

Penrith Conservatorium brings music to the streets

Street Notes

pop-up performances livestreamed from secret locations

Classical music will pop up over Penrith and St Marys later this month across six mini concerts in secret locations. Eight emerging performers and composers have collaborated with three professional mentors to develop a diverse collection of repertoire to delight and move audiences.

The concerts offer an array of diverse sounds and styles from different centuries of classical music drawing on favourite composers, hidden gems, and new works.

Bach partitas, performed by flutist Matilda Seppelt and violinist Ethan Powell in Penrith, are presented alongside rarely heard romantic works by contemporary Japanese composers Umebayashi and Yoshimatsu.

Soprano Yasmin Arkinstall shows how old and new music can come together in song. In Penrith, she performs baroque music by Barbara Strozzi alongside a new art song she has written with composer Wesley Stormer inspired by the Nepean River. In St Marys, she performs Handel with trumpet player Jude Macarthur paired with a premiere work by Leila Harris.

Electroacoustic composer, Frank Dwyer, has written a new work written for clarinet and electronics with performer Max Harris which includes recordings from the urban environment around St Marys.

The performances will be uniquely embedded into the streets with the help of a whimsical temporary set design by Dale Morgan. Inspired by a new imagining of the Pied Piper, the magical melodies from the Street Notes performers bring the urban landscape to life.

Artistic Director, Dr Paul Smith, has been overseeing the project from the outset, matching artists with mentors and guiding them through repertoire selection and rehearsals, and says despite the challenges of 2020, "there is a certain unparalleled joy in musical discovery, and this year it's more important than ever. Whether serendipitous, or planned via livestream, audiences are in for a special treat."

The performances will take place in Penrith on 21 November at 5.30pm in Woodriff Lane, 6.30pm in Memory Park and 7.30pm in Triangle Park; and in St Marys on 28 November at 5.30pm in Coachman's Park, 6.30pm at Crana Street Junction and 7.30pm at Highway Gate.

For the ultimate Street Notes experience, the performances are being livestreamed direct to audiences. Register to receive a link to view the performances - live or at your leisure - at the Penrith Conservatorium website www.penrithconservatorium.com.au

IMAGES/INTERVIEWS/INFORMATION

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MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SPECIFIC CONCERTS AND LOCATIONS

Concert 1:

Woodriff Lane

Two favourite works for solo flute and violin by Bach are presented alongside a new arrangement of the romantic violin melody “Yumeji’s Theme” by contemporary Japanese composer Shigeru Umebayashi.

Memory Park

In this special location, three reflective and moving pieces are performed. Soprano Yasmin Arkininstall shows how old and new music can come together in song. In Penrith, she performs baroque music by Barbara Strozzi alongside a new art song she has written with composer Wesley Stormer inspired by the Nepean river. The concert is closed with the delicate and peaceful melodies of Yoshimatsu’s White Landscapes for flute and cello.

Triangle Park

Koechlin’s sweeping French wind trio brings unique sounds to Triangle Park. Wesley Stormer, whose compositional voice is inspired by French romanticism, has written his own trio and a work for solo cello presented after. Electroacoustic composer Frank Dwyer offers his own version of a trio with a contemporary response played via laptop throughout the park.

Coachman’s Park

The unlikely duo of soprano and trumpet come together to perform old and new repertoire. Handel’s bright and energetic “*Rejoice Greatly*” is paired with a premiere work by emerging composer Leila Harris. Closing this concert is a hidden gem by French composer Lili Boulanger – a nocturne for piano and violin.

Crana St Junction

Three works for solo instrument will bring colour and energy to this St Marys pedestrian hub. Striking contemporary melodies for trumpet, clarinet and flute will accompany the evening urban landscape of St Marys starting with the appropriate “*Street Song*” for trumpet.

Highway Gate

Surrounded by the bright and bold colours of St Marys street art, a new work for clarinet and electronics by Frank Dwyer performed by Max Harris will bounce off the alley walls. Leila Harris will close the concert by performing her edgy and exciting work for solo piano.

For more information, including artist and mentor biographies, please visit <https://www.penrithconservatorium.com.au/opportunities/street-notes/>

Produced by Penrith City Council and Penrith Performing and Visual Arts through Penrith Conservatorium.

For images please visit:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/mcw2ou1sxi0sclj/AADdDc0xT2ONVTVs95Kw03ada?dl=0>