

THE
TUNNELL
TRUST
FOR YOUNG MUSICIANS

Music Coll 2018



A Review

The Music Coll 2018 chamber music study and performance week took place from 30th June to 8th July.

The Musicians

Four wonderful chamber groups were invited to attend Music Coll by the Trust:



Concrete Winds



Fitzroy Quartet



Lee Lim Duo



London Panufnik Trio

For 10 days all four groups rehearsed and received tuition from our 5 tutors for at least 6 hours each day. At the end of the event we hosted 3 public recitals at An Cridhe on Coll.

The Tutors

It is clear from the reports submitted to the Trust after Music Coll and published later in this review just how much the time spent with our tutors meant to our young musicians. A huge thank you must go to them for all their hard work.

Timothy Brown french horn, **Richard Deakin** violin, **Michael Dussek** piano
Charles Tunnell cello & **Jonathan Tunnell** cello.

Funding

We have succeeded over twenty five years in attracting funding from many wonderful sources for this important event. This year was again successful with one new charity helping to make the event happen. In total, seven charities supported the event in 2018: **Misses Barrie Trust**, **the Fidelio Charitable Trust**, **the Albert & Eugenie Frost Musical Trust**, **the Idlewild Trust**, **the Martin Connell Trust**, **the Hope Scott Trust** and **the PF Charitable Trust**.

We received very generous 'in-kind' sponsorship from the ferry company **Caledonian MacBrayne** once again.

We are extremely grateful to all our supporters.

Thank you!



The Venue



At An Cridhe and the Coll Bunkhouse we are extremely fortunate to have ideal facilities. The Island itself is also the perfect peaceful venue for study.

Once again we were looked after royally by our local hosts and by our local chef who provided home cooking at its very best with much of the produce being sourced on Coll.

Huge thanks to Jane and Alison at An Cridhe and to Heather for all our lovely meals.



The Audience

We were delighted to welcome fantastic numbers once again to the 3 concerts at An Cridhe once again. Given the small population of Coll we are so grateful to this extraordinary community for supporting our young musicians so fantastically. This year, our sixth on Coll for the event saw us attract record audience numbers.

Workshop and demonstration

For the first time in 2018 we held an open workshop and demonstration to show just what our young musicians get up to in the rehearsal/tutors' room! Two groups were coached in front of an audience and talked about how they work during the event. This afternoon proved hugely popular and is something we will repeat in 2019.



Reports from our Young Musicians on their Music Coll experiences

London Panufnik Trio

Our trio, the London Panufnik Trio, had a wonderful time in Coll with the Tunnell Trust. As full-time students at conservatoire, we rarely have the opportunity to focus so intensely on chamber music for an extended period of time. Being at Music Coll, we've learned to take our playing to new heights as we look forward to progressing our ensemble career. One particular aspect that we loved, aside from the excellent coaches and incredible location of the course, was how much it was tailored for us, the students. It was clear from when we arrived that this was to be a couple of weeks' worth of work solely dedicated to our performing and our education. We felt we were treated as colleagues from the coaches, and that we were really working together with them to try and figure out how to best play the music in the way we want. We've learned and taken so much from the course, and we strongly recommend it to any ensemble that is serious and committed to their chamber music career.

Konstancja, Ed & Michael

Concrete Winds

"In the summer of 2018 our wind quintet, Concrete Winds, had the privilege of attending Music Coll and it was certainly the right year to attend. The sky and seas were clear and a shade of blue that would outshine a sapphire. In fact the weather was almost too good as we thought the more muted colours and slightly rugged features of the island would look more impressive against a darker backdrop. But the idyllic setting of a sleepy island in summer was certainly nothing to be sniffed at!

The tranquillity and stillness of the island was quite a contrast from the fast pace and insistence of London and Music College life. However, for us, this was a respite rather than a culture shock. It was a welcome change to be given the space to practice the repertoire we had chosen with, what felt like, all the time in the world to prepare. We had the whole day free for rehearsals and coaching which allowed us to really focus on the minutia of the piece as it is often the control of these details that makes a performance really special. Our main coach, Tim Brown, often emphasised the importance of concentration in a performance. This was something that has really stuck with us as we tended to take the attitude of 'just let go and enjoy yourself' when performing which can sometimes lead to needless mistakes. The shared concentration and attention to detail that we found as a group really helped move our performance to a new level and has since fed into other areas of my playing. We also learned more about each other as musicians and people and improved our listening skills which will benefit us greatly as we develop as an ensemble.

