

PREVIEW

Europe's leading period music ensemble, The English Concert will be performing in Nicosia on Monday at the PASYDY Auditorium as part of the continuing autumn 2005 Concert Series of the Pharos Trust.

The English Concert was founded by harpsichordist and conductor Trevor Pinnock in 1973. The group made a name for itself by being one of the first to specialise in performing Baroque music on actual period instruments. Trevor Pinnock explained the decision by saying, "The answer is simple – we wanted to use the most suitable tools for the job. These instruments were good enough for Bach – surely they're good enough for us."

After 30 years at the helm, Trevor Pinnock relinquished the role to violinist and soloist, Andrew Manze who is

also orchestral director and a chamber musician. He has been described by the *Boston Globe* as "the first superstar of the baroque violin since the baroque era itself."

He specialises in the violin repertoire which dates from 1610 to 1830 but as conductor, also works with a variety of ensembles including "modern" instrument orchestras. He studied Classics at Cambridge and then furthered his music studies at the Royal Academy of Music in London and the Royal Conservatory in The Hague.

He has held the position of Concertmaster of the Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra, Associate Director of the London-based Academy of Ancient Music and in 2003 began his directorship of The English Concert.

The best of Baroque

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The ensemble performs throughout the world and tours in 2005 included the US and Spain with performances planned for the Far East, Berlin, Vienna and Budapest during 2006. The ensemble has released over seventy albums, many of which have won top recording awards.

The English Concert has been described as having "spontaneous freshness, exhilaration, sharpness of detail and sheer fun". Audiences throughout the world have responded enthusiastically to the mixture of informality with

serious musical aims, so don't miss this opportunity to hear the works of Bach and Biber performed by this ensemble.

Andrew Manze & The English Concert Europe's leading period music ensemble performs under violinist Andrew Manze. Organised by Pharos Trust. December 5 PASYDY Auditorium. 10 Demosthenis Severis Avenue, Nicosia. 8.30pm. £10/£8£5 concessions. Tel: 22-663871. www.thepharostrust.org

By Saskia Constantinou

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