

PRESS RELEASE

ST JOHN'S FEAST OF MUSIC 2012

St John's is getting the jump on Adelaide's 'mad March', staging its 2012 *Feast of Music* in late February.

The timing takes advantage of late-summer evenings, with guests invited to spill out into the garden after the opening concert to enjoy a celebratory feast.

This is the second in the St John's *Feast* series, under artistic director and organist Sergio de Pieri OAM, fresh from the sell-out Organs of the Ballarat Goldfields festival of fine music.

The St John's *Feast* again features artists from the Ballarat festival, with some added talent joining the lineup in 2012—cellist Josephine Vains, violinist Erica Kennedy and soprano Daniela Benori.

Priest in Charge at St John's Father Christopher Myers says the Halifax Street church is a well-known chamber music venue in Adelaide, complete with a historic organ, a Steinway piano and wonderful acoustics.

'Our parish vision is as a focus for the artistic life in the southeast corner of the city, and this second series of recitals is another step in that direction.

'The *Feast* is an affordable and fun way for the community to experience classical music by top musicians who regularly perform around the world', says Father Myers.

Sergio de Pieri, brother of famed foodie and bon vivant Stefano, doubles as the *Feast's* chef, and after the opening concert (17 February) he will prepare the signature Venetian dish *Rise e Bisi* (risotto and peas). The meal and wine will be served in the garden—weather permitting—and complimentary cheese and wine will be served following the other concerts (19, 24 & 26 February).

Sergio directs the annual Ballarat Goldfields festival, and is founding director of four other small festivals in Victoria. He shares his time between Australia and Venice.

The St John's musical event came about from a chance meeting between Father Myers and Sergio, when a deal was struck for artists still in Australia for the Ballarat festival to come to Adelaide in April 2011 to perform at St John's.

'Word has spread about our inaugural *Feast*, and by rescheduling to two weekends in late summer we expect to build audiences in 2012 for this celebration of music and food.

'We describe our festival as a *Feast*, because we see it really as music providing food for the soul', says Myers.

The program ranges from operatic arias to Bach, Vivaldi and Beethoven.

Net proceeds go to HIV/AIDS orphans in Lesotho, Southern Africa.

What: St John's Feast of Music
Where: St John's Anglican Church, Halifax Street
When: 6.30 pm
Friday 17 & Sunday 19 February
Friday 24 & Sunday 26 February
Opening concert followed by *Rise e Bisi*
Other: Complimentary wine & cheese
Cost: \$25
Feast: \$25
Gold Pass: \$80 for 4 concerts, plus cheese & wine (3 concerts)
Platinum Pass: \$105 for 4 concerts, plus Feast, plus cheese & wine (3 nights)
To book: trybooking.com/BCIA
Or at the door

FURTHER INFORMATION: CHRISTOPHER MYERS 8223 2348

PROGRAM

Friday 17 February

Josephine Vains *Cello*

Performing

Bach: Suite No.1 for Solo Violoncello in G major

Henze: Serenade for Solo Cello

Bach: Suite No.3 for Solo Violoncello in C major

Sunday 19 February

Erica Kennedy *Violin*

Massimo Scattolin *Classical guitar*

Performing

Paganini: Sonata prima in la minore from the 'Centone'

Scattolin: Canzone d'Autunno

Piazzolla: History of the Tango

Friday 24 February

Anthony Halliday *Organ*

Performing

Bach: Prelude and Fugue in E flat BWV552 *St. Anne*

Mozart: Church Sonata in C K.336

Beethoven: Minuet for a musical clock

Vierne: Naiades

Durufié: Toccata from Suite Op.5
Saint-Saëns: The Swan (*Carnival of the Animals*)
Saint-Saëns: Finale from Symphony No.3 Op.78 *Organ*

Sunday 26 February

Daniela & Raffaella Benori *Sopranos*
Accompanied by Sergio de Pieri *Organ*

Performing

G Caccini Ave Maria
A Bononcini Quis est homo
A Scarlatti Quae moerebat
A Vivaldi Esurientes implevit
S de Pieri Gran Teatro La Fenice
G Rossini Quis est homo
I Reimann Ave Maria
C Saint Saëns Ava Maria
AL Webber Pie Jesu

ARTISTS

JOSEPHINE VAINS

Josephine Vains relocated to Europe for five years to study cello after winning the inaugural National Chamber Music Competition with Trio 3.0.3. A passionate chamber musician, she has performed throughout Germany, Austria, Italy, Switzerland, France, Canada, the Caribbean, China and Japan, and in Australia she is regularly heard on ABC FM. She enjoys teaching cello and chamber music at the University of Melbourne and Monash University. Josephine also enjoys performing around Australia with the Firebird Trio, and is currently in a series at the Melbourne Recital Centre.

She plays on a lovely old Thomas Kennedy cello, 1850.

ERICA KENNEDY

Erica Kennedy is one of Australia's most talented violinists. Her musical abilities span many styles from classical to rock, Irish folk to pop.

Sister to world famous Nigel, music is certainly in the blood of the Kennedy family. Erica is a Masters graduate of the Faculty of Music, University of Melbourne where she studied with William Hennessy and where she is currently undertaking her Doctorate in Musical Performance. She is the first violinist with highly acclaimed Flinders Quartet. As a soloist she has won numerous awards, recorded for national television and radio and performed solos with various Australian orchestras.

