



youth programme at KEVICC

This year's Dartington summer youth programme, was once again hosted within the extensive music facilities at King Edward VI Community College, Totnes.

Four courses running from 24 July to 9 August, provided music making opportunities for young people aged between eight and 20 interested in either chamber music, jazz or rock and pop, and 36 per cent of participants were awarded bursary places. A key feature of the programme is that outstanding young musicians are selected to work as tutors alongside experienced professionals, thus raising the aspirations of the participants and providing a unique training ground for the young music leaders.

Feedback from this year's course participants has been outstanding: "The 6PAC jazz course just inspires me, full stop. I want to learn as much as I possibly can about jazz now. I wouldn't miss it for the world, you'll definitely be seeing me again next year!" Alexa St. John Palmer, Year 10 KEVICC student (below left with Esther Robinson).



With a justified reputation as one of the UK's finest jazz sextets, 6PAC planned a demanding daily schedule and participants developed new skills, improved playing techniques and confidence in performing, culminating in an impressive gig on the final day.



A new 3 day course designed for young string players aged eight to 12, *The String Thing* (above), provides fun packed music making, inspiring them to continue playing their instruments in groups and individually, and nurture potential and musical development.

Chika Robertson, an inspirational violinist and teacher, used a variety of challenging mental exercises to encourage the children to focus and listen. Sue Rivett and Clare Garton-Sprenger tutored them in developing melody lines and even acting skills to devise a short story set to music. They were introduced to some new genres of music, including gavottes, waltzes, bluegrass and the cuckoo song.

Arco course leader Fiona Mclean organised a seminar session for parents of *The String Thing* participants, providing an opportunity to voice any difficulties and frustrations they had regarding their child's music making. Five string players from the UK's top music college students joined the session and offered their experience and guidance to the parents. The children observed and learnt playing alongside more experienced musicians from the Arco string course, working on a new piece by Jonathan Willcocks.

The Arco course is designed to enthuse, inspire and nurture talented young string players aged 12 to 19. Each student is given the chance to develop their own learning resource. They are encouraged to log their experiences, chart their progress and note down useful advice, with the intention that

once the course has finished, they can take this wealth of information and apply it to different, including non-musical, contexts.

26 young people took part in the **BandiT** Rock and Pop five day workshop, designed and led by Colin Spencer, which enabled aspiring young rock and pop musicians to write, perform and record their songs. Some wrote new material within an existing band, but for many it provided potential for creating new groups and to develop a unique sound and style. Music industry professional Rick Rogers provided key ideas on marketing music, and tips on what the big labels look for when hunting for potential stars.

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summer school sells out

Gavin Henderson, Artistic Director of Dartington International Summer School and the year round arts programme, writes

In many ways the 2006 International Summer School at Dartington could be considered the most successful to date. For the first time (in at least 30 years!) it was, to all intents and purposes, sold out before it began.

There were many highlights – with the introduction of SAMYO and TARANG (the South Asian Music Youth Orchestra, and its ‘older’ counterpart) bringing their own Summer School to be integrated with the Dartington programme (supported by Youth Music). This represented a major development – building on Dartington’s own heritage of Indian music and dance, and the influence of Tagore in particular.

A programme of related lectures, discussions and films greatly enriched this endeavour. It is an aspect of programming, which we hope will continue at Dartington – year round, as well as in the Summer School.

Another very moving historical connection was built around the preparation and performance of Bach’s B Minor Mass – reflecting on Imogen Holst’s performance of 1950, with a number of those taking part having been in that ‘Holst performance’ – soloists Rosamund Strode and Noelle Barker amongst them. It was fascinating to see how orchestral playing had been enhanced, from an ad hoc ‘modern’ band (with clarinets instead of trumpets) in 1950, to an all ‘period instrument’, all student, orchestra in 2006 with natural trumpets played ‘no holes’ for the first time in the UK. It was a remarkable achievement for the Summer School Choir to put together in one week.

We try not to build programmes around anniversaries, but Mozart and Shostakovich seemed unavoidable in 2006. For Shostakovich

Dmitri Smirnov and daughter Alissa Firsova

(Photos Kate Mount)



Mozart’s *The Magic Flute*: Papageno and Pamina - Richard Laceyham & Nicola Stonehouse

we built a sequence of interlinked commissions of ‘variations upon a theme’ as a celebration not only of Shostakovich, but of the two Russian families that have been artists truly in residence at Dartington: the Shoots, and the Firsova-Smirnovs (who also taught the advanced composition class to great effect). It was a unique manifestation of a period at Dartington, which may in time be recalled as we do such involvements of Chekhov, Jooss, Laban, Tobey and Heckroth – the ‘Russian Years’.

