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THE MAGIC OF THE ORCHESTRA

A Sydney Symphony Family Event

16 July | Sydney Opera House



Presenting Partner



SYDNEY
SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA

Principal Partner



SYDNEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

PATRON **Her Excellency The Honourable Margaret Beazley** AC KC

Founded in 1932 by the Australian Broadcasting Commission, 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 iconic Sydney Opera House, the Sydney Symphony Orchestra also performs in venues throughout Sydney and regional New South Wales, and international tours to Europe, Asia and the USA have earned the Orchestra worldwide recognition for artistic excellence.

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 Fremaux, Sir Charles Mackerras, Zdenek Macal, Stuart Challender, Edo de Waart and Gianluigi Gelmetti. Vladimir Ashkenazy was Principal Conductor from 2009 to 2013, followed by David Robertson as Chief Conductor from 2014 to 2019. Australian-born Simone Young commenced her role as Chief Conductor in 2022, a year in which the Orchestra made its return to a renewed Sydney Opera House Concert Hall.

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, reflecting the Orchestra's versatility and diverse appeal. Its award-winning education program is central to its commitment to the future of live symphonic music, and the Orchestra promotes the work of Australian composers through performances, recordings and its commissioning program.

Simone Young

Chief Conductor

Donald Runnicles

Principal Guest Conductor

Vladimir Ashkenazy

Conductor Laureate

Andrew Haveron

Concertmaster

Chair supported by Vicki Olsson

FIRST VIOLINS

Fiona Ziegler

Assistant Concertmaster

Sophie Cole

Georges Lentz

Alexandra Mitchell

Amanda Chen[°]

Sercan Danis[°]

Alexandra Osborne[°]

Marcus Michelsen[†]

Marrianne Liu[†]

Rain Liu[†]

Jasmine Tan[†]

Andrew Wang[†]

SECOND VIOLINS

Victoria Bihun

Wendy Kong

Benjamin Li

Nicole Masters

Benjamin Tjoa[°]

Dominic Azzit[†]

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Kristy Conrau

Ariel Volovelsky[†]

Eleanor Betts[†]

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Hikaru Fuminashi[†]

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Dylan Holly

Richard Lynn

Oliver Simpson[†]

Adrian Whitehall[†]

FLUTES

Lily Bryant[†]

Guest Principal

Emilia Antcliff[†]

Kim Falconer[†]

Guest Principal Piccolo

OBOES

Shefali Pryor

Associate Principal

Noah Rudd[†]

CLARINETS

Francesco Celata

Acting Principal

Jes Broeren[†]

BASSOONS

Matthew Wilkie

Principal Emeritus

Jamie Dodd[†]

Noriko Shimada

Principal Contrabassoon

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Euan Harvey

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Principal Harp

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Sunday 16 July, 10am & 11.30am

Concert Hall,
Sydney Opera House

INTRODUCE YOUR FAMILY TO THE MAGIC OF THE ORCHESTRA

A SYDNEY SYMPHONY FAMILY EVENT

BENJAMIN NORTHEY conductor
LUKE CARROLL narrator

BENJAMIN BRITTEN (1913–1976)

Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra (1945)

Theme - Orchestra

Variation A - Flutes and piccolo

Variation B - Oboes

Variation C - Clarinets

Variation D - Bassoons

Variation E - Violins

Variation F - Violas

Variation G - Cellos

Variation H - Double basses

Variation I - Harp

Variation J - Horns

Variation K - Trumpets

Variation L - Trombones and tuba

Variation M - Percussion

Fugue - Orchestra

ESTIMATED DURATION

Britten – 25 minutes

Let It Go – 4 minutes

Raiders – 5 minutes

The concert will run for
approximately 45 minutes

COVER IMAGE

By Amy Zhou

KRISTEN ANDERSON-LOPEZ (born 1972) **(ARR. KROGSTAD)**

Let It Go – from Disney's *Frozen* (2013)

JOHN WILLIAMS (born 1932)

Raiders of the Lost Ark (1981)

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PRINCIPAL PARTNER



WELCOME

Welcome to *The Magic of the Orchestra*, a very special family concert.

Today we take a journey through Benjamin Britten's *Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra*, a work many of us would remember from our childhood. The piece is a wonderful exploration of the different instruments in the orchestra, that will undoubtedly mesmerise our family members and children!

What a stunning opportunity for our families to learn about the magic of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra. We are immensely proud of our inaugural partnership with the Sydney Symphony, and with an unwavering focus on creating extraordinary experiences, both Royal Caribbean and the Orchestra share a deep and longstanding commitment to excellence.

