

## Amateur Chamber Music Society

<http://www.acms-australia.org/concerts/>

— PROGRAMME —

### *Short Pieces for Violin, Cello, and Piano*

piano Christine Edwards

ELGAR *Two Songs* Op 15 - violin Regula Scheidegger

FAURÉ *Après un rêve* Op 7 – cello Clara Blazer

BEETHOVEN *Romance No 2 in F Op 50* – violin George Carrard  
30'

### HAYDN *String Quartet in C Major Op 76 No 3 Hob.III:77,* *two movements*

(1) *Allegro* (2) *Poco adagio, cantabile*

violins Zhenquan Hua and Peirong Lin

viola James Dong cello Yi Ding  
12'

### *Interval*

5'

### MOZART *Sonata No 18 for Piano and Violin* *in G major K301*

(1) *Allegro con spirito* (2) *Allegretto-Minore-Maggiore*

violin Regula Scheidegger piano Christine Edwards  
15'

### *Two Traditional Chinese Pieces*

(1) CHEN and HE *Butterfly Lovers*

(2) *Thunder in Drought*

violins Zhenquan Hua and Peirong Lin

viola James Dong cello Yi Ding  
8'

### ELGAR (1857 - 1934) *Two Songs* Op 15

No 1 *Evening Song* No 1, *Morning Song* No 2 are two popular pieces for violin and piano written in ~1890 that Elgar later orchestrated. Elgar sent his *Evening Song* to Jaeger, an employee of his publisher, and bemoaned the lack of financial reward he had received for his works. They agreed to publish it as *Chanson de Nuit* believing that French titles sold better. Later they then named the companion song *Chanson de Matin*. Jaeger became *Nimrod* in Elgar's *Enigma Variations*.

### FAURÉ (1845 - 1924) *Après un rêve* Op 7

After a dream, composed in 1887, is a setting of an anonymous Tuscan poem that Faure's friend, the baritone Romain Bussine, translated into French. The song describes a dream of meeting a lover in a state of heavenly bliss, then being sadly awakened. The famous Spanish cellist Pablo Casals transcribed it for cello and piano in 1910.

### BEETHOVEN (1770 - 1827) *Romance No 2 in F Op 50*

In Beethoven's time the word 'romance' applies to pieces long enough to make a serious statement—longer than the typical art song or concert aria; they also usually share a cantabile quality we associate with romance—a smooth, singable, flowing line. He composed it in 1798, a few months before the *Pathétique* piano sonata, when he was already aware of his increasing deafness. He designated the tempo *adagio cantabile* though most people play it more *andante cantabile*.

### HAYDN (1732 – 1809) *String Quartet in C Major Op 76 No 3* *Hob.III:77*

Franz Joseph Haydn was an Austrian composer of the classical period. He was instrumental in the development of chamber music such as the string quartet and piano trio. His contributions to musical form have led him to be called "Father of the String Quartet". From its beginning the work has always been popular. It is a golden piece of music often performed in many countries including Australia.

The nickname "Emperor" is so called probably because the second movement is a theme and variations on what was at the time the anthem of the Austrian empire, which included adjacent states: 'God, Protect our Emperor Franz' (Gott erhalte Franz, den Kaiser).

### MOZART (1756-1791) *Sonata for Piano and Violin in G major K301*

In 1778, the 22 year-old Mozart and his mother left Salzburg and set out on a long journey which culminated in Paris. Mozart was searching for new employment. He had become restless in his post as Concertmaster to the Salzburg Court, a title that he had held since age 13. Mozart found his native Salzburg to be provincial and artistically stifling. He was paid a low salary, and there was little call for him to write operas.

The trip opened Mozart's ears to exciting new musical possibilities. In Munich, he heard a set of violin sonatas by Joseph Schuster (1748–1812) and sent copies of the scores home, writing to his sister, Nannerl, "I have often played them here; they are by no means bad. If I remain

long enough, I intend to compose six in this style, for it is much liked here.” Mozart travelled on to Mannheim, a hotbed of musical innovation at the time. Here, he began work on a set of violin sonatas modelled after Schuster’s. Although Mozart had already written more than 300 works in Salzburg, he chose to publish the Sonatas in Paris as “Opus 1.”

This sonata is one of several that are in two movements only. It is exceptional in having two Allegros - there is no slow movement. The second of allegro is a graceful waltz-like piece in a simple ternary design, with a central episode in the minor whose siciliano-like melody is entrusted entirely to the violin. The reprise follows the plan of the opening section exactly, but Mozart adds a little coda which brings the sonata to a close of considerable charm.

### CHEN (1935 -) and HE (1933 -) *Butterfly Lovers*

The Butterfly Lovers arranged for String Quartet utilises some traditional Chinese techniques and styles to create a sound suitable for its story. Among them are the use of melodies from Chinese folk songs and from a well-known Chinese opera version of the Butterfly Lovers story.

Across the music story we can feel Zhu and Liang meeting in childhood, attending school together, and growing closer. The story turns tragic as Zhu is betrothed to another man. Later Liang is depressed, becomes ill, and dies. On the way to Zhu’s wedding ceremony the welcome team passed Liang’s tomb and are hindered by a sudden strong wind. Zhu enters the tomb, which collapses crushing her to death. The story ends with the lovers’ spirits emerging as butterflies.

### *Thunder in Drought*

*Han Tian Lei* in Chinese Pinyin, is a cheerful piece, originating from the Guangdong province (south China) in 1921. It is farmers’ plea to the gods for rain, and is used as transitional music between scenes in Canton Opera.

concert organiser George Carrard  
\$15 admission, \$10 concession/seniors

Next concert: Sunday 7 July. Please check [acms-australia.org/index.php/concerts](http://acms-australia.org/index.php/concerts) for details when available, or go to [acms-australia.org](http://acms-australia.org) and click on the tabs.

All chamber music players are welcome to join the Amateur Chamber Music Society. Visit [acms-australia.org](http://acms-australia.org) for more information.

Amateur Chamber Music Society

<http://www.acms-australia.org/>

## *Two Chamber Music Concerts in May 2024*

3 pm Sunday 19 May at 16 Fitzroy St  
Kirribilli

5 pm Sat 25 May at the Presbyterian  
Church, 7 Campbell St, Balmain

