



CAMERATA OF ST JOHN'S
QUEENSLAND'S CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

ANNUAL REPORT 2015



Association Information

ABN 99 171 205 590

Camerata of St John's Inc. was incorporated as an Association in Queensland on 5 January 2007.

Camerata is a Charitable Institution endorsed to access the following tax concessions:
GST Concession, Income Tax Exemption and FBT Rebate.

Camerata has Deductible Gift Recipient status. Gifts to the Camerata of St John's Inc. Donation Fund are tax deductible.

Financial Year

Camerata's financial year ran from 1 January 2015 to 31 December 2015. Camerata's activities are organised on a calendar year basis to align with government grants which are normally allocated on a calendar year basis.

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Strategic vision

Our vision

To empower artists, inspire audiences, and enrich communities through music

Our mission

To contribute to the ongoing vitality of local communities and to celebrate music with our audiences

Our roles

*A producer of adventurous programs.
A place of learning.
An artistic collaborator.*

As Queensland's chamber orchestra, Camerata performs music from the baroque to the present, delights in performing new works and frequently incorporates "non-classical" items in its concerts.

In addition to playing traditional chamber orchestra music, we strive to celebrate the music of our own time by commissioning new work, and celebrate Australian music as part of our programming. Concerts regularly include a national or international guest artist renowned in his or her field.

At Camerata our artists are encouraged to take full ownership of the artistic process to create art that is engaging for both artists and audiences. We encourage and provide opportunity for our artists to reflect on their work, celebrate success, and learn from mistakes.

To support longevity and build new audiences, we aim to provide opportunities for our orchestra to tour nationally and internationally. It is not our intention to remain Queensland's finest secret but instead, to share our work with audiences across the country and overseas.



Orchestra – Core ensemble

Violin

Brendan Joyce* - Leader

Jonny Ng*

Tiana Angus

Sally-Ann Djachenko

Helentherese Good

Nicholas Thin (*Associate*)

Jason Tong

Allana Wales

Viola

Alice Buckingham

Anna Colville

Elizabeth Lawrence

Cello

Katherine Philp*

Shannon Tobin

Double Bass

Marian Heckenberg*

Chloe-Ann Williamson (*Associate*)

**Principal*

Orava Quartet – Camerata's Quartet-in-Residence

Thomas Chawner, David Dalseno, Daniel Kowalik, Karol Kowalik



Chairman's Report



During 2015, Camerata continued to deliver throughout Queensland outstanding performances that impressed audiences and critics alike.

Highlights included:

- Camerata's first concert in QPAC's Concert Hall, *Bright Stars Shone For Us*, which provided insights into the life of Tchaikovsky and which attracted Camerata's biggest audience ever.
 - Concert with international countertenor, Max Emanuel Cenčić, as part of the inaugural Brisbane Baroque.
 - A weekend of performances at Townsville's Australian Festival of Chamber Music, comprising the Festival's opening concert, the Governor's Gala (in which Camerata performed with four international soloists) and participation in a Sunday concert in the park.
- Camerata's Quartet-in-Residence, Orava Quartet, which for a second year delighted audiences with featured moments in our subscriber series. We have been proud to facilitate connection to festivals to support the growth and performance opportunities for this group.
 - Camerata's annual regional tour which visited communities performing in local venues, schools and retirement villages, bringing music to communities where such opportunities are infrequent. Our tour is made possible by the generous support of The Tim Fairfax Family Foundation, Arts Queensland, and Australia Council.

In all, Camerata performed in 35 concerts attended by 13 500 audience members with an extended audience in excess of 500 000 through TV and radio broadcasts across the year.

These achievements are more impressive when it is realised that they were delivered by an administrative team of 2.3FTE staff: General Manager Adam Tucker (F/T), Director of Artistic Planning and Orchestra Leader Brendan Joyce (0.5FTE), and Orchestra Manager Angela Loh (0.8FTE), assisted by an active Board. I do not believe that there is another arts organisation in Australia delivering such a range of performances of outstanding quality with so little administrative support.

The continued support of QPAC in making available our office premises in Merivale Street has transformed the organisation and we value greatly our ongoing relationship as a Company-in-Residence at QPAC.

Special thanks go to retiring Board members Lee Freeman for her work as secretary, Simon Buchanan for his long-term service and advice, Brendan Joyce for his dedication and determination at a Board level, and David Starr whose technical expertise in A/V recording ensures a vitally important archive of recordings to document the growth and importance of Camerata.

I would also take this opportunity to recognise the valuable contribution made by our auditors, KPMG, who provide their services *pro bono*.

As always, our ticket sales can cover only a relatively small proportion of our costs and we are therefore substantially dependent on commercial activity, the continued support of governments, Federal (through the Australia Council) and State (Arts Queensland), as well as the generosity of each and every one of our donors, without whose continued support Camerata could not continue to provide such a high standard of chamber music to Queensland audiences.

Brian Bartley
Chairman

General Manager's Report



2015 has been a year of learning, milestones, experimentation, and developing truly collaborative partnerships to support the growth of new and engaged audiences for chamber music in Queensland.

It is clear that partnerships are essential for the ongoing support and presentation of chamber music in Australia and whether with government, businesses, donors, audience, or guest artists, they thrive best when based in mutual respect and trust.

