

VAN DIEMEN'S BAND

BIZARRERIE

THU 9 APRIL | paranaple arts centre

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Van Diemen's Band acknowledges with deep respect the traditional custodians of the land Lutruwita (Tasmania) on which we have the privilege to make music.

VAN DIEMEN'S BAND

JULIA FREDERSDORFF ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

JULIA FREDERSDORFF, JENNIFER OWEN*, ALETHEA COOMBE*,

NATALYA BING*, PHOEBE MASEL BAROQUE VIOLIN

KARINA SCHMITZ, KATIE YAP* BAROQUE VIOLA

MARTIN PENICKA* BAROQUE CELLO

LAURA VAUGHAN VIOLONE

SIMON MARTYN-ELLIS THEORBO

DONALD NICOLSON HARPSICHORD

PROGRAM

JEAN PHILIPPE RAMEAU (1683-1764)

Sixième Concert from Suite in G Major RCT 6
La Poule

ANTONIO VIVALDI (1678-1741)

Concerto for Viola d'amore and Lute
Allegro moderato - Largo - Allegro

Soloists: Karina Schmitz (viola d'amore), Simon Martyn-Ellis (baroque guitar)

JOHANN FRIEDRICH FASCH (1688-1758)

Concerto for Lute
Allegro - Andante - Un Poco Allegro
Soloist: Simon Martyn-Ellis (gallichon)

JABRA LATHAM (b.1978)

Piccolo Violin Concerto (World Premiere)
Movement II
Soloist: Julia Fredersdorff (piccolo violin)

FRANCESCO DURANTE (1684-1755)

Concerto in A Major 'La Pazzia'
Allegro Affetuoso - Affetuoso - Allegro

THANKYOU

VDB would like to thank the following people for their generous help with this performance:
Timothy Cooper and the paranaple arts centre team, Anne Morgan, Robert Jarman, All Saints South Hobart
- and all of our audiences, supporters and donors.

This project has been supported by Arts Tasmania and the Strategic Touring Fund.



VAN DIEMEN'S BAND

Founded in 2016 by violinist Julia Fredersdorff, VDB delivers extraordinary performances across Lutruwita/Tasmania and beyond. Varying in size from an intimate chamber group to a larger orchestra, VDB explores the creativity and expressiveness of the Baroque while also performing new works on original instruments.

Always seeking to break new ground, VDB has collaborated with guest artists such as French Baroque specialist Martin Gester, Persian/Afghani musicians Ensemble Kaboul and Tasmanian mandolin player Luke Plumb.

VDB is an active concert presenter in Lutruwita and delivers a range of education and community engagement programs each year..

MANAGEMENT TEAM

JULIA FREDERSDORFF ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

JENNIFER KERR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DIRK LORENZEN OPERATIONS MANAGER

KATIE YAP ARTISTIC COORDINATOR

NATALYA BING EDUCATION & COMMUNITY

SIMON MARTYN-ELLIS LIBRARIAN & BOOKKEEPING

ABOUT THE SOLOISTS

Melbourne-born **Julia Fredersdorff** studied baroque violin at the Victorian College of the Arts and The Royal Conservatorium in The Hague. She freelanced with leading European ensembles before returning to Australia, where she founded Van Diemen's Band, is a founding member of Ironwood and Latitude 37, and has performed across Australia, New Zealand and Europe.

American violinist and violist **Karina Schmitz** relocated to Australia in 2019, bringing extensive experience as principal violist with the Handel & Haydn Society, Apollo's Fire, and the Carmel Bach Festival. She now performs with the Australian Haydn Ensemble, Australian Chamber Orchestra, Van Diemen's Band, and Notturmo, among others. She holds degrees from New England Conservatory and Cleveland Institute of Music.

Simon Martyn-Ellis returned to Australia in 2019 after 17 years in Germany and the United States. He performs with Pinchgut Opera, the Australian Chamber Orchestra, Latitude 37, Van Diemen's Band, and Notturmo, specialising in plucked string repertoire from the 16th to 19th centuries.

ABOUT THE INSTRUMENTS

The **piccolo violin** (nicknamed "Niccolo") was made by Nipaluna/Hobart luthier Douglas Coghill in 2025 and is on loan to VDB from a generous donor. It is a copy of a 1613 Amati instrument held in the National Music Museum (South Dakota).

The **gallichon** was recently purchased by Pinchgut Opera in Sydney. Built in Slovenia in 2017, it is a replica of a 1694 Viennese model by Andreas Barr.

The **viola d'amore** was built in 2016 by Devin Hough in Davis, California.

VDB's **harpsichord** was built by Dutch maker Titus Crijnen in Spain in 2022. Built using historically informed techniques, it is a replica of an instrument made in 1624 by the Ruckers family. The interior lid artwork is by Nipaluna/Hobart botanical artist, Deborah Wace, commissioned to reflect the unique flora of the instrument's island home.

PROGRAM NOTES

JABRA LATHAM Piccolo Violin Concerto

I've always had a bit of a fascination with unusual instruments, so when I heard VDB had commissioned a piccolo violin from Douglas Coghill, my interest was piqued. After hearing Julia perform on the instrument at its launch, I was sold.

The piccolo is both intriguing for its pitch & technical idiosyncrasies, and the beauty and depth of its tone. I particularly enjoy puzzling out ways of making this instrument work with the ensemble, and giving it context to sing.

This piece is possibly the first new music to be composed for the piccolo violin for a couple of hundred years - an amazing thought.

TRANSFORMATIONS CAMPAIGN

We're currently raising funds towards our next album - *Transformations* - featuring VDB and bass-baritone **Andrew O'Connor** performing glorious repertoire from 17th century Germany alongside new works from Australian composers **Alice Chance** and **Brooke Shelley**.



All donations to VDB are tax-deductible - thank you for your support! Visit www.vandiemensband.com.au or follow the QR code.

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