

PRESENTED BY TE AHUREI TOI O TĀMAKI
AUCKLAND ARTS FESTIVAL IN ASSOCIATION
WITH THE NEW ZEALAND SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA TE TIRA PŪORO O AOTEAROA

TE AHUREI TOI O TĀMAKI | AUCKLAND
ARTS FESTIVAL

PROUDLY A PRELUDE TO

UNITY Unity Week
15–21 March



New Zealand
Symphony
Orchestra

Te Tira Pūoro
o Aotearoa



Beyond Words



Auckland

Sun, 10 Mar, 4.00pm

Auckland Town Hall

Beyond Words

Fawzi Haimor Conductor

OUM Vocalist

Kyriakos Tapakis Oud

Vesa-Matti Leppänen Violin

Simurgh Music School

Abdelilah Rharrabti Vocalist

Esmail Fathi Vocalist/Daf

Liam Oliver Saz

Valerie Coleman *Umoja – Anthem of Unity*

Traditional arr. Hamish Oliver *Hasbi Rabbi / Molla Mamad Jan*

OUM arr. Tom McLeod *Daba*

Reza Vali *Funèbre* for Solo Violin and String Orchestra

Kyriakos Tapakis arr. Tom McLeod *Mantilatos*

INTERVAL

Arvo Pärt *Silouan's Song*

John Psathas *Ahlan wa Sahlan* (World Premiere)

RNZ Concert is the NZSO's Official Broadcaster

SOUNZ is NZSO's partner for Aotearoa New Zealand music

Programme notes written by Feby Idrus

Programme book printed by Blue Star

Principal Partners



Valerie Coleman (1970-)

Umoja – Anthem of Unity

Traditional

arr. Hamish Oliver

Hasbi Rabbi / Molla Mamad Jan

OUM (1978-)

arr. Tom McLeod

Daba

Reza Vali (1952-)

Funèbre for Solo Violin and
String Orchestra

Kyriakos Tapakis (1977-)

arr. Tom McLeod

Mantilatos

What travels more easily than music? It seeps through walls, up staircases, through windows, across city walls, beyond country borders and, hopefully, across boundaries of the mind and heart. After all, Persian-American composer Reza Vali says, in an article for new music website *I Care If You Listen*: “The cultures of the world, like the oceans, are all interconnected.” Tonight’s concert paints a picture of music that travels, to bind us together as one united, global whānau.

38 MINUTES

INTERVAL

Arvo Pärt (1935-)

Silouan’s Song

John Psathas (1966-)

Oum El Ghaït Benessahraoui (1978-)

Kyriakos Tapakis (1977-)

Ahlan wa Sahlan

I. *Al Mahal*

II. *Hijra*

III. *Achalino*

IV. *Horizons*

V. *Dhakira*

Composed especially for *Beyond Words*, *Ahlan wa Sahlan* is symbolically and emotionally a bridge across divides, a reaching out, an honouring and, above all, an embrace. It’s in this spirit that John Psathas worked with Moroccan singer OUM and Cypriot oud virtuoso Kyriakos Tapakis to co-create tonight’s moving new work.

Developed in partnership with Muslim communities in Christchurch and across Aotearoa New Zealand, *Ahlan wa Sahlan* is a compositional and musical collaboration to promote peace and unity through music and to honour the lives lost and changed forever in Ōtautahi Christchurch on 15 March 2019.

36 MINUTES

Want to learn more?

Scan for full programme notes and artist information



A note from the Festival

Salaams and kia ora,

Te Ahurei Toi o Tamaki Auckland Arts Festival is deeply honoured to support this very special NZSO concert.

The Festival has a long history of featuring the work of beloved New Zealand composer, John Psathas, and we couldn't imagine a more sensitive artist to journey with the Muslim community in the creation of a tender, sorrowful, but ultimately uplifting work.

The arts are a powerful tool to deepen understanding between different faiths and cultures, and this profound concert uplifts the Muslim community and Islamic culture, illuminates the vulnerability of many people in the world, and is warmly welcomed to our Festival.

A large, elegant, handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Shona'.

— **Shona McCullagh**
Kaitohu Toi · Artistic Director
MZNМ, ARTS LAUREATE

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NZSO WOULD LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE FOLLOWING ORGANISATIONS
FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF BEYOND WORDS



WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO
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MASJID AN NUR (MUSLIM ASSOCIATION CANTERBURY),
KILBIRNIE ISLAMIC CENTRE AND



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