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London exevans

ensemble (attn Latam)

moscow, july 8, reuter - chile's 10-member ancient music ensemble left here today for rumania after a highly successful tour of the soviet union taking with them an official invitation to return within a year.

the ensemble, led by its co-founder, soprano silvia soublette, gave concerts in vilnius, riga, and tallinn - capitals of the soviet baltic states of lithuania, latvia and estonia - in leningrad and moscow.

everywhere they aroused great interest among the local music-loving public, and all their concerts were sold out.

miss soublette said today that the audiences had shown +real enthusiasm+ wherever they went. +i think our music was a completely new experience for them. they know nothing about our old instruments,+ she commented.

among the instruments used by the group are flutes, violas da gamba, a lute, a clavichord and a dulcimer. much of the repertoire here consisted of songs of the period of the spanish renaissance and latin american songs of the post-conquest period.

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many moscow music lovers were unhappy that the soviet state concert organisation had only arranged for the group to give one public concert in the capital.

during much of the tour, however, the main moscow concert halls were taken up by the international tchaikovsky competition.

miss soublette had an hour-long talk with the soviet minister of culture, mrs. yekaterina furtseva, who invited the group to return to moscow either at the end of this year or early next year.

musical sources said the group would be assured of a very warm reception and many engagements if they returned.

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highlight of the tour was a special concert given by the ensemble in the chilean embassy at the invitation of the ambassador, professor maximo pacheco gomez.

a russian ancient music group, formed only 18 months ago by young composer andrei bolkonsky, also appeared at the concert and the two groups exchanged experiences and ideas.

among the specially-invited audience were leading soviet cultural figures, and also mrs. lydia gromyko, wife of the soviet foreign minister, who expressed her great admiration for the chilean group.

the ensemble is due to give two concerts in bucharest before going on to greece, and then to yugoslavia, where they will appear at the dubrovnik arts festival.

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