

AE NEWS

newsletter of the Australia Ensemble @UNSW

Upcoming Events

Australia Ensemble @UNSW
Free lunch hour concert
Tuesday June 4 at 1.10pm
Tyree Room, John Niland
Scientia Building

MARTIN | Trio on Irish Folktunes
MURPHY | Exchange for clarinet &
piano (premiere performance)
CRUSELL | Clarinet Quartet

Australia Ensemble @UNSW
Saturday June 8 at 8pm
Sir John Clancy Auditorium
Folksong

LUTOSŁAWSKI | Quintet K452
BERIO | Folksongs
FORD | Northumbrian Songs
DVOŘÁK | Trio in E minor, 'Dumky'
with guest artists: Fiona Campbell,
mezzo-soprano; Aiko Goto, violin; Alice
Giles, harp; Joshua Hill, percussion
Bree van Reyk, percussion; Lisa
Osmialowski, flute
Pre-concert Composer Conversation
with Andrew Ford, 7pm in the foyer

Winter Gala: Macliver & Munro
Songs my mother taught me
Friday June 21 at 8pm
Sir John Clancy Auditorium
Songs my mother taught me

Soprano Sara Macliver and pianist Ian
Munro present works of Schumann,
Dvořák, Suk, Haydn and Grieg

Twilight Concert Series
Thursday July 18 at 6.15pm
Tyree Room, John Niland
Scientia Building
Four Hands

MOZART Sonata in D K381
SCHUBERT Fantasy in f minor D940
MOSZKOWSKI Spanish Dances
RAVEL Mother Goose
Tamara-Anna Cislowska and
Ian Munro, piano

www.music.unsw.edu.au

Sowing the seed for the next generation

Last year we announced the launch and subsequent awarding of the inaugural Layton Emerging Composer Fellowship to Brisbane-based composer **Nicole Murphy**, whose work was presented in workshop in December 2018. Murphy's second work written under the fellowship will be given its first performance in our free lunch hour concert on Tuesday 4 June, 1.10pm in the Tyree Room.

Nicole Murphy is looking forward to attending this premiere of her new work for clarinet and piano **Exchange**, which she explained was greatly inspired by Professor Layton's marketing research, drawing deeply on the language of his research work as inspiration for her new piece, which she has dedicated to Australia Ensemble members David Griffiths and Ian Munro.



Emeritus Professor Layton and 2018 Layton Emerging Composer Fellow Nicole Murphy
Photo: Keith Saunders



2019 Layton Fellowship Winner Harry Sdraulig

Emeritus Professor Roger Layton's continued support of the fellowship has allowed the recent announcement of the **2019 Layton Emerging Composer Fellowship winner** as **Harry Sdraulig**, a young Sydney-based composer.

Sdraulig was born in Melbourne, and has studied at the University of Melbourne and University of Sydney. He currently teaches composition at Abbotsleigh while undertaking his Doctor of Musical Arts at the University of Sydney under the supervision of Paul Stanhope. His works have been performed and broadcast across Australia, as well as in Europe, the UK, and the US. He has been commissioned by the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra, Ensemble Q, PLEXUS, Macedon Music,

Musica Viva Australia, the Zelman Symphony Orchestra, and Ensemble Three, along with numerous solo and individual commissions. He has also received several awards including the Australian Postgraduate Award, Glen Johnston Composition Award (Audience Prize), Adolph Spivakovsky Award, and the Frank Albert Prize for Music.

As part of the Layton Fellowship, Harry will have the opportunity to compose for the Australia Ensemble and have his works performed in 2020, guided by the mentorship of leading Australian composers Paul Stanhope and John Peterson. We congratulate Harry and sincerely thank Emeritus Professor Roger Layton for his generosity in continuing to support this program, and the next generation of Australian composers.

