

Melbourne Symphony Orchestra



Geelong Friends

May 2019

(Geelong Friends of the MSO Inc.)

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From The President

Dear Friends,

Welcome to our first newsletter for 2019. We started with a great concert from the MSO on March 22nd, which for those who were not there missed an insight to Gustav Mahler's thinking and mind whilst he was starting his tenth symphony and also his other compositions. Tama Matheson together with Sir Andrew Davis produced twenty-five minutes of very enlightening conversation, together with accompanying music from the MSO which gave the audience great insight to Mahler's life and composition.

Our relationship with the MSO improves every day and they have now offered a great incentive for all current and financial members. They are offering to all financial members free tickets to the MSO concert at Hamer Hall on Wednesday 21st August at 11.00 am to hear Saint-Saens Cello Concerto and excerpts from Mendelssohn's Midsummer Night's Dream. If you are non-financial or have friends who would like to join, now is the time to get organised.

You will find some interesting articles and news in the newsletter, however we are always looking for additional content so your ideas are always welcome for further editions.

Our committee will continue to work hard to grow our relationship with the MSO and find new ways to reward our loyal and dedicated Membership. Without your support and dedication we could lose some or all the MSO's concerts in Geelong.

Kind regards,

Martin Shirley

President



Snippets

The chattiest Concertmaster we know!



Can you imagine how challenging it must be to have led the MSO through a concert, and then to have to front up and speak to a gathering of the Geelong Friends of the MSO because the Conductor and Principal Artist had to scoot off back to Melbourne as early as possible?

Many would be daunted, but not the gregarious, effervescent Mr Dale Barltrop. Dale seemed to have all the time in the world to talk with members of Geelong Friends at the Post Concert Reception in November 2018, as well as delivering a speech on behalf of the MSO thanking the Geelong Friends for their ongoing support and fundraising. We thoroughly enjoyed chatting with Dale and hope to do so again in the future. If you see Dale again at a Post Concert Reception, don't be shy to say hello!

My 6 year old concert-going hero

At the November 2018 Concert (Beethoven 5 conducted by Karina Canellakis) there was a young man about 6 or so years old in row B in the central section, his seat number would have been in the 30's. At the end of the first movement he quietly and spontaneously applauded. I was so impressed that **he** was so impressed by the wonderful music and music-making! The little dear did end up napping on the floor a bit later on, but it was a joy to this older person to see such exemplary behavior and appreciation of fine music in one so young. Good on you young man – *and* your parents!

Karina Canellakis – please, please, please, can we keep her?

We've seen some exciting conductors, but the utterly dynamic Karina Canellakis is **something to behold**. She moves her body sooooo fast at times, with such energy – and strength – for such a tiny body.

If you played a soundless video of Karina conducting Beethoven 5, just from watching her – without an orchestra – you would know EXACTLY what she was conducting.

Karina has an incredible range of facial movements, eye expressions and body movements which she uses to engage the orchestra and express the music. Her hands are intensely expressive, both in movement and in stillness. She is unafraid to express joy and pleasure in her conducting.



The Orchestra appeared to be delighted to be working with Karina - there was a lot of smiling and joy bubbling up from members of the Orchestra during the final movement, and the audience was simply enthralled. I too would be delighted to work with a conductor who "plays with" the orchestra with sideways glances, and who can express elation, bliss, urging, cajoling, and intense satisfaction.

What a pity that Karina is not available to become the next Conductor of the MSO! (for the next few years at least). We will certainly be keeping a close eye on this amazing talent, and excitedly anticipate seeing her conduct again in the future.

Review - Hoang Pham in Concert – what a fabulous event!

If you missed Hoang Pham's recital for the Geelong Friends of the MSO fundraiser in September last year, well, YOU MISSED OUT!

It was a joyous occasion, performed by a skilled and talented musician, who is eminently approachable, both on and off the stage. Many of us were able to meet Hoang and get to know him a little better after the concert.

If you have never seen Hoang in performance, do yourself a big favour and track him down....he is easy to find on social media at <https://hoangpham.com.au/> and on facebook.

A review of the concert follows...



The Friends (GFMSO) fundraising concert last September was a resounding success with an outstanding and thoroughly enjoyable program played by Hoang Pham. Pham has a string of awards to his name, and we were able to appreciate his music-making at the finest level, opening the concert with Beethoven's Pathetique sonata which was both breath-taking and dreamlike.

This was followed by Brahms Intermezzo in A-flat - which brought back memories of all those syncopated bars which I struggled with as a student - but were rapturously played by Pham.

‘...ravishing and scintillating finale...’