Royal Caribbean offers the ultimate family holiday, filled with adventure and unforgettable memory-making experiences. From the FlowRider surf-simulator to nightly theatre shows and dining options the whole family will love, all with plenty of time for you to relax and be taken care of by our friendly crew.

We hope you enjoy these family performances, and your family leave having found a little bit of magic.



Gavin Smith

Vice President & Managing Director Australia and New Zealand
Royal Caribbean



ABOUT THE ARTISTS

BENJAMIN NORTHEY conductor

Australian conductor Benjamin Northey is the Chief Conductor of the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra and the Principal Conductor in Residence of the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra. He has previously held the posts of Associate Conductor of the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra (2010-2019), Resident Guest Conductor of the Australia Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra (2002-2006) and Principal Guest Conductor of the Melbourne Chamber Orchestra (2007-2010).

Northey studied conducting at Finland's Sibelius Academy with Professors Leif Segerstam and Atso Almila after being accepted as the highest placed applicant in 2002. He completed his studies at the Stockholm Royal College of Music with Jorma Panula in 2006.

Northey appears regularly as a guest conductor with all major Australian symphony orchestras, Opera Australia (*La bohème*, *Turandot*, *L'elisir d'amore*, *Don Giovanni*, *Così fan tutte*, *Carmen*), New Zealand Opera (*Sweeney Todd*) and the State Opera South Australia (*La sonnambula*, *L'elisir d'amore*, *Les contes d'Hoffmann*).

His international appearances include concerts with the London Philharmonic Orchestra, the Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra, the Mozarteum Orchestra Salzburg, the Hong Kong Philharmonic, the National Symphony Orchestra of Colombia, the Malaysian Philharmonic and the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra.

Northey has collaborated with a broad range of leading artists including Pinchas Zukerman, Maxim Vengerov, Anne-Sofie von Otter, Julian Rachlin, Karen Gomyo, Piers Lane, Alban Gerhardt, Johannes Moser, William Barton, Lu Siquing, Amy Dickson, Slava Grigoryan and many others.

Northey is highly active in the performance and recording of new Australian orchestral music having premiered dozens of major new works by Australian composers. He has previously been a board member of the Australian Music Centre.

An ARIA Awards, AIR Music Awards, and Art Music Awards winner, he was voted *Limelight* magazine's Australian Artist of the Year in 2018. Northey's many recordings can be found on ABC Classics.

In 2023, he conducts the Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide, Tasmanian and Christchurch Symphony Orchestras and the Hong Kong Philharmonic.



Benjamin Northey
Photo by Laura Manariti

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

LUKE CARROLL narrator

Luke Carroll is a seasoned theatre, film and television actor. He recently shot *The Artful Dodger* for Disney+; other recent television projects include *Upright* for Foxtel, *Maverix* and *Preppers* for ABC Television and *Total Control* for ABC.

In 2023, he returns to stages in Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide and Hobart starring in the smash Belvoir play *At What Cost* after a sellout debut run in 2022. He will then appear in the Sydney Theatre Company's new production of *The Visitors*.

Previous plays include *Sunshine Super Girl* (Performing Lines), *Black Cockatoo* (Ensemble Theatre); *Black is the New White*, *The Harp in the South*, *The Hanging*, *The Battle of Waterloo* and *Cherry Pickers* (Sydney Theatre Company) *Black Diggers* and *Mother Courage and her Children* (Queensland Theatre) and *The Season* (Performing Tasmania and Melbourne Festival).

Luke is a multi AACTA and AFI nominee; screen credits include *Strangerland*, *Subdivision*, *The Tender Hook*, *Children of the Revolution*, *Redfern Now* and *R.A.N.*



Luke Carroll

ABOUT THE MUSIC

Welcome to the Sydney Symphony Orchestra!

An orchestra is an amazing thing. There are so many instruments, and they create such a big sound. But when everyone is playing at once it can be hard to work out what sound is coming from where.

That's why English composer **Benjamin Britten** wrote his piece ***Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra*** – so that kids (and adults too!) could learn about all those instruments you see on stage.

The piece starts with the **Theme**, which was actually written by another English composer named Henry Purcell, way back in 1695 – over 300 years ago! The whole orchestra plays the Theme, then it is passed around to each of the major families of instruments – first the **woodwinds**, then the **strings**, then the **brass**, and finally the **percussion**.

After the Theme, we then hear thirteen short **Variations**. Each Variation features an individual instrument in more detail, playing the Theme in their own special way based on their unique qualities. This lets you really get to know what each instrument sounds like.

