SYDNEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA



Last Night of the PROMS

6 - 8 JUNE • SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE

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Welcome



Welcome to a sensational night of classic British entertainment, featuring celebratory tunes for all ages. Conductor Guy Noble returns to lead the concert and, as always, will invite you to join in and sing along to Rule, Britannia! and other favourites.

We are pleased to support Sydney Symphony Orchestra's presentation of Last Night of the Proms for you. A tradition that dates back to 1895, Prom is short for promenade concerts, the outdoor music festival that took place during the summer in London's pleasure gardens – public parks for entertainment, where the audience could stroll around while listening to the orchestra. The performances, held across the UK for eight weeks each year, also included educational and family events.

With this popular and inclusive tradition in mind, we decided to support this wonderful concert, a truly lively and engaging event suitable for everyone.

Our commitment to the Sydney Symphony Orchestra doesn't end in celebrating the music of the past. At Credit Suisse, we are dedicated to spreading the love of classical music and training the musicians of the future. We are honoured to work together with the Orchestra in presenting an educational program for primary schools – the Credit Suisse Sydney Symphony Orchestra Schools Music Education Program. We take great pride in developing this effort, that reaches over one thousand students and their communities.

As Credit Suisse celebrates its 50th anniversary in Australia, we look forward to extending our support to the Sydney Symphony Orchestra and its invaluable cultural endeavour for the years to come.



John KnoxChief Executive Officer
Credit Suisse Australia

MEET THE MUSIC
THURSDAY 6 JUNE, 6.30PM
SYDNEY SYMPHONY PRESENTS
FRIDAY 7 JUNE, 8PM
SATURDAY 8 JUNE, 2PM

SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE CONCERT HALL

Last Night of the Proms

Guy Noble conductor

Antoinette Halloran soprano

Sydney Philharmonia Choirs

Program

Conductor Henry Wood established his
Promenade concerts in 1895 to broaden the
appeal and standard of orchestral music in London.
He championed the music of living composers
such as Schoenberg, Mahler and Sibelius, but the
last night has been traditionally given over to a
celebration of British music.

Die Fledermaus: Overture

By Johann Strauss II (1825-1899)

The Overture to Johann Strauss' operetta *Die Fledermaus* ('the bat') is a mixture of themes from the show, beginning with the music from the prison scene in Act III (everyone, having been to a masked ball, ends up in prison) but dwells lovingly on the waltz.



Il barbiere di Siviglia: Una Voce Poco Fa

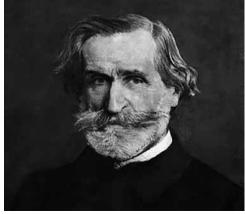
By Gioachino Rossini (1792-1868)

Rossini's masterpiece *The Barber of Seville*, based on the first of the three 'Figaro' plays by Beaumarchais. The character of Rosina, who disagrees with her guardian about whom she will marry, is established in her celebrated cavatina 'Una voce poco fa'. It falls into two parts: the imperious dotted rhythms of the opening section indicate serious strength of purpose, and the vivacity of the second (the *cabaletta*) depicts the energy that she will use in getting her own way.

Il trovatore: Anvil Chorus

By Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901)

Verdi's *Il trovatore* (the troubadour) dates from 1853 and tells a story, set in medieval Spain, of complex and tragically hidden relationships that are revealed only too late; murder, revenge, love, jealousy, soldiers, nuns and gypsies. All in all, a Romantic opera par excellence. The Anvil Chorus opens Part II, set in the mountains above the Bay of Biscay where the gypsies are encamped, and where their matriarch Azucena is about to reveal a dark secret.



Rusalka: Song to the Moon

By Antonín Dvořák (1841-1904)

The heroine of Dvořák's Rusalka is a nymph who lives in an enchanted lake but falls in love with a handsome prince. She decides to become human, which means losing the power of speech, which in turn has tragic consequences. Before that happens, however, Rusalka sings the 'Song to the Moon', asking the moon to tell the prince that she waits for him.

Prince Igor: Polovtsian Dances

By Alexander Borodin (1833-1887)

Alexander Borodin's opera *Prince Igor* relates how in 1185, Igor, Prince of Novgorod–Seversk, while raiding the Polovtsi people, was taken captive by Khan Kontchak. The Khan treated Igor and his son magnanimously, arranging for them a festival featuring the *Polovtsian Dances*, which include the famous melody borrowed by the creators of the musical, *Kismet*: 'Hold my hand, I'm a stranger in Paradise...'

