Stravinsky's Petrushka

In September WASO performs Stravinsky's great orchestral masterpiece Petrushka, a ballet written for Sergei Diaghilev's Ballets Russes. This concert is part of Tura Music's 9th Totally Huge New Music Festival. As well as this great work, we also feature two new recent works. WASO Composer-in-Residence James Ledger's newest work, Chronicles, has its world premiere, and the Clarinet Concerto by Finnish composer Magnus Lindberg receives its Australian premiere. Paul Daniel conducts the concert and Finnish virtuoso Kari Kriikku performs the Lindberg concerto. This piece is written and dedicated to Kriikku and we are very excited to be able to present the Australian premiere here in Perth.

Stravinsky's Petrushka tells the story of three puppets being controlled by an evil charlatan at the Shrovetide Fair. Stravinsky revisited his music for the ballet in 1947 and made the instrumentation slightly smaller. This is the version that is regularly played by orchestras today, and the one WASO will perform.

James Ledger's Chronicles is made up of two movements and features a much simpler approach to composition. James recently spent some time in Estonia as part of a Churchill Fellowship and found much inspiration, from the sunlight to the rich history of the area. More can be heard about James' new work in the podcast entitled Stravinsky's Petrushka on the WASO website.

Magnus Lindberg is a composer who began his studies at the Sibelius Academy, working with Einojuhani Rautavaara and Paavo Heininen. From 2009 to 2011 Lindberg is the Composer-in-Residence with the New York Philharmonic and will continue to write works for the biggest and best orchestras and chamber ensembles around the world.

These three exciting works are all part of our Classics series, with performances on Friday 11 and Saturday 12 September at 7.30pm in the Perth Concert Hall.

Friday Post-Concert Meet the Artist
Kari Kriikku & James Ledger

The corner bar located on the Terrace Level will be open post concert offering an array of beer, wines and spirits.
Message from Paul Daniel

It is a great pleasure to welcome you to this, the August edition of Illuminating Notes.

My first weeks as Principal Conductor here in May confirmed my feelings about this great orchestra: a wonderful family of musicians who love their music and love performing to such a strong and dedicated public. Whether we were performing great classics or discovering the newest James Ledger score, there was a freshness and vitality in the work and the audience’s warm response. New music in particular lives or dies in the response it receives from the audience, and you joined us in our newest adventure with relish. It’s been a great pleasure to add to the phenomenal series of works that James has created for WASO as Composer-in-Residence, and I look forward to adding to the Ledger Collection in the coming months and seasons.

I was also very excited to have my first chance to work with the WASO Chorus in our performances of the Mozart Requiem. WASO already has a Chorus it can be proud of, and I am very ambitious for our future. With Marilyn Phillips’ excellent training and musicianship we can certainly grow our Chorus to become one of the leading Symphony Choruses in the world.

Now it’s time for another demanding series of weeks with WASO. We’ll be rehearsing intensely to prepare performances for you through to the end of the year. There will be another new Ledger work, Chronicles, accompanied by an extraordinary clarinet concerto and Stravinsky’s colourful Petrushka. Also in September, we’ll start our work together on the awe-inspiring symphonic imagination of Mahler, beginning with his first Symphony.

Later in the month, don’t miss the bold adventure that Marc-André Hamelin brings with his interpretation of Brahms’ mighty Second Piano Concerto – a work he and I have worked on rewardingly before, and which I can’t wait to hear him play in Perth. Coupled with Beethoven’s timelessly evocative Pastoral Symphony, this should be a special evening.

After that, we have another series of concerts together in November and December, taking us all to the end of the season. As always, I’m impatient to begin work again in Perth: it’s been another hectic eight weeks in between, with Mahler in New Zealand, a thrilling series of concerts for the BBC Cardiff Singer of the World competition, a big Szymanowski concert in the Bregenz Festival with the Wiener Symphoniker, and a concert for the Royal family in Belgium to mark their national day, just some of the highpoints. And still to come before I return to Perth, I’ll be conducting the first symphony concert at the Edinburgh Festival in August.

