

*Uniting Church in the City*

*'Wesley at One'*

*Recital Series*

*Friday 19 July 2024*  
*1pm*

*Chimera Ensemble*

*presents*

*Bach, Fairytale and Fantasy:*  
*music for cello and piano*  
*by JS Bach, Janacèk and Schumann*

*featuring*

*Melinda Forsythe (cello)*  
*and Tommaso Pollio (piano)*



Uniting Church in Australia  
Uniting Church in the City

*Feel free to eat your lunch whilst you enjoy the beautiful music.*

*Please contact [angela.currie@ucic.org.au](mailto:angela.currie@ucic.org.au) for further information  
on our music events.*

## Program

Viola da Gamba Sonata No 1 in G major BWV 1027 JS Bach  
(arranged for cello and piano)

- i Adagio
- ii Allegro ma non tanto
- iii Andante
- iv Allegro Moderato

Pohádka (Fairytale) & Presto Janacek

- i Con moto - Andante
- ii Con moto - Adagio
- iii Allegro
- iv Presto

Fantasiestücke Op. 73 Schumann  
(for cello and piano)

- i Zart und mit Ausdruck (Tender and with expression)
- ii Lebhaft, leicht (Lively, light)
- iii Rasch und mit Feuer (Quick and with fire)

## Biographies

### *Melinda Forsythe (cello)*

Melinda was born in Perth, where for a number of years she was a member of the West Australian Youth Orchestra. After moving to the UK to study she graduated with a BMus (Hons) and a Masters in performance from the Royal Northern College of Music, (RNCM) Manchester. She was fortunate to study with Karine Georgian, a world-renowned cellist and student of Rostropovich. Melinda played as principal cellist with the RNCM Orchestra and with the Watahiki String Quartet, who were successful as finalists in the Granada Prize, winners of the Hirsch Prize for Chamber Music, and guest artists at the Albern String Quartet Summer School in Cambridge.

Melinda performed with a number of orchestras and chamber ensembles in the U.K., including with the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, Ulster Orchestra and BBC Philharmonic. She toured with orchestras in Europe, and in 2012 performed with the Pacific Music Festival Orchestra in Japan.

Melinda also performed as a soloist in summer festivals including the Scottish International Cello Festival and Ticino Musica in Switzerland.

Since returning to Perth, Melinda has regularly performed as a recitalist, orchestral and chamber musician with many groups including WA Symphony Orchestra, Perth Philharmonic Orchestra, Perth Symphony Orchestra, Fremantle Chamber Orchestra, Darlington String Trio, WA Charity Orchestra, and Chimera Ensemble. She enjoys performing music for children and families with Music Book Stories and with The Literature Centre's innovative *Sound of Picture Books*.

### *Tommaso Pollio (piano)*

Tommaso graduated with honours in piano performance from the University of WA School of Music and later continued his studies in the USA and London, before returning to Perth to work with the esteemed vocal/pianist teacher Molly McGurk. Tommaso's extensive touring itinerary has seen him perform in London, Singapore, Malaysia, Italy, and USA. He has also toured extensively throughout Australia, from the remote outback of WA through to the major cities.

Tommaso is part of the faculty for the WAAPA and has recorded several recitals both as soloist and accompanist both for the Young Australia and Sunday Live Programs for the ABC. He is sought after as a repetiteur, working for The Lucca Opera Festival, Opera Australia, West Australian Ballet, Freeze Frame Opera and West Australian Opera Company. Tommaso is also much in demand as a cabaret pianist for Fringe Festivals. He has performed with soprano-duo Divalicious and with the award-winning cabaret artist Robert Hofmann, performing nationally and at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

Tommaso co-founded the Chamber Opera Group Millio Opera with the acclaimed director John Milson preparing 1-act operas for WAAPA (2000), Terrace Proms (2000, 2001, 2003), Perth International Arts Festival (2003), and The ABC Sunday Live Broadcasts (1999-2003).

Tommaso also formed Lark Chamber Opera with composer Emma Jayakumar and is a founding member of Music Book Stories, two ensembles of West Australian artists committed to bringing classical music

and opera to a wider audience, beginning with young people. Tommaso has been part of many chamber music ensembles, such as Trio Di Romanza, Enaria Ensemble, and Darlington Piano Trio, and currently works with Trio Tiramisu, the Chimera Ensemble and is Music Director at Freeze Frame Opera.

Discover our '*Wesley at One*' programs here



### *'Wesley at One' Recitals*

**1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month, 1pm**

**August**

2<sup>nd</sup> Nicholas Williams (piano)  
presents *Liszt the Abbé*

16<sup>th</sup> Holly Broadbent (organ)  
presents *Organ at One*

**September**

6<sup>th</sup> Lisa Smith (violin), Gladys Chua (piano)

20<sup>th</sup> Aquinas College Schola Cantorum  
directed by Hugh Lydon, accompanied by Alessandro Pittorino  
presents *A Choral Tapestry*

**October**

4<sup>th</sup> Jack Collinson (trumpet)  
presents *Lunchtime with Jack*

18<sup>th</sup> Wesley 2024 Music Scholars

**November**

1<sup>st</sup> Kyla-Rae Ashworth (flute), Chelsea Davis (flute)  
present *Light & Shadow*

15<sup>th</sup> Verity Hagen (flute), Adrian Soares (piano)  
present *Idyllic*