



Kettering Concerts

KetteringConcerts.au

The Elena Kats-Chernin string quartet commission

We reported in June that the fund set up to commission a new string quartet to be written by Elena Kats-Chernin had reached the half-way mark to the target of \$50,000. We also announced a dollar-for-dollar offer from a donor approaching the end of the financial year. We are delighted with the response. The fund has reached 94% of the target! Many thanks to the many of you who have made this possible.

We have advised Elena of the surge and she is gearing up to start work late this year, once some works in progress are completed.

Of course donations can be still be made [here](#), or follow the Commissions tab at <https://KetteringConcerts.au>. We still need that last 6%.

Success with our ROCO application

The slow progress of our application to be added to the Register of Cultural Organisations has reached a very satisfactory conclusion. We were advised that the Hon Tony Burke (Minister for the Arts) and the Hon Dr Andrew Leigh (Assistant Minister for Competition, Charities and Treasury) had approved our application for addition to ROCO. Interestingly, the letter was dated 29 June 2023, one year and two days after we received the "Confirmation of submission" of our application.

This addition brings with it eligibility for Kettering Concerts to receive tax deductible donations. Of course there are important limitations on how such donations can be spent, determined largely by our Constitution.

Change to our ticket prices

We have sold concerts tickets for \$15 since the beginning of 2016. So we have not contributed to inflation! With the onset of the COVID-19 epidemic, the Kingborough Council stipulated that cash could not be handled in the Hall, so we were obliged to adopt on-line ticket sales. This added a small additional cost of the processing fee. The amount per ticket varies a little on how many tickets are purchased in one transaction, but averages less than \$1/ticket.

Starting this year we once again have offered door sales. The number of people choosing this option was small for the first concert, but this has grown. This presents us with a minor problem, of not knowing how many chairs we need to put out. There is also a

more serious worry that if a concert were to attract a large number of people who had not booked, we might be forced to turn some away. We saw that happen at a concert in Hobart; the scene was ugly.

It's been pointed out that to date it is cheaper to pay at the door than to book on-line. To eliminate the degree to which that discourages on-line purchases, we have adopted a new price structure:

on-line tickets remain \$15 + small booking fee
door cash-only tickets now \$20

So please book on-line and be assured admission and a seat.

October concert - change of date and welcome back to Alexey

We had previously advertised our October concert as "Sue Collins *et al.*" on 8 October. The date had to be changed to **15 October**. This concert will see Sue Collins (violin) return to Kettering for the 8th time, Alexey Yemtsov (piano) for the second time, joined by a newcomer Peter Morrison (cello). They will play trios by Joaquin Turina, Clara Schumann, and Bedřich Smetana. Full details of the programme and the players' bios available at <https://KetteringConcerts.au/concerts/2023-10-15.php>.

Next Concert

On 20th August, Luke Frost will play a solo piano recital. Luke has performed three times in Kettering (first in November 2017), mostly as a part of a piano duo with Jennifer Marten-Smith, but with some solo works. His programme includes works by Clara Schumann, Robert Schumann, Chopin, Poulenc and Gottschalk. You will be able to hear how he has developed into a truly excellent pianist. Tickets can be booked on-line at <https://www.trybooking.com/CKBTA>.

Other Spring Concerts

Sep 17: Piano & Viola Duo - Jennifer Marten-Smith (piano) and William Newbery (viola).

Nov 12: Hartz Trio: - Alexandra Békés (cello), Phoebe Masel (violin), Dianne Legg (piano)

Another Concert of possible interest

On Friday 11 August at 1pm in the Ian Potter concert hall at the Hedberg, Jennifer Marten-Smith and Karen Smithies will play works for two pianos. Tickets are free but must be booked at <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/lunchtime-concert-universale-tickets-689004219167?aff=oddttdtcreator>.