

illuminating *notes*

PUBLICATION FOR THE SUBSCRIBERS, PATRONS & FRIENDS OF THE WEST AUSTRALIAN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

China Tour 2006



With the China tour fast approaching and the major sponsors announced, the contract between the Orchestra and our China promoters and the Chinese Cultural Association was the only formality left.

On 14 March Keith Venning, WASO Chief Executive Officer and Gabrielle Waters, Orchestra Manager met with a delegation from the China International Culture Association and jointly signed a Memorandum of Understanding with representatives of the China Performing Arts Agency.

The ceremony held at the Chinese Consulate General in Sydney was attended by a 5 member delegation from China headed by Mr Zhang Aiping, Deputy Director General of the Bureau of External Cultural Relations of the Ministry of Culture, Deputy Secretary General of the China International Culture Association.

In July 2004, the West Australian Symphony Orchestra received an invitation from the China International Culture Association. Keith Venning WASO CEO said, "I first made contact with the Chinese Consul General in Perth during March 2004 concerning the possibility of the WASO undertaking the tour of the People's Republic of China. After two years of negotiation and a formal invitation from the Chinese Government, the signing of the



Chen Jiang Assistant Secretary General of the China International Culture Association, Keith Venning CEO WASO, Zhang Aiping Deputy Director General of the Bureau of External Cultural Relations of the Ministry of Culture, Yuan Zheng Director of CPAA Asia Marketing Dept at the signing of the WASO China Tour agreement.

Memorandum of Understanding marked the culmination of the planning process." He also commented that, "The tour represents a cultural opportunity for the WASO and will serve to raise Western Australia's profile in China. Cultural exchanges such as this tour will create goodwill and help establish positive social, economic and trade relations."

The WASO tour to China in May will visit 5 cities including Beijing, Shanghai, Hangzhou, Shenzhen and Guangzhou over a two week period from 8 May – 21 May with the purpose of the tour being the development of friendly relations and cultural exchange between China and Australia.

Message from Matthias



Welcome back subscribers, Patrons and Friends to our exciting 2006 season and welcome to the first edition of Illuminating Notes for 2006.

It is wonderful to see the momentum from 2005 has carried into the New Year with the Orchestra in tremendous form, playing better than ever. Concerts such as Dame Kiri Te Kanawa in the beautiful new venue at Lake Karingup Country Club, Nigel Kennedy for the Symphony under the Stars and the gala opening of the concert season with the Masters 1 concert Beethoven IX featuring the World Premiere of *Vexations and Devotions* have all been tremendous successes.

The year ahead has many highlights including the Gala concert featuring violinist Midori in June. Conductor Alexander Lazarev will return in July to perform Shostakovich's impassioned Seventh Symphony and the month of September includes the Mozart Day to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the birth of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

I will be returning to Perth in May for the China farewell concerts featuring acclaimed French pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet. It will be fantastic to see Thibaudet playing the Steinway D piano he chose for the WASO as part of BHP

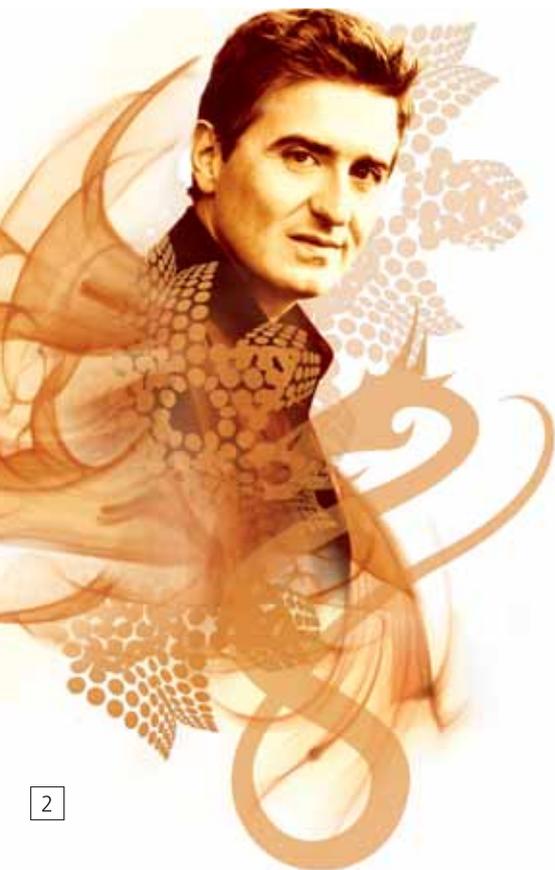
Billiton's Sponsorship in 2003. This will be a fantastic opportunity for Perth audiences to feel part of the Orchestra's first international tour in 23 years as it will give audiences a chance to sample some of the repertoire that will be performed on the concert hall stages in China.

