



# Tune-In

www.manawatuorchestra.org.nz

Manawatu Youth Orchestra Inc

September 2008

## Sinfonia and Youth Orchestra Combined Concert

On the 20<sup>th</sup> September, the Manawatu Youth Orchestra combine with the Manawatu Sinfonia to present their annual concert together, conducted by John Schwabe.

The first half is presented by the Youth Orchestra with a programme that includes Wolf-Ferrari's *Overture, Suzanne's Secret* and Edward German's popular *Three Dances from the Music to 'Henry VIII'* and George Gerswhin's *Summertime*.

The second half is presented by the Sinfonia, playing an orchestral arrangement of Schumann's *Karneval* and Saint-Saëns' first cello concerto, with soloist Sasha Routh. Many composers, including Shostakovich and Rachmaninoff, considered this concerto to be the greatest of all cello concertos. It complements Saint-Saëns' equally popular 3rd violin concerto, performed in our first concert.

Finally the two orchestras combine for two pieces to conclude the concert, Gliere's rousing *Russian Sailors' Dance*



Cello soloist Sasha Routh

from 'the Red Poppy' and *Songsgnos* based on a collection of Abba hits.

Sasha is well known to Palmerston North audiences for her concerts in the Sunday afternoon Art Gallery concerts. She also teaches cello in local secondary schools.

## Next Concerts

Manawatu Sinfonia,  
Manawatu Youth  
Orchestra

John Schwabe

Sasha Routh – cello

Saturday 20 September

7:30pm

Salvation Army Centre

Saint-Saëns: First Cello  
Concerto

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Manawatu Sinfonia,  
Palmerston North  
Choral Society,  
Renaissance  
Singers

Guy Donaldson

3:00 pm Sunday 30  
November

Regent on Broadway

Haydn: The Creation

*The 2008 Manawatu Youth Orchestra*





Introducing Melissa Procter, Leader of the MYO

Melissa writes: she was born at a very young age almost 16 years ago and has grown up with the **“sounds of music” in the home. Being part of a musical family**, she is one of ten children, each of whom play at least two instruments. She was born in Palmerston North and the family later moved to Ashhurst.

About age five, her mother started teaching her to play the piano and recorder. She spent her way through all the recorder books and began to learn violin and flute at age seven. Melissa started at Saturday Morning Music classes, (where she now teaches keyboard) and also joined the Training Orchestra. She started playing in various competitions from the age of eight, enjoying the competitiveness – and of course the trophies!!!

At age nine she joined the Youth Orchestra on her violin. She also joined the Manawatu Concert Band on flute a year later where she now also plays the piccolo, as well as enjoys being a violinist in the Manawatu Sinfonia.

Her most recent examinations include ATCL Flute with Distinction, Grade 8 Violin, and Grade 7 Piano with Distinction. She also plans to sit her Grade 8 Piano later this year.

**This is Melissa’s 7<sup>th</sup>** year in the Manawatu Youth Orchestra which has been a thoroughly enjoyable experience for her.

Melissa currently plays Piano, Flute, Piccolo, Violin,



Recorder and Soprano Saxophone. She teaches students also on Piano, Keyboard, Violin and Recorder.

Melissa would specially like to thank John Schwabe, Dianne Dellow, Marise McNeill, Chris Dann and Roy Tankersley for their fantastic input into her over the years.

National Youth Orchestra violas

Congratulations to Tom Walton and Benjamin Pinkney, who were selected for the 2008 National Youth Orchestra!

Benjamin writes: Tom and I have just returned from an intensive 11 days with 93 other top young New Zealand musicians playing some awesome music at the NZSO National Youth Orchestra.

We had the privilege of playing under the highly skilled baton of French Canadian conductor Jacques Lacombe and backing soloist soprano, Madeleine Pierard, of Napier.

Rehearsals/sectionals were generally from 10am to 8pm daily including a most substantial BBQ by **our Wellington NZSO ‘Friends’**.

It was thrilling to be playing in amongst such an intensity of sound. The vast contrasts from *pp* to *fff* meant at times you could hear a pin drop yet the next you were nearly blasted from your seat.

This was an opportunity to make new friends and **play in some of New Zealand’s most prestigious concert halls**.

Tom writes: The 2008 National Youth Orchestra was an unforgettable experience. The most vivid part of the course was the amazing pieces that we rehearsed, and then performed, in: First Wellington, then Christchurch, Auckland and finally Napier.

