



PO Box 84, Waikanae 5250

### **NEWSLETTER 1 – JANUARY 2022**

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# AMICI ENSEMBLE WITH JIAN LIU (PIANO)

# SUNDAY 13 FEBRUARY at 2:30pm WAIKANAE MEMORIAL HALL, PEHI KUPA ST, WAIKANAE



It is with very much pleasure that we welcome the Amici Ensemble for our opening concert in 2022, when they will be joined by renowned pianist Dr Jian Liu in a programme of three masterworks. The Amici Ensemble was formed in 1988 and is led by NZSO Associate Concertmaster Donald Armstrong. The performers are mostly principal players with the NZ Symphony Orchestra and leading chamber musicians on the New Zealand music scene. The Ensemble has performed in many

venues in New Zealand and established a special relationship with many of their audiences. In some venues they are invited back every year and they are long standing friends of the Waikanae Music Society. Audiences enjoy varied and innovative programmes with music introduced and presented in a lively and personable manner.

They are committed to performing works of all periods for differing combinations of instruments from the very small to the very large. During their years together they have performed most of the works for large chamber ensemble including acclaimed performances of Schubert's Octet, Beethoven's Septet, Brahms's Sextets and Mendelssohn's Octet. They have premiered many new works, recently including works by Jack Body, Kenneth Young and Anthony Ritchie. They record for Radio New Zealand regularly and have performed some of the new works on CD, the most recent being "Octopus" by Anthony Ritchie.

Haydn	Piano Trio No. 39 in G major, Hob. XV/25 "Gypsy"
Shostakovich	Piano Quintet in G Minor, Opus 57
Brahms	String Sextet No. 1 in Bb major, Opus 18

We are very excited to have the Ensemble and the wonderful Dr Jian Liu with us and know our audience is in for a thrilling afternoon of music:

### THE PERFORMERS

**DONALD ARMSTRONG** took up the post of Associate Concertmaster with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra in 1987 and has been Music Director of the New Zealand Chamber Orchestra. He had previously completed a Master's degree at New England Conservatory in Boston, was principal second violin of the Tivolis Symfoniorkester in Denmark and Concertmaster of the Orchestre Philharmonique de Nice in France. He plays a violin by Nicolo Gagliano of 1754.

MALAVIKA GOPAL, originally from Wellington, completed her Bachelor's degree at the University of Auckland. In 2005 she moved to Boston to study at the New England Conservatory. She was a founding member of the Excelsa Quartet, and they were invited to Europe to study with the world-renowned Alban Berg Quartet. In 2012, after a number of successes with the quartet in competitions all over Europe, Malavika left the group and joined the famed Gewandhaus Orchestra in Leipzig, Germany. Malavika has appeared as a soloist with the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra, Auckland Philharmonia and University Orchestra, Wellington Youth Orchestra and New England Conservatory Chamber Orchestra.

ALEXANDER McFARLANE, viola (Auckland, New Zealand) was recently appointed Associate Principal Viola of the NZ Symphony Orchestra. He has given solo and chamber music performances at Wigmore Hall and Barbican Hall, among many other overseas venues, won the 2018 Lorna Viol Memorial Prize and ROSL Trophy for the most Outstanding Musician from Overseas at the ROSL Annual Music Competition. He has performed as Principal Viola with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra and Co-Principal Viola with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and has toured with the Australian Chamber Orchestra.

**ANDREW THOMSON** became the NZSO's Principal Second Violin in 2000 and its youngest section principal. He performs regularly with Stroma and plays the viola for the Felix Quartet.

Before joining the NZSO as principal cello in September 2010, **ANDREW JOYCE** worked regularly with the London Symphony & London Philharmonic Orchestras, touring and performing in the world's great concert halls. He also played as Guest Principal with Northern Sinfonia, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. Andrew co-founded the Puertas Quartet who have performed in both the UK and New Zealand to great critical acclaim, and recorded two CDs for Atoll Records.

British cellist, **KEN ICHINOSE**, is a graduate of the Royal Academy of Music in London and cofounder of the Galitzin String Quartet for major tours in the UK, Germany, Holland, Portugal and France. Before joining the NZSO as Associate Principal in 2014, Ken enjoyed 10 years freelancing with London orchestras including the Philharmonia, Academy of Saint Martin in the Fields, and the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. Ken plays on a Lorenzo Carcassicello, made in Florence, 1747.

**Dr. JIAN LIU** is an internationally celebrated concert pianist, chamber musician, and educator, born in China and educated in China and the USA. His artistry has taken him to some of the world's most prestigious concert halls, including Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Centre and he has recorded many CDs. Dr. Liu is currently the Programme Director of Classical Performance and Head of Piano Studies at the New Zealand School of Music. He holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from Yale School of Music, where he was a student and assistant of Professor Claude Frank.

### **CONCERT ARRANGEMENTS**

Our concerts are open to everyone, but if we must impose limits then we will give preference to members.

