



NEW ZEALAND HIGH COMMISSION

TE AKA AORERE

LONDON



Kia ora koutou,

I am delighted this evening to welcome to London one of New Zealand's leading classical guitarists – Matthew Marshall.

Matthew is Associate Professor and Director of the Conservatorium of Music at New Zealand's largest tertiary institution – Massey University. Matthew is also part of the string instrument group Duo Zelandia who visited the United Kingdom earlier this year and who I had the pleasure to meet at this time.

As a distinguished musician Matthew has studied in New Zealand as well as overseas including the United Kingdom and USA. He is extremely talented and we are fortunate tonight as part of his performance, to enjoy two world premieres for the classical guitar – Peter Leask's Homage to Rodrigo and Michael Hogan's Matariki, inspired by New Zealand's indigenous Maori culture and mythology.

I would very much like to thank Tony Gibbs of the Guinness Peat Group for his financial support of this evening's concert and to the Latin American and Caribbean Cultural Society (LACCS) for facilitating the event at the Royal Festival Hall.

I am very much looking forward to this evening's performance.

*Rt. Hon. Jonathan Hunt ONZ
New Zealand High Commissioner*

Wednesday 5th October 2005