

“THE TSUNAMI
VIOLIN CARRIES
TIES WOVEN WITH
ONE THOUSAND
TONES RELAYED
BY ONE THOUSAND
VIOLINISTS WITH A
BATON OF SOUNDS
AND STRINGS.”

- TSUNAMI VIOLIN PROJECT



Asia Institute
Faculty of Arts

**RESONANCE:
A TSUNAMI
VIOLIN CONCERT**

FRIDAY, 16 MARCH 2018 | 7.30PM



RESONANCE: A TSUNAMI VIOLIN CONCERT

This concert commemorates those who lost their lives in the Great East Japan earthquake and tsunami on the 11th of March 2011. This evening is an opportunity to remember and assist the many people who are still suffering from the disaster.

The concert tonight features a Tsunami Violin, made from debris left on the seashore of Rikuzen Takata, one of the most devastated areas. The sound post of the violin is made of the 280 year-old ‘*kisekino ipponmatsu*’ (the miraculous lone pine tree), the only one that survived out of 70,000 pine trees along a two-kilometer stretch of coast. The Tsunami Violin may evoke images, emotions and memories of great loss, but it is a symbol of resilience and hope. The Tsunami Violin is made by the masterful hands of Mr. Muneyuki Nakazawa. His hope is that 1,000 violinists around the world will play the instrument in memory of those who lost their lives and with the hope that the communities affected by the disaster will recover.

Celebrating the Centenary of Japanese language education and the Australia – Japan relationship.

The concert is also a reminder of the very strong bond between Australia and Japan and their people. Former Prime Minister, Julia Gillard, an alumnus of The University of Melbourne, was the first world leader to visit Japan’s tsunami stricken areas. The Australian government was quick to send

rescue teams and emergency supplies. The Australian government and the public donated generously through the Australian Red Cross and Pacific Disaster Appeal. This disaster highlighted the strong links between the people of Australia and Japan. This is a testament to the long relationship between the two countries.

Mr Moshi Inagaki started teaching Japanese unofficially in 1917 in Melbourne. In 1919, The University of Melbourne offered a non-degree Japanese language subject. One hundred years on, the Japanese programme in the Faculty of Arts is marking this achievement with the Centenary of Japanese Language celebrations with events such as tonight’s concert. We believe that language education is the facilitator of intercultural understanding and contributes to the foundation of peace. As we celebrate the past one hundred years, we also look to the future. The new generation of scholars will further the Australia-Japan relationship into the 21st century.

This concert is supported by the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music and the Faculty of Arts.

The proceeds of this concert, will be donated to Rikuzen Takata city’s scholarship programme to help students in need.

PROGRAM

Johann Sebastian Bach
Violin Sonata No.3 in C major, BWV 1005
III. Largo

Traditional Japanese Folk Song
***Hamabe no Uta* (Song of the Seashore)**

Antonín Dvořák, transc. by Fritz Kreisler
Eight Humoresques, Op. 101
No. 7 Poco Lento e grazioso

Fritz Kreisler
Alt-Wiener Tanzweisen
(Old Viennese Melodies)
No. 3 Schön Rosmarin (Fair Rosemary)

Antonín Dvořák, transc. by Fritz Kreisler
***Cigánské melodie* (Gypsy Songs), B. 104, Op. 55**
No. 4 Als die alte Mutter sang
(Songs My Mother Taught Me)

Robert Schumann
Kinderszenen
(Scenes from Childhood), Op.15
No. 7 Träumerei (Dreaming)

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Violin Sonata in F major, K.377/374e

Ernest Bloch
***Baal Shem* (Three Pictures of Chassidic Life)**
No. 3 Simchas Torah (Rejoicing)

Ross Edwards
White Cockatoo Spirit Dance

ARTIST’S BIOGRAPHIES

Kana Ohashi, Violin
Melba Hall holds a special place in the heart of Kana Ohashi, Scottish born Australian-Japanese violinist. This was the hall in which Kana made her concert debut at the age of 11 with pianist Elyane Laussade. She also organised a charity concert, ‘Pray for Japan’ in Melba Hall for tsunami victims with the generous help from Wilma Smith and Donald Nicolson in May 2011 and also won the 2011 Dorcas McClean violin competition in this wonderful space. After spending a semester studying music at The University of Melbourne, Kana moved to the United Kingdom to further her studies. As a recipient of the International ABRSM Scholarship, she completed a Bachelor of Music, Master of Music and an International Artistic Diploma at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester. During her time in the UK, Kana had the privilege of performing at various international concert venues across Europe and Asia. Her recent concert engagements included a solo recital at Bridgewater Hall in Manchester and a solo concert tour with Schlesische Philharmonie in Germany. Kana is now based in Leipzig as a member of Gewandhaus Orchestra. She is honoured to be back at Melba Hall to play for a cause close to her heart.

Louisa Breen, Piano
After attending the Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School, Louisa Breen graduated with Bachelor of Music Honours from The University of Melbourne. In the same year she began her postgraduate studies on the piano at the Royal College of Music in London. After gaining a Distinction for her Postgraduate Diploma in Advanced Performance, Louisa completed her Masters in Musical Performance, followed by two years as an RCM Junior Fellow. In 2005 Louisa returned to live in Melbourne, and has been working as a freelance pianist since. She performs regularly as a solo and chamber musician, and is a regular pianist with the Melbourne and Sydney Symphony Orchestras. As half of the Brown and Breen piano duo, she has released a CD of Australian compositions for two pianists, and has had works written for her by Peter Sculthorpe and Ross Edwards. Louisa is currently an Associate Artist at the Australian National Academy of Music.