

Dorset Guitar Society

Newsletter



May 2010

Federation of Guitar Societies 2010 ...

Following discussion at our April meeting concerning whether or not DGS should be represented at the **Federation of Guitar Societies (FGS)** AGM to be held on Sun 18th July, the following was agreed.

There was sufficient interest from members to attend the event; however, Kinson will still be available for those who still would like to attend the 'normal' DGS meeting on the same day.

To recap on the FGS event, all societies making up the FGS have been invited to a get together; for those that came last year I think the event will be similar and the AGM forms only a small part of the day.

Everybody arrives in the morning and we all play together as a large ensemble playing with conductor, after a short AGM (over lunch), societies get the

chance to perform prepared pieces. As the 15 July will be after our members' concert, it will probably be a good opportunity to give our practiced pieces another airing (however it will depend on numbers willing to travel and whether or not all the guitar parts are covered).

The event is again being organised by Enfield Classical Guitar Society and the venue will be as last year: **The Highland Hall Winchmore Hill, London N21 1UJ**. The day will run from 10.30 - 4.30.

In order to make plans we need to know who will be attending. Last year we hired a mini-bus; although there will be a charge, the cost will be subsidised out of DGS funds.

Please let me know via email who would like to attend so that we can pass on numbers to Enfield and make travel plans.

Terry



A note from Stephen - the May meeting will see the ensemble working on the full programme for the June concert ...

A note from James ...

I got a phone call from Sue Miles of **All About Artists** who asked whether members of the society would be willing to play for them on **Saturday 28 August** in the evening. Apparently, members have played for them at this annual do in the past.

Please let me know whether you might be interested and I'll get back to her.

James

April Meeting;

By all accounts a thinner than usual turnout, but no less focused for that, with the primary concert pieces being given a thorough work over. Just two 'players' this month:

Andy: Stairway to Heaven (Page/Plant, arr. Ayeroff); Brian Boru's March (Anon arr. Yepes)

Stephen: The Cobbler, Mall Symes, Robyn is to the Greenwood Gonn (Anon); Raindrop (Prelude Op28, No15) (Chopin, arr. Tarrega)

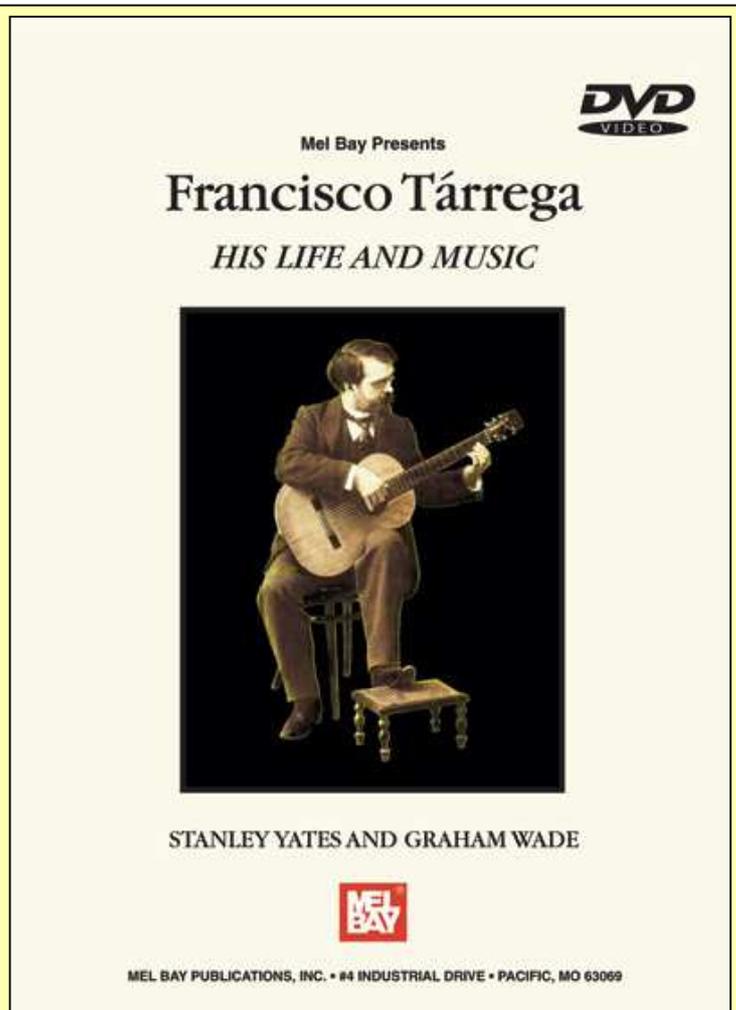
DVD review

Francisco Tarrega His Life and Music Mel Bay £17.99

Meandering around eBay I came across this and bought it rather on impulse. It is presented by the prolific author Graham Wade with guitar performances and observations from Stanley Yates.

