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*Deceased

February 12, 2007

Our 24th Season

To Whom It May Concern:

Chamber Music Sedona is recognized for presenting a diverse series of concerts annually that attract more than 7,500 patrons. Past artists and ensembles include the Juilliard, Guarneri, and Tokyo String Quartets, The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, pianists Mischa Dichter, Emanuel Ax, Orli Shaham and Anne-Marie McDermott as well as the Paul Winter Consort, pianist George Winston, and mandolinists Mike Marshall and Chris Thile.

Our programs and concerts, include ten to twelve subscription concerts, a Free Chamber Music series at the Sedona Public Library, "Concerts for Youth" in Sedona and Verde Valley public and private schools, as well as our annual Celebration of the Arts Gala and Benefit and other community outreach settings.

During the Spring of 2006 our Special Events Committee extended an invitation to Steve Colby and John Good, aka "*Oceans Apart*" to perform for our twelfth annual "Celebration of the Arts" Gala and Benefit. At first a few pessimistic voices were reluctant to engage a Celtic Duo for a chamber music organization's black-tie event. Soon after listening to "Maiden Voyage" and "By Land or By Sea" I was convinced that this dynamic duo would make our evening even more special and hired them!

Oceans Apart performance was a huge success. The gentlemen's friendly style, commanding presence as instrumentalists and vocalists made for a fabulous evening. Steve Colby's impressive voice was complimented by his technical wizardry on the acoustic guitar, five-string banjo and Irish Bouzouki. John Good's vocal and instrumental scope includes mastery of the Flute Family, Whistles (Penny), Fife, recorders, harmonica, Welsh Bagpipes, guitar, and percussion (Bones & Tambourine), all of which made for an enchanted evening.

Their wit and humor combined with their musical talents made for a fun, entertaining and celebratory Gala. The pessimists let me know that our decision to engage *Oceans Apart* was most welcome.

I am pleased to recommend *Oceans Apart* for their musical depth, personal charm and engaging style. I would not hesitate to re-engage the duo for our series.

Please contact me if I may provide additional comment or insights.

Yours cordially,

Bert Harclerode
Executive Director

The Oceans Apart duo, John Good and Steve Colby, plays an infectious blend of old and new songs, and they intersperse these with some compositions of their own. They have huge audience appeal, which is enhanced by their expertise on their various instruments. They are a joy to listen to, and their crowds quickly become fans for life. It would be hard to find a more pleasing duo for almost any occasion.

*Barb Biffle, Artistic Director
Plainsong Folk Festival*

Testimonials

I wanted to take this opportunity to say that I was simply blown away again this year by the wonderful music you made! The sounds you created were truly transcendent, carrying us to a beautiful aural place where nothing mattered but the next note. It is such a blessing to be associated with such a fine group of musicians.

So, thank you, thank you, thank you. I am so very grateful to be able to work with such professionals. I look forward to working with you next year. This year's festival was the most successful ever, and that is due in large part to you.

*Sincerely,
Richard Park
Entertainment Chair
Tucson Celtic Festival Association Vice
President*

Shwmai, John -- Delighted you were here and delighted you all got back safe and sound. I look back on Sunday and wonder if it was a dream. I see that jewel box of a chapel shining and full of life in the midst of that run-down neighborhood and the slight break in the torrential rains and think it was something of a miracle that we brought it all off.

Rev I.D.E. Thomas declared it the best program we have had in 30 years. Some said longer than that -- the best EVER, and that is going back 120 years.

I particular liked your poetry -- that was a lovely presentation -- and I thought "Praise and Lamentation" was very very beautiful. I loved all of it, of course, and I marveled at the variety of instruments you played with abandon! I thought the singing of Ar Hyd Y Nos in Welsh and English was very moving.....

In fact, I thought it wonderful that all the different people there felt embraced by the whole program. You could tell they did, even though they had never been to anything just like it before.

*Mary Evans of the Capel Cymraeg (Welsh Chapel)
in Los Angeles, after a recent Oceans Apart
concert.*

"The best band in Arizona and beyond."

*Dave McNabb, KJZA 89.5 FM,
Prescott/Flagstaff*



Testimonials

Many, many thanks for your superb concert and all the other appearances at our "Welsh Weekend of song". The folks around here are "raving" about your excellence. A comment I received a number of times was, "how are you going to top that?" You've set a high standard.

Ellis Jones, President, St. David's Society of Minnesota

We would like to let you know how much we appreciated your outstanding program at our Scots of the West Valley dinner meeting last evening. We have heard and enjoyed you many times over the years but this presentation surpassed them all. Your selections, lively presentations and repartee delighted our members. It was clear the audience appreciated everything. We second President Gordon Walls – an encore will be most welcomed at one of our future gatherings.

Again, our sincere appreciation for a wonderful evening.

Elizabeth Langen, Publicity chair

Heard this group at the Mesa Story Telling Festival and they are awesome.

E.R. City of Glendale

Indirectly, you were responsible for keeping Marie and I up past midnight last night. We put the CD on my surround sound system and stayed up listening to it until we forced ourselves to go to bed. We kept picking out our favorite tracks and playing them over and over again! I find myself searching for words. Impressive! Outstanding!!

Thank you for your gift of music to us all.

Denny