

# September 2017 Newsletter of the



BLUE MOUNTAINS

## Management Office Bearers

President: Elizabeth Cooney

Treasurer: Frank Kosztelnik

Secretary: Colin Semmler

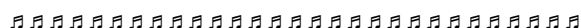
## Friends Office Bearers

Chairperson: Colin Semmler (47825765)

Secretary: Joan Gahl (47843286)

[www.orpheusstrings.org](http://www.orpheusstrings.org)

The Orpheus Strings Orchestra performs at the  
*Pat Heffernan Hall* of Katoomba Public School, Merriwa Street, Katoomba.



## PROGRAMME FOR ORPHEUS STRINGS ORCHESTRA CONCERT

SUNDAY 17th SEPTEMBER at 3:00pm

### Student Concert

**Our concerts featuring Blue Mountains music students have become an annual highlight for Orpheus audiences. This year continues to showcase remarkable talent.**

**Charles WILLIAMS** (1893-1978): English-born, Charles Williams composed the theme music for over fifty films. His enduring composition is **The Dream of Olwen**, written as the theme for the 1947 film, *While I Live*. The version to be performed is for piano and strings, arranged by English musician and conductor, Henry Geehl (1881-1961). The pianist will be Kate Verhoeven.

**Heinrich BÄRMANN** (aka Baermann) (1784-1847): Bärmann was a German virtuoso clarinetist who also composed for the instrument. He influenced several important composers and had the likes of Mendelssohn, Meyerbeer and Weber write clarinet music specifically for him and his son. His **Septet in Eb Opus 23** is one of his most well known pieces. The Adagio movement is often performed as a stand-alone piece, as is the case in our concert, and is a standard in the clarinet repertoire. The composition dates from 1821 but was not published until 1926, when it was falsely attributed to Richard Wagner, an error not officially rectified until 1964. The clarinetist is Miya Chesterman.

**Pietro LOCATELLI** (1695-1764): Locatelli was a child prodigy who studied in Rome before touring other European countries while still in his teen years. It is believed his teacher was Arcangelo Corelli. His early compositions certainly show Corelli influences. He composed his twelve concerto grossi in Rome in 1721. His **Concerto Grosso No 1 Opus 6** is for string orchestra with four soloists and is in four movements; slow, fast, slow, fast. It was first performed by JS Bach's orchestra in 1721. The first movement is a strong Adagio, with the four soloists emerging from the sounds of the orchestra. The violin soloists will be Emily Ampt and Morghan Broadbent; viola soloist Miriam Cooney and Marilyn Shields (not a student), cello.

**Tomaso ALBINONI** (1671-1751): Composed c1721, the **Oboe Concerto Opus 9 No 2** is one of Albinoni's 59 concertos and one of his best known works. The slow movement is often performed individually, which is the case in our concert. Albinoni wrote for the oboe in the same style that he used for operatic arias. He possessed a remarkable gift for melody and was in great demand as a composer, resulting in his composition of eighty operas. His Opus 9 oboe concertos were the first in the world to be published, enabling them to become universally popular. The famous Adagio opens with repeated chords in the lower strings while the violins provide a harp-like accompaniment to the oboe which soars above. Miriam Cooney will perform as oboe soloist, this being her 4<sup>th</sup> solo appearance at our annual student concert.

**Carl STAMITZ** (1746-1801): A contemporary of Mozart and Haydn, Stamitz was a prolific composer who wrote fifty symphonies and three cello concertos. His **Cello Concerto No 1 in G-major** is nowadays one of his most frequently performed compositions. Originally probably written as background music, this work is

a beautifully crafted, charming work with singing solo lines for the cello. About 7 years ago, a young Jeremy Spikmans attended an Orpheus concert with his mother, Naomi. Pointing to a cello, he asked mother what it was. Jeremy is now 10 years old and will appear as the cello soloist, playing the first movement.

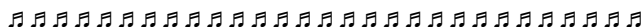
**Richard CHARLTON** (1955): Richard Charlton is a leading Australian guitarist, composer and conductor. His latest composition for guitar ensemble was performed at the Hamburg International Guitar Festival in 2016. Orpheus performed one of his trombone concertos with Volker Schoeler in 2007. This time we will present **Concertino for trombone and strings**. This is a short, loud and lively piece, originally composed for trombone and piano in 1983. The soloist will be Joey Jones-Romeo.

**George Frederick HANDEL** (1685-1759): The **Water Music** was composed in 1717 for King George I, who commanded a concert on the Thames, apparently to demonstrate to his son, Prince George, that he still had the ability to provide splendour. The music is in three sections, each with several movements and was played over 4 consecutive hours by fifty musicians on a barge.

When Prince George became King George II, he commissioned Handel to compose the **Royal Fireworks Music** to celebrate the signing of the 1749 Aix-la-Chapelle Treaty. The King insisted the composition be for wind and percussion instruments. Handel requested permission to add strings, but the duke managing the event insisted that the king's command be obeyed. Ours is a string arrangement, but Miriam Cooney will play her oboe to keep the king happy. Over 12 000 people paid 2 shillings and 6 pence to attend the music rehearsal. This caused a 3-hour traffic jam over London Bridge. At the actual performance, the rain spoiled the fireworks and the pavilion caught fire but the music was, apparently, wonderful.

As a grand concert finale, the orchestra will play excerpts from both works, ending with well known *La Rejoissance* from *Fireworks*. The orchestra will be joined by several string students who will play the parts usually played by other instruments.

*Colin Semmler and Julie Cooney*



#### PRIZES

The Exotic Winter Hamper raffled at the June concert was won by Ian Evans. Thank you to Gino Baudo for assembling the hamper. The September concert prize will be the annual complimentary concert tickets from the Sydney Symphony Orchestra.



#### 2017 CONCERT DATES

Orchestra: September 17<sup>th</sup>, November 26<sup>th</sup>.

BMDAM Hospital Variety Concert: Sunday November 5th