



Kowhai Singers

conducted by
Amy Cottingham
present

Autumn Leaves

featuring guest violinist
Marika Balzat

Sunday 26 May 2019
Warkworth Town Hall



Amy Cottingham has been teaching, composing and performing music professionally for over 20 years. Her career in her hometown of Tulsa, Oklahoma, USA included organising and facilitating monthly variety concerts for 7 years, performing as orchestral pianist with two symphonies for 8 years, teaching self-developed workshops on music appreciation, running a full-time piano studio for 13 years, involvement in teachers organisations, accompanying musicals, choirs and recitals, performing solo and collaborative concerts, singing in choirs, and full-time work as a gigging pianist for parties, weddings, receptions, and corporate events.

She holds a Bachelors degree in Piano Performance and a Masters degree in Orchestral Conducting. She performs and teaches a variety of music, from ragtime and tangos to classical and jazz, including her own compositions, experimental music and popular music.

Marika Balzat is 21 years old and has just completed her Bachelor of Music Degree from Auckland University, majoring in Violin Performance under Elizabeth Holowell. She started learning the violin at age 4 with Suzuki training and has since found a love of performing all genres such as Folk, Celtic, Gypsy Jazz, Musicals, Baroque and Classical. She has been teaching the violin for 5 years and has been performing both solo and with her family for as long as she can remember. Her music has taken her on tours through the USA, Europe, Australia, and Fiji. Her passion is in teaching and performing which she has moved into full time this year. She is looking forward to all the exciting opportunities life is throwing her way.



While pursuing an Arts degree at university **Susan Elliott** studied piano privately with Donald Bowick (LTCL) and voice with Phillip Todd (LRSM). In London she enjoyed a freelance career for nearly 25 years accompanying many choirs, both amateur and professional. She did a postgraduate course at London Opera Centre, assisted by grants from the New Zealand Opera Company and Arts Council. Back in New Zealand, Susan has been both soloist and accompanist with Tauranga Civic Choir, and Auckland Choral Society. At Saint Matthew-in-the City, with organist Michael Bell, she founded/directed the first New Zealand professional church ensemble, moving on to direct the choir at St Patrick's Cathedral. Having enjoyed her debut with KS in spring 2018, Susan is pleased to be continuing this work in the autumn, under the direction of their dynamic new conductor!

Programme

Gloria from Mass in D
Panis Angelicus
Kyrie
solo – Jennifer Kirker

Antonin Dvorak
Cesar Franck
Franz Schubert

A Babe is Born
Violin Sonata No. 21 in E minor: I. Allegro
Marika Balzat (violin) with Amy Cottingham (piano)

William Mathias
W.A.Mozart

Let's Call the Whole Thing Off
Small ensemble

George Gershwin

Blow Blow thou Winter Wind
Antiphon (Let All the World)

John Rutter
R. Vaughan Williams

- interval -

A Gaelic Blessing
Homeward Bound
solo – Beverley Hicks

John Rutter
Marta Keen arr. Jay Althouse

Ave Verum Corpus
Celtic Gloria (with violin)

William Byrd
Kirby Shaw

Two Tangos for violin and piano
Astor Piazzolla

Autumn Leaves
Bridge Over Troubled Water
Tea for Two

Joseph Kosma arr. Andrew Carter
Paul Simon arr. Clyde Sechler
Vincent Youmans arr. Peter Gritton



