

European Concerts by The Deep River Quartet and Golden Gate Quartet

By Pamela Horner

In 2008, Charlie and I toured Europe. In Purmerend, Holland, we attended a concert by our friends, the Deep River Quartet. The “Deeps” are one of Europe’s premier vocal groups, singing spirituals, jazz, R&B and soul. The members are Sybrandus Finck, Ace Vincent, Brian Sporkslede and Dick Rietveld. The Deeps sang songs like “Rock My Soul,” “I Cover The Waterfront” and “Sixty Minute Man.” I’ve always enjoyed their humorous version of “Rigoletto.” The group closed with, “Go Like Eliza,” now viewable on YouTube. They received an eight-minute standing ovation. Just a fantastic memorable night.

In Toulouse, France we saw the Golden Gate Quartet at the Casino Théâtre Barrière. One of the greatest vocal quartets of all time, the “Gates” have performed for 74 years. The group consists of Clyde Wright, Paul Brembly, Frank Davis and Terry Francoise. The Gates opened with acappella versions of “Troubles of The World” and “Swing Low Sweet Chariot” and then sang with the band. The Gates sang many songs my favorites were “Down By The Riverside,” “Gospel Train” and “Waterside.” The group ended with “Oh Happy Day” and left the stage. The audience was on its feet applauding for five minutes. The Gates returned to sing two encores. What a remarkable concert this was.

To view photos of both concerts, visit our web site www.classicurbanharmony.net

**Reprinted with permission from *Golden Oldies Forever Concert Calendar* (Spring 2009).
© 2009, Pamela Horner and Classic Urban Harmony, LLC**