

DEVONPORT CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

This year we are privileged to have the Devonport Chamber Orchestra to accompany our Concerto Finalists. The Devonport Chamber Orchestra (DCO) is a community orchestra group, passionate about providing accessible classical music. They offer four to six live performance concerts each year in the seaside suburb of Devonport on Auckland's North Shore. Since 2016 all their concerts are held at Holy Trinity Anglican Church, 20 Church Street, Devonport.

The Orchestra today is conducted by Peter Thomas. Peter is a NZ based conductor with wide experience including with the Auckland Symphony Orchestra, NZ Symphony Orchestra, Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra, Auckland Youth Orchestra and others. Peter graduated from Auckland University with a Bachelor of Music Degree and is currently Director of the Remuera Music School.

ADJUDICATOR BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH -- KIM NADEN

After gaining a scholarship at eighteen, Kim Naden left Auckland to study at the Royal College of Music in London, majoring in performance and piano accompaniment. After 4 years study and a successful career performing throughout England and teaching in London, he became repetiteur for the Royal Ballet School and worked with many Artists and Teachers from the Royal Ballet Company. Since his return home to Auckland, Kim has set up a large private teaching practice and is on the teaching staff of Kings College. He is in demand as an accompanist and Adjudicator in all the NZ Performing Arts Festivals and has lectured for the Institute of Registered Music Teachers (IRMT) as well as tutored in their teaching workshops. We are extremely grateful to him for his work in adjudicating these our 67th Festival Piano Competitions.

COMING FESTIVAL EVENTS

Senior Vocal Competitions 4th - 7th June including
Becroft Aria Final 4.30 pm Monday 7th June
at
The PumpHouse Theatre



North Shore
Performing Arts Society Inc.

2021 PIANO CONCERTO FINAL



With the
Devonport Chamber Orchestra
Conductor Peter Thomas

Saturday 22nd May 2021

2.30 pm

The PumpHouse
Killarney Park—off Manurewa Ave
Takapuna

Adults Admission \$15
Seniors \$10
Students (12-16) \$10
Children (Under 12) \$5
Pumphouse Booking Fee \$5

PROGRAMME

Devonport Chamber Orchestra

Air, from Suite No. 3 in D Major by J S Bach.

2021 PIANO CONCERTO FINAL

Piano Concerto in A Major K 488 – Mozart

1st Movement and Cadenza

FINALISTS

Yuzhang Wu

Geoffrey Hill

Gina Gao

**First prize \$500, Second \$300,
Third \$160**

donated by Mr and Mrs Ian Knight.

Devonport Chamber Orchestra

Gigue, from Suite No. 3 in D Major by J S Bach.

Adjudicator : Mr Kim Naden

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

**Most Promising North Shore Piano Competitor 10-16 Age Group
F H Taylor Cup**

Announcement of the Winner of the 2021 Concerto Competition

PROFILES OF THE FINALISTS

Yuzhang Wu

Yuzhang is a Year 10 student in Pinehurst school. She began learning piano at the age of 5. Yuzhang loves music and aspires to be a good concert pianist and music educator. Over the years, she has won numerous prizes and awards in piano competitions, both nationally and internationally. These include the 3rd Zhuhai International Mozart Competition for Young Musicians (piano class A), the 1st Pacific International Music competition for Youth (Piano class B), Overall Excellence Award of APPA - Auckland Primary Principles Associations, IRMT scholarship etc. In 2020 Yuzhang was awarded the AIMES Junior Excellence Award in music by the North Harbour Club. She is also a Chiron Junior scholarship winner for 2020. Yuzhang regularly plays in different retirement villages sharing her joy of music. She also plays cello in her school orchestra, and has passed ABRSM cello Grade 8 exam with distinction.

Geoffrey Hill

Geoff Hill is a 15-year old pianist and attends Westlake Boys High School where he is heavily involved in the music programme playing jazz keyboards, percussion and singing. He is also a valued member of the Chiron Group's chamber music programme. He has been a first prize winner at the 2021 North Shore Performing Arts Society and 2020 IRMT Auckland Branch competitions and won third prize at the Asia Pacific Solo Music Competition 2020. Geoff started his piano studies with Tatiana Lanchtchikova and is now learning with Stephen De Pledge and Ludwig Treviranus. An Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra Young Achiever and a popular performer, he can also be seen in the orchestra pit playing keyboards for local musical theatre productions and playing jazz around Auckland.

Gina Gao

Currently studying a Bachelor of Music in Classical Performance and Global Studies at the University of Auckland, Gina Gao has been studying piano since the age of five, violin since the age of eight and five years ago, she started the flute. Gina is currently studying with Rae De Lisle. In 2015, she received a scholarship prize at the Auckland Primary Principals' Association (APPA) music competition. Throughout the year, she auditioned for the Pettman National Junior Academy of Music (PNJA) while getting accepted into their music scholarship programme for 5 years. Gina has won numerous awards in regional music competitions and has always had a great interest in learning and teaching piano. In 2020, she performed at her first solo recital, showcasing her versatility in a wide range of repertoire including Beethoven, Ligeti and Jenny Mcleod. Gina aspires to be an inspirational pianist and she looks forward to widening her knowledge and skills throughout a lifelong journey with music.