



Canterbury Philharmonia

2019 Concert Season
Symphonic Dances

The Philip Carter Family
Concert Hall

Sunday 24 November 2.30 pm



Heidi Cooper



Cover artwork – credit Ursula McCulloch

Programme

Overture: La fille du
régiment

Gaetano Donizetti

Clarinet Concerto No.1
F minor, J.114

Carl Maria von Weber

Soloist: Heidi Cooper

INTERVAL

Roses from the South - Valse Johann Strauss II

Symphonic Dances, op. 64

Edvard Grieg

Mark Hodgkinson – Conductor

Mark Hodgkinson is a Christchurch free-lance conductor and teacher.

Following study towards a performance degree in trumpet at Canterbury University, he travelled to Sweden to learn from Bo Nilsson. On his return to New Zealand, he joined the Auckland Philharmonia and played with them for a period of three years before returning to Christchurch. Mark had already received conducting tuition in his teens from Peter Zwartz at the then Christchurch School of Instrumental Music (now the Christchurch School of Music - CSM), and had conducted some of their ensembles. This work continued in Sweden with opportunities to work with Limhamns Brass Band and on his return to Auckland, Perkel Opera and Mercury Opera.

Back in Christchurch, he was re-engaged by the CSM, and was soon receiving engagements with amongst others Christchurch Operatic, Canterbury Music Theatre, Christchurch Youth Orchestra, Christchurch Symphony Orchestra, Nelson Symphony Orchestra, and Canterbury Opera. He was music director of the chamber orchestra Da Capo for some ten years.

Shortly after his return to Christchurch he began conducting for the Canterbury Philharmonia. He has now been with orchestra for 30 years. Mark also conducts the Christchurch Doctors' Orchestra, the New Zealand Doctors' Orchestra and the chamber orchestra Resonance Ensemble.

Soloist – Heidi Cooper

Heidi is a clarinettist and pianist who has just completed her second year at University of Canterbury, where she is studying a double degree with a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Music, majoring in Performance.

She started playing piano at the age of 6 after being inspired by her musical sister. At the age of 10, she started playing the clarinet under the instruction of John Robinson and soon became involved in CSM orchestras. Through high school she continued the study of both instruments. In 2017 she made it into the quarter-finals of the Chamber Music Competition, playing the piano. Also during this time, she achieved her Trinity Grade 8 in both instruments.

Heidi has been a member of the Christchurch Youth Orchestra for the past three years and has this year studied clarinet with David McGregor and piano with Tim Emerson. In her spare time she enjoys playing in musicals and has recently Co-Musical Directed 'Beauty and the Beast', and has played keys in many other shows.

She has thoroughly enjoyed learning the Weber Concerto and believes through the process of learning and developing it, she has improved as a player and musician.

Programme

Overture: La fille du régiment

**Gaetano Donizetti
(1797-1848)**

Donizetti wrote the opera **La fille du régiment** somewhere between 1838 and its première in 1840 while based in Paris. The opening performance was not a success, but it nonetheless gained a following, reaching the 500th performance landmark in 1871.

La fille du régiment was Donizetti's first setting of a French libretto, and he also made French translations of a number of his other works for performance in Paris, prompting none other than Hector Berlioz to complain that the Paris opera houses had become the Donizetti opera houses.

Clarinet Concerto No.1 F minor, J.114

**Carl Maria von Weber
(1786-1826)**

During a short lifetime, Carl Maria von Weber dramatically influenced the course of German music as he sought to give musical expression to the wide range and power of human emotions. He is credited with the founding of a German operatic tradition that reached a considerable peak in the works of Richard Wagner, and he developed a richness of orchestral sound with his inspired use of instrumental colours.

Von Weber's works were frequently motivated by individual performers, and his compositions for clarinet and orchestra came about through his association and friendship with the clarinetist Heinrich Baermann. Following a concert in Munich in early 1811, King Maximilian of Bavaria commissioned von Weber to compose two concertos for clarinet and orchestra. The work presented today is believed to have been

completed in little more than a month but is none the less an excellent vehicle both for the soloist and for von Weber's musical concerns. A particular feature is the exquisite chorale for the soloist and three horns in the second movement, while the outer movements are full of a contrasting range of moods.