Shostakovich himself was represented by performances of the 14th Symphony, the 1st Cello Concerto and Quartets 3 and 8 – all leaving a deeply profound impression. The Dartington Festival Orchestra reached extraordinary heights in Shostakovich, and in Zemlinsky’s Lyric Symphony. Diego Masson and the DFO have become a real phenomenon, with a pool of loyal and devoted players coming back year on year. The Zemlinsky strand (3rd Quartet as well) has underpinned a continuing point of reference for Jewish music and culture, enriched by Norman Lebrecht’s talks and Simon Dearsley’s ‘Tin Pan Alley’ reverie. The anchor of Zemlinsky and Janacek’s meeting in Prague with Tagore proved a fascinating focus – almost as though they had been cooking ideas in advance of a Dartington ideal!

New music – and composition workshops especially, form a backbone to the Summer School, for which bursary and scholarship support is crucial. The Smirnov-Firsova class had high profile, but also three unusual courses brought together in the final week: computer-based composition, ‘found’/environmental composition, and composition for newly created instruments. The season began with the film composition class, based on a

Bollywood feature-tragedy, and Rock Shop’s songwriting producing over 80 new songs, closed the Summer School. A great deal of new work was created in the jazz programme directed by Keith Tippett and Lewis Riley – it is too easy to forget that improvisation is in effect composition. All in all, some 120 new works were created for, or at, Summer School.

The Rock Shop, Jazz and Light orchestra bring together the widest cross-section of ages in participation – from 10 to 90 years of age, all playing together and socialising on equal terms. A danger must exist in streaming activity into age profiles. Nonetheless, it was heartening to see the Youth Summer programme take a big leap forward at KEVICC in 2006. More needs to be done to develop a sense of integration with DISS and KEVICC, and this must not bring about compromise (creative chloroform if ever), but seeing the vitality and high spirits and general sociability of the Salsa, Tango and Viennese Balls – one could see ways of extending the Summer School’s ‘reach’.

It was pleasing to be back at Bogan House in Totnes, where some of the excellent students have the opportunity of giving lunchtime concerts; so too there were very special concerts at St John’s Church, Bridgetown. We are grateful to all who make these possible, and see potential for taking other Summer School activity ‘off the estate’.

Mozart enriched us in so many ways, but the focus on wind music and wind concertos, with the excellent Trinity College Orchestra, and the production of *The Magic Flute*, which many felt could grace the stage of an established opera house with real distinction, were notable ‘landmarks’.

music *extravaganzas*

This autumn Dartington Plus is bringing two weekend-long music marathons to Dartington which will provide opportunities for both student musicians and audiences.

The first weekend, *Music of our Time*, takes place on Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 October in partnership with Torbay Symphony Orchestra and focuses on the exploration and celebration of 20th century classical music.

It comprises interactive creative workshops as well as electronic jam sessions, talks and discussions. An open concert will explore Electroacoustic music by Marion Wood on Saturday 21st and a finale concert by Torbay Symphony Orchestra on Sunday 22nd features music by John Cage, Maurice Ravel, Ohana, Lutoslawski and Gavin Bryars.

Music of our Time is ideal for all those interested in broadening their knowledge, understanding and experience of contemporary classical music, particularly A Level, Undergraduate, gifted and talented GCSE and adult musicians/students.

A Weekend Pass gives access to all workshops, talks and concerts, plus a baguette lunch on Saturday, and costs just £35 or £25 for students.

The second weekend is *The Vivaldi Experience*, a celebration of the life and works of the great composer, and takes place on Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 November in partnership with Devon Baroque and Totnes Early Music Society. It will include instrumental workshops, discussions, films and three concerts by Devon Baroque and special guests, including a Sunday morning concert especially for families and young people.

More information on either of these weekends from Mez Jones at Dartington Plus on projects@dartingtonplus.org.uk or 01803 847075. To book concerts call Dartington box office 01803 847070. Concert information at www.dartingtonarts.org.uk

digital conference

Christopher Pressler, Dean of Information & Learning, Dartington College of Arts, writes

Dartington College of Arts and The Dartington Hall Trust hosted the Digital Resources for the Humanities and Arts (DRHA) International Conference at the beginning of September. This is one of the world's premier conferences in its field, bringing nearly 200 delegates from 20 countries together for four days. Over 100 academic papers were presented and nearly 50 installations, performances, posters and exhibitions occurred as part of the event. The Courtyard, Higher Close and Foxhole residencies were needed and many thanks must be recorded by the College for the seamless and professional management of the event by DACS.

