



'Fine Arts Brass Ensemble' from the UK is now in its 28th year and firmly established at the forefront of the international brass chamber music scene. Originally formed in 1980, the ensemble took the name of the place of its first rehearsal, The Barber Institute of Fine Arts at Birmingham University.

The group's enduring success is due to its uncanny chameleon-like adaptability to different audience requirements. These can range from educational concerts for primary school children, to broadcasts suitable for BBC Radios 2, 3 or 4. With the combination of their unique versatility of sound, eminent humour and passion for the music they play, it is easy to see why they have toured to over 60 countries and performed in just about every music festival in the UK.

The first half of the concert was filled with classical and baroque arrangements and the second with music by Irvin Berlin and Gerschwin. After a couple of encores and a particularly memorable rendition of 'You can't take that away from me', the ensemble retired to prepare for their drive to Dammam the following morning. The quintet also performed in Jeddah on the 16th.

The Fine Arts Brass Ensemble consisted of Simon Lenton and Angela Whelan on trumpet, Sam Elliot on Tuba, Katy Jones on Trombone and Christopher Parkes on Horn.

Fine Arts Brass also gave a short concert for the children of the British International School on the morning of the 18th November. Their music appealed to everyone and ranged from The Teddy Bear's Picnic to the theme music from Thunderbirds!

The visit was organised by the Wadi Nights Committee of Jan Patrick, Ian Crawford and Owain Raw-Rees and sponsored by bmi, Kanoo, AXA Insurance and BAE Systems. Special thanks went to HM Ambassador, Mr William Patey and Mrs Vanessa Patey for the use of their beautiful garden and for hosting the quintet at the Residence.

'Fine Arts Brass' Concert

