

# Strathfield Symphony

ORCHESTRA OF THE INNER WEST

## Midsummer Night's Dream



**Mendelssohn** with soloists,  
chorus and Shakespeare

**Music Director**  
Sadaharu Muramatsu

Sylvie Humphries Soprano  
Bridget Patterson Soprano  
Wesley Institute Choir

**6 September 7pm**  
**7 September 2.30pm**

# Strathfield Symphony

ORCHESTRA OF THE INNER WEST

## Яаснмаиіов



**Music Director**  
Sadaharu Muramatsu

**22 November 7pm**  
**23 November 2.30pm**

**Яаснмаиіов** Symphony No. 2

### Bookings

[www.strathfieldsymphony.org.au](http://www.strathfieldsymphony.org.au)  
1300 306 776

### Tickets

Adult \$30  
Concession \$20  
(Under 5 free)  
Family \$80

### Venue

Strathfield Town Hall  
Cnr Redmyre & Homebush Rds,  
Strathfield

## Program

# Midsummer Night's Dream

Felix Mendelssohn  
(1809-1847)

Overture op 21  
Incidental Music op 61

Approximate running time 75 mins plus 20 min interval

## Midsummer Night's Dream Felix Mendelssohn (1809—1847)

Overture (Op.21) and Incidental Music (Op.61)

### *Synopsis*

*Oberon, the Fairy King, is jealous of his Queen, Titania, because she has a page boy that he wants as his henchman and that she will not give up to him. Oberon wants to punish her, and commands his sprite Puck (Robin Goodfellow) to bring him a magical flower so that he can squeeze the juice of it into Titania's eyes*

*when she is asleep. When she awakes she will fall in love with the first person or creature she sees.*

*Puck uses magic to put an ass's (donkey's) head on Bottom, one of the local yokels ("rude mechanicals") who has stumbled into the forest to rehearse a play for Theseus, the Duke of Athens' wedding. When Titania wakes, Bottom is the first person she sees, and she immediately falls in love with him.*

*After Oberon thinks Titania has suffered enough, he releases her from her spell and Bottom is released from his spell. Oberon and Titania are reunited. To celebrate the wedding of Theseus, Duke of Athens, the local yokels perform their play, Pyramus and Thisbe (with echoes of Romeo and Juliet). And Puck has the last word.*

Amidst the pleasures and fancies of youth Mendelssohn made his first contact with Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. His family, including his beloved sister Fanny, would gather for readings in costume of Shakespeare from a German translation by Schlegel and it was this play that captured the 17 year old Felix's imagination, inspiring him to write the Overture – the first work you will hear in this performance – in 1826. If you listen carefully you will hear the braying of Bottom when he is magically transformed into an ass by Puck.

It was Mendelssohn's ability to capture an audience's imagination that led the King of Prussia, Frederick William IV to commission incidental music for a production in German of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, after a successful presentation of a similar music-and-theatre production of Sophocles' *Antigone* in 1841. The first production was at the Court at Potsdam in 1845. The Incidental music, written 16 years after the Overture, complements and expands on the original work. It is not often played in full as it is integrated with the play, but the purely orchestral numbers are often played with the Overture. They are the Scherzo, Intermezzo, Nocturne, and of course the ubiquitous Wedding March.

In this production almost all of Mendelssohn's music is used, integrated with

extracts from the play as Mendelssohn intended, but shortened to make it suitable for our audiences. And we thought it might be a tad easier to understand if we did it in English rather than the original German!

Fanny Hensel, Mendelssohn's sister and closest confidante and herself a gifted pianist and composer, gives us an insight to the passion and commitment the work's original production engendered. *'We really became totally immersed in the Midsummer Night's Dream and especially Felix, who made himself part of it; he followed every character, he re-created every one of them whom Shakespeare's infinite imagination had begotten. From the splendid, truly festive Wedding March to the plaintive music at Thisbe's death, the exquisite fairies' songs, dances and interludes; everything; humans, spirits and buffoons, he depicted with his art at exactly the same level as Shakespeare had done.'*

The Overture is an extraordinary work of youth, displaying mastery of concept, structure and the orchestral medium. Sir George Grove called it "the greatest marvel of early maturity that the world has ever seen in music". The Incidental Music continues the inspiration of the Overture and uses many of its themes again. Truly magical music.

