



# The Score

Issue 19. May 2013

Greetings Music Lovers,

We are almost half way through our 2013 series already – two wonderful concerts by the Australian String Quartet and Hoang Pham with, still to come, two by the Melbourne Chamber Orchestra and one by Genevieve Lacey and Karin Schaupp.

Our Patron, Dr Malcolm John, wrote this review of the recital by Hoang Pham:

At the 2nd Geelong Chamber Music Society's 2013 event the near capacity audience warmed to pianist Hoang Pham immediately. His cheerful and friendly demeanour belied his masterly control of the keyboard. Opening with war-horse Beethoven's Pathétique Sonata in C minor he brought out the true nobility of expression so often lost in the scramble to be dramatic, and shaped the long lines and extended crescendos with accuracy and subtlety. The minimal use of pedal and a seemingly magical touch in the slow movement unearthed sonic treasures, which I am sure the audience had never heard before tonight.

It was another world with Scriabin's Poème, when tonal definition and safe rhythms were but a memory. Apart from the highly individual harmonic palette from this late 19th C eccentric Russian, one needed to attune to the subtle and mysterious inner workings of the long phrases to gain satisfaction. Having declared that The "Black Mass" sonata was a favourite, and that we uninitiated listeners needed to think of soup pots boiling over (quite a down-to-earth analogy), Huang Pham then proceeded to display complete control. What was most impressive was the great range of dynamic and inner fragments of sound he elicited from the hard-worked Yamaha. It was good to hear unfamiliar music; and it was appreciated.

After interval and a crowded cuppa, the C minor No.2 Partita (German Suite) of the great J.S.Bach was a sheer delight. There was a no-nonsense approach, with the entries of themes and counter themes being suitable reinforced – this is a piano not a harpsichord – and such clarity of line and buoyancy of rhythm was a sheer delight.

The Liszt selections from Years of Pilgrimage showed the rugged side of this remarkable composer, alternating drawing-room sweetness with thunderous chordal progressions and pyrotechnic wizardry, we also went on a pianistic pilgrimage. A masterly performance. Huang Pham brought us back to earth with two most acceptable encores; Chopin's 'Minute Waltz' In C# and his Nocturne in Eb.

What a superb evening of piano playing by this extremely talented performer.

## **Advanced String Workshops**

We are delighted that the Melbourne Chamber Orchestra will again deliver the Advanced String Players Workshops in Geelong in conjunction with their June concert. Nineteen musicians have registered for the workshops – a wonderful line-up of ten violinists, three violists, four cellists and two double bass players. Wendy Galloway is co-ordinating the workshops, which will be hosted by Geelong College and subsidized by the Society to keep the cost to the musicians as low as possible. We know that they will benefit greatly from the intense and specialized tutoring and that they and their families will enjoy hearing them perform an item with the core members of the Melbourne Chamber Orchestra in June.

## **Australian Youth Classical Music Competition**

Due to the relatively low number of entries in the Regional section of the competition, there will be no preliminary round. You might like to make a note in your diaries that the National Semi-finals will be held on Wednesday 21 August and the Grand Final concert on Thursday 22 August. These concerts are wonderful showcases of the talent of instrumentalists performing on a variety of instruments from all over Australia, including young musicians from our local region. We are proud that the society is able to support them.

## **Geelong Libraries and Naxos**

Remember that the Naxos Music Library, the world's largest online classical music library, is available to members of Geelong libraries. It can be accessed from the 'Online Collections' area of the GRLC website ([www.geelonglibraries.vic.gov.au](http://www.geelonglibraries.vic.gov.au)) using your library membership card barcode and password.

Anyone who would like assistance with learning how to use Naxos Music Library can ask a friendly librarian in their local branch for a practical demonstration.

## **Annual General Meeting of the Society**

The Annual General Meeting of members of the incorporated association was held on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May. President Peter Horan reported on the 2012 concert series and the Treasurer reported a profit for the year of \$11,015.00. This includes the grant of \$6,000 from the City of Greater Geelong and donations from supporters of \$3,160. This indicates that, over the past three years, the society has succeeded in achieving financial stability with some reserves. This enables us to give the necessary financial support to the Melbourne Chamber Orchestra for the Advanced String Workshops and also to give the three runner-up prizes in the regional section of the Australian Youth Classical Music Competition.

The committee for the current year is:

President: Peter Horan, Vice-President: Kevin McAvaney,  
Treasurer: Don Williams, Secretary: Helen Jordan,  
Committee Members: Bev Dickie, David Eyres, Wendy Galloway, Jenny Horan and Irene McGinnigle.

We thank Suzanne Alderson for her always-thoughtful contribution to committee discussions and at concerts. Suzanne is taking time off from the committee to concentrate on her teaching and other pressing commitments.

