

Strathfield Symphony
Orchestra of the Inner West



Winter Daydreams

Conductor Cristian Cimei Sunday 20 March 2011 at 2.30pm
(reduced programme)

Sunday 3 April at 2.30pm

Strathfield Town Hall, cnr Redmyre
and Homebush Rds, Strathfield



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A black and white photograph of a hand holding a tuning fork, positioned vertically.

In Memoriam: David Bruce Dunlop

17 September 1924 - 17 March 2011

Bruce Dunlop was one of our first and most important supporters and was a life member of the Orchestra. He was our first President, from 1970 – 74 and Treasurer in 1976 and from 1978 – 83. After that he kept a watchful eye over our finances – and our Treasurers, until he stopped preparing our accounts and doing front of house duties a few years ago and became, in his own words, a concertgoer for the first time.



It is a fitting coincidence that Bruce was treated in his final illness by a member of the Orchestra, Dr Janette Vardy.

Bruce supported his community in many guises, including the Concord and Ryde Sailing Club and the Concord RSL. He helped many organizations with their accounting, and was known to write his own software in the early days when none was available. This without any formal training in accountancy.

Bruce was at the centre of a warm and loving family. Their love and respect was much in evidence at his funeral on 24 March. To them we offer our sincere condolences.

His warm and friendly support will be very sadly missed.

This concert is dedicated to the
memory of Bruce Dunlop.

The Orchestra

Violin 1

Paul Pokorny ***
Dorothy Sercombe **
Clifton Chan
Mark Coward
Emmanuelle Fonsny
Sarah Haddad
Sherry Hsaio
Amanda Hoh
Mariana Zafeirakopoulos

Violin 2

Philip Hazell *
Joh Howes
Rohini Mulford
Daniel Pauperis
Agnieszka Rypel-Polkas
Flora Shin
Joe Singles
Behram Taleyarkhan

Viola

Danielle Norton*
Brian Allen
Jennifer Cooke
Julia Pokorny
Dianne Harrell

Cello

Alicea Gedz*
Vanessa Chalker
Rowena Cseh
Danni Yi Ding
Bruce Lane
Haydn Skinner
Barnabas Thiem
An Wen Tao-Lo

Double Bass

Robert Budniak*
Vince Angeloni

Flute & Piccolo

Lyndon Swasbrook*
Prue Page
Rebecca Brown

Oboe & Cor Anglais

Adele Haythornthwaite*
Elise Cooper

Clarinet

Gigie Tam*
Daniel Dinhe
Stephen Rosenman

Alto Saxophone

Dianne Harrell

Bassoon

John Fletcher*
Alex Thorburn

French Horn

Angela Liu*
Claire Cameron
Marian Lesslie
John Trezise

Trumpet

Gary Clarke*
David Young
Janette Vardy

Trombone

Jessica Smith*
Hugh Brigden
Brendan Towney

Tuba

Gary Levin

Timpani

Merrilee McNaught*

Percussion

Matthew O'Rourke
Mark Rogers
Rick Sercombe

Harp

Helen Boyd

* Principal

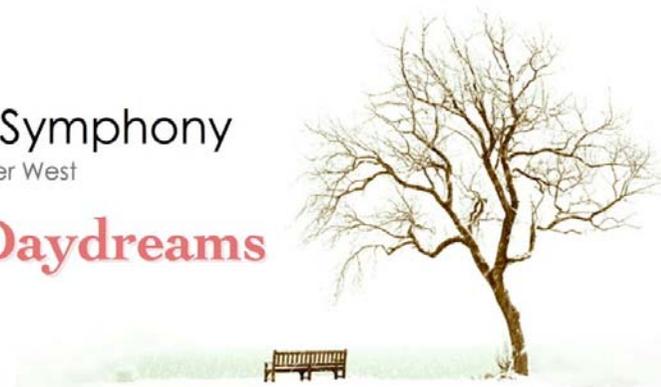
** Deputy principal

*** Concertmaster

Strathfield Symphony

Orchestra of the Inner West

Winter Daydreams



Overture "The Thieving Magpie"

