



Review of the Year 2016/17

It has been a great year for CAMS Music Trust with a whole host of participatory music making opportunities for young and old.



From L to R: Two Hungarian Cobza players from the Népzenei Kamaraműhely Folk Chamber Ensemble of Szeged, Hungary. Some enthusiastic singers from the 'Scratch Messiah'. The MRCO percussion section. Annie Simpson – MRCO's 1st Viola.

Russian New Year – St. Luke's - January

The first CMT concert of 2016 was a New Year concert – for the traditional Russian New Year. It has now become something of a tradition that CMT's Community Orchestra play for the Cambridge Russian-speaking society. – A musical celebration – with the amazing: CMT Community Orchestra, Junior Jazz Ensemble & soloists.

Chamber Concert – St. John's College - March



Michelle Bentley



Benedict Meissner



Alexia Sloane



Edmund Potter

A variety of groups and ensembles from CMT's Community Orchestra played in a Chamber Concert in the New Music Room at St. John's College, Cambridge. The 'Tread Softly Quintet' formed the backbone of the concert and accompanied orchestra members playing a range of music including: Michelle Bentley, MRCO's first and only oboeist, playing some Albinoni, Benedict Meissner playing Pepusch on his specially-adapted one-handed recorder, Alexia Sloane (composer and recorder player) playing some fiendishly difficult Sammartini and Edmund Potter playing Vivaldi. Alexia Sloane has recently become a resident composer with National Youth Orchestra and won the Cambridge Young Composer of the Year Competition.

Scratch Messiah' – St. Paul's - March

CAMS Music Trust, in partnership with St. Paul's Arts Festival, presented a 70-min version of Part 2 (the Easter music) of Handel's great oratorio *The Messiah*. We formed a fabulous choir, made up of our own Community Choir supplemented by a host of other

singers, whilst CMT's Community Orchestra were supplemented by a number of other players – including a player of the non-Handelian contra-Tuba.

Queen's 90th Birthday Street Party - Mawson Road – June



It was fun to play in this Street Party – in honour of the Queen's 90th birthday - not least because it was for an equivalent event – to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee in 2012 – that CMT's Community Orchestra was founded. We have come a long way since then – from 8 to 45 members.

SingFest Bosnia & Herzegovina – Mostar - October



Children from the school XI Osnaovna Skola "S.S. Kranjcevic"

The artistic directors of CAMS Music Trust, Mark Tinkler, together with members from English Pocket Opera Company led workshops in Mostar in Bosnia Herzegovina as part of SingFest – visiting 12 schools – 6 on the East side and 6 on the West – representing two of the city's constituent peoples (Croatian/Catholic and Bosnian/Muslim). They return in 2017 to lead a concert based on *Romeo and Juliet*.

Winter Concert – St Barnabas – December



A seasonal celebration with music, dancing, wine & cheese-fest – featuring the CMT's Community Orchestra, the St. Matthew's School Orchestra (who played alongside the community orchestra), the CAMS Music Trust Sing-a-long Choir, the Festival Jazz Choir, and Malcom Talbot's Big Band. Each ensemble had a solo spot and everyone joined in massed renditions of *O Fortuna* from Orff's *Carmina Burana*, the opening to Monteverdi's *Vespers* and *Blaze Away*.

Hungarian Evening – St Matthews - December

An England/Hungary, Cambridge/Szeged, twinned-city initiative. The Népzenei Kamaraműhely Folk Chamber Ensemble of Szeged played a selection of rousing music from Hungary, Transylvania, and Moldova – on original folk instruments – and CMT's Community Orchestra played a selection of other Eastern European/Balkan orchestral delights followed by a Hungarian Christmas Carol play-along!

CMT SummerFest – St. Matthew’s School and St. Barnabas Church - July

SummerFest was the biggest CMT event of the year and was one designed to introduce our work to as many people as possible. We took over St Barnabas Church and St Matthews School and ran a concert and several workshops.



Carnival Drumming from Cuba – Jane Hollingworth led a workshop and performance that recreated the very loud and exuberant sound of the streets of Santiago de Cuba.



‘All Blues’ Jazz Workshop – was a jazz improvisation workshop based on *All Blues* - the famous Miles Davis number (known to many because it is a set-work on the Edexcel GCSE syllabus). This workshop was run in conjunction with the Cambridge Jazz Festival.



Turkish Delight – part of the afternoon was taken up with sharing music with a group of young musicians from Turkey and the ‘Music beyond Barriers’ project (Balik Arts).



English Folk Music Workshop – led by Mike Rudge, this workshop explored the diversity of English Folk Music through the ages. Reels, Jigs, Slip Jigs, Polkas, and Waltzes - all featured.



Malcolm Talbot's Big Brass Cambridgeshire’s community Big Band sensation played standards from the classic songbook with an invite to potential new players to ‘sit in’ and play along.



Festival Jazz Choir Under the direction of Andi Hopgood, the choir gave a sterling performance of several standard numbers accompanied by members of the big band.



CMT’s Community Orchestra. The orchestra played a wide range of music including a selection of Turkish-inspired repertoire. pieces which the musicians from Ankara joined in with.



Tony Davies, St. Matthew's head teacher and MRCO guitarist, coaches members of the school orchestra guitar section.

St. Matthew's School Orchestra – St. Matthews – Year round

CMT have been instrumental in running the school's orchestra. All instrumentalists in the school are invited to participate. Currently the number stands at 25 players learning a range of music from *Carmina Burana* to *Yellow Submarine* and *Pirates of the Caribbean*.

World Music Day with Jon Banks – St. Matthews - October

25-30 participants were invited to play the exhilarating dance melodies of Eastern European Klezmer, gaining an insight into fascinating Mediterranean and Arabic rhythms and try some gentle improvisation. Jon Banks is a multi-instrumentalist and musicologist with a wide range of musical skills and experience. He lectures in ethnomusicology and leads the World Music Ensemble at Anglia Ruskin University. We will be running another similar workshop in 2017.

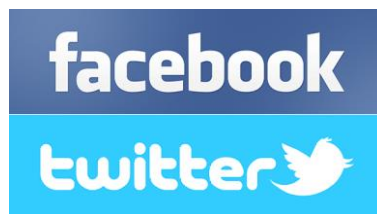
Cambridge Jazz Festival – Cambridge - Autumn

This year, CMT and St. Matthews have been working closely with Cambridge Jazz Festival – who this year held their second and hugely successful series of events in Oct/Nov. Jazz will be featuring much more in CMT's work and so it was pleasure to host a number of the festival's workshops at St Matthews as part of an array of Jazz events across the city. More is planned for 2017 – watch this space!

Cello Day with Lowri Blake – St. Matthews - March



CAMS Music Trust have hosted a number of Instrumental Days and we are planning many more for next year. CMT's first Cello Day, with renowned international cellist Lowri Blake, was held at St. Matthews – with Peter Britton on piano. The day consisted of masterclasses and ensemble work with repertoire ranging from Thomas Tallis to *My Little Green Cactus*. Another day is planned for 2017.



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