INTERVAL

Roses from the South - Valse

**Johann Strauss II
(1825-1899)**

A short piece in tribute to Ernest McBryde

Symphonic Dances, op. 64

**Edvard Grieg
(1843-1907)**

- 1. Allegro moderato e marcato**
- 2. Allegretto grazioso**
- 3. Allegro giocoso**
- 4. Andante – Allegro risoluto**

Grieg originally composed these four dances for piano duo. He based them on folksongs and dances that had been collated by Ludvig Mathias Lindeman, a fellow composer from Norway. It seems likely though that Grieg intended them for orchestra, due to both their title and the speed with which they appeared in an orchestral scoring, barely a year after they appeared in their original format in 1897.

The structure of each dance is not especially notable, sticking to a strict ternary form where a contrasting middle section separates two sections of the same material. What is on full display is Grieg's remarkable skills at deploying a wide range of orchestral colour effectively, and his clever interweaving of counter-melodic lines with the core folk tune. Yet again, the listener is left wishing he had composed more orchestral works for us to enjoy.

Programme notes by Mark Hodgkinson

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The Orchestra

Violin 1

Alastair Sands ●
Justine Bradley
Marlys Donaldson
Alison Griffith-Collins
Lorraine Horton
Margaret Maw
Emma Norrish

Violin 2

Carol Frost ●
Ruth Dove
Beth Garvey
Clive Morriss
Lynette Murdoch #
Olivia Murray
David Plew
Alice Sillifant #
Jennifer Tod

Viola

Katherine Trought ●
Kaylene Murdoch
Jennifer Jacobs #
Mary Lovell
Lynn Oliff
Margaret Sands
Nick Wogan

Cello

Mike Hurrell ●
Bridget Beck
Katharina Cairns
Amy Isbister #
Morag Macpherson
Tracey Morgan
Kerry Murphy #
Jane Radford #
Christy Yau #

Double Bass

Tim Wilkinson ●#
Robyn Bisset
John Blunt
Bryan Isbister #

Flute

Sarah Helleur ●
Bryony Bedggood
Natasha Chernousova

Piccolo

Bryony Bedggood

Oboe

Alison Macklan ●#
Malcolm McCulloch
Ian Thorpe

Clarinet

Barbara Peddie ●
Daniel Kipper +
Stephen Gregory #
Jennifer Tubb

Bassoon

Marco Rijnberg ●
Reina Dornan
Anne Godfrey #

Horn

Sally Botur ●#
Jenny Bartley
Elizabeth Christensen
Angeline Dew ●*
Tom Steele +

Trumpet

Lucy Page-Dalton ●
Matt Sands +

Trombone

Carol Crowther ●
Rod Cross

Bass Trombone

Rebecca Harris +
Brian Hodges #

Tuba

Matthew Bennett

Timpani

Richard Oswin +
David Scales #

- Principal
- * Acting Principal
- # On leave
- + Guest player

Orchestra patron

John Emeleus

Conductor

Mark Hodgkinson

Leader

Alastair Sands

Orchestra committee

Malcolm McCulloch (chairperson), Sarah Helleur (vice chairperson), Lucy Page-Dalton (secretary), Bridget Beck (treasurer), Sally Botur (librarian), Robyn Bisset, Alastair Sands

Life members

Chris Adams, Charles Begg, Stephen Delany, John Emeleus, Michael Fogden, Mark Hodgkinson, Pam McLean, Barbara Peddie, Nelson Roberts, Margaret Sands, Brian Smith.

Ernest (Ernie) McBryde

We acknowledge the passing of our life member in Dunedin recently, aged 94. As current member Clive Morriss writes, "Ernie led the second violin section for many years. He was also involved with getting the orchestra to play as a Viennese Group at the University Passing Out activities. Also at Wigram Air Force Base Graduations where he had worked."

Rest in Peace Ernie.

Acknowledgments



**Rātā
Foundation**

The Canterbury Philharmonia is very grateful to the Rata Foundation for a recent grant towards the running of the 2019 season for the orchestra.