INTERVAL

The Dambusters: March

By Eric Coates (1886-1957)

Conductor and composer Eric Coates was a favourite during World War II, writing many tunes for BBC Radio. He composed *The Dambusters*: March for a 1954 film starring Michael Redgrave and Richard Todd which recounts the World War II devastation by RAF bomber crews of dams in the industrial Rhine and Ruhr valleys using the famous 'bouncing bombs' which skidded along the surface of water before smashing into dam walls.



Judas Maccabæus: See the Conqu'ring Hero Comes

By George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

Handel's 1747 oratorio, *Judas Maccabæus*, used the biblical story of the Jewish Maccabean revolt against the Seleucid Empire (around 160BC) to celebrate the English victory over the Scots at Culloden. 'See the Conqu'ring Hero Comes' opens the third and final section of the piece, when the idolatrous Seleucids have been overcome, partly with the help of the idolatrous Romans.



My Fair Lady: I Could Have Danced All Night

By Alan Jay Lerner (1916–1966) and Frederick Loewe (1901–1988)

After George Bernard Shaw's death, Alan Jay Lerner and Frederick Loewe turned his play *Pygmalion* into the 'perfect musical'. *My Fair Lady*, which introduced Julie Andrews to the world as Eliza, the flower girl taught to speak and act like a 'lady', opened on Broadway in 1956 and ran for over 2000 performances before enjoying a similar run in London's West End. 'I Could Have Danced All Night' depicts her exhilarated understanding that she has been transformed.

Variations on an Original Theme, Op.36 *Enigma*: Nimrod

By Sir Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

The Enigma Variations began as a bit of harmless fun one evening at the piano as Elgar imagined how various friends would have treated his new theme. 'Nimrod' (the 'mighty hunter before the Lord' of Genesis) was Elgar's publisher A.J. Jaeger (German for 'hunter'). Once when Elgar was going through a slump in morale, Jaeger told Elgar that whenever Beethoven was troubled he poured his frustrations into still more beautiful compositions. In memory of that conversation, Elgar opens Nimrod with a reference to the slow movement from Beethoven's Pathétique Sonata.

Fantasia on British Sea Songs

By Henry Wood (1869-1944)

Arranged by Zalva

Founder of the Proms, Henry Wood, created his Fantasia on British Sea Songs for a 1905 concert to celebrate the centenary of the battle of Trafalgar. It features bugle calls and several (then) well-known tunes, including; Jack's the Lad, Farewell and adieu Ye Spanish Ladies, Home Sweet Home, See the conqu'ring Hero Comes and Rule, Brittania.

Rule, Britannia!

By Thomas Arne (1710–1778)

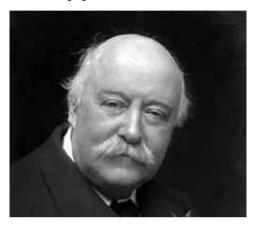
Arranged by Sargent

Thomas Arne's *Rule, Brittania!* was originally the finale of a masque, *Alfred*, composed to flatter, and perhaps comfort, the then Prince of Wales, Frederick, who was ostracized by his father George II, but all that has survived posterity is the rousing finale with its text by James Johnson.

Jerusalem

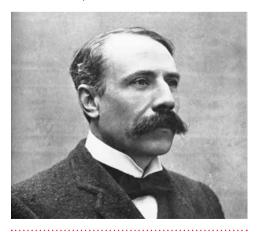
By Charles Hubert Parry (1848–1918) Arranged by Elgar

Far from being a piece of British jingoism – poet William Blake was on trial for treason at the time – 'Jerusalem' damns what Blake regarded as a warmongering, imperialist society (the 'dark Satanic mills' referring to the manufacture of armaments). 'Jerusalem' is a symbol for a peaceful, utopian society, an image captured in the beautiful tune to which Parry set Blake's words in 1916 for a rally to extend voting rights to women.



