

Report on Colin Wharton's 'At Home'

Monday March 26 at 7.30p.m

A party of eight shared their front room and the excellence of three musical instruments therein: seven feet of Steinway & Sons grand piano, a Yamaha digital piano (beautifully touch-sensitive with key-weight deliberately the same as the grand) and a digital Viscount 3-manual organ, generous in specification and dynamic range. Light refreshments and plenty of chatting ensued at intervals in between playing of music, which included:-

Dr. Colin himself on Steinway – *Liebestraum* (Liszt), *Prelude 'Les Sons et les parfums tournent dans l'air du soir'* (The sounds and perfumes mingle in the evening air)(Debussy), *Prelude in G minor* (Rachmaninov); Robin Coxon on organ- 1st movement and a taster of the others from *Concerto for Violin, Strings and Continuo* (Vivaldi, but arr. By J G Walther who changed the key from E minor to B minor; Jack Beeson – on all three instruments – *one at a time of course!* – piano demo of his attempt at the age of 6 to play by ear *The Umbrella-man* then 'Lavender Time' (from *In Downland* by Thomas Dunhill), a *Study in G* (Loeschhorn), first on the piano then transferred to organ and three short pieces of his own (one on grand) with comment on how each came about; Michael Hennin on organ playing *Verset in G minor* by William Lloyd Webber based on 'June' from *The Seasons* by Tchaikovsky.

Ted Sharp played *Liturgical Prelude* by George Oldroyd, a chorale prelude on 'Liebster Jesu' by Bach, and the so-called 'Jazz Prelude' (of Bach) on organ, then followed in grandly with a 'pop' allegro moderato and music of his own arrangement with some deliciously scrunchy harmonies;

Terence Atkins on organ played 'Te Lucis ante Terminum' by Marcel Dupré (*Le Tombeau de Titelouze*) and 'Christ, unser Herr, zum Jordan kam' (BWV 684) by J S Bach (*Clavierübung III*); Robin turned to *Trois Voluntaries* (Denis Bédard) to play 2 & 3, thus rounding off the richly varied and hugely enjoyable evening, giving rise to much thanks mutually but especially to Colin and Jane for their super 'at home' hospitality.

Jack Beeson