



Kettering Concerts

KetteringConcerts.org.au

Autumn Successes

As reported in our April Newsletter, the early autumn concerts went well. The last one in May presented by the Tasmanian String Quartet was presented to our largest audience since the start of the COVID pandemic. While the performance was interrupted by a member of the audience taking ill, the performance of the Britten quartet was eventually completed. The good news is that when the ambulance finally arrived, after a short examination and a few tests, the patient was sent home, looking much better.

A problem looms

For some time Kingborough Council has planned to resurface the floor in the Hall. This involves laying a new timber floor over the existing one. The work was scheduled to start immediately after the May concert, but the use of the Hall as a Federal election polling place delayed that. Then when removing the timbers that support the platforms that are stored along the southern wall, it was discovered that many of the screws were badly corroded, and a part of the floor found to have dry rot. One thing led to another, and rising damp became clear that resulted in significant excavation around the east and southern walls and installation of a drainage system.

The floor work was rescheduled to start this week. The new timber has been delivered but so far no work to lay it has occurred. Once the new floor is in place it, a new surface finish will be applied and several weeks curing time are required. There is a distinct possibility the Hall will not be available for our 14th August concert. The number of alternative venues is limited because of the need for a piano. The Hobart Town Hall is the leading contender, but the issue of cost is of concern. (The Kettering Hall costs us little due to support by the Council.) So while the venue is uncertain, the concert will go ahead somewhere.

A new work

When William Newbery and Jennifer Marten-Smith present their concert on 18 September, a newly composed work "A day in the life of a viola" by Elena Kats-Chernin should be on the programme. The work has been completed. It is only a question of printing completed scores. Should be great fun to hear a world première in Kettering.

A new role for Kettering Concerts

The Committee has done a lot of work over some time working towards the possibility of us commissioning new chamber music works. This required changes to our Constitution to include commissions as one of our objects but also to include rules concerning management of donations required by different government departments and the acts controlling the ATO. There has been a lot of progress. First the revised Constitution was acceptable to the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission (ACNC), and Kettering Concerts is now registered with them. May seem strange for us to be considered a charity, but it is really the not-for-profit part that is important. Registration with the ACNC is required before an organisation can apply to be added to the Register of Cultural Organisations (ROCO), managed by the Department of Arts. We have been able to submit an application which is now under review - a process we have been warned will likely take 6 months. The importance of registration with ROCO is that it brings with it endorsement by the ATO as a Deductible Gift Recipient - meaning people would be able to make donations into our public donations fund account and gain income tax deductions. Why we want that will become clear below.

A new commission

We wish to commission a new string quartet to be composed by Elena Kats-Chernin. Elena has written a number of shorter works for string quartets, but the planned work will be a traditionally structured 4 movement work of about 25 minutes duration. Annick Anselin and Dave Davey have been in conversation with Elena for some months and recently had the privilege of a face-to-face meeting at her home in Sydney. She is very enthusiastic about the idea and even liked some of the suggestions on the structure we presented to her. So it's going to happen. Just a small issue of money.

Because of the probable delay and no certainty with the ROCO application, we have established a project with the Australian Cultural Fund - an organisation that hosts approved projects and allows for tax-deductible donations. So if like us you are enthusiastic about the commission, please consider a donation. You can do so [here](#), or follow the Commissions tab on KetteringConcerts.org.au.

Next Concert

On 14th August we will welcome back Sue Collins (violin) and for the first time Alexey Yemtsov (piano). They will present Sonatas by Beethoven and Brahms.

Other Spring Concerts

Sep 18: Piano & Viola Duo - Jennifer Marten-Smith (piano) and William Newbery (viola).

Oct 16: Piano Duo - Elenora Spina & Michele Benigneti (France).

Nov 13: NOTE DATE CHANGE Chrysantha String Quartet - Yue-hong Cha & Frances Davies (violins), Janet Rutherford (viola), Brett Rutherford (cello).