

PINCHGUT OPERA PRESENTS

# MESSE DE MINUIT

MARC-ANTOINE CHARPENTIER

Celebrate the season with Pinchgut and the  
enchanting music of the French baroque.

5 - 6 DECEMBER, 2020 | CITY RECITAL HALL



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PINCHGUT OPERA



# MESSE DE MINUIT

## MARC-ANTOINE CHARPENTIER

Simon Rickard	<i>musette</i>
Chloe Lankshear	<i>soprano</i>
Anna Fraser	<i>soprano</i>
Eric Peterson	<i>tenor</i>
Nicholas Jones	<i>tenor</i>
David Greco	<i>baritone</i>

### **Orchestra of the Antipodes**

Matt Greco	
Rafael Font Viera	
Caroline Hopson	<i>violins</i>
Karina Schmitz	
Stephen Freeman	<i>violas</i>
Anton Baba	<i>basse de violon / viola da gamba</i>
Anthea Cottee	<i>viola da gamba</i>
Melissa Farrow	<i>flute / recorder</i>
Alicia Crossley	<i>recorder</i>
Simon Rickard	<i>bassoon</i>
Hannah Lane	<i>baroque harp</i>
Simon Martyn-Ellis	<i>theorbo / baroque guitar</i>
Erin Helyard	<i>conductor and chamber organ</i>

**Pitch** A392

**Temperament** Corrette (1753)

Both Saturday performances will be filmed to be made available as a digital concert. We ask that you take care to minimise noise in the audience during these performances.

ABC Classic will be recording this concert for later broadcast. Any microphones you observe are for recording purposes only.

The performance is approximately 75 minutes long with no interval.

# WELCOME



It is with great pleasure that we return to the stage after a most challenging year. In true Pinchgut fashion, we present a stylish performance of Charpentier's most popular sacred works, combined with the debut of a very special French baroque instrument never before heard in Australia: the musette.

Charpentier's *Messe de Minuit* was designed for performance at the midnight mass service between Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. We don't know the exact circumstances of the commission, but most likely it was requested around 1690 by the Jesuits of the church of Saint-Louis; Charpentier had been the *maître de musique* there since 1687. Although Charpentier was a great admirer of Italian models, the *Messe de Minuit* is purely French in its setting of the ordinary of the mass (Kyrie – Gloria –

Credo – Sanctus – Agnus Dei) to the tunes of French popular noëls (or Christmas songs). The dance-like, joyous rhythms and charming alternating textures – more characteristic of the opera or ballet music of the time – have made this mass one of Charpentier's most popular works.

One of the instruments associated with Christmastide in the late 17th century was the musette. These small French bagpipes were thought to resemble the pipes that the shepherds played around the manger of the baby Jesus. In that spirit we have interspersed Charpentier's mass with noël settings for the musette by Chédeville, and contrasted these with Charpentier's own settings of the same carols, for instruments. To round out the popular flavour of tonight's unique re-creation of a 17th-century French Christmas, we also include a 'ballet' from Boismortier's *Balets de village*, one of the most important collections of music for the musette.

2020 has been a year unlike any other, and I'd like to conclude by paying tribute to my colleagues here at Pinchgut. They have all worked tirelessly and passionately to make sure Pinchgut has survived the storm, and this concert is testament to their fortitude and vision. I'd also like to thank Create NSW for their support this year and into 2021. And finally, I want to thank you, our audience. Without your unstinting support and generosity we would simply not have been able to present this very special concert for you.

*Joyeux Noël!*

**Erin Helyard**

Artistic Director



# PROGRAM

Marc-Antoine Charpentier (1643–1704)

*Messe de Minuit* (Midnight Mass), H9 [c.1694]

## **Kyrie**

Kyrie eleison: *Joseph est bien marié* (Joseph was certainly married)

Christe eleison: *Or, nous dites Marie* (Now tell us, Mary)

Kyrie eleison: *Une jeune pucelle* (A young maiden)

## **Gloria**

Laudamus te: *Tous les bourgeois de Châtre* (All the good people of Châtre)

Quoniam tu solus sanctus: *Ou s'en vont ces gais bergers* (Where are these merry shepherds going)



Esprit Philippe Chédeville (1696–1762)