Jerry Zylberberg and Bruce Lane

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Acknowledges the  
generous support of

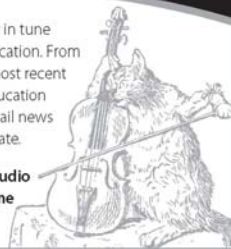


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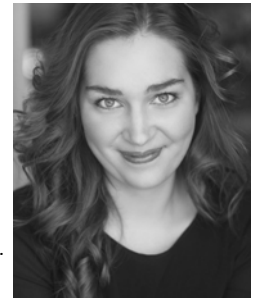


## Bridget Patterson Soprano

Soprano Bridget Patterson is a full time student at the Sydney Conservatorium in the Advanced Diploma of Opera. Since 2008, Bridget has been the recipient of the prestigious Helen Myers vocal scholarship for vocal excellence as well as a significant scholarship from the Paton fund for 5 successive years. In 2013 Bridget was a finalist in the Sydney Eisteddfod Opera Awards and won the People's Choice award in The World Competition.

Bridget has performed as a soloist in Beethoven's Mass in C Major Opus 86, Mozart's Requiem Mass in D Minor, Bach's Magnificat in D, Handel's Messiah, Haydn's Missa in Tempore belli and as a chorister in Poulenc's Les Mamelles des Tiresias, Otto Nicolai's The merry wives of Windsor and Purcell's King Arthur. Bridget's most recent operatic roles include "Cherubino" in Mozart's Le Nozze di Figaro and "Miss Pinkerton" in Gian Carlo Menotti's The Old maid and the thief.

Future roles include "Amy" in the Sydney Conservatorium Opera school's Little Women by Mark Adamo in October 2014.



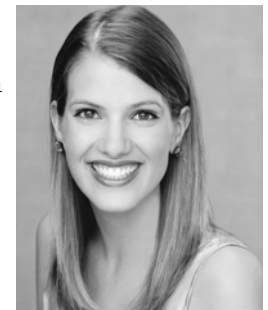
## Sylvie Humphries Soprano

French-Australian soprano, Sylvie Humphries, has a Bachelor of Music Performance (2007-2010) and an Advanced Diploma of Opera from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music (2011-2013).

She has performed many roles, including Cupidon (Orphée aux enfers), Serpette (La finta giardiniera), and Carolina (Il matrimonio segreto).

Sylvie also has a blossoming recital career, having appeared as a soloist with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, performed Frasquita from Carmen with Sydney Philharmonia Choirs, and presented a recital with John Martin for Artsong NSW.

She is touring with Harbour City Opera and performing Hanna in Lehár's The Merry Widow with Rockdale Opera.



## Sadaharu Muramatsu Music Director

Sadaharu Muramatsu (“Sada”) is the Music Director of Strathfield Symphony Orchestra. He is also the Choirmaster of Willoughby Symphony Choir, conductor of Wesley Institute Choir and lecturer/instructor of Conducting at the Wesley Institute in Sydney. Sada will be the guest conductor of the prestigious Nagoya Philharmonic Orchestra in Japan in 2016, and the Central Aichi Symphony Orchestra in Japan in 2015.

In Sydney Sada has conducted the Penrith Symphony Orchestra, Sydney Camerata, Rockdale Opera Company, Eastern Sydney Chamber Choir, Kammerklang Chamber Orchestra and many other groups. His experience in Europe includes conducting the Budapest Operettszínház in a performance broadcast by Hungarian National Broadcasting Corporation (MTV). Sada has appeared in TV, radio, and newspapers including BBC, Channel 9, SBS radio and many Japanese media programmes.

Sada completed a Masters of Music in Conducting at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester, UK. He was granted a fellowship to study conducting at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, University of Sydney under the Japanese Government Overseas Study Program for Artists. Sada resides in Australia with a Distinguished Talent visa granted for his achievements by the Australian Government.

