


OPERA STAR PAUL WHELAN PREMIERING NEW WORK BY ALAN GRIFFITHS



Paul Whelan Performs

Such A Fine, Sunny Day

By Composer Alan Griffiths

Plus New Zealand premiere of selected works performed by Australian virtuoso Nicholas Young.

Special guest New Zealand concert pianist Anna Maksymova & New Zealand concert violinist Rose Light

World Premiere

Sponsored by ANZCA

Photo: Max Rosta

Photo: Jeffrey Wain

Photo: Rebecca Gill

"... Individuality in unexpected and touching ways."
-Factsandarts, Bordeaux

"... extremely impressive mastery of style and range of emotions..."
-ANZCA Music Examinations

"Griffiths can move easily from one mode of expression to another seamlessly"
-Fanfare Magazine, New York

"... great compositional balance of virtuosity, simplicity, fragility and drama."
-Cut/Common, Melbourne

17
SEPTEMBER
2022 | SAT | 6:45PM

Tickets: www.griffithscomposer.com

The Piano: The Philip Carter Family Concert Hall
156 Armagh St
Christchurch Central

Doors Open 6.45pm.
Concert 7.30 - 10.00pm

Opera star Paul Whelan is giving the World Premiere of 'Such A Fine, Sunny Day' by composer Alan Griffiths at The Piano, Christchurch, on September 17th at 7:30 pm.

A dramatic piano duet will accompany Paul with international award winning pianist Nicholas Young and Christchurch award winning pianist Anna Maksymova. Paul's recording of this work will appear on Alan's 2023 album Land No More?

'Such A Fine, Sunny Day' is the last thing 21 year old Sophie Scholl said, before Hitler had her executed in Munich in 1943. Sung in German and English, Alan imagines how Sophie, a Christian pacifist, would have reacted to today's world. From 'roaring anger, to solace and ultimately love,' Alan says his work is for our time.

The concert includes Nicholas and Christchurch award winning violinist Rose Light, giving the New Zealand premiere of selected piano pieces by Alan and a violin work. Rose's chamber group won 1st Prize at the Queensland

International Chamber Music Competition 2019 (under 18's). Nicholas' Ensemble Francaix chamber group won 1st Prize at the same competition.

ANZCA Music Examinations chose 15 of Alan's pieces in total for inclusion in their international piano syllabus. ANZCA conducts instrumental examinations in seven South East Asian countries.

The World Premiere of his second album Rare View performed by Nicholas, debuted the new 108-key Stuart Concert Grand Piano; the world's largest piano, attracting international attention. In partnership with SONY, the concert was filmed and recorded live and is available on Alan's website.

Alan's debut 2016 Introspection album was premiered by Ukrainian/Australian pianist Evgeny Ukhonov on a rare 102-key Stuart Concert Piano, in the Stuart & Sons Spring Concert Series.

Alan has produced sold out concerts of his classical art music at Melbourne's Tempo Rubato, Beleura House, and Crispe Galleries in New South Wales. Musicians have included Melbourne Opera Orchestra concertmaster Ben Spiers, and multi-award winning string players Zoe Friesberg and Gemma Kneale.

Alan has appeared as guest performer with Australian classical guitarist Matthew Fagan at The Edge, Federation Square, Melbourne and on Australia's regional ABC, 3MBS and ArtSound FM. His albums have also attracted glowing reviews from international classical piano critics and his writing has been likened to Chopin and Rachmaninoff, with his own distinct flavour.

After matriculating in Christchurch, Alan moved to Melbourne and scored 25 films including two feature films. For 27

years Alan continued composing art music in between film scoring.

He grew up nearby and has fond childhood memories of singing in the Anglican Cathedral Choir. His family attended St Mary's Church, Merivale after migrating from Malawi, Africa.

Concert: Paul Whelan 'Such A Fine, Sunny Day'
World Premiere

The Piano, 156 Armagh St, Christchurch Central
17th September 7:30pm, doors open 6:45pm
Tickets: griffithscomposer.com

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