*Nouveau recueil de noëls pour deux musettes ou vièles, flûtes et hautbois*

(New collection of noëls for two musettes or vielles, flutes and oboes) [1730]

## **O createur** (O creator)

Marc-Antoine Charpentier

*Noëls pour les instruments* (Noëls for instruments), H531 [c.1690]

## **O createur**

Esprit Philippe Chédeville

*Nouveau recueil de noëls*

## **Laissez paître vos beste** (Leave your sheep grazing)

Marc-Antoine Charpentier

*Noëls pour les instruments*

## **Laissez paître vos beste**



Marc-Antoine Charpentier  
*Messe de Minuit*

### **Credo**

Deum de Deo: *Vous qui désirez sans fin* (You who endlessly desire)

Crucifixus: *Voici le jour solennel de Noël* (Here is the solemn day of Christmas)

Et in Spiritum Sanctum: *A la venue de Noël* (At the coming of Christmas)



Marc-Antoine Charpentier  
*In Nativitatem Domini Canticum* (Canticle for the Nativity of the Lord), H416 [1690]

### **Nuit** (Night)

Marc-Antoine Charpentier  
*Messe de Minuit*

### **Sanctus**

*O Dieu, que n'étais-je en vie* (O God, if I had been alive)



Joseph Bodin de Boismortier (1689–1755)  
*Premier Balet de Village en trio* (First village ballet for trio), Op. 52 No. 1 [1734]



Marc-Antoine Charpentier  
*Messe de Minuit*

### **Agnus Dei**

*A minuit fut fait un réveil* (At midnight there came a call to awaken)

Marc-Antoine Charpentier  
*In Nativitatem Domini canticum* (Canticle for the Nativity of the Lord), H414 [1684]

### **Salve puerule** (Greetings, little child)

## THE BAROQUE MUSETTE



The musette was a diminutive, bellows-blown bagpipe associated with the French aristocracy from 1550 until the French Revolution. It was unique in having not one, but two ebony or ivory chanters (melody pipes), each furnished with six silver keys, and a complicated cylindrical 'shuttle drone' which allowed the piper to play up to six drone notes simultaneously.

The musette was exceedingly popular during the reign of Louis XV. Composers such as Rameau and Marais called for them in their opera orchestras, while volumes of chamber music by Boismortier, Corrette and others were published for amateurs to play. The musette was considered the only woodwind instrument fit for ladies since, being bellows blown, they did not need to screw up their

mouths in order to play it. Unlike the Great Highland Bagpipe of Scotland, the musette was very soft in volume, and played mostly indoors.

Paintings by Watteau and Lancret frequently feature a musette being played for aristocratic *fêtes champêtres*. Numerous portraits survive of nobles posing playing their musettes, decorated with silken velvet and silver lace trim. The musette disappeared with the French Revolution. Not only were their aristocratic owners beheaded, but the arrival of a new musical language – the classical style – finally rendered this tiny, quiet bagpipe obsolete.

**Simon Rickard**

For further information on the performers, the program, the musette and Marc-Antoine Charpentier please see [www.pinchgutopera.com.au/charpentiers-messe-de-minuit](http://www.pinchgutopera.com.au/charpentiers-messe-de-minuit)

# TEXTS AND TRANSLATIONS

## Messe de Minuit

### Kyrie

Kyrie eleison.

Christe eleison.

Kyrie eleison.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

### Gloria

Gloria in excelsis Deo

Et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.

Laudamus te. Benedicimus te.

Adoramus te. Glorificamus te.

Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam.

Domine Deus, Rex coelestis,

Deus Pater omnipotens.

Domine Fili unigenite, Jesu Christe.

Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris.

Qui tollis peccata mundi,

miserere nobis.

Qui tollis peccata mundi,

suscipe deprecationem nostram.

Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,

miserere nobis.

Quoniam tu solus sanctus.

Tu solus Dominus.

Tu solus altissimus, Jesu Christe

cum Sancto Spiritu

in gloria Dei Patris.

Amen.

Glory to God in the highest

and peace on earth to people of good will.

We praise you. We bless you.

We worship you. We glorify you.

We give you thanks for your great glory.

Lord God, King of heaven,

God, the Father almighty.

Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ.

Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father.

You take away the sins of the world,

have mercy on us.

You take away the sins of the world,

receive our supplication.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father,

have mercy on us.

