



SCHEHERAZADE



Bendigo Symphony Orchestra



Image Mark Beever

In 2021 Bendigo Symphony Orchestra celebrated 40 years as Bendigo's community orchestra.

Over these years BSO has provided symphonic music for the Bendigo community and opportunities for orchestral musicians to play together.

Each year the orchestra works with visiting and local conductors to perform symphonic works by well-known, and emerging composers, as well as concertos featuring international and local guest musicians.

Many young musicians who have joined the orchestra have gone on to enjoy orchestral and solo careers.



Bendigo Symphony Orchestra

www.bendigosymphonyorchestra.org.au



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SCHEHERAZADE

Sunday 17 September, 2023, 2.30pm
Ulumbarra Theatre, Bendigo

Luke Severn *Conductor*
Kyla Matsuura-Miller *violin*
Cynthia Holsworth *flute*

Aaron COPLAND *Fanfare for the Common Man*

Ralph VAUGHAN WILLIAMS *The Lark Ascending*

Cécile CHAMINADE *Concertino in D, Op. 107*

INTERVAL

Nikolai RIMSKY-KORSAKOV *Scheherazade, Op. 35*

Bendigo Symphony Orchestra recognises the Dja Dja Wurrung and Taungurung People of the Kulin Nation to be the traditional owners and custodians of the unceded land on which we gather, rehearse and perform.

We pay our respects to leaders and Elders past, present and future for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and the hopes of all these First Nations Peoples.

We express our gratitude in the sharing of this land, our sorrow for the personal, spiritual and cultural costs of that sharing, and our hope that we may walk forward together in harmony and in the spirit of healing.



Image: Kristen Beever

A message from the President

Three years ago, the Bendigo Symphony Orchestra reached out to the community for support. We received a tremendous boost through a partnership with the Ulumbarra Foundation, which enabled us to attract generous donations. The orchestra is immensely grateful for these contributions, particularly from a number of significant donors who have shown remarkable support and generosity.

Thanks to these donations, and through Ulumbarra Foundation and the support of the McKern family, we have acquired a full set of adjustable orchestra chairs, double bass chairs, percussion chairs, and a conductor's chair. These chairs will be housed at the Ulumbarra Theatre and made available for use by other community groups. Additionally, the orchestra has purchased 60 new music stands to replace our current ones, which have served us for over 30 years. With these recent acquisitions, the Bendigo Symphony Orchestra has now settled into its new home at the Ulumbarra Theatre. We have our concert dates locked in for 2024 and 2025!

If you would like to support the arts in this region details of Ulumbarra Foundation are in this program.

During our last concert, we sadly acknowledged the passing of Colin Bubb, an important member of the Bendigo music community and a valued supporter

of the Bendigo Symphony Orchestra. On a positive note, we are thrilled to announce the creation of the Colin and Margery Bubb Scholarship, made possible by a generous donation from the Bubb family. This scholarship is specifically to support young orchestra players, and we will begin accepting applications for our three scholarships in spring 2023.

We are delighted to share the news that we have made 75 complimentary tickets available for music students to attend this concert and, the previous concert in June. In collaboration with the Ulumbarra Foundation, we aim to provide opportunities for young musicians to experience the thrill and grandeur of a symphony orchestra performance. We are proud to support and inspire the next generation of players and music enthusiasts.

We are proud to announce our program of four concerts for 2024, it is filled with major orchestral works, international soloists, and even some lesser-known gems that you may not have heard before. We are preparing to take on what may be the orchestra's most significant challenge in its history.

We are so pleased to announce the support of St John of God Hospital Bendigo, Bendigo Radiology, and Bendigo Bank for 2023/24.

Nigel McGuckian
President, Bendigo Symphony Orchestra



PROGRAM NOTES

Aaron COPLAND (1900-1990)

Fanfare for the Common Man

Composed when the U.S. entered World War 2 in 1942, *Fanfare for the Common Man* is the American form of a British tradition of fanfares which began during World War 1, and which the composer Aaron Copland modernised for the great changes that occurred between the two wars. The title is taken from a speech of then Vice-President Henry A. Wallace who said that the century to come after the war, instead of being the American Century 'Can and must be the century of the common man.'

Written for brass and percussion it is quintessentially American and has had great musical influence. In 1977 it was adapted (with Copland's permission) by the progressive rock band Emerson, Lake and Palmer and the original scores for movies such as *Superman*, *Saving Private Ryan* and *The Patriot* draw on its sound world.

However, at its heart, it was composed as thanks for the huge progress made in America after the Great Depression by the political and industrial actions of working people, and for their sacrifice during the war.

