

Maria Mo

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

St Andrew's on The Terrace WELLINGTON



17

04

12.15pm

19

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. 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

Piano sonata in C, Op. 53 ('Waldstein')

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)

i. allegro con brio

ii. Introduzione. Adagio molto

iii. Rondo. Allegretto moderato - presto

The *Waldstein* is one of Beethoven's most notable piano sonatas from his middle period, followed by the Op.57 ('*Appassionata*') and Op. 81a ('*Les Adieux*'). Composed in 1804, its name derives from the dedicatee of the work, Count Ferdinand Ernst Gabriel von Waldstein.

The first movement is a chordally driven *allegro con brio* in the key of C major which is quickly displaced with an unexpected twist into B flat major. The mood here is confident, agile, virtuosic; it shows Beethoven pushing the limits of Classicism, ready to veer into more expansive textures and harmonies.

The second movement is a brief but emotional *Adagio* in 6/8 time. It begins with a plaintive melody which gets increasingly agitated before segueing into the opening theme of the third movement, reminiscent of the rising sun of a new dawn. It is full of technical demands, requiring hand-crossing, rapid scale passages, ongoing trills on top of melodies, and octave glissandi. It leads the sonata to an exuberant and triumphant finish.

Iberia, Book 1:

Isaac Albéniz (1860-1909)

i. Evocación

ii. El Puerto

iii. El Corpus en Sevilla

Iberia is a suit for piano comprised of four books of three pieces each. Olivier Messiaen described it as "the wonder for the piano; it is perhaps on the highest place among the more brilliant pieces for the king of instruments". Albéniz had once considered destroying the manuscript as it is such a fiendishly difficult and gruelling challenge for the pianist. Each book is a journey through different regions

of the Iberian peninsula which consists of the countries of Portugal and Spain, as well as small portions of Andorra and France.

Evocacion does not illustrate a specific region but it evokes - as the title suggests - a certain kind of wistfulness, nostalgia, and beauty, written in Albéniz's colourful and impressionistic harmonic language.

El Puerto is a delightful depiction of the port of Santa Maria on the Bay of Cádiz - the bustling fish market with its many patrons is expressed through zapateado, a lively traditional Andalusian dance in 6/8 with a clear stress on the second beat. Elements of flamenco dance are also evident throughout.

El Corpus en Sevilla is about the Catholic feast day of Corpus Christi which takes place in Sevilla 60 days after Easter, featuring the procession of the Blessed Sacrament along with a statue of the Virgin Mary. Albéniz uses the widest scope of dynamic markings - ranging from *ppppp* to *fffff* - to portray the solemn march and the religious fervour and ecstasy, and the pianism and technical difficulty demanded here pushes the performer to the absolute limits.

Biography

Maria Mo has performed in New Zealand, Australia, the United Kingdom, and across Europe as both solo recitalist and chamber musician. She was associate artist at the 2014 Australian Cello Awards (Sydney, Australia) and guest artist at the 2010 Semaine Internationale de Piano festival (Blonay, Switzerland), as well as the Gesellschaft für Musiktheater in Vienna. She has toured as concerto soloist with Opus Chamber Orchestra, the Trust Waikato Symphony Orchestra, and the Auckland Youth Orchestra.

In 2009, she was the winner of the Royal Over-Seas League Arts/Pettman International Scholarship for a New Zealand Chamber Ensemble as pianist for the Leonari trio, which led to an 8-week concert tour and study trip of the United Kingdom in 2010, playing prestigious venues and festivals such as St. Martin-in-the-fields and Edinburgh Fringe Festival. The trio also toured with Chamber Music Zealand in 2012 to critical acclaim. In December 2018, Maria had the honour of being selected to perform for the South Korean President Moon Jae-In on his inaugural trip to New Zealand.

Maria studied with Katherine Austin as a Sir Edmund Hillary Music Scholar at the University of Waikato where she received the Hillary Medal and the Lili Kraus Piano Award, and graduated with a Master of Music with First Class Honours in 2009.

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In 2013 she graduated with Excellence under Professor Doris Adam at the Vienna Conservatory, and received further training from Professor Christopher Hinterhuber at the University for Music and Performing Arts Vienna. She returned to her alma mater at the University of Waikato to commence a Doctor of Musical Arts degree with Katherine Austin in 2018.

Contact us



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Coming Up April

24th Chris Greenslade – piano

May

1st Georgia Jamieson Ems (soprano) and Bruce Greenfield (piano), German Lieder Recital

8th Solo String Students of the NZSM

9th Thursday
Samuel Marsden Collegiate School Choir

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