

RYAN YOUENS CONDUCTOR



Ryan Youens (BMus (Hons), MMus) is a composer, copyist and arranger. Ryan completed his Masters in composition at the New Zealand School of Music in Wellington, working with Jack Body, Michael Norris and John Psathas. Before that he studied at Auckland University and at Otago University, where he worked with Anthony Ritchie and graduated with a Bachelor of Music degree with first class honours in 2005.

As a composer, Ryan's music has been performed extensively throughout New Zealand and internationally (Europe, South America) and has been workshopped and recorded by the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra on four occasions. As a copyist, Ryan is now very

well regarded, working worldwide for leading ensembles, composers and music organisations. As an arranger, his work for concerts, films and publishing have also been well regarded. Ryan was recently commissioned by the ERUPT Lake Taupo Festival, thanks to the SOUNZ Community Commission, to write a large work to open their 2010 festival. He will be in Brazil during December, collaborating with composer-musician Alexey Kurkdjian and conducting the Sphaera Ensemble.

Ryan lives in Auckland with his wife, Wendy, and is very pleased to be working with the Auckland Wind Orchestra. For more information see: www.ryanyouens.com.

AUCKLAND WIND ORCHESTRA

Flute

Nicola Jones
Sharon Han
Priscilla Scanlan* *+piccolo*
Ayaka Ohira
Isabell Haym
Aleisha Dreadon

Clarinet

Nicola Walton
Finn Schofield
Carolyn Mitchell*
Mark Scaletti
Jenny Walker
Andrea Campbell
Anton Bruell
Naomi Dekker *bass*

Oboe

Vanessa Newton-Wade*
Emily James

Bassoon

Ivy Robinson*
Henning Kruger

Saxophone

Paul Radden *alto*
Scott McDowall *alto*
Zyia-Li Teh *tenor*
Yvette Audain *tenor/soprano*
Greg McCarin *baritone*

Trumpet

Nathan Vink*
Terron Service
Michael Plunkett
Melanie Tonner
Cohan Chapman
Matthew Yang

Baritone

Emi Steedman

Horn

Cheryl Simpson
Phillip Anderson*
Reymond Takashima
Henry Swanson

Trombone

Matthew Russell*
Dion Henare
Craig Dean
Steve Taylor *+tuba*

Tuba

Hamish Arthur

Percussion

Ralf Tonner*
Nick Haslip
Brendan Agnew
Matthew Crawford

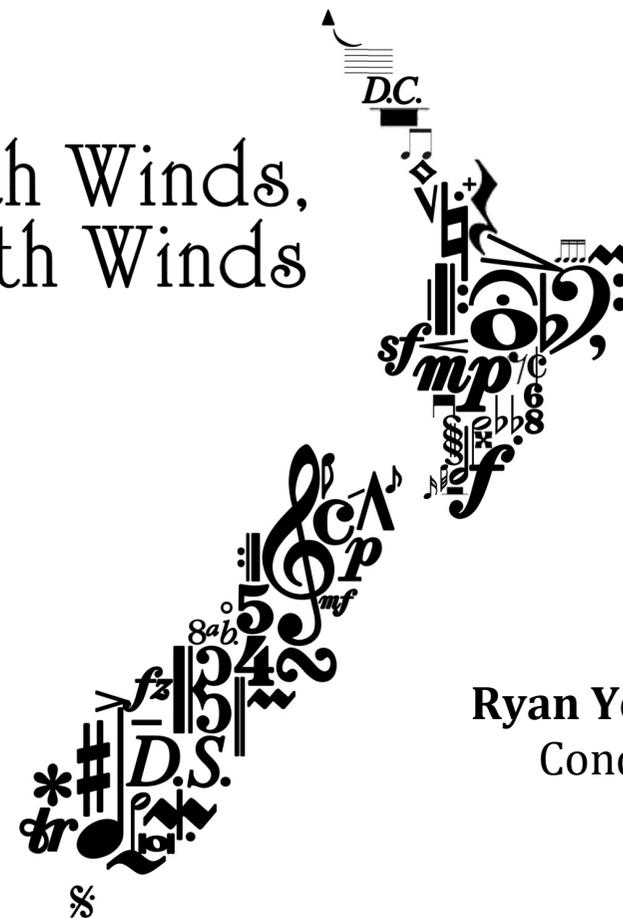
* section leader

premier plastics group



AUCKLAND WIND ORCHESTRA

North Winds,
South Winds



Ryan Youens
Conductor

Sunday 18th October, 2009
Aotea Chapel

www.awo.co.nz

PROGRAMME

Forest Sketches

David Woodcock

Originally from Wales, David Woodcock studied music at the University College of North Wales, specializing in composition with William Mathias. There followed a period of study at the Royal College of Music in London and a performing career on the trombone in London, and from 1983, New Zealand. He was with the Auckland Philharmonia for 5 years and is still based in Auckland where he now spends his time composing and arranging.

***Piwakawaka** - The Piwakawaka or Fantail is an inquisitive and lively bird. It will often follow you some time through the bush, hovering for short spells in front of you, then posing on a nearby branch with tail feathers spread.*

***Kakapo** - A very rare flightless parrot-like bird. It moves slowly and has an air of great sadness about it, almost as if it knows of the great peril that the species is in.*

***Kiwi** - Another nocturnal species of flightless bird, and the adopted symbol of New Zealand. It forages through the bush sticking its long bill deep into the ground in a search for worms and insects.*

The Pensieve

Zyia-Li Teh

Zyia-Li, 20, Auckland-born Malaysian Chinese, is currently at the University of Auckland in her third and final year of a Bachelor of Music degree in composition. She is also an itinerant music teacher for various primary schools in Auckland. Zyia-Li has composed for various solo instruments and ensembles, and "The Pensieve" is her first major composition.

