



# A DREAM HOPKINSON SMITH

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

## JOHN DOWLAND (1562-1626)

The lute music of England's Golden Age is some of the most charming, varied, and ingratiating in the history of the instrument. The unparalleled English gift for melody and the irresistible energy of its dance music have given the world one of its largest and most accessible bodies of solo music. The leading figure in lute music during the Elizabethan and Jacobean periods is John Dowland. An unquiet soul with the broadest of musical sensitivities, he not only created some of the most beautiful art songs of all time, but also brought the lute to new dimensions of refinement, poetic intensity, and virtuosity.

## PERFORMER'S NOTE

After many years focussing primarily on later repertoires, I have returned to the music that first attracted me to the lute. I firmly believe that just as a singer can create an artistic moment with clarity of declamation, or suggest an attitude or mood through a glance or gesture, so can the lute reach the same power of expression through nuances of timing, touch and colour. The incredibly rich world that Dowland left us in his books of Aires - from the darkest most turbulent melancholy to lighter more teasing and delightful songs in dance rhythm - is one and the same with what one can find in his music for the lute.

**Hopkinson Smith**

## PROGRAM

### ***Mirth and Melancholy - Darkness and Light Music from the World of John Dowland***

This program with Almains, Galliards, Pavans, and a Fantasy gives a broad view of the multi-faceted world of Dowland and one or two of his contemporaries.

- I. A Dream
- II. Mrs White's Nothing
- III. Three Feminine Portraits  
The Right Honorable Lady Clifton's Spirit  
Pavin la Mia Barbara  
Lady Hunsdon's Allemande
- IV. A Mellancholy Galliard
- V. Sir John Smith's Almain
- VI. The most sacred Queen Elizabeth, her Galliard
- VII. Dowland's Lamentation:  
*Semper Dowland, Semper Dolens*
- VIII. The Right Honourable Robert, Earl of Essex, his Galliard
- IX. Dowland on the Continent  
Pavin by Prince Mauritius, Langrave of Hessen (with some help from Dowland!)  
The most high and mightie Christianus the fourth King of Denmarke, his Galliard
- X. Lachrimae Pavin
- XI. Fantasie

This program is performed on an eight-course lute made by Joel van Lennep, New Hampshire, USA, 2002.

## BIOGRAPHY

Born in New York in 1946, Hopkinson Smith graduated from Harvard with Honours in Music in 1972. The next year he came to Europe to study with Emilio Pujol in Catalonia and Eugen Dombois in Switzerland. He then became involved in numerous chamber music projects including the founding of the ensemble Hesperion XX. Since the mid 1980s, he has focused almost exclusively on the solo repertoires for early plucked instruments producing a series of prize-winning recordings for Astrée. These feature Spanish music for vihuela and baroque guitar, French lute music of the Renaissance and baroque, early 17th century Italian music and the German high baroque.

The recording of his lute arrangements of the Bach solo violin Sonatas and Partitas, released in the year 2000, has been universally acclaimed by the press. *Gramophone* magazine called it 'the best recording of these works on any instrument'. More recently, a recording on Renaissance lute with works published by Pierre Attaignant was awarded a Diapason d'Or and was called 'superb' by *Le Monde*. A Dowland recording, out since early 2005, also won a Diapason d'Or and was called 'wonderfully personal' in a review in the *New York Times*.

He has performed and given master classes throughout eastern and western Europe, North and South America and Japan sometimes combining the life-style of a hermit with that of a gypsy. He teaches at the Schola Cantorum Basiliensis.

For more information visit:  
[www.hopkinsonsmith.com](http://www.hopkinsonsmith.com)

## OATLANDS

St Paul's Catholic Church  
**Date** 27 March at 7pm

## WESTBURY

Holy Trinity Catholic Church  
**Date** 29 March at 7pm

## HOBART

St George's Anglican Church  
**Date** 30 March at 7pm

## DETAILS

**Duration**  
1 hour (no interval)

## STAFF ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

*A Dream* Coordinator:  
Paul Cowley

## VENUE ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks to  
**St Paul's Catholic Church:**  
Catholic Parish at Central Tasmania and the Oatlands community  
**Holy Trinity Catholic Church:**  
Meander Valley Parish community  
**St George's Anglican Church:**  
Reverend John Langlois and the congregation of St George's Battery Point

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*Image: Composite image: Lute courtesy of Don and Sue King, photograph by Peter Whyte. Portrait of Hopkinson Smith by Giancarlo Rado.*



### Ten Days on the Island

is made possible by the generous support of the Government of Tasmania.

Ten Days on the Island would like to extend a warm thanks to the individuals, organisations and companies listed on this page.

'We are greatly indebted to them for their leadership and the investment they are making in the cultural future of Tasmania.'  
Sir Guy Green

### Ten Days on the Island Limited

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**Festival Photographer:** Michael Rayner

### My Island Home Recording:

**Producer:** Llew Kiek

**Lead Vocals:** Maria Lurighi

**Choir:** The Southern Gospel Choir

**Choir Director:** Andrew Legg

**Sound Engineers:** Guy Dickerson and Stewart Long

**The Band:** Andrew Legg, Konrad Park, Bob Tolput and Llew Kiek

**Lyrics:** Neil Murray

**Festival Designer:** Lynda Warner

**Beacon Image:** Peter Whyte

**Printing:** Penfold Buscombe

**Paper:** Spicers Paper

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Diary Date: Ten Days 2009, 27 March - 5 April



At the time of printing many of the staff who will contribute to this event have yet to be appointed. For those not listed above we thank them for their contribution and support.