

# *The Oxford Players in Kicking Leaves*

<i>Trotto – Saltarello</i>	14 <sup>th</sup> century Italian
<i>Ei wie schmeckt der Kaffee süße</i> from the <i>Coffee Cantata</i> ( <i>How Sweet the Coffee Tastes</i> )	J. S. Bach
<i>The Magic Flute Medley</i> Overture - Papageno's Song - Slaves' Song - Queen of the Night Aria	W. A. Mozart
<i>Die Forelle (The Trout)</i>	Franz Schubert
<i>Minute Waltz</i>	Frédéric. Chopin
<i>Flight of Bumblebee</i>	N. Rimsky-Korsakov
<i>Rhapsody in Blue</i> <i>I've Got Rhythm</i>	George Gershwin
<i>Unsquare Dance</i>	Dave Brubeck

## *Interval*

<i>Samaveda</i>	John Tavener
<i>Enchanted Dawn</i>	Ravi Shankar
<i>Bachianas brasileiras no. 5</i>	Heitor Villa-Lobos
<i>Jota, from Seven Spanish Songs</i>	Manuel da Falla
<i>Gymnopedie</i>	Eric Satie
Film Music Medley "The Heart Asks Pleasures First" from <i>The Piano</i> <i>Schindler's List</i> <i>Gabriel's Oboe</i>	Michael Nyman John Williams Ennio Morricone
<i>Music for Pieces of Wood</i>	Steve Reich
<i>L'histoire du tango: III. Nightclub 1960</i>	Astor Piazzolla

*The Oxford Players* pride themselves in performing high-quality classical music in a fun and engaging way. Light-hearted banter and informal introductions unlock the world of art music through the centuries.

Kirsten Johnson (piano), Chris Britton (flutes), Wendy Nieper (voice) and Keith Fairbairn (percussion) formed *The Oxford Players* in 2008. Their repertoire includes music from around the world. Tangos from Argentina, flamenco from Spain, raga from India, jazz from America - their music is an aural as well as visual spectacle. Using three kinds of flute, recorder, a huge range of percussion (bongos, marimba and castanets) and both the inside and outside of the piano, *The Oxford Players* in concert offer entertainment for young and old alike.

Soprano **Wendy Nieper** received a first class degree in classical singing from the Birmingham Conservatoire of Music, where she won the Gordon Clinton Prize for English Song. However she is an extremely gifted jazz vocalist and can do amazing things with her voice. Wendy has appeared with many leading orchestras, including the Berlin Philharmonic and Tonhalle Orchestra, the Tokyo and American Symphony Orchestras, the London Sinfonietta and the Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra, a performance recorded for Deutsche Gramophone. Wendy spent five years touring with a *cappella* group *The Swingle Singers*, with whom she recorded five albums and sang at La Scala and Châtelet.

**Chris Britton** is a master of the alto flute, concert flute, piccolo and recorder. He has been broadcast on Radio 3 and is an expert Bach player. Chris graduated from Birmingham University in music and went on to freelance as an orchestral flautist. Chris gives concerts with the guitarist Raymond Burley and with the Pavlova Wind Quintet, as well as his work with *The Oxford Players*.

Percussionist **Keith Fairbairn** has performed with many orchestras and chamber ensembles, including the London Sinfonietta and London Symphony Orchestra and the London Jazz Percussion Ensemble. As a 'first call' percussionist on the London session scene he has played on numerous TV shows, recordings, films and major tours. Some of the artists he has worked with include Mike Oldfield, Vanessa Mae, Dionne Warwick, John Williams, Madonna, Tom Jones, Harrison Birtwhistle, John Dankworth and Oliver Knussen.

Pianist **Kirsten Johnson** has released many recordings to critical acclaim. The most recent, **Amy Beach, Piano Music: The Turn of the Century (GMCD 7329)** is the second of a four-part series of the complete piano works of this esteemed American composer. Kirsten's earlier albums of Albanian piano music, **Këngë: Albanian Piano Music** and **Rapsodi**, were world premiere recordings. She has also released the complete piano works of Heinrich Schultz-Beuthen (1838-1915) and pieces by Hermann Goëtz (1840-1876). More info at [www.kirstenjohnsonpiano.com](http://www.kirstenjohnsonpiano.com).