



**CONCERT**

# **SPECTACLE BRITANNIQUE**

**CHATEAU OF LAVAUX SAINTE-ANNE**

**EYNSFORD CONCERT BAND**



**Conductor: John Hutchins**  
**Clarinet Solo: Linda Merrick**

**SATURDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2010**  
**7:30pm**

**Heritage**, the new offering from Eynsford Concert Band pays tribute to five contemporary British composers who have helped to shape the repertoire for symphonic wind ensembles in recent years. Each of these composers has contributed towards advancing this medium, one of the most popular amongst amateur musical groups in Europe, in the process giving countless musicians the chance to perform original and inspiring music.

The CD includes the world's first recording of Heritage Suite (What Hope Saw) - our specially commissioned piece by Nigel Clarke. The other works featured are 'Albion Heritage' by Philip Sparke; 'Paris Sketches' by Martin Ellerby; 'Thames Journey' by Nigel Hess and 'Yiddish Dances' by Adam Gorb.

The CD will be available to purchase during the interval and after the concert. The CD is also available for purchase and download from iTunes.

We hope you enjoy listening to it as much as we enjoyed recording it!

# Eynsford Concert Band

**EYNSFORD CONCERT BAND** is a symphonic wind ensemble that has been based in the small Kentish village of Eynsford since 1972. The band tours overseas regularly, and aspires to attain the highest standards of musicianship within a social and friendly environment. Attracting players from all over the South East of England, the band nonetheless retains a core of long-standing members. The band is firmly rooted in its community and every year raises substantial amounts for local charities, raising nearly £30,000 since 2004. Recently, the band has commenced a programme of concerts in local schools, aimed at encouraging children to learn a musical instrument and to develop a love of music generally.

Under the direction of John Hutchins the band has grown in both size and reputation and prides itself on its eclectic, challenging and rewarding repertoire. Our most recent focus has been on featuring compositions for symphonic wind ensemble by contemporary British composers.

Last year marked a new milestone in the journey of the band, with our collaboration with Nigel Clarke leading to Heritage Suite (What Hope Saw), his latest composition for symphonic wind ensemble. We had an amazing experience, from the first rehearsal with Nigel through to the world premiere performance. We are delighted to be continuing this collaboration here tonight, visiting Nigel in his home country to perform his music once again.

We are also delighted to welcome Linda Merrick who joins us on this tour and to perform for you tonight. Linda is a leading exponent of the Clarinet and it has been a great privilege to work with her.

Further information about the band can be found on our website at [www.eynsfordconcertband.co.uk](http://www.eynsfordconcertband.co.uk). If you would like to receive free updates about our plans and forthcoming concerts, please become a Friend of the Band by sending an e-mail to [friends@eynsfordconcertband.co.uk](mailto:friends@eynsfordconcertband.co.uk).

# Chateau de Lavaux Sainte-Anne



Chateau of Lavaux Sainte-Anne dates back to the first half of the 15th century when it was built by the Berlo family. In 1450 the keep was built and some years later the castle was strengthened by Jean II de Berlo.

In 1630 the castle was bought by the baron Jacques-Renard de Rouveroy, an infantry colonel in the service of Emperor Ferdinand III who turned it into a country mansion. He took down one curtain wall and remodelled the courtyard in the style of Italian baroque. He also covered the castle in red bricks and added the bulbous roofs.

During the French Revolution the castle was abandoned and fell to ruin. In 1934 the castle was bought by a baroness Lemonnier and then the "Friends of Lavaux Sainte Anne" foundation who restored the castle to its present glory.

**JOHN HUTCHINS** has enjoyed connections with the band for some time and was appointed conductor in 2003. Having graduated from the Royal Academy of Music with a first class honours degree, John is enjoying a career as a freelance trumpeter. He has performed with orchestras such as the Royal Opera House Orchestra, the Ulster Orchestra and the English National Opera orchestra, and can currently be found performing in Phantom of the Opera in London's West End. John is also a keen exponent of Baroque music specialising on the natural trumpet (without valves). He performs and records with some of the world's finest Baroque ensembles including The Kings Consort, The Sixteen, the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, the Hanover Band, the New York Collegium and the Stuttgart Baroque Orchestra.

Brass coaching features highly in John's career, encompassing work as far afield as the Vietnamese Symphony Orchestra and Wells International School of Music and Trinity College of Music. He has also contributed to various brass publications and co-written a study book for trumpet. He is Professor of Baroque Trumpet at the Royal Academy of Music.

**LINDA MERRICK** has an international profile as a clarinet soloist, recording artist and clinician. Specialising in contemporary repertoire, she has been responsible for generating many new works for her instrument by British composers.