Ralph VAUGHAN WILLIAMS (1872-1958)

The Lark Ascending

This year BSO has played Sibelius' *Finlandia* and Grieg's *Piano Concerto in A Minor*, works which took traditional folk melodies and greatly influenced the music in their home countries. We continue this musical journey with Ralph Vaughan Williams' arguably most famous work. Originally composed for violin and piano, *The Lark Ascending* is a romance that was reworked for solo violin and orchestra after Vaughan Williams returned from World War I.

The orchestral premiere had the misfortune of being played alongside an early performance of Holst's *The Planets*, but despite this it still made a very favourable impression on the audience. The piece is defined by its periods of cadenza from the violin, the melody flitting freely above and below the staff which is carried through when the landscape of the orchestra re-enters. The subtitle *Romance* is perhaps a reference to Beethoven's violin Romance, another piece we have played this year, and a very simple expression of love for the natural, the pastoral and birdsong.

The piece is inspired by a poem of the same name by George Meredith, written in 1881. At the head of the score, Vaughan Williams wrote out 12 lines of the poem.



*He rises and begins to round,
He drops the silver chain of sound,
Of many links without a break,
In chirrup, whistle, slur and shake.*

*For singing till his heaven fills,
'Tis love of earth that he instils,
And ever winging up and up,
Our valley is his golden cup
And he the wine which overflows
To lift us with him as he goes*

*Till lost on his aerial rings
In light, and then the fancy sings*

Cécile CHAMINADE (1857-1944)

Concertino in D, Op. 107

Cécile Chaminade was a prolific French composer and pianist who began experimenting in composition as a young child composing pieces for her cats, dogs and dolls. Over her 86 years she published more than four hundred pieces. In 1913, she was awarded the Légion d'Honneur, a first for a female composer.

Chaminade composed the Concertino for her lover – a Principal Flute player – who was marrying another woman.

Chaminade crashed the wedding and gave the Concertino to her former paramour as a wedding present. She later received a formal thank you from the mother-in-law – on the back was a death threat!

Love and rejection are such universal experiences and Chaminade managed to communicate this through her flute composition.

The piece's melodicism, exuberance and conventional tonality make it a sure crowd-pleaser, and it has become such a staple in the repertory that we flutists call it simply "the Chaminade." Its unassuming main theme draws listeners immediately to an idyllic pastoral sound world whose graceful lyricism flirt with the sentimental.

Program notes by Cynthia Holsworth



Image Mark Beever

Nikolai RIMSKY-KORSAKOV (1844-1908)

Scheherazade, Op. 35

The story of Scheherazade and her sister Dunyazad is ancient, older even than the *One Thousand and One Nights* compiled during the Islamic Golden Age in the 10th Century. It dates back to the Indo-Iranian kings who would have evening tales and fables read to them. The story goes that King Shahryah regards all women as untrustworthy and marries a different woman every day only to execute her the next morning. In time, Shahryah marries the well-educated and well-read Scheherazade, who hatches a plan to survive. Every night, her sister asks Scheherazade to tell a story so gripping that when she stops halfway through, the king spares Scheherazade so she can finish the story the next night. When she does finish, Dunyazad asks another story to be told, which Scheherazade fails to finish before dawn. And so, the process repeats one thousand times until all that Shahryah has learnt from the stories finally makes him a wise ruler and spares Scheherazade forever.

Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov was composing at the time when Imperial Russia became

aware of its own cultural language while also looking to other parts of Europe. *Scheherazade* premiered in 1888 and had a huge influence, but Rimsky-Korsakov influenced Russian music in other ways, personally teaching both Stravinsky and Prokofiev. Russia had been at war with Ottoman Turkey on and off for centuries, and had fostered a fascination with the orient which manifested itself in *Scheherazade*. Korsakov didn't want to associate the movements with any particular story told by Scheherazade, but certain characters pop through from time to time. The opening theme represents the domineering Shahryah followed by the solo violin telling tales like Scheherazade herself. The harp features strongly as well, evoking the imagery of the harem of a Persian King of Kings. The piece has all the anguish, melancholy and triumph expected from a Russian work at this time, with the bassoon and horn solos of the 2nd movement particularly wrenching. It was also adapted by the famous Ballet Russes in Paris in 1910 when the Franco-Russian exchange of culture was at its height.

Program notes by Geordie Walker



LUKE SEVERN

Conductor

Concert cellist, composer and music director, Luke Severn possesses a musical voice of great versatility and passion. Noted for his expressive performances and dynamic and engaging personality he is emerging as an artistic *tour de force* in the Australian musical landscape.

As a soloist, Luke is a champion of both the standard concerto repertoire and new exciting works for cello and orchestra. In recent seasons he has performed as a soloist, including with The Monash Academy Orchestra, The Essendon Symphony Orchestra and the Melbourne Sinfonia. In 2018, through Spark Youth Dance Company's production of *Ariadne*, Luke gave the Australian Premiere of the Concerto for Cello and Strings (2008) by British-Bulgarian composer Dobrinka Tabakova.

