

selby & friends

chamber
music
at its *best*

2025



"BREATHTAKING ~ CHARISMATIC ~ ASTOUNDING"

L-R: Daniel Dodds (violin); Julian Smiles (cello); Catherine Hewgill (cello); Alexandra Osborne (violin); Kathryn Selby (piano); Elizabeth Layton (violin); Natalie Chee (violin); Benett Tsai (cello); Kristian Winther (violin); Clancy Newman (cello); Isabella Bignasca (viola)

[See the 2025 Season
Introduction Video
here](#)

Selby & Friends 2025

is proud to announce our 19th Season of five intimate, breathtaking & blockbuster concerts with eleven fabulous artists from around the world.



Selby & Friends has been described as presenting concerts that are “absolutely superb” “blockbuster performances,” with Artistic Director and Pianist Kathryn Selby having “excellent taste in friends”. This is an understatement for our 2025 Season of *Chamber Music at its Best!*

As always, the programs in the new Selby & Friends season reflect the stunning collaborative effort of all involved and showcase our deep love of melody, innovation and inspiration. We celebrate and honour the 150 years since Ravel’s birth along with two Viennese masters in Tour 1, which is followed for Tour 2 in May by the Australian premiere of a stunning work by the acclaimed Lera Auerbach with two favourite piano trios by Schumann and Smetana.

A gorgeous arrangement of Debussy’s *Prélude à l’après-midi d’un faune* opens Tour 3 with Beethoven’s *Ghost* and Shostakovich’s powerful second piano trio. In Tour 4 in September, we visit with the masters of song in Chopin and Schubert, with a tribute to Fanny and Felix Mendelssohn in a lovely work by Australian composer Anne Cawrse. And we close the season with luscious big piano quartets by Brahms, Fauré and Australian Matthew Hindson.

Not only do we have the honour of working once again with favourite old friends, violinists Natalie Chee, Daniel Dodds, Elizabeth Layton and Alexandra Osborne, and cellists Julian Smiles and Clancy Newman, but in 2025 Selby & Friends welcomes for the first time the brilliant virtuoso violinist Kristian Winther and SSO Principal Cellist Catherine Hewgill. And we are delighted to welcome to the Season two accomplished young Australians currently studying in the US - 20-year-old cellist Benett Tsai, making a return engagement to Selby & Friends in Tour 3, and new guest artist Sydney-born violist Isabella Bignasca in Tour 5, once again showcasing the Selby & Friends commitment to fostering and supporting a rising generation of talented Australian artists.

“Having lived most of my life within the beautiful and limitless boundaries of chamber music, it is a truly wonderful privilege to have access to, and be constantly exploring, original music from both beloved old masters and exciting new composers and to share this all in our 2025 Season with my friends,” says Kathryn Selby AM, Artistic Director/Pianist.

FIVE FABULOUS TOURS TO SIX CENTRES

SYDNEY, NSW:	City Recital Hall
MELBOURNE, VIC:	Melbourne Recital Centre - Primrose Potter Salon
CANBERRA, ACT:	Fairfax Theatre, National Gallery of Australia
ADELAIDE, SA:	Elder Hall, University of Adelaide & St John’s Church
SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS, NSW:	Bowral Memorial Hall
TURRAMURRA, NSW:	Turramurra Uniting Church

Full season details of our 5-concert subscription packages from \$255 and single concert tickets from \$60 are now available at selbyandfriends.com.au - info@selbyandfriends.com.au

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2025 Concert Programs

BREATH TAKING ~ CHARISMATIC ~ ASTOUNDING

Tour 1 - Joyeux Anniversaire

6th - 13th April. 2025



Sun 6	Adelaide	2:15pm
Tues 8	Melbourne	2:00pm & 7:00pm
Thurs 10	Sydney	7:00pm
Friday 11	Canberra	7:00pm
Sat 12	Bowral	4:00pm
Sun 13	Turrumurra	2:15pm

Artists:

Daniel Dodds, violin ~ Julian Smiles, cello ~ Kathryn Selby, piano

Works:

W.A. Mozart (1756 - 1791) Piano Trio No. 5 in C major, K. 548

Alexander Zemlinsky (1871 - 1942) Piano Trio in D minor, Op. 3

Maurice Ravel (1875 - 1937) Piano Trio in A minor

The 2025 Season begins in tribute to the great French composer Ravel for the 150th anniversary of his birth in 2025 with his atmospheric piano trio along with two famous trios of subtle maturity and soaring passion by two vastly different Austrian masters in the Classical Mozart and the Romantic Alexander Zemlinsky. This program also sees a reunion of two childhood friends to Selby & Friends with the stunning and charismatic violinist Daniel Dodds and Australian cellist Julian Smiles who join Artistic Director/Pianist Kathryn Selby for a soaring season opener.