Prior to her retirement from the City of Greater Geelong, Irene McGinnigle was Manager of Community Services, including Arts and Culture, and we are delighted that she has offered her expertise and commitment in this field to the society.

At the date of the AGM, the society had 81 members. Membership of the society is not a prerequisite for attending the concerts. An incorporated society needs members and membership is essentially a sign of support for the objectives of the society. Members of GCMS are entitled to attend general meetings and receive an invitation to the society's end-of-year soiree. They are also entitled to nominate for positions on the committee!

It will be necessary to up-date our Rules so that they conform to the new Incorporated Associations Reform Act (Vic) 2012. The revised Rules will need to be accepted by members at a General Meeting prior to 26th November and approved by Consumer Affairs Victoria.

If you would like to become a member of the society or to renew your membership, please complete the form on the cover page and return it with your payment of \$20.00 per person

(unchanged from the previous year) to the society at P O Box 988, Geelong 3220. Details of the Society's bank account are also given but we do stress that, if you deposit funds directly into the society's account, you need to give the date of the deposit when you return your membership form and put your surname and the word 'membership' in the Reference section of the deposit slip or on-line banking page.

### **Melbourne Chamber Orchestra Concert**

Our next concert will be by the Melbourne Chamber Orchestra at McAuley Hall, Sacred Heart College on Friday 21 June at 7.30pm. The program comprises Stravinsky's *Concerto for Strings in D*, Haydn's lilting and racy *Cello Concerto No 1 in C*, with Sharon Draper the soloist. A surprise item will be performed by the massed orchestra of students and their mentors and the concert will conclude with the beautiful Mendelssohn *Octet*, for which the concert is titled.

Sharon Draper will be familiar to many concert-goers as a core member of the Melbourne Chamber Orchestra and also the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra. Who can forget watching her play with Michael Dahlenburg in Vivaldi's *Concerto for Two Cellos in G Minor* at our concert in October 2009? In his review, Dr Malcolm John justifiably described that performance as 'mesmerising'. In 2012 she studied in Berlin with Professor Wolfgang Schmidt and will be the soloist for the Melbourne Chamber Orchestra's Victorian regional tour and Melbourne concert in June. This promises to be a very special evening.

Single-concert tickets are available from the Secretary, P O Box 988 Geelong 3220 – Please send a short note indicating the number of tickets required and whether they are for adults (including seniors) \$45, concession card holders \$40 or students \$12. Payment can be made with the order or at the box office on the night of the concert. Tickets are also available from GPAC by phone at 5225 1200 or on line at [www.gpac.org.au](http://www.gpac.org.au) and also at the door on the evening of the concert.

### **Donations**

As the end of the financial year approaches, we take this opportunity to thank our donors who are able to show their support for the objectives of the Society by contributing financially to its work. For the first time, this year, we are in a position to give some of our profits to support young local musicians competing in the Australian Youth Classical Music Competition and also students in the Advanced String Students Workshops, as well as engage wonderful professional musicians to perform in Geelong.

The Society is now listed on the Register of Cultural Organisations and has Deductible Gift Recipient status. This means that, if you would like to support the work of the society by giving a donation, you can give it directly to the society and we can issue you with a receipt to enable you to claim it as a tax deduction. A Donation Form is printed on the cover sheet of this newsletter and donations of any amount are gratefully accepted.

We look forward to meeting you at the June concert when we will also welcome our Advanced String Students and their families.

*Committee of Geelong Chamber Music Society*

*Sharon Draper, soloist in the Haydn Cello Concerto at the Society's concert on Friday 21 June 2013*



**GEELONG CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY INC**  
**Application for Membership/Renewal of Membership 2013-14**

Name(s) .....

of .....

wish to apply for/renew membership of the Incorporated Association for the year 2013-14. (Renewal of current membership is payable by 30 June 2013). The annual membership fee is \$20 per person.

**Enclosed** is cheque/money order for .....

OR

I have **deposited** the fee to the bank account of Geelong Chamber Music Society Inc BSB 633-000 Account No. 136299302 on .....(date)

If you wish to have the newsletter and notices of meetings sent to you by email, please complete the following:

I/We wish to receive the society's newsletters and notices of meetings sent by email to the following email address:

.....

I will inform the Secretary at [admin@gcms.org.au](mailto:admin@gcms.org.au) if my email address changes.

Signed .....

Date .....

.....

**GEELONG CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY INC**

An organisation listed in the Australian Register of Cultural Organisations and having  
Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status for tax purposes.

I would like to make a tax-deductible donation to support the work and objectives of Geelong Chamber Music Society Inc.

Enclosed is the sum of ..... payable to Geelong Chamber Music Society Inc Donations Account.

Please send the society's receipt to:

Name.....

Address .....

Your financial support is very much appreciated.