

## NEW ZEALAND STRING QUARTET

Celebrating its 35th season in 2022, the New Zealand String Quartet has an established international reputation. It performs more than eighty concerts a year in New Zealand and international locations. Performances include many international festivals. The quartet's members are resident artists at the Adam Chamber Music Festival in Nelson and are the “quartet-in-residence” at Te Kōkī New Zealand School of Music at Victoria University of Wellington.

**Helene Pohl (Violin 1)** Born in Ithaca, New York, Helene spent her childhood on both sides of the Atlantic. At 17 she began tertiary study at the Musikhochschule Cologne. She continued her studies at the Eastman School of Music and at Indiana University. As first violinist of the San Francisco based Fidelio String Quartet (1988-1993), Helene performed extensively in the USA, Germany, England, Italy and South America. Helene joined the NZSQ in February 1994. In 2014 she was made a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit (MNZM) for her outstanding services to music.

**Monique Lapins (Violin 2)** Monique began her violin studies at the age of 6 and continued at the Australian National Academy of Music and later at the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory in Singapore. She has twice been a finalist in the Asia Pacific Chamber Music Competition and has participated in chamber music programmes and festivals in France, the Czech Republic, Holland, Japan, Hong Kong, Australia and at the Open Chamber Music Seminars in Prussia Cove in the UK. Monique has toured extensively in collaboration with the Australian Chamber Orchestra Collective, the Melbourne Chamber Orchestra and the Singapore Symphony Orchestra. She joined the NZSQ in May 2016.

**Gillian Ansell (Viola)** Gillian was born in Auckland and made her concerto debut as a violinist with the Auckland Philharmonia at the age of 16. She subsequently trained at the Royal College of Music in London and then in Germany at the Musikhochschule Cologne with the Amadeus Quartet. She became a founding member of the New Zealand String Quartet in 1987. In 2008 she was made a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit (MNZM) for her outstanding services to music.

**Rolf Gjelsten (Cello)** began his studies in Victoria, Canada and at age 21 became the youngest member of the Berlin Symphony Orchestra. He later joined the Laurentian Quartet with whom he toured internationally and made five CDs. He taught cello at Sarah Lawrence College in New York and was a member of the New York Piano Trio. Rolf furthered his studies in 1990 at Rutgers University from where he received his doctoral degree. He joined the New Zealand String Quartet in 1994.

## PROGRAMME

**String Quartet No. 9**  
Ross Harris (1945 - )

**Quartet in A minor D. 804, Op. 29 (“Rosamunde”)**  
Franz Schubert (1797 – 1828)

- I. Allegro ma non troppo
- II. Andante
- III. Menuetto; allegretto
- IV. Allegro moderato

## INTERVAL

**String Quartet No. 1 (“From My Life”)**  
Bedřich Smetana (1824 – 1884)

- I. Allegro vivo appassionato
- II. Allegro moderato à la Polka
- III. Largo sostenuto
- IV. Vivace