Tour 2 - This Mirror Has Three Faces

10th - 19th May 2025



		2:15pm
Sat 10**	Turrumurra	
Tues 13	Melbourne	2:00pm
		&
		7:00pm
Fri 16	Canberra	7:00pm
Sat 17	Bowral	4:00pm
Sun 18	Adelaide	2:15pm
Mon 19	Sydney	7:00pm

** Note: Saturday for this concert.

Artists:

Kristian Winther, violin ~ Clancy Newman, cello ~ Kathryn Selby, piano

Works:

Lera Auerbach (1973 -) *This Mirror Has Three Faces*, Piano Trio No. 2

Robert Schumann (1810 - 1856) Piano Trio No. 3 in G minor, Op.110

Bedřich Smetana (1824 - 1884) Piano Trio in G minor, Op. 15

A breathtaking concert program which begins in stunning fashion with the second piano trio by important Soviet-born Austrian-American classical composer, conductor and concert pianist Lera Auerbach. One of today's most sought-after and exciting creative voices, her performances and music are featured on the world's leading stages - from Vienna's Musikverein and London's Royal Albert Hall to New York's Carnegie Hall and Washington D.C.'s Kennedy Center. Followed by two beautiful works - Schumann's tempestuous final piano trio and the heartbreaking piano trio by the great Czech Father of Nationalism, Smetana, we welcome the stunning young Australian violinist Kristian Winther to S&F for the very first time in combination with regular favourite cellist Clancy Newman. Pianist Kathryn Selby has, with this program, brought together two outstanding artists of their generation in a concert to relish.

Tour 3 - A Ghostly Afternoon

20th - 29th July 2025



Sun 20	Adelaide	2:15pm
Wed 23	Melbourne	2:00pm & 7:00pm
Fri 25	Canberra	7:00pm
Sat 26	Bowral	4:00pm
Sun 27	Turrumurra	2:15pm
Tues 29	Sydney	7:00pm

Artists:

Natalie Chee, violin ~ Benett Tsai, cello ~ Kathryn Selby, piano

Works:

Claude Debussy (1862 - 1918) *Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune*

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770 - 1827) Piano Trio No.5 in D major. Op. 70 No.1 'Ghost'

Dmitri Shostakovich (1906 - 1975) Piano Trio No. 2 in E minor, Op. 67

The third program of this season is truly special with the virtuosic and graceful Australian violinist Natalie Chee and brilliant young Australian cellist Benett Tsai returning for this tour to perform together for the first time with Kathryn Selby. Opening with a gorgeous arrangement of Debussy's *Afternoon of a Faun*, two iconic works follow from the piano trio genre - Beethoven's *Ghost Trio* and Shostakovich's powerful and haunting second trio dedicated to the victims of WWII. This concert once again underscores the Selby & Friends commitment to supporting talented artists of the next generations with invaluable concert and touring experiences in this exciting and masterful program.

Tour 4 – Songs Without Words

12th – 21st September 2025



Fri 12	Canberra	7:00pm
Sat 13	Bowral	4:00pm
Sun 14	Turrumurra	2:15pm
Mon 15	Melbourne	2:00pm & 7:00pm
Thurs 18	Sydney	7:00pm
Sun 21	Adelaide	2:15pm

Artists:

Alexandra Osborne, violin ~ Catherine Hewgill, cello ~ Kathryn Selby, piano

Works:

Anne Cawrse (1981 -) *Songs Without Words*

Frédéric Chopin (1810 - 1849) Piano Trio in G minor, Op. 8

Franz Schubert (1797 - 1828) Piano Trio No. 2 in E-flat major, Op. 100 D. 929

What a delightful way to introduce the true song masters – Mendelssohn (both Fanny and Felix), Chopin and Schubert! Australian composer Anne Cawrse composed her lovely work as a special commission by the ABC and it reflects on the special relationship between the Mendelssohn siblings. Chopin’s beautiful and only piano trio follows and it is no surprise that it envelops his uncanny ability to create repose, virtuosity and drama. Schubert’s sizable final piano trio, composed shortly before his death, closes this stunning program encompassing the composers we adore for their genius with song. Allie Osborne returns for this program with Katie Hewgill, SSO Principal Cellist and an old friend who is warmly welcomed to S&F for the first time in 2025.

Tour 5 - Epic Diva

21st - 30th November 2025



Fri 21	Canberra	7:00pm
Sat 22	Bowral	4:00pm
Sun 23	Turrumurra	2:15pm
Mon 24	Sydney	7:00pm
Wed 26	Melbourne	2:00pm & 7:00pm
Sun 30	Adelaide	2:15pm

Artists:

Elizabeth Layton, violin ~ Isabella Bignasca, viola ~ Julian Smiles, cello ~ Kathryn Selby, piano

Works:

Matthew Hindson (1968 -) *Epic Diva* for piano quartet

Gabriel Fauré (1845 - 1924) Piano Quartet No. 2 in G minor, Op. 45

Johannes Brahms (1833 - 1897) Piano Quartet No. 2 in A major, Op. 26

Our 2025 Season comes to a close with a blockbuster program of big piano quartets filled to the brim with the most gorgeous melodies and boasting two of our most beloved chamber musicians in Liz Layton and Julian Smiles with an introduction to another brilliant young Australian artist, violist Isabella Bignasca, currently living in the US. With the piano quartet taking on enormous popularity in the second half of the 19th century and concert halls becoming more commonplace for chamber music concerts, these 'mini' orchestral/piano concerto works found their place solidly in the chamber genre. Brahms and Fauré understand the complications of bringing large forces together so beautifully in these popular and formidable quartets and outstanding Australian composer Matthew Hindson's fabulous single movement quartet is the cherry on the cake!