

# A great performance

## REVIEW

**Bay Of Plenty Symphonia  
Miscellany concert  
November 11 at Baycourt  
By Mal Brady**

The orchestra shared with us a varied and enjoyable programme. Starting with the Mozart overture *Cossi fan tutte*, they set the scene for an afternoon of great music.

Jumping forward 136 years The Nielsen flute concerto is a challenging piece. Soloist Bridget Douglas took us on a wonderful journey. Beautiful phrases mixed with spectacular technique and articulations, she presented a clear understanding of this flute concerto and what timbres the flute is capable of. We could certainly hear the composer's connections with the Copenhagen Wind Quintet because the soloist was often having musical conversations with the other wind players supported by some great string playing.

The addition of the bass trombone added glissandos and varied articulations. Joe Thomas deserves special mention here for stunning musicianship. The audience loved the performance. Bridget introduced Slow movement of Philippe Gauberts Sonata, arranged by conductor Justus Rozemond. We were treated to a lyrical and wonderful arrangement, once again



Flautist Bridget Douglas.

allowing Bridget's flute virtuosity to shine.

The orchestra felt in more familiar territory with Beethoven's 1st Symphony. Movement 3 was assured and confident. Only written 10 years after the Mozart overture, it has challenging runs, particularly in movement four but the audience loved the tumbling forward energy.

The last piece, *Summer Evening*, was my highlight of the orchestral pieces. Special mention to Cor Anglais and other wind solos. Wonderful orchestration had us enjoying the viola section and then passing melodies to other strings. Some beautiful playing and phrases from all players.

As we all returned to our own summer evening, we had enjoyed a great concert.