The Orchestra's tour to China will be a wonderful experience and will provide the musicians with a valuable cultural experience in addition to showcasing the Orchestra on an international platform. I feel extremely privileged to be leading the Orchestra on such an adventure and would like to thank you for the support we have been given.

I look forward to seeing you in May and in the meantime, I hope you enjoy our program of A Sense of Place.

Matthias Bamert
Chief Conductor

Matthias Bamert is partnered by Wesfarmers Arts.



Thibaudet Plays Liszt | Gala

China Tour Farewell Concerts, featuring Chief Conductor Matthias Bamert and acclaimed French pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet, are on 4 & 5 May at the Perth Concert Hall.

This St John of God Health Care Masters concert is expected to sell out so get in early and book your tickets now on 9326 0000.

Don't forget subscribers and Friends can purchase tickets at the concession price.

Jean-Yves Thibaudet appears courtesy of Lepley Properties.

WASO Printed Programs

WASO is very pleased to announce the introduction of free printed programs for our ticket buyers. This has been possible through the financial support we have received through our new Patrons and Friends program.

We hope free printed programs will enhance the concert experience for all attendees, providing information on the music being performed and the artists appearing.

Don't forget to look out for the free printed programs when you next attend a WASO performance at the Perth Concert Hall.

Countdown to China

The West Australian Symphony Orchestra's tour to China is less than a month away with the final preparations and details being put in place. The first WASO tour in 23 years has taken a great deal of organisation over the past two years and the final months are no exception, being filled with rehearsals, document signing and photo shoots.



Jane Serrangeli & Xiao-le Wu at the North West Shelf Gas Plant.

In February, two players from WASO travelled to the North West Shelf Gas Plant in Karratha for some valuable publicity shots for the forthcoming tour. The North West Shelf Venture participants are major sponsors of the Orchestra's tour to China and the opportunity for a photo shoot was a great experience for the players involved as well as providing valuable photos to be used in the promotion of the tour. Jane Serrangeli (violin) and Xiao-le Wu (cello) travelled to Karratha for the publicity shots.

The whirlwind trip which was spread over two days saw the players battle the heat, sand flies and rough terrain. We felt that it not only provided the Orchestra with some valuable pictures in the lead up to the tour, it also gave the players an idea of the scale of our sponsors' operation and an insight into the North West Shelf Venture participants.



Xiao-le Wu at the North West Shelf Gas Plant.

WASO
West Australian
Symphony Orchestra
MATTHIAS BAMBERT, CHIEF CONDUCTOR



China Tour
2006

Subscriber Benefits 2006

Use your West Australian Symphony Orchestra subscriber card and take advantage of discounts and special privileges. All you need to do is show your 2006 WASO Subscriber Card to take advantage of these great deals.

ABC Shops

Receive 10% off any full price purchases in any of the ABC Shops in WA. Phone 9321 6852. (This discount only applies to in-store purchases.)

Black Swan Theatre Company

Receive concession price tickets to all Black Swan Theatre Company productions. Bookings via BOCS 9484 1133.

Luna Cinemas

Purchase movie tickets at the discounted price of \$11.50. Phone 9444 4056.

Musica Viva

Receive a 10% discount off full price tickets to Musica Viva performances. Bookings via BOCS 9484 1133.

