

Sunday 24 January 2021

Baroque on the Lawn, Broadford Salon



Meredith Beardmore, flute

Lucy Price, cello

Peter Hagen, harpsichord

J.-M. Hotteterre Selections from Troisième Suite

- I. Allemande, La Cascade de St. Cloud
- II. Courante-Double, L'indifferente
- III. Menuet, Le mignon

M. Blavet Sonata in D major Op. 2 No. 5

- I. Largo, La Chauvet
- II. Allegro
- III. Aria, Rondo, Le Marc Antoine
- IV. Les Regréts, Minore, Tendrement
- V. Fuga, Allegro
- VI. Gavotta, La Dedale

A. Vivaldi Cello Sonata No. 5 in E minor, RV 40

- I. Largo
- II. Allegro
- III. Largo
- IV. Allegro

G.P. Telemann Sonata Methodical Sonata No.1 in G minor, TWV 41:g3

- I. Adagio
- II. Vivace
- III. Grave
- IV. Allegro

G.F. Handel Sonata in G major HWV363^b

- I. Adagio
- II. Allegro
- III. Adagio
- IV. Bourée anglaise
- V. Minuetto

After a year of minimal music-making, it is so heart-warming to be back sharing music again. We thought we'd celebrate Muses' return with a selection of some of our favourite things to play together. The programme includes a mix of different styles along with a couple of choice selections perfect for a garden soiree.

Today's programme starts at the beginning of the 18th century in an unmistakably French style exemplified by the sparkling elegance of **Hotteterre's** compositions. A true baroque master, Hotteterre was influential in multiple fields in music, including composition, performance, teaching, and instrument making. The titles are one of the things I love about French baroque music. Starting with *La Cascade de St. Cloud*, I'm immediately transported to the sprightly fountains and opulent gardens at the royal Château de Saint-Cloud. Peter and I will then play through a couple of different affectations, including the *indifferent* (L'indiferente) and the *cute* (Le mignon).

Next we have **Blavet**, by all accounts an incredible flute virtuoso, who garnered the praise of Quantz, Telemann, and Voltaire. Blavet's style is still very French, but you can often hear Italian influences in his work, perhaps most notably in the first allegro of the sonata played today. Like Hotteterre, Blavet gives titles to some of his movements, with a wonderful garden reference for the finale movement, *the maze* (La Dedale; though it could also be named in honour of the Daedalus, who in Greek mythology invented the labyrinth).

The next three composers on the programme hardly need introduction! Lucy and Peter will explore the fully fledged Italianate style with **Vivaldi's** cello sonata. Beautiful vocal movements, deliciously sung by the cello, are interspersed with the exciting and dynamic energy for which Vivaldi is famous.

Telemann is arguably the popular and 'modern' composer of the era. This sonata has a high German baroque character and showcases Telemann's mastery of the 'mixed style' (the borrowing of elements from the French & Italian styles). The first movement provides students of historical performance with invaluable insight into the ways of ornamentation, hence the title, *methodical sonata*. However, the title is a little misleading! These pieces are not only didactic in approach – to me this sonata, and the first movement in particular, is full of passion and hints towards a style for which Telemann's colleague CPE Bach would later become famous, *Empfindsamer Stil* or the sensitive style.

And finally, the last piece on the programme is by **Handel**. This sonata is an old favourite of mine, from the beautiful, vocal slow movements to the charming and witty dance movements, including the Bourée anglaise, a movement I've always thought sounded like an English country garden. What better way to finish off our Baroque on the Lawn programme?

Meredith Beardmore

Lucy and Meredith perform regularly as *The Muses' Delight*; a partnership that allows them to explore various themes, repertoire, and instrument combinations. Keep up-to-date with their projects:

www.themusesdelight.com

Subscribe to Peter Hagen's mailing list to find out what wonderful concerts he has planned for his Broadford Salon series: www.peterhagen.com.au