

A violinist with blonde hair and glasses, wearing a black dress, is captured in a dynamic performance. She is holding a violin and bow, with her right arm raised in a graceful gesture. The background shows the interior of a concert hall with warm lighting and wooden accents.

AUSTRALIAN
ROMANTIC
CLASSICAL &
ORCHESTRA

RICHARD GILL AO | FOUNDING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

2022
Concert
Season

Welcome back to the concert hall for the Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra's 2022 Concert Season!

The past two years have taught us a great many things, but what we have learned above all else is how deeply and profoundly we love performing with our dear friends and colleagues, and for you, our loyal friends and audience.

So it is with renewed enthusiasm and resolve that we present this series of concerts to INSPIRE, EDUCATE and ENLIGHTEN, with some of the most beautiful music ever composed, from the salons of Vienna to the stages of Tin Pan Alley, from the damnation of *Don Giovanni* to the celestial grandeur of *Jupiter*.

For the **Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra's 2022 Concert Season**, we are embarking again on multi-state tours with additional concerts and education programs to be announced throughout the year. Please visit our website regularly and subscribe to our mailing list to be kept up to date with our performances for audiences throughout metropolitan and regional New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria, South Australia and the ACT.

In addition to our main concert series, our education programs nurture and develop the next generation so that we may continue to offer historical perspectives and insights for many years to come. This year we are delighted to be presenting our informed performance education programs to students and emerging musicians in more states around the country than ever before.

Our first program for 2022, entitled **NORTHERN SERENADES**, brings you exquisite and expressive string music written in the late 19th century. Works by Elgar, Wolf and Holst are among their best-loved, while Victor Herbert's *Serenade for Strings* is a neglected gem. And the richness of these pieces is complemented by Australian composer Shauna Beesley's arrangement of Schumann's *Fantasiestücke* for violin and strings, commissioned for this tour and here receiving its world premiere.

In May, we are excited to collaborate with the Australian Boys Choir, The Vocal Consort and conductor Nicholas Dinopoulos for **AUSTRIAN ENCOUNTERS** to present some of the finest 18th-century choral repertoire in Melbourne and Geelong.

SOUNDS OF VIENNA then takes us into the early 1800s, when Vienna was the epicentre of the music world. This dynamic and vibrant culture is perfectly represented by Joseph Eybler's sparkling Quintet, and Schubert's mighty and beloved Octet, a towering piece of chamber music at its most ambitious.

In August, we look to the **TEMPESTUOUS SKIES**. Mozart's *Serenata Notturna* was written for outdoor evening performance, with Jupiter, the subject of his final, great symphony, gazing down. Far from heavenly is the carnal and tempestuous *Don Giovanni*, though the music is sublime, as is the twenty-third Piano Concerto, here performed by Neal Peres Da Costa.

Our warm thanks to everyone who continued to support us throughout 2021. Despite everything, we were able to perform 23 of our 29 planned concerts for live audiences, and made huge strides in our digital offerings and in further developing our education programs. Thank you to our incredibly generous donors, patrons and supporters, to our government funding bodies, and to all our presenting partners.

We are hugely thankful for your support for enabling us to continue to inspire, educate and enlighten. We cannot wait to see you back in the concert hall for our 2022 season!

Onwards and upwards,

Rachael Beesley & Nicole van Bruggen

Co-Artistic Directors, Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra



Photo | © Nick Gilbert

Our Story

Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra specialises in informed performance of late 18th- to early 20th-century orchestral and chamber music repertoire on period instruments, and is at the forefront of the historical performance scene, staying abreast with the latest research and developments around the world by collaborating with key guest musicians and musicologists. Under the co-artistic direction of **Rachael Beesley** and **Nicole van Bruggen**, the orchestra has been highly praised as offering “intelligent and warm performances, demonstrating the importance of historically informed musicianship and showcasing the impact of period instruments with gut strings” (ArtsHub, 2020).

Founded in 2012 under the artistic direction of renowned musician and educator, the late **Richard Gill AO**, and already a dynamic influence on the Australian music scene, the orchestra’s twin goals of performance and education are delivered through live concerts in Australia’s capital cities and in metropolitan and regional centres, collaborations with guest ensembles, radio broadcasts, innovative education programs, pre-concert presentations and specialist online resources. Bringing together leading Australian and international exponents, the **Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra** brings historical insights and new perspectives to masterpieces from the Classical and Romantic periods.