Ogden IFC

Receive a 5% discount on food and coffee for pre-show dining at the Perth Concert Hall and His Majesty's Theatre. Phone 9231 9946.

Perth Theatre Company

Receive a 10% discount off standard price tickets to all Perth Theatre Company 2006 productions with the exception of the His Majesty's Theatre co-production. Bookings via BOCS 9484 1133.

Plan B Financial Services Ltd

Plan B Financial Services offer special discounted rates on financial planning services. Phone 1300 362 082.

West Australian Ballet

Receive a 10% discount off full price tickets for WA Ballet performances. Bookings via BOCS 9484 1133.

West Australian Opera

Receive adult tickets to *Nabucco* for the concession price. This offer is not valid on opening or Saturday nights. Bookings via BOCS 9484 1133.

West Australian Youth Music Association

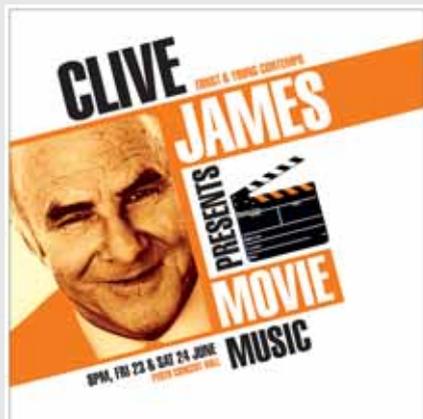
Receive a 10% discount off full price tickets to WA Youth Music Association performances. Bookings on 9421 1566.

Wesley Classics

Receive a 5% discount off full price CD purchases in-store or online at www.wesleyclassics.com.au.

Clive James Presents Movie Music

Join Clive James for an entertaining evening of sharp wit and dry humour as WASO presents a selection of soundtracks from his favourite films of all time.



Clive James' wicked wit and acerbic one liners have ensured his reputation as one of Australia's most famous exports. He is a renowned critic, poet, novelist, television personality, and all round movie critic.

He is the author of over twenty books. As well as verse and novels, he has published collections of essays, literary and television criticism, travel writing and three volumes of memoir.

Clive is also an eminent television performer and presenter, and has appeared regularly on both the BBC and ITV, most notably as writer and presenter of the famous *Postcard* series of travel documentaries, and as the host of a number of chat shows.

In 1992, he was made a member of the Order of Australia and in 2003 he was awarded the Philip Hodgins memorial medal for literature.

When asked about his interest in Movie Music he said, "I wish I could say that it

was the Stravinsky episode in Walt Disney's *Fantasia* that got me started on classical music at the age of six. But it would be quite true to say that when, not much later, I first saw *Brief Encounter* I was immediately hooked by the background music to the doomed romance. It was of course Rachmaninov's 2nd Piano Concerto, but I had no means of knowing that. I was too young to read the credits, but not too young to remember the melody."

The performances by WASO will include music from his most memorable movie scenes. Clive comments, "Finally, I can only say that when the music's right it leaves you speechless."

Clive James will be hosting the Ernst & Young Contempo concert *Movie Music* on the 23 & 24 June at the Perth Concert Hall. Subscribers and Friends can purchase tickets at the concession price, so get in early and book your tickets now on 9326 0000.

Farewell Lawrence Jacks

"It's been a great ride. I have enjoyed the experience – it's a miracle playing in an orchestra."



Lawrence Jacks

Lawrence Jacks first began his orchestral career with the ABC National training orchestra in 1970 and first became a member of the WASO in 1972. In 1974 Lawrie was appointed to the position of Principal Viola with the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra, regularly performing as a concerto soloist with the orchestra during his time there. In 1979, Lawrie won the position of Associate Principal Viola of the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra and later in 1981 became the Principal Viola. In 1990, Lawrie returned to the WASO to become Principal Viola. Over the years he contributed a great deal to the orchestra and the music life of Perth.

