

Thursday 5 December

Ensemble East

We continue the Viennese theme with our familiar friends Ensemble East led by Yid-Ee Goh. They present Beethoven's Serenade for flute, violin and viola with flautist Melody Lin, and then the ensemble is joined by pianist Lisa Chou for Schubert's entrancing Trout Quintet. Written in 1819, when Schubert was just 22 years old, this quintet is one of the crowning achievements of 19th century chamber music.



Thursday 12 December

Donald Nicholls and Marie Ross (Clarinets) Rachel Fuller (piano)

This talented trio of performers explore the history of the clarinet starting with music by Telemann, Vivaldi and Anton Stadler (Mozart's great friend, for whom he wrote his outstanding clarinet works). Along the way the trio include pieces by Donizetti, Spohr, Grovlez and finally the serene *Nachtgesang* by Bruch.



Thursdays @ Seven

As summer comes in we can't help but be gladdened by the variety of amazing concerts on offer in our Spring Series of Thursdays @ Seven. What could be better than to open with a piano recital by one of NZ's outstanding pianists, Stephen De Pledge, recently heard playing piano concertos with the NZSO? The following weeks showcase piano duets, ensembles, a brilliant baritone, piano soloist and duo clarinets. Every week will bring fresh delights.

Katharine & Peter Watts

Concert Coordinators



*All Saints' Anglican Church,
Howick, Auckland*

You can always check on the concerts on our website www.wattsandwatts.co.nz and follow the link to Thursdays @ Seven or Events Diary. Or you can "like" us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/thursdaysatseven/> and see regular updates about our concerts.

Eight informal one-hour concerts on
Thursday evenings 7-8pm at
All Saints Church, Howick.



Spring Concert Series

2024

**Series Commences
Thursday 24 October**

ENTRY BY DONATION

Your generous support enables us
to engage artists of high quality

Thursday 24 October

Stephen De Pledge (piano)

Stephen is one of NZ's foremost pianists, well-known for his prowess as a chamber musician, recording artist and concerto soloist. We are so fortunate that he has so generously agreed to play for us in Howick. His wide repertoire for this recital ranges from the well-known *Jesu Joy of man's desiring* as arranged by Dame Myra Hess, to works by Chopin, Debussy, Rachmaninoff and concluding with his own improvisation on De Falla's *Ritual Fire Dance*. What a wonderful curtain raiser for our Spring Series!



Thursday 7 November

Paul Mitchell (cello) and Richard Mapp (piano)

Sonatas for cello and piano by Beethoven and Prokofiev feature in this recital. After study in Auckland, Paul won a scholarship to the Royal College of Music. Back in NZ he has a busy performing career. Richard made his debut in Christchurch aged 10. He studied with Maurice Till before heading to the Royal Academy of Music where he later taught. He was head of piano at the Massey Conservatorium for ten years.



Thursday 21 November

James Harrison (baritone) and Yun-Pai Hsu (piano)

After establishing his career in the UK, James returned to NZ where he has a varied life as singer, teacher and vocal coach for numerous choirs. He has recently been heard as Count Monterone in NZ Opera's production of *Rigoletto*. Now he turns to the more intimate art form of the song recital for this evening of German Lieder and English Art Songs, with pianist Yun-Pai Hsu.



Thursday 31 October

Duo Enharmonics (piano duet)

New Zealand classical piano team Duo Enharmonics is energising classical music through their emotionally thrilling programme 'Jewel'. Celebrating their sixth anniversary, the Duo is touring the country with an exciting programme showcasing some of the best pieces for piano four hands. Composers include Sergei Rachmaninoff, Johann Strauss and John Psathas.



Thursday 14 November

Jade String Quartet

We welcome the return of the immensely popular Jade String Quartet all of whom are members of Auckland Philharmonia. The Quartet are committed to the performance of great music written by the best and newest of composers here in New Zealand as well as masterpieces from around the world. They demonstrate this with performances of NZ composer Anthony Ritchie's String Quartet No. 3, and Czech composer Bedrich Smetana's String Quartet No. *From my life*.



Thursday 28 November

Lawrence Wong (piano)

Tonight we enjoy a visit to Vienna guided by two of its greatest musical exponents, Mozart and Beethoven. Pianist Lawrence Wong plays three sonatas by Mozart and Beethoven's exquisite Sonata in A flat, Op 110. After completing advanced music qualifications, Lawrence has more recently completed a Master of Science in Chemistry to add to his wide range of achievements.