Pomp and Circumstance – March No.1By Sir Edward Elgar (1857–1934)

Elgar recognized that people liked to celebrate public events with music, and was very pleased with himself when he came up with 'a tune that will knock 'em flat'. The first *Pomp and Circumstance* March was premiered in 1901 – Henry Wood had to play it three times before the audience would let him go on! Archbishop A C Benson's words were added the next year.



GORDON KERRY © 2019

Sing Along!

RULE, BRITANNIA!

When Britain first, at heaven's command,

Arose from out the azure main,
This was the charter of the land,
And Guardian Angels sang this strain:

Chorus:

Rule, Britannia! Britannia, rule the waves!

Britons never, never, never shall be slaves.

Still more majestic shalt thou rise, More dreadful from each foreign stroke,

As the loud blast that tears the skies Serves but to root thy native oak.

Rule, Britannia!...

Thee haughty tyrants ne'er shall tame; All their attempts to bend thee down Will but arouse thy generous flame, But work their woe and thy renown.

Rule, Britannia!...

The Muses, still with freedom found, Shall to thy happy coasts repair. Blest isle! with matchless beauty crowned,

And manly hearts to guard the fair.

Rule, Britannia!...

Words by James Thomson

JERUSALEM

And did those feet in ancient time Walk upon England's mountains green?

And was the holy Lamb of God
On England's pleasant pastures seen?

And did the Countenance Divine
Shine forth upon our clouded hills?
And was Jerusalem builded here
Among these dark Satanic Mills?

Bring me my bow of burning gold!
Bring me my arrows of desire!
Bring me my spear! O clouds, unfold!
Bring me my chariot of fire!

I will not cease from mental fight, Nor shall my sword sleep in my hand, Till we have built Jerusalem In England's green and pleasant land.

Words from 'Milton' by William Blake

LAND OF HOPE AND GLORY

Dear Land of Hope, thy hope is crowned,
God make thee mightier yet!
On Sov'ran brows, beloved, renowned,
Once more thy crown is set.
Thine equal laws, by Freedom gained,
Have ruled thee well and long;
By Freedom gained, by Truth maintained,
Thine Empire shall be strong.

Chorus:

Land of Hope and Glory, Mother of the Free,
How shall we extol thee, who are born of thee?
Wider still and wider shall thy bounds be set;
God, who made thee mighty, make thee mightier yet,
God, who made thee mighty, make thee mightier yet.

Thy fame is ancient as the days,
As Ocean large and wide:
A pride that dares, and heeds not praise,
A stern and silent pride;
Not that false joy that dreams content
With what our sires have won;
The blood a hero sire hath spent
Still nerves a hero son.

Land of Hope and Glory...

Words by AC Benson



About the Artists



GUY NOBLE conductor

Guy Noble has conducted the Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Western Australian, Tasmanian, Oueensland and Canberra symphony orchestras, the Auckland Philharmonia, and the Hong Kong Symphony and Malaysian Philharmonic orchestras. He is the host and accompanist each year for Great Opera Hits (Opera Australia) at the Sydney Opera House. He conducted Opera Queensland's 2014 production of La Bohème. is conductor and host for the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra's Classics Unwrapped series at the Adelaide Town Hall, and for the Queensland Symphony Orchestra's Music on Sundays series at QPAC. His Opera! The

Opera was premiered at WAAPA in 2016, and has since been workshopped by Opera Australia. He is also the host of Concert Hall on Qantas Radio.

Guy Noble has worked with a wide variety of international performers appearing with orchestras across Australia. including Harry Connick Jr, Ben Folds, The Beach Boys, The Pointer Sisters, Dianne Reeves, Glenn Frey, Randy Newman, Clive James, Conchita, The Two Cellos, Alfie Boe and Olivia Newton John. He has worked with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra over many years, first appearing with them as a boy soprano soloist in Mendelssohn's Elijah in 1977 at the Sydney Opera House.



ANTOINETTE HALLORAN soprano

One of Australia's most accomplished and best-loved sopranos, Antoinette Halloran performs regularly with all the major Australasian opera companies and symphony orchestras and appears frequently on national television and radio.

