

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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chamber music at its *best*

POWERFUL PASSIONS

A RARE AND BEAUTIFUL ENSEMBLE TO LAUNCH SELBY & FRIENDS' FIRST TOURS FOR 2015

In The Southern Highlands - Saturday 7 February 2015

Natalie Chee, *violin*Clancy Newman, *cello*Hector McDonald, *French horn*Kathryn Selby, *piano*

For the first 2015 concert of her eponymous chamber music series, Kathryn Selby AM has once again gathered a superb international ensemble of fine artists to perform with her in a program called *Powerful Passions*. The program of Pärt, Mendelssohn, Smetana and Brahms combines the various timbres of strings and brass with keyboard, creating a finely balanced and fascinating world of the High Romantic.

Returning guest artist, violinist Natalie Chee comes to the tour from Stuttgart, cellist Clancy Newman from New York, and joining them, Selby welcomes for the first time to her series Australian French Horn player Hector McDonald, who is currently Principal Horn with the Vienna Symphony Orchestra and period instrument group Concentus Musicus Wien.

McDonald is considered one of Australia's finest brass players and met Kathryn Selby many years ago when she was visiting Australia from her studies in the US. This coming *Selby & Friends* tour in February concludes with **Brahms' Trio for Piano, Violin and Horn** which is the first time she and McDonald have worked together in more than twenty years – a long overdue and much anticipated reunion for both performers and audiences!

The group will also perform **Arvo Pärt's Mozart-Adagio**, a rare and beautiful work for piano trio composed in 1992 as a commission for the Helsinki Festival in memory of Pärt's good friend, Oleg Kagan. **Mendelssohn's** lyrical and rarely heard sonata for cello and piano follows with **Smetana's** stunning and popular piano trio composed soon after the death of the composer's young daughter rounding out the first half.

Over the last nine years the *Selby & Friends* concert series has established itself as the high water mark in chamber music performance, consistently delivering superb musicians in different ensemble groupings.

PROGRAM

Arvo Pärt *Mozart-Adagio***Bedřich Smetana** Piano Trio in G minor, Op. 15**Felix Mendelssohn** Sonata for Cello and Piano No.2 in**Johannes Brahms** Trio for Piano, Violin and Horn in E

D major, Op. 58

flat major, Op. 40

www.selbyandfriends.com.au

ENDS

MEDIA ENQUIRIES & HIGH RES IMAGES

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