Lawrie has been involved with the industrial relations side of the music profession for many years, culminating in his election to

President of the Symphony Orchestra Musicians' Association. In 2005, Lawrie was recognised as an honorary lifetime member for his tireless work for SOMA.

He played an important part in many of the negotiations that give orchestra players around Australia the conditions they work under today and prides himself on being a 'musician's advocate'. Lawrie commented that, "It has been challenging being involved in their changes – right through to the modern day corporate orchestral changes."

Lawrie has also been passionate throughout his career about the education of young musicians, teaching and conducting in schools such as Perth Modern and Churchlands, and tertiary institutions. He has also been very active with the West Australian Youth Music Association and Australian Youth Orchestra, where he is currently a Board Member.

Lawrie will continue working in education, "It's a great passion," and suggests that he will continue working with orchestras in a different capacity as he doesn't intend to "hang up the viola" just yet. After 32 years as a Principal Viola he plans to pursue a number of different activities that until now he hasn't been able to do.

Mother's Day Gift Vouchers

Looking for the perfect Mother's Day present? How about a West Australian Symphony Orchestra Gift Voucher.

Valid for twelve months, the voucher can be used towards any West Australian Symphony Orchestra concert.

Our gift vouchers are attractively presented and do not come in set amounts, so they are flexible enough to suit any budget.

For more details, call our Customer Service staff on 9326 0000.



From the President: A Great Start to 2006

This year's events began with the outstanding success of 'Horns on the Foreshore'. With more than 70 people attending it was the best attended occasion so far in our series of events celebrating the various sections of the Orchestra. Under the direction of Principal Horn, David Evans, the section treated us to a demonstration of the capabilities and history of this remarkable instrument.



Norman Etherington

After this successful start, we now look forward to a number of other exciting events which fill the calendar for the remainder of the year.

- Four Tea and Symphony mornings, featuring the WASO in concert rehearsal, are to be held throughout the year.
- As part of the supporter's tour some Patrons and Friends will join the WASO on tour in China during May.
- 'Meet the Harp' event in June.
- An afternoon of 'Music and Empire' at Fairbridge Village, Pinjarra on 24 September, featuring a lecture on the Imperial associations of Fairbridge Village

and a performance of Elgar's *Serenade for Strings* in the beautiful chapel designed by the British Empire's pre-eminent architect, Herbert Baker.

Our organisational goals for the coming year are to raise membership to over 500 people and to recruit more Patrons willing to contribute a tax-deductible donation of \$500 or more to keep classical music growing in the West.

We have raised more than \$90,000 since the launch of our Patrons Program supported by The Perth Mint last June.

*Professor Norman Etherington
Patrons and Friends President*

The Patrons Program

Patrons' Luncheon

WASO's inaugural Patrons were invited to attend a special lunch at Gershwin's Restaurant at the Hyatt Regency Hotel to meet the Orchestra's Chief Conductor, Matthias Bamert. Sixty Patrons attended the lunch and enjoyed a wonderful meal supported by Great Classic Series Partner, Plan B Financial Services Ltd. Matthias Bamert shared some precious memories of his first experiences with music, and provided an insight into his busy international conducting programme. WASO Chairman Janet Holmes à Court declared the lunch a tremendous success and expressed her delight in having the opportunity to meet the Orchestra's inaugural Patrons.



Jill Isherwood, John Isherwood, Alpha Pilpel, Richard Pilpel, Janice Collins, Max Collins.

A Specially Crafted Gift

The Perth Mint has crafted a special gift for WASO Patrons. Silver pins will be given to Tutti, Principal and Virtuoso Patrons. Gold Pins will be given to Maestro Patrons and above, as well as members of the Symphony Circle. All Patrons are encouraged to wear the pin at concerts to raise awareness of the Patrons Program.



Margaret Marston, Rod Marston, Nenna Coopes, Janet Holmes à Court.

Become a Patron of WASO

As we approach the end of the financial year, now is the best time to consider becoming a Patron of WASO.

The Orchestra's new Patrons Program has enjoyed a very successful beginning. It is now time to further the development of the Patrons Program to assist in ensuring the long term financial stability of the Orchestra.