Can you hear how the instruments are different, and how they treat the Theme? Listen to the Harp, and see if you can hear how that is different to the Trombone...

Finally, the piece ends with a **Fugue**. Each instrument joins in gradually, in the same order that you heard them in the Variations, so you can hear how they all mix together. The whole thing ends in a big climax, showcasing the power of the orchestra at full flight.

WHICH INSTRUMENT IS WHICH?

Turn the page to see a guide to the instruments of the orchestra!



Benjamin Britten in 1965
Photo by Szalay Zoltán

ABOUT THE MUSIC

STRINGS

This family of instruments create sound by their strings vibrating. You can change the pitch by pressing your fingers on the strings, creating different lengths, thicknesses and tensions. Musicians pluck, strike or rub the strings with a bow made of horsehair.

The smallest member of this family of instruments makes the highest pitch. **Violins** in an orchestra are divided into two sections – Violin 1 and 2 – allowing composers to create a warm and blended tone with one voice.

With a slightly bigger body than the violin, the **viola** has a deeper, more mellow tone. It provides full and rich inner harmonies between the treble and bass and brings a unique timbre and character to the orchestra.

The **cello** can produce a wide range of sounds, and often provides the bass or tenor voice in a piece of music. Like all string instruments, it can either be bowed, struck or plucked to create a sound – plucking is called *pizzicato*.

The largest member of the string family, the **double bass** creates the lowest pitch and provides the orchestra with a solid foundation in harmony. Double basses are typically constructed from several types of wood, including maple for the back, spruce for the top, and ebony for the fingerboard.

The **harp** has 47 strings tightly wound to the frame of the instrument. From thick, long bass strings up to tiny, thin treble strings, the harp covers a whopping seven octaves! The sound is made by plucking the strings with your fingertips and changing the notes by using foot pedals.



Violin



Viola



Cello



Double bass



Harp

ABOUT THE MUSIC

WOODWINDS

Woodwind musicians create sound by blowing air into pipes of different lengths and materials, creating a variety of contrasting and characterful tones. Some woodwinds have one reed on their mouthpiece, some have two – and some don't have any!

The smallest and highest pitched instrument of the woodwind family, the **piccolo's** sound is created by air blown across a small hole on the head joint. The sound is bright and piercing – perfect for playing energetic, sparkling music above the rest of the orchestra.

Similar to the piccolo, the **flute's** sound is made by blowing across a hole on the head joint and does not require a reed. The world's oldest flutes date back 60,000 years ago and were originally made of bone or wood. Today, modern flutes are made of silver or gold which gives them a pure and sparkling tone.

The **oboe** has two reeds. Two small pieces of cane are tightly strapped together, and fast air blown between the reeds causes vibrations to surge through the instrument producing a distinctly plaintive tone.

The **clarinet** is the only single reed instrument in a standard orchestra. It makes music with one piece of cane vibrating against a plastic or rubber mouthpiece connected to a thick, wooden tube. The clarinet produces a woody, round and mellow sound, often giving a peaceful and serene quality to the music.

The **bassoon** is a really tall instrument – from end-to-end, it would stand over 2.5 metres tall! Fortunately, the pipe is doubled back on itself to make it more manageable for musicians to play and transport. The bassoon is also a double reed instrument and produces sound in similar way to the oboe. It has a deep bass sound and provides the woodwind section with a strong harmonic foundation.



