

Review of Concert by "Triplicity" ~ 20th April 2013.

'Glimpses of the Moon' was the title of the programme presented by Triplicity, a musical trio comprising Frances Cooper, soprano, Anne Lewis, mezzo-soprano and Colin Dundas, piano, for the April concert. This was a cleverly devised theme with vocal items, many of which were unfamiliar to the audience. The composers ranged from the 18th century to the present day and linking each song was a reading from The Science of the Stars by E.W.Maunders.

Both ladies excelled in their solo renditions and were at one with each other in their duet singing. Frances Cooper showed beautiful control of the vocal line in Schumann's 'Mondnacht' and Duparc's 'Chanson Triste' whilst Anne Lewis produced lovely warm tone which was admired in Bellini's 'Vaga Luna' and Handel's 'O Mithra' which also included many passages of florid writing delivered with perfect articulation.

Frances displayed delightful characterisation in a setting of 'The owl and the pussy cat' by Matyas Seiber and 'The cat' by Ian MacDonald. Memories of the Victorian era were evoked in Anne's extract from the Lily of Killarney, 'The moon has raised her lamp above' by the English composer, Sir Julius Benedict and 'My sweetheart's the man in the moon' might well have been written for the Music Hall.

The singers combined for several duets and their voices blended perfectly and, once again, the linguistic expertise was evident with extracts in French, Italian and German. There was a lovely laid back languid quality to their singing of 'The Moon' which preceded the final item, 'Fly me to the moon', which needed no introduction to the audience. The musical accomplishment, artistry and personality of both singers shone - like the moon - throughout the evening.

Finally, none of this would have been possible without the faultless accompaniments of Colin Dundas. He was supportive, yet unobtrusive throughout and well deserved the warm applause given to the group by the small, but nevertheless, appreciative audience.

Sheila McCallum