

# Duo Chamber Melange

## Continental Shift

Friday 29 April 6.30pm, Salon

Presented by Melbourne Recital Centre and Duo Chamber Melange

LOCAL  
HEROES

### ARTISTS

*Duo Chamber Melange*

Ivana Tomaskova, violin

Tamara Smolyar, piano

### PROGRAM

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

Sonata in G for Violin and Piano, Op.78

I *Vivace ma non troppo*

II *Adagio*

III *Allegro molto moderato*

Livia Teodorescu-Ciocanea (1959-)

Enceladus for piano solo WORLD PREMIERE

Leoš Janáček (1854-1897)

Sonata for Violin and Piano

I *Con moto*

II *Ballada*

III *Allegretto*

IV *Adagio*

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

Scherzo in C minor for Violin and Piano

### ABOUT THE MUSIC

Johannes Brahms      Sonata in G for Violin and Piano op.78

The great German composer and pianist Johannes Brahms is considered one of the greatest composers in history, and is often grouped with J.S. Bach and Ludwig van Beethoven as one of the "Three Bs", a comment originally made by nineteenth-century conductor Hans von Bulow.

This sonata was composed by Brahms during the summers of 1878 and 1879 at the village of Portschach in Carinthia. It was first performed on 8 November 1879 in Bonn. Each of the three movements of this sonata shares common musical ideas or thematic materials from the head-motif in Brahms's two songs "Regenlied" and "Nachklang", Op.59, and this is why his sonata is also called Rain Sonata (Regen-Sonate)

Livia Teodorescu-Ciocanea      Enceladus for piano solo WORLD PREMIERE

Teodorescu's music explores spectralism, neoimpressionism and postmodernism with a powerful lyric and dramatic effect. She is Professor of composition at the National University of Music, Bucharest, has lectured at a number of universities abroad and performed extensively as a pianist in Romania and overseas. She has written over 50 works and her music has been performed in Europe, USA, Australia and Asia.

*Enceladus* (Geysers on icy moon) is a work written for Tamara Smolyar, inspired by her multicoloured piano sounds. The title evokes Saturn's icy moon, Enceladus, with cryovolcanos that erupt cryomagma, as ice geysers. It is believed that underneath the surface there is an ocean that could sustain life. The icy surface reflects the sunlight in multiple colours. She has captured three levels of imagination: a cosmic vision, the human feeling of loneliness (recalling Debussy's *Des pas sur la neige*) and a vivid and strange subaquatic world

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Leoš Janáček

### Sonata for violin and piano

One of the most outstandingly unique composers to come out of Moravia, Czechoslovakia was Leoš Janáček. He wrote his Violin Sonata in the summer of 1914, in the period of his marked interest in chamber music at the beginning of World War 1 (Piano Trio, 1908, Fairy Tale for Cello and Piano, 1910). The composer himself remembers: '...in the 1914 Sonata for Violin and Piano I could just about hear sound of the steel clashing in my troubled head...'. The Sonata was printed after many corrections in mid-1922 in Prague before its first performance in 1922 in Brno. The work is typical of Janáček's mature style: short melodies, quick and abrupt tempo changes and intense emotions.

Johannes Brahms

### Scherzo in C minor for violin and piano

In October 1853, Robert Schumann invited Joseph Joachim to take part in a concert at Dusseldorf. In order to celebrate the arrival of the famous young violinist, his friends in Dusseldorf prepared a surprise for him. They composed a Sonata for Violin and Piano, and Joachim has to guess the composer of each movement. Dietrich wrote the Allegro in A minor, Schumann wrote the Intermezzo in F, Brahms wrote Scherzo in C minor and then completed the Sonata with Finale in A minor.

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

*'Full marks to this well-established partnership for taking the trouble to mount to admirably focused recital.....Here was an exemplary, driving collaboration, confident in its negotiation ...Tomaskova's vehemence and Smolyar's unfussy but determined drive well harnessed for a highly persuasive interpretation'*

Clive O'Connell, *The Age*, 2015

This year **Duo Chamber Melange**, an unparalleled collaboration of internationally acclaimed musicians Ivana Tomaskova and Tamara Smolyar, celebrates its 16th year. Their versatile repertoire embraces classical and contemporary music in addition to world premieres of renowned Australian, American and European composers.

A number of composers have written music especially for Ivana and Tamara as both soloists and chamber musicians. Duo Chamber Melange has recorded for ABC Classic FM, 3MBS, produced CDs for the Move label and Schimmel Artists Collection along with numerous performances and master classes across Australia.

Their recent international engagements included broadcasts on Czech and Romanian National Radio, concert tours and master classes in Singapore and Hong Kong.

## NEXT CONCERT

The Giants in Music

Duo Chamber Melange

Friday 28 October 6.30pm, Salon

## ABOUT LOCAL HEROES 2016

Local Heroes is the easiest way to rediscover your love of chamber music or take delight in experiencing it for the first time. From strings to piano, early music to contemporary, art song to tango, there's something for every musical taste. This year *Local Heroes* showcases 19 acclaimed ensembles in 44 concerts in the award-winning acoustics of Melbourne Recital Centre's Salon and Elisabeth Murdoch Hall. Want to get to know the artists and learn more about the music they love to perform? Visit [localheroes.melbourne](http://localheroes.melbourne) to discover more.



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