

# Musica Viva's popular Melbourne Coffee Concerts series returns in 2016 with a stellar line-up of local and international artists



Musica Viva's much loved Coffee Concerts series returns to the **Melbourne Recital Centre** on **Tuesday 8 March 2016** to commence another year of exceptional music making.

Featuring extraordinary musicians from Melbourne, Australia and around the world, the Tuesday morning series kicks off in March with two phenomenal pianists, **Michael Kieran Harvey** and **Timothy Young**, who join forces to present a stirring recital on two pianos.

"We are in for a dazzling display of piano power from these mighty players as they bring the subtle richness of Debussy's *En blanc et noir* to the fore, and give a striking performance of Stravinsky's blockbuster, *The Rite of Spring*," says Carl Vine AO, Musica Viva's Artistic Director.

As winter rolls in, Musica Viva is delighted to present the **2015 Michael Hill International Violin Competition winner, Australian Suyeon Kang** who is currently based in Berlin. In June, Kang will be joined on stage by renowned New Zealand chamber musician, pianist **Stephen De Pledge**, who makes his first appearance for Musica Viva.

"In June 2015, Suyeon Kang became the first Australian to win the Michael Hill International Violin Competition (MHIVC), taking home both the audience prize and the major title," says Vine. "This esteemed contest has produced notable laureates, and Musica Viva is pleased to partner with the MHIVC by presenting Suyeon in recital as part of her prize winner's tour of Australasia."

In to August, Melburnians have the opportunity to witness one of Melbourne's finest young wind ensembles, the **Arcadia Quintet**, who are also the first musicians to be mentored under Musica Viva's new Artist Development Program, FutureMakers.

"We are pleased to be showcasing this talented Quintet in our Coffee Concerts series," says Vine. "In this concert, the Arcadia Quintet performs classics of their genre, including Carter's colourful Wind Quintet, Nielsen's melodic Wind Quintet and Ibert's witty and lyrical Three Short Pieces."

One of Australia's most decorated string quartets, **Tinalley String Quartet**, originally from Melbourne, appears in the series in September. Musica Viva has secured the group for a now rare performance in its hometown, where it will perform works by Haydn and Beethoven.

The year then closes in November with the **Benaud Trio**, named for the legendary cricketer, comprising the talented Amir Farid and brothers Lachlan and Ewen Bramble.

"The Trio brings their youthful brilliance and lauded chamber skills to a program featuring Smetana's haunting G minor Trio and Paul Schoenfield's extraordinary Café Music – a superb way to conclude the series," ends Vine.

Each Coffee Concert in 2016 will commence with a delightful morning tea served at 10am, one hour prior to each performance.

**Subscriptions and single tickets are now on sale.** For more information on Musica Viva's Coffee Concerts series, visit [musicaviva.com.au/coffee2016](http://musicaviva.com.au/coffee2016)

### Melbourne Coffee Concerts series 2016

**Tuesday 8 March, Tuesday 28 June, Tuesday 2 August, Tuesday 20 September, Tuesday 8 November**

**Elisabeth Murdoch Hall, Melbourne Recital Centre, Cnr Southbank Blvd & Sturt St, Southbank**

**BOOKINGS: T 1800 688 482 W [musicaviva.com.au/coffee2016](http://musicaviva.com.au/coffee2016)**