WASO is well and truly the focus of my work, and my time in Perth is very important for me, as we build our repertoire together and forge ever stronger contacts and relationships with you, our loyal audience.

Paul Daniel
Principal Conductor and Artistic Adviser

WASO wins at Helpmann Awards

WASO featured in three nominations in the 2009 Helpmann Awards, presented by Live Performance Australia on Monday 27 July at the Sydney Opera House and named in honour of Sir Robert Helpmann. WASO in partnership with the Perth International Arts Festival and the West Australian Opera won in the category ‘Best Symphony Orchestra Performance’ for A Flowering Tree, performed earlier this year conducted by Stefan Asbury.

Rachelle Durkin was also nominated for ‘Best Female Performer in an Opera’ for her performance with WASO in A Flowering Tree. Lisa Gasteen was nominated for ‘Best Individual Classical Performance’ for her concerts with WASO in March 2008, The Valkyrie, conducted by Asher Fisch.
New Website for WASO

WASO has launched a new-look website! Along with the new look, the new website is easier to navigate and has more space on the homepage to tell you all our exciting news. Online bookings are now available in real time so that you can buy your tickets online any time of the day or night!

As part of this new system you can also purchase gift vouchers or donate to the Orchestra online.

WASO podcasts and concert programs are also available by following the prompts on the website homepage.

Check out our new look at www.waso.com.au

We welcome feedback on the new-look WASO website. Just email us at waso@waso.com.au

Concert Webcasts

WASO has a partnership with iinet which makes possible the online streaming of select concerts from Perth Concert Hall. This takes WASO from the concert hall to the world, via your living room.

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<td>7.30pm, Sat 18 September</td>
<td>Mahler's First Rhapsody in Blue</td>
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Subscriber Benefits 2009

Use your West Australian Symphony Orchestra Subscriber Card and take advantage of discounts and special privileges. All you need to do is show your 2009 WASO Subscriber Card to take advantage of these great deals.

Emirates

Emirates global network services over 100 destinations worldwide. For the latest offers visit www.waso.com.au and follow the homepage Emirates link. For bookings and enquiries 1800 303 777 or www.emirates.com.au

ABC Shops

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

Adelaide Symphony Orchestra


AEG Ogden

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.

Black Swan Theatre Company


Elmstock Tea Company

Receive a 10% discount on Elmstock Tea purchased at the Balcatta outlet or online at www.elmstocktea.com.au

Hyatt Regency Perth

Receive 25% off the total bill in Café (up to a maximum of $38.00). Valid any time.

Limelight Magazine

Receive a 40% discount on a 12 month limelight subscription. Retail $90, WASO Subscribers $54. Phone (03) 8317 8121 and quote WASO/2009.

Luna Palace Cinemas

Purchase movie tickets at the discounted price of $12.50 at www.lunapalace.com.au

Melbourne Symphony Orchestra

Receive a 10% discount off full price adult tickets for MSO concerts at the Arts Centre, Hamer Hall (excluding special events). Bookings via Ticketmaster 1300 136 166 or www.mso.com.au. Not valid with any other discount offers.

Musica Viva

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

Perth Theatre Company

Receive a 10% discount off full price tickets to all PTC 2009 productions. Bookings via BOCS 9484 1133.

Plan B Wealth Management

Plan B provides a comprehensive range of integrated wealth management services tailored to your personal needs. WASO Subscribers receive a special discount on Plan B financial planning services. For more information call 1300 362 082.

Sony Centre Perth

Receive 20% off the purchase price of fresh flowers. Phone 9388 2454.

Sydney Symphony

Receive a 10% discount on tickets for Sydney Symphony 2009 Season concerts. Visit www.sydneysymphony.com or call (02) 8215 4600 and quote promotion code 1500. Terms and conditions apply.

The Perth Mint

Receive 2 for 1 entry to The Perth Mint’s gold exhibitions as well as a 10% discount on jewellery and souvenirs.

