

Cornucopia in Concert in Thornbury on 31st March 2017

Four horns with a massive range producing a richness and breadth of sound.

Cornucopia is a horn quartet of professional players founded in 1995, which for this special concert is collaborating with well-known local flautist Nicki Woodward (Barnes), experienced baritone Niall Hoskin and classical pianist Steven Hollas.

They will present a varied and eclectic programme which tracks through time from Mozart's 'Ave Verum Corpus' and Haydn transcriptions of vocal quartets.

In contrast we will hear an interesting rarity, a work written by Mozart's son for flute and two horns.

Also included in the concert are a beautiful 19th century piece almost a mini concerto, 'Bird of the Forest' for solo flute and four horns by the Austrian Franz Doppler and a Schubert song with horn obligato, 'Auf dem Strom'.

Niall Hoskin will perform a piece for solo voice 'Heynonnynonny Smallprint', a piece which defies description but is highly entertaining.

The concert will conclude with Gordon Carr's poignant 'Chinese Songs' for baritone, flute and four horns.

The four horn players, Stephen Macallister, Paul Sawbridge, Alistair Smith and Allen Cheshire have illustrious musical careers and will play instruments covering a three and a half octave range perfectly balanced in tone using baroque horns, the natural horn and various types of valved instruments.

Niall Hoskin, our baritone, has a varied career from classical recitals and oratorio to Roald Dahl family shows and his popular programme addressing Fairtrade issues.

Pianist, Steven Hollas read music and history of art at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, teaches the piano at St. Laurence School, Bradford on Avon and plays continuo harpsichord and organ for Baroque groups and accompanies several choirs in the Bath area.

Nicola Woodward studied at the Royal College of Music where she won Exhibition scholarships on both flute and piano. She has won many prizes and performed in many prestigious venues with world class orchestras. She has an interest in folk music which led to a tour in South America for the British Council. She plays folk flutes and whistles and sings and writes folk music. More recently she set up and is Artistic Director of the Rockhampton Folk Festival. Thornbury audiences may have seen her in performance last year with the folk band 'Fife and Strum'.

This prestigious concert on Friday 31st March 2017 at 7.30pm in the Cossham Hall Thornbury, is part of a series of concerts raising funds for the Armstrong Hall Development Project (Phase 1). Tickets at £12 each (concessions under 16 years and over 65 years) from Thornbury Town Hall or phone 01454 412272.