Delegates were deeply impressed and in some cases genuinely moved, by our ability to host an event, which is normally held in very large city-based universities.

Professor Sue Broadhurst, Head of

Drama and Technology, Brunel University, London, said, "Thank you very much for the magical experience of being able to attend the DRHA conference at Dartington, I thought it went extremely well and was very efficiently run. As well as being intellectually and artistically stimulated - I thoroughly enjoyed myself."

This was one of the most important and critically engaging conferences to happen at Dartington in recent times.

Details www.dartington.ac.uk/drha06



Professor Katherine N. Hayles, Professor of English, University of California, Los Angeles

music @ the cutting edge

Internally renowned, cutting edge cellist Matthew Barley is at Dartington this November to perform an incredible concert programme of world and classical music and to lead a mind blowing one-day workshop aimed at exceptional talented young string players from around the region.

The concert, entitled *On the Road*, takes place in the Great Hall on Thursday 2 November at 8pm. Spanning a time period



of nearly 1,500 years, Matthew hops between genres, hemispheres and millennia, moving from Gregorian chant to Asian folk music to Bach and classical music to create a transporting experience of beautiful music. Tickets £10, £9 or £5, from the Dartington box office or 'phone 01803 847070.

"Savagely played, and savagely appealing... I wish more people would think about music the way Barley

does," Neil Fisher, *The Times*, described a performance.

Matthew will also lead an interactive workshop on 3 November for the region's most talented young string players, which will explore Shamanism, healing and music; the journey from chant to early classical music; the relationship between Bach and world music; plus the work of Benjamin Britten and African-influenced minimalist Steve Reich. This is an outstanding opportunity for budding professional musicians aged eight to 18 to discover musical genres from around the world, with a truly inspiring workshop leader and stunning musician.

Do you know of a talented young musician who might be interested in this free workshop? If so contact Sarah Arnaud at Dartington Plus on 01803 847066 for more information.

movie meal deal

Why not try out Dartington's movie meals offer?

Buy one ticket to combine the price of a film at the Barn cinema with a meal at the White Hart.

Currently this applies to Sunday nights only. Price is £15 and pays for the cinema, plus a two course pre-screening supper and a coffee in the White Hart restaurant.

Tickets need to be booked by 5pm on the preceding day. Contact Box Office 01803 847070.

This joint initiative between Dartington Arts and Dartington Accommodation and Catering Services has proved a great success so far with customers.

Look out for more opportunities to take up this offer on other nights of the week in the new year.

café deal

A visit to a Thursday matinee film entitles you to pre- or post- film cake and coffee in the adjoining Roundhouse Café for just £1.50.

trust gets to grips with sustainability

The Trust's new sustainability charter has been agreed:

The Dartington Hall Trust recognises that there is a growing environmental crisis with significant social and economic implications.

The Trust will respond to this issue through its own programme of education and research activities, notably Schumacher College, EcoWatch, its land use scheme and its woodland management and habitat schemes. It will also endeavour to improve its own practices in terms of environmental, social and economic sustainability.

Each department will set targets for improving sustainability. In addition, a sustainability audit has been commissioned, to find out how sustainable the estate currently is, and therefore assist departments in setting realistic and effective sustainability targets in future.

desire lines 2006

*We are here to awaken
from the illusion of our
separateness*
Thich Nhat Hanh

Desire Lines, the second international Arts & Ecology symposium at Dartington, takes place from 25 to 27 October 2006

The symposium brings together artists, scientists, ecologists and other interested practitioners, and will include one day of presentations by a range of international contributors followed by two days of facilitated open debate, allowing participants and presenters the opportunity to engage fully with each other.

Desire Lines will reflect upon the relationships between ecology, interdisciplinarity and place and how emergent artistic practices could

inform urban and rural regeneration processes and help develop sustainable communities.

All participants will have the opportunity to raise questions and present thoughts in a supportive but challenging and informed environment. The symposium will also include a range of performances and films programmed to supplement and inform debate.

Dartington College of Arts and Dartington Hall Trust staff places for this 3-day event are £50, inclusive of symposium sessions, films, performances, refreshments & lunch; full price places are £150. Visit <http://www.desirelines.org.uk>. To book a staff place please call Lara on 01803 847078.