But it was not all work! We took advantage of the weather with some lovely walks and the whole course took an afternoon off one day to go to the beach. The water looked so inviting against the white sand that I dived straight in and found the water to be much chillier than the beaches on the South Coast where I grew up. Absolutely freezing in fact. Nevertheless, I managed to stay in the water long enough for that sheltered little cove to provide me with the most enjoyable swim of my summer despite the water temperature and the dead jellyfish that we found on the beach! Another evening, after dinner, we managed to rent Kayaks and paddled round the bay where we were able to visit the island seals and watch the clouds roll in when the rain finally decided to return. The course really did give me some magical moments to remember.

There are many other details that I write about Music Coll 2018; the amazing food and the charming swallow chicks that were nesting under the porch of our accommodation are just two honourable mentions. However, I have already written more than the requested paragraph. To sign off I shall say that it was an unforgettable experience and express my thanks to Tim, Jonathan and the rest of the staff for their support and encouragement!"

Marcus, Laura, Liam, Anna & Billy

Fitzroy Quartet

"Music Coll 2018 was a truly amazing experience in many respects. Immersed in the quiet beauty of the Scottish Inner Hebrides, we enjoyed an intense week of rehearsals and performances giving us the perfect opportunity to tackle new repertoire and prepare for our upcoming competition. Each day would begin with the sound of our footsteps interrupting the silence of the moor as we walked to our rehearsal space - a beautiful house atop the hill kindly provided by a lovely local family, from which we could admire the sea. In Coll no one locks their front door: everyone knows everyone and it is inevitable being greeted with an enthusiastic wave by a friendly and soon- familiar face from a passing car as you stroll down the one of two roads on the island.

Aside from the charm of the location, Music Coll offers a great opportunity for young ensembles to get to know new colleagues and absorb the fantastic expertise of top-class tutors. We had the pleasure to receive coaching from Charles and Jonathan Tunnell, Richard Deakin and Michael Dussek who would drive to our rehearsal space every day to assist on all matters however big or small...whether it was listening to incredibly fresh excerpts from a Szymanowski quartet or helping us resolve a typical quartet quarrel on the length of a dotted quaver in Beethoven Op.74. The course combines the possibility of receiving diverse feedback from experts in their fields and the opportunity to perform in front of an audience with the liberty of time and space to rehearse at ease, far from the distractions of the city. There was a lot to take away from the whole experience and we felt privileged to have been the recipient of much inspiration that week.

We must also say an enormous, heartfelt thank you to both the Fidelio Trust and the Albert & Eugenie Frost Music Trust for supporting our incredible time at Music Coll in 2018."

Stefano, Laura, Emily and Michael

Le/Lim Duo

“During our week at Music Coll, there were only two things that were on our minds – music and coffee. For young musicians coming to the end of higher education like us, it can become increasingly difficult to find a long period of time to focus on nothing other than music. To be able to work on some of favourite pieces day and night for ten days, surrounded by beautiful views of the Isle whilst being provided with three amazing meals everyday, is a really rare occasion. So every moment at Coll was truly precious for us. Music Coll is a chamber music course unlike any other in the world in that we were able to work as hard without feeling any sense of competitiveness or pressure, only to study the music as intensively as possible then perform them the best we can to an audience at the end of the week. The tutors at Coll not only inspired us with their musical knowledge and experience every session, but also showed us true kindness and generosity as human beings. Our duo came back to London exhausted, inspired and thrilled from what we have learnt and achieved at this Isle of musical heaven. Thank you so much!”

Kitbe & Victor

The Music Coll Blog

If you have not yet read our Blog from the event please click [here](#) to access it!



In order to receive our Newsletters click below to sign up!



Music Coll Film

The film gives a full insight into the work of the Trust. Click on the play button in the picture below to enjoy!



We look forward to a return to Coll in 2019 from 29th June to 7th July and hope that the fantastic support from the Island, our funders and our super audience will all be in place once again in a year's time. Come and join us!





