

Friends of the Festival 1995

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The following donated to the Friends scheme in 1994 after the programme had been printed.
Mrs Ruby Buckingham
Mr Bernard Kay

For the last ten years Oundle School has stood behind Oundle International Festival and has generously supported the project by providing amenities and banking facilities.

Emblem of our endeavours has been the beautiful Frobenius organ, purchased by the School in 1984; that the Headmaster and Governors have been willing to share such a valuable resource with some 360 summer school students is a handsome gesture indeed. Their helpfulness in this respect has been seminal: it is no exaggeration to suggest that the Oundle Chapel organ, so responsive and essentially simple a musical instrument, has changed the face of organ education in Britain.

Yet you will realise that Oundle is by no means 'organ, organ, all the time'. Year by year the diversity of the Festival programme proves a magnet for music lovers of all ages and tastes. Both Festival and Summer School lean upon each other, artistically and financially, yet the constitution that unites them is hybrid.

In its second decade OIF must assume new maturity and responsibilities; its identity needs now to be simply yet flexibly redefined to ensure continuity of policy and to serve the growth which is anticipated. The new Festival organ in the Jesus Church has urged consideration of the future; it stands now as an icon to OIF's second-decade thinking.

From January 1996 the Festival organ and the Festival itself will be the property of a new limited company, one which will be seeking charitable status. Oundle School, to which we are much indebted, will maintain its support as a sponsor.

Much energy and enthusiasm will be needed as we embark upon this next exciting phase. As an independent entity, the Festival will be reliant upon its own energy to raise funds and to pursue its aims. Amongst those objectives are the finding and funding of a new office, the building of further new organs, the attracting of a major sponsor, the further enhancement of OIF's bursary fund and the building of an endowment fund that may give the enterprise some degree of financial confidence in an uncertain economic climate.

At all this week's Festival events, the Friends of the Festival will be setting out their stall. We are greatly obliged to the generosity of the Friends who have given handsomely this year; their sector of the funding pie chart has expanded appreciably to 4% of the whole. Please consider assisting OIF's valuable and inspiring work by writing a cheque to the Friends. Further, you could ask the taxman to boost your donation by 33% by covenanting your contribution, at no extra cost to you. I hope you will respond.

Thank you all for your support.

James Parsons



James Parsons founded Oundle International Festival and Summer School for Young Organists in 1985 and has remained director of both since that time. He is Director of Music at Oundle School and is an established concert organist. This summer he has given several concerts in Prague as a guest of the South Bohemia Arts Festival, and will shortly be performing in York Minster, St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh, and Norwich Cathedral.

This year the Friends of the Festival have sponsored the concert to be given by the Bingham String Quartet on Tuesday 18 July.

Quintette Lutétia

The Programme

LES AMERIQUES

Summer Music Op 31

Samuel Barber
(1910-1981)

Barber's idiom remained neo-romantic, firmly rooted in the late 19th century and uninfluenced by any 20th century school or system. In his own words "I am not a self-conscious composer... it is said I have no style, but that doesn't matter".

Summer Music which emerges from the opening theme is a classic of the wind quintet repertoire. Gradually a hazy summer's day unfolds, with intermittent interruptions from waking insects. The music, elated and relaxed by turns, reaches a 'frenzy of lethargy', with spectacular scales from the flute and clarinet. All ends in peace, except for a late flourish.

Quintet in F

Antonin Dvorák

(transcription of 'American' String Quartet Op 96) (1841-1904)
In 1893 Dvorák was invited to New York as Director of the National Conservatory of Music, a post he held for three productive, though not very happy, years. The American quartet, the first of three written in the US, reflects the composer's interest in American folk music, best seen in the *New World* symphony. This work also evinces a sadness that may be attributable to the homesickness he experienced whilst abroad. Its most obvious manifestation is in the plaintive, soaring violin melody in the slow movement.

Wind Quintet

Elliott Carter
(b.1908)

Although he studied with Stravinsky's disciple, Nadia Boulanger, Elliott Carter belongs to the tradition of American music going back to Charles Ives. He came late to composition, and has over the years developed an idiosyncratic style that has little to do with European patterns. Carter's music is amongst the most vibrant and tightly-knit music of this century. The Quintet is a good example of this, as Carter plays with pitch and instrumental colours, demanding energetic performance from all players.

The work has two movements; the first, *Allegretto*, which is quietly excited (though not throughout), is followed by an almost hysterical second.

The Performers

Irina Dopont, oboe
Juliette Hurel, flute
Eric Laplanche, horn
Arnaud Leroy, clarinet
Régis Roy, bassoon

The members of Quintette Lutétia met as students at the Paris Conservatoire, where their ensemble was unanimously awarded First Prize in Chamber Music in 1993. The individual players were also each awarded First Prize in their particular disciplines in 1994. In the same year the ensemble won the SACEM prize in the European Chamber Music Competition and First Prize in the Chamber Music Competition organised by the UFAM (Paris). They perform individually with French national orchestras, and have toured in Morocco, Japan and Vietnam.



Wine and soft drinks available at the Church from 8 pm

A reception for the Friends will precede this concert at 7.30pm in the Festival Club

Sponsored by NETHERSEAL GARAGE LTD

Travel for the Quintette Lutétia has been generously provided by the French Cultural Delegation in Cambridge.

The Festival Club today
10am to midnight
Bar Hours 12.30pm to 2pm
6.30pm to 11.30pm