

Serenata Series Concert

Tasmin Little & Piers Lane - a triumph



The Serenata Series concert given by Tasmin Little and Piers Lane on Sunday 14th October was a triumph in every way. These artists have perfect musical rapport; each always knows exactly what the other will do in their interpretation of the music and there is a cohesiveness in their playing which can only be achieved by outstanding artists who play regularly together.

The duo presented music by Brahms, Schubert, Szymanovsky, Kats-Chernin, Ravel and Franck. This was a comprehensive programme of masterworks for violin and piano and Little and Lane filled the room with their totally captivating sound.

Despite the fact that the performers were presenting some of the most taxing works in their repertoire, their performances did not tax the listener. Rather, they took their audience with them on their musical journey so that their audience shared in their intimate musical travelogue.

Judging by audience reactions - it was a full house and two encores were called for - these concerts are well and truly living up to our expectations. We now approach the final concert in our series with great anticipation.

Timothy Constable is an international percussion artist. As well as being a member of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, he performs as a soloist and chamber musician around the world, recently returning from touring in Japan and Korea with acclaimed new-music ensemble Noreum Machi. The tour included performances of his own work, *Earth Cry*. This music is his response to many of the musical devices, rhythms and styles of that non-Western musical tradition.

Percussionists play well over one hundred different instruments and their repertoire is drawn from all over the world, including the Western classical tradition. So, this concert will have an exotic international flavour and will include music by JS Bach as well as more modern composers.

Included in Timothy's programme will be Martin Wesley Smith's *For Marimba and Tape*. Wesley Smith was a pioneer of electronic and electro acoustic music during the 1970s, 80s and 90s and this work is one of his most significant contributions to the genre. However, it is not dissonant or difficult to listen to or comprehend; the soloist (the marimba part) engages in a poignant and often powerful dialogue with the electronically generated lines of the composition. Composed in 1983, *For Marimba and Tape* has for a long time been one of the most frequently performed Australian works of any musical genre.

Aside from a vast array of instruments which Timothy will perform on, this concert will also feature Robert Constable (piano) as associate artist.