

Tuesday, March 31 2015 – 6.30 pm |
Sydney Conservatorium of Music | Recital Hall West

Elective Affinities: Schubert's *Meditatio Mortis*

Schubertiade

Schubert, Sonatina g minor, D 408

Schubert, Introduction and Variations D 802 on a theme from the "Müllerlieder" op 25 for violin (flute) and piano

Schubert, Trio in Bflat major op 99 for Piano, Violin and 'Cello D 898

Jeanell Carrigan, piano | Goetz Richter, violin | Minah Choe, 'cello

"Elective Affinities" seeks to understand the important connections between music and philosophy. The urgency of such an understanding has been articulated by a number of thinkers responding to German Romanticism in particular, most notably Theodor Adorno and more recently Lydia Goehr. The approach and method for this search has experimental, developmental and dialogical characteristics: it is directed at a transformation of listening through philosophical attention and at a transformation of thinking through musical listening. Musical performance, often conceived as artful entertainment or entertaining artistry, contributes here to a sustained enquiry and reflection about fundamental human phenomena. In response, philosophy returns from its preoccupation with academic calculation and intellectual technology to an authentic concern with contemplative life.

This performance of an all-Schubert program is introduced with reflections on the philosophy of music and listening by Dr. Goetz Richter who argues for a conception of Schubert's music as a meditation on transience completing a historical definition of music itself as *meditatio mortis*. The works in this program variously lead our contemplation and perplexity about time and transience in life, nature and society. In the context of romantic art and thought, Schubert's works are seen as musical narratives of contemplation on time and as reflections on listening itself.

Further information:

<http://music.sydney.edu.au/events/chamber-works-schubertiade-31-03-2015>