
KEYE STRING QUARTET NO. 2

i. Tempo Giusto

RAVEL STRING QUARTET IN F MAJOR

i. Allegro moderato. Très doux

ii. Assez vif. Très rythmé

INTERVAL

BORODIN STRING QUARTET NO. 2

i. Allegro moderato

ii. Scherzo: Allegro

iii. Notturmo (Nocturne): Andante

iv. Finale: Andante — Vivace

KORUTET | *The Players*

CHARMIAN KEAY | *Violin 2*

New Zealand violinist Charmian Keay was born into a musical family and has played the violin for as long as she can remember. Mainly taught by her mother Miranda Adams, other teachers included Justine Cormack, of the New Zealand Trio, Kevin Lefohn, director of the Queenstown Violin Summer School (NZ) which Charmian attended in January 2006, and Tessa Petersen. Until 2012 she was studying for her Postgraduate Diploma in Performance as a Trinity Laban Scholar at the Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance with Matthew Trusler, one of Britain's most acclaimed solo violinists.

Charmian Keay completed her Bachelor of Music with Honours (First Class) in Performance Violin in 2008 at the University of Otago in New Zealand. After graduating, she won the Elman Poole Fellowship and was offered a place in the Southbank Sinfonia, based in Waterloo, London for the year in 2009. European performances include a solo recital in Oxford of Mozart's Concerto No. 5 in A Major, as well as chamber music recitals in venues such as the Royal Opera house and Wigmore Hall with fellow members of the Southbank Sinfonia, and in festivals including the Paris Oboe Festival, and the Anghiari Festival, Italy.

CORALIE USMANI | *Viola 2*

Coralie Usmani holds a Bachelor of Music Honours (first class) from Auckland University. She majored in performance violin and studied under David Nalden and Elizabeth Holowell. She was the recipient of the Manchester Fellowship with the Auckland Philharmonic Orchestra in 2010 and has been playing with the orchestra regularly since then.

CRYSTAL LIN | *Viola*

Crystal completed a Bachelor of Music in 2013 from Auckland University majoring in Performance viola and minoring in Classical Voice. Over the years she has been under the tuition of Susan Bierre and Michael McLellan (viola) and Patricia Wright (voice). Crystal has been the recipient of the Sagar-Vanderwart Scholarship for String

EUNICE PARK | *Cello*

Eunice Park is a recent Masters graduate with first class Honours from Auckland University and is an active cellist and a teacher. She is a passionate chamber musician who plays regularly with quartets around Auckland and she has prepared many successful students with music

NIGEL KEAY

Originally from New Zealand, Nigel Keay today lives and works in Paris as a composer and violist. Throughout his musical career he has always been an active participant in presenting his own music either as a violist or on occasions as conductor.

Before leaving New Zealand in 1998 Nigel Keay had held several fulltime composer-in-residence positions; the Mozart Fellowship in Dunedin, Nelson School of Music and the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra. His music has been broadcast by Radio France and presented in concert by renowned musicians from France and elsewhere.

In 2010 Nigel Keay was co-producer of the Blumlein Records CD Diversions - Autour du hautbois, A CD of music with oboe that included his own Diversions for

She is currently a freelance violinist in Auckland and plays with the Auckland Chamber Orchestra, Korutet and bands Avalanche City and Madam Tsunami among others. Her versatility in playing different styles on her instrument have led to national television appearances, touring Australia (Big Day Out 2013) and performances at various Jazz festivals. She also runs her own teaching studio from home.

Players and Spring Scholarship for String Players. In June 2013, she performed solo with St Matthew's Chamber Orchestra. She has performed behind various artists such as Stan Walker and Will Martin. Currently, Crystal is a Graphic Designer at BE Intent, freelance designer and creative director of WhatHope Community Trust and HopeStory.tv.

examinations through Royal School of Music and Trinity. She is an enthusiastic teacher at many Music schools around Auckland. She is currently teaching at Murrays Bay Intermediate School.

