

# Guitarist Manus is the man for music

**J**UST about the first thing to say about guitarist Manus Noble is that he is a very talented musician.

His solo performance for the Radlett Music Club last week was completely attention grabbing and an absolute delight to listen to.

And it had the added attraction of introducing the audience in the Radlett Centre to composers most people had never heard of. In fact I had only heard of two of the nine whose music he performed.

Not only did he demonstrate tremendous skill as an instrumentalist by playing works demanding the use of complex techniques but in his final couple of pieces he exhibited his own skills as a composer with two completely contrasting works, *Mirage* and *Inishowen*.

*Mirage* uses a delightful mix of sounds from both east and west to produce a rich and haunting work while *Inishowen* was his delightful musical representation of the small Irish town where his family home is.

The majority of the works in the recital were modern compositions by living composers and all were easy on the ear although often difficult for the

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performer.

For me one of the most interesting was *Sakura Theme and Variations* by Japanese composer Yuquijiro Yocoh. A delightful work, it uses the guitar to resemble Japanese instruments to great effect.

As well as presenting good and interesting music Manus Noble also gave an insight into the works he was performing and some of the techniques he was using.

Still in his 20s, Manus has a lot to offer and, hopefully, has a bright future ahead.

JOHN MANNING