

BLACKWOOD RIVER CHAMBER FESTIVAL

www.chambermusic.com.au

Newsletter Oct. 2011

BRCF XIV, 2012

The 2012 BRCF will be held over the weekend 27-29 April 2012. The ticket prices for 2012 remain the same as they were this year: A ticket \$350 (both Saturday and Sunday, all five concerts, lunch and afternoon tea on both days, dinner on Saturday evening, bus travel to the away venue on Saturday afternoon); B ticket \$275 (Saturday only, all three concerts, lunch, afternoon tea and dinner, bus travel to the away venue); C ticket \$190 (Sunday only, both concerts, lunch and afternoon tea).

Summary of Newsletter: The programme is almost finalized and will be provisionally announced, with the names of the artists, in this newsletter. We are introducing an Early Bird A ticket scheme this year, and experimenting with a slight change to the timing for next year's Saturday evening meal. So far you have bought your tickets either by posting a cheque to PO Box 606, Bridgetown, WA 6255, or buying online through the Bridgetown Visitor Centre. We are retaining payment by cheque, but now replacing online booking by direct credit to the Festival account. Nelsons Hotel is offering a 10% discount on accommodation bookings for the 2012 Festival. There is notice of some accommodation for 27-29 April 2012. The Festival will have, in 2012, its first Distinguished Guest. Please read on.

EARLY BIRD TICKET.

Those who purchase an A ticket before 31 December 2011, are offered a 10% discount. That is, the Early Bird A ticket will, for the 2012 Festival, cost not \$350 but \$315. Tickets must be paid for before 31 December to qualify for the discount. This offer does not extend to B and C tickets. See the enclosed form.

DISCOUNT ON ACCOMODATION AT NELSONS HOTEL 2012

The management at Nelsons is offering, for the 2012 Festival, a 10% discount on accommodation booked by Festival-goers before 29 February 2012. You will need to give your particulars to the hotel and state that you will be attending the 2012 BRCF. Their telephone number is 9761 1641.

Their e-mail is nelsons@westnet.com.au

CHANGE TO THE DINNER TIME, SATURDAY 28 APRIL

Since we return to Bridgetown from the Saturday away concert by 6 p.m., still savouring a generous afternoon tea, let us try, next year, reversing the order dinner/concert by starting the evening concert at

6.30p.m. and going to dinner (at Nelsons in 2012) soon after 8.00 p.m. at the latest. For some, this will leave them free by 9.30 p.m., and it will allow others to linger over their meal. With the Sunday morning concert not starting till 11.00 a.m., there is no need for A ticket holders to be up any earlier than suits them.

THE MUSICIANS AND THEIR MUSIC, BRCF 2012

The 2012 Festival offers a more varied programme than we have ever had before, with three established ensembles, and two created for the Festival. 'Floripari', the ensemble resident in the Royal Wawel Castle, Cracow, is made up of five instrumentalists, a singer, and two dancers, and they perform regularly all over Europe. This is their first visit to Australia, and after Bridgetown they will tour the main cities and New Zealand, performing especially to Polish audiences. This will be the first time that Polish Renaissance court music will have been heard and seen live in Australia. The Perth-based Trinity Piano Trio - Caroline Badnall (piano), Rebecca White (violin), Sophie Walker (cello) - was invited to attend master classes in America in 2008. Sophie Walker is well known to the Festival audience as the cellist in the Sartory String Quartet. With Margaret Blades (violin) and Sally Boud (viola) among next year's artists, we have formed a string quartet for the Festival that will play, with associate artists, an attractive range of ensemble works. Sally Boud is about to leave the Australian String Quartet after seven years; she was a member of the student Halcyon String Quartet that played in our first two Festivals, 1997 and 1998. Her husband, Geoffrey Bourgault du Coudray (clarinet), will play with our Festival String Quartet the beautiful Mozart *Quintet for Clarinet and Strings*, and, with Sally and Anna Sleptsova (piano), he makes up a second trio, one we've not heard before in the BRCF. Harriet Marshall returns next year and will sing *Lieder* and jazz. Benedict Moleta and Andrew Ewing will perform songs from their new CD, due out in March 2012. On paper the 2012 programme looks to be the most varied we've ever had, and all the works but one are new to the Festival. In all other respects the Festival remains as it has been till now, intimate, intense, convivial.

