

## **CAPITAL REEDS - Biographical notes**

The players of Capital Reeds are all connected with each other through the activities of Orchestra Wellington and the RNZAF Symphonic Band.

### **Calvin Scott: oboe/cor anglais**

Calvin Scott began learning the piano at a young age and went on to develop a keen interest in music and the oboe during his school years in New Plymouth and Whanganui. He went on to study music and European languages, first at Auckland University and then in Germany, where he completed his master's degree and also earned a PhD at the University of Munich. After returning to New Zealand, Calvin has played the oboe as a member of the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra and as a guest player in Orchestra Wellington, the Dunedin Symphony Orchestra, the NZSO, the NZSM Orchestra and the Hawke's Bay Regional Orchestra. In addition to his own chamber group 'Capital Reeds', Calvin is involved in the concert activities of other Wellington-based ensembles, including the RNZAF Band, the Camerata Chamber Orchestra, the Chiesa Ensemble, and the SMP ensemble for contemporary music. He is also kept busy providing piano accompaniment for young school-aged musicians learning string instruments through the New Zealand Suzuki Institute, or brass instruments through the Brass Band Association of New Zealand. In his spare time Calvin is a hobby apiarist.

### **Patrick Hayes: clarinet/bass clarinet**

Clarinetist Patrick Hayes was born and bred in the hill suburbs of Te Whanganui-a-Tara and resides there still. He is an active member of the orchestral freelance scene, having performed in recent times with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, STROMA, Orchestra Wellington, Dunedin Symphony Orchestra, Hawke's Bay Orchestra and the Wellington-based Gallery Orchestra. He is also a member of the Royal New Zealand Air Force Band. Patrick studied clarinet under the tutelage of Philip Green at the New Zealand School of Music from 2011 to 2013 and then later with Andrew Seymour at the University of Tasmania in 2017. From 2019 to 2020 Patrick spent time in the United Kingdom, freelancing with professional and community-based musical theatre ensembles, orchestras, and jazz groups. In his spare time, Patrick enjoys activities of the adventurous outdoor kind, such as tramping, rock climbing, skiing and canyoning, and going for walks throughout Wellington's Town Belt.

### **Oscar Lavën: bassoon/contrabassoon**

Oscar Lavën is an eclectic saxophonist, bassoonist, multi-instrumentalist and composer based in Wellington. Graduating in 2013 from the New Zealand School of Music where he studied (classical) bassoon and jazz performance, he has been in high demand ever since, appearing throughout Aotearoa as a jazz performer and as an orchestral musician in several groups, ensembles, and festivals across multiple genres. These include John Beasley's Grammy-nominated MONK'estra, the NZSO, Orchestra Wellington, the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra, the RNZAF band, Capital Reeds, the Dunedin Symphony Orchestra, Rhombus, the Wellington Mingus Ensemble, the Roger Fox Big Band, Black Spider Stomp, and others. As part of his busy concert and recording activities, Oscar has performed and played alongside prominent musical figures such as Steve Gadd, Dave Weckl, Plácido Domingo, Lalah Hathaway, Robben Ford, Simon O'Neill, James Carter, Gregg Bissonette, and more. Oscar also presents musical events throughout Aotearoa with his own groups and ensembles, notably the highly popular "Wellington City Shake 'Em On Downers". In October 2022 Oscar released his debut self-led quintet album "Questions in Red" on Thick Records, which features his own jazz

compositions, is given frequent radio airplay, and has received glowing reviews on international platforms (such as London Jazz News).