The Queensland Orchestra


Vegetal Flowers

Receive 20% off the purchase price of fresh flowers. Phone 9388 2454.

West Australian Ballet

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

West Australian Opera

Receive concession price adult tickets to WA Opera’s production, Girl of the Golden West at His Majesty’s Theatre. Applicable to A, B and C Reserve seating and not valid on opening or Saturday nights. Bookings via BOCS 9484 1133.

Western Australian Youth Music Association

Receive a 25% discount off full price and concession tickets to WAYMA performances (excluding children’s concerts). Bookings 9328 9859.

Yamaha Music Education Centre

Receive 10% off 1 semester of music lesson course fees for children 3–8 years old (cost of course materials not included). Phone 1300 139 506 or visit www.yamahamusic.com.au
2009 saw an exciting new project commence for the West Australian Symphony Orchestra’s DISCOVER! Education and Outreach Program with the inaugural Composition Competition in March.

After receiving numerous applications from across the state, four young composers – Henry Andersen (Yr 12, Applecross Senior High School); Joshua Haines (Yr 10, Coodanup Community College); Simon Thuijs (Yr 10, Nagle College, Geraldton) and Aaron Tuckey (Yr 12, Frederick Irwin Anglican School) – were selected.

Once introduced to James Ledger, WASO Composer-in-Residence, and members of the Orchestra, the four young composers were given the outline of the task… to compose an epilogue (of sorts) for Stravinsky’s groundbreaking score Petrushka. To further challenge our participants’ creativity they were asked to compose for the same instrumentation as Stravinsky’s Histoire du soldat (The Soldier’s Tale) – that being one each of clarinet, bassoon, trumpet, trombone, percussion, violin and double bass.

From March 4 – June 21 these four budding composers had compositional sessions with James Ledger and one-on-one tutorial sessions with WASO musicians. The musicians involved gave each of the composers the rare and invaluable opportunity to understand more about the instruments they were writing for, and also the techniques and particulars that their ideas would require.

The Composition Competition concluded with a recording for the students’ portfolios.

We thank all of those involved who made this project a unique and wonderful experience – James Ledger (Composer-in-Residence); Allan Meyer (clarinet); Alexander Miller (clarinet); Jane Kircher (bassoon); Linda Charteris (bassoon); David Elton (trumpet); Peter Miller (trumpet); Joshua Davis (trombone); Troy Greatz (percussion); Louise Conroy (percussion); Stephanie Dean (violin); Melanie Pearn (violin); Rebecca White (violin) and Mark Tooby (Double Bass).

The WASO Education Program is proudly supported by Mitsubishi Corporation.

2009 Composition Competition participants L – R: Simon Thuijs, Henry Andersen, James Ledger (WASO Composer-in-Residence,) Aaron Tuckey and Joshua Haines.

Vladimir Verbitsky becomes Australian Citizen

On Saturday 6 June concert goers at Russian Fire experienced an unusually patriotic evening at the Perth Concert Hall, when West Australian Symphony Orchestra’s Conductor Laureate Vladimir Verbitsky became an Australian citizen.

The Minister for Immigration and Citizenship, Senator Chris Evans, conferred citizenship on the esteemed conductor following the WASO performance of Russian Fire.

“Becoming an Australian citizen shows commitment and loyalty to this country and a desire to share a common future. It is with great pleasure that I will welcome Mr Verbitsky as he takes this exciting step,” Senator Evans said.

“Mr Verbitsky has become an Australian at a special time in our nation’s history. This year marks the 60th anniversary of Australian citizenship.”

Father’s Day Gift Vouchers

Looking for the perfect Father’s Day present?

Why not give your father the gift of music – 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 can suit any budget.

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

It has been an exciting few months for WASO’s Patrons and Friends, with Principal Conductor and Artistic Adviser Paul Daniel joining us for his first concerts in his new position – and what a joy these concerts were!

