



Wednesday Lunchtime Concerts

providing music in the heart of the city since 1974

Music for cello & piano from Eastern Europe

Rachel Thomson (piano) & Robert Ibell (cello)



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 contribute by internet banking, our account is 020 534 000 4022 00. Please put lunch concert in the particulars.

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, they are also advertised on Eventfinda, Dominion Post Arts Pages and Arts Wellington online, and listed on St Andrew's website.

To be placed on the email **circulation list** for concert information, please email wednesday@standrews.org.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

Ballade & Serenade Op 3

Josef Suk (1874-1935)

Czech composer and violinist Josef Suk was brought up in a musical family, and became one of Dvorák's favourite students. Indeed, Suk went on to marry Dvorák's daughter, and was later heartbroken to lose both Dvorák and his wife in the same year. He was regarded as one of the leading composers in Czech modernism, and performed as second violin for the Czech (later Bohemian) Quartet.

Relatively early works, the Ballade is intense and romantic in style, while the Serenade takes a lighter, more playful tone.

Grave – Metamorphoses for 'cello & piano (1981)

Witold Lutosławski (1913-1994)

The Polish composer Lutosławski has said: "I wrote *Grave* for cello and piano to honour the memory of Stefan Jarociński. As is known, he devoted a great part of his activity to Debussy's music. So I considered it appropriate to use the first four notes from *Pelléas et Mélisande* at the beginning of my piece, the four notes becoming the point of departure for the melody in the cello part. The composition takes the form of metamorphoses, in the course of which - as in my *Funeral Music* - the rhythmic values undergo a gradual breakup, which creates the illusion of an ever faster tempo. Before the very end of the composition, the four notes from *Pelléas* return".

Sonata for Cello & Piano No 2 H.286

Bohuslav Martinů (1890-1959)

Written in 1941, Czech composer Martinů's second sonata for cello and piano was one of the first works he completed after emigrating from France to the US to escape the Gestapo. In this work Martinů embraced classical forms, though the first movement is typically vigorous and energetic in his most rhythmic manner. The second movement is full of passionate longing, with a gorgeous lyrical cello line, whilst the finale uses the composer's characteristic motor rhythms, with powerful stamping gestures suggesting Bohemian peasant dances.

Rachel Thomson - piano

Rachel Thomson was born in Dunedin, New Zealand, and grew up in Wellington where she began her piano studies with her mother. She went on to study with Judith Clark, graduating from Victoria University of Wellington before continuing her studies at the Cleveland Institute of Music in the United States, where she gained a doctorate in piano performance.

Rachel regularly performs with some of the country's leading musicians. She has toured on numerous occasions for Chamber Music New Zealand and is a member of various chamber ensembles including the Koru Trio. She has worked as an orchestral pianist with the NZSO, Orchestra Wellington, and the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra. Rachel is also active as a teacher, adjudicator and accompanist.

Rachel has been a national recording artist for Concert FM, and also recorded for Trust Records with flutist Bridget Douglas.

Robert Ibell - cello

Robert Ibell was born in Dannevirke and brought up in Palmerston North. While training there as a school teacher he learned cello from Judith Hyatt in Wellington.

Between 1986 and 1992 Robert lived in London, studying cello with Tanya Prochazka, Derek Simpson and Christopher Bunting. He played at music schools and in masterclasses (where his teachers included Alexander Baillie, Steve Doane, Anner Bylsma and Steven Isserlis), taught, gave recitals and played in professional and amateur orchestras.

From 1993 to 2019 Robert was a member of the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra. He is now a cello and double bass teacher, chamber music coach, adjudicator and freelance performer. Robert is a member of the Aroha String Quartet, square piano/cello duo Hammers & Horsehair and indie/folk/rock band Milkthistle.

Contact us



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Coming Up

29 June - Chamber Music from the NZSM

6 July - Oliver Howes, guitar and Ben Kennedy, piano

13 July - Aroha String Quartet Academy Concert

20 July - Family concert:

Carnival of the Animals by Saint-Saëns



Check out the What's On and Concerts section on our website 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

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