

My name is Grace McKenzie,

I am in my first year at the University of Auckland, beginning my Performance Music Major on the violin.

I left Rangī Ruru Girls School a year earlier than most (year 12) to pursue my musical endeavours under the tutelage of Stephen Larsen.



I have developed a love chamber music, having participated in the Adams Summer School in Nelson for the past three years also. While also at school.

I reached the finals of the NZCT Chamber Music Competition in both 2015 and 2016. This was an outstanding opportunity in my musical journey and an experience I value to this day.

I am also a pianist, having achieved by ATCL diploma in 2014.

I continue learning the piano and as of this year I am learning from Rachel Fuller - having previously learnt from Rosemary Stott.

Nut Point Centre



Nut Point Centre

www.nutpoint.org

A promotional poster for a performance. It features a black and white photograph of Grace McKenzie playing the violin. The word 'Reflections' is written in large, red, serif font across the top. Below it, 'Grace McKenzie' is written in large, white, serif font. Underneath her name, it says 'Talented Award Winning Violinist'. At the bottom, in smaller white text, it reads: 'Been a member of the National Youth Orchestra for two seasons and has taken part in the Adams Chamber Music Festival in Nelson, on multiple occasions Performing music for Violin and Piano'.

May 2017

Programme

Violin: Grace McKenzie.

Piano Accompanist: Tim Emerson.

Programme-First Half

Passacaglia in G minor.

Heinrich Biber (1644-1704)

This work is the final movement of a set of 16 Rosary Sonatas, each with a title related to Christian Rosary devotion practice. The 'Rosary Sonatas' became Biber's most well known work, noted for its virtuosic style and use of scordatura tunings. The Passacaglia I will perform uses a bass pattern throughout, which is identical to the main motif of the 'Hymn to the Guardian Angel', and it is considered to be the most outstanding work of its type before the Bach Chaconne".

Violin Sonata in B flat Major, No 26, K 378.

Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

-Allegro Moderato.

-Andantino sostenuto e cantabile

-Rondeau: Allegro

Composed in 1779, this sonata is made up of 3 conventional movements, all of which contain an equal share of interest in the piano and violin parts. In all three movements however, the piano is entrusted with the melody to start with, setting a scene over which the violin can sing. The title of the second movement means: 'walking speed, sustained, and singing', suggesting the nature of the melodies heard within. This is contrasting to the upbeat final movement which changes metre half way through; identifiable by a triplet theme, giving it a very dance-like feel.

Interval

Refreshments at the Studio
Cafeteria



Programme-Second Half

Romance op. 28, No 2 in F-sharp major.

Robert Schumann (1810-1856)

(Piano)

This Schumann's 2nd of 3 Romances, which he wrote in 1839. This one, in the complex key of F sharp major, is commonly performed as an Independent concert work, perhaps due to its use of luxurious harmony and thick textures. The dominating melody is tender and beautiful, eventually transforming into yearning, perhaps reflective of the intense relationship between Schumann and his lover, Clara. A canon can be heard near the end of the work, contrasting to the continuous line of the previous phrases. The work comes to a peaceful end with a series of pianissimo, pulsating chords.

Ysaye Violin Sonata no 4 in E minor.

Eugène Ysaÿe (1858-1931)

-Allemande (Lento maestoso)

-Sarabande (Quasi lento)

-Finale (Presto ma non troppo)

Belgium composer Eugène Ysaÿe wrote a set of six sonatas for solo violin in 1923. Inspiration for these works comes from those of Bach, namely his Violin Sonata in G minor. Ysaÿe reflects this work through the use of chordal and polyphonic passages yet simultaneously employs characteristics of 20th century writing such as whole tone scales and dissonances. Each sonata is dedicated to a different violinist of influence on Ysaÿe, this one being Fritz Kreisler.