fantasía para un gentilhombre" was composed for Andrés Segovia at his request. The four-movement guitar concerto is based on six short dances for solo guitar by Gaspar Sanz, the 17th century Spanish composer.

Robert Bekkers, guitar
Anne Ku, piano

Nigel Woolner

"Rit Erriadh" (I saw the gardens in Spring)

Ziryab Ibn Nafi (c. 789-857)

This 9th century Arab-Andalusian song from Cordoba, Spain, celebrates all the flowers and plants blooming in spring and also celebrating love. The composer Ziryab Ibn Nafi was a fine oudist and poet from Middle East who was forced to exile to Andalusia (South Spain) where the Arab-Islamic civilisation was at its high point.

Houria Niati, MA Fine Art and mezzo-soprano

Branka Milne

Encounter

Anne Ku (b. 1964)

Written in 2004 and revised in 2008, "Encounter" traces the conversation of two strangers, one beginning, the other joining, agreeing, gaining momentum, disagreeing, and eventually parting.

Victoria Mavromoustaki, violin
Andrew Joyce, cello

Anne Ku

Elegy for String Quintet (2008)

Anne Ku (b. 1964)

Dedicated to the memory of Ayyub Malik

The material for this piece came from ten notes I chose at random last autumn. After sketching a melody with them, I added the harmony but the fragments laid dormant until early January when I learned of the sad news of Ayyub. I weaved the fragments into an elegy for an 11-member ensemble for premiere in Utrecht in early February.

The Persephone ensemble

Zia

Adagio from Piano Concerto no. 23 KV 488
Arranged for piano and guitar by R. Bekkers

Amadeus Mozart (1756 - 1791)

The second movement of this piano concerto, which was completed around the premiere of "The Marriage of Figaro," is a sicilienne in F sharp minor. It was later selected for use as the theme in the movie "The New World."

Piano Guitar Duo of Anne Ku and Robert Bekkers

Iftikhar Malik

Fandango from "Quintet no. 4 in D
for guitar and strings G. 448"

Luigi Boccherini (1743 - 1805)

Probably the most famous movement of Boccherini guitar quintets, the lively fandango is preceded by a slow but short introduction. Lucca-born Boccherini, who was court composer in Madrid for 40 years, pieced it together from two of his earlier cello quintets.

The End

About the musicians:

The Persephone Ensemble:

Victoria Mavromoustaki, violin

Laura Dixon, violin

Susannah Lyon (TBC), viola

Andrew Joyce, cello

Carina Cosgrave, double bass

Robert Bekkers is a soloist and a chamber musician based in the Netherlands. Besides his duo with pianist Anne Ku, he has also arranged music for his duo's with a mezzo soprano, a flute player, and a guitarist in the Netherlands. He holds teaching and performance degrees from the Maastricht Conservatory.

Born in Brunei of Chinese parents, Anne Ku recently obtained her degree in composition from Utrecht Conservatory with a teaching diploma in piano. Her works have been performed in Slovakia, Cortona, Honolulu, London, and Utrecht. She maintains her duo website at <http://www.pianoguitar.com>

Ealing-based Houria Niati is an Algerian-born artist. Prior to her art studies in London, she was trained in Arab-Andalusian singing in Algiers. Houria is co-founder of "Habiboun" Duet with Miguel Moreno, detailed at <http://www.habiboun.com>