

Mittelbadische Presse (Acher-Rench-Zeitung) July 2013

Church Space Filled with Beautiful Sound

Concert series in Bad Peterstal with Alphorn melodies

Bad Peterstal-Griesbach

With another concert of the series “Klangraum Kirche Bad Peterstal” the presenters “Oekumenische Kurseelsorge” were able to present something special. Three outstanding musicians were engaged for this performance, Thomas Strauss at the organ, Irina Mueller, violin, and Nick Murdick, horn and alphorn, both from Muncie, USA, who had put together an unusual and exceptional program. The title, “From Tele to Mann” gave the hint that it would revolve around the works of Georg Philipp Telemann.

From the Twelve Sonatas for Violin and Basso Continuo they performed numbers 4, 9, 7, and 8 and filled the church with sounds, in which the organ was shown in a different role from usual. The horn shone brilliantly in interaction with the violin and organ, which Telemann provoked repeatedly in this unconventional interpretation.

The three musicians presented this art of making chamber music in an extraordinary fashion. In the third piece Strauss and Murdick surprised with the combination of organ and alphorn. The selection from the “Grossen Konzert fuer kleine Leute” von Hans Juerg Sommer allowed a completely different character of music to sound.

In the following Sonata by Johann Sebastian Bach for Violin in e minor the musicians showed their mastery of the highest demands of this music. Enthusiastic applause revealed how well the concert was received by the audience. As an encore there was another alphorn melody with organ. Irina Mueller and Nick Murdick are traveling through on their way to give masterclasses at a festival in Switzerland. They are both working towards doctorates at a university of their present home-state Indiana. Together with Thomas Strauss they have previously concertized successfully in the USA and Europe.