



NEWSLETTER 8 – OCTOBER 2023

President: Kathy Hutchison: (021) 2989944

Concert Manager: Wendy van Delden (04) 905 6070

Membership & Treasurer: Paul Dunmore (022) 345 5316

Website: <https://www.waikanaemusic.org.nz>

Vice-President: Carol Dyer (027) 2579969

Secretary: Diane Welch: (06) 368 9751

Newsletter Editor: Roscoe Turner (04) 298 9908

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/WaikanaeMusicSociety>

**NEW ZEALAND STRING QUARTET WITH DIEDRE IRONS
SUNDAY 8 OCTOBER at 2:30pm**

WAIKANAЕ MEMORIAL HALL, PEHI ST, WAIKANAЕ

PLEASE NOTE OUR RETURN TO NORMAL VENUE



Helene Pohl (violin I), Monique Lapins (violin II), Rolf Gjelsten (cello), Gillian Ansell (viola)

Founded in 1987, the New Zealand String Quartet exists to provide transformational chamber music experiences for all New Zealanders. Over the past 36 years the Quartet has established an international reputation for its insightful interpretations, compelling communication, and dynamic performing style, and enjoy collaborating with other musicians including the popular pianist Diedre Irons. The NZSQ provides high-quality musical experiences for all New Zealanders embracing the fresh and familiar. The Quartet's rich repertoire includes a wide variety of New Zealand music, composers' cycles from Beethoven to Bartok, Mozart to Berg, and theatrical presentations encompassing spoken word and dance, from Haydn's Seven Last Words to Schoenberg's Transfigured Night. The NZSQ takes a leadership and advocacy role in advancing music education. Devoted teachers and mentors, all members of the Quartet teach at the New Zealand School of Music where the NZSQ has been Quartet-in-Residence since 1991, as well as running the Adam Chamber Music School in Nelson. In 2023, Helene, Monique, Gillian, and Rolf surpassed 100 years of collective service to music in New Zealand.

THE PERFORMERS

Gillian Ansell. Born in Auckland, Gillian made her concerto debut as a violinist with the Auckland Philharmonia at the age of 16. At 19, an Associated Board Scholarship took her to the Royal College of Music in London for three years to study violin, viola and piano. She then won a German Academic Exchange (DAAD) scholarship for further study in Germany at the Musikhochschule Cologne with Igor Ozim and the Amadeus Quartet. After working professionally in London she returned to New Zealand to become a founding member of the New Zealand String Quartet in 1987. She was second violinist for two years before taking up the position of violist of the group.

In 2008 she was made a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit (MNZM) for her outstanding services to music in New Zealand.

Monique Lapins began her violin studies at the age of six with the Suzuki method and continued her studies at the Australian National Academy of Music and at Singapore's Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music. She was a finalist twice in the Asia Pacific Chamber Music Competition and has performed in festivals throughout France, the Czech Republic, Holland, Japan, Hong Kong, Australia and at the Open Chamber Music Seminars in Prussia Cove directed by world-renowned cellist, Steven Isserlis. Monique has toured extensively in collaboration with the Australian Chamber Orchestra Collective, the Melbourne Chamber Orchestra and the Singapore Symphony Orchestra. Monique joined the NZSQ in May 2016.

Rolf Gjelsten began cello studies in his native city Victoria, Canada, with James Hunter and Janos Starker at the age of 15. At 22 he became the youngest member of the Berlin Symphony Orchestra. Rolf returned to North America to study with Zara Nelsova which led to further study with the members of the La Salle, Hungarian, Vermeer, Cleveland and Emerson string quartets. Rolf furthered his studies from 1990 with the great Pablo Casals protégé and Beaux Arts Trio cellist Bernhard Greenhouse at Rutgers University, where he received his doctoral degree in cello. Rolf joined the New Zealand String Quartet in May 1994 and in 2014 he was made a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit (MNZM) for his outstanding services to music in New Zealand.

Helene Pohl

Born in Ithaca, New York to German parents, Helene Pohl spent her childhood on both sides of the Atlantic. At 17 she began tertiary study at the Musikhochschule Cologne. She continued her studies with members of the Cleveland Quartet at the Eastman School of Music and at Indiana University. As first violinist of the San Francisco based Fidelio String Quartet (1988-1993), Helene performed extensively in the USA, Germany, England, Italy and South America. She joined the New Zealand String Quartet as first violinist in February 1994. In 2001 she became Artistic Director, with fellow quartet member Gillian Ansell, of the Adam Chamber Music Festival. In 2014 she was made a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit (MNZM) for her outstanding services to music in New Zealand.

