

**MEDIA RELEASE**

***Sydney Symphony and MBF bring a touch of joy to Liverpool Hospital***

*"You are the music while the music lasts" T. S. Eliot*



**Wednesday 18 April 2007 – Sydney Symphony musicians will make a special appearance at Liverpool Hospital on Thursday 26 April, as part of its highly successful MBF music4health initiative.**

Following the warm reception of its first visit in 2006, Sydney Symphony musicians will return to Liverpool Hospital next week to perform a special interactive show designed for those suffering from illness, or those caring for the unwell. The "Toy Symphony" is a light hearted introduction to the world of classical music, with a sense of fun and the opportunity to get involved in music making. And it's a gentle and much-needed moment of respite for both carers and patients.

Marilyn Cintra Manager Arts for Health Programs at Liverpool, Bankstown and Fairfield Hospitals, says "it's wonderful that for a little while, people can become at one with music and forget their pain". She says "music is very important for the health of our minds, especially when our bodies are suffering. The Sydney Symphony visits are a wonderful opportunity for those in our care, many of whom will never have experienced the Symphony or even live classical music before."

Sydney Symphony musician Stan Cornell (right) is now a regular at many of the hospitals around Sydney, and a strong advocate for music in this environment. A cancer survivor himself, he understands first-hand how important it is that the hospital experience include moments of relief, distraction and even joy and laughter. In a recent visit to the Children's Hospital Westmead, he improvised with their resident music therapist, on a song written by a young patient who had only recently undergone painful surgery. The joy on the child's face moved all musicians to tears, and Sydney Symphony is working in a heartfelt way on deepening their hospital visits with the ongoing support of MBF.



The "Toy Symphony" will be performed for staff, visitors and patients at Liverpool Hospital at 11am next Thursday 26 April. Sydney Symphony and MBF will present a further six concerts at hospitals around Sydney in 2007.

Media are welcome to attend. Please discuss requirements before the day with:

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**Concert details**

Date: Thursday 26 April  
Time: 11.00am  
Venue: Liverpool Hospital, Elizabeth St., Liverpool NSW 2170

Format of Event: Toy Symphony (string quartet with audience participation)