

Joe Chindamo & Zoë Black 1

Monday 30 May 6pm, Salon

Presented by Melbourne Recital Centre and Joe & Zoë

LOCAL
HEROES

ARTISTS

Joe Chindamo, piano

Zoë Black, violin

PROGRAM

Joe Chindamo

American Spirit

1. Hootenanny
2. Hymn for Ground Zero
3. Appalachia
4. Huckleberry Friend
5. Canyon
6. Tom and Jerry
7. Grand Central
8. Empire State

Nine Lives of La Folia

1. Prayer
2. Waiting
3. Fury
4. Unrest
5. Solitude
6. Demonic
7. Remembering
8. Regal
9. Judgement

Maurice Ravel

Sonata for Violin and Piano

- I Allegretto
- II Blues: Moderato
- III Perpetuum mobile: Allegro

Joe Chindamo

Symbiosis

1. Rag de Guerre
2. Confessions
3. Urban Jungle

ABOUT THE MUSIC

With the political upheavals we are witnessing in America today, it is fair to say that the United States is not one country but a mosaic of several countries, each with its own set of cultural values.

It is also impossible to have lived through the 20th century and first instalment of the 21st and have escaped its influence through films, music, television and political alliances. It is customary to sneer at it for giving the world its loathed fast food chains, bad television and some say, degenerative values. For me, it has gifted the world some wonderful treasures; to begin with, some of the greatest music composed during the past 120 or so years. Further, America also provided refuge from Nazism for some of Europe's greatest musical figures like Stravinsky and Schoenberg. And speaking of musical gifts, does one need to go beyond jazz as an art-form?

American Spirit celebrates the America I find appealing and captivating; Mark Twain, Samuel Barber, Ambrose Bierce, Aaron Copland, Charles Ives, Leonard Bernstein, The Sopranos, Tom and Jerry, big open spaces, Appalachia, bustling metropolises, bluegrass, Woody Allen, the Coen brothers, the Midwest, Miles Davis and so on, the sum of which amounts to a greater entity called Americana.

Nine Lives of La Folia is a contemporary suite of nine short movements based on a 16th century harmonic sequence (of unknown origin) called La Folia: a sort-of 12 Bar Blues of its day, which served as a compositional template for countless composers, including Corelli, Vivaldi, Rachmaninoff, and now myself.

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Sonata for Violin and Piano No.2 was composed from 1923–1927. Ravel was inspired by the music of America, namely jazz and blues. In fact, the second movement is entitled 'Blues' and whilst no self-respecting jazz enthusiast will label it Jazz, the movement is an affectionate salute to a genre Ravel adored. For the most part, the composer makes use of polyphonic and modal devices which were new and daring at the time.

Symbiosis for violin and piano is a reflection on man's persistent penchant for war: Its mindless glorification, futility, violence and indoctrination of the young by the old (under the guise of patriotism) are terrible human traits which nevertheless act as a catalyst for humanity's greatest acts of altruism and selflessness. This work tells the story of how war's influence resonates long after the physical battle ends, affecting that way we live today and how we have shaped our attitudes towards each other. *Symbiosis* is at once a manifesto against war, a cry for the embattled along with those left to mourn and the celebration of the human spirit which eventually prevails. The work consists of three movements, Rag De Guerre, Confessions and Urban Jungle. It was composed in 2014.

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ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Zoë Black and **Joe Chindamo** are the new kids on the classical block. Routinely described as edgy and a welcome new and unique voice, their concert performances and three CD releases have met with highest acclaim from critics and peers. Their CD release, *Dido's Lament* was nominated for an ARIA for best classical release of 2014, and in September 2015 the duo performed at Carnegie Hall to great acclaim.

Both Joe and Zoe are amongst Australia's elite musicians who have established enviable reputations as individual artists. Zoe, former assistant leader of the Australian Chamber Orchestra (ACO), is one of the most soulful and urbane classical violinists of her generation. After establishing himself as one of the world's best jazz pianists, Joe is fast becoming one of Australia's most exciting and sought-after contemporary classical composers, with commissions to compose for a myriad of ensembles, most notably ACO and the Australian String Quartet (who are performing his string quartet on their national tour in July). As a duo, through their commitment to presenting new music, they demonstrate a rare and uncanny ability to push artistic boundaries and communicate emotional intensity in its rawest form.

NEXT CONCERT

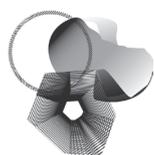
Joe Chindamo & Zoë Black II

Thursday 24 November 6pm, Salon

For more information and tickets, please visit melbournerecital.com.au/heroes

ABOUT LOCAL HEROES 2016

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