The orchestra’s unique music education series, **Voyage of Musical Discovery**, continues in 2022, and for the first time will be presented in Brisbane. The Voyage is equal parts concert and demonstration, and exceptional guest musicians and ensembles – **Elena Kats-Chernin & Tamara-Anna Cislowska**, **William Barton & Véronique Serret**, **Nonsemble**, **Taikoz** and **Topology** – will join the **Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra** in providing listeners with live examples and explanations of the compositional similarities between historical and Australian contemporary works. Originally conceived as an educational resource for secondary school music students, these insightful presentations have also proven very popular with concert audiences seeking to broaden their knowledge about how specific works are constructed and performed.

The **Young Mannheim Symphonists** youth orchestra program is designed to give students and emerging musicians the opportunity to discover for themselves the magic of approaching music with historical performance style. As the students are led through great musical masterpieces of the Classical and Romantic periods, and exposed to the knowledge and perception of professional musicians experienced in informed performance, they are inspired by how the music comes to life, and empowered to begin making informed musical decisions on their own.

More information about the **Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra** can be found at arco.org.au



Photo | © Robert Catto

In the late 19th century, the serenade was the vehicle for exquisite, expressive writing by some of the biggest names of the era. Edward Elgar and Hugo Wolf wrote serenades that remain among their best-loved works, filling these relatively brief pieces with beautiful, tuneful music that highlights the expressive and emotive way that string musicians were performing at the time.

Another composer who knew his way around a tune was American Victor Herbert, whose serenade shows you why no less a judge than Dvorák thought he had promise beyond the Tin Pan Alley songs he was famous for.

This program also features an arrangement of Schumann's *Fantasiestücke*, Op.73. Originally for solo instrument and piano, this enlarged arrangement highlights the superb playing of our co-artistic director and violin soloist Rachael Beesley against a lush, enchanting torrent of strings. Schumann's title suggests uninhibited imagination, and that is precisely what you will hear.

"Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra is a force to be reckoned with."

Limelight

Performances

Sunday 20 March | 4.00pm

Hills Grammar School,
Kenthurst (NSW)

Tuesday 22 March | 7.30pm

Newcastle City Hall (NSW)

Wednesday 23 March | 7.00pm

City Recital Hall, Sydney

Saturday 26 March | 7.00pm

Queensland Conservatorium,
Griffith University, Brisbane

Tuesday 29 March | 7.00pm

Elisabeth Murdoch Hall,
Melbourne Recital Centre

Program

Edward ELGAR

Serenade for Strings in E minor, Op.20

Gustav HOLST

St Paul's Suite in C major Op.29, No.2

Robert SCHUMANN

arr. **Shauna BEESLEY**

Fantasiestücke, Op.73 for violin
and strings (world premiere)

Hugo WOLF

Italian Serenade in G major
(strings version)

Victor HERBERT

Serenade for Strings in F major, Op.12

Artists

**Australian Romantic &
Classical Orchestra**

Rachael Beesley

Director & Violin

Northern Serenades

Elgar
Holst
Schumann
Wolf
Herbert

Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra joins with the Australian Boys Choir and The Vocal Consort to present some of the finest 18th-century choral repertoire.

This program features the sparkling *Spatzenmesse* by Mozart and includes works by fraternal composers Joseph and Michael Haydn.

Beginning with a Litany to the Virgin Mary by the teenaged Mozart, the first half of the performance also pays homage to the special bond between Franz Joseph Haydn and the younger Wolfgang Amadeus. Haydn's Little Organ Mass, also in B flat major and so called for the extended keyboard obbligato of the Benedictus, was dedicated to the Hospitaller Order of the Brothers of Saint John of God in Eisenstadt and Haydn was the work's first organ soloist.

Joseph's younger brother Michael was also a prolific composer of devotional music, most of which is yet to enter the realm of regular performance in either church or concert settings. Mozart was clearly influenced by Michael Haydn's own setting of the Requiem in C minor, with the similarities between them striking. Following a similar structure to Mozart's K.109, Michael Haydn's own Litany MH 71, takes on a sense of grandeur and opulence with the inclusion of trumpets and drums. This is the work's first Australian performance.

