

*Brisbane City Council*

## WILLIS ORGAN SERIES

Brisbane City Hall

**Tuesday 12 July 2016, 1.15pm**

**KURT ISON** (Sydney)

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### PROGRAMME

<b>A Trumpet Minuet</b>	<b>Alfred Hollins</b> 1865-1942
<b>The Bluebird</b> , op.119/3 ( <i>arr. John Keene</i> )	<b>Charles V Stanford</b> 1852-1924
<b>Introduktion und Passacaglia in d</b> (1899)	<b>Max Reger</b> 1873-1916
<b>Arrival of the Queen of Sheba</b> <i>from the oratorio 'Solomon'</i>	<b>George F Handel</b> 1685-1759
<b>Meditation-Prière</b> , op.90 (Bk.4) <i>from 18 Pièces nouvelles</i>	<b>Alexandre Guilmant</b> 1837-1911
<b>Chaconne</b> <i>from King Arthur</i> (Z628)	<b>Henry Purcell</b> 1659-1695
<b>Toccata in G</b> <i>from Douze Pièces</i> (1889)	<b>Theodore Dubois</b> 1837-1924

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*Upcoming FREE ORGAN CONCERTS:*

**Tue 9 August @ 1pm-1.30pm – Robert Boughen**

**Tue 16 August @ 12-noon – Christopher Wrench & John Coulton**  
*Organ & Trumpet*

**Tue 4 October @ 1.15pm – Phillip Gearing**

Kurt Ison is amongst a small handful of professional organists in Australia. He was educated to post-graduate level at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music studying with David Rumsey and Rosemary Blake and has subsequently had several private lessons with Madame Aude Heurtematte at St Gervais, Paris and Liuwe Tamminga at San Petronio, Bologna. He has undertaken further professional development in the interpretation of French Baroque Organ Music with Professor Jean-Baptiste Robin at Versailles. Kurt has given solo organ recitals in several prestigious venues around the world including: Notre Dame Cathedral Paris, Westminster Abbey, Washington National Cathedral, St Thomas's Fifth Avenue NYC, Hong Kong Cultural Center Concert Hall and both Sydney and Adelaide Town Halls. He has also performed at Cathedrals in Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne. He has been invited to perform at St Paul's Cathedral, London in December 2016 and both Antwerp Cathedral and Boulogne-sur-Mer Cathedral in 2017. Kurt has been invited to perform in a number of European international organ festivals and was invited by the Croatian Consulate in Sydney and the Australian Embassy to undertake a concert tour to Croatia. He is Organist and Music Director in three eastern suburbs parishes in Sydney as well as Organist and Organ Teacher at four of Sydney's leading private schools. In particular, he has appeared as organ soloist at the Sydney Opera House on many occasions for MLC School Burwood's biannual concerts where he performed the world premiere of a number of large scale new works and at the Opera House's Open Day to an estimated audience of +55000. He is featured on YouTube playing JS Bach's monumental Toccata and Fugue in D Minor to an online audience in excess of 8 million people.

Kurt is a published composer. His *Missa Brevis* for female voices and organ was published by J Butz Musikverlag, Bonn. It was premiered at Notre Dame Paris and is now regularly sung by several German choirs including the Mädchenchor of Aachen Cathedral. He has recently completed a commission from Aachen Cathedral to compose a second mass setting for them. He has also composed motets that have been published in Melbourne and performed in such places as The Vatican, St Mark's Venice and broadcast on radio.

### **‘Father’ Willis Organ**

Brisbane's ‘Father’ Henry Willis (1821-1901) organ was built in 1891-92 in London for the Brisbane Exhibition Building (now the ‘Old Museum’) in Bowen Park. Purchased by the *Brisbane City Council* in 1900, it was removed in 1927 for rebuilding, enlarging and installation in the new City Hall, which opened on 8 April 1930. A complete restoration was undertaken by Pierce Pipe Organs of Brisbane from 2010-14. This English Romantic style organ has 5 manuals, a pedal keyboard and 80 speaking stops.

Read more **about the WILLIS ORGAN:**

<http://www.ohta.org.au/organs/organs/BrisbaneTownHall.html>

Book a GUIDED TOUR of the Willis organ

<https://www.museumofbrisbane.com.au/whats-on/gointours>

Keep up-to date with **WILLIS ORGAN CONCERTS:**

[www.christopherwrench.com/willis-organ-concerts.html](http://www.christopherwrench.com/willis-organ-concerts.html)