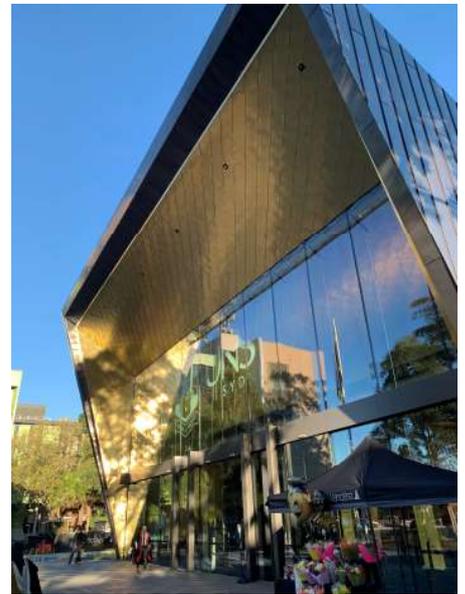
Sir John Clancy Auditorium Update

After a small and unfortunate delay, we are thrilled to advise our subscribers that the northern foyer of Sir John Clancy Auditorium has been officially handed back to UNSW, opening in early May, just in time for Graduations. Subscribers can look forward to seeing a beautifully refurbished facade with striking gold shingles, automatic glass doors at the entrance and a much more spacious foyer. In addition a new bar and box office has been fitted, new carpetting, and sound lockdoors installed between the auditorium and front of house.

The foyer will be the setting for our pre-concert Composer Conversation on June 8 as Paul Stanhope chats with Andrew Ford about his *Northumbrian Songs* starting from 7pm. Come along early, have a glass of wine and experience first hand the foyer and its new comforts.

We again thank each of our patrons for their patience over the past few months as Clancy has undergone its spectacular facelift.

The next stage of the renovations will commence shortly and will focus on the East and West foyers, accessible bathroom, and back of house where major alterations include a new artist Green Room.



*Musical Director
Harrison Collins*

You're Gonna Love Tomorrow

Join us for a fabulous night of cabaret as Harrison Collins and his ensemble take us on a musical journey exploring themes of passion and love.

You're Gonna Love Tomorrow will be held on **Thursday August 1, 6.15pm** in the Tyree Room, John Niland Scientia building. Musical director Harrison Collins will be steering the ship, with emerging artists from UNSW, NIDA and Queensland Conservatorium alumni presenting favourites from Kiss Me Kate, Jesus Christ Superstar, and City of Angels. Subscribers may have already spotted Harrison on stage previously as soloist with the Collegium Musicum Choir, and for many

years as Ian Munro's favoured page turner. By day Harrison is a casual academic in the School of Music, and accompanies the Music Performance Unit's weekly choir rehearsals. This program marks the end of an era, being Harrison's final concert with the Music Performance Unit for the foreseeable future. Excitingly, Harrison has recently been accepted into a Masters program abroad. In August, he will head to the United States on a full scholarship to Penn State University for a Masters program in Music Directing, Musical Theatre, one of only two artists to be accepted into this highly competitive course. We are thrilled for Harrison and congratulate him on this major achievement. We wish him the very best in his future endeavours in musical theatre, and will miss his superlative musicianship.



*Vocalists Chris White,
Bridget Patterson, Caitlin
Rose and Gavin Brown*

TWILIGHT CONCERT SERIES

You're Gonna Love Tomorrow

Come and hear your favourites from Cole Porter, Andrew Lloyd Webber, Sondheim and more, live in performance!

Thursday 1 August, 6.15pm, Tyree Room, Scientia Building

web: music.unsw.edu.au or email cmc@unsw.edu.au.

Australia Ensemble subscriber discounts apply.

Australia Ensemble - the sum of its parts

Genevieve Lang

It's kind of hard to believe that in the late 70s, just as the idea of the Australia Ensemble was beginning to form, cellist Julian Smiles had only been playing his instrument for three years. He's one of the longest serving members – can you imagine a time when he couldn't play? 'Well I certainly didn't realise the potential I had,' Julian reflects, 'but I was really enjoying it.' Julian's family background was thoroughly musical, so as a well-supported youngster, he quickly rose to the top, travelling around the country winning competitions. 'I was getting better, learning faster.' Julian credits 'a combination of some talent, and 90% perspiration.'