Following Leo Schofield and Jarrod Carland's announcement that they would stage the inaugural Brisbane Baroque, an initial meeting quickly developed into a lasting partnership. A live broadcast on ABC Classic FM of the ensemble's electrifying performance with international countertenor, Max Emanuel Cenčić, ensured that approximately 100 000 listeners across the nation experienced a seminal moment in Camerata's history.

We welcomed the expansion of Camerata's administration team with the appointment of 0.8FTE Orchestra Manager, Angela Loh, who quickly made her mark on the organisation, offering unparalleled production and administrative support. This appointment was integral in ensuring our small team was able to deliver 35 performances, employing 65 artists, enjoyed by an audience of 13 500.

Camerata's highly successful regional tour grew from an idea Angela offered after coming across a social media story about the tireless work of a Chinchilla-based not-for-profit group, Drought Angels. Working closely with the team at Drought Angels, a tour was developed to assist Queenslanders living through the longest drought in Queensland history.

Camerata's *Strings at Sunset* tour resulted in over 6 000 residents and visitors experiencing chamber music, \$55 000 spent directly on regional businesses, and a gift to farmers in need of over \$3 000 in cash and grocery items donated by Camerata's audience and Brisbane arts industry colleagues. With media coverage across print, online, ABC TV and radio, 'grey nomads' boosted our audience, travelling to hear our concerts. Audience surveys indicate an estimated additional \$40 000 in cultural tourism was generated in communities because of our presence. Most important were the many human experiences recorded in emails and surveys sent to our office with 98 per cent of respondents rating our work as good or excellent and 81 per cent feeling inspired by the performance.

Camerata's touring activity in regional Queensland is made possible through the belief and support of our major tour partner, Tim Fairfax Family Foundation, Arts Queensland's Playing Queensland Fund, and Australia Council. Without their support, our ongoing presence in regional Queensland would not be possible.

A non-traditional venue for classical music, but with a long history of presenting music in many forms, Brisbane Powerhouse provided the perfect new presenting partner to trial Camerata's *Lounge Program*. This initiative was designed to attract and diversify our audience, and for our ensemble to take artistic risk. This program also provided the opportunity to work closely with the Development team of Brisbane Powerhouse to co-host a function which saw Board members and significant supporters of both organisations meet and learn of the important work done by both organisations.

For the first time, Camerata extended its subscription series with satellite performances in Ipswich. Preceded by a series of education workshops earlier in the year and working closely with Ipswich Civic Centre, this provided an opportunity to extend Camerata's reach through a cost-effective model on the back of our Brisbane and Toowoomba performance season.

The ongoing support of Queensland Performing Arts Centre is instrumental in the growth of Camerata. We thank John Kotzas and his team at QPAC for their belief in our ambitious vision. With QPAC's marketing and production support, our final concert of the year, *Bright Stars Shone For Us*, saw Camerata take to the Concert Hall stage, for the first-time, with a self-presented concert. This production resulted in breaking our box office record, with double our average audience. Our office was inundated with phone calls and emails from patrons congratulating the ensemble and guest artists for this powerful artistic experience.

Contributing over \$800 000 to the national economy, with only 26 per cent of income from government sources, Camerata at year end achieved a budgeted deficit of \$50 000. Following a surplus in 2014, an investment to increase the capacity and reach of the organisation was deemed important to support Camerata's continued growth. This investment funded the trial *Lounge Program* and supported an increase in administration staff from 1.5FTE to 2.3FTE. A common narrative in today's arts environment, but one which resonates strongly for our small organisation, is that without security in funding, the current trajectory of growth is not sustainable. Individual donations were maintained with an increase in giving to the Chair Patron program. Notably, a 100 per cent increase in in-kind donations from 2014 saw over \$100 000 in goods and services pledged by our many production partners to ensure our activities operate at the highest standards.

With a donation from Jani Haenke Foundation, Camerata's website was overhauled and launched as an interactive platform in partnership with the team at regionally-based business solutions company, *What the Fox*.

Our online presence now operates as an extension of an innovative three-year branding strategy which commenced with Camerata's Season 2015 brochure. Receiving wide acclaim, our Season 2015 brochure secured a niche in an increasingly populated performing arts market. We thank the extraordinary campaign team for their creative work and congratulate our photographer, Dylan Evans, whose highly creative Camerata images have earned two international awards for advertising photography, a national emerging photographer award, and a silver award for advertising at the prestigious Brisbane Design Awards.

2015 also saw Camerata's application to Live Performance Australia (LPA) accepted. Membership to this national peak body of the performing arts industry is testament to the growth and achievement of Camerata. Membership of LPA recognises that our orchestra adheres to the *Live Performance Music Award* which provides a benchmark of standards for arts companies to aspire to.

I thank the Board, staff, ensemble, guest artists, businesses, and supporters who have collaborated in 2015 in a truly supportive partnership, to continue to build one of the most exciting and vibrant companies in Australia.

Adam Tucker
General Manager



Artistic Programming Report



For Camerata's 2015 Season, our promise to audiences and supporters was that we would take them on a journey of delight and wonder. Equally, we were the recipients of some delightful and wonderful opportunities as a direct result of collaborating with other companies and, in my view, because of a management team that strives continuously to be responsive.

Mainstage Series

The mainstage series took a new direction in 2015 with separation into the *Lounge Program* and *Home Program* series. The former allowed us to perform for the first time in our own right at the Brisbane Powerhouse and to explore the idea of mixing classical and non-classical genres in a venue not typically associated with classical music. The *Home* series sought to provide performances in Camerata's "home" venues to acknowledge and celebrate the support of our venue partners (St John's Cathedral, Conservatorium Theatre, and Empire Theatres Toowoomba) while adding for the first time a

performance as Company-in-Residence at our most recent "home", Queensland Performing Arts Centre's Concert Hall, arguably one of Australia's finest concert halls.

