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Symphonic Dances

Featuring **Dalia Stasevska**, a conductor bursting with musical knowledge and energy

John Adams The Chairman Dances
from *Nixon in China*
Ravel Piano Concerto in G
Rachmaninov Symphonic Dances

Dalia Stasevska Conductor
Louis Lortie Piano

August
Fri 16, 8pm
Sat 17, 6.30pm
Adelaide Town Hall



Zukerman & ASO Friends at UKARIA

June
Sun 30
4pm

UKARIA Cultural Centre



PROGRAM

Ludwig van Beethoven 1770–1827
Violin Sonata in E flat major, Op.12 No.3

Allegro con spirito
Adagio con molt’ espressione
Rondo: Allegro molto

Natsuko Yoshimoto Violin
Lucinda Collins Piano

Luigi Boccherini 1743–1805
String Quintet in C, G.378

Andante con moto
Menuet and Trio
Grave
Rondo (Allegro con moto)

Pinchas Zukerman Violin
Cameron Hill Violin
Caleb Wright Viola
Amanda Forsyth Cello
Simon Cobcroft Cello

INTERVAL

Johannes Brahms 1833–1897
String Sextet No.1 in B flat major, Op.18

Allegro ma non troppo
Andante ma moderato
Scherzo: Allegro molto
Rondo: poco allegretto e grazioso

Pinchas Zukerman Violin
Natsuko Yoshimoto Violin
Caleb Wright Viola
Sally Boud Viola
Amanda Forsyth Cello
Simon Cobcroft Cello

Duration
This concert will run for approximately
1 hour and 45 minutes, including a 20
minute interval.

PROGRAM NOTE

In 1798, Beethoven’s three Violin Sonatas Op.12 were attacked for their ‘forced attempt at strange modulations, an aversion to the conventional key relationships, a piling up of difficulty on difficulty’.

It is hard to imagine what the critic found so confronting. If anything the E flat major work is Mozartian in its first movement, giving the instruments equal weight: the piano’s part is ripplingly virtuosic right from the start, but the violin’s is not without it challenges. The slow movement’s theme is stated by the piano with the violin offering accompanying chords at first, but soon the string instrument is asked to sail over a low rhythmic pulse in the keyboard. The final rondo is full of classic Viennese sparkle.

Born in Lucca, Boccherini established himself as both cellist and composer in his 20s. He settled in Spain in 1770, engaged by the King’s brother Don Luis, who retained a full time string quartet. Boccherini composed about 150 quintets with two cellos, but in 1900, violinist Johann Lauterbach (1832–1918) felt there was always room for one more. Lauterbach took the first movement of Quintet in C, G.349, a Menuetto from Quintet in C minor, G.314 with a trio section taken from 3rd movement of Quintet in G minor, G.318; a slow movement from the Quintet in E flat, G.325 (1780). The finale is that of the Quintet in C, G.310 (1779), a rondo, with contrasting episodes between repeated statements of the main theme.

In 1857 Brahms got his first real job, in the north-German city of Detmold. The Prince and his court were not, as one writer puts it, ‘overburdened with the business of government’ and music played a huge role in daily life. Brahms’s remuneration was very generous, allowing him most of each year to concentrate on his compositions. The first sextet dates from this time. Brahms suffered performance anxiety when it came to the music of the past, especially in forms dominated by great composers, but the ‘giants’ of Viennese music had not written string sextets, so Brahms found this form easier to approach.

Brahms was lucky in his colleagues and friends notably Clara Wieck Schumann and violinist Joachim. He would often show sketches of his new works to these people and often took their advice on how things could be improved. It was Joachim, for instance, who suggested lengthening the opening section of this piece so we get two statements of the lovely first theme. The slow movement is a sombre set of variations of which Brahms made a piano version for Clara Schumann’s 41st birthday in 1860. The contrasting scherzo, or dance movement, is short and light-hearted before the energetic, but ‘gracious’, finale.

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Pinchas Zukerman
Violin

With a celebrated career encompassing five decades, Pinchas Zukerman reigns as one of today’s most sought after and versatile musicians - violin and viola soloist, conductor, and chamber musician.He is renowned as a virtuoso, admired for the expressive lyricism of his playing, singular beauty of tone, and impeccable musicianship, which can be heard throughout his discography of over 100 albums.

