

Review -

# From Bach to Beethoven at The Gallery

A stunning blonde whirlwind swept through the Akaroa Gallery last Sunday in the form of vivacious Serbian pianist, Sonja Radojkovic.

Born in Belgrade she gained Masters Degrees at Tchaikovsky Conservatoire in Moscow and at the Faculty of Music Arts in Belgrade. Her musical interpretation of an extensive repertoire has been described by one professor of music as having elasticity, vividness, strong will and complete sincerity.

This was evident from the first crashing chords of Bach's Organ Toccata in C major, transposed for piano by Busoni.

If one keyboard and pedal can create such tumultuous sound, then three organ manuals and pedals must be an overwhelming experience.

One was left wondering how much was Busoni and

how much was Bach?

From Bach to Beethoven's Sonata No 21 opus 53 which was dedicated to his longstanding friend Count Ferdinand von Waldstein and was composed, incredibly, when Beethoven was almost totally deaf.

Here the first movement, Allegro con brio, is crammed with semi-quavers and while one or two may have been lost along the way it did nothing to dampen appreciation of Ms Radojkovic's exuberant temperament.

As could be expected in a programme of such a passionate artist, romanticist Chopin was included in what is probably his least comfortable form, the classical sonata.

However Sonata No 2 in B flat minor opus 35 gave Ms Radojkovic a great opportunity to allow full expression of her emotional range.

The frenetic finale Presto

was dealt with masterly technique.

The final work chosen was a group of Slavonic dances composed by Serbian Vasilije Mokranjac.

These were most attractive and played with natural understanding.

The enthusiasm of the audience to Ms Radojkovic's re-

cital was rewarded with two Chopin encores.

First the ever popular Fantaisie-Improptu and then Waltz opus 64 No 2, both in C sharp minor and both highlighting her confident 'temps libre' style of playing which has attracted audiences around the world.

KG

## ROAD RACE

Athletics Canterbury will be conducting the annual **Takahe to Akaroa Road Relay on Saturday 11th September 2004.**

The event starts at the Sign of the Takahe 9.00a.m. and runs via Allandale, Gebbies Valley, Little River, Hilltop, Duvauchelle, finishing at the Akaroa Recreation Ground between 2.30 and 4.00p.m.

**Co-operation of the general public would be appreciated.**

Cross Country & Road Committee  
P O Box 3130 CHRISTCHURCH

AKAROA GARDEN club guest speaker Francis de Latour Energy of Flowers 13 September at 2pm, Gaiety Supper Room.

AKAROA HERITAGE Park action at the park over Labour Weekend. Look out for further details.

AKAROA RED Cross shop Saturday September 18 10.30am to noon. Please note: Gaiety Supper Room. Items to collect please ring Akaroa 304 7244.

AMATEUR POETRY and short story writing classes available again at Duvauchelle Show, 8th January 2005.

ART AND Wine event. Gaiety Hall, evening Friday 24th. Tickets from Library & Information Centre. Support the Library.

ART DECO compactums matching pair 1300x660 for sale. Phone Akaroa 304 8621.

ATTENTION TO weeds, gorse. See me now, action and effort needed. Have you not noticed me?

BARGAINS GALORE garage sale Sat/Sun 11th and 12th from 10am, Ngaio Grove, off Okains Bay Road.

BP TENNIS AGM 7.30pm Hilltop Wed 29th Sept. All welcome

BUS TO "Ball". Be picked up from Takamatua, Robinsons Bay, Duvauchelle, Barrys Bay. Phone Rochelle, Akaroa 304 5144.

BUS TO ball available departs Akaroa at 7.00pm and 7.45pm \$7.50 return. Phone Rochelle, Akaroa 304 5144.

CANCER APPAL

FOUND LARGE sheepskin covered squab. Please contact Akaroa Information Centre, (03) 304 8600.

FRIENDS OF Pompallier AGM Monday 4th October 2004 in St Peters Supper room, Akaroa, at 10am.

GARAGE SALE great goodies Sat/Sun 11th and 12th from 10am Ngaio Grove, off Okains Bay Road.

GARDENING WORK required. Please phone Robert, Akaroa 304 7669.

HISTORIC PHOENIX Lodge. 160 Rue Jolie. Open 2-4PM 11th & 18th. Exhibits, viewing, answers.

HISTORIC WALK for locals, with Suky Thompson, community board candidate. Saturday September 18, 12 noon, Akaroa Coronation Library.

ITEMS FOR Art auction at event on 24th. View at Library 20th - 24th or Phoenix open days.

KITCHEN DOORS with handles; beige colour, 4 years old only. Offers. Telephone (03) 339 0951.

LOOKING FOR general farm work around Peninsula. Experienced in most areas, reasonable rate. Love tilling. Phone Pauline, 03 3251 305.

MEET SUKY Thompson, community board candidate, historic walk, discussion after. Saturday September 18 noon at Akaroa Coronation Library.

OPEN DAY Historic Phoenix Lodge 160 Rue Jolie. September 11 2-4PM. Cup of tea, displays.

OPEN STAGE at the Gaiety Akaroa 6pm Wednesday 29

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