Linda's catalogue of 15 solo recordings includes new concertos for clarinet and concert band by Nigel Clarke, Martin Ellerby, Kit Turnbull and Guy Woolfenden (Polyphonic), Philip Sparke (Anglo Records) and Stephen McNeff (Campion Cameo), plus concertos for clarinet and orchestra by John McLeod (Chandos), Edwin Roxburgh (NMC) and Philip Spratley (Toccat). Her chamber music output includes a premiere recording of Wilfred Joseph's Clarinet Quintet with the Kreutzer Quartet (Metier), chamber works by Malcolm Arnold (Maestro) and Martin Ellerby (Serendipity), and a recent release of 4 newly-commissioned clarinet quintets with the Navarra Quartet (Naxos).

Linda has broadcast as a solo artist for BBC Radio 3, Radio France and DRS1, Switzerland, and performed across America, Asia, Australia, South America, the UAE, and throughout the UK and mainland Europe. She is a founder member of the contemporary ensemble 'Sounds Positive', with whom she has premiered over 70 works by British composers, and released 3 CDs.

Linda is Vice-Principal of the Royal Northern College of Music, where she holds a Professorship. She is the UK representative for Howarth Clarinets.

## Welcome

On behalf of all involved in this concert I would like to welcome the Eynsford Concert Band to Belgium and to the Château of Lavaux Sainte-Anne. I would particularly like to thank all members of the audience for coming along to a very special evening. As you will hear for yourselves, Eynsford Concert Band plays to a high degree of professionalism and yet all the musicians are amateurs.

Last year the band played a concert in the Kentish town of West Malling, with the aim of raising funds for two local charities; a haven for people recovering from drug and alcohol problems, and a nursery garden providing training and work for people with physical disabilities. For the occasion, the band commissioned a special suite from British composer Nigel Clarke. The result, Heritage Suite (What Hope Saw), was inspired by a local statue of a woman, Hope, whose cloak displays a series of panels recounting the history of the town. West Malling, home to an ancient monastery, was almost wiped out by the plague but later became a flourishing market town. A fictitious version of the village appeared in Charles Dickens's Pickwick Papers. During the Battle of Britain its airfield became an important fighter base. Later, the Beatles' film, Magical Mystery Tour, was filmed on and around the base. The composer, Nigel Clarke (who is with us this evening), has for some time been exploring collaborative projects involving music and the spoken word. For the West Malling concert he invited a friend - me - to write a poem to accompany the music. Hence the poem in this programme and that you will also hear this evening.

All of us involved in organising this concert would like to thank the Châteaux of Lavaux Sainte-Anne for providing such a beautiful venue and Godelieve Vandamme for her organisational support. We hope you will enjoy this very special occasion.

*Martin Westlake*

Secretary General, European Economic and Social Committee

# What Hope Saw

a poem by MARTIN WESTLAKE

From the control tower she gazed out on Kings Hill  
And saw the Walrus dancing with Amy Johnson in the mist,  
Whilst the crews of phantom squadrons scrambled across the grass  
Where All Muggleton and Dingley Dell played for posterity  
On the back of a ten pound note as it changed hands  
In West Malling's flourishing market.

Looking down from Gundulf's keep she wept as the market goes  
Sneezed and bled, dwindling down to fifteen  
Desperate souls who'd ever mourn and say  
How prayer had saved them as the shadow moved on,  
Leaving just four sisters to sing for deliverance.

She watched the hay bales graze in Old Kent's stubbled jowl;  
In winter, she saw the apple trees claw upwards from his chest to scratch  
His sheep-maggoty cheeks. In spring, the farmers ploughed his chin  
And talced his blue-ish skin with scattered seed so that each summer  
His beard would grow and the altars fill with abundance.

She smiled through the golden screens of hop tresses as the pickers  
Supped and drank, sprawled on the Swan's lawns or astride its benches,  
Happily distant from East End murk and stench.  
Through the night the brewer's drays dragged their fragrant loads to Faversham,  
Where the flower cones tumbled into gurgling coppers.

She lounged behind the boundary rope, sipping fresh scented summer ale,  
And watched the shadows slowly stretch out to tickle her toes  
As willow and leather and whites and wickets commingled  
With sparrows hedges, hollyhocked gardens and milk-bottled porches,  
While the shadows of spiffers and mosquitoes flitted overhead.

She stood at the entrance to Ford House and watched Wyatt drift fruitlessly  
Back from Ludgate. She closed her eyes as the rebellion was crushed and Wyatt  
Beheaded, but when she opened them again his lands had been returned,  
The market was flourishing and the Abbey was rich in song and prayer,  
A concert band played in the Tithe Barn,  
And in history's mirror she saw herself running, dove in hand, towards... hope.

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# Programme

## Sea Hawk

Erich Korngold  
arr. Jerry Brubaker

## Gallimaufry

Guy Woolfenden

## Clarinet Concerto

Soloist: Linda Merrick

Martin Ellerby

## What Hope Saw

Martin Westlake

## Heritage Suite (What Hope Saw)

Nigel Clarke

## Bugs

Roger Cichy

## Elsa's Procession to the Cathedral

Richard Wagner  
arr. Frank Erickson