

NOTTURNO

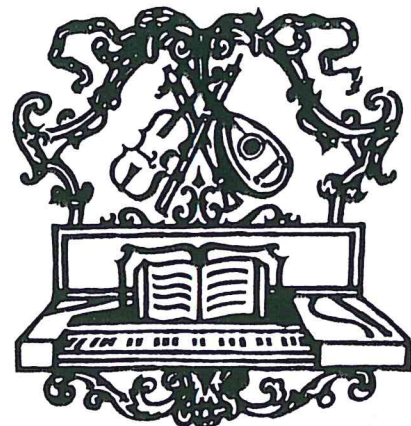
Notturno's repertoire is wide and includes major works by Gibbons, Purcell, Handel, Bach, Mozart, Haydn and Beethoven. The ensemble performs contemporary music by Höller, Stockhausen and Hyams and will commission new pieces from other challenging contemporary composers.

Notturno's players are equally adept on modern or period instruments and feel that lower tensions and gut strings can, in the right context, offer a much clearer insight into the structures and sound worlds of classical and baroque music.

Notturno invite a harpsichordist or pianist for selected concerts thus increasing still further the range and repertoire of the group.

Notturno, in addition to a varied programme of concerts, give lecture recitals and seminars; the members of the group, as experienced teachers are able to offer valuable guidance on performing string music of all periods and styles.

Notturno's sound has been described as "rich, darkly passionate yet extremely varied", offering "an intriguing and delightful contrast to the string textures one is used to." It is a sound that audiences appreciate as the group establishes itself as a popular addition to the European musical scene.





VIOLA

Stuart Deeks studied at London University and with Manoug Parikian at the Royal Academy. He then began a career as a freelance violinist playing with the Academy of Ancient Music, London Sinfonietta, LSO, London Mozart Players, London Festival Ballet and in small groups such as Alan Hacker's "Music Party"..Since moving to Sussex he has been less dependent on music for his income and has organised concerts with colleagues forming the Newhaven Consort in 1986. In this context he developed his particular skills for leading chamber groups and orchestras.



'CELLO

Helen Benson studied piano and 'cello at the Royal College then with Christopher Bunting and later with Andre Navarra in Sienna and Paris. Since then she has combined her family responsibilities with teaching, solo recitals, freelance orchestral playing, coaching at the Menuhin School and Chamber Music. She now plays with the Newhaven Consort and has given first performances of new pieces commissioned by the group.



DOUBLE BASS

Stephen Phillips, after much experience in jazz and dance music studied with Jozsef Rácz and Gerald Brinnen and then worked for many years as a freelance player in leading British orchestras, including 3 years with the BBC Symphony Orchestra. He now concentrates on playing with smaller ensembles on both modern and period Bases, is a prolific arranger for the instrument and has commissioned and given the first performance of 9 compositions for chamber ensembles featuring the Double Bass.