The first half consisted of two fairly serious pieces by Ravel and then Roussel. Then the tone was **lightened up by 5 of the Chants d’Auvergne** sung by Madeleine Pierard. In the second half we started off with a world premiere of Feverdream, by Tabea Squire, which I grew to like. Then, the Firebird, by Stravinsky, which was fantastic!! As an encore we played Galop from Masquerade by Khachaturian, what was a fun piece to perform.

## Musical taste defines personality

Fans of classical music and jazz are creative, pop lovers are hardworking and, despite the stereotypes, heavy metal listeners are gentle, creative types who are at ease with themselves.

So says Professor Adrian North of Scotland's Heriot-Watt University who has been studying the links between people's personalities and their choice of music.

"People often define their sense of identity through their musical taste, wearing particular clothes, going to certain pubs, and using certain

types of slang," North said.

"It's not surprising that personality should also be related to musical preference."

"Researchers have been showing for decades that fans of rock and rap are rebellious, and that fans of opera are wealthy and well-educated," North said.

"But this is the first time that research has shown that personality links to liking for a wide range of musical styles."

The study concluded that jazz and classical music fans are creative with good self-esteem, although the former are much more outgoing whereas the latter are shy. [*Thinks: I must learn to become an opera fan, but I'm too shy to go* —Ed.] Reuters | Saturday, 06 September 2008

## Exam results

Congratulations to our players for their achievements in recent music exam and competitions.

Trinity Guildhall - session 1:

Grade 8 - Lisa White - violin, with Merit; Alex Dekker - clarinet; Melissa Procter - violin

Grade 6 - Erika Olson - violin, with Distinction; Maize Cao - violin, with Merit; Mariann Brennan - clarinet, with Merit

Grade 5 - Andreas Vieregg - clarinet, with Distinction; Geoff Procter - violin, with Distinction; Yi Ge Cao - violin, with Distinction; Nadia Duxfield - violin

Trinity Guildhall - session 2:

Grade 7 - William McNeill - violin, with Merit

Grade 6 - Emma Lee - flute

Royal Schools of Music - session 1:

Grade 8 - Benjamin Pinkney - viola, with Distinction

IRMT Manawatu - J Holmes Runnicles Instrumental Scholarship:

2nd - Katie Isaacs - flute

3rd - William McNeill - violin



## Constitution

The MYO Inc Constitution with the 2008 amendments is now available for downloading from our website.

Secretary/Treasurer: Elizabeth Meers  
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Musical Director: John Schwabe  
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Tune-In is edited by Jeff McNeill  
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The Sinfonia welcomes  
new players!

## For Sale

Viola, Horner, Wien 1923

Played by professional viola  
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In excellent condition with  
original varnish, resin and  
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*"Miss October" - Sasha Routh's beautiful 'cello features in the 2009 calendar.*

## 2009 Calendar – Light and Sound

The Sinfonia is undertaking a fund-raiser with a difference this year. We are selling a calendar with superb black and white photos of different orchestral instruments. The calendar is also has the dates for all the concerts by the Sinfonia and MYO, Saturday Morning Music, Renaissance Singers, Music Viva and Manawatu Choral Society. At the very least it shows the range of locally made music in Palmerston North!

For the musicians whose instruments were photographed, the results are actually something very special. The photos capture the visual essence of a very important part of our lives. We hear them every day when we play, but we don't look at them. Our photographer used polystyrene foam and mirrors reflecting light to make our instruments come alive for the camera, which we can now share with you.

The Calendar will be launched at the Combined Concert 20 September and will be available for purchase during the interval, and afterwards at Beggs Music Specialists and other outlets for \$12.00. Our thanks to Kwok Joe Dental for prime sponsorship to cover printing costs.

## Financial support and scholarships

The MYO administers the E & E Laing Trust. It provides grants up to a maximum of \$100 per annum to players from the Manawatu Sinfonia or Manawatu Youth Orchestra to attend music courses outside Palmerston North or to assist with advanced tuition which is unavailable locally.

The String Scholarship is established for an initial period of three years, to encourage string players from outside the MYO catchment area to become regular members of either orchestra of the Society. One Award may be made annually, to the value of \$500.

See [www.manawatuorchestra.org.nz/members.htm](http://www.manawatuorchestra.org.nz/members.htm)