Desire Lines is part of the wider Arts & Ecology at Dartington programme. Arts & Ecology at Dartington is a partnership between Dartington ARTS, Dartington College of Arts and Schumacher College.

shedding new light on sustainability

The Agroforestry Research Trust (A.R.T) based on the Dartington Hall estate, recently held a small party in the summer to introduce its new storage shed. Martin Crawford, Director of A.R.T, explained what is so special about this building.

The shed is built using FSC (The Forest Stewardship Council) sustainably-sourced western red cedar from the Duchy estate in Cornwall, which is milled there by Tino Rawnsley into shiplap and shingles. "Tom Carnac and myself had an enjoyable time building the shed this spring," said Martin, "amidst the wonderful aromatic smell of the cedar. The essential oils in the wood protect it from fungal and insect attack for 40 years or more without any other treatment. Tino told me that the demand for FSC cedar is ever increasing and he just can't get enough - a destination, perhaps, for some of the cedar growing on the Dartington estate?"

The Agroforestry Research Trust was set up in 1992 as a registered charity, to conduct research into all aspects of temperate agroforestry.

Various academic and practical research projects have been undertaken since its formation, and results of research published by the Trust in a number of publications and in its own quarterly journal, Agroforestry News. Short courses are run on aspects of their work too.

It has two patrons, who support its work: Herbert Giradet and James Lovelock. In addition, support has been expressed by Sir David Attenborough, David Bellamy, Edward Goldsmith, Jonathon Porritt, and HRH Prince Charles.

Martin Crawford has planned and carried out all research to date and is also involved in the other aspects of the ART's work. He has spent over 20 years in organic agriculture and horticulture, including working for the



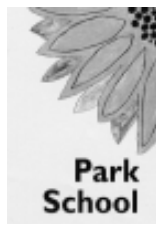
Martin Crawford models his new shed

Yarner Trust in North Devon, teaching small-scale organic agriculture; growing food for a small hotel on the Isle of Iona; restoring the walled gardens of a manor house in mid-Devon; and running his own organic market garden and tree nursery in South Devon. He is also a director of 'Gaia', a Trust formed by James Lovelock to further his work.

Funding for the work of the A.R.T. comes from several sources: self-generated income from sales of plants, seed, and publications, and from courses; from grant-making trusts and in donations from individuals; and The Dartington Hall Trust has also contributed.

news from

Jerry Hawley-Higgs,
Teacher in Charge, writes



We haven't had a slot in the DHT Newsletter since our 20th Birthday Party. If you came I hope you enjoyed it. It was a great success with loads of people coming and enjoying all the different events and activities.

We've been back at school a few weeks now. As usual it's incredibly busy, in fact even more busy than usual as we have an extra class and quite a lot more children, with more enrolling every day.

As I write this we are having a Parents' Work evening. This means that lots of parents are helping out voluntarily around the school, cleaning windows, pruning trees, sorting out the organic garden and generally tidying the whole place. One of the reasons we do this is to keep fees down but it also helps create a sense of community which we feel is really important in a school. Parents also contribute around 45 minutes a week doing similar work which has the same function. We also



Park School celebrates its 20th

welcome parents into the classroom to share skills or just to help the teacher with such things as reading. I believe this is really important as well and often quite lacking these days in some schools where parents are often held almost at arms length.

We planned a walk to school week the week starting October 2nd so you may have seen lines of children walking up from both entrances to the estate with their teachers that week. The older children will also be cycling to

Steamer Quay and back again - an extension of our cycle week in the summer term.

Term dates for the year are:

Autumn half term: Weeks beginning 23 October and 30 October
Term ends Friday 15 December
Spring Term begins 9 January 2007
Half Term begins 19 February
Term ends Thursday 5 April
Summer Term begins Tuesday 24 April
Half Term Week beginning 28 May
Term ends Friday 20 July

macmillan donation



l-r: Calvin Lovelock, Ann Mingo, John Severn

The Playgoers Society of Dartington Hall presented Macmillan Cancer Support with a cheque for £600 on the 21 September, donated out of ticket sales from the charity night at this year's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in the Private Garden at Dartington Hall.

Representing Macmillan Cancer Support were Calvin Lovelock, Fundraising Manager, and Ann Mingo, Chair of the Totnes branch, who extended her thanks and congratulations to everyone connected with the Playgoers, adding that the generous donation will help many people in many ways. John Severn, Chairman of the Playgoers Society, presenting the cheque, said, "It is great to put something back into the community."

