

Talent Unlimited Newsletter No 5

Dear All

To my shame I have noted that the last newsletter I wrote and sent to you guys was back in March 2013. I really need to clone myself.

Since that date an awful lot of things have happened all for the best I hope. We have had a number of concerts both at my home and at various venues. Finding suitable venues is one of the great difficulties of a small charity like Talent Unlimited. However, working with St James's Church is a pleasure as the people I have to deal with there are so sympathetic to our cause and very straight forward in their approach to bookings.

I shall list the events or most of them for you:

25 April 2013 Talent Unlimited Ensemble gave a beautiful concert at St James's Church. We had two violins: Emre Engin and Mevlan Mecid; two violas: Nazlı Erdoğan and Opal Beşli, our cellist was Cansın Kara, Emre Erşahin was the double bass and our pianist was the already famous AyşeDeniz Gökçin of Pink Floyd fame as a result of her arrangements of three of Pink Floyd's pieces under the name of "Pink Floyd Lisztified". Emre Erşahin and Opal Beşli played solo pieces. The programme was varied with a Bach Sonata, Dvorak Piano Quintet, Tabakov's Motivy for solo double bass, Rachmaninov Trio, Piazzolla Trio, Say, Vieuxtemps's Capriccio for solo viola and AyşeDeniz Gökçin's Pink Floyd "Lisztified". They performed all this in front of a very appreciative audience who joined them later on at the reception. I have to point out at this point that Cansın Kara subsequently went on to win the title of the Young Soloist for the 2013 Istanbul Festival. The same title had been won previously by Emre Engin in 2012. All our musicians are doing very well not just some of them. I am very proud of their achievements which makes my desire to clone myself even stronger.

After this concert the Talent Unlimited Quintet went on to organising their own concert at Bilkent University. I had no hand in it at all and Cansın Kara applied to give a concert to the Dean of the University and they were accepted. They are an enterprising bunch! They took me by surprise! During the summer I went to Istanbul to hear Cansın Kara play at Sureyya. He had been awarded this concert because he was selected as the Young Soloist of the 2013 Istanbul Festival.

I am having to single out some of our musicians as I would need to employ a secretary to enter all the accomplishments of all our kids. They are constantly winning Masterclasses, awards, courses here and there...difficult to keep up. I am not complaining though, as this is the reason why I am helping them through Talent Unlimited.

The next big concert was on 22 May and my dear friend and Patron of Talent Unlimited, Gülsin Onay, pianist, gave a beautiful recital at the Residence of HE The Turkish Ambassador Mr Ünal Çeviköz and Mme Emel Çeviköz. This was a

fundraising concert and Talent Unlimited and myself are indebted to Gülsin Onay and His Excellency for their help and generosity.

Then we had a few house concerts both to give exposure and rehearsal time to the musicians and also to raise funds in a small way for the charity. The first of these was on 19 June, my birthday, and Sam Haywood presented us with a lovely programme of Bach/Busoni, Villa Lobos and Chopin. Wonderful birthday present!

On 23 June we had Jonathan Bloxham, cellist of the Busch Ensemble and Walter Delahunt performing Beethoven, Britten and Rachmaninov.

The very next day 24 June, Salih Can Gevrek, a brilliant pianist gave an exciting recital in front of an audience of music professionals. This concert led to Salih giving a lunchtime recital at St James's Church. It was very well attended with a great audience of approximately 85 people. One lady who attended called me a few days later to tell me that she will always go to Salih's concerts and I should inform her of them.

25 July Jennifer Stumm, viola, and Elizabeth Pridgen, piano, gave a most interestingly interlocked pieces composed by Liszt and Berlioz. They are both very well known established artists and this concert was by way of a rehearsal before a recording they were going to make.

1 September we opened our doors to the Linos Trio who were preparing for a competition in Germany. The request to give them the opportunity to perform/rehearse came from Aidan Woodcock, a most benevolent gentleman who organises concerts at his home the Little Slyfield to raise funds for his charitable trust. Aidan was amongst the guests that evening.

25 September Erdem Mısırlıoğlu and his Trio İsimsiz did us proud with their exceptional performance. Recently they were chosen to be represented by YCAT and they also received an award from CAVATINA. The programme consisted of works by Beethoven, Shostakovich, Haydn and Ravel.

During this last academic year we have developed a very good working relationship with a number of ensembles who come to our home to rehearse before their main concerts or recordings. We are proud to have helped the Busch Ensemble, a multi-award winning trio in addition to the Saubat Trio, Linos Trio and a number of other groups by giving them exposure.

Emre Engin, violinist, will be giving a house concert. We are hoping his pianist will be Luis Pares who participated in some concerts we organised back in 2009 before we even received our registration number as a charity.

We seem to be increasing the number of house concerts we are giving. Everybody enjoys them very much and we have developed an interesting audience of music professionals and intellectuals. These concerts are not open to the general public. If you as the recipients of the Talent Unlimited Newsletter would like to attend one of these concerts please let me know and if numbers permit I will inform you of the future concerts. I wish I had a larger dining room!

Talent Unlimited Festival will take place for the first time this year between the dates of 17 Feb and 25 June. Our first event is a Masterclass to be given by the Busch Ensemble to three trios at Steinway Hall.

27 Feb we will stage our first opera: Puccini's Suor Angelica at St James's Church Piccadilly.

30 March, Cihat Aşkın, the renowned Turkish violinist, will give a house concert at my home and the next day, 31 March, he will be at Leighton House Museum for another concert under the umbrella of the festival.

25 June will see us in a different venue, Kings Place, with Dominic Ferris and Elwin Hendrijanto, the extraordinary duo called the Piano Brothers. They will be using a lot of specialist lighting which will add to the dramatic effect of the music they make. This will be more than a concert, it will be a spectacle. Dominic works in the field of musical theatre and Elwin, in film music. They will be playing on two pianos at Kings Place. We are all very excited about this event in a new venue.

10 June is an important date for Talent Unlimited as one of our wonderful pianists, Salih Can Gevrek will be performing together with three other brilliant pianists at PIANOSHOWCASE at Cadogan Hall. This concert is the brainchild of Mark Stephenson of SOUNDFORMS' fame. Mark is a cellist as well as a conductor and the inventor of SOUNDFORMS. If you do not know what this is, here is a riddle for you...those who know it call it Sharkie. If you Google SOUNDFORMS you will see why it is called Sharkie. Have fun!

A couple of days ago AyşeDeniz Gökcin whom many of you know arrived back in London having made a video of her concert in Bulgaria with more Pink Floyd arrangements. She is invited to go to Argentina soon. If you have not come across her work...may I suggest you check her out on Youtube? She is a phenomenon.

Is there anyone out there who can help to clone me? I need help with the work. OR is there anyone out there who is willing to lend a hand with the work I am having to do or would like to support Talent Unlimited by putting their hands in their pockets?

Enjoy life...this is not a rehearsal!

Canan Maxton
Founder
Talent Unlimited
www.talent-unlimited.com