The most successful arts philanthropy programs around the world have slowly built a large base of regular donors – so please consider the \$500 annual donation to become a Tutti Patron of WASO. Don't think for a second that a donation at this level will make little difference. If 2,000 people made a generous annual donation of \$500, WASO would secure \$1 million each year. That's one way we can all make sure the music never stops!

Call Sarah Gallinagh on 9326 0075 to become a Patron over the phone today and we shall provide you with a tax receipt by return.

Horns on the Foreshore

Patrons and Friends meet the WASO Horns

More than seventy members of the Patrons and Friends of the WASO came away from our last gathering with a greatly enhanced understanding and appreciation of the French horn, thanks to the generosity of the WASO's horn section.

The five French horn players – David Evans (Principal), Robert Gladstones, Jenny McLeod-Sneyd, Malcolm Stewart and Bill Stewart - treated us to a fine demonstration of specialist horn music and explained some of the intricacies of their instrument in our first function for 2006. It was held on February 26 at the Mounts Bay Sailing Club.

The afternoon began appropriately with an excerpt from Handel's *Water Music*, after which Jenny McLeod-Sneyd demonstrated the 'natural' horn, ancestor of today's instrument. The natural horn uses crooks – pieces of circular tubing of various lengths – to define notes of differing harmonic series according to the desired pitch or key of a piece of music. There is also a greater reliance on positioning of the player's hand in the bell of the horn for intonation and/or to produce specific notes. The modern horn uses valves instead of crooks to alter the length of tubing to provide appropriate harmonics.

Jenny and Robert demonstrated the use of the natural horn with Mozart duets written for the instrument.

Other items played included a piece by Bruckner, beer drinking folk songs and Weber's *Der Freischutz*. The performance ended with Rossini's *La Rendezvous de Chase*, with Robert Gladstones playing a typical hunting call on a natural horn, in an adjoining room.

Is the horn really French?

Apparently not! It had Bohemian origins and was used in England as a hunting call, summoning the hunters to get together. The so-called hunting horn was adapted to the delicate ears of the nobility. The horn evolved in two styles, French and German.

The English adopted the French style, calling it the "French horn." But the modern horn on the orchestral stage is in fact based on the German design so should really be called the German horn. The French design used pistons like a trumpet and its sound is quite different.

Horns are made of brass or alloys of brass. Some appear dull in contrast to the usual shining instrument, but that doesn't mean they are older; they simply have not been lacquered – and there is some disagreement about claimed difference in quality associated with lacquering.



The WASO Horn Section playing at the Patrons and Friends function: Robert Gladstones (left) Jenny McLeod-Sneyd, David Evans, Bill Stewart and Malcolm Stewart.

to have become the section's "official" mender. He says fixing a dented horn is a bit like panel-beating a car – on a much smaller scale. It requires a dent driver, a strip of cable along which the repairer strings stainless steel balls.

Rob's description of the process, "It involves one steel dent ball at a time on the end of the cable which has a series of nylon balls (tapered to fit the bell or equal in size for cylindrical tubing) to provide rigidity. You start small and perform the 'dent ball relay' where you keep increasing the size of dent ball until the dent is



Robert with a Natural Horn and Jenny with the modern version.

Those puddles

To the audience, horn players seem to spend a lot of time shaking water out of their instruments. The water is condensation resulting from warm air passing over the cool metal and it must be removed quite often.

Repairing horns

Being delicate instruments, horns can be easily damaged when knocked or dropped. One of Robert Gladstones' part-time interests is repairing them and he seems

pushed up. I have 280 balls ranging from 6.5mm to 63.5mm. The first 200 move up in 1/8th mm increments!"

A lightweight hammer is used to finish the job. Delicate soldering is also sometimes necessary. Horns are usually cleaned by means of an acid bath. Parts of the instrument are then re-lubricated and put back together – a grease-up, to use the car analogy.

The World's First Bass Clarinet Convention

Rotterdam, the Netherlands, 21 to 23 October 2005.