There was a buzz of excitement in the air in the lead up to his long-awaited Paul Daniel Conducts Beethoven concerts. Both concerts were enthusiastically received, as were his performances of the Mozart Requiem. Paul is an energetic and charismatic leader ready to take our Orchestra on a new and exciting journey. His engaging manner means he quickly made many new friends during his first few weeks in Perth. We are delighted to have him on board and look forward to his return later this year.

The Patrons and Friends have been busy recently with several well-attended events, including an extraordinary organ concert by the internationally acclaimed Joseph Nolan, in Guildford Grammar School’s beautiful Chapel on 12 July. Between our popular Tea & Symphony sessions, the Guildford concert and many an inspiring evening in the Perth Concert Hall’s Patrons & Friends Lounge, the 2009 WASO Season is providing many wonderful opportunities to mingle with like-minded music lovers and fellow Patrons and Friends. Let there be many more!

Thank you for your ongoing support of WASO. With warmest wishes,

Dr Fred Affleck
President, Patrons & Friends

WASO’s Private Giving Program

Since 2005, we have been enormously proud of the growing family of Patrons committed to supporting WASO now and in the future. Support from our Patrons is vital and to ensure we continue to strengthen our connection with you, and to introduce new Patrons to WASO, we have made a few changes. We would like to introduce to you our Private Giving Team:

Sarah Gallinagh
Donations & Bequests Coordinator
Tel: 9326 0075
gallinaghs@waso.com.au

Alecia Benzie
Executive Manager, Private Giving
Tel: 9326 0020
benziea@waso.com.au

Sarah Tompkin
Philanthropy Coordinator
Tel: 9326 0015
tompkins@waso.com.au

Many of you already know Sarah Gallinagh who is the founding member of our Private Giving Program. Sarah will continue the wonderful job she has been doing of building our Annual Giving Program, keeping in touch with our Symphony Circle members as well as working with the Friends. Sarah Tompkin recently joined the Private Giving Team and will work with Alecia, who we introduced in the last edition of Illuminating Notes, on major gifts, special events and projects, trusts and foundations and bequests. We all enjoy meeting Patrons and Friends and exploring opportunities to support the Orchestra. To avoid confusion, the “two Sarahs” are affectionately known as Sarah G and Sarah T, both to WASO staff and to an increasing number of WASO Patrons!

If you have any questions or would like to know more, please feel free to contact us or visit the Patrons page of our website – www.waso.com.au

Dr Fred Affleck, President 2009.
Supporting your Orchestra – Becoming a WASO Patron

For 81 years now, WASO has been home to hundreds of musicians, performed thousands of concerts, thrilled hundreds of thousands of audience members and created millions of moments of delight for the West Australian community. Maintaining this is an ongoing challenge. The challenges to keep WASO in good financial shape will continue and the support from Patrons is becoming an increasingly important part of WASO’s ability to achieve its purpose... to touch souls and enrich lives through music.

It is with delight that WASO has been seeing the number of its Patrons and Friends continue to grow over the past few years. There are many ways you can become part of our family of supporters... here are a few ways:

**Annual Giving**

Annual donations form the lifeblood of our Private Giving Program, strengthening the Orchestra’s capacity to reach tens of thousands of West Australians annually and:

- achieve artistic excellence
- secure the finest guest conductors and soloists
- grow our education and outreach programs that reach children from all across Western Australia
- present to you an annual series of special events, including family events, which form the heart of our commitment to touch as many West Australians as possible.

Currently, annual donations can be made at the following levels:

- **Tutti Patron** $500 to $999
- **Principal Patron** $1,000 to $2,499
- **Virtuoso Patron** $2,500 to $4,999
- **Maestro Patron** $5,000 and above

Donations are acknowledged on the WASO website and in season brochures – unless you request anonymity – and are fully tax-deductible. Each year we send you a reminder, giving you the opportunity to renew your donation if that is your wish.

