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The New Zealand Herald
Premier Series

Bach & Bruckner

7.30pm, Thursday 2 May
Auckland Town Hall

Conductor Johannes Fritzsch
Piano David Fray

J.S. Bach Keyboard Concerto No.5, BWV 1056
J.S. Bach Keyboard Concerto No.4, BWV 1055
Bruckner Symphony No.9

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Baroque & Beyond

RYMAN HEALTHCARE PRESENTS

Brandenburg Echoes

Let the Auckland Philharmonia take you on a musical journey through time

7:30PM
THURSDAY 18 APRIL

HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL

Auckland Philharmonia

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Repertoire

J.S. Bach Brandenburg Concerto No.2
Barber Capricorn Concerto
Aaron Jay Kernis Concerto with Echoes
J.S. Bach Brandenburg Concerto No.6

*no interval

Conductor Nathaniel Griffiths

Featuring

Director/Violin Andrew Beer
Director/Viola Robert Ashworth
Viola Julie Park
Flute Melanie Lançon
Oboe Bede Hanley
Trumpet Richard Blake
Trumpet Josh Rogan

Ensemble

FIRST VIOLIN

Alison Lovera
Miranda Adams
Charmian Keay
Hui Cao
Ainsley Murray
Jessica Alloway
Gill Ripley

SECOND VIOLIN

Minglun Liu
Yun Zhai
William Hanfling
Joella Pinto-Roberts
Jocelyn Healy
Christine Haeun Lee

VIOLA

Sophia Acheson
Christine Bowie
Benjamin Harrison

CELLO

Ashley Brown
David Garner
Chen Cao
Katherine Hebley

BASS

Gordon Hill
John Mietus

Evgueny

Lanchtchikov

Michael Steer

OBOE

Camille Wells
Kira Shiner

BASSOON

Ingrid Hagan
Sam Brough

HORN

Gabrielle Pho
Carl Wells

TIMPANI

Shane Currey

PERCUSSION

Jenny Raven

KEYBOARD

Rachael
Griffith-Hughes

Notes Fund: Music for this concert has been supported by David Lovell

Programme Notes

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
Brandenburg Concerto No.2 (1721)

I. [Ohne Satzbezeichnung] (without tempo indication)

II. Andante

III. Allegro assai

Duration: c.11'

J.S. Bach's Brandenburg Concertos are among the most well-known and beloved works in Baroque music. Ground-breaking for their time, they exemplify Bach's brilliance in their innovation and creativity.

Each concerto features a different combination of solo instruments, which in turn result in their own distinctive sound and texture. The Second Concerto is written for four high instruments – violin, flute (originally recorder), oboe and trumpet – and is known for its extraordinarily difficult solo trumpet part, heard in the first and third movements. The treble soloists together with a relatively light orchestration lend this concerto an unusually transparent quality.

Samuel Barber (1910-1981)
Capricorn Concerto (1944)

I. Allegro ma non troppo

II. Allegretto

III. Allegro con brio

Duration: c.14'

In 1942, Samuel Barber was drafted into the US Army. While his military duties initially hindered his capacity to compose, he soon came to the attention of General Barton K. Yount, whose wife was passionate about music. He went on to write numerous works for the Army between 1942 and 1945, including the *Capricorn Concerto*. The concerto is written as a modern concerto grosso in three movements, and scored for almost the same ensemble as the Second Brandenburg Concerto – flute, oboe, trumpet, and strings. Listen out for the

proud trumpet fanfare beginning the third movement, which clearly mirrors Bach's concerto.

Aaron Jay Kernis (b.1960)
Concerto with Echoes (2009)

I. Lontano – Toccata: Molto allegro

II. Slowly

III. Aria - dolente, grazioso

Duration: c.14'

Regarding tonight's piece, Kernis has written: "The essential element in the Sixth Brandenburg Concerto that inspired this work comes from its very first measure – the opening passage with two spiralling solo violas, like identical twins following each other breathlessly through a hall of mirrors – the echoing of the title. Also in mind were other works of Bach's that I think of constantly, such as the Ricercar, keyboard Toccatas, C Minor Organ Passacaglia, etc. But it also echoes other recent work of mine and reminiscences of other composers I love who also paid homage to Bach in their music."

Southern Hemisphere premiere

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
Brandenburg Concerto No.6 (1721)

I. [Ohne Satzbezeichnung] (without tempo indication)

II. Adagio ma non tanto

III. Allegro

Duration: c.15'

Bach's Sixth (and last) Brandenburg Concerto is the only concerto in the set that does not use a violin as one of its featured solo instruments. The spotlight instead turns to the rich lower strings, the most unusual of which being two violas, liberated from their usual 'supporting' role in the ensemble.