The Rachmaninov Prelude in G minor is a tantalising crowd pleaser, and it proved again to be popular at Pham's hands. Interval was preceded by Chopin's Ballade in G minor leaving us exhausted with the ravishing and scintillating finale.

After a break to recuperate we were presented with Schubert's Sonata in C minor which, from the acclamations at the end, it would seem that many had come only to hear this and been handsomely rewarded.

The set program ended with the Strauss/Schulz-Evier Concert Arabesques on 'The Beautiful Blue Danube' which delighted us all with familiar tunes, willing us to waltz around the piano whilst Pham cast his spell. Coming back for a generous encore Pham played his signature Chopin.

The afternoon was a great success musically and financially thanks to the talent and personal warmth of Hoang Pham.

By John Duncan

Free concert tickets for Geelong Friends of the MSO

As members of the Geelong Friends of the MSO, you are offered **FREE TICKETS** to a concert at HAMER HALL, MELBOURNE, at 11am on Wednesday 31 August 2019.



Attendees must be financial members of the Geelong Friends of the MSO; if you are not currently financial or have friends who may be interested, please email msogeelongfriends@gmail.com for a 2019 membership form or further membership information.

If you wish to participate in this wonderful offer, please let us know via email at msogeelongfriends@gmail.com or write to Geelong Friends of the MSO, PO Box 1149, Geelong VIC 3220 to secure your tickets.

Ticket bookings/requests for this concert will be accepted up to and including 19 July 2019.

Please note that this is a MELBOURNE concert, and that Geelong Friends of the MSO committee will not be organizing any group travel (e.g. buses); you will need to make your own arrangements for travel.

Melbourne Symphony Orchestra

Sir Andrew Davis Chief Conductor

[TICKETS & PERFORMANCES](#) [ABOUT US](#) [CONTACT](#) [YOUR VISIT](#) [SUPPORT US](#) [EDUCATION](#) [MEDIA](#)

Saint-Saëns' Cello Concerto



MSO Mornings

Wednesday 21 August 2019 at 11:00am

Hamer Hall

[BOOK TICKETS](#)

Promotional Code

[APPLY](#)

Featuring

Nikolaj Znaider conductor

Jian Wang cello

Program

Saint-Saëns Cello Concerto No.1

Mendelssohn *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (excerpts)



Performance length

1 hour, no interval.

About the performance

The impeccable artistry of Camille Saint-Saëns is heard to grand effect in the first of his cello concertos, a work radiant with the melodic elegance and soulful passion that the cello conveys. The concerto is characteristic of Saint-Saëns' desire to extend upon the foundations of the great classical repertoire through the gradual evolution of the composer's skill and craftsmanship.

Mendelssohn's music to accompany *A Midsummer Night's Dream* was born from a deep affect Shakespeare's plays that stemmed from the composer's childhood. Mendelssohn converted his in Shakespeare's words and stories into music bristling with the comic electricity and fairyland of the play. Star violinist turned conductor, Nikolaj Znaider brings his superb musicianship to concert, and will lead the Orchestra through this winter-warming concert.

Post-Mahler celebration

As usual the MSO showered concert attendees with hospitality following the first concert for the year.




Above: Concert attendees enjoy the hospitality of the MSO at the first concert of the 2019 Geelong Series while Miranda Brockman speaks to the audience (can you see yourself in there somewhere?)

Below: Sir Andrew Davis, Conductor, at right, Tama Matheson, Presenter, at left, with Martin Shirley, President of Geelong Friends of the MSO after the ***Mahler 10: Letters and Readings*** concert on 22 March 2019.

Piers Lane at Truffleduck

Once again this year, the Geelong Advertiser Music Trust is holding a special lunch. This year's lunch will be on Tuesday June 4th at Truffleduck and we are very excited that our special guest is Piers Lane.

Like last year, this promises to be a most enjoyable afternoon and will help build awareness of the Australian Youth Classical Competition, of which Piers is our Patron.



JUN
04

Life & Lunch with Piers Lane

by Australian Youth Classical Music
Competition

A\$75

Description

Piers Lane is internationally acclaimed concert pianist with an established career as a great interpreter of romantic and early twentieth century music. With a career spanning nearly 40 years over 40 countries and an outstanding repertoire containing at least 75 concertos, Piers Lane has a story or two to tell.

So if you have ever wondered about the life of a concert pianist, join Piers for lunch and find out first hand! Piers will be interviewed by Wendy Galloway in what promises to be a thoroughly engaging and enjoyable lunch.