Julian Smiles
Photo: Keith Saunders

On a parallel path, though fate would only reveal that fact some years later, Dimity Hall was throwing herself into two instruments – piano and violin. She was equally encouraged at home: 'Mum was incredibly supportive in finding opportunities for me and taking me to concerts.' A lightbulb moment came at age 16 when Dimity realised she could never master (mistress? – Ed.) both instruments. 'I could do so much more with the violin – play in orchestras, chamber music, with friends, my own repertoire. Violin was more a part of me. The piano I sat "at". I enjoyed so much more comfort performing on the violin.' Giving up the piano 'cold turkey' Dimity now regrets, though she's nevertheless had a rewarding life in music, and one that she's been able to enjoy with her partner in life, Julian.

'We've been lucky,' says Julian, 'but it's the kind of luck that has its basis in talent and hard work.' The Australia Ensemble has afforded both of them an enviable security since the early 90s when they both joined. 'The whole ethos behind setting up the ensemble was the pursuit of excellence,' say Julian. 'We've enjoyed the freedom of having time to chase that within the group, and to stay fresh by also being able to follow other complimentary avenues outside of it,' Dimity explains.

The membership of the Australia Ensemble has been famously stable. 'We'd be very good in board rooms,' jokes Julian, 'after being in a chamber group for so long. We try not to give offence, and try not to take offence.'

Dimity's hope is that, for the next 40 seasons at least, 'those founding ideals are not lost. There's no replacement for time spent together, rehearsing and honing your chamber music skills.' 'And,' chimes in Julian, 'the longevity of the group has given it a chance to cultivate a loyal audience. Our audience is not pigeon holed into liking just one part of the repertoire. We're constantly challenging them.' It's very special indeed, say Dimity and Julian, to be considered worthy of being a part of the Australia Ensemble.



Dimity Hall
Photo: Keith Saunders

TWILIGHT CONCERT SERIES

Ecstatic Dances - hear Julian Smiles and Dimity Hall together perform duets by Bach, Hindson, and Vasks, on Thursday 4 July at 6.15pm, in the intimate Tyree Room, Scientia, and share a glass of wine with them after the concert.

