

# New Zealand School of Music Viola Students

**Wednesday Lunchtime Concerts** *providing lunchtime music in the heart of the city since 1974*

St Andrew's on The Terrace WELLINGTON

17

10

18  
12.15pm

## Welcome

It is wonderful that you have come. Thank you.

We want your experience today to be the best that it can be and would appreciate you taking a moment to read the following before the concert commences.

**Keep safe** by locating the exit nearest to your seat.

In the event of an earthquake, our recommendation is to **Drop, Cover and Hold**.

**Bon appetit!** You are welcome to have your lunch during the performance. Switching your cell phone to **silent** is important to the performers and other members of the audience. Your support by way of a **donation** and telling others about the concerts would be fantastic and very much appreciated. It does make a difference.

If you wish to photograph or video today's concert, please ask for permission from the performer(s) before the concert begins. This is important.

We invite you now to sit back, relax and **enjoy** the concert.

**Our Mission** is to create a lively, open Christian faith community, to act for a just and peaceful world, and to be catalysts for discovery, compassion and celebration in the capital.

These lunchtime concerts are **advertised** through Radio New Zealand Concert's Live Diary at around 8.10 am on the day of the concert, and listed on St Andrew's website.

To be placed on the email **circulation list** for concert information, please email Marjan on [marjan@marjan.co.nz](mailto:marjan@marjan.co.nz). Also join our Facebook group Friends of St Andrew's on The Terrace Lunchtime Concerts, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/315497448862287/>.

Check out the noticeboards in the foyer each time you come.

# Programme

## **Arpeggione : Sonata in A minor, D. 821 (1824)**

**Franz Schubert (1797 -1828)**

*Zephyr Wills - viola, Catherine Norton – piano*

Schubert's Arpeggione sonata was written in 1824, a year after the invention of an instrument called the arpeggione. With the decline in the instrument's popularity the work was hardly played until transpositions for more mainstream instruments, such as violin, viola and cello were developed.

## **Elegy for Solo Viola (1929)**

**Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)**

*Zephyr Wills - viola*

Britten wrote his Eulogy for Solo Viola at the age of sixteen. He never published the work and it was discovered after his death, untitled. It is a prime example of 20th century experimentation with atonal dissonance.

## **Cello Suite in D minor (c. 1717-1723)**

**J.S. Bach (1685-1750)**

*i. Prelude*

*Deborah King - viola*

The Cello Suites were written by Bach while he was the Kapellmeister for Prince Leopold of Anhalt-Cöthen, from the 1720's onwards. All of the Suites are series of dances, with each Suite carrying a distinct character and key signature. The prelude has a strong opening motif that repeats throughout the piece, and embodies the wistful melancholy in Bach's use of D minor.

## **Concertstuck (1906)**

**George Enescu (1881-1955)**

*Deborah King - viola, Catherine Norton - piano*

Hailing from Romania, George Enescu was one of the most prominent violinists and composers of the 20th century, having started to explore composition and study both violin and piano from the precocious age of 6. This work demonstrates Enescu's love for strong melodic writing and showcases his expressive capabilities as a leading virtuoso.

## **Prelude from Suite 4 in E-flat (c. 1717-1723)**

**J.S. Bach (1685-1750)**

*Grant Baker - viola*

The first half of this prelude consists of bold, arpeggiated chords until it comes to some crossroads. This launches us into a scalic gesture which leads right back to the arpeggiated chords.

## Recitativo and Scherzo-Caprice (1911)

Fritz Kreisler (1875-1962)

Grant Baker - viola

This showpiece was written for this virtuoso to play on violin himself but has been transcribed for violists too. The Recitativo is dramatic and rhapsodic in a dark D minor. In absolute contrast, the Scherzo is in a brilliant F major and showcases a number of extended techniques.

## Viola Concerto

William Walton (1902-1983)

2. *Vivo, con molto preciso*

3. *Allegro moderato*

Grant Baker – viola, Catherine Norton – piano

This concerto was first performed in the Queen's Hall in 1929 and has been a rite of passage for all violists since. It is one of Walton's best-known works. The second movement is short, very energetic, and scherzo-like, and has a strong rhythmic theme announced right from the start. The third movement keeps referring to themes from the previous movements until finally it brings back the very start of the concerto.

# About the Musicians

**Zephyr Wills** is a first-year performance student at the New Zealand School of Music. He has been playing a mixture of violin and viola since the age of nine under a number of tutors including Douglas Beilmen and Gioia Brunoro. Discussing Bach and Paganini will always get you in Zephyr's good-books, but Schubert and Britten are acceptable too. He intends to continue his studies and perform regularly at St. Andrews in the future.

**Deborah King** began her musical journey at the age of 5, learning the violin. After 7 years of not liking it all that much, she decided it was time for a change and picked up the viola, thereby accidentally discovering a lifelong passion. Since then, she has received numerous accolades including an APO Scholarship (2015) and an ABRSM Associate Diploma (2016) and played in many prestigious groups (Auckland Youth Orchestra, National Youth Orchestra, various award-winning chamber ensembles).

**Grant Baker** is a Wellington born violist in the third year of his degree in music performance on viola with Gillian Ansell. Over the last few years, he has performed with most of the professional orchestras in Wellington and across the country, including as an extra in the NZSO. He also regularly plays chamber music with friends. In 2017, Grant made his Concerto debut with Wellington Youth Orchestra.

*continued ...*

**Catherine Norton** (piano) studied in Wellington and was an Emerging Artist with New Zealand Opera, before postgraduate studies in London at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, where she was awarded the accompaniment prizes and was appointed an Artist Fellow. She was a 2013 Britten-Pears Young Artist, is an alumna of Austria's acclaimed Franz-Schubert-Institut for Lieder, and was a member of Graham Johnson's Young Songmakers' Almanac. She is the winner of numerous awards, including the Victoria University Concerto Competition and Britain's AESS National English Song Competition. She has appeared in recital in concert halls including the Barbican Hall, LSO St Luke's, and at the Oxford Lieder Festival, as well as around England and in France, Germany, Northern Ireland and Malta. She is the artistic director of Songbook, a new Wellington recital series.

## Contact us



e | [wednesday@standrews.org.nz](mailto:wednesday@standrews.org.nz)    p | 04-472-9211    w | [www.standrews.org.nz](http://www.standrews.org.nz)

## Coming Up

### October

- 24<sup>th</sup>    **Rupa Maitra (violin) and Margaret Guldborg (cello)**  
Duos for violin and cello by Ravel, Breval and Handel-Halvorssen
- 31<sup>st</sup>    **Archi d'Amore Zelanda (Donald Maurice - viola d'amore, Jane Curry - guitar and Inbal Megiddo - cello).**  
New music by David Hamilton, Nathan Kolosko and others

### November 7<sup>th</sup> Music of the Baroque period

*We thank our generous supporters*

**Absolutely Positively  
Wellington City Council**

Me Heke Ki Pōneke



*and all those who donate weekly*

Check out the What's On and Concerts section on our website [www.standrews.org.nz](http://www.standrews.org.nz)

The only place you'll find reviews of these concerts (and almost all other classical music in Greater Wellington) is at [www.middle-c.org](http://www.middle-c.org)

Use it to find out what's coming up in classical music performance through the website's

**Coming Events listings**