Produced in 2008 this seems rather like a slightly rushed cashing in on the Tarrega centenary of 2009. Its just under an hour long, which may be average for such documentaries, but I didn't feel the subject was done full justice. You don't want a presenter to seem as though they are reading something out, but equally you want them to sound totally in charge of what they are saying and while Wade was often clear and concise, sometimes his points sounded rather too much 'off the top of the head'. A number of biographical areas were mentioned but never returned to and so relatively little was seen of his life – apart from an appealing vignette of his daily routine (basically, practice all morning, transcribe all afternoon, play all night).

Three presentations are given; Graham Wade talking across the camera with a projection of the composer in the background; Wade and Yates in conversation with Yates demonstrating things on guitar; and performances by Yates alone, all shot in a dark church ambience.



The Wade-Yates conversations are pleasant enough but sometimes might have benefitted from more planning, and at times their conversation is either strained or rather at cross purposes. Both the major pieces featured, *Capricho Arabe* and *Recuerdos de la Alhambra* end up being talked over at least in part, while the shorter pieces – such as *Lagrima*, *Adelita*, *Alborada*, *Maieta*, *Maria*, *Rosita*, *Mazurka in G* are at least played in full. Strangely though, Yates uses, not a Torres or even a Torres copy, but an – unidentified – very modern sounding instrument. His performances are clean and clear – well there are some Grade 4 pieces here! – but his tremolo in *Recuerdos* suffers from a pronounced nail-click. (No clear discussion is made of when or why Tarrega used or didn't use nails though it is suggested his emphasis on rest stroke comes from not using them.)

So this project seemed to me to be a bit rushed, a bit ill-thought through. There are some nice photos displayed, performances have some merit, and people completely new to this kind of thing will find much to fascinate. I won't be watching it again anytime soon. Six out of ten.

Stephen.

We meet at: **Kinson Community Centre, Pelhams Park, Millhams Road, Kinson, BH10 7LH**
Registered Charity No. 1101122

Committee Members

Terry Robinson - Chairman	01305 834 774	chair@dorsetguitarsociety.org.uk
Stephen Kenyon - Musical Director	01305 257 099	sbk@jacaranda-music.com
James Martin - Secretary	07767 494576	
Bill Eggleston - Treasurer	01425 650076	

Member of **The Federation of Guitar Societies** (www.federationofguitarsocieties.org.uk)
& CADArts (www.cadarts.com)

Future Meetings and Diary Dates

16 May	5.30 pm - 9.30 pm	19 September	5.30 pm - 9.30 pm
20 June	5.30 pm - 9.30 pm	17 October	2.00 pm - 5.30 pm
18 July	5.30 pm - 9.30 pm	21 November	2.00 pm - 5.30 pm
15 August	5.30 pm - 9.30 pm	19 December	2.00 pm - 5.30 pm

Third Thursday of the month

Regular playing opportunity organised by Julian Garner
Woodhouse Gardens Pavilion, Blandford Forum
7.20pm. email: julian@renrag.co.uk
or tel: **01258 830334** for more details

24 July - 30 July - Cheltenham Guitar Festival

David Russel, Tom Kerstens, Nigel North, Amanda Cook,
Scott Tennant

www.igf.org.uk

Saturday 19th June 2010 at 7:30pm

Recital by The Mandolinquents

West Sussex Guitar Society, Bognor Regis West Sussex
Recital Hall, 46 Sudley Road, Bognor Regis PO21 1ER
Admission: £12, (£8 members), full-time students half
price, under 18 free.

Britain's first modern mandolin quartet with mandolins
of all shapes and sizes, and the superb voice and
mandobass(!) of Hilary James. Their infectious fun and
off-beat humour influence everything they play, from
lively reels to traditional airs, hot swing and ragtime,
plus the occasional Chinese or Brazilian tune.

01243 866605



Thursday 13 May. Turner Sims Hall, Southampton. Juan Martin Flamenco Dance Ensemble 8.00pm

Voted into the top flamenco guitarists in the world by US
Guitar Player Magazine, Juan Martin returns to perform
his own compositions, supported by a line-up of the finest
musicians and flamenco dancers. £16 **02380 595151**.

DGS Summer Concert

Our members' summer concert will take place on Saturday
3 July 2010 at Kinson Community Centre starting at
7.30pm. We have booked the room for an afternoon
rehearsal beforehand. Further details nearer the time.

Sat 21st to Fri 27th Aug West Dean Guitar Festival

featuring concerts by **Ben Verdery** (21st), **Berta Rojas**
(22nd), **Roland Dyens** (23rd) and **The**
Mandolinquents (25th) plus Open Day (22nd) and
masterclasses.

West Dean, Nr. Chichester, PO18 0QZ

01243 811301

enquiries@westdean.org.uk



Editors bit

Thanks to Terry, James and Stephen for sending in material for
the May newsletter - I appreciate it. So, a plea to one and all -
PLEASE send me items (concert dates, recommendations,
reviews, etc) for the June newsletter as soon as possible after
the next meeting - Ideally by e-mail to:

Stuart@nundy.fsworld.co.uk

Many thanks, **Stuart**