



Musica da Camera

String Orchestra

Leonard Weiss

Musical Director

SATURDAY 3 MAY 2014 2.30 pm

Holy Covenant Anglican Church
89 Dexter Street, Cook, ACT

SUNDAY 4 MAY 2014 2.30 pm

St Paul's Anglican Church
Commissioner Street, Cooma NSW

PROGRAM

ALBINONI: Sonata for String Orchestra

JOSHUA HEALEY: *Sanguinary Nyarubuye*
(World Premiere)

VAUGHAN WILLIAMS: Fantasia on theme by Thomas Tallis

— Interval —

LOCATELLI: Concerto Grosso No 2 in C minor

RESPIGHI: Berceuse

FUCHS: Serenade Op 9

Program notes were sourced and adapted from *The Oxford Companion to Music* and *Wikipedia*.

LEONARD WEISS: Musical Director



Leonard Weiss is an ANU BMus graduate who is currently studying a Masters in Teaching. He is privileged to have enjoyed a diverse musical education, including participating in conducting master classes with Richard Gill OAM and with Jessica Cottis (Assistant Conductor, SSO).

Leonard performs regular lunchtime recitals on the National Carillon as part of his role as a Canberra Carillonist. He also performs with the Canberra Youth Orchestra on harp and French horn, as well as performing on piano, voice, and percussion.

His diverse musical background and enthusiasm has put Leonard in good stead for conducting; he is currently the Assistant Conductor of the National Capital Orchestra, Assistant Director/Conductor of the Maruki Community Orchestra, Choral Director/Conductor at Merici College, Director/Conductor of the Echo Voices Community Choir, Director/Conductor of the National Gallery of Australia Singers, and Director/Conductor of the Canberra Gay and Lesbian Qwire with whom Leonard is excited to be touring to Dublin in June.

Leonard is an avid composer, having recently been commissioned to write *Three Reflections* for the 2014 World Carillon Federation in commemoration of WWI. Leonard's other compositions include an award-winning score for the *Lights! Canberra! Action!* short film *The Machine*, and his *Six-String Suite* commissioned by the Canberra Classical Guitar Society.

His older compositions include *The Bells of Nyx*, which won the inaugural National Carillon Composition Competition and was also awarded the Canberra Audience Choice Award, as well as *Electric Toast* which is still used extensively for advertising the Z-26 Musical Tesla Coil.

In between conducting, performing and composing, Leonard works in the Music Department at Canberra Grammar School, performing alongside hundreds of enthusiastic students, and was recently the Production Assistant for the school's award-winning production of *Guys and Dolls* in the Canberra Theatre.

To read more about Leonard, please visit LeonardWeiss.com .



JOSHUA HEALEY:

Composer, conductor and cellist

Musica da Camera is pleased to be able to perform the world premiere of Josh's composition *Sanguinary Nyarubuye*.

Joshua commenced his Cello studies in 2005 under the Casals Academy, and is currently studying with Kalina Krusteva (MSO). His instrumental and chorale opportunities have allowed him to assist developing younger musicians, a philosophy promoted by his teachers and close to his heart.

He successfully auditioned for the Canberra Concerto Orchestra in 2010, performing with the CCO Symphony and touring with the CCO Chamber Orchestra throughout 2010/11. Joshua showed interest in conducting after seriously injuring his left hand in late 2011 and successfully attended the Scholar Conductors course in Melbourne in early 2012 under Christopher Seaman. He is the recipient of the Tim Murray music scholarship for 2013/14 and the Cowra Eisteddfod Instrumental Scholarship 2013.

Joshua successfully completed his AMusA Violoncello in November 2013.

He will conduct his composition and play cello with the orchestra in the other works.

PROGRAM NOTES



Sonata for String Orchestra Op 6 No 2

Tomaso Giovanni Albinoni (1671–1751)

Grave adagio; Larghetto; Largo; Allegro

Albinoni was born in Venice in 1671 and as a boy studied violin and singing. He was famous in his day as an opera composer; he wrote some fifty operas of which twenty-eight were produced in Venice between 1723 and 1740. Today he is mainly remembered for his instrumental music: sinfonias, trio sonatas, solo sonatas, violin concertos and oboe concertos. Part of Albinoni's work was lost in World War II with the destruction of the Dresden State Library, thus little is known of his life and music after the mid-1720s.

Sanguinary Nyarubuye (World Premiere)

Joshua Healey

Josh's inspiration for this piece came from the experiences of a close family member who was an Australian Peacekeeper serving in Rwanda during the country's period of civil unrest. Because of this relationship Josh did some research on the topic to gain a better understanding of what had happened.

The work was composed for the people of Nyarubuye a small village in Rwanda which was the scene of a massacre where 20,000 innocent people were killed. The work reflects on the pain these people endured, yearning for peace and security within their homes.

The Nyarubuye massacre in particular held a story of survival of a young girl, Valentina. She had survived the massacre by hiding amongst the decomposing corpses of her family and friends for over 20 days, only venturing outside her place of refuge to eat small berries she could find on near by bushes.



