

The British Music Society of Victoria existing as  
**LYREBIRD MUSIC SOCIETY INC.**

ABN 94 676 630 858 & Inc. A0044099C

Founded in 1921 by Mrs Louise Dyer

Patron Marion Louise Poynter

**PRESIDENT:** Sarah Cuming

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# SOCIETY NEWS

September 2011

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

On 4<sup>th</sup> September, the LMS had guest speaker, Life Member and violist, John North, regale us with tales from the Society's history. He spoke of Sybil Hewett, who was a friend of our founder, and whom Louise chose to be the first secretary of the Society, a position she retained for 45 years and of Sybil's housekeeper who was given an honorary Life Membership after Sybil's death. John spoke of the popularity of the society in days gone by; at one stage, the committee had to cap the membership at 400, and still had a waiting list. After his talk, John was joined by Janis Cook to perform a delightful programme of English and French works.

Following the recital, the Society held the 90<sup>th</sup> AGM. This included the task of declaring the new committee members:

### **PRESIDENT**

*Ms. Sarah Cuming*

### **VICE PRESIDENTS**

*Mr. Alan Hutchison*

*Mr. Dan O'Keeffe*

### **SECRETARY**

*Mrs. Sally Hutchison*

### **TREASURER / PUBLIC OFFICER**

*Mr. Danny Neumann*

### **ORDINARY COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

*Mr. John Perry OAM*

*Mr. Les Whiteley*

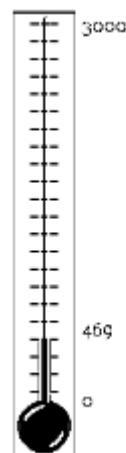
*Mr. J. Neville Turner*

Norman's father left him several copies, one of which will go to PLC where Louise attended school. A scan of the poster is shown below.



I hope you can all come along and hear the wonderful Ensemble Liaison perform the LMS 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Commission, *A Lyrebird in Paris* by Jane Hammond at the beautiful St John's Church, 20 City Road, Southbank (Mel. 43 H10) at 2pm on Saturday, 24th September. **You need to book your tickets by ringing the Secretary on 9431 0458.** The concert's duration will be a little over an hour, and we are serving wine / cheese / tea / coffee, after the performance.

*Sarah Cuming*



## **Fundraising Thermometer**

Our concert on the 24 September should also see our thermometer go over \$500. A small amount each month soon adds up. Thank you!

## **History Booklet**

The 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary History Booklet launched before the AGM on the 4 September will be available for collection by members at the 2 October concert.

Of the six Motions put forward at the meeting, only the first motion regarding membership fees was carried.

One of our newer members, Mrs. Jillian Gengoult Smith, who is the wife of Norman Gengoult Smith (nephew of Louise Hanson-Dyer and brother to our patron), has donated a beautiful black and white printed poster advertising Editions de l'Oiseau-Lyre.

## 24 SEPTEMBER CONCERT

### *Don't miss! Ensemble Liaison performing:*

**Beethoven:** Piano Trio No. 4 in B flat major Op. 11  
"Gassenhauer" for Clarinet, Cello and Piano

**Jane Hammond:** A Lyrebird in Paris (World  
Premiere)

**Paul Schoenfield:** Refractions for Clarinet, Cello and  
Piano (Australian Premiere)

### THE PERFORMERS

**Ensemble Liaison** was formed in 2006 and is  
comprised of three internationally acclaimed  
musicians: David Griffiths (clarinet), Svetlana  
Bogosavljevic (cello) and Timothy Young (piano).

Since 2007, they have presented the Ensemble Liaison  
and Friends Concert Series. Their 2011 season sees  
collaborations with internationally acclaimed soprano,  
Emma Matthews, stunning Norwegian violin virtuoso  
Henning Kraggerud, principal members of the  
Australian Ballet and drumming wizard, David Jones.

In October, they undertake a 10-concert tour for  
Chamber Music New Zealand with violinist Wilma  
Smith.

Their first CD featuring works by Zemlinsky and  
Messiaen will be released in October 2011.

### THE COMPOSER

**Jane Hammond** is the composer of the Society's 90<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary Commission, which she has titled '*A  
Lyrebird in Paris*'.

Jane works as a conductor, pianist and composer with  
major Australian arts organisations. She has composed  
original music for mainstream and community theatre,  
and the concert stage, for ensembles and companies  
including the Victoria State Opera, Opera Australia,  
and the Melbourne International Festival.

Another new work of Jane's, *In a Room With  
Rachmaninov* for solo piano was written specially for  
her colleague Tamara Smolyar who is the Co-ordinator  
of Piano at Monash University. Tamara will premiere  
this work, at a Duo Chamber Melange concert in the  
Salon at the Melbourne Recital Centre at 6.00pm on  
Friday, 30 September.

## 2 OCTOBER CONCERT

### *Artsong for Soprano and Piano*

### THE PERFORMERS

**Jacqueline Porter, soprano** holds an Honours degree  
in Music Performance and a Bachelor of Arts (Italian)  
from the University of Melbourne. She is a principal  
artist with Victorian Opera and appears regularly as a  
soloist with major orchestras and chorales in Australia.

Jacqueline is the recipient of the 2010 Dame Nellie  
Melba Opera Trust Scholarship and equal runner-up in  
the 2009 Herald Sun Aria and many other awards. She  
was runner-up in the 2007 National Liederfest, where  
she has twice received the prize for 'Best diction and  
understanding of the German language'. She was  
recently selected as the sole Australian to compete in  
the Hans Gabor Belvedere International Singing  
Competition in Vienna, Austria.

She has performed many times to great acclaim and  
previously collaborated with Calvin Bowman, singing  
his '*I would sing a little while*' with the Melbourne  
Chamber Orchestra under the direction of Sir Neville  
Marriner. Sir Neville described Calvin's work as "an  
absolute gem of twenty-first century imagination".

**Calvin Bowman** has been described variously as "a  
uniquely talented musician" (Philip Glass), "one of the  
finest musical minds this country has produced"  
(Graham Abbott). Calvin is currently Senior Lecturer  
and University Organist at the Australian National  
University and Associate Artistic Director of the  
Melbourne Chamber Orchestra.

Dr Bowman has presented the complete Bach organ  
works twice in public, once in 1995 and then again in  
2009 for the Melbourne International Festival when he  
performed them in a single seventeen hour sitting. In  
2001, he was privileged to re-open the Melbourne  
Town Hall organ following its restoration by presenting  
the world premiere performance of "Voices" by Philip  
Glass in the composer's presence.

Dr. Bowman's compositional skills have been  
recognised with the awarding of a prestigious Australia  
Council Fellowship for 2008-9. He has been described  
as "the finest exponent of artsong composition we have  
in Australia" (Richard Mills). Dr. Bowman is a  
graduate of The University of Melbourne, and was the  
first Australian to graduate with a Doctor of Musical  
Arts degree from Yale University with the assistance of  
a Fulbright scholarship. He is a member of Australian  
Mensa and a life member of The Australian Fulbright  
Association.

### SPONSORS

Thank you to our sponsors and supporters for their  
contribution to the Society's 90th anniversary year  
activities.

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