



*Strathfield Symphony*



[www.strathfieldsymphony.org.au](http://www.strathfieldsymphony.org.au)

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## About the Orchestra

Strathfield Symphony Orchestra is a community orchestra based in the inner-west Sydney suburb of Strathfield. The orchestra is comprised of approximately 60 players. It rehearses most Monday nights and gives four programs a year, plus a special concert for seniors in Senior Citizens' Week. The orchestra aims to promote musicmaking in the community, to provide exciting and enjoyable concert programs, to nurture young talent, and to showcase the works of Australian composers.

The orchestra was founded by Emily Finn, a music teacher in Strathfield. The first performance was held on 28th June 1969 and was conducted by Richard Gill. Over the years many talented young musicians have played with the orchestra, the youngest being nine-year-old violinist Kim Marshall. In recent years the orchestra has played works by many Australian composers including Elena Kats-Chernin, Nigel Westlake, Vincent Leonard, Michael Easton and Solomon Bard. In 2008 the orchestra commissioned Elena Kats-Chernin to write a work for the orchestra's 40th Birthday Concert on 4th July 2009. Australian composer and pianist Miriam Hyde was a keen supporter and good friend of the orchestra. She played with the orchestra as soloist and the orchestra has performed many of her works.

# Don't miss our next concert!

## *Beautiful Music ...*

**Conducted by Sarah-Grace Williams**

*Mozart - Overture to Cosi fan tutte*

*Brahms - Variations on a theme  
of Haydn*

*Sibelius - Finlandia*

*Schubert - Symphony No 8  
"The Unfinished"*



**Saturday 9th October, 8pm**

**Sunday 10th October, 3pm**

**Strathfield Town Hall**

**[www.strathfieldsymphony.org.au](http://www.strathfieldsymphony.org.au)**

## Today's Program

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### Country Kazoo Overture

*Sean O'Boyle*

### Toy Symphony

*Mozart*

Featuring

Finn Haythornthwaite - Ocarina  
Leo Haythornthwaite - Nightingale  
Eva Haythornthwaite - Nightingale  
Laura Trezise - Cuckoo  
Lucy Blomfield - Triangle & Quail  
Charlie Blomfield - Traingle & Quail

### The Kookaburra Who Stole the Moon

*Peter Winkler*

Narrated by Brian Bell  
Featuring Michael Jackson on the Didgeridoo

### William Tell Overture

*Rossini*

**11am and 3pm Sunday 27 June**

**Strathfield Town Hall, Strathfield**



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# Notes

## *The Kookaburra Who Stole the Moon - Winkler*

*The Kookaburra Who Stole the Moon*, by Peter Winkler, was a specially commissioned piece of music to assist children in learning the instruments of an orchestra in an engaging and fun way.

The story that unfolds is that of a greedy kookaburra who falls in love with the moon and steals it from the night sky. All the other animals, played by various instruments within the orchestra, try their best to make the kookaburra set the moon free, releasing it back into the sky.

First performed for the Bennelong Program of the Sydney Opera House with a chamber orchestra, today we have the excellent narrating skills of Brian Bell to help us share this story.

## *William Tell Overture - Rossini*

Gioacchino Rossini wrote over 38 operas. While composing in Paris for the Opéra he wrote his final opera, *Guillaume Tell*, in 1829. The opera recounts the tale of the legendary Swiss hero, William Tell, during the time of the Swiss fight for independence from the Austrian Hapsburgs in the 14th century. Tell, a noted marksman with the crossbow, refuses to bow to a hat set up on a pole by the Austrian governor, Gessler. Gessler arrests him and says Tell will be freed if he can shoot an apple off of his son's head. Tell does so, but says if he had failed he would have shot Gessler and is chained again. Eventually Tell is freed long enough to kill Gessler, leading to a revolt by the Swiss.

The full opera is such a spectacle that it requires six hours to perform. Not only was the opera Rossini's longest, its overture was his longest and most elaborate as well. Its musical imagery of a storm, a pastoral scene, and heroic riders are now the definitive musical metaphors for each of these images.

