



Musica da Camera

String Orchestra

Michael Sollis

Musical Director

with

**James Huntingford—Harpsichord
and Kiri Sollis—Flute**

SATURDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2014 2.30 pm

Holy Covenant Anglican Church
89 Dexter Street, Cook, ACT

SUNDAY 16 NOVEMBER 2014 2.30 pm

St Peter & Paul's Cathedral,
cnr Verner & Bourke Sts Goulburn NSW

PROGRAM

BACH: Toccata and Fugue in d-minor

BRUMBY: The Phoenix and the Turtle

ROUSSEL: Sinfonietta

— Interval —

BACH: Concerto in d-minor BWV 1052R

GÓRECKI: Harpsichord Concerto

Program notes were sourced and adapted from: *The New Grove Dictionary of Music & Musicians*, *The Oxford Companion to Music*, *Wikipedia*, and the Polish Music Information Center.

MICHAEL SOLLIS: Musical Director



Michael is a composer, director, and researcher specialising in cross art-form collaboration and theatrical production of chamber music.

Recent commissions include the Canberra Centenary (City of Trees radio plays with UK Artist Jyll Bradley), Music For Everyone (music theatre piece Dinosaurs with librettist Cathy Petocz), the Embassy of Sweden, and the Australian Society of Music Educators (choral work Giningininderry).

He has been performed internationally by USA group exhAust and Swedish group *The Peärls Before Swine Experience*, and by Australian groups such as the Australian String Quartet and The Australian Voices.

Michael is director, founder, and composer of the innovative group The Griffyn Ensemble.

JAMES HUNTINGFORD: Harpsichord



James has lived in Canberra all his life and has been playing the piano since the age of six. In 2008 he received the Erika Haas award for the top performance student at the ANU School of Music. He has been twice winner of the ACT National Eisteddfod Open Piano Recital, and was also winner of the 2009 Haydn Festival Competition. He received his LMusA in piano performance in 2006.

James studied piano at the ANU School of Music under Prof. John Luxton and Susanne Powell, and graduated in 2012.

He has a passion for historical keyboard instruments and music of the 17th and 18th centuries developed under Geoffrey Lancaster. James has since collaborated as harpsichordist with Oriana Chorale, the Canberra Choral Society, members of the Brandenburg Orchestra and many others. In 2013 he was awarded the Lady Callaway Award by the Australian Society of Music Educators, for his diverse musical and artistic services to the Canberra community.

James' musical life is many and various and includes chamber music and solo performance, accompaniment, teaching, choral direction, adjudication, and jazz improvisation. He plans to travel to Canada next year to study with fortepianist Tom Beghin, and then again to Europe for more post-graduate study. We hope he comes back!

KIRI SOLLIS: Flute



Kiri Sollis is flautist for The Griffyn Ensemble, one of Australia's most innovative contemporary chamber ensembles, and specialises in piccolo and contemporary chamber music.

Kiri has performed over 50 Australian premieres and over 15 world premieres as chamber musician and soloist, including the Australian premieres of David Bedford's Recorder Concerto which she adapted for flute, piccolo, alto and bass flutes, and Estonian Urmas Sisask's Flute Concerto (both with Musica da Camera), and the world premiere of Michael Sollis' Perelandra Piccolo Concerto. Kiri has toured and recorded extensively with the Griffyn Ensemble and as freelance flutist, and has performed and recorded with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra and the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra. Recent highlights include a 10-day collaborative festival with Sweden's *The Peärils Before Swine Experience*, broadcast on ABC Classic FM's Sunday Live and touring for Musica Viva in Schools in 2013, and this year, continuing the journey of learning to improvise.

Kiri has over fourteen years of teaching experience and as mentor for chamber musicians. She currently has around 50 private students, teaching primarily at Radford College in Canberra. Kiri holds a Master of Music in Flute Performance from the ANU.