A highly sought-after chamber musician, Luke has performed in festivals and chamber music series throughout Australia, Europe and North America.

Performing alongside duo partner and pianist Elyane Laussade, he performs across Australia throughout the year. He completed a Piano Trio tour of Canada in 2017 with North American virtuosi Andrew Sords, violin, and Cheryl Duvall, piano. He engages in many other chamber ensemble performances as a freelance artist in Victoria, including appearances with the Blackwood Ensemble, Casey Chamber Musicians, and Allotropy String Quartet.



KYLA MATSUURA-MILLER

Violin

Since graduating from the Australian National Academy of Music (ANAM) in 2018; violinist, educator, and media personality Kyla Matsuura-Miller has established her place in the Australian cultural scene. Born in Tokyo but raised in Brisbane, Kyla studied violin at the Queensland Conservatorium under Michele Walsh before studying with Dr Robin Wilson at ANAM in Melbourne, where she is currently based.

In 2021 Kyla was awarded the prestigious Freedman Classical Fellowship, Australia's most prized award for young instrumentalists. This fellowship has enabled her to commission three new works championing the stories and experiences of BIPOC composers in Australia.

In 2023 she was a soloist with Ensemble Offspring (NSW), MONA FOMA (TAS), Dots+Loops (QLD) and Bendigo Symphony (VIC). Her regular chamber collaborators are Syzygy Ensemble and pianists Adam McMillan and Coody Green. Kyla made her TV debut on ABC's 'Spicks and Specks' in 2021 and has been a guest on various ABC radio programmes. Kyla currently plays on a fine Italian violin made by Giovanni Pistucci (c. 1910-1920), which has been generously loaned by a syndicate of music lovers.



CYNTHIA HOLSWORTH

Flute

Whilst completing her Bachelor of Arts (VCA) and Graduate Diploma of Education (Melb. Uni) Cynthia had the privilege of performing and recording with many professionals including Tommy Tycho, Graeme Lyall, Debra Byrne, James Morrison, Tommy Emmanuel, MSO Strings and was a proud member of the Geminiani Chamber Orchestra.

Cynthia eventually returned to her hometown of Bendigo and spent many years teaching instrumental music in secondary schools, along with developing a love for musical theatre and undertaking the role of Musical Director for many local productions. All this whilst raising three beautiful children. Cynthia was employed at BSE College where she created and managed the award-winning Academy of Creative Arts program. For over seven years she took absolute delight in working with many extremely talented young students, providing them with opportunities to excel in their chosen field of art.

More recently, Cynthia joined the Bendigo Symphony Orchestra and is pleased to be both Secretary and Principal Flute. Her hobbies include attending live concerts and productions of all genres, cooking, and most of all walking every day with her dog, Frankie.

Silver Sponsors

The Bendigo Symphony Orchestra wishes to specially thank **Bendigo Radiology, Bendigo Bank** and **St John of God Bendigo Hospital** for becoming Silver Corporate Sponsors.

We sincerely thank the teams at **Bendigo Radiology, Bendigo Bank** and **St John of God Bendigo Hospital** for their generous contribution to support the strong growth of our regional orchestra. Thanks to their sponsorship and participation, we are able perform at our best.

Would you like to become a sponsor of the Bendigo Symphony Orchestra for our upcoming season?

Please contact:

Bendigo Symphony Orchestra President, Nigel McGuckian.

E. nigel@mcgucks.com.au

M. 0418 510 644



BENDIGO RADIOLOGY

Imaging, Insight and Innovation

Bendigo Radiology is one of the largest providers of radiology services to Regional Victoria with 16 practices across northern and western Victoria, including Bendigo Health and St John of God hospital in Bendigo. We are committed to providing our communities with access to high quality medical imaging and care with the latest in medical technology.

Bendigo Radiology offers a diverse blend of private and public hospital based work with access to state of the art technology. Our quality management program ensures that we will continue to provide best practice medical imaging services to all our customers.

Bendigo Bank

Bendigo Bank is one of Australia's biggest banks and most trusted brands. We pride ourselves on being a bank that's good with money, but more interested in the good that money can do. We've been offering products and services to Australian families and businesses for over 165 years, providing customers with everything they need to achieve their financial goals, while feeding into the prosperity of Australian communities.

Locally in Bendigo, through our continuing partnerships with Empowering Eaglehawk, Strathfieldsaye Community Enterprise, Bendigo North Districts Community Enterprise and Kangaroo Flat Community Enterprise as well supporting other community organisations and events, we play a significant role in creating community outcomes for community groups such as Bendigo Symphony Orchestra.