Rossini

On the Skating Rink

Leonard

L'Arlésienne Suite No.1

Bizet

Interval

Symphony No.1

"Winter Daydreams"

Tchaikovsky



Guest Conductor - *Cristian Cimei*

The young Italian conductor, Cristian Cimei, began studying the piano at the age of 5. After receiving his Diploma in Performance with a high distinction, at the Conservatorium of Music in Terni, Cristian was invited to Germany to continue his piano studies with Maestro Elmar Slama. In 2003 he was invited to perform at the Pantheon in Rome for the late Pope, John Paul II, celebrating his 25th anniversary as Pontiff. Cristian continued his studies in composition in Rome with Robert Mann and conducting in Milan with Simone Fermani.



In 2004, he was then invited to work with Luciano Pavarotti as Assistant conductor and pianist for his production of "La Boheme" in Fano.

Cristian was also invited to assist M. Licata to the Sydney Opera House where they worked together on "La Boheme" (2005) and "Madame Butterfly" (2006).

In 2007, Cristian was awarded a place at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, studying with Maestro Imre Pallo for his Master in Conducting. To recognise his talents, he was awarded the International Merit Scholarship and the 'Goosens' Fellowship for Conducting for 2007 and 2008.

In 2007 he was appointed as Musical Director for the Choralation Choir, In 2008, he conducted "Ruddigore" by Gilbert and Sullivan for the Savoy Arts Opera Company.

In 2009 he was appointed as Musical Director to the Rockdale Opera Company, conducting "La Traviata" to great critical acclaim.

Furthering his professional development, in 2009, he was a finalist for the Hephzibah Tintner Foundation Conducting Fellowship,

In 2010 Cristian has been invited as guest conductor to conduct the Strathfield Symphony Orchestra and Woollahra Philharmonic Orchestra, and he has become the co-Musical Director for the Canada Bay Community Choir

Internationally, Cristian is beginning to be recognised as a young conductor of irrefutable talent, being invited to conduct the Macau Symphony Orchestra.

Life Members of Strathfield Symphony

Ted Davis	Vincent Leonard
Solomon Bard	Shirley Mahableshwarwalla
Christine Edwards	B McBurney
Belissario Hernandez	Margaret Shirley
Marie Hodsdon	Geoff Widmer

Friends of the Orchestra

N A & M P Anderson	Ray Knight
E M Astles	Jenny Lane
Ruth & Mike Bastick	J B Linley
Ross Bernie	Paula Rix
Virav Bhavnagri	E D Ruckert
Robin Booth	G M & M J Samrani
Joan Dunlop	John Shapiro
Neville Hodsdon	Sally Trevena
B & D Jamieson	Jean Widmer
Virginia Judge	

Committee of Strathfield Symphony Orchestra

President	Bruce Lane
Vice President	Paul Pokorny
Treasurer	Lindsay Smartt
Secretary, Public officer & Stage Manager	Laura Jamieson
Librarian	Alicea Gedz
Assistant Librarian	Amanda Ho
Assistant Stage Manager	Chris Elenor
Committee Member	Philip Hazell

Concertmaster - Paul Pokorny

Paul Pokorny is the Concertmaster of the Strathfield Symphony and has also appeared as soloist. He has played in many of the amateur and freelance orchestras in Sydney including Concertmaster of the North Shore Youth Orchestra, Lane Cove Symphony, Northern Chamber Orchestra, Warringah Symphony, Encore Kammerorchester, the Sydney Serenade, the Sydney Occasional Orchestra and the Ku-ring-gai Philharmonic Orchestra. He is also Principal violin with the Balmain Sinfonia and has played with the Solar Chamber Orchestra, Bourbaki Ensemble and Orchestra 143. Paul is a keen chamber musician, and is first violin with the Opus Four String Quartet and the Strathfield String Quartet and is concertmaster for occasional event orchestras.



