




IN CELEBRATION OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

# MUSES TRIO

## *Reclaiming the Spirit*

Cover Art "Soul Fruit" by Sarah Hickey, mixed media on Waterford





Reclaiming The Spirit offers audiences a thrilling glimpse into the lives and legacy of women in music with a rare opportunity to get up close, experience live classical music, mingle and engage with the musicians and living composers.

Muses Trio discover, perform, collaborate, commission and record outstanding musical works written by women. A signature of their carefully curated public performance events are guest speakers with an inspiring cause, and a focus on celebrating exceptional visual artists. Inspiring, collaborating, connecting, commissioning and supporting creative women to pursue and share artistic excellence are important aspects of their research and performance outcomes.

# PROGRAMME

11-13 MARCH 2016 | BRISBANE~SUNSHINE COAST~BYRON

**Elena Kats Chernin** SPIRIT & THE MAIDEN MVT 1

Violin, cello & piano

**Louise Denson** TWO BOLEROS

Violin, cello & piano

**Gabriela Lena Frank** MANHATTAN SERENADE

Cello and piano [ Australian Premiere ]

**Clara Schumann** THREE ROMANCES

Violin and piano

**Sarah Hopkins** RECLAIMING THE SPIRIT

Violin and cello

**Elena Kats-Chernin** BLUE SILENCE

Cello and piano

**Jennifer Higdon** PALE YELLOW AND FIERY RED

Violin, cello and piano

CHRISTA POWELL



LOUISE KING



THERESE MILANOVIC



**CHRISTA POWELL** is a busy freelance musician. When she's not playing with Topology, she plays a wide range of chamber music, her long-held passion. She also plays orchestral music with the Queensland Orchestra, and gigs with bands and teaches violin in her private studio and as guest at various education institutions. Christa studied at the University of Queensland (B Mus Hon 1991) with Elizabeth Morgan, in London (1991 – 1993) with Emmanuel Herwitz of the Melos Ensemble and at the Queensland Conservatorium with Carmel Kaine, obtaining her Master of Music in 1996. In London, she played with the Olyver Gypsy Ensemble. [topologymusic.com](http://topologymusic.com)

**LOUISE KING** Hailed by The Australian as a 'spellbinding musician who exudes a vigorous artistry', English cellist, Louise King, belongs to the latest generation of contemporary classical musicians, who embody passion, drive and vision. Revered for her delicious embellishments and tonal subtleties, telling clarity and incisiveness, Louise's vivid and imaginative performance style exudes freshness and a rare relish for musical story telling. Louise is a musician who is equally at home on stage, in the teaching studio, collaborating on multi-art projects, working within regional communities and advocating for music in schools and the wider community. Since moving to Australia in 2003, Louise has performed with Australia's finest musicians, ensembles and orchestras and performs regularly at major festivals and established classical concert series. An inspiring Teaching Artist, Louise regularly presents arts education workshops designed for communities, schools, festivals and music for social change programs. The Australian Youth Orchestra, Queensland Youth Orchestra and Australian Chamber Orchestra regularly invite her to coach and mentor young emerging artists as part of their National education programs. Louise is a multi-award and competition-winning graduate of the Royal Colleges of Music in London and Manchester, and has worked extensively throughout the UK, Europe and Asia with the BBC Philharmonic, the Hallé Orchestra, and Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra, and as a tutor for the Royal Northern College of Music. [cellodreaming.com.au](http://cellodreaming.com.au)

**THERESE MILANOVIC** is in demand as both performer and pedagogue. She has performed with Topology since 2009, including collaborations with the Brodsky String Quartet, Grant Collins, Brisbane Festival, Queensland Music Festival, national tours, performances in Indonesia and Singapore, and a tour of the Netherlands and Belgium with the Kransky Sisters. Previous performance highlights with Collusion include ABC broadcasts, Musica Viva Country Wide and In Schools touring. In 2009, Therese completed her training with the Golandsky Institute in New York to become the first certified Taubman Instructor in Australia; the subject of her completed PhD, and is now and is now Master Faculty with the Golandsky Institute (USA). She teaches at Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University, Young Conservatorium and privately, including Skype lessons, reaching pianists across Australia and internationally. [theresemilanovic.com](http://theresemilanovic.com)