The combined subscription series consisted of five programs in total and we were delighted to include a range of guest artists, collaborators and conceptualisers, who collectively brought a high level of expertise, inspired ideas, collegial attitudes, and all of whom appeared to leave with a great appreciation for Camerata.

Collaborators were: Melinda Schneider (singer/songwriter), Helen McBride (calligrapher and illuminator), Barbara Lowing (actor), Shelli Hulcombe (soprano), Rianne Wilshcut (clarinet solo), Li-Wei Qin (solo cellist), Anthony Lucas (film-maker), Tama Matheson (actor/director/writer), Veronica Neave (actor/dramaturg), Aiden Daley (dancer), and Louise Deleur (choreographer).

Other talented artists assisting us as mystery guests, or "wild card" surprise moments on our programs, were: Claire Candy (singer), and Iain Grandage (composer).

Camerata's own players who made solo appearances in the mainstage series were, Thomas Chawner (viola), Sally-Ann Djachenko (violin), Helentherese Good (violin), Brendan Joyce (violin), Karol Kowalik (cello), Elizabeth Lawrence (viola), Jonny Ng (violin/piano), Katherine Philp (cello), Jason Tong (violin).

Festivals

Camerata has become a regular feature at a number of leading festivals and 2015 was no exception.

The year commenced with the Festival of Tibet in our annual and gentle collaboration with the singer, Tenzin Choegyal, at the Brisbane Powerhouse, again featuring arrangements by Camerata players, especially those of cellist, Katherine Philp.

As a Brisbane-based ensemble capable of performing with and supporting high profile, international soloists, Camerata was invited to be part of three major Australian music festivals.

In April as part of Leo Schofield and Jarrod Carland's inaugural and highly lauded Brisbane Baroque, Camerata appeared with the acclaimed countertenor, Max Emanuel Cenčić, in concert at QPAC's Concert Hall in a program of works by the little known composer, Hasse. In the spirit of the festival's vision to celebrate music of the baroque era, Camerata's string players sought and performed on period bows in order to get closer to the sound world of the era, and to the sound and style of period instrument ensembles with which Cenčić would normally appear. After this performance, Martin Buzacott in *The Australian* wrote of Camerata, *watch this space ... this ensemble is going places*, and we thank Leo Schofield who has been championing the group across the country ever since.

Queensland Music Festival's support of local ensembles and its evident respect for Camerata's efforts was exhibited with a third invitation to appear, this time with the internationally acclaimed double bass virtuoso, Edgar Meyer. Meyer is highly respected and well known for his varied career that crosses many musical boundaries. The program featured Meyer's fiendish second Concerto in an Australian premiere, and with the large-scale forces required we expanded to add a quadruple wind and brass section and invited Queensland Ballet music director, Andrew Mogrelia to conduct. It was also an opportunity for Camerata to show its wares in performances by three of our favourite Queensland composers, Robert Davidson, Erik Griswold and former Camerata violinist, Michael Patterson.

Camerata has a tradition of performing biannually at the Australian Festival of Chamber Music in Townsville but for 2015, the Artistic Director, Piers Lane, wanted to feature favourite groups and artists from over time to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the festival. To that avail, following our successful appearances at the 2014 festival, we undertook to return in 2015. A particular feature of that festival for Camerata was the truly rare opportunity to perform Mozart with the legendary pianist, Piotr Anderszewski. The beauty, honesty, thoughtfulness and spontaneity of his approach gave the Camerata musicians an experience they are unlikely to forget. *Limelight's* Editor, Clive Paget, described the performance as a *masterclass in ensemble playing* and *surely the best concert in Australia this year* while the noteworthy musicologist and respected critic, Malcolm Gillies, described Camerata as *impressive* in the Australian Book Review.

Our Quartet-in-Residence, the Orava Quartet, were introduced to Piers Lane at the 2014 Festival and appeared to great acclaim in their own right in two performances in 2015 (in addition to their performances with Camerata) including Haydn's iconic *Seven Last Words*. Malcolm Gillies described their performances as *stylish* and commented that they exhibit *the hardening mettle of the coming generation*. The Orava Quartet have since been championed by Leo Schofield, who was in attendance and immediately invited them to appear in Brisbane Baroque 2016.

Camerata receives return invitations annually to appear at the Tyalgum Music Festival in northern NSW, and for 2015 the group appeared in collaboration with accordion virtuoso James Crabb (having recently appeared with him at the AFCM in Townsville) and in performance with the oboe virtuoso Maurice Bourge who had been brought back to Australia after his appearances with Camerata in 2014. For this concert, Camerata performers, including Helentherese Good, took on leadership roles and the orchestra also performed emerging Australian composer Christopher Healey's *Renewing Rain* commissioned for our regional tour.