His outstanding accomplishments include an Honorary Doctorate in Music from his alumnus Anglia Ruskin University in Cambridge (2011); Second prize in the Vienna Summa Cum Laude international youth music festival with the Wesley Institute Choir at the Golden Hall, Musikverein, Austria (2011); Finalist and awarded special prize of the jury at the Emmerich Kalman International Conductor's Competition at the Budapest Operetta Theatre, Hungary (2007); Semi-finalist in the 2nd Bartok Bela International Opera-Conducting competition in Romania (2007); Mortimer Furber Prize for Conducting in Manchester, UK (2005) and; First prize at the ISIS Conducting Competition in Cambridge, UK (2001).

Sada studied conducting under Imre Pallo, Kurt Masur, Sir Mark Elder, Gianandrea Noseda, Christian Mandeal, Hirofumi Misawa and Kazuki Sawa.



## Strathfield Symphony

Strathfield Symphony Orchestra is a community orchestra based in the inner west Sydney suburb of Strathfield. The orchestra is comprised of approximately 50 players. It rehearses most Monday nights and gives four performances a year, plus a special concert for seniors in Senior Citizen's Week. The orchestra aims to promote music-making in the community, to provide exciting and enjoyable concert programs, to nurture young talent, and to showcase the works of Australian composers.



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## Paul Pokorny Concertmaster

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.



## Principal players



Dorothy Sercombe  
Deputy Concertmaster



Philip Hazell  
2nd Violin



Danielle Norton  
Viola



Alicea Gedz  
Cello



Lyndon Swasbrook  
Flute



Adele Haythornthwaite  
Oboe



Regina Tam  
Clarinet



John Fletcher  
Bassoon



Neil O'Donnell  
French Horn



Lyndsay Smartt  
Trombone



Steve Machamer  
Timpani

## The Orchestra

### Violin 1

Paul Pokorny\*\*  
Dorothy Sercombe\*  
Susan Brown  
Clifton Chan  
Madeleina Hanrahan-Tan  
Leah Pooch  
Hanako Ward  
Petroc Wilton  
Wanying Zheng

### Violin 2

Philip Hazell\*  
Camille Hanrahan-Tan  
Beatrice Mui  
Rohini Mulford  
Chantal Nguyen  
Alana Pretty  
Hannah Nunn  
Agnieszka Rypel-Polkas  
Julianne Tonini  
Winnie Zhao

### Viola

Danielle Norton\*  
Emma Barnett  
Katharine Fox  
Andrew Heike  
Julia Pokorny

### Cello

Vanessa Chalker\*  
Roger Barker  
Keira Bird  
Craig Giles  
Bruce Lane  
Jane Parkin-Kullman  
Danni Yi Ding

### Double Bass

Vince Angeloni  
Robert Budniak  
Glenn Denny  
Andrew Finlayson

### Flute

Lyndon Swasbrook\*  
Rebecca Brown

### Oboe

Adele Haythornthwaite\*

### Clarinet

Regina Lucena-Tam\*  
Jeremy Kindl

### Bassoon

Harriet O'Donnell  
Alex Thorburn

### French Horn

Neil O'Donnell\*  
Amanda Whitfield

### Trumpet

Graeme Munro  
John Trezise  
David Young

### Trombone

Lindsay Smartt\*  
Erwin Da Silva Gruener  
David Gao

### Tuba

Gary Levin

### Timpani

Steve Machamer

### Percussion

Aidan Bowen

\* Principal

\*\*Concertmaster

+ Deputy Concertmaster



# Strathfield Symphony

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## ORCHESTRA OF THE INNER WEST

### Committee

President—Bruce Lane  
Vice President & Concertmaster—Paul Pokorny  
Vice President & Librarian—Alicea Gedz  
Treasurer—Andrew Heike  
Secretary—Philip Hazell  
Member—Sarah Haddad, Laura Jamieson, Alex Thorburn

### Life Members

Solomon Bard	Vincent Leonard
Christine Edwards	Margaret Shirley
Bellissario Hernandez	Chris Elenor
Marie Hodsdon	Laura Jamieson
Geoff Widmer	
Shirley Mahableshwarwalla	

### Thanks to

Stage Manager—Neil O'Donnell  
Poster Design—Jonathan Yang  
Program Notes—Jerry Zylberberg  
Program Design—Laura Jamieson  
Rehearsal Catering—Danielle Norton  
Concert Catering—Rick Sercombe  
Front of House—Shirley Mahableshwarwalla,  
Lorraine Fernandez, Charlotte Lewis



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