

## October 2018 Events Letter

Dear Friends,



Clive Jenkins with the Vercillo - Fisher Duo

In this month of October 2018 we have presented some nice events in which many of you took part together with quite a few new friends obviously interested in our activities.

First was the **Concert by Andrei Anghel and the Vercillo - Fisher Duo** of 7 October in honour of Clive Jenkins's 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday at the Women's University Club.

This was extremely well attended, over 60 people, with a lot of Press both from London and abroad and beautiful photographs were taken by the press and for a DVD to appear on the international market. This was provided by the main Sponsor of the evening Dr Domenico Meliti, CEO of the EMD Group.



Dr Domenico Meliti, CEO of the EMD Group.



Renzo Piano with the maquettes of his buildings

Soon after, on 11 October, we had a **lecture by William Stok**, poorly attended, but extremely interesting. An Italian journalist Aridea Fezzi Price is actually having it printed in an Italian paper; the reason being that the lecture was on **Renzo Piano's, "The Art of Making Buildings"**, whose exhibition opened at the Royal Academy in September for his 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday. I hope you have all seen it - most interesting. The lecture presented also his Italian youthful masterpieces, buildings made near Genova plus his later work for the Port of Genova - difficult to be reached now since the tragedy of the fallen bridge in the city. I had the satisfaction to hear one of our American visitors to

the British Museum, who had worked in America with Norman Foster, Piano's brother in law, saying how beautiful was Renzo Piano's work and how inspiring to Norman Foster.

On *Friday 19 October*, we had the most stimulating visit to the **Mantegna - Bellini Exhibition at the National Gallery.**

This Exhibition is simply "wonderful" and it requests the most active participation of the public to follow the works of these two incredible artists from Padua and Venice, linked as brothers in law, who for a period of nearly ten years painted the same religious scenes from Christ's Passion inspiring and influencing each other. Wrongly the Exhibition Curator declares the two artists as "*Together they shaped the Art of the Renaissance*" - this is obviously wrong since Florence's Renaissance was already at its most mature stage with Verrocchio, Leonardo, Botticelli and Michelangelo at work, while earlier between 1440 to 1450, Donatello in Padua had brought the Florentine Renaissance to the Veneto. At the same time the Father of Giovanni and Gentile Bellini, Jacopo, returned with his sketchbook from Florence where he learnt to portray buildings and perspective.



Giovanni Bellini "The Agony in the Garden", 1458-60

The evening continued at the Ristorante Fumo, deliciously Venetian with its menu of fragrant dishes from the North. A little noisy but certainly full of joy and laughter

We had thought of repeating the visit after the lecture but due to the lack of response we have decided not to go ahead.

**We will be continuing our appreciation of the London autumn events with the Lecture by Dr Michael Douglas Scott "MANTEGNA AND BELLINI" THE GREATEST ARTISTS OF THE EARLY VENETIAN RENAISSANCE on Wednesday 14 November**