

Concert Program

BORT ALLT VAD ORO GÖR

Carl Michael Bellman (Sweden)
Arr.: Daniel Hellden

Bellman is a household name in Sweden and wrote many fine drinking songs. This one is subtitled 'for the of Bacchi's temple'. Bacchus was the god of wine in Roman mythology.

UTI VÅR HAGE

Traditonal Sweden

This folk song comes from the island Gotland and is a Swedish favourite. The text talks about the different plants found in the garden.

Joubert Singers Conductor: Rachele Elliott

A BUNDLE OF JOY

Katy Abbott (Australia)
Text: Liz Ward

The poem for this work was the winner of the Mini-Sage competition run by THE AGE newspaper in which entrants were required to submit a story in 50 words or less. It is based on a true story.

"The coat hung on the back of the cupboard through the long summer and autumn. In winter, Alice distractedly played with the bundle of rubber bands in the pocket. The coat back on its peg, the huntsman stretched its elegant legs and reflected on the joy of total body massage."

3 AUSTRALIAN BUSH SONGS

Iain Grandage (Australia)

This work celebrates the various moods and sounds of the Australian bush. From Dawn, through to birds singing throughout the day and then Sunset, the word painting is spellbinding and supported with the unique choral sound that is developing in Australia.

In Harmony Choir

AMABHAYISIKILI

Traditional South African – Zulu
Conductor: Ansa Fourie

This traditional song refers to Marabastad (Maraba City) in the 1940's. The text is "There at Marabi we rode bicycles".

GABRIELLA'S SONG from the film 'As it is in Heaven'

Stefan Nilsson (Sweden)
Text: Py Backman
Conductor: Rachele Elliott
Soloist: Christine Strandli

"It is now that my life is mine.....All I want is to be happy being who I am.....I want to feel that I have lived my life."

This is the feature song from the film and although the text was written to suit the story line, it is universal in appeal as it speaks to many on an individual level.

NGANA from 'Songs of Passage'

Stephen Leek (Australia)
Conductor: Rachele Elliott

Based on indigenous Australian text, this song captures the island seascape from the northeastern tip of Australia. It speaks of ngana (shark), mangana (fish), lina (blue waters) and yah, a welcome call, through driving rhythms and lively ostinatos.

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Rachele Elliott

IN HARMONY ACCOMPANIST

Lauris Hansen

AD MUSICAM

Sopranos

Dominique Collaros
Adri Crous
Penelope Lowe
Elani Rottier
Nicole Serret
Annemarie Terblanche

Altos

Annarosa Berman
Angela Brown
Ansie de Wet
Anita Kipf-Orr
Christa Knoetze
Esti Nel
Sharon Pretorius
Inge Wilsenach

Tenors

Alex Hovy
Corneille Marais
Jacques Mouton

Basses

Robin Mitchell
Adam Reitsma
Pierre Fourie

JOUBERT SINGERS

Sopranos

Heather Baker
Trish Bradley
Ruth Brown+
Marion Butt
Stephanie Lang
Julie Raffell+
Carmel Street
Nicola Watts
Robyn White

Altos

Jan Devos+
Angie Galliano+
Besty Graham
Sondra Griffiths+
Sue Khouri+
Margaret Mayger
Becca Nash+
Sis Marie Nash
Ruth Newman
Linden Vine

Tenors

Warren Beveridge
Ralph Fitzgerald
John Kinnear
Margaret Tye

Basses

John Bowan
Pat Foley
Brian Goodes
Elvis Kipman
Hugh McCormack
Ross Newman
Ron Watts

+ Guests from Inner West Chamber Choir

NORDIC VOICES

Marie Amstrom
Rachele Elliott*
Teresa Fors
Aine Godoe*
Lovisa Nelledad
Trine Saurstroe
Inger Johanne Stigen*
Christine Strandli
*Not performing

SYDNEY NEW PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

Sopranos

Julian Chen
Xuelong Lai
Lily Li
Lijun Wang
Xiaoping Wang
Yan Yu
Jieren Zhou
Bowa Zuo
Ping Yan
Li Wang

Altos

Minzhi Bai
Xiang Gao
Jenny Jing
Yasmin Kelly
Qinglin Lu
Angela Ngu
Mary Qi
Phylis Su
Susan Wu
Hua Zhang
Xiaoman Zhang
Weilan Zhang
Ruby Qi
Lucy Li
Junfang Qin

Tenors

Brian Feng
Shou Ting Feng
Lewis Liu
Simon Liu
Howard Shi
Jialin Yang
Sam Zhu
Haihao Zhang
Huiming Yu