Quartet-in-Residence program

It was a great pleasure to continue this vital program for a second year, supporting the Orava Quartet to perform in Camerata's subscription series. Throughout the year, Orava Quartet gave featured performances in our series of Mendelssohn in *Affairs of the Heart*, Debussy in *The Dragon Sings*, and Tchaikovsky in *Bright Stars Shone For Us*. The group led sections and appeared as soloists (Thomas Chawner in Hindemith in *The Dragon Sings* and Tyalgum Festival, and Karol Kowalik in *String Fantasy* and Tyalgum Festival), and they directed the ensemble from the lead positions in a performance of the Shostakovich Chamber Symphony (an arrangement by Barshai of the Shostakovich 8th quartet that holds a place in the group's repertoire). This program has enabled Orava to be based in Queensland, to establish their quartet career, and to contribute their playing and chamber music skills to Camerata, while also having opportunities to extend their experience. The Quartet-in-Residence program continues to be a highly and mutually beneficial arrangement to both groups.

Touring

Touring our regions is a reminder of the more altruistic possibilities of our art form, the appreciation from audiences being such that Camerata is aware of making a difference to people's lives.

Thanks to the ongoing commitment of the Tim Fairfax Family Foundation, Arts Queensland, and Australia Council, Camerata was able to undertake a drought relief tour. Partnering with the Drought Angels we worked to create concerts, schools activities, and Aged Care Facility performances in Queensland's farthest reaches.

Additional program activities

For the first time, education and community concert performances were given in a new partnership with the Ipswich Civic Centre. Working with then Venue Manager, Suzannah Conway, Camerata performed for audiences at a public concert and delighted several hundred school children at two tailored school performances.

Camerata performed an open rehearsal and music program in QPAC's *Lunchtime Live* series, with the performance broadcast on Twitter from the Concert Hall foyer.

In November, organised by local resident and supporter, Pip Krafft, with assistance from the Regional Arts Development Fund and Tim Fairfax Family Foundation, Camerata sent a quartet to Thangool in Central Queensland. In a partnership proposal from Jonny Ng, St Margaret's Anglican Girls' School made the exceptionally generous donation of a set of instruments to the Thangool State School in order to help establish a string program. Camerata players Brendan Joyce, Jason Tong, Anna Colville and Katherine Philp flew to the area to deliver the instruments, undertake workshops, and create an "instrument petting zoo" for the students. It is pleasing to report that Thangool State School has since invested in a music teacher position one day a week to help grow this program.

Commissions

Commissioning new work and always looking for innovative and interesting presentation remain part of Camerata's artistic plans and interests. In 2015 we commissioned and gave world premiere performances of music by Christopher Healey and Iain Grandage, a script from Tama Matheson and solo dance work from Louise Deleur for *Bright Stars Shone for Us*, and a series of four short films by Oscar-nominated film-maker, Anthony Lucas, for *Things That Go Bump in the Night*.

Conclusion

It is thanks to the committed core players of the ensemble, who demonstrate values of dedication, respect, and appreciation, that Camerata continues to be an organisation of importance and relevance to the lives of many.

The Camerata family is of course far bigger than the group of performers on stage. An essential and integral part of our survival is the passion of our management team and our governing board. Very much part of the family is also our audience, donors, corporate and government partners, whom I thank for their ongoing support. If it takes a village to raise a child, it certainly is only through the dedication and strength of our partnerships that we continue to grow a fine chamber orchestra in Queensland.

Brendan Joyce

Director of Artistic Programming

2015 in numbers

- 65 artists employed across 35 performances in 15 projects;
- Five subscription series concerts in Brisbane and four in Toowoomba. Camerata remains the only Brisbane-based arts organisation to present a subscription series in both Brisbane and a regional location;
- Camerata's first self-presented concert in QPAC's Concert Hall, doubling average audience attendance;
- Five festival appearances:
 - Australian Festival of Chamber Music
 - Brisbane Baroque
 - Festival of Tibet
 - Queensland Music Festival
 - Tyalgum Festival
- Five commissions:
 - Two Music: Iain Grandage. Emerging composer, Christopher Healey
 - Film: Anthony Lucas
 - Script: Tama Matheson
 - Dance: Louise Deleur
- Tour to five regional Queensland communities with performances and workshops in schools, community halls and aged-care facilities;
- Three innovative collaborations across art forms integrating live music with animation, poetry, film, theatre, and dance;
- Total audience: 13 500



Subscription Series

Concert I: *Affairs of the Heart*

Featuring **Melinda Schneider (singer/songwriter)**, **Brendan Joyce (violin)**, **Orava Quartet**

Affairs of the Heart brought Camerata together with Australian singer/songwriter, Melinda Schneider, to perform in the first *Camerata Lounge* program – an initiative to provide an opportunity for the ensemble to engage new audiences by performing in non-traditional venues.

Program

Mozetich

Affairs of the Heart, Concerto for Violin and String Orchestra (1997)

Mendelssohn

Adagio-Allegro from Quartet Op.13, *Ist es wahr?* (*Is it true?*)

Schoenberg

Verklärte Nacht, Op.4 (*Transfigured Night*)

Melinda Schneider

Selected charts from albums, including hits from *Melinda Does Doris* – *A Tribute To Doris Day*

Performance

Brisbane: 7.30pm Monday 16 February, Brisbane Powerhouse



Camerata always does the most fascinating and moving repertoire - I love that I discover music I didn't already know every time I come to a performance.

B. Mitchell (Audience survey, Brisbane)

Concert II: *The Dragon Sings*

Featuring Helen Clancy McBride (calligrapher & illuminator), Barbara Lowing (actor), Shelli Hulcombe (soprano), Thomas Chawner (viola), Rianne Wilschut (clarinet), Orava Quartet

Featuring soprano Shelli Hulcombe, with readings by actor, Barbara Lowing, this emotion-filled concert marked the centenary of WWI.