PROGRAMME

Haydn	String Quartet, Opus 76 No. 3 ("Emperor")
Shostakovich	String Quartet No 5 in B Flat
Amy Beach	Quintet for Strings and Piano



We are very pleased to welcome Diedre Irons back to our stage. Diedre is one of New Zealand's most distinguished performing musicians. After receiving qualifications from the Royal Conservatory of Toronto, and the University of Manitoba, Canadian-born Irons took a Diploma in Performance from the Curtis Institute of Music, Philadelphia, under Rudolf Serkin and Mieczyslaw Horzowski. She taught at Canterbury University from 1992 until 2003 and continues her association with the New Zealand String Quartet since that time when she appeared as their guest pianist.

ARGYLE TRIO - SEPTEMBER CONCERT



Argyle Trio with WMS committee members.

From left: Laurence Matheson, Roscoe Turner, Wilma Smith, Wendy van Delden, Gendy Stevenson, Matthias Balzat, Carol Dyer.

Photo: Wilma Smith

What a sensational treat we enjoyed at our September concert. Wilma Smith had gathered spectacular pianist Laurence Matheson and cellist Matthias Balzat around her to play for us a marvellous programme of early Beethoven and two outstanding Slavonic works. The Smetana trio was thrilling in its intensity and amazed us with both the volume of beautiful sound that could be made by only three instruments, and the soft yearning Slavonic melodies so admired in the music of Dvořák and Smetana. The excitement of the first movement of the Smetana trio was so strong that the audience were unable to suppress loud applause after only the first movement, an experience not often heard at our concerts. The Dvořák trio was apparently relatively new to the Argyle ensemble members but once again the raw intensity and emotion of this composer's works, typified by the popular Slavonic Dances "New World" symphony, was most movingly performed. It seems quite sad that our concert was the last scheduled for these three excellent musicians together but we certainly hope they will be able to regroup sometime in the future and play for us again.

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

The September programme will feature music of Haydn, Shostakovich, Amy Beach and Elgar composers.

Programme broadcast on Tuesday 24 September at 6pm and Thursday 26 September at 11.30am. To replay this programme, go to our website <https://www.waikanaemusic.org.nz> 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

CONCERT ARRANGEMENTS

Tickets cost \$40 for non-members, \$30 for members, and \$5 for students aged up to 25. Buy in advance from New World (Waikanae) or Moby Dickens (Paraparaumu Beach) for cash; by direct credit to 02 0591 0018930 00 (use your name and phone number as the reference) or phone 022 345 5316 (credit card).

The doors open at 1:45pm. The concert starts at 2:30pm. Latecomers may not be admitted until a suitable break in the performance.

Photography and sound recording of our concerts are strictly forbidden.

Large print programmes are available. Please ask at the concert door.

Mobile Phones must be switched to mute or turned off entirely before the concert begins.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2023 AGM will be held on Sunday 12 November at 1.00 pm in the Small Hall of the Waikanae Memorial Hall. Come along and hear how the Society performed this year, and be the first to learn about the programme for 2024.



AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Confirmation of Minutes of AGM 13.11.2022
3. Matters Arising
4. President's Report
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Appointment of Reviewer
7. Election of Officers
8. Announcement of 2024 Concert Season
9. Announcement of 2023 Young Musicians Trust award winners
10. General Business

At the AGM we will be electing committee members for 2024. A number of current members will be retiring this year and in any case we need more people for the committee. In order to continue to bring top class musicians to the Kapiti Coast we must have more volunteers to enable our concerts to flourish. After our last concert the artists were very complimentary about our society and its work and wished there were more societies such as ours in the country. Musicians want to play for us but we must have more volunteers to make it happen. So please step up and help us bring top class music to Kapiti- **YOUR COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU.**

WAIKANAЕ MEMORIAL HALL

We expect to be back in the hall for our concert on Sunday 8 October. In the unlikely event the hall is not ready for use by 8 October, we may be forced at short notice to reschedule or cancel. If that happens, members will be warned by email (or by phone if we do not have an email address for them).

STUDENT MUSICIANS CONCERT: Sunday 12 November at 2.30 pm

Come along to the AGM and then enjoy local students showcasing their talents on stage. Support the next generation of musicians and future audience members. You will be delighted at the very high standard of musicianship.

Our thanks go to Kathy Hutchison and Wendy van Delden for their organisation of the event.