The cellos and bass open the work, heralding the dawn. Rossini divides the passage into eight separate parts. Some 'raindrops' from the woodwinds and swirling 'wind' from the strings segue into a violent storm, with brass blaring and drums rolling. In the calm following, an English horn and flute sound the familiar tune now associated with quiet, bucolic scenes. Rossini based this melody on the Swiss *ranz des vaches*, a tune played on the Alpine horn by cowherds to call in their cattle. Finally, a trumpet sounds the four notes known throughout the world as the opening of the theme for the Lone Ranger, though Rossini meant to signify the approaching Swiss army. The rousing rhythm is that of a popular dance called the galop - and what better dance to conjure up an image of galloping horses, whether of Guillaume Tell's Swiss Army or of the Lone Ranger's white steed? Hi ho, Silver, indeed!



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# Program

## *Country Kazoo Overture - O'Boyle*



Sean O'Boyle is one of Australia's most experienced conductors, orchestral arrangers and composers. His enormous body of original works has invariably been specially commissioned by leading orchestras and festivals and, in most cases, has been premiered with the composer as conductor. He has also composed extensively for film and television. In 2009 he was engaged by the NSW Premier's department to write an arrangement for the State Funeral of aviator Nancy Bird Walker and to write full orchestral arrangements for a new show featuring James Morrison and singer Adam Lopez, called *Latin Fiesta* for performance. During 2010 Sean O'Boyle is engaged as Music Director on director Gale Edwards' first feature film, *A Heartbeat Away*.

## *Toy Symphony - Mozart*

It was long reputed to be the work of Joseph Haydn, but later scholarship suggested that it was actually written by Leopold Mozart. Its authorship is still disputed, however, and other composers have been proposed as the symphony's true author.

The *Toy Symphony* did not appear in published form until 1820. In the first edition the composer was given as Haydn with no further identification. From that time it was assumed that Franz Joseph Haydn was the composer of this seven-minute, three movement symphony which calls for toys, a trumpet, ratchet, nightingale, cuckoo and drum. A fanciful story was concocted in which Haydn composed this work after purchasing several toys at a fair, and then performed the result at Eszterháza for delighted children at a Christmas party. By the 1930s scholars began to doubt that this tale was truthful, as no such work appears in the exhaustive *Entwurf-Katalog* Haydn himself compiled of his own compositions.

The identity of the true composer of the *Toy Symphony* seemed cinched with the discovery of the work in its three-movement form in a manuscript copied by Leopold Mozart in 1759. This was supported by the existence of a similar work (also once believed to be Leopold Mozart's) *The Musical Sleigh-Ride*, which calls for a cracking whip, sleigh bells and other sound effects that resemble those in the *Toy Symphony*. However, the accuracy of the Leopold Mozart attribution was called into question as it became clear that even *The Musical Sleigh-Ride* was likely not Leopold's work; he was an avid copyist who made exemplars of dozens of pieces by hand.

Recent research on a newly found manuscript suggests the Austrian benedictine monk Edmund Angerer to be the author, but these findings are disputed. It may be that the true composer will likely never be known.



## Conductor & Artistic Director - *Sarah-Grace Williams*

Sarah-Grace Williams has gained a reputation as one of Australia's foremost conductors of her generation. She is the Chief Conductor and Artistic Director of the Strathfield Symphony Orchestra and Metropolitan Chamber Orchestra, Musical Director and Conductor of the Sydney Opera House Proms Orchestra and Associate Conductor of The Occasional Performing Sinfonia (TOPS). Additionally, Sarah-Grace has been engaged as a Guest Conductor and Presenter with a number of ensembles including the Queensland Symphony Orchestra, Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra, West Australian Symphony Orchestra, Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra, Willoughby Symphony Orchestra, Penrith Symphony Orchestra, and Ku-ring-gai Philharmonic Orchestra. Sarah-Grace is currently the Assistant Conductor for Symphony Australia, assisting the Queensland, Adelaide, West Australian and Tasmanian Symphony Orchestras.

