



Kettering Concerts

KetteringConcerts.org.au

2020 Concerts

The concerts planned for this year involve some new performers, some new music, and features the piano in many.

Sunday 15 March 2020, 3pm

Yildiz Duo - Piano Four Hands

The duo's programme includes favourites by Brahms and Dvořák, but also some fascinating works by the contemporary Turkish pianist and composer Fazil Say,¹ including one Australian premiere. This should be a great start to this year's concerts.

Sunday 19 April 2020, 3pm

Piano, Viola and Flute

This concert will feature Jennifer Marten-Smith (piano) and William Newbery (viola) (half of the Kettering Piano Quartet!) joined by Rebeka Hren Dragolic who will both sing and play the flute. The programme will include a trio by CPE Bach.

Sunday 17 May 2020, 3pm

Violin, Viola, Cello This trio will be made up by Jennifer Owen (violin), Stefanie Farrands (viola), Jonathan Békés (cello). All three played in Kettering last year but this will be the first time they will be playing together. All are known to TSO audiences but Stefanie recently moved to the Australian Chamber Orchestra and will be revisiting Tasmania especially for this concert.

Sunday 23 August 2020, 3pm

Kingfisher Trio This trio consists of Sue Collins (violin), Sue-Ellen Paulsen (cello), Duncan Gifford (piano) and has played several times in Kettering. Sue-Ellen has retired from the TSO but thankfully not from her cello. Some may recall at last year's concert they promised to play the Schubert Piano Trio this year.

Sunday 20 September 2020, 3pm

Shan Deng - Piano Recital

After a long absence from the Kettering Concerts, we will welcome Shan back for a solo piano recital.

Sunday 18 October 2020, 3pm

Piano & Clarinet Duo

Some may recall Kristian Chong (piano) filled in for Duncan Gifford in the 2018 performance by the Kingfisher Trio. He so liked the Kettering experience that he has organised his own concert together with Philip Arkinstall (clarinet). The programme has not been finalised but will probably include a Brahms sonata for piano and clarinet, Nintendo Music by Matthew Hindson and Weber's Grand Duo Concertante.

Sunday 15 November 2020, 3pm

Piano Duo

Jennifer Marten-Smith who is well known to Kettering audiences will be joined by Luke Frost, who was part of a piano duo concert in 2017 for a concert of works for 4 hands and solos by each of them.

TSO Brahmsiana Chamber Concerts at MONA

Before the Kettering Concerts start this year there will be several chamber music concerts held at MONA organised by the TSO. Most of the performers will be familiar to Kettering audiences. Note that these concerts have been sponsored, so the ticket prices are low compared to normal TSO concerts (\$40 full, \$36 concession). Tickets can be booked through the TSO box office including online. (There are links from the ChamberMusic-Tas.net.au listings).

Saturday 7 March 2020, 7:30pm - MONA Nolan Gallery²

Violin Sonata & Horn Trio

Emma McGrath (violin), Greg Stephens (horn), Jennifer Marten-Smith (piano) will play the Brahms Violin Sonata in D minor Op. 108 and Horn Trio, Op. 40.

Sunday 8 March 2020, 7:30pm - MONA

Brahms Quartet & Dvořák Quintet

Sercan Danis, Hayato Simpson (violins), Anna Roach (viola), Jonathan Békés (cello) will play the Brahms String Quartet No. 1 in C minor and the Dvořák String Quintet No. 2.

Monday 9 March 2020, 7:30pm - MONA

Two Songs & Piano Quartet

1. There are some excellent youtube performances by Fazil Say available.

2. Sometimes referred to as the snake pit.

Jane Edwards (mezzo-soprano), Jennifer Owen (violin), Douglas Coghill (viola), Jonathan Békés (cello), Ying Ho (piano) will perform Brahms Two Songs for Mezzo-Soprano, Viola and Piano, and Piano Quartet No. 2 in A major.

2019

Since our last Newsletter, The Kettering Piano Quartet gave its final concert (wonderful concert but a sad event nonetheless), the Cello Trio concert featuring Jonathan Békés' debut in Kettering, and a Van Diemen's Band performance with Kettering debuts for Julia Fredersdorff, Jennifer Owen (violins) and Hannah Lane playing the baroque triple harp. These were all very successful concerts, well received by capacity audiences. A great end to a rather special year.

Peter Donnelly reviewed the "KPQ" concert:

The Kettering Piano Quartet – Jennifer Marten-Smith (piano), Emma McGrath (violin), William Newbery (viola), and Brett Rutherford (cello) – made its final appearance with this concert. It was a bittersweet occasion given that this ensemble has been one of the finest chamber groups we have had in Tasmania in recent times. Their first performance was at this same venue in 2014 with Monica Naselow as the original violinist. Her move interstate two years ago resulted in the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra's concertmaster Emma McGrath taking over the role. William Newbery noted how time constraints and other activities by quartet members had now resulted in the decision to disband following the years of exciting music making and adventurous programming.

The repertoire choice represented favourite works by Mendelssohn and Brahms that they had performed together some years ago. Mendelssohn's Piano Quartet No 1 in C minor, Op 1 was almost unbelievably composed when the composer was only 13 years of age. Marten-Smith's nimble, expertly paced playing propelled the faster movements of this richly accomplished and enjoyable early piece while the players gave the lyrical second movement with fine ensemble and sensitivity.

