



MAAA Chamber Music – Quintet Zambra

Mid Argyll Arts Association were pleased to welcome a new group of musicians to their January concert in Ardrishaig Public Hall. It was evident from their playing that Quintet Zambra have established themselves as one of the most popular wind quartets in the land. The quality of playing from start to finish was well articulated and balanced with great attention to detail and dynamic range.

The programme began with Mozart's Overture to the Magic Flute and was followed by 3 sea shanties cleverly and amusingly arranged by Malcolm Arnold. The first half concluded with an arrangement for wind quintet of the String Quartet in F, Opus 96 by Dvorak, subtitled 'The American'. This was the highlight of the evening. It was given a most vivid interpretation throughout its four movements and required much stamina and breath control from the musicians.

The second half opened with three short pieces by the French composer, Jacques Ibert, and continued with a quintet in five movements by Paul Hindemith. Much of the material resembled military march style. The fourth movement was most surprising with a short main theme interspersed with brief cadenzas from each instrument - and all in the space of ONE MINUTE!

The concert concluded with a Dance Suite by Norman Hallam. This comprised Waltz, Bossanova, Quick Step and Charleston. The last dance featured synsynchronised movement as well and was the perfect conclusion to a wonderful evening's music making.

SMcC