



NEWSLETTER 1 – FEBRUARY 2023

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AROHA STRING TRIO: "SERENADE"

SUNDAY 26 FEBRUARY at 2:30pm

WAIKANAЕ MEMORIAL HALL, PEHI KUPA ST, WAIKANAЕ

It is with very much pleasure that we welcome the Aroha String Trio for our opening concert in 2023, when three members of the well-known Aroha Quartet will perform a



Haihong Liu
VIOLIN

Zhongxian Jin
VIOLA

Robert Ibell
CELLO

programme of delightful string trio entitled Serenade. The musical form called Serenade was originally intended for light entertainment, usually performed outdoors and sometimes associated with courtship. In the 18th century it developed into a short suite of light instrumental music and was adopted by many composers

including Mozart, Beethoven and Schubert. The concert opens with Schubert's little single-movement trio, a miniature gem that is one of the most treasured works in the string trio repertoire. Another brief composition follows, this time by acclaimed young New Zealand composer Salina Fisher. *Mata-Au* refers to the Clutha River and the music is descriptive of the dancing, swirling water. 'Serenade' by Hungarian composer Ernst Dohnányi, composed in 1902, is a five-movement work packed with musical riches and with a distinct Hungarian flavour. The String Trio by Frenchman Jean Françaix (who once famously said "My music exists to give pleasure") is filled with a joyous sense of fun. Beethoven's Opus 8 Serenade' is the most substantial work on the programme. It has a wealth of melodic inspiration and an almost orchestral palette filled with sonority and colour.

We are very excited to have this exciting trio with us for our opening concert of the year.

THE PERFORMERS



HAIHONG LIU Chinese-born NZSO first violinist Haihong is a graduate of the Beijing Central Conservatory of Music in the People's Republic of China, where she won the China National Chamber Music Competition in 1995 with the Beijing String Quartet. As a member of that ensemble she enjoyed a varied international career of concerts, festivals, and competitions throughout China, as well as major cities in Asia and Europe. After six years teaching as a violin and chamber music lecturer at the Xinghai Conservatory of Music of Guangzhou, Haihong emigrated to New Zealand with her family in 2001, initially joining the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra as sub-principal first violin, and moving to the NZSO in 2002. With the Aroha String Quartet Haihong enjoys a varied and energetic musical life, touring nationwide.



ZHONGXIAN JIN is a sought after violin teacher with studios in both Wellington and Auckland. He travels regularly to China and Taiwan for festivals, master classes and coaching chamber ensemble and string orchestras. Before moving to live in New Zealand with his family in 2001, Zhongxian was a violin professor for 16 years at the Xinghai Conservatory of Music in Guangzhou, China. Zhongxian has been the violist of the Aroha String Quartet

since its inception in 2004.



ROBERT IBELL was born in Dannevirke and brought up in Palmerston North. While training there as a school teacher he learned cello from Judith Hyatt in Wellington. From 1986 to 1992 he lived in London, studying cello with Tania Hunt, Derek Simpson and Christopher Bunting. He played at music schools and in master classes, taught, gave recitals and played in professional and amateur orchestras. From 1993 to 2019 Robert

was a member of the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra. He is now a cello teacher, chamber music coach, adjudicator and freelance performer. He is a member of the Aroha Quartet, square piano/cello duo Hammers & Horsehair, contemporary music group Stroma and indie/folk/rock band Milkthistle.

PROGRAMME

Schubert	String Trio in B Flat Major, D 471
Salina Fisher	Mata-Au
Dohnányi	Serenade for String Trio in C Major, Opus 10
Françaix	String Trio
Beethoven	Serenade for String Trio in D Major, Opus 8

SPECIAL NOTICE - EXTRA CONCERT

Since our 2023 brochure was printed we have been able to take advantage of a rare opportunity to add an extra concert to our published programme.

