

Manukau Symphony Orchestra presents

BOLERO



RAVEL Bolero

GERALD FINZI Eclogue for
Piano & Strings

NERUDA Concerto for Trumpet

WARWICK BLAIR (NZ) Tamāhine
from Whānau

JOHN RUTTER Suite Antique

TCHAIKOVSKY 1812 Overture

Ray Chan Conductor & Piano

Matthew Verrill Trumpet

Melody Lin Flute

7.30pm Saturday

9 March 2019

Vodafone Events
Centre





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Special Spirit

The Manukau Symphony Orchestra gratefully receives support from our funders. The generosity of individual donors and corporates enables the 'very special spirit' of the orchestra to continue.

As Auckland's only community, professional and youth orchestra, every donation ensures the continued growth and sustainability of our very unique orchestra. Become part of the orchestra's supporter family and experience activities and events throughout the year in recognition of your wonderful generosity.

Get in touch with Terry Spragg MNZM to discuss how your gift can help support the Manukau Symphony Orchestra.

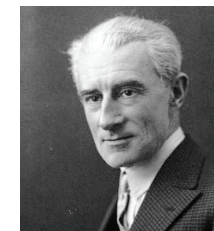


Terry Spragg MNZM
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PROGRAMME

MAURICE RAVEL (1875 – 1937)

We open our year with French composer, Maurice Ravel's *Bolero* - a world-wide sensation when it broke upon the musical scene in 1928. It was immediately taken up by musicians of all styles from classical to jazz and everything in between.



The opening 18 bar melody, in a restrained bolero rhythm, is repeated over and over in an unbroken *crescendo*. First we hear the rhythm alone, played by the snare drum, *pianissimo*, accompanied by the basses, *pizzicato* – this is retained throughout the piece. The flute then plays the melody, *pianissimo*, and the clarinet repeats it. The bassoon plays a variant followed by the Eb clarinet. As the work grows through *piano*, *mezzo-forte* to *forte* and *fortissimo*, we sway to the melody and rhythm with the oboe d'amore, trumpet, saxophones, horns, and strings as they each take over the intoxicating rhythms and melody. The work climaxes with a loud cry and falls to the ground.

ECLOGUE FOR PIANO AND STRINGS GERALD FINZI (1901 – 1956) PIANO SOLOIST: RAY CHAN

Andante Semplice

Finzi's original idea was to write a grand Piano Concerto, but he never got round to finishing it. This movement is based on a form of poetry which was meant to be a conversation between shepherds. Later, probably knowing that the other movements were not likely to be written, Finzi reworked the *Eclogue* so that it could be played on its own. Even then it did not see the light of day until the composer was dead and buried.



It has been described as 'Tender, rapt and bittersweet harmonies' 'Such painful beauty!' 'Imagine what Finzi would have written had he lived to an older age!'

CONCERTO IN Eb FOR TRUMPET JOHANN BAPTIST GEORG NERUDA (1708 -1780) TRUMPET SOLOIST: MATTHEW VERRILL

Allegro - Largo - Vivace

Neruda was born in Bohemia, now part of the Czech Republic, to a well-respected musical family. After spending his earlier years gaining a good reputation as a violinist and conductor in

Prague and Germany, he became Concertmaster of the Dresden court orchestra. His *Concerto in Eb for Trumpet and Strings* is one of his most significant works. He wrote 18 symphonies, 14 instrumental concertos, sonatas, sacred works and one opera.

We welcome Manukau Symphony's Principal Trumpet musician, Matthew Verrill, to perform this concerto with the orchestra.

INTERVAL

ANTIQUÉ SUITE FOR FLUTE, HARPISCHORD & STRINGS

JOHN MILFORD RUTTER (1945 -)

FLUTE SOLOIST: MELODY LIN

Prelude (Moderato con moto tranquillo), Ostinato (Vivace), Aria (Andante), Waltz, Chanson – (Andante espressivo ma con moto), Rondo (Vivace)



In 1978, Rutter was commissioned to compose an instrumental piece for a music festival in Berkshire. He was inspired by the presence of Bach's Fifth Brandenburg Concerto on the concert programme, and chose to pay homage to Bach's musical forces in his work, as well as the forms and styles of Bach's day. Its forms and styles pay loose, and perhaps winking, homage to a variety of early dances and lyric styles.

We welcome Manukau Symphony's Principal Flute musician, Melody Lin, as soloist in this work, and Kay Shacklock performing on harpsichord.