Basses

David Sun
Denis Truong
Haihao Wang
Zining Zhang
Fei Hu

Pianist

Miss Ada Jin

SEH SEK HOI

In Kyung Keum
Sung Jin Park
Angela Sciberras
Ian Watson

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Ad Musicam
Ansa Fourie

AUSLAN Interpreter

Ben Mulley

City of Ryde Event Officer

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Ian Cartwright

Manager City Promotions & Events
Derek McCarthy

Deaf Heal'f
Lorraine Mulley
Linda Wilson

Front of House Coordinator
MaryAnn Goodes

In Harmony Event Team
Heather Baker
Marion Butt
Linda Lyon
Margaret Mayger
Ross & Ruth Newman
Carmel Street
Linden Vine
Nicola & Ron Watts

Nordic Voices
Christine Strandli

Stage Manager
Imelda Crimmins

Recording Engineer
Greg Ghavalas

Sydney New Philharmonic Choir
Ruby Deng
Lewis Liu
Max Liu

Thanks to the participants of the In Harmony workshops who were interested in learning about other musical cultures and sharing this with the audience.

Many thanks to the family and friends who contributed to making In Harmony a reality.



In Harmony



City of Ryde



AUSTRALIAN
NATIONAL
CHORAL
ASSOCIATION

In Harmony Concert

Saturday 29th March 2008 - 7.30pm
North Ryde School of Arts Community Centre

In Harmony

– the background

“Music in all cultures is as old as man. Every race uses music to share their history, tell stories and for individuals to express themselves, reflecting society’s culture at the time. As a truly international language, we can celebrate the rich cultural and social diversity found in Australia through music and song. Inspired by my work with a variety of ethnic choirs around Sydney and the idea of National Harmony Day which has been running on 21 March annually since 1999, In Harmony is a community participation event for everyone who likes to sing. After a day of workshops in which participants explored music from around the globe, they have joined together as the In Harmony Choir for this evening’s concert to showcase the new music they have learnt. The performances are supported by the featured choirs and artists who led the workshops. I sincerely hope that you are inspired to explore vocal music from other cultures as a result of the In Harmony Concert and perhaps join as a participant next time!”

Rachelle Elliott

In Harmony Artistic Director

Ad Musicam

Ad Musicam was formed in July 2005 due to the desire of a group of people to make choral music part of their lives. Under the direction of South African born Ansa Fourie, this award winning group performs a wide range of musical styles and espouses the joy of song and sharing music, and believes that making music enriches our lives. Ansa has been involved in choral music since childhood and is an experienced choral conductor who has directed a variety of choirs including church, children’s, girls, youth and adult choirs. Over the past 20 years her choirs have won many awards in national and international choral competitions. Ad Musicam means “to/for music”. The choir’s name represents its approach to music and singing, which is reinforced by its motto, “with heart and soul”.

Deaf Heal’f Choir of Macarthur

Deaf Heal’f Choir is a signing choir for deaf people and the hearing impaired. It is one of the activities of Deaf Heal’f, a support group organised and run by deaf and hearing impaired people in the Macarthur/Camden/Wollondilly regions in Sydney. The sign choir is led by Lorraine Mulley and Linda Wilson, who are themselves hearing impaired. During the In Harmony signing workshop, participants learnt to sign the National Anthem for tonight’s concert with the assistance of an AUSLAN interpreter. In addition to the sign choir, Deaf Heal’f offers activities including art, journaling, painting, sign story telling and computing.

Joubert Singers

Established in 1994 as a performance choir, Joubert Singers generally present three concerts each year and also participate in other choral events such as In Harmony. Their repertoire is expansive covering traditional through to contemporary Western European choral music and contemporary Australian works. Recent performance highlights include guest choir for ‘Festival of Voices’ at the Sydney Opera House in 2006, singing on the soundtrack for the Academy award winning film ‘Happy Feet’ and participating in the ‘Nordic Song Spectacular’ at the Hayden Orpheum Picture Palace in conjunction with the Swedish film ‘As it is in Heaven’. Since 2003, their artistic director has been Rachelle Elliott, who enjoys working with singers of all ages and is a passionate advocate for music-making.

Nordic Voices

Nordic Voices, a vibrant vocal ensemble, presents a fresh perspective on traditional music from Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Finland to Australian audiences. Established in 2004, under the musical direction of Rachelle Elliott, Nordic Voices performs for special events within the Scandinavian community and undertakes engagements around Sydney and Canberra. Recent performance highlights include participating in the commemorative

concert ‘Northern Exposure’ for the centenary anniversary of Norwegian composer Edvard Grieg in 2007 and presenting concerts and workshops at the National Folk Festival in 2008. Nordic Voices are sponsored by the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Australia, Norske Skog in Albury and Wallenius Wilhelmsen.

Seh Sek Hoi

Formed in October 1999, Seh Sek Hoi is a musical experience that brings the power and beauty of the Korean percussion styles of ‘Samui Nori’, ‘Sul Junggo’ and ‘Sanjo’ to stages and dance floors around Australia. Seh Sek Hoi is dedicated to preserving the tradition of Korean music as well as implementing new musical ideas and concepts thus creating a hybrid style lovingly called ‘Aussie Nori’. The success and popularity of Seh Sek Hoi is illustrated by an abundance of performances, many of which have been enjoyed performing alongside leading Australian World Music Artists. Seh Sek Hoi’s pure physicality, dynamic, vibrant and explosive style creates a unique sound of breathtaking energy and emotion charged atmosphere.

