

WHILE MY GUITAR GENTLY WEEPS...

Anishaa Kumar, Deccan Herald, Bangalore, November 3, 2008

Splendido! Cried the audience in unison, as a man dressed in black, passionately strummed the guitar. The occasion, the classical Western Music guitar concert by Alessio Nebiolo at the Alliance Française, organised by The International Music and Arts Society.

Good music and talent can be appreciated only by true connoisseurs of music, say many but Alessio Nebiolo's music was universal. There was no one there who could deny that the experience was magical. The auditorium was filled with enchanting compositions of great masters such as Praetorius, Sanz, Villa Lobos et al. Whose music inspired people the world over, including Nebiolo himself.

The tunes were of great masters, but the man recreating these tunes was nonetheless a master himself.

Born in Italy, this talented guitarist has won many competitions, performed at various famous festivals in Switzerland and across the world, including India. This performance too was a part of his six-concert tour in India.

Music is for the ears. Well not exactly, in this case, the music had a variety of emotions which was clearly displayed on his face as he went from each note – low and high. The compositions were from around the world, so, one could hear pieces which found inspiration in Spanish, German and even Brazilian tribal music. The auditorium, was engrossed in his music as he took them through emotions such as anger, fear, happiness, pain and so on. One could term the ambience as being surreal, something that took the audience away from the madness of their daily life to a world of dreams.

Each composition was so different, from traditional structured guitar notes to the unstructured haphazard notes of his finale piece. Each composition and the composer had a story behind them which Nebiolo spoke about as he began to play.

Nebiolo, who is currently a teacher at Geneva Music Conservatory in Switzerland, believes that music is a hard job unless it is your reason for life. On his experience of performing at the event, this man of few words but many "notes" smiled and replied, "Fabulous", a view which even the audience shared with him!