For you alone are holy,

you alone are the Lord,

you alone are the most high, Jesus Christ,

with the Holy Spirit

in the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

### Credo

Credo in unum Deum, Patrem omnipotentem,

factorem coeli et terrae,

visibilium omnium, et invisibilium.

Et in unum Dominum Jesum Christum,

Filium Dei unigenitum,

et ex Patre natum ante omni saecula.

Deum de Deo, lumen de lumine,

Deum verum de Deo vero,

genitum, non factum,

consubstantialem Patri,

per quem omnia facta sunt.

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,

maker of heaven and earth,

of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,

the only-begotten Son of God,

born of the Father before all ages.

God from God, light from light,

true God from true God,

begotten, not made,

of one substance with the Father,

by whom all things were made.



Qui propter nos homines  
et propter nostram salutem  
descendit de caelis.  
Et incarnatus est de Spiritu Sancto  
ex Maria Virgine, et homo factus est.  
Crucifixus etiam pro nobis sub  
Pontio Pilato,  
passus et sepultus est.  
Et resurrexit tertia die,  
secundum Scripturas.  
Et ascendit in caelum,  
sedet ad dexteram Patris.  
Et iterum venturus est cum gloria,  
iudicare vivos et mortuos,  
cujus regni non erit finis.  
Et in Spiritum Sanctum,  
Dominum et vivificantem,  
qui ex Patre Filioque procedit.  
Qui cum Patre et Filio  
simul adoratur et conglorificatur,  
qui locutus est per Prophetas.  
Et unam sanctam catholicam  
et apostolicam Ecclesiam.  
Confiteor unum baptisma  
in remissionem peccatorum.  
Et expecto resurrectionem mortuorum  
et vitam venturi saeculi.  
Amen.

### **Sanctus**

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus,  
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.  
Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.  
Hosanna in excelsis.  
Benedictus qui venit  
in nomine Domini.  
Hosanna in excelsis.

### **Agnus Dei**

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata  
mundi,  
miserere nobis.

Who for us mortals  
and for our salvation  
came down from heaven  
and was made flesh by the Holy Spirit  
of the Virgin Mary, and became human.  
He was crucified also for us under  
Pontius Pilate,  
he suffered and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again,  
in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom shall have no end.  
And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who together with the Father and Son  
is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the Prophets.  
And I believe in one holy, catholic,  
and apostolic Church.  
I acknowledge one baptism  
for the remission of sins.  
And I await the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the age to come.  
Amen.

Holy, holy, holy  
Lord God of Hosts.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is the one who comes  
in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of  
the world,  
have mercy on us.

## Salve Puerule

Salve puerule,  
Salve tenellule,  
O nate parvule  
Quam bonus es.  
Tu coelum deseris,  
Tu mundo nasceris,  
Nobis te ut miseris  
Assimiles.

O summa bonitas!  
Excelsa deitas  
Vilis humanitas  
Fit hodie.  
Aeternus nascitur,  
Immensus capitur  
Et rei tegitur  
Sub specie.

Virgo puerpera,  
Beata viscera  
Dei cum opera  
Dent filium.  
Gaude, flos virginum,  
Gaude, spes hominum,  
Fons lavans crimum  
Proluvium.

Greetings, little boy,  
greetings, little tender one,  
O little infant,  
how good you are.  
You give up heaven,  
you are born in the world  
to make yourself like us  
wretched mortals.

O supreme goodness!  
Lofty deity  
becomes lowly humanity  
today.  
The eternal is born,  
the boundless is contained,  
and dressed in the guise  
of sin.

O child-bearing virgin,  
may your blessed womb  
bring forth a son  
by the help of God.  
Rejoice, flower of virgins,  
rejoice, hope of humankind,  
O spring which washes away  
an abundance of sin.



ERIN HELYARD GUEST DIRECTS HAYDN,  
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# TEMPORA MUTANTUR

DECEMBER 19, 7PM | CITY RECITAL HALL

## PROGRAM

**Boccherini** Piano Quintet Op. 57 No. 3

**Mozart** Piano Concerto No. 6 in B Flat Major

**Haydn** Symphony Op. 64 *Tempora Mutantur*  
(*Times Are Changed*) (arr. Salomon)



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# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS continued

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