Ensemble Liaison



Friday 15 March 2024 7.30pm McAuley Hall Sacred Heart College



Geelong Chamber Music Society

presents

Ensemble Liaison

Svetlana Bogosavljevic cello David Griffiths clarinet Timothy Young piano

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827) Germany

Trio for Clarinet, Cello and Piano op.11

- 1 Allegro con brio
- 2 Adagio
- 3 Tema con variazioni ("Pria ch'io l'impegno": Allegretto)

Max Bruch (1838-1920) Germany

8 Pieces for Clarinet, Viola and Piano op.83 (selections)

Manuel de Falla (1876-1946) Spain

Siete Canciones populares Españolas (arr. Ensemble Liaison)

- 1 El paño moruno (The Moorish Cloth)
- 2 Seguidilla murciana
- 3 Asturiana
- 4 Jota
- 5 Nana
- 6 Canción
- 7 Polo

Astor Piazzolla (1921-1992) Argentina

Four Seasons of Buenos Aires (arr. Ensemble Liaison)

- 1 Verano Porteño (Summer)
- 2 Invierno Porteño (Winter)
- 3 Primavera Porteña (Spring)
- 4 Otoño Porteño (Autumn)

George Gershwin (1989-1937) USA / Igor Frolov (1937-2013) Russia Concert Fantasy on Themes from Gershwin's Porgy and Bess



Geelong Chamber Music Society







Ensemble Liaison

Described by Limelight magazine as a 'national treasure', Ensemble Liaison is one of Australia's leading internationally acclaimed ensembles. They are renowned for their captivating and engaging performances, appealing to all audiences

Beethoven Trio for Clarinet, Cello and Piano op.11 Bruch Trio for Clarinet, Cello and Piano op.83 (selections) de Falla Siete Canciones populares Españolas (arr. Ensemble Liaison) Piazzolla Four Seasons of Buenos Aires (arr. Ensemble Liaison) Gershwin/Frolov Concert Fantasy on Themes from Gershwin's Porgy and Bess



Friday 15 March 7.30pm A\$55 C\$45 U\$10



Antoinette Halloran & Patrick Stewart

One of Australia's most accomplished and best-loved sopranos, Antoinette performs regularly with major opera companies and orchestras. Antoinette appears with accompanist Patrick Lawrence.

Puccini O mio babbino caro, Quando m'en vo

Bizet Habanera

Dvořák Song to the Moon

Lehár Vilja

Strauss selected Lieder

Musical comedy and jazz favourites including Send In the Clowns The Sound of Music, I Could Have Danced All Night, Miss Otis Regrets



Friday 31 May 7.30pm A\$55 C\$45 U\$10



Melbourne Chamber Orchestra

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Moberg Stillness (1909)

Schubert Arpeggione Sonata (arr string orchestra Dobrinka Tabakova) Bettina-Davies Crystalline (2017)

Sculthorpe String Quartet No 8 (selections)

Sibelius String Quartet Voces intimae (arr string orchestra Pekka Helasvuo)



Friday 19 July 7.30pm A\$55 C\$45 U\$10



Jayson Gillham

Jayson's career from Dalby (QLD) to London is a fairytale. He now claims international status and is regarded as one of the world's finest young pianists. First time in Geelong, Jayson is renowned for Chopin and Romantic repertoire, he also delivers Bach to dazzle! In this recital we hear Mozart added to his already expansive repertoire.

Handel Chaconne in G major HWV435

Mozart Fantasy in C minor, K475

Mozart Sonata in C minor, K457

Chopin Nocturne in D-flat major, Op. 27 No.2 Fauré Nocturne No. 6 in D-flat major, Op. 63

Chopin Etudes from Op. 25 - Nos. 6 & 8-12



Friday 9 August 7.30pm A\$55 C\$45 U\$10



Affinity Quartet

At the 2023 Melbourne International String Quartet Competition Affinity Quartet was awarded the Audience Prize, the Robert Salzer String Quartet First Prize, and the Monash University Grand Prize; the first Australian group to win the competition in its 32 year history. Enough said!

