



The Score

Issue 11. August 2011

Hello to our members, subscribers, and supporters,

We have been so lucky in Geelong in 2011 to have had such a wealth of beautiful music – recently the concerts by the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, including the very first concert in the Beethoven Festival at which two of his glorious symphonies were performed. At the end of May, there were some rare and spine-tingling performances at the Basilica Choral Music Festival (Judith Dodsworth's 'Let the Bright Seraphim' for example but there were wonderful choral moments too). The beautiful unanimity of Trio Anima Mundi in the intimacy of St Paul's Anglican Church continues to delight and make a Sunday afternoon very special.

In addition to all these, the Chamber Music Society has presented three beautiful concerts, each quite different from the others. The last, by the Melbourne Chamber Orchestra was an exciting evening, especially for the students who had participated in the Advanced String Students' Workshop and performed so well alongside the members of the orchestra, thrilling their families and friends and the audience. Congratulations to each of you young musicians. The concert was also memorable for the performances of the numerous soloists: Prue Davis (flute), Lerida Delbridge (violin) and Calvin Bowman (harp) in the Brandenburg Concerto and Rebecca Chan in the Mozart Violin Concerto No 5. All of these performers had just completed a rigorous Victorian regional tour with the orchestra and shared their wonderful music with audiences all over the state before returning for a final performance at the Melbourne Recital Centre on the Sunday afternoon. We are very fortunate to have such generous musicians travelling to bring these performances to music lovers throughout regional Victoria.

And there is more to come – more MSO (the next concert on 9 September an English program including Vaughan Williams 'The Lark Ascending' and Walton's 'Façade'), more Trio Anima Mundi in November, more Music at the Basilica and more concerts for the Chamber Music Society.

Tinalley String Quartet

Our next concert, on Friday 16 September, is by the very well credentialed Tinalley String Quartet. The quartet won the 2005 Australian Chamber Music Competition and then travelled to Canada and won the Banff International String Quartet Competition in 2007. Since then, Adam Chalabi who is also Concertmaster of Orchestra Victoria, has joined the quartet as its first violinist. The quartet recently re-visited Banff to record two CDs to be released in 2012. This year they are touring nationally and performing in Canberra, Adelaide, Sydney Opera House, the Melbourne Recital Centre and McAuley Hall, Geelong.

The program for the concert includes some of the most heartfelt music written for string quartet. The Haydn Quartet Op 20, No 4 is followed by Shostakovich's String Quartet No 7, composed in 1960 in memory of his first wife Nina who had died some five years earlier. Although it is a relatively short tribute, consisting of three movements played without a break, it conveys extremes of emotion that swing from

frivolous to lamenting, haunted to fateful and makes demands of both players and audience. The second half of the program is the Beethoven Quartet Op 132 – one of his 'late' quartets that were written at a time when his mind was brimming over with new ideas for quartet writing. This quartet was begun at a time when he was also worried by ill health and includes a beautiful set of variations, his 'Holy Song of Thanksgiving from a convalescent to the Deity, in the Lydian mode' that develops in a way that suggests he is 'feeling new strength'.

We feel sure that you will appreciate that this concert presents some of the iconic string quartet music in the repertoire. If you are not familiar with these works, but are able to spend time listening to them prior to the concert, the time will be well rewarded. Currently, on ABC Classic FM, at 9.05am on Saturday mornings, Graham Abbott has a program 'The Story of the String Quartet'. Among others, this will consider Beethoven on 20 August and Shostakovich on 27 August. Other Shostakovich quartets are being played on 3MBS on Wednesdays in a program that commences at 1.30pm.

Committee

We are delighted that David Eyres, formerly of Melbourne, has retired to Geelong and joined the committee. David has had experience in presenting concerts at Graduate House, University of Melbourne and is a Friend of the Sydney International Piano Competition. His enthusiasm, contacts and experience will be very valuable to the society. He also happens to be the brother-in-law of our Patron, Dr Malcolm John.

Plans for 2012.

The 2012 series of five concerts has already been booked. There will be the usual two concerts by the Melbourne Chamber Orchestra and we are very excited about the other three concerts that we have been able to arrange. Details will be released at the Members' Soiree at the end of the year. If you wish to be among the first to know, you might like to become a member of the society or renew your membership, by returning the form on the cover sheet, with a cheque for the membership fee (Individuals \$20, family \$40), to PO Box 988 Geelong 3220. If you wish to pay by direct deposit, please phone Helen Jordan on 5243 6931.

Sydney International Piano Competition

David Eyres suggested we might be able to arrange for the winner of the prestigious Sydney International Piano Competition to perform in Geelong. This competition is held only every four years, the next one being in 2012. Although it will not be part of the regular society's series, as our five concerts had already been arranged, the winner of the competition will perform at McAuley Hall on Thursday 13 September 2012. Proceeds will help to provide scholarships at Sacred Heart College for students who would not otherwise be able to attend the College. This will be a very special event and will make listening to the broadcasts of the competitors' performances through July 2012 even more interesting.

We look forward to seeing many of you at the concert by Tinalley String Quartet at McAuley Hall on Friday 16 September at 7.30pm.

Helen Jordan
for the Committee,
Geelong Chamber Music Society Inc

**GEELONG CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY INC.
APPLICATION FOR / RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP**

Please return to the Secretary, GCMS, PO Box 988, Geelong 3220 with cheque or money order for \$20 single, \$40 couple or family. Membership will continue to May 2012.

I/We wish to become/remain a member(s)/ of the Geelong Chamber Music Society Inc. for the year 2011-12.

Name(s): Mr/Mrs/Ms/Dr.....

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