A pensieve is a stone receptacle used to store and review memories from the fictional Harry Potter novels and films. It has the appearance of a shallow stone basin which is covered with carved mystic runes and contains memories that take physical form as a type of matter that is described as neither gas nor liquid. One could extract their own or another person's memories, store them in the pensieve and review them later. This piece was written with a couple of childhood memories in mind. Since none of us here is a wizard, we shall view them in the form of 'muggle' music!

Earthbound Wings

Yvette Audain

Born and resident in Auckland, New Zealand, Yvette Audain is a busy, prolific freelance composing musician, her principal instruments being saxophone and clarinet. She holds a Master of Music in composition from Victoria University of Wellington, and a Bachelor of Music in composition and clarinet from the University of Auckland, from whence she also holds a Graduate Diploma in Teaching (Secondary). Yvette currently keeps herself busy with her itinerant teaching schedule (saxophone, clarinet, composition) in several Auckland schools.

I wrote this piece while completing my Masters in composition at Victoria University. At the time I was experiencing considerable internal conflict, as the opportunity had arisen to join an army band. As someone of pacifistic sensibilities, yet who also wanted to make a life and living out of music, I was in a quandary, knowing that behind all the pomp, ceremony and jolly marching tunes, there was the grim reality of human sacrifice.

Earthbound Wings is an evocation of the broad subject of war. Gradually the fate of these musically-depicted soldiers ('earthbound') becomes clear; then follows their elegy suggesting peace, calm, and maybe even the presence of angels or something beyond this world ('wings').

The Ballad of Settler McGee

Philip Norman

Philip Norman has worked as a professional composer and musician based in Christchurch since 1978. At home in the theatre or concert hall, he has had work commissioned from a sizable cross-section of New Zealand's major performing arts organizations.

The Ballad of Settler McGee was commissioned by Concert FM in 1990, New Zealand's sesqui-centennial year, for the closing concert of the World Youth Festival in Christchurch, September 2nd, 1990.

Though Settler McGee is a fictitious character, his ballad is based on the life of an early pioneering figure. Of Celtic origin, this settler emigrated to New Zealand, through Hobart, in the early 1830s. He lived with and married into a Maori tribe, was present at the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi, and fought in several early wars. He played a prominent part in negotiating the ensuing peace and in promoting understanding between the Maori and Pakeha people. With deliberate symbolism, our Settler McGee died on the day New Zealand gained Dominion status.

Aue!

Christopher Marshall

Christopher Marshall was born in Paris, France in 1956 and educated in Australia and New Zealand. A self-taught composer he holds a Master of Music degree with Honours, a Fellowship in Composition from Trinity College London and a Teaching Licentiate in Piano from the same institution.

Christopher Marshall's orchestral, wind ensemble, chamber and choral music has been very widely performed and broadcast particularly in the United States and Europe. His music is accessible, idiomatically written and often exhilarating in its rhythmic ingenuity. It also places great emphasis on expressive memorable melody and frequently delights in integrating diverse stylistic elements.

For three years we lived inland at Vaia'ata in Savai'i, Samoa. Often in the evenings you could hear sounds from the villages carried on the sea breeze - songs, dances, bells, drums - all filtered and transformed by the mists of the rain forest.

This music starts at Vaia'ata and takes the forest track down to the village. At its heart is an old Samoan tune 'Faleula E' or 'People of Faleula'. The motif is inspired by the powerful sound of the conch shell and the chanting of competing orators. Hymns are sung at all social events, and fragments of one hymn tune appear throughout this piece. The predominant rhythm, heard on log and tin drums accompanies the 'sass', a popular dance. The word 'aue' is a Samoan exclamation expressing strong emotion.

Far Star

Matthew Crawford

Matthew Crawford is about to relocate to Melbourne. In recent years, he has worked as a radio producer, broadcasting many classical music concerts to New Zealand and the world. From 2001 to 2007, he was a percussionist with the Auckland Wind Orchestra and, in his later years with the group, managed it as well. As he departs for new horizons, Matthew wishes the AWO well and congratulates it on its commitments to original wind music and New Zealand composition.

Far Star is an elongation and elaboration of Mozart's harmonisation of the French melody "Ah! vous dirai-je, Maman", better known to us now as "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star".

Rotorua

Phillip Anderson

Phillip Anderson (BA[Mus + Ed]) is currently a student at the University of Auckland, studying for a Graduate Diploma in Music. This is his first major work for concert band. Apart from some itinerant teaching on trumpet, he also works for MOTAT on a casual basis driving trams. Phillip has been a member of AWO since 2001 and is a current member of the Auckland Youth Symphonic Band and the Aotea Youth Symphony, as well as assisting in the Symphony's junior orchestra, the Aotea Sinfonietta.

This piece is a musical collage of Rotorua - including a past event and was originally written for orchestra. The inspiration for the piece came on a trip to the city in 2003 where I visited some of the places evoked in the music.

Guardians of the North

Ryan Youens

Guardians of the North was commissioned by the Opononi Summer School in 2007, funded by Creative New Zealand. It was written to celebrate the school and to make New Zealand music more familiar to the participants.

The summer school is set in the Hokianga, where New Zealand's first Maori and second European settlements were established. Since then, no other place in New Zealand carries such a rich and storied past. Maori legend has it that two taniwha, Arai-te-uru & Niwa, were situated at the entrance of the harbour to protect it from invading waka. Arai-te-uru was placed on the south head and Niwa at the north head. They would stir the waters and lash out at the waka, ceasing their entry. These two taniwha were the... Guardians of the North.