Leading appearances for
Opera Australia have included the
title roles in Madama Butterfly
and Rusalka, Mimi in La Bohème,
Stella in A Streetcar Named
Desire (Green Room Award),
Donna Elvira in Don Giovanni,
Fata Morgana in The Love for
Three Oranges and Rosalinde in
Die Fledermaus; for New Zealand
Opera – Mimi, Cio-Cio-San and
Mrs Lovett in Sweeney Todd; for
Victorian Opera – Fiordiligi in Così

fan Tutte, Adina in L'elisir d'amore and Mrs Lovett (Helpmann Award nomination); for Opera Queensland – the title role in *The* Merry Widow; for State Opera of South Australia – Micaela in Carmen.

In 2019, she sings Lady Macbeth (*Macbeth*) and Mrs Lovett (*Sweeney Todd*) in Perth and *The Fox* in Adelaide.

In concert, she has sung with Elvis Costello and the Brodsky Quartet for the Sydney Festival, Mozart's Requiem with the Hong Kong Philharmonic, Carmina Burana with the Melbourne Chorale, El Niño with Sydney Philharmonia and Haydn's Creation and Fauré's Requiem with the Royal Melbourne Philharmonic.

SYDNEY PHILHARMONIA CHOIRS

ARTISTIC & MUSIC DIRECTOR BRETT WEYMARK

Brett Weymark Artistic and Music Director Elizabeth Scott Music Director, VOX

Marlowe Fitzpatrick Assistant Chorus Master and Principal Rehearsal Pianist

Sydney Philharmonia Choirs presents the art of choral singing at the highest standard, and develops the talents of those with a passion for singing in Sydney and beyond. Founded in 1920, it has become Australia's finest choral organisation and performs regularly at the Sydney Opera House. Led by Music Director Brett Weymark since 2003, Sydney Philharmonia Choirs comprises four regular choirs that perform a range of repertoire from choral classics to musical theatre and commissions by Australian composers. It presents its own annual season and collaborates with leading conductors, soloists and orchestras in Australia and overseas. In 2002, Sydney Philharmonia Choirs was the first Australian choir to sing at the BBC Proms (Mahler's Eighth Symphony under Simon Rattle), returning again in 2010.

The choirs appear in the Sydney Symphony Orchestra's concert season every year. In 2018 Sydney Philharmonia Choirs performed in *Beethoven Mass in C*,

The Bernstein Songbook, Verdi's Requiem, The Last Days of Socrates, Beethoven Nine and Last Night of the Proms. This year they will sing in Peter Grimes in Concert, Holst's Planets, Fauré's Requiem and Mahler's Klagende Lied under Simone Young.

Highlights of Sydney Philharmonia Choirs own concert series this year include *Bach and Mozart at Easter, Music from the Movies, Dvořák's Requiem,* and *Messiah* in December as well as *PopUp Sing,* their free singing workshops held at Carriageworks and Riverside Theatre.

For more information visit sydneyphilharmonia.com.au

Elizabeth Scott Chorus Master

SOPRANOS

Shelley Andrews Debra Baker Anne Blake Valerie Blechar Jodie Boehme Simone Brereton Natalie Brown Catherine Bryant Claire Christie Anne Cooke Pam Cunningham Vanessa Downing Kristin Dux Jessica Franke Liz Fuggle Anamaria Gomez Judith Gorry Caroline Gude Barbara Guzman Galeb Alison Hardy Samantha Hurenkamp Carine Jenkins Sue Justice Timothea Lau Elena Lucio Bello Gillian Markham Sarah McGarry Kate Moloney Stephanie Mooney Charlotte Moore Georgia Moore Sarah Moore Jane Nieminska

Nathalie O'Toole

Linda Peach
Laura Platts
Jolanda Rotteveel
Allison Rowlands
Amelia Shaw
Lily Tindale
Narelle Vance Perry
Laura Wachsmann
Laura Wade
Joanna Warren
Genni Wetherell
Jacqui Wilkins
Dorothy Wu

ALTOS

Leonie Armitage Meaghan Backhouse Katie Blake Jasmin Borsovszky Nicola Clement Alison Dutton Sophie Funston Jennifer Gillman Emma Goshell Jenny Harnett Kathryn Harwood Tracy Jordan Marina Kendal Janina Kev Naomi Leviton Donna McIntosh Janice McKeand Tijana Miljovska Jess Moore Madi Moore

Olivia Robinson Lara Rogerson-Wood Virginia Rowlands Susannah Russell Jan Shaw Megan Solomon Robyn Tupman Erica Venter Sheli Wallach Noriko Yamanaka Fiona Young Priscilla Yuen