# WOMEN IN MUSIC

## Composers

**Elena Kats-Chernin** (b. Tashkent, Uzbekistan on November 4, 1957) immigrated to Australia in 1975 and is regarded as one of the most popular and prolific composers working today. Her brilliantly scored, energetic and often propulsive music has been choreographed by dance-makers around the world and featured at the opening ceremony of the 2000 Sydney Olympic games and the 2003 Rugby World Cup. In 2007 Eliza's Aria from *Wild Swans* attracted millions of listeners through a high-profile ad campaign for the British bank Lloyds TSB, entitled *For the Journey*.



**Louise Denson** holds a Doctor of Musical Arts in Composition (Griffith University), as well as a Bachelor of Arts in Jazz (St Francis Xavier, Nova Scotia) and a Master of Music (New England Conservatory, Boston), where she studied with George Russell, Paul Bley, Bevan Manson and Joe Maneri. Her musical practice includes both performance and composition. She has recorded four CDs containing original material and has been recognised in the QRA, QSong and Queensland Music Awards. Southern Cross Soloists, Muses Trio, Collusion, Trichotomy and other Brisbane-based ensembles have performed her work. Dr Denson has lectured at the Queensland Conservatorium since 1999, acting as Jazz area head from 2002-2012.

**Gabriela Lena Frank** was born in Berkeley, California, to a mother of mixed Peruvian/Chinese ancestry and a father of Lithuanian/Jewish descent, Frank explores her multicultural heritage most ardently through her compositions. Inspired by the works of Béla Bartók and Alberto Ginastera, Frank is something of a musical anthropologist. She has travelled extensively throughout South America and her pieces reflect and refract her studies of Latin-American folklore, incorporating poetry, mythology, and native musical styles into a western classical framework that is uniquely her own. She writes challenging idiomatic parts for solo instrumentalists, vocalists, chamber ensembles, and orchestras.



**Clara Schumann** was a distinguished German musician and composer of the Romantic era. She lived during a time when female musicians of her calibre were extremely rare to find and despite being one of the few women in a male-dominated field, she enjoyed a productive career that spanned six decades. An accomplished pianist, she changed the format and repertoire of the piano recital over the course of her long career. Born to a highly ambitious musically inclined father, she was trained for success from a young age. As a girl, she received training in piano, violin, singing, theory, harmony, composition, and counterpoint, and started performing at the age of eight. She fell in love with one of her father's students, Robert Schumann, and

married him despite her father's disapproval. She continued her career as a performing artist and composer after marriage and juggled her responsibilities as a professional musician, wife, and mother. She played a major role in getting the works of her husband recognized and she produced a small, but significant body of musical compositions.

**Sarah Hopkins** is a unique Australian composer-performer living in Brisbane and is highly acclaimed for her visionary music and inspiring performances for cello, harmonic overtone singing, hand bells, choir and the celestial Harmonic Whirlies of her own creation. With a strong background and training in classical music, over the years she has moved into the realm of holistic music and developed a very distinctive compositional voice. Her solo, ensemble, choral and orchestral compositions demonstrate an expansive and pure musical style, which resonates with the space and energy of the Australian landscape as well as the inner landscape of the human psyche.







**Jennifer Higdon** (b. Brooklyn, N.Y. on December 3, 1962) is one of the leading American composers. She has been prolific and versatile, producing music in most instrumental and vocal genres. Higdon began music training at age 14 as a percussionist in a marching band and shortly after became self-taught on the flute. Her advanced studies in music were at Bowling Green State University, the University of Pennsylvania, and the Curtis Institute of Music. Higdon began composing when she was 21. Her music has received many awards including the 2010 Pulitzer Prize for Music for her Violin Concerto (2009) and a Grammy for Best Contemporary Classical Composition for her Percussion Concerto (2008).