Erica has studied in the USA with the Vermeer Quartet and the Emerson Quartet, in Switzerland with Hatto Beyerle and in Australia with the Goldner String Quartet and the Melba Quartet and in 2000 she held a scholarship placement at the Australian National Academy of Music. In 2004 she worked with the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra as

acting associate concertmaster/ concertmaster and with Orchestra Victoria as guest concertmaster. She also performed the Brahms double concerto with cellist Zoë Knighton and the Stonnington Symphony.

DANIELA BENORI

Daniela Benori graduated at the Conservatory of Music 'B. Marcello' of Venice, in stage performance and later obtained a Degree at the University 'Ca' Foscari' of Venice. She has performed in the great concert halls of Italy, including Il Teatro La Fenice in Venice, and Europe, and took part to the first modern performance of Sigismondo by Rossini, under the direction of Richard Bonyng in Treviso. In addition to the traditional operatic roles, she has performed in other genres such as operetta, sacred music, French melodies and German Lieder, and songs from musicals and films. She sings with the 'Collegium Musicum Venezia', a quintet specialising in Venetian XVIII c. repertory. She has released eight CDs, and in addition to her performance career she teaches Literature Poetry and Drama at the Conservatory of Venice.

RAFFAELLA BENORI

Raffaella Benori started her musical studies with the piano before going on to study singing under Adriana Rognoni. She obtained the Diploma of Prepolyphonic Liturgical Music and Gregorian Chant at the Benedetto Marcello Conservatorium in Venice with P. Pellegrino Ernetti, and further widened her repertoire with the study of contemporary and baroque vocal music. Raffaella is a member of the baroque Collegium Musicum Venezia sextet which is dedicated to research and historically authentic performance of baroque music, especially the Venetian baroque. CD recordings are available. A teacher of singing, Raffaella Benori is Professore of Bel Canto at the Scuole di Musica in Belluno and Treviso. She has performed as a soloist in some of the most prestigious concert halls of Italy, Austria, Belgium, Germany, Switzerland and Czechoslovakia and her compact discs are highly regarded. She has made three CD recordings with Sergio de Pieri. This year is the eighth time that Raffaella has visited Australia to perform in concerts.

SERGIO DE PIERI OAM

Sergio de Pieri was born in Casier near Treviso, not far from Venice. He graduated from the Venice Conservatorium of Music, Benedetto Marcello. He migrated to Australia in 1961. He established the Melbourne Organ and Harpsichord Festival and gave impetus to a revival of organ studies. He returned to Italy to take on the role of Chair of Organ at the Venice Conservatorium and the position of organist at the basilica of Santa Maria dei Frari, also in Venice. It is worth noting that as a teacher Sergio had, over the years, the highest number of organ students ever who graduated with outstanding results, and are now full-time musicians. He now shares his time between the Veneto and Australia, where he is the artistic director of the Organs of the Ballarat Goldfields Festival, Murray River International Music Festival and the Brunswick Beethoven Festival. He shares his time between Australia and Venice, and combines his love of music with a love of cooking.

ANTHONY HALLIDAY

Anthony Halliday annually gives piano and organ recitals and concerto performances in Germany, France, Italy, Spain, England and Ireland, and throughout Australia. His playing has won critical praise from several internationally renowned conductors: Walter Süsskind hailed his concerto playing as ‘magnificent’. He has performed in Westminster Cathedral, St Paul’s Cathedral for the Royal Festival, and the Queen Elizabeth and Wigmore Halls in London. In Rome he performed at St Peter’s Basilica and in the Cologne Cathedral International Organ Festival in Germany. He was awarded the Churchill Fellowship to study at the Royal College of Music London and the University of London, and has received numerous prizes, including all of the Fellowship prizes at the Royal College of Organists. His recent CDs of piano music feature works by Handel, Beethoven and Liszt. His recent CDs of organ music include works by Bach, Duruflé and his own compositions. He has recorded all 32 sonatas for pianoforte by Beethoven, and recently performed from memory the complete 48 preludes and fugues of the Well Tempered Clavier by Bach.

MASSIMO SCATTOLIN

After a number of meetings with Andres Segovia, Massimo Scattolin began his concert career as a soloist, and has since developed his chamber music and orchestral activities to include some of the best-known concertos for guitar and orchestra. Composers such as Astor Piazzolla and Violet Archer have written music for him.

Massimo thus rose to the attention of European, Asian, Australian, Chinese and American audiences, and has been described by critics as being one of the best guitarists of our times. He has worked with the main European television networks, as well as with great theatre actors such as Cucciolla, Pagliai and Gassman. He regularly takes part in national and international festivals and is the first Italian guitarist to have held master classes at the ‘Mozarteum’ in Salzburg.

He has released several recordings, both as a soloist and in collaboration with musicians such as violinists Giuliano Carmignola, Rafael Gintoli, Erica Kennedy and Franco Mezzana; cellists Patrick Demenga, Arturo Bonucci and Julius Berger; tenor Francesco Grollo; flautist Roberto Fabbriciani; the Amati quartet; pianist Massimiliano Damerini; guitarist Tolo Marton; percussionist Tullio De Piscopo; and the famous group from Cuba, Grupo Compay Segundo—the Buena Vista Social Club.

From the desk of:

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