Piccolo



Flute



Oboe



Clarinet



Bassoon

ABOUT THE ORCHESTRA

OTHER

Piano

Celeste

STRINGS

Violin

Viola

Cello

Double Bass

Harp

WOODWINDS

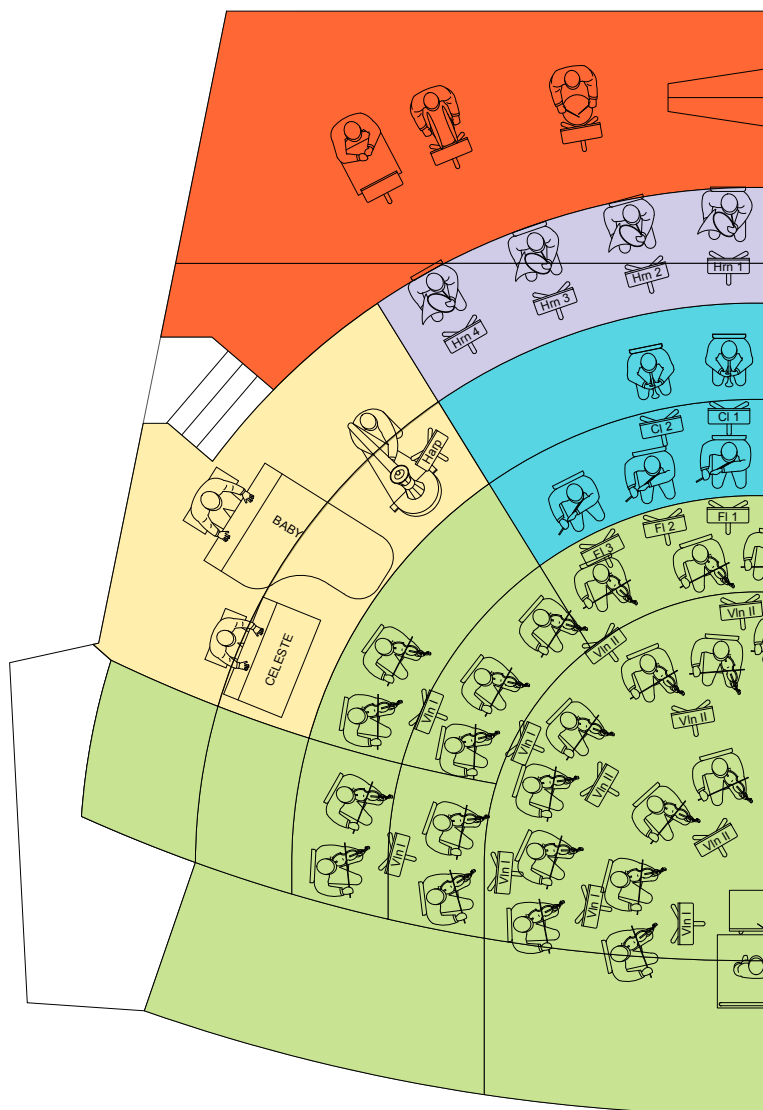
Piccolo

Flute

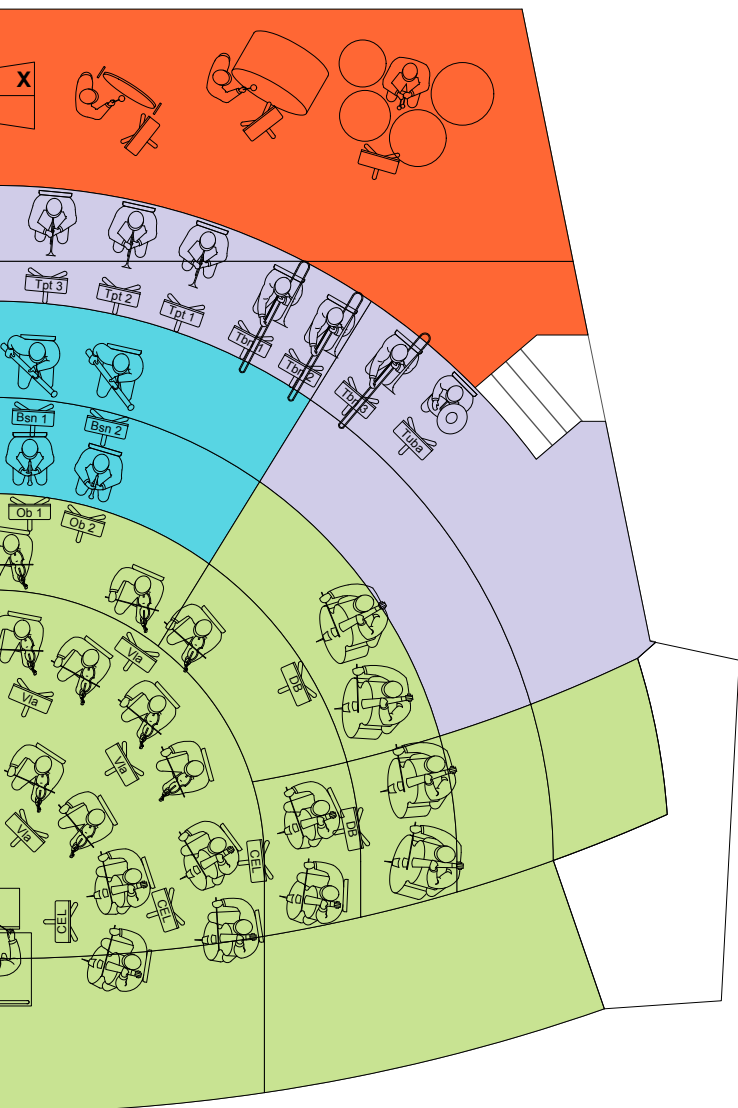
Oboe

Clarinet

Bassoon



ABOUT THE ORCHESTRA



BRASS

Horns

Trumpets

Trombones

Basstuba

PERCUSSION

Timpani

Bass Drum

Cymbals

Tambourine

Triangle

Snare Drum

Temple Blocks

Xylophone

Castanets

Tam-Tam

Whip

ABOUT THE MUSIC

BRASS

To create the sound on brass instruments, a musician blows air into the mouthpiece, buzzing or vibrating their lips against it. These instruments are usually made of brass, and sometimes have silver and gold plating.

The **French horn** has the widest tonal range of all brass instruments. Its extremely rich, soft timbre gives it a special quality somewhere between brass and woodwinds, enabling it to blend well with the sound of many other instruments.

The **trumpet** has a striking, triumphant sound, and it boasts the highest register of all brass instruments. The modern trumpet evolved from an ancient instrument that dates from the 2nd millennium BCE in Egypt, when it was a small ritual or military instrument sounding only one or two notes.

Trombones are made in a variety of ranges approximating the range of the human voice, including soprano, alto, tenor, and bass. They are generally played by extending and shortening the slide, which changes the pitch of the sound.

Valves were incorporated into a variety of brass instruments with the invention of apparatus in the 1820s. The **Basstuba**, a historical precursor to the modern tuba, made its appearance on September 12, 1835. The heaviest tuba weighs between nine and ten kilograms.



French horn



Trumpet



Trombone



Basstuba

ABOUT THE MUSIC

PERCUSSION

The percussion family is the largest in the orchestra. It includes any instrument that makes a sound when it is hit, shaken, or scraped. Percussion instruments keep the rhythm, make special sounds, adding excitement and colour.

The **timpani** has its roots in ancient times. The oldest drum with a plate that could be called a timpani is an artifact from the B.C. era, going back more than two thousand years!

The **bass drum** is a descendant of the *davul* or *tabl turki* (Turkish drum) dating back to the 1300s, making it one of the oldest percussion instruments.

With its indefinite pitch and ability to make unusual or striking sounds, **cymbals** are an integral part of the percussion family.