Beethoven String quartet No.3 in D major Op.18/3 Beethoven String guartet No.5 in A major Op.18/5 Beethoven String quartet No.2 in G major Op.18/2



Friday 22 November 7.30pm A\$55 C\$45 U\$10



Described by Limelight magazine as a 'national treasure', Ensemble Liaison is one of Australia's leading internationally acclaimed ensembles. They are renowned for their captivating and engaging performances, appealing to audiences from all walks of life. They presented their first concert series at The Edge, Melbourne, in 2007 and have become known as a tour de force, recognised for imaginative and innovative programming, setting the trend for brilliant collaborations with leading artists. They have performed across Australia and New Zealand, including a ten-concert tour for Chamber Music New Zealand, and appearances at the Queensland Performing Arts Centre, Government House, UKARIA, Musica Viva Australia, Australian Festival of Chamber Music in Townsville, Port Fairy Spring Music Festival and the Woodend Winter Arts Festival, and in 2012 gave a series of festival performances in Central Europe. Critics have hailed their performances with superlatives such as 'spellbinding', 'flawless', 'a revelation', 'moving' and 'joyous'.

The creation of new works is also a priority for Ensemble Liaison, with commissions by Paul Grabowsky, Ian Munro, Gordon Kerry, Tony Gould, Stuart Greenbaum, Elena Kats-Chernin, Jane Hammond, Michael Dooley, Thomas Reiner, Aleksandar Sedlar, Mark Viggiani and Mary Finsterer. Countless arrangements by the trio have also formed an integral part of their programming and artistic vision.

They have regularly recorded for broadcast on ABC Classic and 3MBS, and have released recordings to international acclaim on the Melba Recordings, Tall Poppies, ABC Classics labels as well as their own EL Records. They were ensemble-in-residence at Monash University from 2010 to 2016.

Ensemble Liaison

"spellbinding, flawless, a revelation, moving, joyous, engaging, powerful"



Svetlana Bogosavljevic was born in Belgrade, Serbia, into a family of prominent Yugoslavian musicians. She studied at the prestigious Special High School of the Tchaikovsky Conservatorium of Music, Moscow, the Peabody Conservatorium, Baltimore, and the Cologne Hochschule of Music. In her student years she worked with legendary cellists, Daniil Shafran, Boris Pergamenshikov and Antonio Janigro. Even before she could perform, she was on stage at age six turning pages for her mother in performance with cellist André Navarra. In her professional years she has toured Europe, Japan,

In her professional years she has toured Europe, Japan, China, Australia and New Zealand as a soloist and chamber musician including recent performances at the Belgrade International Cello Festival and the KotorArt festival in Montenegro. As an orchestral musician she held the position of Associate Principal Cello with

the Rheinische Philharmonie and has worked with the North German Radio Orchestra, Bamberger Symphoniker, Cologne Chamber Orchestra, Sydney Symphony, Melbourne Symphony and Singapore Symphony Orchestras.

She is a founding member of the unique and critically acclaimed trio, Ensemble Liaison. With Ensemble Liaison she performs an annual three-concert series at the Melbourne Recital Centre along with regular performances for Musica Viva, ABC Classic FM, and appearances at the Australian Festival of Chamber Music, Port Fairy and Woodend festivals. She has collaborated with many wonderful Australian and International artists including Nemanja Radulovic, Kathryn Stott, Ray Chen, Henning Kraggerud, Yura Lee, Jennifer Stumm, Emma Matthews, Cheryl Barker, Peter Coleman-Wright, Wilma Smith, Paul Grabowsky, David Jones and Tony Gould.