**To buy a new membership or season ticket,** please send the membership application form from the 2022 season brochure or the website. You may pay by direct bank credit or by credit card.

**To renew your 2021 membership or season ticket(s)**, simply make payment by direct credit to 02 0591 0018930 00 and specify your name and membership number as the reference. You do not need to return the form. Alternatively, phone Paul Dunmore (Membership Secretary) at 021 251 7030 with your credit card number. We can handle a small number of renewals at the first concert, but please renew in advance if at all possible.

Season ticket holders pay \$200 per person (or \$180 if renewing a 2021 season ticket) and get membership of the society plus admission to the eight scheduled concerts. Just show your season ticket at the concert door. We expect to be able to offer a ninth concert in April, and season ticket holders will be able to buy tickets at the member price. A block of seats is reserved for season ticket holders until 2:15pm at each concert.

Tickets for individual concerts cost \$40 for non-members, \$30 for members, and \$5 for students aged up to 25. Tickets are sold by New World (Waikanae) and Moby Dickens (Paraparaumu Beach) for cash; by direct credit to 02 0591 0018930 00 (specify your name and phone number as the reference) for collection at the concert; by phoning 021 251 7030 with your credit card number; or at the concert door (cash, EFTPOS or credit card). Because we have a limited number of volunteers to manage door sales, it helps us if you use one of the pre-purchase facilities.

**The doors open at 1:45pm**, and seating for season ticket holders is protected until 2:15pm. The concert starts at 2:30pm. Latecomers may not be admitted until a suitable break in the performance.

### **COVID**

We will comply with legal requirements at the time of each concert. At present, we cannot run concerts unless we comply with vaccine pass requirements imposed by KCDC and Chamber Music NZ, and as mandated by government regulations. That means that everyone over 12 must present a valid vaccine pass (and we must verify a "reasonable proportion" of them, so please do not cause problems by attending with an invalid pass). Face masks are encouraged but not required. However, the requirements may change at short notice. We will notify you of any changes if we can, but that may not be feasible if you have not given us an email address.

# CONCERT NOTES: OUR OWN MUSIC PROGRAMME on COAST ACCESS RADIO 104.7FM

Concert Notes this month, on Tuesday 25 January at 6:00pm and on Thursday 27 January at 11:30am will focus on the Amici Ensemble concert with a selection of Haydn, Shostakovich and Brahms, also music for string sextet.

To replay this programme, go to our website <a href="https://www.waikanaemusic.org.nz">https://www.waikanaemusic.org.nz</a> and click on the Concert Notes link on the front page. If you have music you would like to hear on Concert Notes, email concertmanager@waikanaemusic.org.nz

# FOLLOWING CONCERT: Sunday 27 March TOKOWHĀ

Be prepared to be delighted and entertained by four talented young men who will share with us their love of singing, accompanied by pianist Alex Jefferies. They will perform vocal pieces by Mozart, Offenbach, Bizet and Tchaikovsky as well as Schubert lieder, Gilbert and Sullivan and beautiful Pasifika songs, all with a good dose of fun and humour.

## **FAREWELL TO GERMANA**

It is with great sadness that we have said farewell to our President Germana Nicklin. Germana joined the committee in 1994 and in 1995 became Secretary and Newsletter Editor. She was awarded a Life Membership for her contribution to the society in 2009, in 2014 was elected Vice-President and a year later became President. Over the years Germana has had an immense impact on the way the Society is run and she leaves a huge and lasting legacy of which she can be very proud. All this has been achieved with patience, grace and good humour. Recently she has lived in Wellington, entailing much travel to Waikanae, and held a demanding job. Germana will be much missed by committee and members, but we hope to see her often in the future at our concerts.



Outgoing President Germana Nicklin (left) with Concert Manager Wendy van Delden.

# CONGRATULATIONS TO WENDY VAN DELDEN

At our AGM in November, our Concert Manager was congratulated on completing 40 years as Concert manager for WMS and presented with a citation and gift.

Wendy has been a quietly confident and efficient Concert Manager with music knowledge surpassed by few in our organisation. She has fostered excellent rapport with all the artists she deals with, be they students performing at our student concerts or experts like Donald Armstrong and Michael Houstoun, both of whom admire Wendy's ability, knowledge and skills. She goes above and beyond in assisting our touring artists, with advice on travel, accommodation and places to eat whatever their tastes. All is accomplished with discretion and diplomacy.

### **Arnold Solomons**

It is with great sadness that we record the passing of Arnold on 4 January aged 91. A former pharmacist, businessman and director on a variety of business and charitable boards, Arnold served as trustee on the Mary Potter Hospice Board of Trustees and a former Board Chair, President and life member of Chamber Music New Zealand. Music has been extremely important to Arnold and his wife Reka. "Music has been our life. Chamber Music is our passion," Arnold has said. Arnold's contribution to the Waikanae Music Society has been immense, as committee member, vice-President, life member, and most importantly as the founder, trustee and Patron of the Waikanae Music Society Charitable Trust for Young Musicians, enabling dozens of young musicians to further their careers.