Program notes

March
Aria (soprano)
The soft complaining flute
In dying notes discovers
The woes of hopeless lovers,
Whose dirge is whispered by the warbling lute.

Aria (tenor)
Sharp violins proclaim,
Their jealous pangs,
And desperation!
Fury, frantic indignation!
Depth of pains, and height of passion,
For the fair disdainful dame!

Aria (soprano)
But oh! what art can teach,
What human voice can reach
The sacred organ's praise?
Notes inspiring holy love,
Notes that wing their heavenly ways
To join the choirs above.

Aria (soprano)
Orpheus could lead the savage race,
And trees uprooted left their place
Sequacious of the lyre:
Recitative (soprano)
But bright Cecilia raised the wonder higher:
When to her Organ vocal breath was given
An Angel heard, and straight appeared –
Mistaking Earth for Heaven.

Chorus with Soprano
As from the power of sacred lays
The spheres began to move,
And sung the great Creator's praise
To all the blest above;
So when the last and dreadful hour
This crumbling pageant shall devour,
The trumpet shall be heard on high,
The dead shall live, the living die,
And Music shall untune the sky.

Special Thanks

Deanna Riddell and the Venues team
Miroslav Bukovsky
Virginia Taylor
Zach Raffan
Alex Raupach
Alex Ross
Prof Toni Makkai
David Irving
Paul McMahon
John Mackey
Calvin Bowman
Assoc Prof Gary France
Andrew Rumsey

Thursday 3rd October 2013, An Ode to Music

Program

Sinfonia and Chorus from J.S. Bach. Wir danken dir, Gott BWV 29
Calvin Bowman (Organ) with ANU Chamber Choir and ANU Chamber Orchestra

Suite for Solo Drumset and Percussion Ensemble, David Mancini
soloist Sean Connaughton with ANU DRUMatiX Percussion Group

Original Works and Reimagined Standards, J Mackey & M Bukovsky
ANU Jazz Collective

Interval

G.F. Handel. Ode for St Cecilia’s Day, HWV 76
soloists: Rachael Thoms (Soprano)
Paul McMahon (Tenor)
Rachael Beesley (Leader)
Virginia Taylor (Flute)
Julia Janiszewski (Cello)

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Assoc Prof Gary France
Andrew Rumsey
Welcome

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to tonight’s concert ‘Ode to Music’, which features our School of Music Ensembles. The concert gives us a chance to showcase to the Canberra Community some of the work of the School, and also, through the gift of music, recognise our indebtedness to all our friends and supporters. We hope it to be an annual event.

Reflecting the diverse interests of the School itself, tonight’s programme presents music ranging from classical to jazz and contemporary music, and involves both students and staff. To all tonight’s performers for so generously giving of their time and talents, and indeed also to you the audience for coming and supporting them, I express my sincerest thanks.

Professor Peter Tregear
Head – ANU School of Music

Distinguished Artists In Residence

This year the School has embarked upon a new, long term initiative to support the educational aspirations of the School and provide one means by which we can acknowledge and honour musicians and ensembles of distinguished national or international standing that contribute to the enhancement and enrichment of the School's performance activities.

The programme is itself supported by a new Endowment attached to the School of Music Foundation, an ‘Endowment for Performance Excellence’. This endowment will help ensure the School can continue to support into the indefinite future musical culture of great depth and high ambition through the nurturing of exceptional performance talent in our youth — people who can embody and inspire musical creativity, innovation and skill of the highest quality. You can find out more about the DAIR programme and the Endowment for Performance Excellence by contacting the School’s Community Relations Manager, Anneloes De Graeff at Anneloes.DeGraeff@anu.edu.au.

The DAIRs for 2013 are:

Rachael Beesley
Miroslav Bukovsky
Dr Leslie Howard
Ass Prof Timothy Kain AM
Max McBride
David Pereira
Mike Price
Nicholas Smith OBE
Virginia Taylor

Program notes & texts

BWV 29
J.S. Bach
Wir danken dir, Gott, wir danken dir und verkündigen seine Wunder

We give You thanks, God, we give You thanks and tell of Your great deeds.

Suite for Solo Drumset and Percussion Ensemble
David Mancini

Composed in 1988, this suite received its Australian Premiere under the direction of Gary France in 1992. This groovy ensemble combines funky urban beats with African Bembe and Brazilian Street Samba’s to create a platform for creative expression. Our soloists today, Sean Connaughton, has the freedom to “cut loose” within this defined traditional concerto format. The DRUMatiX Percussion Group is proud to present the Canberra premiere this evening.

Chorus

From harmony, from heavenly harmony, this universal frame began.

When nature, underneath a heap of jarring atoms lay, and could not heave her head.
The tuneful Voice, was heard from high, Arise! Arise!

Arise ye more than dead!

Then cold, and hot, and moist, and dry, in order to their stations leap!
And music's power obey!

Aria (soprano)

What passion cannot music raise, and quell?

When Jubal struck the chorded shell, His listening brethren stood 'round.
And wondering on their faces fell, To worship that celestial sound!

Less than a god they thought there could not dwell Within the hollow of that shell That spoke so sweetly and so well.
What passion cannot Music raise and quell?

For Woody & Stolen Moments

Original composition and arrangement by M Bukovsky

ANU Jazz Collective presents an original work by Miroslav Bukovsky titled “For Woody” and an arrangement of the standard “Stolen Moments” showcasing the eclectic strength of this diverse ensemble.

Aria award winner Miroslav Bukovsky and acclaimed saxophonist John Mackey mentor the multitude of talents that continue to exist at ANU. The ensemble is focussed on presenting original works and reimagining standard material across genres.

Ode for St Cecilia’s Day
G.F. Handel
text by John Dryden

Overture
(Larghetto e staccato—allegro—minuet)

Recitative (tenor)

From harmony, from heavenly harmony, this universal frame began.

When nature, underneath a heap Of jarring atoms lay,
And could not heave her head.
The tuneful Voice, was heard from high, Arise! Arise!

Arise ye more than dead!
Then cold, and hot, and moist, and dry, In order to their stations leap!
And music's power obey!

Chorus

From harmony, from heavenly harmony, this universal frame began.

Through all the compass of the notes it ran, The diapason closing full in man.

Aria (soprano)

What passion cannot music raise, and quell?

When Jubal struck the chorded shell, His listening brethren stood 'round.
And wondering on their faces fell, To worship that celestial sound!

Less than a god they thought there could not dwell Within the hollow of that shell That spoke so sweetly and so well.

What passion cannot Music raise and quell?

Aria (tenor) and Chorus

The trumpet's loud clangour excites us to arms, With shrill notes of anger and mortal alarms, The double-double-double beat, Of the thund'ring drum,
Cries hark! Hark! Cries hark the foes come! Charge! Charge! Charge! Charge!
'Tis too late, 'tis too late to retreat!
Charge 'tis too late, too late to retreat!