The team at WASO are always happy to talk to you in person or over the phone, or alternatively you can now donate online by going to www.waso.com.au and clicking on the ‘Make a Donation’ button. Supporting your Orchestra has never been easier!

**Supporting a Commission**

A matter very close to the heart of everyone at WASO are commissions of new works. For centuries composers have had enlightened benefactors to enable them to bring their musical ideas to life – Claudio Monteverdi had the Doges of Venice to support him, J.S. Bach had the Archbishop of Salzburg and Haydn had the Esterhazy family, just to name a few. Following in their footsteps, we are proud to acknowledge our very own benefactors. Peter Dawson has commissioned a piece by Ross Edwards which will be premiered next year and we are delighted to announce that Janet Holmes à Court has commissioned a work by Sir John Tavener which will also be premiered in our 2010 Season.

Supporting composers in this way not only offers an insight into the creative mind and process, but also gives the donor a unique chance to nurture careers and create new music that may become classics of tomorrow.

As a commissioner, you will be credited on the score – forever – as the commissioner of this work. Your name will be mentioned in program notes and all other publications where the work is discussed. You will have the opportunity to meet the composer and will be informed about all subsequent performances of the work, wherever it is played. And perhaps most importantly, you will have the pleasure of knowing that you have enabled the creation of a new work of art that would otherwise not have seen the light of day. It is hard to think of a more rewarding way to support the creative minds of contemporary Australia.

**Supporting our Library**

Another way of supporting the Orchestra is by donating to WASO’s extensive library of musical scores. Donations to the library go directly into purchasing new scores for the Orchestra or replacing existing music that over the years has become damaged and illegible.

Judy Sienkiewicz, Stan & Valerie Vicich and Dusty Peck are amongst those who have decided to give especially to the library and we would like to take this opportunity to thank them on behalf of everyone at WASO. We trust it will be a rewarding feeling for them to see our musicians playing from these scores in the Perth Concert Hall!

As you can see, ways of getting involved as a WASO Patron can vary in form and shape. All donations, no matter at which level, are valuable to the Orchestra and help ensure the music never stops. As 19th Century US author and physician Oliver Wendell Holmes once remarked, ‘take a music bath once or twice a week for a few seasons, and you will find that it is to the soul what the water bath is to the body.’
Music from the Chapel Royal

A crisp, bright winter Sunday morning showed off Guildford Grammar School’s Chapel at its Gothic best as over 170 Patrons and Friends of WASO arrived for a musical treat on 12 July. Internationally renowned organist, Joseph Nolan, performed a beautiful selection from the organ repertoire including music by Marcel Dupré, Louis Vierne and J.S.Bach. Joseph is a former Organist at the Chapel Royal in London and is now Organist and Master of Choristers at St George’s Cathedral in Perth.

WASO Patrons and Friends greatly appreciated Guildford Grammar School Headmaster Robert Zordan’s support in giving them access to the school's Chapel and refectory, where they enjoyed lunch whilst being treated to a talk on the fascinating story of the school’s historic Chapel and its architecture by cultural and architectural historian, Prof. David Dolan. The Chapel, designed by leading English church architect Sir Walter Tapper (a leading designer of Gothic style churches in the early 1900s) was built in 1912–14 in traditional style and is a classic example of English church architecture. It is built of Donnybrook stone and among its special features is a resurrection window designed by Perth artist Robert Juniper. Considered one of the finest examples of Gothic architecture in Australia, the Chapel is the focal point of the school, visually and spiritually. But it is the story behind the creation of this beautiful Chapel that highlights the profound impact of Patrons and how a gift can shape future generations and leave a legacy that goes beyond a lifetime.