(Vegetarian option available - please submit request to admin@aycmc.org.au)

Date And Time

Tue, June 4, 2019
12:00 PM – 2:00 PM AEST
[Add to Calendar](#)

Location

Truffleduck
66 Hyland Street
Fyansford, VIC 3218
[View Map](#)

Bookings can be made via the attached link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/life-lunch-with-piers-lane-tickets-57962561582>

Find out what YOUR MSO Orchestra members are getting up to on an ongoing basis.....you can find the MSO News and Blog at this link

[https://www.mso.com.au/media-centre/news/?type\[\]=news-articles&type\[\]=blog-posts](https://www.mso.com.au/media-centre/news/?type[]=news-articles&type[]=blog-posts)

Many of the articles have been written by the musicians, so take your time and have a good scroll through it!

Boy, do they LOVE Costa Hall!

We have a Visitors book in which Conductors, Principal Artists and visiting members of the Orchestra can leave their thoughts and impressions of the concerts if they wish. This is done at the Post Concert Receptions we hold for the Geelong Friends of the MSO.

Many, many of the comments relate to how much the musicians appreciate Costa Hall itself. And many comments also describe the artists' appreciation of the Geelong audiences.

Here are a few of the wonderful comments from the book.....

Fabulous hall & a wonderful evening

Thank you MSO & thank you to the tremendous hospitality of The Geelong Friends

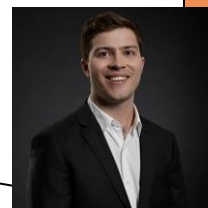
Carl Vine 31-8-2018



Dear Geelong,

We all love playing in your beautiful hall to such a passionate audience. Had a great time playing Beethoven 5!

Jack Schiller, Principal Bassoon,
MSO 16-11-2018



We love coming to Geelong and treasure our long association. To play in Costa Hall is always a delight and to come and play on a sunny day and to look up through the beachside stained glass windows is something that I always look forward to. You are such a warm audience and because of the proximity we can see all your appreciative faces. Glad you enjoyed Beethoven 5 tonight,

Prue Davis, Principal Flute, MSO 16-11-2018



Geelong Concerts

Geelong Symphony Orchestra

The Four Seasons with Rebecca Chan

- Deakin's Costa Hall, Geelong Waterfront
- Saturday 3 August 2019 3:00pm
- **Vivaldi:** The Four Seasons

New York to Norway

- Deakin's Costa Hall, Geelong Waterfront
 - Saturday 26 October 2019 7:30pm
 - **Gershwin:** Rhapsody in Blue
Gershwin: American in Paris
Grieg: Piano Concerto in A Minor
Sibelius: Finlandia
 - **Conductor:** Fabian Russell
Piano: Hoang Pham
-

Geelong Chamber Music Society presents Diana Doherty and the Melbourne Chamber Orchestra

- Friday 21 June 2019 7.30pm at McAuley Hall, Sacred Heart College, Aphrasia St., Newtown
 - <https://www.gpac.org.au/event/1084/Diana+Doherty+with+the+Melbourne+Chamber+Orchestra>
 - Tickets
Adults / Seniors \$55
Concession \$50
Under 25 \$10
-

Music at the Basilica presents:

- at St. Paul's Church, Latrobe Terrace.
Geelong.
- <https://musicatthebasilica.org.au/music-festival/>

- **Friday, 10 May 2019, 7.30pm**
Sound the Trumpet Concert

- **Saturday, 11 May 2019, 7.30pm**
Windfire Festival of Music

- **Sunday, 12 May 2019, 3.00pm**
Music, Roses and High Afternoon Tea and many more concerts until.....

- **Sunday, 26 May 2019, 3.00pm**
Windfire Festival Closing Concert

The following events are presented by the
Barwon Heads Fine Music Society

MAY

Pianist Regina Thomae & Flautist Brighid Mantelli

Sunday May 12th (Mothers Day) - 2.30pm
All Saints Anglican Church

JUNE

Rita Sousa & her Lua Nova String Quartet

Sunday June 9th - 2.30pm
All Saints Anglican Church

JULY

Jazz in July with the Georgia Brooks Swingtet

Sunday July 14th - 12pm for a 12.30pm start
13th Beach Golf Club

*** AUGUST ***

Peter & the Wolf

Featuring members of the Geelong Symphony Orchestra

Friday August 23rd - 3pm
Barwon Heads Primary School
Friday August 23rd - 7pm
Barwon Heads Community Hall
Saturday August 24th - 2.30pm
Barwon Heads Community Hall

<http://www.barwonheadsfinemusic.org.au/events2/>