Fantasia on theme by Thomas Tallis Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)

Ralph Vaughan Williams studied first at the Royal College of Music and later in Paris with Max Bruch and Maurice Ravel. In 1904, he began collecting English folk songs, preserving this musical heritage for future generations and using the styles and themes from traditional songs in his own compositions.

Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis was composed in 1910 and performed for the first time in September of that year at Gloucester Cathedral for the Three Choirs Festival. The work takes its name from the original composer of the melody, Thomas Tallis (c.1505–1585).

The work is in concerto grosso style with the orchestra divided into larger and smaller sections. Vaughan Williams intended this configuration to resemble an organ in sound.

The theme is heard in full three times during the course of the work, but the music grows from the theme's constituent motives with variations on them. A secondary melody, based on the original, is first heard on the solo viola about a third of the way into the *Fantasia*, and this theme forms the climax of the work a few minutes before the end.



Concerto Grosso No 2 in C-minor

Pietro Antonio Locatelli (1695–1764)

I. Adagio ; II. Allegro-Adagio ; III. Largo; IV. Allegro; V. Allegro

Locatelli began studying in Rome in autumn 1711 with Valentinini and perhaps for a short time with Corelli.. This concerto grosso is one of a set of twelve in Locatelli's Opus 1 and was published in 1721. Many of his other concert compositions were thought to have been written from 1723 to 1728 when he travelled widely through Italy and Germany.



Berceuse

Ottorino Respighi (1879–1936)

Ottorino Respighi was born in Bologna and died in Rome. He played violin and piano and studied under Rimsky Korsakov and Bruch. He was for a few years head of the St Cecilia Conservatory of Rome.

He wrote opera, and is probably best remembered for the orchestral pieces *The Pines of Rome* and *The Fountains of Rome*. He was interested in the music of earlier years and, as in this orchestrated arrangement of Renaissance lute works, incorporated Gregorian motifs and 16th Century madrigals.



Serenade for String Orchestra Op 9 No 1

Robert Fuchs (1847–1927)

Andante; Tempo di menuetto; Allegro scherzando; Adagio con molto espressione; Allegro

Robert Fuchs was an Austrian composer and music teacher.

As Professor of music theory at the Vienna Conservatory, he taught many notable composers such as George Enescu, Gustav Mahler, Hugo Wolf and Jean Sibelius. He was himself a highly regarded composer in his lifetime.

His best known works were his five serenades; their popularity was so great that Fuchs acquired the nickname "Serenaden-Fuchs" ("Serenader Fox").



Vale Mike Gossage

Former member of Musica da Camera, Mike Gossage, passed away on 18 January.

Mike played violin with the orchestra from the early 1990s until 2003. He also conducted concerts on several occasions and arranged music for the orchestra. Mike was also very active on the committee acting as Librarian for several years (woe betide anybody who didn't return music!) and also as President.

Mike was not only a violinist and conductor but also a trumpeter and composer and was conductor of Weston Winds. He also taught several instruments. At the same time, Mike's 'day job' was in the IT field and he was a very accomplished and respected programmer, designer and teacher.

He will be greatly missed by Canberra's music community.

THE PLAYERS

1st Violin Jocelyn James, Shaun Choon, Susan McClelland,
Christine Davidson, Sarah Bloustein,
Penelope Layland

2nd Violin John Dobson, Heather Shelley, Jon Rosalky,
Diana McGrath, Cheryl Pepper

Viola Heather Powrie, Suzanna Powell, Paul Whitbread,
Jackelyn Kemp, Emily Powrie

Cello Helen Lamour, Josh Healey, Sara Burns,
Martin Elias

Double Bass Juliet Flook

Concert Manager—Paul Shelley

MUSICA DA CAMERA

Musica da Camera was formed in Canberra in 1979 as a small baroque ensemble. Over the years and under successive musical directors it has grown in size and its repertoire has expanded to embrace music of all styles and periods.

The orchestra performs three concert series each year. Each series comprises two performances—one in Canberra, and a second in a nearby town. In recent years Musica da Camera has regularly performed in Goulburn's Summer concert series at St Peter and Paul's Cathedral, in Gunning and in Cooma.

The orchestra has a different musical director for each of the year's concerts; this provides the group with a range of repertoire and performance styles. It also has policy of providing opportunities for talented young conductors and soloists to work and perform with the ensemble.

Coming concerts

Saturday 9 August 2014 – 2.30 pm
Holy Covenant Anglican Church
Cook, ACT

Sunday 10 August 2014 – 2.30 pm
Shire Hall
Gunning NSW

Handel, Elgar, Vaughan-Williams, Kreisler, Piazzolla

Musical Director: Gillian Bailey Graham

Saturday 15 November 2014 – 2.30 pm
Holy Covenant Anglican Church
Cook, ACT

Sunday 16 November 2014 – 2.30 pm
St Peter & Paul's Cathedral
Goulburn NSW

Musical Director: Michael Sollis

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or email to: epshms@grapevine.com.au