SPARC makes exhibition space

Local artist Clare Benson takes part in the popular annual event, *Nine Days of Art*, when she exhibits at the SPARC centre on the Dartington Hall estate in October. Clare makes local landscapes and townscapes in pastels and patchwork and recycles scrap fabrics into rag rugs, pictures and puppets.

Over 87 artists and makers at 64 venues across the South Hams collaborate to bring their work to the public eye in this event that has gained in popularity since local artists first opened their studio doors to the public in September 2000. Professional artists with national and international reputations show their work along with many newcomers.

Bearne's of Exeter will conduct a Charity Art Auction to support the Alzheimer's Society at the Great Hall, Dartington on Friday, 20 October at 7.00pm. Previewing from 3.00pm, the work will be donated by over 80 artists taking part in the Open Studios event.

Nine Days of Art runs from 21-29



Work by artist Clare Benson

October. *Bob the Bus* will run 'Art tours' at weekends: information and pre-booking from Totnes TIC; event brochures from Tourist Information Centres, libraries and galleries.

Clare Benson's show will be at SPARC at The Old Chicken House, Craft Education, Dartington TQ9 6EA. Tel 01803 847943

South Hams District Council sponsor this event, working under the umbrella of Devon Artist Network and in partnership with South Hams Arts Forum.

social research goes upstream

Roger Bullock, Chair of Trustees of the Warren House Group at Dartington, writes

Dartington Social Research Unit and other activities in the Warren House Group moved on 1 September to their newly purchased and refurbished premises, a mile or so upstream on the River Dart. The independent charity is now based on a five-acre campus at Lower Hood Barn.

This move marks another development in the 38-year association between the Unit and the Dartington Hall Trust. The Unit was founded in 1962 in Cambridge by Royston Lambert, then a fellow of King's College. When he was invited in 1968 by Leonard and Dorothy Elmhirst to head the Dartington Hall School, he brought the Research Unit, together with Spencer Millham and Roger Bullock with him.

They were based in High Cross House until 1975; they then moved to the Courtyard and after a short spell in Foxhole settled in Warren House in 1992.

During the 1990's the Unit expanded considerably, establishing several new organisations and offices in Spain and the United States. In 2003, the Unit and some of its sister organisations became a charity in their own right. Since Warren House had been such an inspiration for this expansion, the charity managing the various activities took on its name.

A lot of ground has been covered by the Social Research Unit in its 40 years but all has concerned services for children and families, especially those from disadvantaged backgrounds. Work on education, residential care, fostering and adoption, youth offending, child protection and prevention has had significant effects on policy and practice not only in England but also in the United States, Spain and recently Ireland.

In its first 38 years, the Unit published extensively, including 39 books, 89 chapters in other books and countless papers in journals and other outlets.

Possibly as many as 10,000 people have come to Dartington as a result of the Social Research Unit's work over the years. At least ten of the Unit's staff have lived on the estate and contributed to the wider work of The Dartington Hall Trust. Spencer Millham and Roger Bullock both stayed with the Unit until retirement. Others

include Paul Cherrett, who married Foxhole teacher Jean Emmett; Ken Hosie, who worked with Pat and Dick Kitto in Conisbrough; Kevin Mount who once worked as an information officer for the Trust; and Celia Atherton who was invited by the Unit to establish *Research in Practice*.

Many staff have moved from the Unit to illustrious careers elsewhere, three university professors included. Others have pursued more unorthodox interests, such as Martin Haak's vineyard, Penny Hardwicke's Ireland cottage, Stuart Harragan's qualification in hypnotherapy and Dan Gooch's racy novel. There has also been some sadness, such as the premature deaths of ex-Foxholer Laurence Mitchell and Ken Hosie.

The Research Unit likes to think it has and will continue to fulfil Dorothy's welcoming request by contributing to the keeping of Dartington's name at the forefront of social and educational reform. For its part, the Social Research Unit and its activities have benefited from the vision, generosity and facilities of the Trust all of which have contributed to the creation of a unique set of organisations in the Warren House Group.

Like any organisation, the Social Research Unit and its allied activities cannot afford to stand still. The move to Lower Hood Barn is part of a major endowment programme that will bring not only more security but also resources to develop 'blue sky' ideas.

When asked what they value most about the Dartington estate, staff at the Research Unit, past and present,



High Cross House - the Dartington Social Research Unit's first home at Dartington

refer to the ability to bring together people who would not normally meet in an environment where issues that might ordinarily be avoided get a thorough hearing. An arrangement has been made that will encourage the Research Unit to continue make use of the estate facilities.