Svetlana's recordings with Ensemble Liaison of Messiaen's Quartet for the End of Time for the Melba Recordings label and Trios of Brahms, Beethoven and Bruch for the Tall Poppies label have won high praise from critics around the world. Her other passion is for teaching where she teaches cello and chamber music at the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, University of Melbourne.

David Griffiths is a member of two of Australia's leading chamber music ensembles, the Australia Ensemble@UNSW and Ensemble Liaison. He also holds the position of Associate Director and Associate Professor of Music at the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, the University of Melbourne. A passionate performer and educator, he has presented performances and masterclasses in Asia, Europe,

United States, the Middle East, New Zealand and Australia including a critically acclaimed debut in Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall. As a soloist he has appeared with the Melbourne Chamber Orchestra, Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra, Sydney Symphony Orchestra, Orchestra Victoria, Australia Ensemble@UNSW, Shanghai Radio Orchestra, Macau Orchestra and the Real Filharmonía de Galicia. As a member of Ensemble Liaison, he curates and performs an annual three-concert series at the Elisabeth Murdoch Hall at the Melbourne Recital Centre which is currently in its 18th season. He has also performed with the New Zealand, Goldner, Tinalley, Arcacia, Flinders and Australian String Quartets, the New York Wind Soloists, and the Southern Cross Soloists. He has collaborated with many leading artists including Nemanja Radulović,



Ray Chen, Anthony Marwood, Henning Kraggerud and Emma Matthews, and has appeared at the Australian Festival of Chamber Music in Townsville, Port Fairy Festival, Lucerne Festival, Switzerland and the Pacific Music Festival in Sapporo, Japan.

He has held positions as Associate Principal Clarinet with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, Principal Clarinet of the Macau Orchestra and Principal Clarinet of the Shanghai Radio Orchestra. He has appeared as Guest Principal clarinet with all of Australia's major symphony and opera ballet orchestras along with the Australian Chamber Orchestra. He was acting Principal of the Singapore Symphony Orchestra, the Malaysian Philharmonic and has performed with the New World Symphony, the Hong Kong Philharmonic, the China Philharmonic, the Pacific Music Festival Orchestra and the Paragon Ragtime Orchestra.

Some recent highlights include a Brahms' Clarinet Quintet with the American String Quartet at the Portillo Festival, Chile, John Adams' Gnarly Buttons Clarinet Concerto with the Australia Ensemble@ UNSW, the Weiland Clarinet Concerto with the Melbourne Chamber Orchestra, a collaboration with accordion virtuoso James Crabb, Mozart's Clarinet Quintet and Concerto at the 3MBS Mozart Marathon and the complete chamber works of Brahms in one day at UKARIA in collaboration with Timothy Young, Svetlana Bogosavljevic and the Australian String Quartet.

He is a Backun Clarinet performing artist and proudly performs on a cocobolo Lumiere custom clarinet.

Timothy Young is a founding member of Ensemble Liaison and Head of Piano at the Australian National Academy of Music. One of Australia's leading pianists his recent activity includes touring Australia with violinist Ray Chen for Castiglione Arts and Culture, performing in the Boulez Saal season in Berlin with Soprano Siobhan Stagg and touring NZ with Ensemble Liaison for Chamber Music NZ. As a concerto soloist highlights include a performance of Messiaen's 'Turangalilia Symphony' at Hamer Hall with the Australian World Orchestra and conductor Simone Young, the Ravel Concerto with the MSO and conductor Benjamin Northey at the Sidney Myer Music Bowl, play/directing a Mozart Concerto from the keyboard for the Mostly Mozart Series at the MRC with the ANAM Orchestra, Beethoven's Triple Concerto with the Melbourne Chamber Orchestra, Ginastera's Piano Concerto n.1 with conductor llyich Rivas, Stravinsky's Concerto for piano and winds with Paul Dean, Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue with Fabian Russell.

Frequent festival appearances include all of Australia's major festivals and internationally the Novi Sad Music Summer Festival in Serbia, the Kotor Arts International Festival in Montenegro, MIMIR FestivalTexas, and the Capraia Festival of Music in Italy.