TAMAHINE FROM WHANAU

WARWICK BLAIR (NZ)

Tamahine (daughter) is a movement from a larger work entitled *Whanau (family)* by Auckland composer Warwick Blair. It is based on members of his immediate family: father, daughter and lover. Each member is represented by an unaltered field recording (electronic), that best sums up their environment, and that they themselves have chosen – in the case of the *tamahine*, checkout beeps. The orchestra's musicians respond to the field recording, by performing their music over the top. The role of the performer, simply becomes as a 'shadow' to the electronics.

MSO is delighted to give the premiere performance of Warwick's *Tamahine*. We have enjoyed rehearsing this work with the composer and look forward to presenting this to you this evening.

1812 OVERTURE

PYOTR ILYICH TCHAIKOVSKY (1840 – 1893)



The *1812 Overture* was composed by Tchaikovsky in 1880 to commemorate the successful Russian defence against Napoleon's invading Grande Armée in 1812. The work debuted in Moscow in 1882 conducted by Ippolit Al'tani and Tchaikovsky himself conducted another performance at the dedication of Carnegie Hall in New York City. The overture is best known for its climactic volley of cannon fire – played this evening by MSO percussion musicians – tingling chimes and brass fanfare *finale*.

The piece opens quietly with a traditional Russian Orthodox hymn, a prayer for peace. After a Russian folk-dance asserts national pride, the *Marseillaise* – the French National anthem – signals Napoleon's invasion. Five cannon shots are fired in the Battle of Borodino, a turning point in the war. The French are driven from the field, and the opening chant returns triumphantly, this time with full orchestra and cathedral bells.

RAY CHAN

Born in Hong Kong and raised in New Zealand, Ray Chan was the First Prize winner of the 2012 Graz International Conductor's MasterCourse Competition in Austria. He graduated with Distinction from the Royal Academy of Music as the Henry Wood Scholar in Conducting under Sian Edwards in 2016, and was appointed Conducting Fellow of the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra for the 2016/2017 season serving as Assistant Conductor to Music Director Giordano Bellincampi. Chan's collaborations have seen him work with the New Zealand and Tasmanian Symphony Orchestras, English National Opera, Royal Academy of Music Symphony Orchestra (RAMSO), Berlin Echo Ensemble, Orchestra of the Music Makers, and New Mozart Orchestra – the latter with whom he served as Assistant Conductor for the 2015/2016 season. Equally at home on both the symphonic stage and in the operatic pit, Chan has directed and assisted in productions including *La Traviata*, *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Don Giovanni*, and Walton's *The Bear*. The Manukau Symphony Orchestra is delighted to welcome Ray back to conduct this our first programme for the 2019 year and to perform as soloist in *Eclogue for Piano and Strings* by Gerald Finzi.



MATTHEW VERRILL: TRUMPET

Matthew became interested in music when he joined the Papakura Brass Band. He went on to study trumpet with Norman McFarlane and composition with John Elmsly and Eve de Castro Robinson at the University of Auckland. While studying at Auckland, Matthew was a member of the National Youth Brass Band and the National Youth Orchestra.



In 2001 Matthew took up a place at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester, studying

with John MacMurray of the Hallé Orchestra. Since returning to NZ, he has worked as free-lance musician with the Auckland Philharmonia, Auckland Chamber orchestra, Auckland Jazz Orchestra, Petula Clark, John Dankworth and Cleo Laine, Matecito Latin Band, Kantuta, and in professional theatre. Matthew has been a member of the MSO since 2003 and its Principal Trumpet player for over 10 years.

MELODY LIN: FLUTE

Dr Melody Lin has been the Principal Flute of the Manukau Symphony Orchestra for more than 10 years and regularly performs with the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra, the Auckland Chamber Orchestra, Pipers Sinfonia and she has joined the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra on national tours. Melody has also been invited as guest principal flautist with the Opus Orchestra and St. Mathew's Chamber Orchestra. As a concerto soloist, Melody has performed with the East-West Philharmonic Orchestra (Sydney), both the University of Auckland Chamber and Symphony Orchestras, and featured in two concerto appearances with the Manukau Symphony Orchestra, including the première of Robin Toan's Concertino, and Vivaldi's Piccolo Concerto. Melody enjoys a versatile career as a flutist and teacher and is an active chamber musician working with many national and international artists. She has performed in the USA, Australia, New Zealand and Taiwan and is a member of the Aotea Flute Quartet.