All of the Trustees and staff of the Research Unit hope that those working on the estate will feel welcome at Hood. The close associations with The Dartington Hall Trust have helped over 38 years to establish this strong, independent charity. They now look forward to another 40 years or more of friendship.

Footnote:

Research in Practice and Research in Practice for Adults remain on the estate, based at Blacklers in Park Road. Combined they are the largest charitable department that Dartington runs, providing access to, and supporting use of research in services for children and adults across England and Wales.

dartmoor concert

Russian born pianist Veronika Shoot (right) whose home is on the Dartington Hall estate, will take part again this year in the Two Moors Festival. Veronika plays at St John the Baptist's Church, Hatherleigh on Wednesday, 18 October at 11.30 am.

The programme consists of Bach's *Concerto in the Italian Style BWV 971*, Shostakovich *10 Preludes Op. 34*, Mendelssohn's *Prelude and Fugue in E Minor Op. 35 No 1*, Rachmaninov *Moment Musical Op. 16 No 4* and *Silhouettes* by her father Valadislav Shoot.

Veronika was a winner of the Two Moors Festival Young Musicians Platform in 2003 and is currently a student at the Purcell School. At the age of six she was acclaimed by Lord Menuhin, whose school she later attended, as 'destined to become a

great pianist'.

Veronika took part in the Dartington International Summer School this year in the celebration of Shostakovich, and as part of the two Russian families that have been artists in residence at Dartington: the Shoots, and the Firsova-Smirnovs. See Gavin Henderson's article referring to this on page 2 of this newsletter.



The Two Moors Festival is run in association with Classic FM and takes place from the 13 to 22 October. The venues consist of 14 churches in the Dartmoor and Exmoor areas. Information from 01643 831006, www.thetwomoorsfestival.com.

Michael Lane died on Friday, 22 September aged 85.

Michael was Senior Tutor in charge of music education from 1966 to 1982 at the Dartington College of Arts and was responsible for students who wished to become music teachers in schools. In the 1970s he established a firm link with the Croft Institute in Salzburg and also became closely involved in the work of the UK Carnegie Trust Research and Development Project, 'Music for Slow Learners'. After his retirement from his full time position at the College he continued to teach there part time for several years.

For a number of years Michael directed the Torbay Singers. In 1982 he also commenced a very successful conductorship of the Dartington Community Choir, retiring in December 1997. At the time of his retirement from this Choir Michael chose for his last concert the Bach B Minor Mass. He had been introduced to this piece whilst a student at the Royal College of Music in 1937. Expected to join a choral class at that time, this was the work they explored and sang and Michael said that it was a great awakening he had never forgotten. Michael's daughter Elizabeth who survives him, is a professional soprano and sang the solo part in this last concert that Michael conducted with the Community Choir.

At Michael's funeral at Dartington church Jack Dobbs, former Deputy Principal and Director of Musical Studies at the Dartington College of Arts from 1967 to 1987, said: "For the whole of his professional career Michael devoted himself to the development of music in education and in the community. He did this as a school teacher, a county music organiser, a college and university lecturer, and in all of these as a practising musician. It was my privilege to know him during most of that career and to become one of his colleagues at the University of London's Institute and later at the College of Arts.

"To Dartington he brought a wealth of experience from many different sources. He helped his students to reach the highest standards possible in their art and to learn how to share that art with the communities around the schools to which they would be appointed. Amongst his early interests was discovering ways of using music in

Michael Lane in rehearsal for the production of *The Play of Herod*, a 12th century musical drama performed in the Great Hall in December 1975 by Dartington College of Arts students, Departments of Music and Art & Design (Photo: The Dartington Hall Trust Archive)



the general education of children with disabilities, and of training his students to recognise the children's special needs.

"At Dartington he maintained an awareness of the variety of musical activities which were attracting the attention of lively adolescents. He followed European experiments in music education, particularly those of Carl Orff who was making new types of instruments to encourage musical creativity in children. Michael took his students to the Orff Institute in Salzburg, published his own ideas and became President of the British Orff Society.

"A life-long lover of opera, he was determined to bring opera to Dartington to share his enjoyment. *The Red Sea* involving students and local school children was commissioned from Malcolm Williamson, and this was followed by *The Magic Flute*, *Fidelio* and *Noyes Fludde* - also involving local school children."

