

# Flinders Quartet

## NEWSLETTER - SUMMER 2009

### 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday Season Launched!

Next year is a great milestone for us. It is wonderful to have been able to work together for ten years. Our achievements, of which we think we can be justly proud, would not have been possible without a strong and faithful following. We acknowledge gratefully the support of all our audiences and friends, the many organizations from whom we have received assistance and the artistic directors who have trusted us to deliver fine music to their patrons. We look forward to growing with you all over the next ten years.

The 2010 anniversary season, “Celebrate”, sees us continuing our three program subscription season in Melbourne and Sydney. We return to our old home, the Iwaki Auditorium for the Sunday afternoon Melbourne series”. Beloved Beethoven” is back, while each program will contain a work by an Australian composer. Two world premieres are featured: Sculthorpe’s String Quartet No 18 and Richard Mills String Quartet No. 4 are two of the birthday presents on offer to our audiences. Our final concert will include the ever popular Mozart Clarinet Quintet with our good friend Paul Dean. If you haven’t yet received a brochure in the mail, call or email Sarah El-Atm on 0422 974879 or [admin@flindersquartet.com](mailto:admin@flindersquartet.com) .



For our NSW audiences, we will be performing at the Four Winds Festival at Bermagui over Easter, together with guitarist Karin Schaup, and then in mid April will perform again for the Blue Mountains Concert Society as well as returning to Government House, Sydney as part of the “House Music” (Historic Houses Trust) series.

Hobart and Perth also feature on our concert program, as well as a return to our regular haunt, Mount Macedon.

Other concerts are in planning, so keep up to date through our website at [www.flindersquartet.com](http://www.flindersquartet.com) .

Give us a Birthday Present. (Please!)

Birthdays should be a time of sharing, so we knew you wouldn't mind our asking. Our future depends on building our audiences. We would love you to help us by bringing friends or family members to one of our concerts. Give someone a Flinders subscription for Christmas. And remember, if you subscribe before 31 December you yourself receive a gift: a voucher for a free concert ticket.

### **ABC Classic FM Picks “Reinventions” as CD of the Week**

What a great vote for our collaboration with Genevieve Lacey, Calvin Bowman and Elena Kats-Chernin! It all happened very quickly, so we hope lots of you got to hear us on the radio. It is clear there are many music lovers who find it difficult to get to concerts, so we value highly our relationship with the ABC and 3 MBS, both of which support us through broadcasts.



### **Flinders on iTunes**

You can now access “*Reinventions*” on iTunes. Download your favourite tracks to your mp3 player, or give tracks or the full CD to your friends for a birthday or Christmas via an iTunes Gift Certificate. It is great to see how many Australian performers and composers are now featured on iTunes. Check them out. If you prefer to purchase an “old fashioned” CD, “*Reinventions*” can of course be purchased from Discurio in Melbourne or Fish Records in Sydney.

We are in discussions concerning a new CD project for 2010. More information will appear in a future Newsletter as the project firms up.

### **Melbourne Chamber Feast is Back**

Put July 9 to 11 in your 2010 diaries now. This highly successful festival, conceived by Flinders Quartet and directed by Zoe, will again bring a new and fun fusion of music and things to whet your appetite. Many of Australia's finest young chamber musicians will take part. We look forward to sharing a feast with you!

### **Zoe is Expecting**

Alert readers will have noted that our 2010 season starts in June. The reason is that a happy Zoe is expecting her first child in February and we think she deserves a short break to adapt to the new status of motherhood. We all anticipate the new arrival with great joy. There have been audience comments that Zoe's playing recently has been

very tranquil and relaxed, along with an assured maturity. Perhaps it's a case of two heads being better than one?

**Finally, it is Zoe's turn to give some personal insights:**

I am really privileged to have a career where I spend time with friends who inspire and motivate me. I enjoy being busy and thinking up new projects and think Melbourne is the perfect place to live for that purpose. Living in the country keeps me grounded and provides much needed silence after a busy day. I guess that is about to change! Who knows how I might respond to these questions in a year's time, but right now.....



**To relax:** I like sitting at home, looking at our amazing view, letting my mind wander and patting the cats. This will surely change next year!

**I'm reading:** Anna Goldsworthy – Piano Lessons

**Favourite Food**

- **to eat:** That's a hard one! I like anything cooked by friends or family. Food for me is a very social affair.

- **to cook:** Anything Italian.

**Favourite non- classical musician:** Harry Connick Junior or Vince Jones

**Favourite Holiday Destination:** My dream destination is Paris, but of course I don't get back there very often! To be honest, my husband and I had our first real holiday by ourselves in 8 years up at Port Douglas and that was lovely. We also really enjoy visiting dear friends in Paynesville.

**Cats or Dogs?** Anyone who knows me knows that I am ridiculously attached to our two cats, Max and Philip, both strays who have turned into wonderful friends. They are both incredibly spoilt. Hopefully they will take well to the new addition in the family.

**Persons who had the most influence on me:** My mother and father, my husband, my first teacher Jill Kahans, my current teacher Christian Wojtowicz, and my friends in FQ! (That sounds like an acceptance speech for an Oscar!)

**What makes me really happy:** Performances where I really let go and being part of magic moments in concerts. Spending quality time with friends and family.

**What makes me really mad:** Not much, but injustice, cruelty to animals, complacency and mediocrity.

**If I didn't play the cello for a living:** I would definitely try and be a photographer. I love looking through the lens of a great camera

In Other News: Don't forget Matt gets married on January 22<sup>nd</sup>.  
Wishes and advice to [info@flindersquartet.com](mailto:info@flindersquartet.com).

Have a great festive season. We all look forward to seeing you at a concert in 2010.  
Erica, Matt, Helen and Zoe