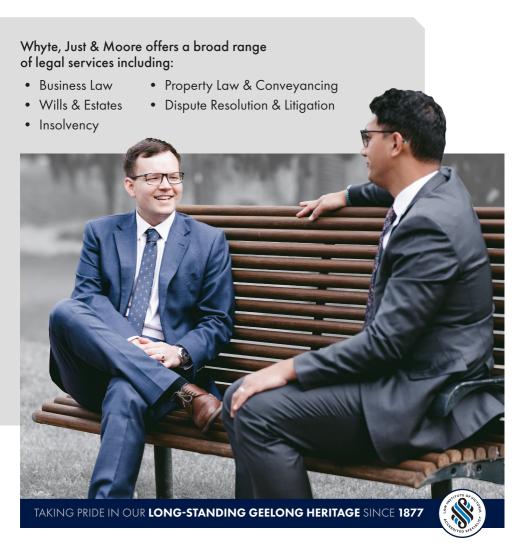
Timothy's internationally acclaimed discography champions Australian composers with a recent release for ABC Classics of Australian chamber works written for Ensemble Liaison and the complete works of Stuart Greenbaum for clarinet and piano with David Griffiths. For the Tall Poppies label he has



recorded Australian piano and cello works with cellist, David Pereira. For Heritage Records UK with Penelope Thwaites he features in the complete two piano music of Percy Grainger. For the MOVE record label he has recorded Michael Kieran-Harvey's Symphony without orchestra and for the Melba label in Australia he has recorded a solo recital of works by the Australian George Frederick Boyle, along with numerous collaborations with violist Roger Benedict, and the complete works of Stravinsky for piano and violin with violinist Ray Chen. Other recital disks include performances with soprano Cheryl Barker and virtuoso violin and piano works with Christian Li for the distinguished Decca label UK.



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Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827) Trio in B flat major, Op. 11 for Piano, Clarinet and Cello

- I Allegro con brio
- II Adagio
- III Tema "Pria ch'io l'impegno" Allegretto Allegro

When in 1792 Beethoven departed his birthplace of Bonn to continue study in Vienna, it was with the now-famous wish that he would 'receive the spirit of Mozart from Haydn's hands'. It was the nature of Beethoven's personality, however, that this was to be as much a matter of confrontation as emulation and adoration of

these two men. The fact that his Op. 1 (a self-conscious designation as it was by no means the first work Beethoven had composed or published) was a collection of Piano Trios did not just flatter 'Papa' Haydn, the man who had perfected this particular instrumental form, it announced his ambition to claim equal status as a composer. So too, his Op 11 Trio in B flat major, composed in 1798, might be thought of as an attempt to match Mozart's "Kegelstatt" trio, K. 498, which, unusually for the time, also included a clarinet. Indeed, the work is dedicated to Maria-Wilhelmine Gräfin von Thun, who was a former patron of Mozart's.

The specific circumstances of its composition, originate in a commission from the clarinettist Josef Bähr for a set of variations on 'Pria ch'io l'impegno', an air from the comic opera L'Amor Marinaro (The Corsair) by Joseph Weigl, which had premiered in Vienna the year previously. These variations became the finale of this trio, and lend it its nick-name of "Gassenhauer", that is, "street song". Beethoven later arranged the clarinet part for violin, so that the more usual Piano Trio combination could also perform it. In it we do not find the brooding, proto-Romantic, Beethoven of legend, rather the composer who is a confident, happy, master of his medium and, indeed, an equal of Mozart and Haydn.