Known as the *Sparrow Mass* for the chirping violin figuration in the 'Osanna', K.220 employs ebullient orchestral colours and contrapuntal imitation. This sparkling, effervescent work brings the performance to a joyous conclusion.

Performances

Saturday 21 May | 3.00pm
St. Mary's Basilica, Geelong (VIC)

Sunday 22 May | 3.00pm
Sacred Heart Church, Carlton (VIC)
This concert will be live-streamed on Australian Digital Concert Hall

Program

Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART
Litaniae Lauretanae in B flat major, K.109

Joseph HAYDN
Missa Brevis Sancti Joannis de Deo

Michael HAYDN
Litaniae Lauretanae, MH 71
(Australian premiere)

Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART
Missa Brevis in C major, K.220
(*Spatzenmesse*)

Artists

Suzanne Shakespeare, soprano
Emily Bauer-Jones, contralto
Henry Choo, tenor
Stephen Marsh, baritone

Australian Boys Choir

The Vocal Consort

Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra

Nicholas Dinopoulos
Conductor

Austrian Encounters

Mozart
Joseph Haydn
Michael Haydn





Vienna was the centre of the cultural world at the dawn of the 19th century. Music was performed everywhere – in homes both grand and modest, in the taverns, even in the streets – and one of the city's stars was Joseph Leopold Eybler, a friend and distant cousin of Haydn's, who in his youth had been dubbed the greatest musical genius in Vienna apart from Mozart. His String Quintet is a sparkling, delightful example of late Classical style, and deserves to be better known.

Schubert wrote his Octet in 1824 at the suggestion of a colleague who wanted another piece like Beethoven's Septet, first performed in Vienna in 1800 and still very much a favourite of the city's music community. Schubert added a second violin to Beethoven's instrumentation, and kept a similar structure to his work, but the character of the music is all his own. His most ambitious chamber work, and arguably his finest, features those immediately Schubertian qualities of effortless, gorgeous melodies coupled with an almost desperate sense of heartache and longing.

"a conversation about hope, beauty, and humanity ... an elegant, expert performance."

Night Writes

Performances

Sunday 29 May | 3.00pm

Good Shepherd Chapel,
Noosa (QLD)

Wednesday 1 June | 7.00pm

Queensland Conservatorium,
Griffith University, Brisbane

Sunday 5 June | 2.30pm

UKARIA Cultural Centre,
Mount Barker Summit (SA)

Tuesday 7 June

National Portrait Gallery,
Canberra

Wednesday 8 June | 7.30pm

Newcastle City Hall (NSW)

Saturday 11 June | 8:30pm

Woodend Winter Arts Festival (VIC)

Wednesday 15 June | 7.00pm

City Recital Hall, Sydney

Program

Joseph EYBLER

String Quintet in D major
(1st movement)

Franz SCHUBERT

Octet in F major, D.803

Artists

Australian Romantic &
Classical Orchestra

Eybler
Schubert

Sounds of Vienna



Mozart's *Jupiter* symphony is one of the greatest pieces ever written. His final symphony, it is a grand statement from a visionary composer, and even if the nickname wasn't Wolfgang's own, the wonder, awe and complexity of the work perfectly bears the name of the king of the Roman gods.

Completed in 1788, Mozart's last symphony followed hard on the heels of his greatest operas: *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Don Giovanni*, and *Così fan tutte*. The overture to *Don Giovanni* bristles with passion and intrigue, foreshadowing the dramatic tale to come – extraordinary, considering Mozart wrote it the night before its premiere! Around the same time, Mozart wrote his Piano Concerto No.23. We are fortunate to have internationally renowned fortepiano soloist Neal Peres Da Costa perform this beloved staple of the piano repertoire for us.

The third piece in this program dates from a decade before the others, and we get a glimpse of a very different Mozart. Barely 20 and the musical star of the Salzburg court, he wrote the *Serenata Notturna* as a piece for evenings, possibly to be performed outside, among all the other stars.

"There is an openness of creativity and musicality..."

Sydney Scoop

Performances

Tuesday 16 August
Western Sydney, venue tbc.

