

Music at St James' presents

Angels and Trumpets: A Renaissance Christmas

Saturday, 8 December at 5:00pm, St James' Church



Herald in the season of Advent and Christmas with angelic choirs and trumpets!

Music at St James' is pleased to respond to the overwhelming reception it received in 2015 by inviting Australian Baroque Brass to return to St James' to perform Praetorius' sumptuous Christmas Mass with The Choir of St James'. Directed by John Foster and inspired by Paul McCreesh's award-winning reconstruction of the Lutheran Christmas Mass, this vivid composite work is transporting with its grandiose and buoyant mix of motets, rousing congregational hymns for the audience to participate in, plainchant, and interludes played on period instruments. Complementing Michael Praetorius' mass is music by Monteverdi, Hassler and Martin Luther, Schein, Scheidt and Weckmann. This festival of early music encapsulates the joyous Christmas spirit and is not to be missed. The Friends of Music at St James' Christmas Party follows the concert, at which patrons can sign-up for membership and subscribe to the 2019 concert season.

The Choir of St James', directed by Warren Trevelyan-Jones, enjoys a reputation of being one of the finest choirs in Australia. It is one of the oldest musical establishments in Australia and is linked to the earliest days of the colony of New South Wales; some of its early members were convicts. The Choir maintains a schedule of regular weekly choral services, Sunday Cantata Services, Orchestral Masses, and its own Subscription Concert Series. It has a large and varied repertoire encompassing music from the Middle Ages to the contemporary, and it is committed to supporting new Australian works, including compositions written by past and present members of the Choir. Past collaborations include working with The Tallis Scholars, The King's Singers, and The Gabrieli Consort, Opera Australia, Sydney Symphony Orchestra, Australian Baroque Brass, The Australian Haydn Ensemble, and soloists Yvonne Kenny, Greta Bradman and Teddy Tahu Rhodes. The Choir also undertakes a comprehensive programme of recording, broadcasting and touring, interstate and overseas. This year, it returned to Gallipoli and sang at the ANZAC Day Dawn Service, as well as performing to critical acclaim at the Coriole Music Festival in Adelaide, and in Hobart at Festival of Voices.

Australian Baroque Brass (ABB) is renowned as one of Australia's finest early music ensembles. Under the artistic directorship of baroque trumpeter and scholar John Foster, the ensemble has pioneered the use of period brass instruments in Australia. ABB performs extensively in festivals and concerts in Australia and abroad, such as the Adelaide Festival and the Canberra International Music Festival, the New England Bach Festival and the Hobart Island Brass Academy, at numerous churches, cathedrals and conservatoria, and at the annual Orchestral Masses in January at St James' Church, Sydney. Internationally, ABB has toured the USA and in 2011 is made its debut performance in the UK at the Petworth Festival in Sussex. Australian Baroque Brass has collaborated with many well-known artists and ensembles, such as Paul McCreesh, Crispian Steele-Perkins, Sara Macliver, The Song Company, Ironwood Ensemble, the Adelaide Chamber Choir, and the Choir of St James', among others. ABB has recorded extensively for broadcast on national radio and TV, and has also recorded the first three albums in the *Music of a Golden Age* series (Tubicium Records) to much critical acclaim.

Music at St James' presents The Choir of St James' and Australian Baroque Brass directed by John Foster in *Angels and Trumpets: A Renaissance Christmas*, Saturday, 8 December 2018, 5:00pm at St James' Church, 173 King Street.

Tickets \$50/\$45 | To book call (02) 8256 2222 or visit www.cityrecitalhall.com

Friends of Music Christmas Party

Tickets \$30/\$25 (for FOM members) | To book, visit [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com)

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