The Brahms Piano Quartet No 3 in C minor, Op 60 is a big work in every sense. A dramatic and disturbed mood fills the first movement, bringing passionate advocacy from these musicians, while the wonderful songlike Andante movement was richly poignant.

Following the ovation farewelling the ensemble, Grainger's charmingly nostalgic 'Handel in the Strand' was the delightful encore.

Peter Donnelly also reviewed the Cello Trio concert:

The ever-supportive audience for this series packed out the hall in a concert of imaginatively chosen and rather dramatically contrasted music utilising the combination of clarinet, piano, and cello. That variety turned out marvellously well, offering a balanced and uplifting experience for the listeners as well as a technically challenging time for these distinguished musicians from the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra – Andrew Seymour (clarinet), Jonathan Békés (cello), and Meriel Owen (piano).

Giovanni 'Nino' Rota achieved wide fame with scores to the films of Federico Fellini and his work on Francis Ford Coppola's 'Godfather' movies. His 'Trio for Clarinet, Cello and Piano (1973)' displays this composer's distinctive gift for melody along with abundant rhythmic energy, delivered here with finesse and also conveying the many moments of appealing lyricism.

For 'Mozart – Adagio (1992/2005)' Arvo Pärt took the 2nd movement of Mozart's 'Piano Sonata in F major, KV 280' with additional lines and harmonies of his own to create a sparse, concentrated meditation for this blend of instruments. The result was quite beautiful, played with fine sensitivity. Cuban composer Paquito D'Rivera's 'Ladies in White (2010)' offered the greatest possible contrast with its highly individual jazz/Latin idiom requiring and getting a stylish response from the performers.

The concert was crowned with a richly satisfying rendition of Brahms's 'Trio in A minor, Op 114 (1891)', one of those mature late masterworks written for clarinetist Richard Mülledt. The musicians all excelled themselves, Seymour and Owen in superb form with Békés' passionate cello contribution the standout.

And Peter reviewed the Van Diemen's Band concert:

Van Diemen's Band has been very busy of late what with touring, recording Handel's set of Concerti Grossi Op. 3, and instituting the new lunchtime series at the Hobart Town Hall. This concert featured four of their players in a totally delightful collection of works from the 17th and 18th centuries.

Arcangelo Corelli (1653-1713) was the first major composer to achieve fame from the composition of purely instrumental music and his output was small, dominated by the Concerti Grossi Op. 6/1-12 and the Trio Sonatas Op. 1-4. The Trio Sonatas are very much influenced by the French 'courtly' style of the time with the 'chamber' (Op.

2 and 4) generally more high-spirited than the 'church' (Op. 1 and 3) sonatas though the distinction between the idioms becomes increasingly blurred. Three of the Corelli works were played along with sonatas by Evaristo Dall' Abaco (1675-1742), Handel (1685-1759), and Vivaldi (1678-1741). They comprise short contrasted movements exhibiting an extraordinarily wide range of mood and invention while the playing by these period performance experts was exquisitely refined and accomplished. Julia Fredersdorff and Jennifer Owen provided the upper voices on baroque violins with Martin Penicka on cello and Hannah Lane on baroque triple harp.

A most winning feature of the event was the individual illustration by each player on aspects of their historically replicated instrument and the spontaneous question and answer banter that ensued with the audience. Everyone was having a great time and this spilled over afterwards into further chat during the traditional Kettering Concerts afternoon tea.

Chamber Music Tasmania website

Raised as a possibility in our last newsletter, the website aimed at listing all Tasmanian chamber music concerts is up and running. It can be found at <http://ChamberMusicTas.net.au/>. So far nearly 60 concerts have been listed which shows how alive and well the genre is in Tasmania. The organisations so far included are: Battery Point Twilight Series, Hobart Chamber Orchestra, Kettering Concerts, Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra (chamber concerts), Van Diemen's Band and Virtuosi Tasmania.

Part of the aim is to ensure potential members of audiences do not learn about concerts after-the-fact, and also to assist organisers to avoid unfortunate clashes.

We only list concerts with the approval of the organisers. If you know of concerts that should appear, particularly if you are an organiser, please contact the webmaster. The contact details are on the website.

Our Roadsigns

You will almost certainly have seen our Kettering Concerts signs beside the Southern Outlet, Channel Highway and outside the Kettering Community Hall. Early last year we purchased new signboard material and our great supporter, Graham Sanders produced new vinyl to prepare the signs. Although the new sign material was a bit expensive, it was hoped it would survive the often challenging winds that buffet the signs.

Unfortunately one has already been stolen

complete with its star pickets from the southbound side of the Southern Outlet. This is the second time this has happened. We normally put out the signs out about two weeks before each concert, and retrieve them as soon as practical after a concert. Should you ever see someone removing one of our signs before the day of a concert, please report it to the police.

Numbers

2020 will be our 17th year of concerts. The March concert will be the 84th. More than 250 works have been played. The list of works can be viewed at http://ketteringconcerts.org.au/past_concerts/works_performed.php.