The concert took its inspiration from a new anthology of poems, collected, hand-scripted and illuminated by Helen Clancy McBride. Images from this anthology were projected on a 10m x 10m screen suspended in the Cathedral.

Program

Purcell	<i>When I Am Laid In Earth</i> (Dido's Lament from <i>Dido and Aeneas</i>)
Wirén	<i>March</i> from <i>Serenade for Strings</i>
Biber	<i>Der Mars</i> from <i>Battalia</i>
Grandage	<i>When Time Stops</i> (excerpt from commission by Expressions Dance Company for Natalie Weir's <i>When Time Stops</i>)
Hindemith	<i>Trauermusik</i> , for Solo Viola and String Orchestra
Shostakovich	Chamber Symphony, Op.110a (8th Quartet, arr. Barshai)
Debussy	String Quartet in G Minor, Movement III
Bach	<i>Erbarme Dich</i> from <i>St Matthew Passion</i>
Olivero	<i>Achot Ketana</i> for Soprano, Three Solo Violins, Clarinet and String Orchestra
McCurdy	<i>The Strangest Dream</i>

Performances

Toowoomba: 7pm Thursday 23 April, Empire Theatres Heritage Bank Auditorium


Brisbane: 7pm Saturday 25 April, St John's Cathedral



Watch this space.

This ensemble is going places.

Martin Buzacott (The Australian, April 2015)

A woman with blonde hair, wearing a voluminous, light pink floral gown, stands on a grand, ornate staircase. She is holding a violin and looking upwards. The staircase has dark wood paneling and intricate iron railings. The background shows a large, arched window with a view of a landscape. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the woman and the architectural details.

A visual and musical virtuoso performance as usual!

C. Higerritsha
(Audience survey, Toowoomba)

Concert III: *String Fantasy*

Featuring Li-Wei Qin (solo cello)

Portraying the emotions, expressivity, and beauty that have come to define the string orchestra, *String Fantasy*, was programmed to coincide with Australian Strings Association's 40th Anniversary National Conference.

Program

Tippett *Fantasia on a Theme of Corelli*
Haydn Cello Concerto in C Major,
Hob.7b/II (Op.101)

Sculthorpe *Lament for Cello and Strings*
Strauss *Metamorphosen* for 23 Solo
Strings

Grandage *When Time Stops* (mystery music
segment)

Performances

Toowoomba: 7pm Friday 3 July,
Empire Theatres Church Theatre
Brisbane: 7pm Saturday 4 July,
Conservatorium Theatre QCGU

Concert IV: *Things that go bump in the night*

Featuring Anthony Lucas (filmmaker) and wild card mystery guest, Claire Candy (soprano) from *The 7 Sopranos*

A special event in the tradition of American Halloween concerts, *Things That Go Bump In The Night* featured specially commissioned short films by Australian filmmaker, Anthony Lucas (Oscar-nominated director of *The Mysterious Geographic Explorations of Jasper Morello*).

Program

Saint-Saëns	<i>Danse Macabre</i> (arr. Aitken)
Boccherini	<i>Sinfonia: In the House of the Devil</i>
Tartini	<i>Devil's Trill Sonata</i> , arranged for solo with strings
Schubert	<i>Der Erlkönig</i> Op.1 (D.328) (arr. Patterson)
Handel	<i>Verdi Prati (Green Meadows)</i> from <i>Alcina</i>
Yumi Kimura	<i>Always With Me</i> from <i>Spirited Away</i>
Stravinsky	Concerto in D for String Orchestra
Herrmann	<i>Suite for Strings</i> from <i>Psycho</i>

Film

Four Tales of Monstrous Elegance:

The Disassembly Macabre

The Erlking Calls for Me

Psycho Suite

The Housefly

Performances

Brisbane: 1pm Wednesday 21 October & 7pm Friday 23 October, Conservatorium Theatre QCGU
(featuring pre-concert talk by Dr Peter Moyles, Program Director Griffith Film School, Griffith University)

Ipswich: 7pm Saturday 24 October, Ipswich Civic Centre

Toowoomba: 7pm Saturday 31 October, Empire Theatres Church Theatre



Concert V: *Bright Stars Shone For Us*

Featuring Tama Matheson (actor & writer), Veronica Neave (actor), Aidan Daley (dancer), Orava Quartet

Australian actor and director, Tama Matheson, collaborated with Camerata for a third time, completing a trilogy of theatre-concerts. Helpmann award-winning Australian composer, Iain Grandage, created re-imagined moments of Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake* in his work, *Underneath*, which featured as a world premiere.

Program

Tchaikovsky	Serenade for Strings, Op.48
Tchaikovsky	<i>Souvenir de Florence</i> , Op.70
Arensky	<i>Variations on a Theme of Tchaikovsky</i>
Iain Grandage	<i>Underneath</i> (world premiere)
Tchaikovsky	String Quartet, Op.1

Performances

Toowoomba: 7pm Friday 11 December, Empire Theatres Heritage Bank Auditorium

Brisbane: 6pm Sunday 13 December, Concert Hall Queensland Performing Arts Centre

The rest of the country needs to see this!

C. Grayson-Riley (Audience email)

Theatre at its best – applause from Toowoomba

R. Gayfer Campbell (Audience email)

Truly heart achingly beautiful!

L. Mae Reeb (Audience via Facebook)

It was full of emotion reducing me to tears more than once.

