



The Score

Geelong Chamber Music Society Newsletter

NEXT CONCERT Friday 20 May 7.30pm

Paavali Jumppanen with members of the
Australian National Academy of Musicians

McAuley Hall Sacred Heart College, Aphrasia St Newtown

The second concert in our 2016 series brings Paavali Jumppanen, the renowned Finnish pianist, to perform in Geelong alongside some of the outstanding young musicians in the current cohort of emerging professionals at the Australian National Academy of Music.



Paavali Jumppanen is a leader in an exciting new generation of Finnish pianists. His complete cycles of Beethoven and Mozart have been hailed for their freshness and intelligence. Mr Jumppanen's solo recital last year in the Melbourne Recital centre was sold out; the reviews were laudatory. We are fortunate to enjoy his company for a rich

offering of solo and chamber masterpieces in this concert, which will also be playing in Melbourne, Perth, Sydney and Brisbane. The works to be performed are:

Poulenc Trio for oboe, bassoon and piano

Beethoven Trio in B flat major for clarinet, cello & piano

Debussy Cello sonata in d minor

Poulenc Elegy for horn & piano

Debussy Preludes Book II: Selection

Beethoven Quintet in E-flat major for piano & winds

Surely, this is a program to delight all lovers of the chamber music repertoire!

Ticket prices and 2016 Subscriptions

Single ticket prices for 20 May

\$55 Adult/senior

\$50 Concession/ANAMates

\$10 under 25.

Available at the door or from the Secretary (5243 6931) or GPAC (5225 1200 or gpac.org.au).

If you have still to subscribe for the remainder of this year's concerts, it's not too late to do so. Subscribing for the four concerts will reduce your price for each concert, secure your seats, and help us to promote chamber music in Geelong.

A 4-concert subscription will be available at the door on May 20. The cost is \$170 (\$155 concession).

A booking form is also available on our website: gcms.org.au

Concert review

Elena Kats-Chernin and Tamara-Anna Cislowska
11 March, by Dr Malcolm John OAM

Twenty years ago a 'Classical' music program devoted to 96% Australian music would have been unthinkable. However, last night's delightful presentation by Tamara-Anna Cislowska and Elena Kats-Chernin in McAuley Hall at Sacred Heart College was received by an enthusiastic audience. The groundbreaking music of the recently late Peter Sculthorpe, with good tunes bubbling not far from the surface of otherwise aleatoric sonorities, was played with insight and devotion by pianist Tamara-Anna Cislowska. She also managed to humour the listeners with well modulated anecdotes about Sculthorpe, as well as giving a good-humoured welcome to the composer of the evening, her fellow pianist, Elena Kats-Chernin.

Reading from barely legible scores these brilliant ladies extracted magnificent 4-hand sonorities from the grand piano, demonstrating complete involvement in the composer's often quirky styles. Amid straight rhythmic, often mesmeric patterns, with regular nods in the minimalist's direction, where much is often made using little musical material, there were many gems and surprises. The harmonic richness of Tango and Rag was peppered with quick-change side-shifts of harmony – in Prokofiev's style – and rhythmic spatterings. The Vocalise was a moving exploration of themes close to the composer's heart, and associated with the Mental Health Institute via a commission. Elena's youngest son Nick favours her Lullaby, a gently evolving piece written when she was a young girl.



The evening was full of good humour and surprises, not least with the brilliant Russian Toccata, written in a few hours, and the colourful Dance of the Paper Umbrellas, written as part of the HUSH program for the

Royal Children's Hospital, with its evolving layers of harmony and rhythm. The violence of the 2013 Marcato contrasted with the more lyrical works of the evening.

Overall, Elena Kats-Chernin's compositional style is diatonic, with side-slips, persistent rhythms and extensions of the 'usual' intervals, giving this prolific and popular composer her distinctive voice. Thanks to the GCMS committee for organising such an event; we are all the richer for their doing so.

News from the Annual General Meeting

At our Annual General Meeting on 2 May, new office-bearers and committee members were elected.