In mid-October last year WASO Principal Bass Clarinet Alex Millier flew to Rotterdam in the Netherlands to attend the first International Bass Clarinet Conference. The Patrons and Friends of the WASO contributed to the trip by helping fund Alex's airfare. Below is a condensed version of his report of the conference to the Patrons and Friends.

the convention despite being gravely ill. Sadly Joseph Horák passed away not long after the convention.

The convention attracted performers from North and South America, Scandinavia, Europe, and Australasia. There were many amazing performances using a diverse range of influences and ideas from some of the world's greatest! Many of these recitals were an absolute knockout.

A competition for under 30s attracted a very talented field including Philip Everall, a young West Australian who made it to the semi final.

I was a member of a panel that discussed orchestral bass clarinet playing. One of the panelists was Tony Jennings, recently retired bass clarinetist with the BBC symphony orchestra. He introduced himself as a good mate of Jack Harrison, former Principal Clarinet with WASO.

Amsterdam Maritime Museum enabled me to link Holland with WA when I found a map of Rottneest made 300 years ago by Willem de Vlamingh, and the original pewter plate from Dirk Hartog Island. Shortly before leaving Perth I'd visited the Duyfken outside the Old Swan Brewery. It felt like I'd come full circle.

On my way in and out of Holland, I took time to catch up with our former Associate Principal Bassoonist, James Aylward and his fiancé Marte Straatsma. James took me on a tour of the Sweelinck Conservatorium in Amsterdam. Walking around Amsterdam is just a treat with all the canals and bikes.

I returned feeling a wonderful sense of affirmation and connection with the rest of the bass clarinet world. Thanks to the Patrons and Friends for their support. Helping WASO musicians to attend such events is an incredibly important part of our relationship. Our attendance at these



The Bass Clarinet Choir of 148 players – one for The Guinness Book of Records.



Alex Millier.



Alex met former WASO bassoonist James Aylward pictured with fiancé Marte Straatsma in Amsterdam, where James is now studying.

The convention was organised in honour of Josef Horák, a Czech musician who, in 1955, played the world's first recital on bass clarinet. He said of this, "There were times when my first concerts with the solo bass clarinet made my colleagues laugh ironically! They were convinced that a solo career with this unknown instrument would be nonsense, without any future."

He was to prove them wrong. In spite of the doubters and the lack of acknowledgement from the then communist regime, Josef Horák had a solo career spanning 50 years. He attended

Another event we all took part in was the Bass Clarinet Choir which we were hoping to enter in the Guinness Book of Records for "World Bass Clarinet Choir".

The Rotterdam Police were on hand to verify the fact that there were 148 players, so it could be declared an "official record". Given we were a mixture of amateur and professional players, it didn't sound too bad at all.

The trip was also wonderful for me as I have a Dutch background and enjoyed exploring my roots. My visit to the

events keeps members of our isolated orchestra in touch with the latest developments from around the world. Even though we now have the internet, there's no substitute for face to face contact with your peers!

Alex Millier
Principal Bass Clarinet
WASO

Lazarev and Shostakovich



Alexander Lazarev

In the northern winter of 1941-42, Leningrad (now St Petersburg) was in the grip of a siege by the German army that would last for nearly three years.

Shostakovich's Symphony No. 7 has been hailed as a musical memento of one of World War II's darkest episodes as the German forces tried to starve the city into submission. This powerfully vivid depiction of courage under fire comes to life under Alexander Lazarev's masterly direction.

Perth audiences should by now be familiar with Lazarev and Shostakovich. His concerts always guarantee spectacular orchestral playing and exhilarating energy having performed with WASO in 2005 and 2003 to sell-out audiences.

These concerts celebrate the 100th anniversary of Shostakovich's birth and these performances of the impassioned Seventh Symphony will

be one of the orchestral highlights of WASO's 2006 season.

Alexander Lazarev returns to Perth to perform with WASO as part of the Plan B Financial Services Ltd Great Classics Series on the 28 & 29 July at the Perth Concert Hall. Subscribers & Friends can purchase tickets at the concession price. Book your tickets now on 9326 0000.

