A true virtuoso must call up scent and blossom, and breathe the breath of life"

–Franz Liszt

Virtuoso. Is there a more powerful or evocative word in classical music?

It brings with it the weight of expectation, an acknowledgement of artistry, and the sense of wonder that comes from sheer physical mastery.

In 2021 your orchestra will celebrate the virtuoso and the virtuosic, presenting stunning music by the most famous virtuoso composers during the ultimate era of the virtuoso. From individual virtuosos, to composers and virtuosic groups who excel in musical technique and understanding, this will be a season to remember.

But virtuosos are not limited to composers and musicians. For me, the most important definition of "virtuoso" is a person who has a cultivated appreciation of artistic excellence - a connoisseur. In short, YOU our cherished audience!

Your support inspires me to present music that is virtuosic, vital, vibrant, vivid, visceral, visionary, vivacious (that's enough of that - ed.), and I love programming works in a manner that brings an orchestra and audience together in a journey of artistic exploration and celebration.

Please join us for #Virtuoso2021.

Marc Taddei, Music Director Orchestra Wellington

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VIRTUOSO VOICES Saturday 22 May

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Saturday 30 October

VIRTUOSO ORCHESTRA

Saturday 4 December

All concerts are at the Michael Fowler Centre, 7.30pm

THE PSATHAS SESSIONS

Join the orchestra for an exploration of the works of composers Arvo Pärt, John Tavener and Ewan Clark, as our composer-in-residence John Psathas takes you on a journey inside their music. John will share his insights and the orchestra will perform iconic Pärt works such as *Tabula Rasa* and *Cantus in Memoriam Benjamin Britten*, Ewan Clark's sublime *Gethsemane* and Tavener's beautiful works for strings.

The Pärt Session Saturday 14 August, 2pm St Andrew's on the Terrace

The Tavener & Clark Session

Saturday 20 November, 2pm St Andrew's on the Terrace Subject to availability

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