

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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A COLLISION COURSE MOST PLEASURABLE OF SWEET MELODIES AND PRODIGIOUS TALENT **Selby & Friends In The Southern Highlands** **Saturday 22 March 2014**

In March, the first of the acclaimed Selby & Friends series brings together another stunning ensemble performing beloved favourites from the piano trio repertoire alongside the premiere of a new work by the ensemble's cellist, Clancy Newman.

Joining **Kathryn Selby** on stage for the first time will be Australian virtuoso **violinist Natalie Chee** on her much anticipated return home to Australia from Stuttgart where she is leader of the Radio Symphony Orchestra. Also returning is popular New-York based Australian **cellist Clancy Newman**. These three master musicians, are joined by newcomer and rising star, **Som Howie (clarinet)** who is the 2014 Selby & Friends Development Artist, a program which provides a talented young musician with the unique opportunity to be mentored by and perform with the best professional ensemble performers.

The concert program includes **Mozart's early violin sonata in E minor, KV 304, a work** that is universally regarded as one of his finest chamber works. Written the year his mother died, when he was only 22, the E minor sonata is one of 35 sonatas Mozart wrote for keyboard and violin and the only one in a minor key, which lends it a dignity and a gravity unusual in Mozart's violin sonatas.

The world premiere of **Clancy Newman's new work *Collision Course*** for piano trio and clarinet, commissioned for Selby & Friends by the Silo Collective is an exciting element in this first program for the year. Already an admirer of Newman's musicianship and prodigious talent, Kathryn Selby was thrilled when the Silo Collective approached her and asked her to choose a composer whose work would be commissioned especially for performance on the S&F series. "Clancy is a marvellous musician. Selby & Friends audiences already admire his performances of the great masters like the Brahms and Schubert on the program...what a thrill that now they will be able to witness his own contribution to the chamber music canon as a composer. I certainly feel privileged to be involved!"

Also on the program is **Brahms' powerful Piano Trio in C minor** - possibly his most concise work it is almost the shortest of his twenty-four pieces of chamber music (though still in four movements) and his last work for piano trio. A mature work, Brahms' C minor trio is compact - tightly and concisely argued using a minimum of melodic substance developed with maximum efficiency. In contrast, **Schubert's Piano Trio in B flat** is universally adored for its ravishing and generous melodies: "One glance at Schubert's Trio (Op. 99)—and the troubles of our human existence disappear and all the world is fresh and bright again" wrote Robert Schumann of this radiant and cheerful piece, with its wealth of melodic beauty, rhythmic inventiveness, and rich, romantic harmonies.

Performances of this popular series take place in Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Canberra and regional NSW.

Bookings and information www.selbyandfriends.com.au or 1300 511 099. City Recital Hall Angel Place tickets: www.cityrecitalhall.com or phone (02) 8256 2222

Performance Details, Selby & Friends Tour 1, 2014

Natalie Chee – VIOLIN,
Som Howie* – CLARINET (Selby & Friends Development Artist)
Clancy Newman –CELLO
Kathryn Selby – PIANO

Program

W A Mozart Sonata for Violin and Piano in E minor, KV.304
Clancy Newman Collision Course, *World Première*
Brahms Piano Trio in C minor, Op.101
Schubert Piano Trio No.1 in B flat major, Op.99, D898

Venues

Adelaide: Sunday 16 March 2:30pm, Elder Hall, University of Adelaide

Canberra: Monday 17 March 7:30pm, James O. Fairfax Theatre, National Gallery of Australia

Melbourne: Tuesday 18 March 7:30pm, Deakin Edge, Federation Square

Sydney: Thursday 20 March 7:00pm, City Recital Hall Angel Place

Southern Highlands: Saturday 22 March 5:00pm, Performing Arts Centre, Chevalier College

Turrumurra: Sunday 23 March 2:30pm, Turrumurra Uniting Church

Biographies

New York based cellist **Clancy Newman** is a popular fixture in the Selby & Friends seasons. An avid chamber musician and composer he has performed as soloist throughout the United States, as well as in France, Switzerland, Australia, Canada, and Korea, and he can often be heard on NPR's "Performance Today". He is a member of the Chicago Chamber Musicians and the Weiss-Kaplan- Newman trio.

Australian violinist **Natalie Chee** makes her much anticipated return home from Stuttgart, where she is leader of the Radio Symphony Orchestra after having been Concertmaster of Camerata Salzburg for more than ten years, to perform with Selby & Friends for the first time. Winner of the ABC Young Performer of the Year in 1992, while still a high school student, Natalie has Chee has performed with and founded a number of chamber music ensembles and has toured extensively throughout Europe, North and South America.

Pianist and founder, **Kathryn Selby AM** is considered one of Australia's finest chamber musicians. With Selby & Friends now in its eighth season, Selby, who was awarded an Order of Australia medal in 2012 for her service to Australian music, is proving herself as both a formidable musician and concert programmer.

Som Howie is a member of the Sydney Symphony Sinfonia and a regular guest musician in Sydney Symphony subscription concerts. Som is returning to Australia especially for this Tour from his current academy work with the 2014 Southbank Sinfonia in London. He was Principal Clarinet for the Paris Opera Ballet in their 2013 Sydney tour, and regularly performs as a guest with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra and the Australian Opera and Ballet Orchestra. Howie started playing the clarinet at the age of 11 and in 2012 he graduated from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music with a Bachelor of Music degree.

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MEDIA ENQUIRIES & HIGH RES IMAGES

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