M. Skillen (Audience via Facebook)



Touring & community engagement

A personal reflection by Jonny Ng

Over the last seven years, Camerata of St John's has been dedicated to providing opportunity, support, and cultural growth in regional centres throughout Queensland. Our regional drought relief tour *Strings At Sunset* was no exception.

I didn't know, prior to departure, just how special this tour was going to be. Not only would it turn out to be a musically enriching experience for the orchestra and our audiences, but we were also able to contribute practically in a small way to communities doing it tough in regional Queensland.

The memory of loading the bus with boxes upon boxes filled with care items and food to give to the people living in drought-affected areas provided the catalyst for my own personal reflection.

As we left our home town of Brisbane, where I took for granted the water that runs freely from our taps, I noticed the land getting drier as we travelled further west. We passed a herd of cattle somewhere in the stretch between Brisbane and Mitchell that were nothing more than skin and bones foraging for something edible in the scorched earth; a sad sight.

The severity of the drought really hit home when we visited the bone-dry Barcoo River in Blackall and spoke to locals at the pub who told us stories of the heartbreaking loss of precious human and animal life; farmers beyond desperation committing suicide. I truly appreciated the privilege of being part of this tour and the opportunity to give to others and to provide relief through artistic enrichment.

We were so fortunate to partner with the not-for-profit organisation, Drought Angels, whose tireless efforts provide support and relief for those in need on an ongoing basis.

Exceptionally brilliant performers. Our group attended on the spur of the moment and I was so totally surprised and moved that I cried for the first five minutes. Thank you for traveling all this way to bring your talents to the Outback!

Margaret Stevenson (Audience survey, Windorah)



Camerata's touring ethos is to ensure we are not a fly-in, fly-out orchestra. We aim to engage thoughtfully and meaningfully with the communities we visit building long term relationships.

For this tour, the process of commissioning a new work by Christopher Healey went above and beyond simply asking a composer to write a piece of music for us to perform. The commission began with our Orchestra Manager and composer travelling to Pioneers RSL Longreach aged care facility to talk to local residents about the drought and how it affected them. Drought Angels organised a local garage business owner to fly the composer in a small two-seater around the Longreach area to witness the drought from above. Returning to Melbourne, the composer wrote *Renewing Rain*, with Camerata then performing the world premiere in our public performances in Chinchilla, Blackall, and Longreach.

The piece garnered national attention on ABC News 24, Landline, Lateline, and Radio National, with audiences travelling from across the country to hear the work – consistent feedback was that they could hear the rain in the music. Camerata performed in two aged care facilities, Mclean Place in Blackall and RSL Care in Longreach.

It was very special to be able to perform this work in Longreach for Sidney (a resident of RSL Care Longreach) whose stories were a large inspiration for *Renewing Rain*. With an upbeat program it is always heartwarming to see the aged care facility residents and staff dancing to our music. Being able to share a meal with our audience prior to our performance in Blackall, beautifully prepared by the Country Women's Association, was another memorable experience.

Thank you Camerata. it was a wonderful show and many students and staff were amazed at the professional standard you brought to our small town.

Noosha Hodgen (Teacher, Mitchell State School)



In our school-focused performances, Camerata again delivered an enriching experience to the students we performed for and worked with at Chinchilla State High School, Mitchell State School, St Joseph's Primary School (Barcardine), and Ilfracombe Primary School.

A highlight of our preparations was Education Committee Member, Shannon Tobin, and Orchestra Manager, Angela Loh, travelling to Chinchilla and Mitchell for invaluable meetings with teachers from these schools to gain insight into the curriculum being covered in the classroom and what they thought would benefit the students most when we visited. This allowed us to tailor our shows specifically to meet the needs of the students and resulted in selecting repertoire and writing the show in a way that reinforced what the students were currently learning, as well as extending their current knowledge.

A pre-visit resource kit was produced and was given to each school before our visit to further enrich their experience prior to and after our performance. A highlight was at Chinchilla State High School where we were able to present a show to the senior music students covering all the topics the teachers requested in the pre-visit as well as allowing time for numerous student questions which in turn meant we could tailor the show "in the moment" even further.

One of our players currently teaches two students in Longreach via Skype and it was wonderful to see that she got the opportunity to give them a lesson in person as well as the students receiving a lesson from another Camerata educator in the time we were in Longreach.

On behalf of the players, I express my utmost gratitude to our Brisbane audience and all of the Brisbane arts companies who donated food, care items, and money to the Drought Angels appeal, and for the vital support of the Tim Fairfax Family Foundation and Arts Queensland who have made this tour possible, allowing our company to grow not only musically but personally.

Jonny Ng

Principal Second Violin and Education Officer



At a glance:

8 performances; 8 tour venues; 9 community engagement activities;
5 presenting partnerships with local community organisations; 4,032kms travelled.