Bulgarian-American violinist **Bella Hristova** has won international acclaim for her “expressive nuance and rich tone” (New York Times) and “impressive power and control” (Washington Post). A recipient of the prestigious Avery Fisher Career Grant, she has won numerous awards including First Prize in the Young Concert Artists International Auditions, First Prize in the Michael Hill International Violin Competition, and is a Laureate of the International Violin Competition of Indianapolis. Bella is planning to come to New Zealand later in the year to do some recording with a pianist who is well known to us all - **Michael Houstoun**. Michael and Bella have made themselves available to perform for us in August so make sure you put the date in your diary.

DETAILS



Date: 27 August 2023

Venue: Waikanae Hall

Time: 2.30 pm

Tickets: This concert is additional to our regular season, and holders of season tickets may buy tickets at the same \$30 price as other members.

We are extending the same \$30 price to the general public for this concert only in the hope of attracting a wider base of concert-goers who may join the Society for the future. Admission for students (aged up to 25) will be \$5 as usual.

MARCH CONCERT: Sunday 26 March ARMSTRONG, JACOBS, LIU TRIO

Two of our favourite musicians, Donald Armstrong and Jian Liu return in a new ensemble featuring the French horn and showcasing the considerable talents of young horn player Samuel Jacobs. Sam was born in Britain and became Principal Horn with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in London. Now living in New Zealand he occupies the same position in the NZSO. These three inspired musicians will treat us to some of the greatest works ever written for French Horn. Don't miss it.

PRIVACY POLICY

The Waikanae Music Society Inc complies with the Privacy Act 2020. The current policy was adopted at the end of 2020 to give effect to the Privacy Act 2020, and we have been monitoring our practices in the meantime to ensure we are doing what we promised. Full details of our policy may be viewed on our website: <https://www.waikanaemusic.org.nz>

CONCERT ARRANGEMENTS AND MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Masks are recommended but no longer required at our concerts.

To buy a new membership or season ticket, please send the membership application form from the 2023 season brochure or the website. You may pay by direct bank credit or by credit card.

To renew your 2022 membership or season ticket(s), simply make payment by direct credit to 02 0591 0018930 00 and use your name and membership number as the reference. You do not need to return the form. Alternatively, phone Paul Dunmore (Membership Secretary) at 021 251 7030 with your credit card number. We can handle a small number of renewals at the first concert, but please renew in advance if at all possible.

Season ticket holders pay \$200 per person and get membership of the society plus admission to the eight scheduled concerts. Just show your season ticket at the concert door. A block of seats is reserved for season ticket holders until 2:15pm at each concert. We sometimes offer extra concerts, and season ticket holders may purchase tickets to them at the same price offered to other members.

Tickets for individual concerts cost \$40 for non-members, \$30 for members, and \$5 for students aged up to 25. Tickets are sold by New World (Waikanae) and Moby Dickens (Paraparaumu Beach) for cash; by direct credit to 02 0591 0018930 00 (use your name and phone number as the reference) for collection at the concert; by phoning 021 251 7030 with your credit card number; or at the concert door (cash, EFTPOS or credit card). We have a limited number of volunteers to manage door sales, so it helps us if you use one of the pre-purchase facilities.

The doors open at 1:45pm, and seating for season ticket holders is protected until 2:15pm. The concert starts at 2:30pm. Latecomers may not be admitted until a suitable break in the performance.

Photography and sound recording of our concerts are strictly forbidden. This is a requirement of the artists, their agents and the Waikanae Music Society itself. Committee members may, from time to time, and with the artists' permission, take photos for the Society's records.

CONCERT NOTES: OUR OWN MUSIC PROGRAMME on COAST ACCESS RADIO 104.7FM

The first programme for the year will feature **Music for String Trio**, on Tuesday 14 February 6pm and Thursday 16 February 11.30am.

To replay this programme, go to our website <https://www.waikanaemusic.org.nz> and click on the Concert Notes link on the front page. If you have music you would like to hear on Concert Notes, email concertmanager@waikanaemusic.org.nz