We are proud to support groups and organisations like the Bendigo Symphony Orchestra who are making their own community impact.

Bendigo Bank – the better big bank.



St John of God Bendigo Hospital is a contemporary private hospital in central Victoria providing health care services for people in Bendigo and its surrounding areas.

We deliver high quality care in a comfortable and compassionate environment. Our 167-bed facility and highly qualified medical practitioners cater for a wide variety of specialty medical and surgical admissions, including orthopaedics, maternity and more. We offer both inpatient and outpatient services.

St John of God Bendigo Hospital is part of St John of God Healthcare, a leading Catholic not-for-profit provider of high-quality health care and community services in Australia and New Zealand.

As a not-for-profit health care provider, we return all surpluses to the communities we serve by updating and expanding our facilities and technology, developing new services, investing in people, and providing our social outreach services to those experiencing disadvantage.

Our Mission: to continue the healing mission of Jesus.

Our Vision: we are recognised for care that provides healing, hope and a greater sense of dignity, especially to those most in need.



Bendigo Symphony Orchestra

Violin 1

Kyla Matsuura-Miller

Guest Concertmaster[^]

Leonie Schellhorn*

Jeanette Stoll

David Dore

Meg Holmes

Toni Williams

Lizzy Welsh^o

Emma Amery^o

Violin 2

Heather Cummins*

Rachel Levett

Mel McCarthy

Erynn Lewicki

Joan Ledwich

Dinali Wijewickrama

Kylie Gould

Jess Irwin^o

Andrew Schellhorn^o

Viola

Cally Bartlett*

Frances Gall

John Gault

Denise Peterson

Sariah Xu^o

Clara Salzmann^o

Cello

Phil Kelynack*[<]

Steve Millard

Liz Wilson

Diane Chapman

Travis Perera

Noah Lawrence^o

Sarah Wang^o

Harp

Laura Winter^o

Double Bass

Rohan Tailor

Julia Arnold

Chris Blackshaw

Flute

Cynthia Holsworth*

Nigel McGuckian

Amy Bachman

Oboe

Owen Matthews+

Greg Pharo

Rebecca Beagley

Clarinet

Jacque Tolhurst*

Craig Spencely

Will Patterson

Bassoon

John Matthews*

Emma Morrison^o

French Horn

Catherine Moore*

Geordie Walker

Malcolm John

Nicholas Benbow

Aidan Ratcliff

Trumpet

Kaid Normington*

Jacqui Vine

Henry Livingstone

Trombone

Steve Vine*

Chris Lees

Bonnie Walker

Tuba

Dave Martin

Percussion

Charles Chilvers*

Judy Oliver

Annette Conway

Evan Pritchard

* Denotes Principal Chair

[^] Zona Sevčik Concertmaster Chair

+ Chair supported by Bendigo Surgery

[<] Chair supported by Wheeler Family

^o Guest player



Image Mark Beever

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank the following people who have generously donated to Bendigo Symphony Orchestra:

- Rachel Beagley
- Alison Dullard
- Brian Florence
- John Gault
- Daniel Herbst
- McKern family
- Howard Nathan
- Judy & Matt Oliver
- Ann Parris
- Beth Penington
- David Penington
- Travis and Hiranthe Perera
- Luke Severn

Thanks also to our Soloist Sponsors:

- Agnic Eagle Mines Limited
Fosterville Gold Mine
- Dr Kirsty Belfrage
- Mr Alex Cameron
- Central Victorian Anaesthetic Service
- Bendigo Radiology
- Bendigo Surgery

Tax deductible donations can be made to Bendigo Symphony Orchestra via the **Ulumbarra Foundation**. See the back cover of this program for details.

Bendigo Symphony Orchestra is thrilled to be an official performance partner of **Bendigo Venues & Events**.

This partnership will accelerate the growth and development of our community orchestra and inspire the presentation of diverse and exciting orchestral work in Bendigo's premier performance spaces.

We would like to thank **Kristen Beever** for her design expertise in rebranding BSO at the start of 2021, and her ongoing pro bono design work for the orchestra. Finally, thank you to **Mark Beever** for his time and expertise photographing and editing images of our concerts.



EBBS & FLOWS

KRISTEN LEICH | MEZZO SOPRANO
LUKE SEVERN | CONDUCTOR

STRAUSS II ON THE BEAUTIFUL BLUE DANUBE, OP. 314
SMETANA VLTAVA FROM MÁ VLAST
DVOŘÁK THE WATER SPRITE, OP. 107
KATS-CHERNIN DEEP SEA DREAMING
ELGAR SEA PICTURES, OP. 37

25 NOV. 2023 | 7:30PM
26 NOV. 2023 | 2:30PM

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Ulumbarra
Foundation

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