PROGRAM NOTES

Toccata and Fugue in d-minor

Johann Sebastian Bach(1685–1750)

Arranged by Daniel Valentine

Hang on to your seats! Here is an arrangement for strings of the Fugue from Bach's well-known organ work. We've added the Toccata because we happened to have a keyboard nearby!



The Phoenix and the Turtle

Colin Brumby (b. 1933)

Andante semplice
Teneramente
Lusingando
Sospirando
Threnos

Australian composer Colin Brumby studied at the University of Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, from which he graduated in 1957. He studied composition in Spain and London and on his return to Australia, he joined the staff of the Music Department at the University of Queensland. He became Associate Professor with the University of Queensland, from which he retired in 1998.

In 1972 he returned overseas to study composition in Rome. On his return to Australia, Musica Viva Australia commissioned him to compose a work for the 1974 tour of the Academy of St Martin in the Fields. This was *The Phoenix and the Turtle* for string orchestra and harpsichord. *The Phoenix and the Turtle* is an allegorical poem about the death of ideal love by William Shakespeare.



Sinfonietta

Albert Roussel (1869–1937)

Allegro molto
Andante Andante
Allegro Allegro

Roussel was a French composer who turned to music as an adult, and became one of the most prominent French composers of the interwar period. His early works were strongly influenced by the impressionism of Debussy and Ravel; he later turned toward neoclassicism.

Sinfonietta Op. 52 was composed in 1934 and is a small symphony for string orchestra.



Concerto in d-minor BWV 1052R

Johann Sebastian Bach(1685–1750)

Allegro

Adagio

Allegro

Bach's harpsichord concertos, BWV 1052–1065, are concertos for one, two, three or four harpsichords plus strings and continuo.

The first harpsichord concerto (BWV 1052) is thought to be based on a lost violin concerto in D minor which was later arranged as an organ concerto in 1728 for use in two of Bach's cantatas.

In this performance the flute takes on the primary role.



Concerto for Harpsichord

Henryk Mikołaj Górecki (1933–2010)

Górecki was a Polish composer of contemporary classical music whose name remained largely unknown outside Poland until the mid-to late 1980s.

His Concerto for Harpsichord and String Orchestra Op. 40, completed in 1980, was commissioned by the Polish Radio for the Composers Forum. The first performance took place in Katowice on 2 March 1980

While the Concerto makes some obvious references to the Polish highlanders' music, it nevertheless forms a part of the sequence of Górecki's "reductionist" music starting from his Refrain (1965) and distinguished by the striving for a maximum economy of means.

It is a short work when compared with many of his other works. Górecki himself called his Concerto a 'prank', but one of his fans described it as 'short, neat, and instrumentally impressive'.



Vale Barbara Donaldson

Barbara was a valued and active member of *Musica da Camera* from 2005 to 2010, who not only enhanced the second violins but was an enthusiastic and active member of the committee, contributing many ideas for strengthening the orchestra and building audience numbers.

Barbara was also an accomplished artist.

Barbara reluctantly left the orchestra when she became ill a few years ago. She continued to attend concerts from time to time when her health permitted. Sadly, Barbara lost her battle with her illness on 6 August. She will be greatly missed by those members of the orchestra who had the privilege of knowing her and playing beautiful music with her.

THE PLAYERS

1st Violin Jocelyn James, Shaun Choon, Rosemary Macphail,
Gillian Graham, Christine Davidson

2nd Violin John Dobson, Heather Shelley, Sarah Bloustein,
Russell Cunningham

Viola Paul Whitbread, Suzanna Powell, Heather Powrie,
Marcus Hussein

Cello Helen Larmour, Margaret Kahn, Martin Elias

Double Bass Juliet Flook

Concert Manager—Paul Shelley

Our next concert

Saturday 2 May 2015 – 2.30 pm
Holy Covenant Anglican Church
Cook, ACT

Sunday 3 May 2015 – 2.30 pm
TBA

Musical Director: Leonard Weiss

Are you on our mailing list or our email list?

Send your address to: Musica da Camera, 6B Clisby Close, Cook, ACT 2614;
or email to: epshms@grapevine.com.au