Jack Dobbs went on to say that to some people Michael was perhaps best known as a conductor: his performances were always highlights of the College's musical calendar and wherever singing and amateur music making were discussed, the name of Michael inevitably arose, and the qualities of his choral training were spoken about with admiration. "These qualities were clearly demonstrated in performances of the Dartington Community Choir. No one who heard the Choir's performance of Bach's B Minor Mass will forget the thrilling experience."

He added, "Generations of students who came under his influence

have gone from their studies with a richer appreciation of music and its place in society, and generations of schoolchildren and adults of all ages have found joy and fulfilment as a result of his inspiration. Michael was a vibrant personality with a genius for friendship and a lovely sense of humour - as well as of criticism when it was required. He was also a very deep thinker about life as a whole and the spiritual values he held so dear."

Because of his invaluable contribution to the worlds of music and education Michael was made an Honorary Fellow of the Dartington College of Arts in 2002.

At the time of Michael's retirement from the Community Choir speaking to the newsletter editor, he said that it was important to him that the Choir was open to all even if they did not read music. The Choir, Michael said, gave people the opportunity to make music who might not otherwise have it. It gave him great pleasure that one night a week people could turn out to enjoy singing: they brought a devotion and spirit which for him was truly uplifting. Rehearsing and performing in the Great Hall was of significant importance to Michael. In 1997 he said that perhaps the best concert of all that the Choir gave was Carol Orff's *Carmina Burana* in 1995, and which involved children from KEVICC. It continued the tradition important to Michael of involving local people.

Michael E V Lane, 20 October 1920 - 22 September 2006

DartingtonARTS events

Torbay Symphony Orchestra & Dartington Plus - Music of our time-

Electroacoustic! Sat 21 Oct, 8pm, Studio 21 Music from the beginnings of electroacoustic music through to present day. Plus 7:30pm talk by Richard Gonski, 'What is electroacoustic music?'

Torbay Symphony Orchestra & Dartington Plus - Music of our time Sun 22 Oct, 7pm Great Hall The music of the 20th century challenged our ideas and concepts in a way that no previous era had, its wide variety of styles, techniques, rhythms and harmonies leaving audiences and musicians in a state of both excitement and bewilderment. Includes pieces by John Cage, Maurice Ravel and Lutoslawski.

Helen Chadwick - The Bright Field Thu 26 Oct, 8pm, Great Hall Songs including texts by poets such as Pablo Neruda, Kathleen Raine, and R.S. Thomas, and including the premiere of a composition by Helen Chadwick created especially for Desire Lines.

Kokoro - Capturing A Space Sun 29 Oct, 7:30pm Great Hall Kokoro, the contemporary music ensemble of the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, present an intriguing and varied programme brought together by the idea of capturing a space, a place or a piece of the past.

Playgoers Society of Dartington Hall - Hay Fever by Noel Coward Tue 31 Oct- Sat 4 Nov, 7:30pm - plus afternoon matinee on Sat 4 Nov, 2:30pm Barn Theatre One of the most delicious light comedies of the 20th century. It's 1925. The Bliss family is ultra-Bohemian. Judith is a retired actress; David is a novelist; their children, Simon and Sorel, are artistically inclined and, like their parents, selfish and often bad-mannered. One day they each casually announce that they have invited a guest for the weekend.

Faultyoptic - Horsehead Wed 1 Nov, 8:00pm, Studio 1 A beetle infested skull, a desolate sanatorium, a pint-sized porter, a clown with a bayonet and a ghostly amputee are some of the elements of *Horsehead* - a tale of love, guilt and revenge. Physical theatre and puppetry with an exploration of 3D film animation, automata and mechanical sculpture.

Matthew Barley - On the Road Thu 2 Nov, 8pm Great Hall Cutting-edge cellist Matthew Barley hops between genres, hemispheres and millennia in *On the Road*. A unique and transporting journey for performer and audience, bound together by the beautiful sonorities of the cello and Barley's charismatic stage presence.

Devon Baroque - The Vivaldi Experience Sat 11 Nov, 8pm, Great Hall Three concerts in one weekend; offers a dynamic programme of talks, instrumental workshops, film and performance. Soloists Claire Wilkinson (mezzo soprano) and Jane Rogers (viola d'amore).

Devon Baroque - A Vivaldi Family Concert Sun 12 Nov, 11:15am Great Hall For all ages, and Devon Baroque director Margaret Faultless talks about the instruments and the music.

Devon Baroque - The Vivaldi Experience II Sun 12 Nov, 4:30pm Great Hall The final concert of *The Vivaldi Experience*, featuring soloist Amy Carson (soprano).

