

THE ARIOSO ENSEMBLE

presents

Händel



Nine German Arias



The splendour of Händel's music

THE ARIOSO ENSEMBLE

The Arioso Chamber Ensemble bring together the talents and experience of leading specialists in Baroque performance - Hungarian soprano Judit Molnar, Margaret Caley (violin), Daniel Curro (cello) and Janet Brewer (harpsichord).



JUDIT MOLNAR - SOPRANO

graduated from the Franz Liszt Academy of Music in 2008. She performs at solo and chamber concerts, festivals, oratorios and operas in Hungary and across Europe as well as in her adopted country Australia. Performed with Opera Australia, Miskolc National Theatre, Lehar Festival Bad Ischl and the Canberra Symphony Orchestra in the presence of Her Excellency Quentin Bryce. Judit was invited to sing as soloist in the New Year's Eve Gala at QPAC in 2012 and in the Perth Concert Hall in 2013.



DAN CURRO - CELLO

studied the cello first with Helen Holt and later with Matthew Farrell, Roseanne Hunt and Howard Penny. Also played baroque cello in many groups including the Australian Brandenburg Orchestra and the Badinerie Players. Dan has also worked extensively with the Queensland Philharmonic Orchestra and The Queensland Orchestra. In 2007 Dan was contracted as principal cellist with QO.



JANET BREWER - HARPSICHORD

harpsichord performs regularly as a pianist and harpsichordist, in particular with Pacific Chamber Players. As harpsichordist she has performed with Alchemy, Noosa Orchestra and the QLD SCO. 2013 has seen Janet travel to Trondheim and Cambridge to study under Professors Ketil Haugsand and Peter Holman respectively and to subsequently perform at the St Olav Festival Trondheim and in Cambridge as part of the 2013 Cambridge Early Music Concert Series.



MARGARET CALEY - VIOLIN

studied baroque violin with Lucy van Dael at the Royal Conservatory, The Hague and performed in many baroque orchestras including the Nederlandse Bach Vereniging, the European Union Baroque Orchestra and Concerto Currende. She has performed in the Australian Brandenburg Orchestra, Telemann Ensemble and was invited to join international groups Les Talens Lyriques and The Netherlands Opera.

NINE GERMAN ARIAS



In this concert taste the splendour of Händel's music, including his Violin Sonata in D (Op 1 No 13), and the enchanting Nine German Arias (HWV 202 – 210). Celebrating the wondrous world we live in, the collection loosely named Nine German Arias was written in the 1720s to popular verses by Barthold Heinrich Brockes. The texts inspired Handel to write music of great intensity and melodic beauty, qualities augmented by an almost operatic sense of declamation. The German arias stand apart among Händel's vocal music, for they are very personal pieces, not just in the contemplative nature of their words but also in their musical intimacy, requiring a level of interactivity between the performers that is rarely found in vocal music of this period. Through these arias the listener glimpses Handel in one of his few creative outings with his native language, and they form what comes closest to a song cycle by him.

Although it is possible that the Nine German Arias were composed with orchestral performance in mind, the intimacy of Brockes's poetry and the subtlety of Handel's music lend themselves most obviously to chamber performance with violin and soprano soloists supported by continuo.



The background is a deep red color with thin, vertical white lines spaced evenly across it. Scattered throughout the red field are numerous white stars of varying sizes and brightness, some with four-pointed diffraction spikes. The stars are arranged in a pattern that resembles a constellation, with a few particularly bright stars acting as anchors. The overall effect is that of a starry night sky.

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