Sydney New Philharmonic Choir

Sydney New Philharmonic Choir (SNPC) was established in September 2005 and its members are music enthusiasts from all walks of life. The choir’s objectives are to achieve artistic excellence in choir performance, to promote vocal music from all cultures and in the meantime, to enjoy and share the beauty and richness of choir music. The choir has built a varied repertoire from both Eastern and Western cultures. Under the direction of their Music director and Chief Conductor Mr Max Liu, SNPC has attracted much attention from the media and public, helping to strengthen relationships with other choirs and establishing a reputation of excellence and achievement in the music field.

Concert Program

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Tony Morgan

Welcome to Country Uncle Greg Simms

In Harmony Choir Led by Deaf Heal’f Choir

ADVANCE AUSTRALIA FAIR

Piano: Lauris Hansen

Australia’s National Anthem performed in sign language.

Sydney New Philharmonic Choir Conductor: Max Liu

HALF MOON RISING

Xinjiang folk song

When the half moon rises, young guys expect girls to open their window and throw flowers to them. The song expresses the feeling of expectation.

MADRIGAL

Chinese Mongolian song

There are cattle on the beautiful grassland. The shepherd sings happy songs to praise their happy life. The sun rises and the life will become better and better.

BOAT SONG ON WUSULI RIVER

Huozhe folk song

The fish man works on Wusuli River and they enjoy the happy life. They hope the happy life will last for good.

HAPPY WITH THE SUN RISING

Sichuan folk song

The song expresses the local peasants’ work and happy life. The tune tells the relaxation they enjoy.

BEAUTIFUL GRASSLAND, MY HOMETOWN

Chinese Mongolian song

The beautiful grass land is my hometown and I like the scenery very much. We work hard to have a good life and we hope the life becomes more beautiful.

Ad Musicam Conductor: Ansa Fourie

PRYSLIED (There is a God in Heaven)

Traditional South Africa (Griqua)

Text adapted by Jacqueline Bartie

Arr.: Marthie Driessen

Solo: Dominique Collaros

South Africa’s Griqua people have roots that are a mixture of European colonists in the Cape, the Khoikhoi people living there in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, African (mainly Tswana) peoples, and Bushmen. Pryslied, a song of praise, is often sung during church and other religious services.

FIRE BOWL

Hans Roosenschoon (South Africa)

Text: Sydney Clouts

Fire Bowl is a musical description of the Bushmen hunting in the Kalahari Desert and is one of 17 choral works by Roosenschoon.

AAN DIE NOORDWESTE

Chris Lamprecht (South Africa)

Piano: Elani Rottier

Sung in Afrikaans, one of the eleven official languages in South Africa, Aan die Noordweste, or To the North-West, is a five-part tribute to South Africa’s North-Western Cape, an arid, isolated region that is famous for transforming itself into a colourful paradise of wild flowers in the rainy season.

Part One - Die Kameeldoringboom describes the Camelthorn Tree in the Kalahari.

Part Two - Die Grootrivier se voël draws attention to the mating ritual of the Great River’s Bird, the Butcherbird.

Part Three - Reën op die veld depicts the falling rain and the elation it brings: the region’s colourful flower mass is soon to appear.

Part Four - Namakwalandse Blommetjies portrays the transformed Namaqualand desert’s into a paradise of wild flowers.

Part Five - Loeriesfontein, describes villagers from a tiny Namaqualand village dancing to the rhythm of the harmonium to celebrate the appearance of the flowers.

NGINESIPONONO

Traditional South Africa (Zulu)

Arr.: Awie van Wyk

Drum: Pierre Fourie

Nginesiponono, a Zulu love song which means “I’ve got a sweetheart in Durban”, is traditionally performed with movement.

Seh Sei Hok

Nordic Voices

KLINGA MINA KLOCKOR

Benny Andersson (Sweden)

Text: Bjorn Ulvaeus

Best known in Australia as a member of ABBA, Benny Andersson is a prolific composer and performer of folk music. This pretty love song asks the listener to ‘ring my bells’.

INNAN GRYNINGEN

Benny Andersson (Sweden)

Text: Ylva Eggehorn

Arr: Anders Elias

Also known as the Millenium Psalm, this work was written for Year 2000 celebrations with the theme ‘Before the dawn’.

DET STO TRE SKJELMER

Traditional Denmark / Norway

Arr: Helge Aafloy

A witty approach for two young lovers to come together. Hidden in a sack by his 2 friends and left in the mill overnight, a young man manages to sneak into the miller’s daughter’s room!

SNÅLE MI JENTE

Traditional Norway

Arr: Rachelle Elliott

“Will you be my wife?”

“When I was interested last year you ignored me so I found myself another man.” Go away!