In 1909, Walter Tapper’s friend Cecil Henry Oliverson, an Englishman who never travelled to Australia, wrote to Guildford Grammar’s Headmaster following an appeal for funds that he ‘would be delighted to give the Chapel to the school at Guildford in Western Australia!’ Oliverson had much grander ideas than the Headmaster’s proposed 5,000 pounds for a new Chapel and decided a much bigger structure would be needed in the future. Walter Tapper was engaged and the Chapel was completed in 1914 at a cost of 42,000 pounds. Oliverson kept his name private until after the Church was consecrated in 1914 and continued to maintain a deep interest in the School for the remainder of his life. This story is a touching reminder of the importance of Patrons and their contribution to our future. All our WASO Patrons make a difference to the lives of our musicians and our ability to continue to enrich lives through music. For that, we thank you.

Supporters Concert
– Up Close and Personal with WASO

It was a night to remember. On 19 May, a group of long standing and generous supporters joined WASO for an intimate hands-on performance with new Principal Conductor, Paul Daniel, in the Perth Concert Hall. It was our unique and very special opportunity to thank many of WASO’s supporters, including our special Symphony Circle members.

The evening showcased different sections of the Orchestra and provided a unique opportunity to mingle with Orchestra musicians and fellow supporters in an informal setting. With a program including the Overture from Mendelssohn’s popular A Midsummer Night’s Dream and Britten’s Variations and Fugue on a Theme of Purcell, Paul Daniel made the most of this rare opportunity to give a unique and intimate insight into the way an orchestra works; allowing some supporters to sit within the Orchestra, have a go on the instruments and even conduct! The enthusiastic feedback and smiling faces during and after the concert spoke volumes, with many of the supporters calling it a night they will never forget. Afterwards, Paul Daniel along with WASO musicians, board members, staff and supporters exchanged stories and musical anecdotes of their personal involvement with the Orchestra and enjoyed the company of fellow music enthusiasts.
Patrons and Friends
of WASO

What’s Coming Up –
Events in September & October

WASO’s popular Tea & Symphony Open Rehearsals, allowing Patrons and Friends to sit in on the final rehearsal of WASO concerts, continue throughout 2009. Tickets are not issued but your name/s must be on the acceptance list in the foyer. There is a limit of 80 attendees and we do sell out quickly, so please secure your seat now by filling out the booking form below. To attend a rehearsal, please make sure to arrive at the Perth Concert Hall foyer by 9:30am to be seated by 10:00am.

**Tea & Symphony 3**
Friday 18 September

From the atmospheric opening as nature awakens to the thunderous conclusion, experience how Paul Daniel takes command of Mahler’s awe-inspiring First Symphony, full of the promise and fire of a young composer out to conquer the musical world. At interval, enjoy morning tea with the orchestra during this last rehearsal of what promises to be a musical highlight of the year.

**Tea & Symphony 4**
Friday 16 October

Strauss’ magnificent tone poem Don Juan sets the stage for WASO’s Associate Concertmaster, Margaret Blades, to make her solo debut with the orchestra. Written by Richard Strauss for an exceptionally large orchestra in 1888, the music of this work mirrors the passion of Don Juan’s character as portrayed in the original poem. Join our musicians for the last rehearsal of what is going to be a truly passionate performance.

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**EVENT BOOKING FORM**

If you would like to attend any of the upcoming events please complete this form and mail or fax to:
PATRONS AND FRIENDS OF WASO. PO Box 3041, Perth Adelaide Terrace, WA 6832. Telephone 9326 0016 Fax 9326 0080

Name(s): ....................................................................................................................................................................................
Address: ....................................................................................................................................................................................
Phone: ....................................................................................................................................................................................

Please indicate how many tickets you would like to purchase for the following event.

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I enclose a cheque for: $ ............................................ I wish to pay by: [ ] Mastercard [ ] Visa
(please make cheques payable to West Australian Symphony Orchestra)

No.: ___________________________________________ Exp: ____________
Cardholder’s name: ___________________________________________ Signature: ___________________________________________

[ ] Please send me information on becoming a Patron of WASO or making a bequest in my will
WASO Welcomes…

WASO welcomes two new players to the Orchestra, Nicholas Metcalfe, Cello and Melanie Pearn, Violin.

