

VAN DIEMEN'S BAND

NORDIC VOICES

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.

PROGRAM

TRAD FAROESE arr. DANISH STRING QUARTET	Regin Smidur
TRAD SHETLAND arr. RACHEL MEYERS	Da Full Rigg'd Ship [^]
TRAD DANISH arr. DANISH STRING QUARTET	Peat Dance
ARVO PÄRT (b.1935)	Summa
JEAN SIBELIUS (1865-1957) arr. VAN DIEMEN'S BAND	Finlandia [^]
TRAD SWEDISH arr. DANISH STRING QUARTET	Polska from Dorotea
DIETERICH BUXTEHUDE (1637-1707)	Mit Fried und Freud ich fahr dahin <i>Contrapunctus I - Evolutio - Contrapunctus II - Evolutio</i>
D. BUXTEHUDE	Klaglied
EDVARD GRIEG (1843-1907)	Våren (Last Spring)
TRAD SHETLAND arr. DANISH STRING QUARTET	Pericondine / Fair Isle Jig
QUIN THOMSON (b.1974)	Sjódreygil (Sea Ghost) [^]
MARÍA HULD MARKAN SIGFÚSDÓTTIR (b.1980)	Horfnir Skógar (Vanished Woods) <i>III. Betula - IV. La Forêt (Ode to Immortality)</i>
FREDRIK SJÖLIN (b.1982)	Kjølhalling

* World premiere [^] commissioned by VDB

DURATION

This performance is one hour with no interval.

ABOUT VDB

Founded in 2016 by violinist Julia Fredersdorff, Van Diemen's Band (VDB) delivers extraordinary performances across Lutruwita/Tasmania as well as online. 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, and released a music video, Song of the Birds, in 2021.

VDB has performed for Ten Days on the Island, Dark Mofo and Mona Foma, toured nationally for Musica Viva Australia and internationally for Chamber Music New Zealand, and has recorded for ABC Classic and prestigious Swedish label BIS.

VDB is an active concert presenter in Lutruwita/Tasmania, presenting Lunchbox Concerts in Nipaluna/Hobart, Launceston and Pataway/Burnie, and delivers a range of education and community engagement programs each year.

VAN DIEMEN'S BAND

JULIA FREDERSDORFF

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR / BAROQUE VIOLIN

KARINA SCHMITZ BAROQUE VIOLIN & VIOLA

KATIE YAP BAROQUE VIOLA

NATASHA KRAEMER BAROQUE CELLO

MANAGEMENT TEAM

JULIA FREDERSDORFF ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

JENNIFER KERR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DIRK LORENZEN OPERATIONS MANAGER

KATIE YAP ARTISTIC COORDINATOR

NATALYA BING EDUCATION & COMMUNITY

THANKYOU

VDB would like to thank the following people for their generous help with this tour:

Carol Liefing, Ally Mercer, Sophie Houghton & Hawley House, Jane Haley OAM, Greg Parkinson & Holy Trinity Launceston - and all of our audiences and supporters.

SJÓDREYGIL (SEA GHOST)

Written by VDB's 2025 Composer-in-Residence, Quin Thomson, 'Sjódreygil' is an elegy based on a Faroese myth of a sea ghost. Appearing on rocky outcrops at sea after sunset, either as a man or a dog, the creature both goads and helps the sailors it calls down.

'Sjódreygil' also draws inspiration from the aurora, which, in the words of the composer, "(spell)binds people half a world apart, and has done so since time out of mind".

In composing 'Sjódreygil', which is dedicated to the memory of PJ, Quin was influenced by the following text:

I imagine
your spark of irrepressible life
taking flight:

drawn home
embraced, in the end
by the source
of all things moving
living breathing loving

perhaps I will pick a star
to remember you by

(constant warm
anchor to aliveness
Small
yet impossibly large
rock steady
yet all too fragile

encompassing love
and stubborn ungovernability
our nature
too alike for total comfort)

I imagine
our shared energy
like the aurora:

invisible forces manifest
in dissonant consonant
waves particles
of shifting light

bridging celestial bodies
mine to yours
to everything

SUPPORTERS

