

# MSO STRINGS IN CONCERT

Andrew Del Riccio - musical director

HOLST

St Paul's Suite

BARBER

Adagio for Strings

MENDELSSOHN

String Symphony in D

Sunday 27 Sept at 2.30pm

Mosman Art Gallery

A COVID SAFE CONCERT  
LIMITED SEATING

\$30 | \$20 Students/Pensioners | \$5 U16

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# Notes on the Program

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## **St Paul's Suite; Gustav Holst (1874-1934)**

### **I. Jig**

### **II. Ostinato**

### **III. Intermezzo**

### **IV. Finale**

Before the success of *The Planets* in 1918, Holst found it difficult to support himself solely as a composer, so in 1905 he was very pleased to be appointed music master at St Paul's Girls' School in Hammersmith. He was even more pleased when the school built a music wing, including a sound proof studio for his use. This suite was the first that he composed in that studio. Holst enjoyed the job so much that he continued in the position until his death nearly 30 years later.

## **Adagio For Strings; Samuel Barber (1910-1981)**

This deeply moving adagio is probably Barber's most widely known and loved work. He arranged it for string orchestra from the 2<sup>nd</sup> movement of his *String Quartet Op 11*. It has been performed at many public occasions, particularly in times of mourning. It was played at the funerals of Roosevelt, Einstein, Princess Grace, & Mary Travers. Jackie Kennedy arranged for it to be played to an empty concert hall after the death of her husband. This year it was performed by a much reduced & socially distanced Berlin Symphony Orchestra to another empty concert hall, but this time reaching a large number of online listeners. The performance was described in the concert program as being '*a message of support from the European Concert to Barber's home country, the USA, which has been particularly badly affected by the corona crisis.*'

## **INTERVAL**

## **String Symphony; Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)**

### **I. Adagio e grave – Allegro**

## II. Adagio

## III. Menuetto

## IV. Allegro molto

Between the ages of 12 and 14, Mendelssohn wrote 13 string symphonies. They all owe a great deal to the symphonies of Mozart, Haydn and CPE Bach, but some also show signs of Mendelssohn's fledgling personal style. This symphony has many echoes of Mozart, but the coda is pure Mendelssohn.

Mendelssohn was so pleased with this particular symphony that he went on to make a version that included woodwinds, brass and timpani. Sadly COVID restrictions mean that we can't bring those instruments to you at this time. *LE*

### MSO Players

**First Violin:** Anny Bing Xia (concertmaster\*), Elizabeth Kalotay, Alice Powell, Peter Purches, Justin White, Tanja Zech

**Second Violin:** Macarena Herbert (leader), Paul Bartels, Annika Herbert, Sarah Hatton, Daniel McNamara, Clara Poulallion, Kate Robertson, Hayden White, Bridget Wilcken

**Viola:** Eda Talu (leader), Mark Berriman, Zhiliang Chen, Daniel Morris, John Philp

**Cello:** Michal Wieczorek (leader), Yvette Leonard, Scott Rowe, Jennifer Thompson, Lewis Wand

**Bass:** Clare Cory, Nicole McVicar

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