Nick has been a member of WASO since March 2008 when he drove over from Melbourne. Prior to this appointment he freelanced around Australia playing with the Sydney and Adelaide Symphony Orchestras as well as The Queensland Orchestra.

Nick studied at the Queensland Conservatorium, where he received his Bachelor degree. He also attended the Australian National Academy of Music and undertook periods of private study in Adelaide and Vienna. Nick hasn’t always wanted to be a musician. “Right up until a few months before finishing year 12 I was set on being a Physical Education teacher. I enjoyed playing the cello but hadn’t really considered it as a career path.”

We also asked Nick what his favourite thing about playing with WASO was and he said, “Making music with such a talented bunch of people who are also a lot of fun to be around as well as the wide range of music that we get to play; from chamber orchestra repertoire to opera and ballet right up to large-scale symphonic works. There’s plenty of variety in playing with WASO and you know what they say about variety.”

Melanie Pearn joined WASO as a Tutti Violin in November 2008. She began learning the violin at age five and grew up and completed her schooling in the Barossa Valley, South Australia. Melanie went on to study at the Elder Conservatorium (University of Adelaide) completing her Bachelor of Music (Honours) in 2003, and her Master of Music in 2007. Whilst studying Melanie worked as a casual violinist with the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, freelanced and spent time teaching.

Melanie has always wanted to follow a career in music with her interest sparked when she was three, seeing violinist Jane Peters perform in her local church. On winning her job with WASO Melanie was excited and relieved to find that all the hard work had finally paid off. “The move to Western Australia was a big change, however Perth is a beautiful city and it is great being able to go to work each day doing what you love,” Melanie said.
Symphony in the City – Free Event

Over 15,000 people attended last year’s City of Perth Symphony in the City. This year WASO will do it all again at 8.00pm on Saturday 12 December at The Esplanade in the city.

This year’s free concert conducted by Perth favourite Guy Noble will have a Russian theme with music from Glinka, Rachmaninov and Shostakovich as well as Tchaikovsky’s ever popular 1812 Overture.

Further details will be released shortly.

The event proceeds thanks to the support of the City of Perth and Lotterywest.

WASO Recordings

Continue to experience WASO in your own home! A variety of WASO CDs and DVDs are available for purchase at the new-look WASO Programs and Merchandise desk on concert nights at the Perth Concert Hall.

Hyatt Encore

Cafe at Hyatt Regency Perth offers WASO patrons a sumptuous post-concert dining experience from their decadent dessert counter. The elegant surrounds of Cafe provide a relaxing end to an evening of entertainment and the dessert counter has something to delight every sweet tooth. Indulge in Cafe’s famous sticky date pudding, ask the chef for some freshly baked waffles or sample the colourful cakes, mini tarts, shooter desserts, ice-cream, sorbets... and so much more.

Dessert Counter at Cafe, $20 per person, open till late.

For reservations please phone 9225 1239.

Award Nomination

WASO and Carl Vine have been nominated for Best Performance of an Australian Composition in the 2009 Classical Music Awards. The work titled Symphony No.7 Scenes from Daily Life was premiered as part of the WASO Masters Series on November 14 and 15 last year. The commission was made possible thanks to Janet Holmes a Court and by Symphony Australia with funds provided by the Australian Government, through the Australia Council. The winners will be announced at the Sydney Opera House on Monday September 21.
The Simon Lee Foundation has become a major supporter of the West Australian Symphony Orchestra in relation to its professional development program. The program adds considerable value to the experience of individual members of the WASO by providing avenues of support for them to access opportunities to improve and develop their musicianship and skills.

This year WASO is pleased to announce that the Foundation has enabled three of our musicians to develop in their professional skills.

In April, with the support of the Simon Lee Foundation, David Elton, (Principal Trumpet), was fortunate enough to travel to the USA for some intensive study with former teachers and to play for some of the finest musicians in the world.

In Chicago he played for Charles Geyer and Barbara Butler, former teachers at Northwestern University, and also Chris Martin, Principal Trumpet of the Chicago Symphony. David worked with Gail Williams, renowned Chamber Musician and Horn Player and also visited the Vincent Bach trumpet factory in Indiana where he picked out a new orchestral C trumpet.