Alexander Lazarev appears courtesy of Mitsui & Co (Australia) Ltd.

2006 Subscription Winner

In December the West Australian Symphony Orchestra and Emirates drew the 2006 subscription prize winner, where one lucky subscriber had the chance to win a 'Discover Vienna with Emirates' prize package.

2006 is the year in which Austria celebrates the 250th anniversary of the birth of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart with a year long birthday party in Salzburg and Vienna. To celebrate the occasion, Emirates and the Austrian National Tourist Office offered WASO season subscribers the chance to win the trip of a lifetime to the home of the world's most honoured composer.

The prize was drawn on Monday 5 December 2005 and WASO is happy to announce Mrs Pat Seares, a long time



Darren Tyrell Emirates Sales Manager WA, Ron Seares, Pat Seares and Keith Venning CEO WASO at the prize presentation.

WASO subscriber from Woodlands, was the lucky recipient. The prize included two business class return tickets to Vienna flying Emirates, three nights accommodation, including breakfast for two, at a first-class hotel in Vienna, return airport transfers in Vienna, a half-day sightseeing tour of Vienna by bus for two, and two tickets to a Mozart performance.

Mrs Pat Seares and husband Mr Ron Seares gratefully accepted the prize presented to them by Darren Tyrell, Emirates Sales Manager WA and Mr Keith Venning, WASO Chief Executive Officer at an afternoon tea held at the WASO offices on 20 December.

Vienna Philharmonic Special Offer



On behalf of the Sydney Opera House, we are delighted to make a very special offer to you for an exciting event on the 2006 performance calendar.

In September 2006, the Sydney Opera House will present for the first time in Australia the world-famous Vienna Philharmonic under acclaimed Russian conductor, Valery Gergiev. The most famous orchestra in the world, with a history stretching back 164 years, the Vienna Philharmonic is forever linked with the great composers of classical music, including Beethoven, Mozart, Strauss and Mahler, who was Music Director of the Orchestra.

Presenting two programs of music over four exciting nights, the highlights include Mozart, Tchaikovsky, Brahms and Shostakovich. Marking two very special anniversaries in 2006, the 250th anniversary of the birth of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and the 100th anniversary of Shostakovich's birth, this will be a celebration of these two composers performed by the Vienna Philharmonic, which is the cultural heart of Vienna, and Valery Gergiev, the great Russian conductor of our time.

SPECIAL WASO PRIORITY BOOKING

Wednesday 27 & Friday 29 September - Mozart/Tchaikovsky
Thursday 28 & Saturday 30 September - Schumann/Shostakovich/Brahms

Phone the Sydney Opera House Box Office on 02 9250 7777 or visit sydneyoperahouse.com/vienna/offer before May 1 to book before seats are released to the general public.

For Stay & See packages please call 1300 658 009 or visit www.showbiz.com.au
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Tune in to ABC Radio



Hear Prue Ashurst on air with Eoin Cameron every Friday morning to learn more about upcoming WASO concerts.



97.7 Classic FM - Concerts by WASO are broadcast across Australia on ABC Classic FM. Full details are available in *Limelight* Magazine or online at www.abc.net.au/classic



Eoin Cameron

OrchestraNews



Savannah Joy Thompson, new daughter of **Bruce Thompson** (Trombone), was born on Thursday 16 February, 8lb 6oz. She joins her brother Jack and sister Ellie, plus two tired parents.



In the last edition we brought you news of **Mary-Anne Blades'**, (Associate Principal Flute) marriage to **Adrian Brustur**. The October wedding in St George's Cathedral was a beautifully musical affair with orchestra members adding to the repertoire for the day. We are happy to include a picture in this edition of the lovely couple.

Angela Prebble (Accountant) has married **Hamish Miller**. The March wedding was held at Whiteman Park with the reception at Rose Hill Lodge.