The **tambourine** is a shallow, handheld drum made of a circular wooden frame with a calfskin or plastic drumhead stretched across the top. The tambourine has small discs called jingles set into its circular frame which produce sound when the tambourine is shaken, rubbed, or struck.

Triangle a steel rod bent into a triangle with one corner left open. It is suspended by a gut or nylon loop and struck with a steel rod and makes a high-pitched, ringing tone.

The **snare drum** produces a sharp staccato sound when struck, thanks to a series of stiff wires against the lower skin. Snare drums are often used in orchestras, concert bands, marching bands and more.



Timpani



Bass drum



Cymbals



Tambourine



Triangle



Snare drum

ABOUT THE MUSIC

PERCUSSION

Temple blocks consist of a set of hollow wooden blocks with a large slit. In orchestral music, it is often used to mimic a ticking clock or a galloping horse.

Like the glockenspiel (which uses metal bars), the **xylophone** consists of a set of tuned wooden keys arranged like the keyboard of a piano, and struck by mallets.

Castanets consist of a pair of concave hardwood shells joined on one edge by a string. A player usually uses two pairs of castanets, one pair in each hand.

The **Tam-Tam** is a type of gong which makes an unforgettable booming sound. When you strike the tam-tam, the sound gets louder and louder, building up to a shimmering climax before fading away.

A **whip** or **slapstick** consists of two wooden boards joined by a hinge at one end. When hit, it sounds like the crack of a whip.

A **piano** is a keyboard instrument that produces sound by striking strings with hammers. It has 88 keys – 52 white keys for the notes of the C major scale (C, D, E, F, G, A and B) and 36 black keys for sharps and flats.

Invented roughly 130 years ago, the **celeste** is a keyboard instrument that makes sound when hammers strike metal bars. This produces a ringing, bell-like sound.



Temple blocks



Xylophone



Castanets



Tam-Tam



Piano



Celeste

THE FUTURE

is now

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In the future, more airlines will have soft luxurious leather seats, raised footrests and more room to stretch out. They might even have delicious gourmet meals and thousands of entertainment channels. Meanwhile at Emirates, you can fly today. Introducing the new Premium Economy cabin on selected routes.


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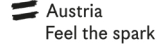
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