In New York, David played for Raymond Mase, American Brass Quintet/Principal, New York City Ballet. He was also able to attend several wonderful concerts and observe some rehearsals, including Philadelphia Orchestra with Sir Simon Rattle, Chicago Symphony with Bernard Haitink, and the combined brass of the New York Philharmonic and Concertgebouw Orchestras.

Rebecca White, (Violin), has been accepted into the class of Prof Oleh Krysa for short term intensive tuition at the Eastman School, Rochester, New York starting early 2010. She is a recipient of a Churchill Fellowship for a two month period of study and the Simon Lee Foundation now allows her to extend this fantastic once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

With the generous assistance of the Foundation, Jane Kircher, (Principal Bassoon), will travel to New York City for three weeks in 2010 to receive private lessons from some of the world’s finest bassoonists and teachers, including Whitney Crockett, Principal Bassoon, Metropolitan Opera Orchestra and Frank Morelli, Principal Bassoon, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra.

New York is one of the most artistically vibrant cities in the world and Jane is looking forward to being inspired by the many great orchestras, soloists and chamber musicians presenting concerts there. “The opportunity to study with world-renowned bassoonists and to hear world-class ensembles will be an enriching experience, and one that will contribute to my continued growth as a musician,” said Jane.

WASO and Emirates Western Force collectively share the title of Emirates’ iconic WA partnerships. To showcase this, an ensemble of WASO musicians performed John Williams’ Olympic Fanfare on Subiaco Oval prior to the last Emirates Western Force match for the season in May.

Rebecca White, Alex Millier and Mark Tooby also entertained revellers in the Western Force Diamond Members Bar with a conversation-stopping performance of Piazzolla’s Oblivion and Joplin’s Pineapple Rag. Paul Daniel took to the stage for a Q&A session, giving the audience an opportunity to meet our new Principal Conductor.
Margaret has chosen to perform a work that is special to her for a number of reasons. “I first performed Maninyas with the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra in September 1997. I remember it clearly as the Crows had just won the Grand Final and the orchestra played the club song at the end of the concert!! They are still my team! A while after the performance I met with Ross Edwards and asked him to sign my copy of the music, as a memento. He wrote ‘To Margaret, Please play it again! Love, Ross’”. Twelve years later Margaret is very happy to be performing the work again.

The Violin Concerto Maninyas by Ross Edwards is influenced by the Australian landscape and is characteristic of the music he began to compose while living in the coastal village of Pearl Beach, north of Sydney, following his return from several years of study in Europe. In this idyllic setting Edwards’ musical language underwent a sea change as he absorbed the sounds of the natural environment – the intersecting patterns made by frogs and insects, the drones of cicadas and the daylong exultant birdsong. The word ‘maninya’, extracted from a nonsense text Edwards devised and set to music in his ‘Maninya I’, (1981) has acquired the meaning ‘dance-chant’. The so-called maninya style has figured prominently in much of Edwards’ music, including his oboe concerto, Bird Spirit Dreaming, which the WASO performed a few years ago with dancing solo oboist, Diana Doherty.

Margaret has her own thoughts on Maninyas: “It is a virtuosic piece, with great rhythmic energy, but also beautiful haunting melodies. The challenge is to bring out all dimensions of the music, and to create an ambience of the Australian landscape with all of its beauty, energy and drama. I believe my performance will be quite different this time [from my performance in Adelaide].”

Ross Edwards’ Violin Concerto Maninyas will be performed on Friday 16 and Saturday 17 October, conducted by Benjamin Northey, another Australian who has been making a great impression on the classical music scene in recent years. Also on the program is Richard Strauss’ Don Juan and Dvořák’s Symphony No.6. Janet Holmes à Court has kindly made available the 1710 Cappa violin for Margaret to use for this performance in the Perth Concert Hall.