## Save the date

### MUSES CD LAUNCH | 13-15 MAY 2016

PLUS upcoming Brisbane performance [anywherfest.com](http://anywherfest.com)  
Find out more about our upcoming events and pre-order your  
Muses Trio CD online at [musestrio.com](http://musestrio.com)

### DONATE

Please consider making a donation towards Muses Trio future projects in the community. We are an independent group of women with a cultural cause yet we have no current funding to present performances or commission music. Thanks to you, our generous supporters and listeners, we can continue to bring cultural projects to the community.

### HOW YOU CAN HELP

Are you interested in partnering on a project, sponsoring a concert or education workshop, donating towards future commissions? Can you volunteer behind the scenes or host a performance or workshop in your community? Do you want to advertise your business or event in our concert programs? Contact Louise King on [info@cellodreaming.com.au](mailto:info@cellodreaming.com.au)

### THANK YOU

**Jean & Barry Gorman** for your continued generous support  
Grand piano supplied by **Nigel Bland Piano Warehouse**, Sunshine Coast  
**Sunshine Coast Council** | **Caloundra Regional Art Gallery**  
**Friends Regional Gallery Caloundra Inc.** | **Sunshine Coast Creative Alliance**  
**Gretel Farm**, Eureka concert host – Vicki Brooke | **St Mary's Anglican Church**  
Creative Design – **Gabby Gregory** & Trudy Renee of **Two Trees Creative**  
Feature Visual Artists, Art Curators & Event Guest Speakers  
**Sarah Hickey, Marryum Kahloom, Margaret Turner, Nadine Abensur**



# FEATURE VISUAL ARTISTS & GUEST SPEAKERS

## BRISBANE CONCERT

### Visual Artist: Sarah Hickey

Hickey's series of female idols are inspired by images of women from a variety of contexts, histories and worlds. The complex layering of imagery and patterns depict beauty, spiritual iconography and the feminine. Hickey has held nine solo shows and participated in twenty-five group shows. She has been a finalist in many art competitions and her work has been featured in high profile articles and Curvy magazine. [sarahhickey.com.au](http://sarahhickey.com.au) Limited edition prints available for purchase.

### Guest speaker: UN Women National Committee Australia

**Marryum Kahloon** Former UNICEF Australia Young Ambassador is a Bond University scholar awarded an elite scholarship under the Australian Government's New Colombo Plan. Marryum, who originates from Pakistan, relocated to South Africa in 1994 where she completed much of her schooling and eventually immigrated to Australia in 2008, and has already notched up a long list of achievements. She was awarded a Vice-Chancellor's Scholarship to Bond University in 2011, the longest standing and most prestigious scholarship the University awards for demonstrated academic achievement, exemplary leadership and dedicated community achievements. [unwomen.org.au](http://unwomen.org.au)

## SUNSHINE COAST EVENT

### Guest Speaker: Margaret Turner

Margaret Turner is a professional artist, working for over 35 years across mixed media in Australia and overseas including an extensive exhibition profile in public and institutional galleries, significant art prizes and representation in private collections. Turner's work has been short-listed in five national art awards and she won the 2013 Kenilworth Painting Prize, and has had major solo exhibitions of her work at the Art Gallery of the University of the Sunshine Coast, and The J Noosa. She coordinated and participated in two regional gallery installations.

[margaret-turner.com.au](http://margaret-turner.com.au)

## BYRON CONCERT

### Pop-up art exhibition: Curated by Nadine Abensur

Owner and director **Art Piece Gallery** Mullumbimby

Nadine is renowned for presenting a particularly high standard of work by established and emerging Australian and international artists in thought provoking and diverse exhibitions, enhanced by artist talks, dinners and inspiring opening nights. Nadine is also a food writer and fine cook, born in Morocco of French-Jewish parents. She began her food career by working in restaurants around the world, founded vegetarian catering company Culinary Arts, and was Food Director of the prominent UK vegetarian restaurant group, Cranks. She enjoys curating cultural experiences and loves classical music. [artpiecegallery.com.au](http://artpiecegallery.com.au)