



Review of Recital by Brass Diversions ~ 16th February 2013

Mid Argyll Arts Association enjoyed a marvellous concert last Saturday performed by three outstanding young musicians who met at the Royal Scottish Conservatoire in Glasgow, but who have already established international successes in performance and competitions throughout Europe and the far East. This concert was part of a tour arranged by Argyll and Bute Concert Tours with performances in Campbeltown, Ardrishaig, Oban and Rothesay.

They introduced their first piece- Trio Sonata [529] by Bach, humorously. Originally written for organ then divided between Trumpet for the Right Hand, Trombone for the Left Hand and Piano for the Pedals. The glorious interweaving of Bach's familiar melodic lines, sometimes contrasting, sometimes developing, sometimes harmonising was superb. This was no simplification. The tonguing, pitching and articulation called for the highest skills and the whole was a delight for the audience.

The programme continued with a smooth modern Pastorale by an American composer, Eric Ewazen, and then a humorous concoction of short melodies and loud rude noises on the trombone "Basta" by Folke Rabe.

Two movements "Winter" and "Spring" from Piazzolla's "Four Seasons in Buenos Aires" painted lovely pictures, all in Tango colours. A second humorous piece by Hogberg followed, more a dual than a duet between Tom Poulson on trumpet and Antonio Martin on trombone. In fact it was a "Shoot Out" in costume and in vivid sound. The pianist gave two beautiful solos - Debussy's "La Soirée dans Grenade" and John Adam's "China Gates".

The concert finished with a return to familiar classical notes with Brass Diversion's own arrangements of some glorious Arias and Duets from Mozart and Rossini Operas, along with an operatic encore of Rossini's "Cats' Duet". The evening was sometimes beautiful, sometimes glorious, always superbly performed and always enjoyable.

John Kerr