## Sonatas for recorder and harpsichord

Bernard Wells (recorder) and Douglas Mews (harpsichord, recorder)

**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 <a href="marjan@marjan.co.nz">marjan@marjan.co.nz</a>. 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:**

#### Sonata in F major (orig. E major violin BWV 1016)

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685 – 1750)

Adagio

Allegro

Adagio ma non tanto

Allegro

#### Sonata in G minor (from der Getreue Musikmeister (1728-29))

Georg Philipp Telemann (1681 – 1767)

Largo

Allegro

Affettuoso

Vivace

#### Sonata in A minor

**Georg Friedrich Handel** (1685 – 1759)

Larghetto

Allegro

Adagio

Allegro

#### Sonata in C major (from Essercizii Musici (1739-40))

**Georg Phillip Telemann** 

Adagio-Allegro-Adagio-Allegro

Larghetto

Vivace

Johann Sebastian Bach raised the trio sonata form to its highest degree of perfection. A trio sonata was usually written for two solo instruments providing melodies in counterpoint, accompanied by a *basso continuo*, supplied by one or more musicians playing, for instance, a bass viol for the bass line and a harpsichord or chamber organ for the harmonies.

Bach's **Six sonatas for violin and obbligato harpsichord** BWV 1014–1019 are in trio sonata form, but only use two musicians, with the two upper parts in the violin and the harpsichord over a bass line also supplied by the harpsichord. They are Sonata da Chiesa (church sonata) compositions with slow-fast-slow-fast movements. Both Allegros are fugal and the slow movements contain some of Bach's most beautiful music, expressing deeply contemplative thought and feeling.

They were probably mostly composed during Bach's final years in Köthen between 1720 and 1723, before he moved to Leipzig.

**Georg Friedrich Handel** was 27 when he visited London in 1710 and he settled there permanently in 1712.

The **Sonata in A minor** (HWV362) was composed (c. 1712) for recorder and harpsichord (the autograph manuscript, a fair copy made most likely in 1712, gives this instrumentation in Italian: "flauto e cembalo"). The sonata has a distinct operatic quality and demands great virtuosity especially from the harpsichord player.

Georg PhilippTelemann was a leading German Baroque composer and one of the most prolific composers in history. Bach made Telemann the godfather of his son Carl Philipp Emanuel. Handel and Telemann also knew each other personally. Telemann played a number of instruments including the recorder, and his skilful knowledge of this instrument is apparent in the Sonata in G minor for two recorders without bass accompaniment.

The **Sonata** in **C** is no. 10 in "Essercizii musici" (pub. 1739 – 40) - literally *musical* exercises, but really a compendium of small-ensemble sonata types. The opening movement highlights the recorders' virtuosic quality in a most dramatic manner.

### **Biography**

**Bernard Wells** has a degree in recorder from Utrecht Conservatorium and is well known as a concert artist and teacher. A national recording artist for Radio New Zealand, he has performed a wide range of music from medieval to contemporary, as soloist, with chamber groups and with various orchestras throughout New Zealand and Australia. He teaches privately and works as a musician in various musical genres.

**Douglas Mews** studied organ and harpsichord with the late Anthony Jennings at Auckland University (New Zealand) followed by harpsichord studies with Bob van Asperen at the Royal Conservatory in the Hague.

He is now a freelance musician, teaching at the New Zealand School of Music in Wellington and directing the music at St Teresa's Catholic Church.

This concert has been sponsored by REMU (Recorders and Early Music Union), which aims to support, teach and educate the public in recorder performance and organises recorder playing events for all ages.

Check the website, remu.org.nz with any enquiries and to make contact if you are interested in joining us or playing with us.



#### Contact us

# Coming Up August

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

29th (Thursday) - Local Vocals

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

#### September

4<sup>th</sup> Lieder Recital

Georgia James Ems (soprano) Bruce Greenfield (piano)

11th - Cello Students of the NZSM

12<sup>th</sup> (Thursday) Anna Pierard students

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The only place you'll find reviews of these concerts (and almost all other classical music in Greater Wellington) is at <a href="www.middle-c.org">www.middle-c.org</a>

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