TENORS

Alexander Best Langzi Chiu **Daniel Comarmond** Malcolm Day Giles Donovan Robert Elliott Bryce Gonlin Nick Hazell Boghos Keleshian James Lane Greg Lawler Alistair McDermott Ryan Queenin Jeremy Richmond Martin Stebbings Nicholas Tong Michael Wallach Will Willitts Kenji Yamashita

BASSES Jock Baird

Lee Borkman Peter Callaghan **Edwin Carter** Andy Clare Julian Coghlan Daryl Colquhoun Paul Couvret Philip Crenigan Robert Cunningham Benoit Deney James Devenish Roderick Enriquez David Fisher Tom Forrester-Paton Paul Green Eric Hansen Derek Hodgkins **David Jacobs** Bruce Lane Sean Moloney Samuel Morrell-Feitelberg Lei Mu Michael Nolan Ian Pettener Peter Poole Allan Redpath Robert Sherrington Andrew Skinner Ben Waters Arthur Winckler David Wood Lachlan Wrenford



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The Orchestra

SYDNEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Founded in 1932 by the ABC, the Sydney Symphony Orchestra has evolved into one of the world's finest orchestras as Sydney has become one of the world's great cities. Resident at the Sydney Opera House, the Sydney Symphony also performs regularly at City Recital Hall, tours NSW and internationally. The Orchestra's first Chief Conductor was Sir Eugene Goossens, appointed in 1947; he was followed by Nicolai Malko, Dean Dixon, Moshe Atzmon, Willem van Otterloo, Louis Frémaux, Sir Charles Mackerras, Zdeněk Mácal, Stuart Challender, Edo de Waart and Gianluigi Gelmetti. Vladimir Ashkenazy was Principal Conductor from 2009 to 2013, and David Robertson took up the position of Chief Conductor in 2014.

The Sydney Symphony Orchestra's concerts encompass masterpieces from the classical repertoire, music by some of the finest living composers, and collaborations with guest artists from all genres. These collaborations reflect the Orchestra's versatility and diverse appeal, and have included concerts with Human Nature, Ben Folds, The Whitlams, Burt Bacharach, Dianne Reeves, George Benson, John Farnham, Sting, Tim Minchin, Kenny Rogers, Natalie Cole, Olivia Newton-John, Idina Menzel, Dame Kiri Te Kanawa and Tina Arena. More recent highlights include concerts with Josh Groban, Diana Krall, Lea Salonga, Conchita Wurst and Paloma Faith, and tribute concerts for David Bowie and George Michael. The Sydney Symphony Orchestra also celebrates the role of the symphony orchestra in movies, television and video games with concerts such as the Lord of the Rings trilogy, Raiders of the Lost Ark, Babe, the Harry Potter film franchise, Amadeus, Star Wars and Casino Royale.

sydneysymphony.com

THE MUSICIANS

FIRST VIOLINS

Associate Concertmaster

Lerida Delbridge

Assistant Concertmaster

Kirsten Williams

Associate Concertmaster **Emeritus**

Jenny Booth Brielle Clapson Claire Herrick

Georges Lentz Nicola Lewis **Emily Long**

Alexandra Mitchell Alexander Norton Anna Skálová Léone Ziegler

Emily Qin*

SECOND VIOLINS

Marina Marsden

Principal Alice Bartsch Victoria Bihun Emma Hayes

Shuti Huang Monique Irik Wendy Kong Stan W Kornel

Beniamin Li Nicole Masters Riikka Sintoneno Jessica Oddie†

VIOLAS

Anne-Louise

Comerford Associate Principal

Justin Williams

Acting Associate Principal Sandro Costantino Rosemary Curtin Jane Hazelwood Graham Hennings Stuart Johnson Felicity Tsai Leonid Volovelsky

Andrew Jezek®

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Axel Ruge*

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Shefali Pryor Associate Principal

Eve Osborn† Rixon Thomas*

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Francesco Celata Acting Principal

Christopher Tingay Alexander Morris

Principal Bass Clarinet

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Todd Gibson-Cornish

Principal Melissa Woodroffe® Jordy Meulenbroeks†

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Paul Goodchild

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sydney symphony orchestra