In addition to performing freelance function work for many years Paul has been a active orchestral leader and player for many of Sydney's musical societies. Paul also enjoys singing and playing piano.

In Memoriam: Sheila Myers

31 August 1918 - 28 January 2011

Sheila was a violin student of Emily Finn, who founded the Orchestra in 1969. She played first violin with us from 1972 to 1998 and came to all our concerts for the next ten years in the company of her son Terry. She became a familiar and strongly supporting figure and was a life member of the Orchestra.

Our condolences go to her son Terry and daughter Margaret.

Program Notes

Overture to the Thieving Magpie Gioachino Rossini (1792-1868)

Ninetta is tried for stealing a silver spoon and, found guilty, is about to die, when the spoon is discovered in the nest of the thieving magpie. Makes transportation from England look lenient.

"I wrote the overture to *The Thieving Magpie* on the day of its opening, in the theatre itself where I was imprisoned by the director and under the surveillance of four stage hands who were instructed to throw my original text through the window, page by page, to the copyists waiting below . . . In default of pages, they were ordered to throw *me* out of the window".

It has been often used in films including *A Clockwork Orange*, *Once Upon a Time in America*, and *Prizzi's Honour*. Haruki Murukami uses it in his novel *The Wind-up Bird Chronicle*.



On the Skating Rink Vincent Leonard

Vincent Leonard, Sydney composer and long time member of the orchestra, takes us back to his boyhood in Harbin in northern China, where White Russian émigrés gathered in winter at the skating rink, waltzes crackling through the PA system. An unexpected storm scatters the skaters.

Program

L'Arlésienne Suite No.1- Georges Bizet (1838-1875)

Prélude, Minuetto, Adagietto, Carillon

Incidental music for Alphonse Daudet's play - *the Girl from Arles*, who does not appear in the play, was used for this suite by Bizet and, after his death, for a second suite using his themes and basic orchestration. The first movement is based on a Christmas carol *March of the Kings*. Listen for the church bells in the fourth movement, *Carillon*.



Symphony No.1 Winter Daydreams- (op.13) Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840-1893)

Dreams of a Winter Journey - Allegro tranquillo
Land of Desolation, Land of Mists - Adagio cantabile
Scherzo
Andante lugubre – allegro maestoso

The symphony was written in 1866 just after the composer accepted a professorship at the Moscow Conservatory. In 1883 he wrote to his patron Nadezda von Meck that "although it is in many ways very immature, yet fundamentally it has more substance and is better than any of my other more mature works." It cost him enormously in terms of his mental and physical health, suffering insomnia and headaches which he thought were strokes. A doctor declared him "one step away from insanity". He sought the approval of his former teachers, Anton Rubinstein and Nikolai Zarembo, both of whom rejected the work in its entirety. After he revised it in accordance with their demands they accepted the middle movements as "fit for performance". Tchaikovsky, totally disillusioned, then discarded the revisions and restored his original ideas. All except one - he'd thrown away the original second subject of the first movement and couldn't remember it! After its first performance in 1868 it waited 15 years for another.



Notes

Despite the difficulties in the writing of the outer movements, which no doubt contribute to the rarity of performances even now, the conception of the symphony is among Tchaikovsky's best, and it contains wonderful moments. The opening movement is so evocative you can close your eyes and see the snowy landscape. The second movement continues this sound painting, while the third contains the first of Tchaikovsky's great waltzes. It is no surprise that he was heavily influenced by Mendelssohn at this time and there are echoes of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The fourth movement contains both melancholy and triumph, not to mention an extraordinary fugue which is very hard to bring off convincingly - even for the best professional orchestras.

Credits: Poster design—Gregory Gould, Program Notes—Bruce Lane
Acknowledgements: Wikipedia and Creative Commons, Paul Serotsky