The 2018-2019 season marks Mr. Pinchas Zukerman’s tenth season as Principal Guest Conductor of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and his fourth as the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra’s Artist in Association and includes over 100 concerts worldwide. Highlights of the season include two European tours with the Royal Philharmonic and Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestras, and concerto appearances with the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra, Pittsburgh, Colorado, New World Symphonies and Gulbenkian Orchestra. Serving as both soloist and conductor, Mr. Zukerman leads the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, National Arts Centre Orchestra, Toronto and Indianapolis Symphony Orchestras. In chamber music, he travels with the Zukerman Trio and joins the Jerusalem Quartet as guest artist on tour in Chicago, Houston, Atlanta, Vancouver, Berkeley, CA and Ann Arbor, MI.

“You could have blindfolded an experienced listener, put him in a different room where he could scarcely hear the sounds, and he’d still recognize that liquid, Zukerman tone. There is no other like it....His sound is utterly imitable - as it has been for more than 30 years - from its intense sweetness on high to its throaty richness at the depths of the instrument....And the molten gold that streams from the instrument is completely breathtaking. Fabulous playing.”

- The Herald (Glasgow)



Amanda Forsyth
Cello

Principal cello of Canada’s National Arts Centre Orchestra from 1999 to 2015, Amanda Forsyth has established an international reputation as soloist and chamber musician.

She has toured with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and appeared with such orchestras as the Orchestre Radio de France, Lisbon’s Gulbenkian Orchestra, English Chamber Orchestra, Maggio Musicale Orchestra, Dallas Symphony, Moscow Virtuosi and Mariinsky Theater Orchestra.

In 2014 Ms. Forsyth was invited for her first homecoming tour of South Africa performing Malcolm Forsyth’s *Elektra Rising* among other repertoire. Recent concerts have included playing Victor Herbert’s Cello Concerto with the Israel Philharmonic conducted by Pinchas Zukerman, a cello ensemble concert with Mischa Maisky and others at the Miyazaki Festival, and the Brahms Double Concerto in Seoul with Pinchas Zukerman, the KBS Symphony Orchestra and Yoel Levi.

A founding member of the Zukerman Chamber Players, Amanda Forsyth has visited much of Europe and the Middle East. As cellist of the Zukerman Trio, she has performed throughout Europe, Asia, and the US including summer festivals in Edinburgh, Verbier, BBC Proms and Ravinia.

Recordings include Schubert’s Trout Quintet with the Zukerman Chamber Players and Yefim Bronfman, and Brahms’ Double Concerto with Pinchas Zukerman and the National Arts Centre Orchestra, Ottawa. In 2002 she was the subject of the *Bravo! Canada* television documentary *Amanda Rising: The Amanda Forsyth Story*. Amanda Forsyth moved to Canada from South Africa as a child. She became a protégé of William Pleeth in London, and later studied with Harvey Shapiro at the Juilliard School. She performs on a rare 1699 Italian cello by Carlo Giuseppe Testore.



Natsuko Yoshimoto
Violin

Born in Japan, Natsuko began playing the violin at the age of three. She studied at the Yehudi Menuhin School and Royal Northern College of Music in England and the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia. She received direct guidance and teaching under Lord Menuhin and Wen Zhou Li.

She has won many awards and prizes in international competitions including the Gold Medal in both the prestigious 1994 Shell/London Symphony Orchestra Competition and the Orchestra Ensemble Kanazawa Award and the Iwaki Award for outstanding achievement as a Japanese artist.

In great demand as a soloist, she has appeared with many world renowned orchestras including the London Symphony Orchestra, Philharmonia (London), Halle Orchestra, Odense Symphony (Denmark), Tokyo Symphony Orchestra, Tokyo Philharmonic, Orchestra Ensemble Kanazawa, Hong Kong Sinfonietta, Melbourne Symphony and Adelaide Symphony Orchestras.

Natsuko is currently the Concertmaster with the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra. She frequently guests as a Concertmaster with other major orchestras in Australia and Asia. She was the leader of the Australian String Quartet and then the Grainger Quartet until the end of 2008. She continues to perform chamber music as a guest artist with various groups and musicians.

Natsuko is also a passionate teacher and is a staff member at the Conservatorium of Music in Queensland and at the University of Queensland teaching violin and chamber music.

She has given many world premieres of works by Australia’s most prominent composers and has recorded for Virgin Classics, ABC Classics, Melba Records and Tall Poppies.

Natsuko plays on a Giovanni Battista Guadagnini generously on loan from UKARIA Trust.