



Large Print Concert Programme

Friday 23 February 2023 12.30pm to 1.15pm

Contents



- 2 Adagio-Allegro from Duo for Violin and Viola
in B-flat major K424
- 3 Allegretto scherzando from Duo No 4 in D major, 6 Duos
Concertants Book 4
- 4 Sarabande con variazioni on a Theme by George Frideric
Handel for Violin and Viola
- 5 Sakura-Sakura Variations
- 6 Naoko Keatley
- 7 Mizuho Ueyama
- 8 Angie Newman
- 9 Rachel Leach
- 10 Next Relaxed Friday Lunchtime Concert

Duo for Violin and Viola in B-flat major K424

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756 to 1791)

1

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, taught by his father, began composing at age five, was famous around Europe by the age of eight and, by his death at age 35, had displayed genius in everything he wrote. Mozart wrote this duet for violin and viola during a visit to see his father in 1783. Mozart was living in Vienna and at the centre of its thriving musical life. He had married Constanze but his father, still in Salzburg, had not met her or heard from his son in a while. The visit was fraught and Mozart took refuge in work.

In this piece Mozart is able to make the two instruments sound at times like many more, and for the first time ever, the viola is placed on an equal platform with the violin. The opening movement begins with a slow introduction before the main 'allegro' speed is established with a series of lovely, connected melodies.

Duo No 4 in D major, 6 Duos Concertants

Book 4

Antonio Bartolomeo Bruni (1757 to 1821)

Italian composer Antonio Bartolomeo Bruni was a direct contemporary of Mozart. Although he was born and died in Cuneo, Italy, he lived and worked all his adult life in Paris. He was a prolific composer for both the violin and the viola. He wrote over 21 duos for this combination, probably for his many students to play, and invented a 'viola method' for advanced players. His knowledge and love of the viola meant that in his duos the two instruments are treated equally. His other 'claim to fame' is that he collected and recorded a vast list of instruments and music confiscated from the nobility during the French revolution. This went on to be the basis of the Paris Conservatoire music library.

Sarabande con variazioni on a Theme by George Frideric Handel for Violin and Viola

Johan Halvorsen (1864 to 1935)

Johan Halvorsen was a Norwegian composer and conductor who rose up through the musical ranks, from violinist to leader to conductor and then finally, composer. He was a prominent figure in Norway alongside his uncle-by-marriage, Edvard Grieg. This is one of his most famous pieces and is based on a harpsichord piece by George Frideric Handel. A *sarabande* is a dance in three-time. This one has a stately, melancholic feel. Variation is another term for 'version'. The composer makes a series of versions of the original theme exploring different techniques and textures and often getting more virtuosic with each one.

Sakura-Sakura Variations

Traditional arr Kae Hirakawa

Sakura-Sakura – or Cherry Blossoms, Cherry Blossoms – is a traditional Japanese folk song depicting the spring cherry blossom season. Long thought to be an ancient tune, scholars now think it actually originated in the 1700s. It is often used as a musical indicator of all things Japanese. It uses the pentatonic (five-note) scale associated with traditional Japanese instruments and it is easy to sing and play on any instrument. This set of variations was arranged by Japanese composer Kae Hirakawa.

Naoko Keatley

violin



Naoko Keatley made her debut performance as soloist with the Sydney Youth Orchestra at the age of eight, and has since performed in venues around the world, including Wigmore Hall, Sydney Opera House and Queen Elizabeth Hall. She joined the LSO in 2014, having been in the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra for five years before that, and also has a busy freelance career in London. Naoko lives with her husband Niall, a trumpeter, and their two children.

Mizuho Ueyama

viola



Born in Hyogo, Japan, Mizuho graduated from Kyoto Art University in 2011, under the guidance of Himari Umehara. In the same year, she moved to Italy to deepen her expertise in viola under the guidance of Paolo Franceschini and Francesco Pepicelli. In 2018, she obtained a masters degree from the Conservatoire of Music of Perugia.

Mizuho has won multiple awards in numerous national and international competitions, in both solo and chamber music contexts. Throughout her musical journey, Mizuho has received guidance from renowned violists including Simonide Braconi, Luca Ranieri, and Danilo Rossi. Since 2021 she has been a member of the Haydn Orchestra in Bolzano and in 2023, Mizuho joined the Viola section of the London Symphony Orchestra.

Angie Newman

BSL interpreter

Angie Newman has worked extensively across music and deaf education for many years. Her knowledge and expertise in these areas, combined with her skills as both a British Sign Language interpreter and a musician, enable her to make music more accessible to young deaf people and adults, bridging the worlds of deafness and music, something she feels passionate about.

She has worked for six successive years with the BBC interpreting family Proms, including *CBeebies* Proms. She works with a variety of leading orchestras in the UK, including the London Symphony Orchestra, London Philharmonic Orchestra, Philharmonia Orchestra and many others, interpreting for their education and community programmes. Angie loves to relax by walking, cycling, playing the piano and violin, and practising yoga.

Rachel Leach

presenter

Rachel Leach was born in Sheffield. She studied composition, and her music has been recorded by NMC and published by Faber. She has won several awards including, with English Touring Opera (ETO), the RPS award for best education project 2009 for *One Day, Two Dawns*.

Rachel has worked within the education departments of most of the UK's orchestras and opera companies. The majority of her work is for the London Symphony Orchestra and the London Philharmonic Orchestra. Rachel has written well over 20 pieces for LSO Discovery and 15 community operas, including seven for ETO.

Increasingly in demand as a concert presenter, as well as presenting the LSO Discovery Free Friday Lunchtime Concert series, she regularly presents children's concerts and pre-concert events for the LSO, LPO, Philharmonia Orchestra, Scottish Chamber Orchestra, Royal College of Music and Royal Northern Sinfonia.



Next Relaxed Free Friday Lunchtime Concert

Friday 7 June 2024 12.30pm, LSO St Luke's

Your Feedback

Please let us know what you thought of the concert by completing a short survey. Scan the QR code below to access it. We would love to hear your thoughts.



Programme notes by Rachel Leach

Makaton symbols are used with the kind permission of The Makaton Charity, all rights reserved. © The Makaton Charity 2023.

Makaton is a registered Trade Mark and Service Mark of TMC.