THE MUSICIANS 2012

Margaret Blades, violin (MB); Harriet Marshall, soprano (HM); Benedict Moleta. (voice/guitar) and Andrew Ewing, guitar (BM/AE); Trinity Piano Trio (TPT) - Caroline Badnall, piano (CB), Rebecca White,

violin (RW), Sophie Walker, cello (SW); Festival Piano Trio (FPT) - Anna Sleptsova, piano (AS), Sally Boud, viola (SB), Geoffrey Bourgault du Coudray, clarinet (GB); Festival String Quartet (FSQ) - Margaret Blades, Rebecca White, Sally Boud, Sophie Walker; the Polish ensemble 'Floripari' (FLOR) - 5 instrumentalists, 1 singer, 2 dancers.

THE MUSIC 2012, as much as is confirmed at this stage, and in no particular order:

R.Schumann, *Frauenliebe und -leben* (HM and CB); W.A.Mozart, *Quintet for Clarinet and Strings K581* (GB and FSQ); S.Rachmaninov, *Sonata for Cello and Piano* (SW and CB); C.Franck, *Sonata for Violin and Piano* (RW and CB); P.Tchaikovsky, *Piano Trio in A minor* (TPT); A.Piazzolla, *Oblivion* (FPT); *Jazz Standards* (HM and CB); D.Shostakovich, *Piano Quintet, Op. 57* (AS and FSQ); F.Chopin, *Berceuse* (AS); A.Pärt, *Fratres* (SB and AS); R.Clark, *Sonata for Viola and Piano* (SB and AS); R.Schumann, *Fairytales* (FPT); F.Poulenc, *Sonata for Clarinet and Piano* (GB and AS); J.S Bach, *Chaconne* (MB); C.Debussy, *Sonata for Violin and Piano* (MB and AS); *New Songs* (BM/AE); *A programme, over two or three of the concerts, of 16th- and 17th- century Polish court music* (FLOR)

BOOKING AND PAYING FOR BRCF TICKETS BY DIRECT CREDIT

Enclosed/attached is a booking form on which are set out the SUBSCRIPTIONS for A, B, and C tickets, including the Early Bird offer for the A ticket. There is a section for those of you who would like to SPONSOR OR PART SPONSOR an artist. And at the bottom there are details for subscribing by DIRECT CREDIT. This will suit those who are already accustomed to paying by this method. The Festival account is with the University Credit Society, 80 Broadway, Nedlands, WA 6009, and, as distinct from online booking, no fee is charged. When making the direct credit you will need to quote your full name, and also mail your completed booking form to the address given setting out in full the names of all those covered by this ticket purchase. This will enable me to send you a receipt, which is in fact your Festival ticket, and, eventually, prepare the name tags for the Festival. This last point is important.

ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE FOR BRCF 2012

In addition to Nelsons Hotel, the following accommodation is available for the BRCF, 27 – 29 April, 2012:

'Uncle Scottys' 70 Blechynden St, Bridgetown,
- one queen, three singles. Tel. 044 761. 7533.
E-mail unclescottys@bigpond.com

'Break of Day Homestay' Lot 751, Walter Road,
Bridgetown - a double room. Tel. 9761 1284.

E-mail breakofday@westnet.com.au

'Old Convent' cnr Roe and Steere Sts, Bridgetown.
Tel. Mr Kinshela, 9761 4092.

FIRST DISTINGUISHED GUEST, BRCF 2012

The first Distinguished Guest of BRCF will be Professor John Griffiths, the most renowned living musician/musicologist in Australia. After 30 years as Director of Early Music Studies, and since 1994 as Professor of Music, at the University of Melbourne, he has just been appointed Honorary Research Fellow at Melbourne University. As vihuelist and lutenist he has performed throughout the world; as scholar and teacher he was, in 1993, knighted by Juan Carlos I of Spain for his contribution to Spanish culture, and was Visiting Professor, 1997-1998, at Universidad Complutense, Madrid. In 2006 Professor Griffiths was elected to the Australian Academy of the Humanities, was made a Socio de Honor of the Sociedad de Vihuela, Spain, and was elected President of the Musicological Society of Australia. He is a Board Member of numerous international journals of Early Music, and is General Editor of Lyrebird Press, which publishes critical editions of Early Music. Professor Griffiths will be accompanied by his wife, Bernice.

CELLO AND PIANO RECITAL at FONTECOLOMBO

3p.m. SUNDAY 27 NOVEMBER 2011

Tickets \$30. Call me on 9761 2772

The two artists are Louise McKay, recently appointed Associate Principal Cello, West Australian Symphony Orchestra, and Mark Gasser, English concert pianist now teaching at the West Australian Academy of Performing Arts. The programme includes a Beethoven *Sonata for Cello and Piano*.

Please tell your friends about the coming festival, show them the programme, and encourage them to attend. They will not be let down. The flyer, with all the music, the names of all the artists, and the registration form, will be sent out, by e-mail and by post, as usual in late January.

With my best wishes

Vincent Moleta

Director, BRCF