

Wizards of Aus

Organ recital, Wednesday 30 September, 7.30pm at Waiapu Cathedral

Phillip Gearing, Michael Fulcher & Dominic Perissinotto

Phillip Gearing

The winner of several prizes and competition, Phillip Gearing is an acclaimed organist, chamber musician, Lieder accompanist, orchestral keyboardist and choral director. Phillip holds a PhD in the Field of Music, and has previously held positions as Senior Lecturer in Music at the University of Southern Queensland (1992-2014), Director of Music at St Luke's Toowoomba (2007-2012), Acting Organist at St John's Cathedral Brisbane (2013-2014), and Director of Music at St Mary's Kangaroo Point (2014-2022). He is currently Organist at The Cathedral of St Stephen, Brisbane, and since 2015 has been Accompanist to St Peters Chorale, with whom he has toured internationally several times. In addition, Phillip is a casual musician with the Queensland Symphony Orchestra, and appears frequently with Canticum Chamber Choir. He is on the Lord Mayor's Organ Committee, playing frequently on the world-famous Willis Organ at Brisbane City Hall, and is a Director of the Organ Historical Trust of Australia.

Phillip has performed throughout Australia including for the Melbourne International Festival of Organ and Harpsichord, and for centenary celebrations of the organs of Sydney Town Hall and Brisbane City Hall. He has also performed throughout Britain (including Bath Abbey, Bristol Cathedral, Coventry Cathedral, Ely Cathedral, Exeter Cathedral, Gloucester Cathedral, St Paul's Cathedral London, Christ Church Cathedral Oxford, Rochester Cathedral, Truro Cathedral, Wells Cathedral) and in Belgium, France, Austria (Salzburg Cathedral), Denmark and Norway, where he has been broadcast on radio.

In 2007 he released his solo CD 'Celebrate' to mark the centenary of the Norman & Beard organ of St Luke's Toowoomba. As a composer, his seven-movement choral cycle 'Pro patria mori' has been recorded by the Winthrop Singers, and 'Only the Light' (commissioned and recorded by

Canticum Chamber Choir) is regularly heard on ABC Classic-FM. Phillip's 'Missa brevis' for unaccompanied choir has been performed in several Australian capital cities.

Jean Langlais (1907-1991)

Bells, No 3 from Three Characteristic Pieces

Malcolm Williamson (1931-2003)

Aria I, third movement from Symphony for Organ (1961)

Phillip Gearing (b 1960)

Réflexion sur le theme grégorien Salve Regina

Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876)

Choral Song & Fugue

Michael Fulcher

Michael Fulcher is a conductor, chorusmaster, vocal coach, voice teacher, and organist. A graduate of the University of Queensland and the Queensland Conservatorium of Music, he later studied orchestral conducting with John Curro (QYO), David Porcelijn (ABC Young Conductors Mastercourse), Robert Rosen (Opera Australia), and Sir Charles Mackerras and Sir Mark Elder in the UK.

A graduate of the Guildhall School of Music (GSMD) in London (2001), Michael has lived for significant periods of time in Paris and Milan. He has conducted productions for Opera Queensland, the GSMD, Victorian College of the Arts, and the Queensland Conservatorium Opera School (including Pilgrim's Progress in the presence of Ursula Vaughan Williams). He has also conducted performances of Billy Budd (1993 Brisbane Festival), Don Giovanni (1996 Victorian State Opera) and La Traviata (2002 Grange Park Festival Opera, UK).

Since moving to Melbourne in 2013 to be Director of Music at Christ Church South Yarra (CCSY), Michael has forged a fine reputation as choral clinician, voice teacher, as well as conductor in both adult and children's choirs. He is sought after as mentor for young in-service choral teachers and early career singers. Michael has conducted several Bach St John Passion and one Matthew Passion performance with the Melbourne Baroque Orchestra and leading vocal soloists. Michael has been founding Artistic Director of Polyphonic Voices since 2013, and is currently Director of Chapel Music at Christ Church Grammar School (2013-), vocal tutor at Melbourne Grammar School (2015-), and voice teacher Scotch College (2026-). He recently graduated with a Master's degree from the Queensland Conservatorium specializing in vocal pedagogy. Michael has led vocal workshops for the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra Chorus, Choir of Trinity College, Melbourne; Choir of Queen's College, Melbourne; Tudor Choristers; Yarra Valley choirs, and various ANCA events. Michael is a former President of ANCA National Council (2014-2020).

As organist Michael has given recitals at the town halls of Wellington, Dunedin and Brisbane, in the Anglican cathedrals of Brisbane, Melbourne, Wellington, Auckland and Dunedin, the Scot's Church, Melbourne, and in Paris, the churches of St George's and La Madeleine. Most recently, Michael was organist for the Clerks of Melbourne tour of England, playing for services in the Cathedrals of St Alban's, Hereford, Canterbury, and in Oxford, Christ Church Cathedral and Magdalen College. Positions held include Assistant Organist St John's Cathedral, Brisbane (1985–1993), Director of Music, Trinity College, Melbourne (1994–1996), Organist and Director of Music, and Director of Music, Christ Church South Yarra (2013–).

Herbert Howells (1893–1982)

Psalm Prelude Set 1 No 1

- Psalm 34 Verse 6 *"This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles"*

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Choral Preludes on Nun komm der Heiden Heiland

- BWV 659 (Ornamented Chorale)
- BWV 661 (organo pleno)

Dominic Perissinotto

Dominic Perissinotto, Master of Music at St Mary's Cathedral, Perth, is widely sought as a solo organ recitalist and in association with other artists. He has a passion for promoting the pipe organ, not only as a church instrument, but also in concert.

Dominic was resident in Brisbane from June 2021 to Marh 2025, where he held the post as Cathedral Organist at St Stephen's Cathedral. He rapidly established himself in the musical community, working with many of Brisbane's fine musical institutions and musicians, including St John's Anglican Cathedral and the Queensland Symphony Orchestra, also taking on the role of Organist for Anglican Church Grammar School (Churchie).

During his 23-year tenure as Organist and Director of Music at St Patrick's Basilica, Fremantle he established the Pipe Organ Plus series which ran for 18 years in Western Australia from 2001. He has reached an increasingly large audience with outstanding solo performances and an innovative array of ensemble programmes, at the same time, extending his work with musicians and groups throughout Australia and Europe.

Dominic was awarded a Fellowship by the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust to assist postgraduate studies at the Royal College of Music in London (1991-1992). During his time in London he was awarded the post of Organ Scholar at Westminster Catholic Cathedral, working daily with musicians at the forefront of church music. He gave recitals at St Paul's and Westminster Cathedrals, Westminster Abbey and Oxford Town Hall, toured Belgium, Italy and England, and has since often returned to perform in festivals around Europe. On returning to Australia, Dominic studied for a Master of Music at the University of Melbourne, graduating in 2004.

He has received numerous grants from the Australia Council (2001, 2004, 2006, 2009 and 2010) and the Department of Culture and the Arts (WA) (2003, 2005, 2006, 2008, 2009 and 2013) to commission, perform and record new Australian works. In 2012 he was inducted into the Australian Catholic Colleges' Hall of Fame for his services to the Arts.

Natalie Williams (1977 -)

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Composed for the dedication of the Hill & Sons Organ in the Tanunda Town Hall, South Australia, August 2014

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

"Larghetto" from Clarinet Quintet in A major K 581

Charles Ives (1874-1954)

Variations on America