Townsville

4 performances
Audience/participants: 6,103

Chinchilla

1 performance; 1 workshop;
1 community BBQ
Audience/participants: 155

Blackall

1 performance; 1 workshop;
1 aged care performance; 1 community BBQ
Audience/participants: 470

Ilfracombe

1 workshop
Audience/participants: 35

Ingham

1 performance
Audience/participants: 100

Mitchell

1 performance
Audience/participants: 250

Barcaldine

1 workshop
Audience/participants: 25

Longreach

1 performance; 1 aged care performance
Audience/participants: 135

Total audience: 6,543; Total workshop/community engagement participants: 520

Strings at Sunset – Regional tour itinerary

2013	Date	Town	Venue	Activity #	Notes
Wed	29-Jul	Townsville/ Ingham	TYTO Wetlands	1	Flight to Townsville to Ingham (evening perf)
Thu	30-Jul	Townsville			Rehearsal
Fri	31-Jul	Townsville	Townsville Civic	2	Rehearsal & 8pm perf (Schoenberg)
Sat	1-Aug	Townsville	Townsville Civic	3	8pm perf (Governor's Gala)
Sun	2-Aug	Townsville	St Mary's Church & Jubilee Park	4 & 5	11am perf (Seven last Words) & 3pm perf (Outdoor). Flight to BNE
Mon	3-Aug	Brisbane			<i>Day off</i>
Tue	4-Aug	Chinchilla	Chinchilla Cultural Centre	6-8	School perf/workshop; community BBQ; evening perf
Wed	5-Aug	Mitchell	Mitchell SHS	9	School performance (Prep-yr10)
		Blackall			<i>Evening free</i>
Thu	6-Aug	Blackall	Blackall Culturall Centre & Blackall SHS	10 - 13	Aged care morning; school perf (Prep-Yr12); Community BBQ; evening perf
Fri	7-Aug	Barcaldine	St Joseph's Primary	14	School performance (Prep-Yr6)
		Ilfracombe	Ilfracombe State Primary	15	School performance (Prep-Yr6)
		Longreach	QANTAS Founders Museum	16	Evening perf
Sat	8-Aug	Longreach; bus to Rockhampton	RSL Care	17	Aged care perf morning; bus to Rockhampton
Sun	9-Aug	Rockhampton to BNE			<i>Fly to BNE</i>

Governance

Good corporate governance is core to ensuring the realisation of Camerata of St John's vision, the execution of our mission and the achievement of our core goals.

The Camerata of St John's Board maintained its continued commitment to good governance practices as recommended in the Australia Council for the Arts' Essential Governance Practices for Arts Organisations document:

- *The Board lays solid foundations for management and oversight.*
- *The Board is structured to add value*
- *The Board promotes ethical and responsible decision-making.*
- *The Board promotes diversity*
- *The Board safeguards integrity in financial reporting*
- *The Board recognises the legitimate interests of stakeholders*
- *The Board recognises and manages risk*
- *The Board remunerates fairly and responsibly*

The Board meets monthly with *sub-committee chair* meetings occurring monthly or bi-monthly. Each sub-committee submits a report by the Chair to the Board meeting.

The Board works within a number of sub-committees to ensure strategic oversight and governance. Camerata of St John's sub-committees are: Finance and Risk, Programming, Sales and Marketing, Development, and Grants.

The General Manager attends all sub-committee and Board meetings.

Board member roles and responsibilities:

Board Member	Role, qualifications and experience	Elected
Mr Brian Bartley	Chairman Chair <i>Development</i> sub-committee. Member <i>Finance and Risk</i> sub-committee. BA Qld, LLB(Hons) Qld, LLM Qld <i>Solicitor and accredited mediator; experienced Board member; past chair QLS Ethics Committee, former president Medico-Legal Society of Qld.</i>	2013
Ms Else Shepherd AM	Deputy Chairman Chair <i>Grants</i> sub-committee. BE (Hons) Qld, Grad. Dip. Mus, QCM, A.Mus.A, FTSE, Hon.FIEAust <i>Engineer, company director, corporate governance.</i>	2008
Mr Ewan Walker	Hon. Treasurer Member <i>Finance and Risk</i> sub-committee. B.Bus (Accounting), CPA, MAICD	2014
Ms Lee Freeman	Hon. Secretary (to June 2015) BA Qld, MBA QUT, A.Mus.A <i>Senior HR management; strategy development</i>	2008-2015
Ms Judith Anderson OAM	Hon. Secretary (from June 2015) Member <i>Marketing</i> sub-committee BA Qld, Dip. Jour. Qld, M.Ed.Admin. UNE Arts management; marketing; writing	2013
Ms Libby Anstis	Member <i>Development</i> sub-committee BBus(Comn) QUT <i>Arts management, business, strategy.</i>	2013
Mr Simon Buchanan	Member <i>Development</i> sub-committee. BMus (violin performance) Berlin University of the Arts; MM(Arts) UTS Sydney <i>Arts management, marketing, music</i>	2007-2015

Board Member	Role, qualifications and experience	Elected
Mr Ian Commins	Member <i>Finance and Risk</i> sub-committee LL.B Qld, LL.M QUT <i>Solicitor; Head of Legal – Griffith University, Corporate governance, intellectual property and risk management.</i>	2013
Dr Brendan Joyce	Chair <i>Programming</i> sub-committee (to June 2015) Member <i>Grants</i> sub-committee. DMA, U of Maryland USA; BMus(Hons) Qld	2007-2015
Ms Noela L'Estrange	Chair <i>Marketing</i> sub-committee. BA(Hons) Monash, LL.B Qld; M.Admin Griffith; FAICD, FAIM <i>Solicitor; Corporate governance, general legal, HR and risk management</i>	2010
Mr Michael Otago	Chair <i>Programming</i> sub-committee (from June 2015) BA (Hons) Qld, DipT K.G.T.C. <i>Senior management, corporate governance, strategy development, international diplomacy</i>	2013
Ms Dagmar Parsons	Chair <i>Finance and Risk</i> sub-committee Dipl-Ing (TH) Technical University Aachen, MBA Deakin University, GAICD <i>Engineer, company director, strategy, corporate governance, senior management.</i>	2012
Mr Doug Pye	Member <i>Marketing</i> sub-committee BBus(Comn) QUT <i>Marketing, strategy, business development</i>	2013
Mr David Starr	MSc (Soil Mechanics & Engineering Geology) Durham University; BSc (Hons) Geology, Math & Physics, University of Exeter <i>Professional recording, engineer, music, Cathedral liaison</i>	2007-2015