On Sunday 30 April WASO's own **Semra Lee** (Violin) and **Jon Tooby** (Cello) will feature with **Tommaso Pollio** in the first concert of the 2006 Darlington Chamber Music Series held at the Darlington Town Hall, playing the Tchaikovsky and Shostakovich Piano Trios. The concert begins at 3.00pm. For further information please contact 9299 7054.



Wendy Cooper (Bassoon/contrabassoon) and **Hugh Garwood** celebrated their commitment ceremony by the river at Peppermint Grove, Freshwater Bay on Sunday 26 February. **Leanne Glover** (Associate Principal Oboe) sang and played on guitar a song she wrote for them, amongst a small gathering at sunset.

Shaun Lee (Tutti Violin) joined the WASO in February.

WASO Website

In an effort to make functionality and online booking easier WASO launched its new website in January. Created by Vivid Group, the website has succeeded in making concert information, booking and news easier to access.

Every month the website will feature a new musician. With special functions such as this we hope to bring audiences closer to the players and help give insight into the musicians' lives and what it is to be part of the Orchestra. This month we feature WASO Cellist Matthew Hoy.

Through this new website WASO will hopefully make online perusing a lot more simple.

To have a look at the changes please log-on to www.waso.com.au



Family Concert

Following the popularity of their Chevron Symphony of Smiles concert in 2005, the Magic Circle Mime Company return to present "The Mozart Experience" with WASO in June.

An impetuous street musician is caught playing the orchestra's grand piano. Much to her surprise the conductor does not scold her but instead offers her the chance to "be Mozart" for this program about the famous composer. The street musician and her prankster companion must now confront dilemmas and opportunities similar to those faced by Mozart, and in doing so they lead the audience in experiencing Mozart's life as a very human story as well as a great musical adventure.

Suitable for the whole family, this fun and irreverent look at the music of Mozart celebrates the composer's 250th birthday year.

The Magic Circle Mime will perform The Mozart Experience on 18 June at the Perth Concert Hall. Tickets are \$15.00. Book your tickets through WASO on 9326 0000 or visit www.waso.com.au



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It's free to join! Log on to www.waso.com.au and click on the e-newsletter link.

Mozart Day



In 2006, the West Australian Symphony Orchestra celebrates the 250th anniversary of the birth of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. The month of September is filled with Mozart programmes including a whole day in the beautiful setting of the Government House Ballroom.



During the course of the day artists including Chief Conductor Matthias Bamert, sopranos Nancy Argenta and Sara Macliver, Concertmaster John Harding and members of the WASO will present a banquet of the composer's music, interspersed with fine food and superb Amberley wine. The food and beverage details will be released shortly.

Matthias Bamert, WASO Chief Conductor names Mozart as one of his favourite composers, "Mozart has always been particularly close to my heart having spent 4 years at the Mozarteum in Salzburg and having been music director of the London Mozart Players for 7 years." He also commented on the Mozart Day saying, "For me this will be a highlight of the year."



Matthias Bamert



Nancy Argenta



Sarah Macliver



John Harding

Mozart Day includes a series of four concerts on 3 September at the Government House Ballroom. Tickets are \$40.00 per concert or you can purchase tickets for all four concerts and save 10%. Limited seating is available so book your tickets now on 9326 0000.

One

The Chamber
11.30am

Including Quintet for piano and winds K452

12.45pm lunch

Two

The Theatre
2.00pm

Including music from the operas

3.45pm afternoon tea

Three

Sonata
4.30pm

Including sonatas for piano, and for piano and violin K165

6.00pm dinner

Four

Symphony
7.30pm

Including Symphony No. 39 K543 and Exsultate Jubilate

Don't miss out

Hurry, tickets are selling fast.

Subscribers to the West Australian Symphony Orchestra should know which upcoming concerts are selling fast – so you have the first opportunity to purchase tickets for your friends and family.

Thibaudet Plays Liszt GALA	4 & 5 May
Tchaikovsky Piano Concerto	16 & 17 June
Clive James presents Movie Music	23 & 24 June
Midori GALA	30 June & 1 July



West Australian
Symphony Orchestra
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