

An entrancing calling

CZECH organist Pavel Kahout will give two performances in Hobart as part of MONA FOMA next week.

Kahout will be joined by Brisbane oboeist Natasha Kalous at the Hobart Town Hall next Thursday in a program that will include works by Vivaldi, Marcello, Haydn, Domenico Cimarosa, William Albright, Fredrik Sixten, Benjamin Britten and Ennio Morricone.

At St David's Cathedral on January 16, Kahout's program will feature works by Bach, Franck, Debussy, Liszt, Maurice Durufle, Petr Eben, and an original improvisation.

Playing the organ is a passion for Kahout as well as a profession.

"It was like a strong call for me as a child and I was entranced by how beautiful the organ could sound," he said. "Pipe organs are built for their locations and each one creates a unique atmosphere."

Kahout previously performed at St David's Cathedral in 2006, has also played the Town Hall organ and has tailored his programs to suit the instruments.

"At my recitals I am oriented by what could sound best on the available instrument," he said.

"I personally like contrasts. I feel period music brings some kind of mirror of its time, and I love to travel through the times through the counterpoint of the Renaissance, the Baroque richness and distinctive emotions of Romanticism.

"A good musician respects a composer's wishes and also brings some their own expression and point of view to music."

Kahout said the Town Hall would be ideally suited to a program that included the oboe.

"The program will begin with an organ transcription by Bach of Vivaldi's *Concerto Il Grosso Mogul, RV 208*, which will be followed by what is probably one of the most

Organ society summer series

THE Hobart Organ Society's Summer Series of organ concerts kicks off today, with Craig Doherty performing at St David's Cathedral from 5.10pm.

The series continues on Tuesday with Rod Thomson playing at St David's from 1.10pm. Then next Thursday, Hans Meijer plays at Scots Memorial Church in Bathurst St from 5.10pm. Admission is by gold coin donation.

beautiful Baroque pieces for oboe. The Concerto in D Minor by Alessandro Marcello," Kahout said.

"The second half of the program will range from classical to ragtime, a tango by Sixten and will conclude with Morricone's *Gabriel's Oboe*."

Kahout said the program at St David's would reflect the cathedral's brilliant acoustics.

"I will open the recital with one of the most well-known masterpieces by Johann Sebastian Bach, the Passacaglia in C Minor and close with a very famous piece by Romantic virtuoso and 'heartbreaker of madames', Liszt's *Fantasy and Fugue on B-A-C-H*.

"I have also included pieces by French Romantic composers including Cesar Franck's *Prelude, Fugue et Variation Opus 18*, my own arrangement of Debussy's *Arabesque*, contemporary Czech music by Petr Eben, and an improvisation on the sounds of St David's organ."

Pavel Kahout's concerts will be at the Hobart Town Hall at 8pm next Thursday and at St David's Cathedral at 4pm on January 16.

PENNY THOW



MAN OF CONTRASTS: Pavel Kahout