Development

Trust and Foundation Supporters

Tim Fairfax Family Foundation
Jani Haenke Trust
Siganto Foundation

Chair Patrons

Trevor and Judith St Baker (Leader)
Tim Fairfax Family Foundation (Principal 2nd Violin)
Barbara Duhig (Violin)
Michael Kenny & David Gibson (Violin)
Siganto Foundation (Violin)
Philip Bacon (Viola)
Jonathan Blocksidge (Viola)
Brisbane Airport Corporation (Principal Cello)
Amanda Talbot (Cello section)
John Martin (Double Bass)

Gold Donors (\$10,000+)

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Justice Debra Mullins
Katharine Philp
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Helen Stahmann
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Vera Bailey Wade (in memory)
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William Forgan-Smith
Helen Haswell
Jenny Hodgson
Tracey Jenkinson
Bev Jennings
Barbara Lockwood
Angela Loh
Rachel Matthews
Margaret McNamara
Susan Nicol
Therese O'Brien
Michael & Sandra Otago
Adam Tucker
Alan & Marilyn Wright
Anonymous (4)



Partners

Government Partners



**Queensland
Government**



Camerata of St John's is supported by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland.

Camerata of St John's is assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body.

Program Partners



REAL ESTATE SINCE 1888

Blocksidge

Camerata of St John's is a Company-in-Residence at the Queensland Performing Arts Centre

Tour Partner



Media Partner

Production Partners



Venue Partners



ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL



Our Team

Founder

Elizabeth Morgan AM

Patrons

His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC, Governor of Queensland
Dr Brett Dean

Board

Brian Bartley – **Chairman**
Else Shepherd AM – **Deputy Chairman**
Lee Freeman – **Hon. Secretary (to June)**
Judith Anderson OAM – **Hon. Secretary (from June)**
Ewan Walker – **Hon. Treasurer**
Libby Anstis
Simon Buchanan **(to June)**
Ian Commins
Brendan Joyce **(to June)**
Noela L'Estrange
Michael Otago
Dagmar Parsons
Douglas Pye
David Starr **(to June)**

Musicians

Violin

Brendan Joyce* - Leader
Tiana Angus
David Dalseno**
Sally-Ann Djachenko
Helentherese Good
Daniel Kowalik**
Jonny Ng*
Nicholas Thin
Jason Tong
Allana Wales

Viola

Alice Buckingham
Thomas Chawner**
Anna Colville
Elizabeth Lawrence

Cello

Katherine Philp*
Karol Kowalik**
Shannon Tobin

Double Bass

Marian Heckenberg*
Chloe Ann Williamson

*Principal

**Orava Quartet

Administration

Adam Tucker – **General Manager**
Brendan Joyce – **Director Artistic Programming**
Angela Loh – **Orchestra Manager**
Kate Harbison – **Librarian**
Jonny Ng – **Education Officer**
Jason Tong – **Rehearsal Manager**
Sean Dowling – **Graphic Design**

Production Team

Angela Loh – **Stage Manager**
Len McPherson – **Stage Manager**
Wendy McPherson – **Stage Manager**
Ben Hughes – **Lighting Design**
Jason Raft (JLX) – **Lighting Design**
Nick Devine (JLX) – **Production Manager**
Brett Cheney – **Sound Design**
David Starr, David Spearritt – **Concert AV recording**

Season 2015 Brochure Team

Adam Bruner – **Marketing Consultant**
Sean Dowling – **Graphic Design**
Dylan Evans – **Photography**
Leigh Buchanan – **Dress construction & Stylist**
Amanda Alida – **Hair & Makeup**



5/5 stars...an ensemble of first rate professional musicians...
Filloyd Kennedy (ArtsHub, April 2015)

...as an ensemble they are stylish, highly communicative and blessed with a sense of real enjoyment in their music making.

Clive Paget (Limelight Magazine, April 2015)

The hits of the evening were left to local heroes the Camerata of St John's, which not only accompanied Cencic with real sensitivity, but ripped into Telemann, Gluck and Bach classics with authority and panache. Watch this space. This ensemble is going places.

Martin Buzacott (The Australian, April 2015)

What impressed most, however, was the way the group cohered in this complex work without ever appearing to have an obvious leader.

Clive Paget (Limelight Magazine, July 2015)

Our residents and community guests are still talking about it. They had such a wonderful time. Everyone was so very respectful and pleasant. You would be welcomed back with open arms.

Kaye Woods (Community Aged Care Coordinator, Blackall)

It was very special to have such a happy and uplifting performance in our small community. I believe we were very privileged to have performers like yourselves in our community. Please come back!

Terry Bernnan (Audience survey, Blackall)

Image credits

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Back Cover: photography by Dylan Evans – Strings at Sunset.

Contents: photography by Adam Tucker – Regional tour.

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CAMERATA OF ST JOHN'S
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