Dr Peter Tregear

Max Bruch (1838-1920)

Eight Pieces for Clarinet, Cello, and Piano, Op. 83 (selection)

Like Brahms before him, the German composer Max Bruch—these days best remembered for his Violin Concerto No. 1 in G minor, Op. 26—forged a middle way between the two extremes of rigid classicism and unbridled romanticism. His musical models were more Mendelssohn and Schumann than Wagner and Liszt, though he also lived long enough to witness the musical revolutions of the early twentieth century. Well-crafted melodic form serves as the primary vehicle for poetic expression, not extra-musical illusion. The medium par excellence for this kind of musical imagination in the nineteenth century was the 'minature'—a short, abstract (but poetically suggestive) piece in song form (ABA), of which Bruch's Eight Pieces for Clarinet, Viola, and Piano (1910) are late, but exquisite,

examples. Originally composed for his son, a fine clarinetist, they were never intended to be performed as a complete set. It is entirely up to the performers how many of the pieces they play, and in which order. Bruch also licensed the arrangement of these pieces for other combinations; the original clarinet and viola parts were arranged for violin and cello, here a combination of clarinet, cello, and piano is used.

usea.

Dr Peter Tregear





Manuel de Falla (1876-1946)

Siete Canciones populares Espanolas (Spanish folk songs) arranged for clarinet, cello and piano

Canciones Populares Espanolas epitomises the sensuous rhythms, exotic melodies and brilliant tonal colours of Spanish music. These short songs span an emotional range as varied as the Iberian landscape – from the fierce passions, joys and pains of love to the tender intimacy of a mother's lullaby. From different regions of Spain, the songs were composed during a period of intense creative activity, following de Falla's return to Spain after a sevenyear stay in Paris. While the texts are authentic folk material, the

melodies are often varied and the accompaniment treated even more freely, in the impressionist style of the time.

Astor Piazzolla (1921-1992) (arranged D. Griffiths)

Four Seasons of Buenos Aires for Clarinet, Cello, and Piano

Verano Porteño (Buenos Aires Summer, 1965) Otoño Porteño (Buenos Aires Autumn, 1969) Invierno Porteño (Buenos Aires Winter, 1970) Primavera Porteña (Buenos Aires Spring, 1970)

Astor Piazzolla is one of the modern masters responsible for the international popularity of tango music. Although his compositions reveal a sophisticated understanding of counterpoint and harmony, the tango is a celebration of more non-intellectual human pursuits. Emotional and erotic, Piazzolla's compositions tell stories of sadness and sensuality, isolation and love. Astor Piazzolla wrote these four



tangos between 1967 and 1970, and they form a sort of suite that evokes the nostalgic feeling of the music of Buenos Aires.

George Gershwin (1898-1937) **Igor Frolov** (1937-2013)

Concert Fantasy on Themes from Gershwin's Porgy and Bess Op.19

This was originally written for violin and piano by Igor Frolov in 1991. Frolov calls this composition 'a poem about love' that tells the story of two very different people who fall in love against all odds. It begins with a short piano introduction, after which a theme of Porgy appears in the cello. Other themes used here are those of Bess, You is My Women Now, It ain't necessarily so and 'Summertime'.



Popular with both performers and audiences, this work contains various changes in mood, and a multitude of virtuosic passages for all the musicians, before the brilliant coda concludes this challenging fantasy. Today's version has been arranged for Ensemble Liaison by Timothy Young and David Griffiths.





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MEMBERSHIP

We invite Geelong's chamber music lovers to join our Society. Membership supports the Committee's work: presenting our annual series of five concerts, providing support for music education in local schools and music master classes in our region. Annual subscription is just \$20; membership forms are available on our website www.geelongchamber.org.

DONATIONS

Tax-deductible donations to the Society are welcomed as contributions towards attracting outstanding musicians, supporting music education in disadvantaged schools through a Musica Viva program, and encouraging young local performers through the annual Australian Youth Classical Music Competition. Information about making a donation is available on our website (geelongchamber.org) or at any of our concerts.

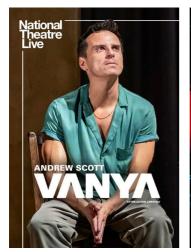




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