



FIFE
ELECTRONIC
ORGAN SOCIETY



www.feos.org.uk
December 2018
Newsletter

Secretary georgegibb@blueyonder.co.uk **Phone 01592 264820**

December 2018 Concert

Matthew Bason was the guest artiste for our December concert and although there was no sign of him arriving by 6pm, when we were starting to worry, he did turn up shortly after, which was a relief. However he wasted no time in setting up his equipment, comprising his Roland Atelier Combo Keyboard and Yamaha Clavinova Piano and he was indeed ready for our normal start time, so that was good. After all the rush, he did give our audience a very good evening of entertainment, starting with the song "I'm in Love for the very First Time", from the film, "An Alligator Named Daisy". "The Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves" was next, followed by a selection on the piano, including "Memories", "The Lion Sleeps Tonight", "The Tiger Rag" and "Knees up Mother Brown". Also on piano Matthew played "I Love You Baby" and "My Foolish Heart". Back to the organ, with a tune called "Blue Heaven" played with an accordion sound, then on to a "Norwegian Dance No. 2". Matthew has a very good singing voice and then gave us an excellent version of "Holy Night" and "Walking in a Winter Wonderland" with recorded accompaniment from the organ. Playing on the organ again, we had a jazzed up version of "Qando Quand Quando" and "Watermelon Man". An orchestral march was next followed by "Little Donkey" and "Donkey Serenade". To complete the first half Matthew had us spellbound with his fine voice singing, "The Music of the Night" from Phantom of the Opera.

The second half gave us a Carpenters selection including, "Top of the World" and "Jambalaya", then on to "Ring of Fire", "Rhinstone Cowboy", "Paper Roses" and "Young at Heart". A Christmas selection came next with "A Partridge in a Pear Tree", "Silent Night", "Noel", "Little Lord Jesus", "Ding Dong Merrily on High" and "Hark the Herald Angels Sing". Playing on his accordion we then had "La Paloma" and "O' Solo Mio". Next we had "The Pennsylvania Polka" and "The Lichtenstein Polka". Back on the piano with, among others, "The Old Piano Rag" and "The Black and White Rag", also "When a Child is Born", "Sleigh Ride", and "Jingle Bells", with a different interpretation and tempo. To end the show with a song, Matthew chose "Bring Him Home" from Les Miserables, which was beautifully performed. For an encore he gave us a vocal version of "It's Almost like Being in Love" with live organ and orchestral accompaniment. We were treated to an amazing range of music, songs, sounds and arrangements all effortlessly performed, which we all enjoyed very much.

Annual Subscriptions

Now that we are half way through our concert season, anyone wishing to join the society at this stage is only required to pay a half price subscription of £5. Entry to all concerts is still £5 per person and £7 for visitors.

January 2019 Concert

The first concert of the New Year will be held on Wednesday 16th January in St.Columbas Church, Rothes Road, Glenrothes, KY6 1BN and this time we have a welcome return from Mark Thompson who has not played for us for quite some time now. Mark is quite a young professional musician and has been playing the electronic organ since the age of seven. After gaining an interest, he joined the Technics academy at the age of nine where he worked his way through grades and entered local competitions, reaching area finals in 1999. Mark was later taught by the late Chiho Sunamoto at the Yamaha School of Music. He began playing concerts at the age of 15 and now travels the UK and abroad playing the Yamaha EL90 for organ societies, festivals and functions. In 2002, Mark played in and won 'The Young Organist of the Year' and has performed on many of the country's top theatre organs since. He also plays in 60's and 70's band 'Wallstreet' on the keyboards, providing backing vocals, and works as musical director and rehearsal pianist for many North East musical theatre societies.. Mark also acts as a vocal coach, accompanist or MD for many North East stage schools and for musical theatre colleges in both Blackpool and Leeds. He plays cocktail piano at local hotels and restaurants and for many weddings annually. In 2012, Mark was given the job of Musical Director for the Gala Theatre's pantomime, 'Sleeping Beauty' in Durham, with a total of 60 performances to play for and conduct, a role which he has performed every year since. This year will be his 6th Panto season, with a run of 63 performances of 'Robinsoe Crusoe'. One of the highlights of Marks musical career was when he spent a month in Eilat, Israel, playing and singing with the band 'Skidoo 23'. In 2007, Mark completed a Mathematics degree at Durham University, which one day he might even use. A very talented young man indeed, so try not to miss this concert.