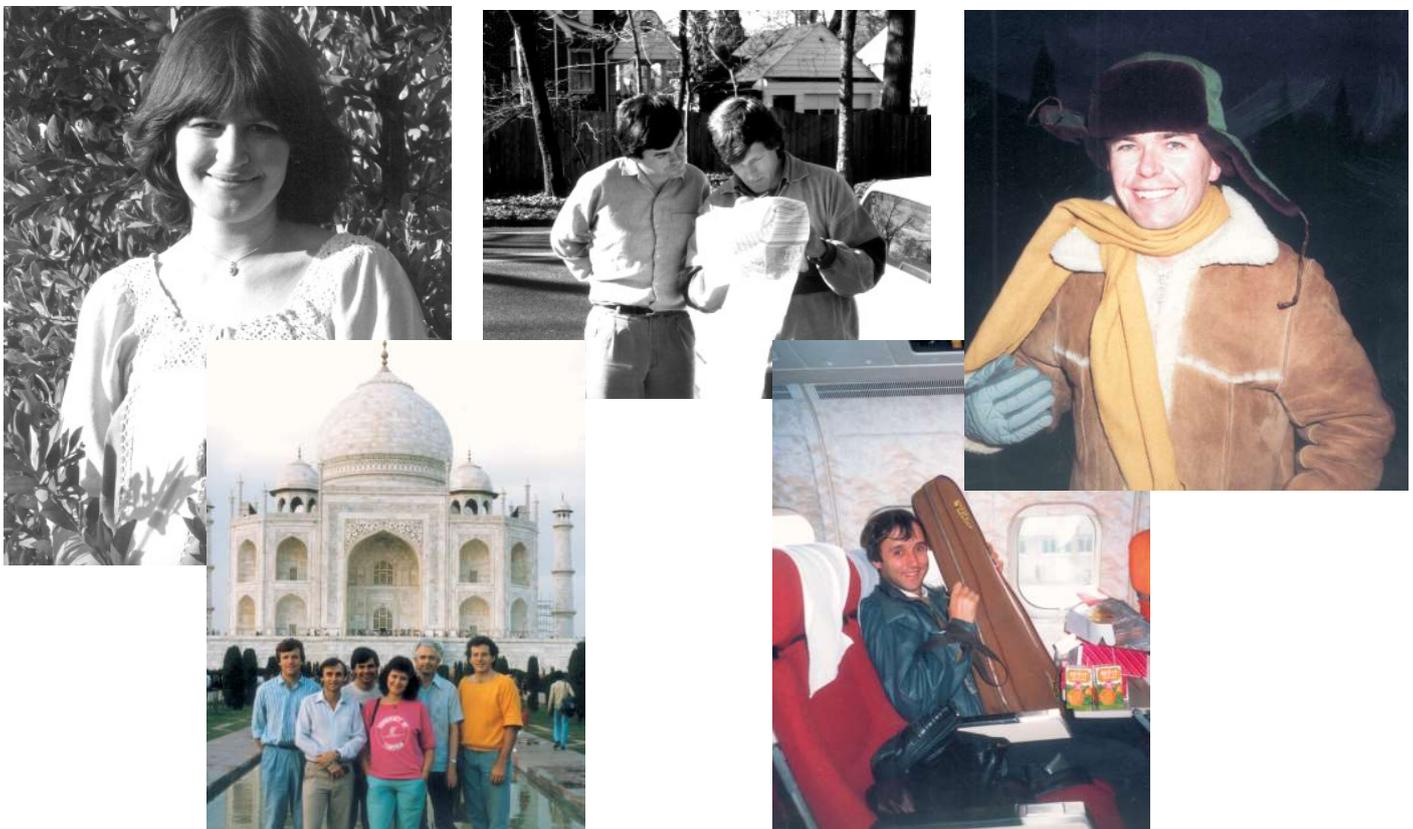
AE subscriber discount available. Tickets online at music.unsw.edu.au or email cmc@unsw.edu.au

Sing with the Collegium Musicum Choir in Term 2!

Have you ever wanted to perform alongside a live orchestra? The Collegium Musicum Choir is ready to recruit for Term 2. The 100-voice choir rehearses each Wednesday during term, 5-8pm in the Clancy Auditorium, recommencing rehearsals on Wednesday June 5. Choir membership is open to the general public as well as students and staff. Choral Director Sonia Maddock has crafted an incredibly enticing program for both audience and performers alike, the next program including great favourites Vivaldi's *Gloria* and Mozart's *Coronation Mass*, for performance on Sunday August 11, 5pm in Sir John Clancy Auditorium with soloists and professional orchestra. Term 3 offers more jewels, with works of Charpentier and Lauridsen, again with orchestra. Email cmc@unsw.edu.au for more information on how to become a member today.

A Splash of Ruby!

2019 marks a very special occasion for the Australia Ensemble as we reach the remarkable milestone of forty seasons. Those loyal subscribers that have been on this journey will remember the ensemble heading off on national and international tours, undertaking recordings and performing many new works over the years. We've sifted through the archives and found some wonderfully captured moments in time - enjoy these behind the scene snaps from years past!



What are you listening to this month?

Australia Ensemble members Dimity Hall and Julian Smiles lead a busy performance schedule here and abroad. Currently on tour in London, we grabbed 5 minutes of their time to ask them what they like to listen to when they are at home. This is what they told us.

"We tend to fall back on old favourites such as Chopin's piano music performed by Arturo Benedetti Michelangeli, Schumann lieder performed by German baritone Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau and German pianist Christoph Eschenbach, and for something different, the great Ella Fitzgerald, Stéphane Grappelli, Queen, Sting, Lior and assorted jazz."

We've compiled some of their favourite works online for your listening pleasure. To listen, head to <http://tiny.cc/zgv35y>