A native of Taiwan, Melody moved to Australia with her family in the late 90's. She graduated from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music with a Bachelor of Music (Performance) and furthered her studies at the University of Auckland with Emeritus Professor Uwe Grodd, gaining a Master of Music with First Class Honours in 2007 and a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in 2011.

WARWICK BLAIR: COMPOSER

Warwick Blair has achieved a reputation as one of the most eminent composers New Zealand has produced in years. Having studied under Louis Andriessen and Iannis Xenakis, Blair's music fuses classical and indigenous traditions with electronics in a minimalistic soundscape. His performances have become his personal explorations of a musical palette that draws on various seemingly opposing genres or styles, creating a compelling and challenging soundscape.



Blair presents live performances in the UK alongside his Warwick Blair Ensemble (WBE) featuring global and UK musicians. In 2019 Blair is due to perform at the Swiss Church, Covent Garden, London, following a 2018 residency at Iklectik, and a 2016 residency at Kingston University.

Join the orchestra for mix and mingle after the concert

Mix and mingle with conductor, soloist and musicians.

Wine/non-alcoholic beverages will be served in the Theatre foyer.

A donation of \$10 is appreciated.

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Manukau Symphony Orchestra

Manukau Symphony Orchestra (MSO) is a community orchestra based in South Auckland. The orchestra presents four varied concerts annually to patrons from across Auckland at the Vodafone Events Centre. Established in 1993 with active support from the Manukau City Council and the Manukau community, the MSO is 26 years of age this year. Professor Uwe Grodd has been the orchestra's Music Director since its foundation. Two orchestras - the Howick Orchestra and the Howick-Pakuranga Youth Orchestra - were forerunners to the Manukau Symphony Orchestra.



Manukau Orchestral Society



The orchestra, in addition to performances at the Vodafone Events Centre, supports NZ soloists, brings international soloists to the community of South Auckland, offers scholarships to talented youth players and provides opportunity for professional players to mentor youth and community musicians. It also frequently commissions new works from NZ composers, proudly premiering them right in the heart of Manukau.

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Jennifer Hsu
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MANUKAU SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA MUSICIANS

1st Violins

Yid-Ee Goh **
 Robyn Finlay
 Kevin Guan
 Michael Luo
 Emma Ma
 Diedre Nielsen
 Mary O'Brien +
 Martin Qiang
 Emma Tabachnik
 Walter Xu
 Wendy Yang
 Miyo Yoon

2nd Violins

Rachel Hopkins *
 Matthew Cook
 Anne Esterman +
 Dickson Fung
 Irene Gollop
 Lynn Han
 Soon- Yeon Park
 MeeMee Phipps
 Robyn Sinclair
 Daisie Yu

Violas

Celina Reyes-Badger *
 Kate Candy
 Andrew Gibson
 Barbara Jackson +

Helen Taber
 Tamsin Tighe-Umbers #

Cellos

Miriam Hartmann *
 Cynthia Dove
 Jennie Khan \$
 Virginia Hopkins +
 Joanne Johnston
 Andrea McCracken +
 Margaret McLean

Basses

Michael Steer *
 Robbie Brown
 Jessie Colbert
 Marija Durdevic
 Nigel Faigan +

Flutes

Agnes Harmath **
 Emma McNabb

Piccolo

Jacci Grace

Oboes

Joy Liu *
 Alison Dunlop

Oboe D'amore

Alison Dunlop *

Cor Anglais

Cheryl Le Fevre *

Clarinets

Julia Cornfield *
 William Shin

Bass Clarinet

Christiaan Swanepoel *

Saxophone

Tomomi Johnston *
 Jenna Aspeling

Bassoons

Philip Sumner *
 Simon Smith

Contra Bassoon

Charlotte Naden

Horns

Sarah Thompson *
 Christine Breeden
 John Jensen +
 Jill Ferrabee
 Jennifer Hsu

Trumpets / Cornets

Norman Macfarlane *
 Sarah Robertson-Bickers
 Sang Hyun Kim
 Jonathan Cook

Trombones

Mark Bingham *
 Alan Grant

Bass Trombone

Robert Latimer *

Tuba

Sean Murphy *

Timpani

Ming-Hsuan Lee *

Percussion

Sam Girling *
 Josiah Carr
 Melissa Choo
 Jessica Hix

Harp

Yi Jin**

Harpichord /

Keyboard
 Kay Shacklock *

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We look forward to your continued support
 throughout the rest of the year.



Manukau Symphony Orchestra

IN PARADISUM

Saturday 25 May 7.30pm



Vodafone
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