Our Committee list now reads:

President: Helen Jordan

Vice-President: Hugh Collins

Secretary: Irene McGinnigle

Treasurer: Anne Powers

Committee: David Fox, Wendy Galloway

Peter Horan, Murray Symons

The AGM provided an opportunity to thank retiring committee members Jenny Horan, David Eyres and Noeline Sandblom for their dedicated service. Our appreciation was also expressed to Dr Kevin McAveney, President 2014-2016, and formerly Vice-President, for his contribution to GCMS since our foundation.

The meeting confirmed that membership subscriptions should remain at \$20. Subscriptions for the 2016-2017 year are now due. The Society welcomes donations, which are tax-deductible, and which support our encouragement of young local musicians especially. A membership / donation form may be found on the reverse side of the wrapper for this newsletter.

Book Review *Shostakovich under Stalin*

Irene McGinnigle commends Julian Barnes's latest novel

English writer Julian Barnes won the Man Booker Prize in 2011 for his book "The Sense of an Ending". Earlier works include "Flaubert's Parrot", "England, England" and "Arthur & George". His new book is "The Noise of Time", which is a fictionalised biography of Shostakovich and his life under Stalin. The book opens late at night with Shostakovich fully dressed, carrying his briefcase, standing at the door of the lift to his apartment, after saying goodbye to his wife. He is waiting for the KGB to come and arrest him, but they don't come. He stands there all night, and the next night, and the next. This

is our introduction to the stress of being a composer under the Stalinist regime. The book is well researched and puts in context events such as the condemnation of his music after the opera *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk* and his visit to America. Although I already knew much of the information, reading the novel made me understand and sympathise with his situation so much more. It's also an enjoyable read, and available from the Geelong Regional Library Corporation.

Pre-Concert Dinners

We regret to advise subscribers that, as the Barwon Edge Boathouse is booked for private functions on May 20 and June 17, our arrangements for members to enjoy a pre-concert meal there will not be possible on these dates. We shall keep members informed if this pleasant option is available for concerts later in the year.

Geelong Music Diary

Monday 9 May 7.30 pm *Music at the Basilica*

St Mary of the Angels, 136 Yarra St Geelong.

Greta Bradman, soprano, with Rhys Boak, piano. Sacred music from Greta Bradman's "My Hero" album.

\$45 adult/senior; \$40 concession/student; school students free. Tickets at the door.

Sunday 15 May 3pm

St David's Church Aphrasia St Newtown

"Accord" Recorder Ensemble and vocal trio "Grace Notes"

with percussion, keyboard and clarinet. Music from the Renaissance to the present day. Admission by donation. Afternoon tea provided.

Details: 0407 095 408.

Friday 27 May 8pm *Melbourne Symphony Orchestra*

Costa Hall

Ravel, *Le tombeau de Couperin*; Bartok, *Viola Concerto*; Brahms, *Symphony No.4*. Christoph Koenig, conductor, Lawrence Power, viola.

Saturday 4 June 8pm *Music at The Basilica: Wintering*

St Mary of the Angels

Poetry by Rosemary Blake, music by Debussy and Satie; Brigid Mantelli, flute; Sonoka Myiake, piano; Frank De Rosso, organ.

\$25 adults/seniors; \$20 concession/student

Children 12 and under, free. Tickets at the door.

Sunday 12 June 3pm *Trio Anima Mundi*

Geelong College Aphrasia St Newtown

Dietrich, *Piano Trio in C*; Schumann, *6 Studien*; Brahms, *Piano Trio No.3*.

\$35 Adult/senior; \$25 Concession; \$10 Student/child

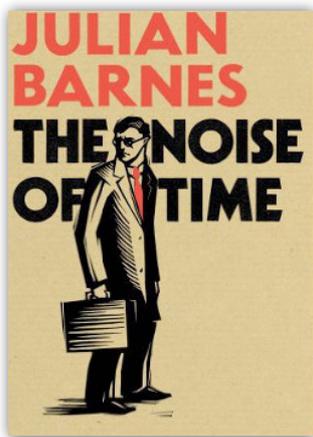
Details at www.trioanimamundi.com

Friday 17 June 7.30 pm *GCMS 2016 Concert Series*

McAuley Hall Sacred Heart College

Melbourne Chamber Orchestra with Sara Macliver, soprano, and Anne-Marie Johnson, violin.

Bach: *Spirit and Spectacle* : a concert illuminating the great genius of the Baroque.



Find us on

Visit our website: www.gcms.org.au

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