Ros Warby - Swift Mon 13 Nov, 8pm Studio 21 An engaging and thought-provoking work. By interweaving dynamic vignettes the piece traverses the complex physical, psychological and emotional states experienced by the female protagonist. Part of the Dance Umbrella On Tour.

[rout] in concert Wed 15 Nov, 7:00pm Studio 1. Founded by composers Sam Hayden, Paul Newland and Paul Whitty, explores collaborative, experimental and cross-disciplinary approaches to composition, with visual and graphic artists, choreographers and artist collectives.

Uninvited Guests - It is like it ought to be: a pastoral Thu 16 Nov, 8pm Studio 1 In the guise of some ragtag band, Uninvited Guests declaim hip Romantic poetry, conjure epic landscapes and attempt a return to some simpler life, a golden age.

Angela Praed - The Bed Fri 17 Nov, 9:30pm - 7:00am Studio 21 Premiered at Dartington before touring nationally as a work-in-progress and returns with new additions. Event followed by breakfast, included in ticket price. Bring a sleeping bag and a pillow if you like!

Lonetwin - Alice Bell Mon 20 Nov, 8pm Studio 1 Gregg Whelan and Gary Winters create an internationally celebrated body of performance work.

Maresavon Stockert - Marjorie's World Unhinged Thu 23 Nov, 8pm Studio 21 Dance theatre work by Time Out Live Award-winning choreographer Maresa von Stockert for her company Tilted Productions. Visually striking, highly imaginative and thought-provoking.

The Kicking District by Christine Roberts Sat 25 Nov, 7:30pm Barn Theatre Explores the complexity and pain surrounding the issue of domestic violence. Chosen by the ADVA Partnership (Against Domestic Violence and Abuse) as part of the Devon wide awareness week. All profits go to Women's Aid.

Skampa Quartet - Music in the Round Tue 28 Nov, 7:30pm Great Hall The award-winning Skampa Quartet are known as one of the foremost Czech ensembles on the scene. Joined by double bassist Laurène Durantel, they delve deep into the lives of three renowned Czech composers; Smetana, Janacek and Dvorak.

SOLO Contemporary Performance Forum Thu 30 Nov, 8:00pm Studio 1 A unique first look at three works-in-progress devised at Dartington: *Momentary Lapse* by Jeremiah Krage, *Taj-a-chino Blues* by Misri Day, *The Library Storms* by Mark Stephens.

For these events and **FILMS**: Box Office 01803 847070; www.dartingtonarts.org.uk

Christmas Concert

Dartington Community Choir
6pm Saturday 16 December
Great Hall, Dartington

Hodie by Vaughan Williams & other Christmas music

Tickets available after 1 November:
Box Office 01803 847070

News/Letters/Small ads.

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The articles and opinions in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the policies of The Dartington Hall Trust.

totnes bookshop events

7pm 20 October, Totnes Bookshop

Andy Rees talks about his new book, *Genetically Modified Food: a short guide for the confused*. Tickets £2 redeemable against the price of the book.

7pm 3 November, Totnes Bookshop

Meet Chinese journalist **Xinran**, author of, amongst other things, *The Good Women of China*, who will be reading from her latest collection of journalism. Xinran will also discuss her work with the thousands of Chinese babies who are adopted by non-Chinese families. Tickets £2 redeemable against any of Xinran's books.

Bookshop, 01803 863273

schumacher college courses

October 15-20

Imagination and Intuition - Shamanic Influences in Western Culture

Patrick Harpur & Michael Tucker

October 22-November 3

Activism in Later Life - Sharing the Wisdom, Serving the Earth

Julia Middleton, Marc Freedman & Richard Douthwaite

November 5-10

Roots of Learning - The Role of Education in the 21st Century

David Selby & Alan Dyer

November 12-24

Life After Oil - Breaking the Habit

David Fleming, Ron Oxburgh, Michael Meacher, Rob Hopkins & Richard Heinberg

December 18-22

Solstice Retreat - Community, Symbolism and Ritual

open evenings

wednesdays at 7.30pm

25 October

1, 15, 22 November

sMall aDs

logs for sale

Dartington Hall Grounds & Gardens department sells logs locally by the truck load (approx one ton in weight). The charge is £50 plus vat (at 5% fuel rate) for local deliveries.

Further afield is possible, but a delivery charge may be added.

Contact: Graham Gammin, Gardens Manager **01803 862367**.

Art classes

every Wednesday at Foxhole studio with Gaye Oliver.

01803 862093 for details.