

Cello Recital

Lev Sivkov

Wednesday Lunchtime Concerts *providing lunchtime music in the heart of the city since 1974*
St Andrew's on The Terrace WELLINGTON



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:

J.S. Bach Suite no 2 in D minor, BWV 1008, *Prelude and Allemande*

Bach's six Suites for Cello Solo are a foundation stone of the cello repertoire, an inexhaustible musical treasure chest that cellists come back to throughout their lives.

As in all the Suites, the D minor Suite opens with a majestic, “architectural” Prelude followed by a number of dance movements. Today we will hear the first of these movements, the Allemande, a dance in duple metre, moderate in tempo and with a characteristic upbeat.

Carlo Alfredo Piatti (1822-1901): *Caprice no. 5 in A flat*

Piatti was one of the most celebrated cellists of his day, just as popular for his compositions as for the brilliance with which he performed them. His Caprices were published in 1875. Though they are all tests of advanced playing techniques, they are not directly in Paganini's virtuoso tradition.

They are more akin to Chopin's Piano Etudes, focusing on a particular aspect of technique – for example trills, double stops, string-crossing, arpeggios with springing bow – and using it to create a piece with musical substance.

Henri Dutilleux (1916-2013):

Three Strophes on the name of Sacher (1976)

In 1976 the great Russian cellist Mstislav Rostropovitch asked twelve composers, among them Henri Dutilleux, to write a piece for solo cello in honour of the 70th birthday of the Swiss music patron Paul Sacher, based on the letters of his name, translated into musical notation as Eb, A, C, B, E, D.

Dutilleux's contribution is a short suite of three strophes: *Un poco indeciso*, *Andante Sostenuto*, and *Vivace*. He composed the first strophe for the birthday celebration itself, and later added two more. All three require the lower strings of the cello to be tuned down a semitone: the G string to F# and the C string to B. This produces a particularly sonorous timbre.

In added homage to Sacher, a quotation from Bartok's *Music for Strings, Percussion, and Celesta* (arguably the most eminent work ever commissioned by Sacher) can be heard at the end of the first strophe: A - Bb - C# - D - Eb - C - B - Bb - A

Aram Khachaturian (1903-1978): Sonata-Fantasia (1974)

The Sonata-Fantasia in C major, written in 1974, is one of several works for solo instruments dating from Khachaturian's last years. All are notable for combining a highly expressive language with recurring motifs. Beginning on the cello's lowest note, the open C string, the Sonata-Fantasia has two elements: an open fifth chord and a dissonant interval, hinted at or stridently emphasized. Khachaturian manipulates these elements to generate a sonata-like structure. A cantabile section built upon a low G-D interval is disturbed by dissonant E flats of increasing intensity. The melodies are often reminiscent of religious chant. Tight and spare in its structure, this is a deeply felt, lyrical piece in which “fantasy” unfolds from an abstract kernel.

Biography:

Lev Sivkov was born into a musical family in Novosibirsk, Siberia, Russia, in 1990. He began to play the cello at the age of five.

In 2006 he moved to Basel, Switzerland to study with Ivan Monighetti, completing his Bachelor studies with Conradin Brotbeck in Stuttgart.

He has participated in masterclasses with Janos Starker at Indiana University, Bloomington, USA, Wolfgang Schmidt at the Kronberg Music Festival, Germany, Ferenc Rados at the Prussia Cove Music Seminars, England, and Jean-Guihen Queyras in Freiburg, Germany.

In 2016 he was appointed Principal Cellist of the Royal Danish Opera, Copenhagen, Denmark.

The following year he won his current position as Principal Cellist of Opernhaus Zürich, Switzerland.

He is also increasingly active on the international stage as a recitalist and concerto soloist.

Lev is a laureate of numerous competitions, most notably the prestigious Naumburg Competition in New York, USA, which he won in 2015. He made his New York debut in the Weill Music Room, Carnegie Hall, in November, 2016 and played a second recital there in April, 2019.

In October 2018, parallel with his full-time position in Zürich, he participated in the Isang Yun Competition in Tongyeong, Korea, winning 3rd prize and the Unesco Creative City of Music Special Prize, awarded by the audience.

Lev is currently touring extensively in New Zealand as soloist and chamber musician.

Lev plays a cello by Vincenzo Postiglione, Naples, 1893.

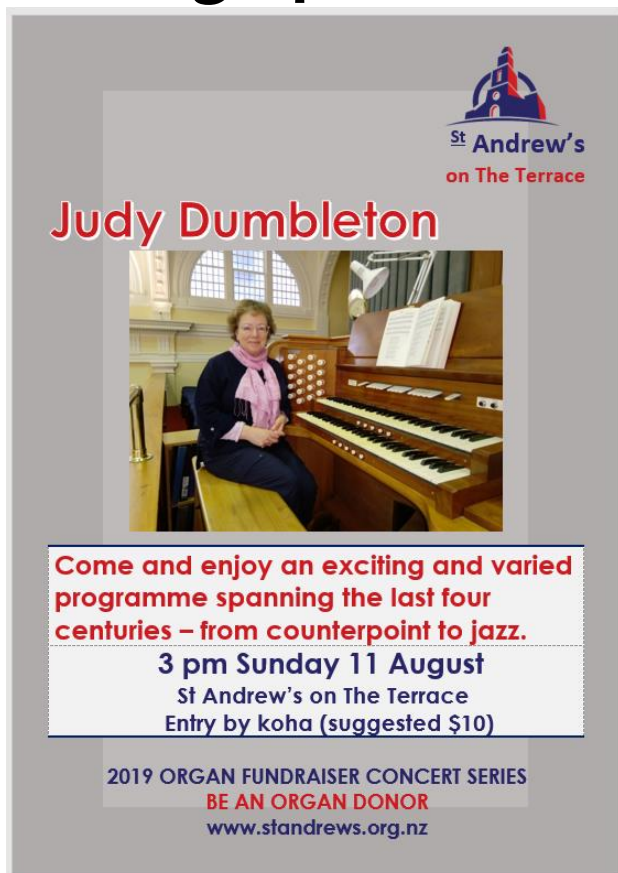
Lev Sivkov



Contact us

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Coming Up



**St Andrew's
on The Terrace**

Judy Dumbleton

Come and enjoy an exciting and varied programme spanning the last four centuries - from counterpoint to jazz.

3 pm Sunday 11 August
St Andrew's on The Terrace
Entry by koha (suggested \$10)

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11th August – Sunday at 3pm

Organ Fundraiser Concert Series

Judy Dumbleton

Entry by koha (suggested \$10)

August

14th Barbara Patterson (soprano) and Gabriela Glapska (piano)

Karol Szymanowski – “Songs of the Infatuated Muezzin”

Edie Hill – “The Giver of Stars”.

15th (Thursday) NZ Six Hands Trio –

Hamish Robb, Beth Chen, Nicole Chao. Music for Six and four hands by Debussy, Rachmaninoff, Mozart, Ravel, and Rasim Ramazanov.

21st Bernard Wells (recorder) and Douglas Mews (harpsichord) –
Sonatas for recorder and harpsichord by G F Handel, G P Telemann, J S Bach.

28th Duo Tapas – Rupa Maitra (violin), Owen Moriarty (guitar)

29th Thursday – Local Vocals

Director: Simon Christie. Song from each decade of the 20th century.

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