An accomplished clarinetist and pianist, Sarah-Grace lectures in Conducting, Aural, Music Theatre and Choral Studies and is a highly sought after vocal coach and adjudicator.



## Guest Conductor - *Bernard Walz*

For the past 20 years concert-pianist, Bernard Walz, has established a firm reputation as one of Australia's premier 'Pops' performers.

His career has taken him from the principal performing venues of Australia (including the Concert Hall of the Sydney Opera House) to Royal Festival Hall in London and the Village Vanguard in New York, and across the USA and in Europe in concert and cabaret performances. He has won three consecutive Australian Entertainment "MO" Awards for Excellence in Live Performance and a further four 'Instrumentalist of the Year' awards, two 'Entertainer of the Year' awards and a 'Variety Artist of the Year' award in international circles. His debut album, 'Piano Passion' was a Number-One ARIA charting release from PolyGram.

He has toured both nationally and internationally with Michael Crawford and Larry Adler. In Australia Bernard has shared the stage with Maestro Tommy Tycho, Don Burrows, Rhonda Burchmore, Don Lane, Toni Lamond and Donald Cant, amongst others.

In recent years Bernard has completed his Master Certificate in Orchestration with the Berklee School of Music (Boston, USA) and studies conducting with SSO Artistic Director and Chief Conductor, Sarah-Grace Williams. This weekend's concert's with the Strathfield Symphony Orchestra mark Bernard's conducting debut. He will conduct in the USA in February 2011.



**Life Members of the Orchestra**

Solomon Bard  
 Ted Davis  
 Solomon Bard  
 Bruce Dunlop  
 Christine Edwards  
 Belisario Hernandez  
 Marie Hodsdon  
 Vincent Leonard  
 Shirrley Mahableshwarwalla  
 B McBurney  
 Sheila Myers  
 Margaret Shirley  
 Geoff Widmer

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B& D Jamieson	Virginia Judge MP
Ray Knight	Jenny Lane
J B Linley	Bevan Rigato
Paula Rix	E D Ruckert
G M & M J Samrani	
John Shapiro	
Sally Trevena	
Jean Widmer	



**The Orchestra**

**Violin 1**

Paul Pokorny \*\*\*  
 Dorothy Sercombe \*\*  
 Susan Brown  
 Mark Coward  
 Lauren Frohlich  
 Sarah Haddad  
 Carol Henson  
 Amanda Hoh  
 Alana Pretty  
 Mandy Tse

**Violin 2**

Philip Hazell \*  
 Laura Jamieson \*\*  
 Sondo Kim  
 Rohini Mulford  
 Priya Odhavji  
 Daniel Pauperis  
 Agnieszka Rypel-Polkas  
 Joe Singles  
 Behram Taleyarkhan  
 Petroc Wilton

**Viola**

Danielle Norton\*  
 Chris Elenor

**Cello**

Bronwyn Whyatt  
 Rowena Cseh  
 Alicea Gedz  
 Haydn Skinner  
 Shelayne Torta  
 Danni Yi Ding

**Double Bass**

Moya Molloy\*  
 Robert Budniak

**Flute**

Lyndon Swasbrook  
 Bruce Lane

**Piccolo**

Bruce Lane

**Oboe**

Adele Haythornethwaite

**Clarinet**

David Abbott  
 Daniel Dinhe

**Bassoon**

John Fletcher  
 Alex Thorburn

**French Horn**

John Trezise  
 Ngoc Long Vuong

**Trumpet**

Gary Clarke  
 David Young  
 Janette Vardy

**Trombone**

John Blyth  
 Simon Bartlett

**Bass Trombone**

Adam Sebire

**Tuba**

Gary Levin

**Timpani**

Steve Machamer

**Percussion**

Steven Machamer  
 Mathew Levy  
 Daniel Rose

\* Principal

\*\* Deputy principal

\*\*\* Concertmaster

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