The Composers

Quintet. In December 2011 Blumlein Records released five of Nigel Keay's chamber music works on the CD Music for Small Groups. In October 2013 Nigel Keay was the featured guest on Radio France Musique's Tapage Nocturne programme.

String Quartet No.2 was composed in Devonport, Auckland, between November 1994 and February 1995. The writing of the quartet was inspired by a love of the medium, particularly as a player having experienced the late quartets of Beethoven and other repertoire. The first performance was given at the Watershed Theatre, Auckland on the 10th March 1995 by Simon McLellan & Sarah Hart (violins), Judith Williams (cello) and with the composer as violist.

Denys Trussell wrote in a subsequent review (Quote Unquote, April 1995): "Nigel Keay...had his substantial and dramatic Second Quartet given its first performances at these concerts. It is in part a synthesis of the strictly modernist and the freer post-modernist harmonic constructions: Keay is moving away from a music of

JOSEPH-MAURICE RAVEL

Joseph-Maurice Ravel (March 7, 1875 – December 28, 1937) was a French composer known especially for his melodies, masterful orchestration, richly evocative harmonies and inventive instrumental textures and effects.

Along with Claude Debussy, he was one of the most prominent figures associated with Impressionist music. Much of his piano music, chamber music, vocal music and orchestral music is part of the standard concert repertoire. Ravel's piano compositions, such as *Jeux d'eau*, *Miroirs*, *Le tombeau de Couperin* and *Gaspard de la nuit*, demand considerable virtuosity from the performer, and his mastery of orchestration is particularly evident in such works as *Rapsodie espagnole*, *Daphnis et Chloé* and his arrangement of Modest Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*. Ravel is perhaps known best for his orchestral work *Boléro* (1928), which he once described as "a piece for orchestra without music".

ALEXANDER PORFIRYEVICH BORODIN

Russian Romantic composer, doctor and chemist. He was a member of the group of composers called The Five (Mily Balakirev (the leader), César Cui, Modest Mussorgsky, Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov and Borodin). The group had the aim of producing a specifically Russian kind of art music, rather than one that imitated older European music or relied on European-style conservatory training. Borodin is best known for his symphonies, his two string quartets, *In the Steppes of Central Asia* and his opera *Prince Igor*. Music from *Prince Igor* and his string quartets was later adapted for the US musical *Kismet*.

He was a notable advocate of women's rights and a proponent of education in Russia and was a founder of the School of Medicine for Women in St. Petersburg. Himself a cellist, he was an enthusiastic chamber music player, an interest that deepened during his chemical

sustained dissonance in this work towards a music where consonance and dissonance interact..." Since then String Quartet No.2 has established itself as one of the composer's most widely-performed works having been played in New Zealand, Thailand, Japan, France and Germany by several different formations.

Maurice Ravel completed his String quartet in F major in early April 1903 at the age of 28. Dedicated to his friend and teacher Gabriel Fauré, the work was introduced in Paris by the Heymann Quartet on March 5, 1904.

The Quartet in F major was Ravel's final submission to the Prix de Rome and the Conservatoire de Paris. The composition was rejected by both institutions soon after its premier on March 5, 1904. The quartet received mixed reviews from the Parisian press and local academia. Ravel's loss during the 1904 Prix de Rome and rejection from the Conservatoire de Paris catapulted his career not backwards but forward: a sympathetic public rallied behind his compositions and musical style. In 1905, Claude Debussy wrote to Ravel: "In the name of the gods of music and in my own, do not touch a single note you have written in your Quartet."

studies in Heidelberg between 1859 and 1861. This early period yielded, among other chamber works, a string sextet and a piano quintet. In thematic structure and instrumental texture he based his pieces on those of Felix Mendelssohn.

In 1875 Borodin started his First String Quartet, much to the displeasure of Mussorgsky and Vladimir Stasov. That Borodin did so in the company of The Five, who were hostile to chamber music, speaks to his independence. From the First Quartet on, he displayed mastery in the form. His Second Quartet, in which his strong lyricism is represented in the popular "Nocturne", followed in 1881. The First Quartet is richer in changes of mood. The Second Quartet has a more uniform atmosphere and expression.

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