Wednesday 17 August
National Portrait Gallery, Canberra

Thursday 18 August | 7.30pm
Newcastle City Hall (NSW)

Saturday 20 August | 7.00pm
St John's Cathedral, Brisbane

Sunday 21 August | 3.00pm
The Events Centre, Caloundra (QLD)

Wednesday 24 August | 7.00pm
City Recital Hall, Sydney

Program

Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART
Overture to Don Giovanni, K.527

Piano Concerto No.23 in A Major,
K.488

Serenade No.6 in D major, K.239
Serenata Notturna

Symphony No.41 in C major,
K.551 *Jupiter*

Artists

**Australian Romantic &
Classical Orchestra**

Rachael Beesley
Director

Neal Peres Da Costa
Fortepiano

Emerging musicians from
Young Mannheim Symphonists

Temporaries Skies

Mozart



Voyage of Musical Discovery

Established and designed by the Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra's founding artistic director and world-renowned educator Richard Gill AO, the **Voyage of Musical Discovery** is equal parts concert and demonstration.

Co-artistic directors Rachael Beesley and Nicole van Bruggen present each Voyage with musicians of the Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra in the first half, and a contemporary guest artist or ensemble is featured in the second half. By placing contemporary Australian music alongside Classical and Romantic works, these Voyages reveal the many compositional links and similarities in structure, tonality, rhythmic function, orchestration and modes of expression.

Sydney City Recital Hall

Design & Innovation

Monday 21 March
6.30 – 8.00pm



Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra

Rachael Beesley | Director

Edward ELGAR
Serenade for Strings (1892)

Gustav HOLST
St Paul's Suite (1912/3)

Elena Kats-Chernin & Tamara-Anna Cislowska

Elena KATS-CHERNIN
A selection of pieces from the *Butterflying* album including *Eliza Aria* (2016)

Cultural Narratives

Tuesday 14 June
6.30 – 8.00pm



Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra

Joseph EYBLER
String Quintet in D major
(date unknown)

Franz SCHUBERT
Octet in F major,
D.803 (1824)

William Barton & Véronique Serret

William BARTON & Véronique SERRET
Heartland and Kalkani

Musical Identities

Tuesday 23 August
6.30 – 8.00pm



Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra

Rachael Beesley | Director

Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART
Overture to *Don Giovanni*,
K.527 (1787)

Symphony No. 41 in C major,
K.551 *Jupiter* (1788)

Taikoz

Kerryn JOYCE & Ryuji HAMADA
Flowing Water (2019)

Ian CLEWORTH
... like a ripple... (2012)

Brisbane

St Peters Lutheran College Performing Arts Centre

Design & Innovation

Friday 25 March
11.30am – 1.00pm



Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra

Rachael Beesley | Director

Edward ELGAR
Serenade for Strings (1892)

Gustav HOLST
St Paul's Suite (1912/3)

Nonsemble

Chris PERREN
Go Seigen vs. Fujisawa Kuranosuke (2014)

Cultural Narratives

Tuesday 31 May
11.30am – 1.00pm



Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra

Joseph EYBLER
String Quintet in D major
(date unknown)

Franz SCHUBERT
Octet in F major,
D.803 (1824)

William Barton & Véronique Serret

William BARTON & Véronique SERRET
Heartland and Kalkani

Musical Identities

Monday 22 August
11.30am – 1.00pm



Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra

Rachael Beesley | Director

Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART
Overture to *Don Giovanni*,
K.527 (1787)

Symphony No. 41 in C major,
K.551 *Jupiter* (1788)

Topology

John BABBAGE
ΦX174 (2003)

Robert DAVIDSON & John BABBAGE
The Singing Politician (2016)

"If we open children's ears, minds and imaginations to the multitude of musical experiences available, they will stand a chance of learning how to make choices and begin to understand something of that strange word 'style'."

"We teach music because it is unique and good. We teach music so that children can make their own music. We teach music because it acts in a unique way on the heart, mind, soul and spirit of the child, stimulating thought and imagination in very special ways. These are the real reasons for teaching music."

Richard Gill AO | Founding Artistic Director

Young Mannheim Symphonists

The unique and exciting **Young Mannheim Symphonists** youth orchestra program is designed to give students and emerging musicians the opportunity to discover for themselves the magic of approaching music with historical performance style. As the students are led through great musical masterpieces of the Classical and Romantic periods, and exposed to the knowledge and perception of professional musicians experienced in informed performance, they are inspired by how the music comes to life, and empowered to begin making informed musical decisions on their own.

In 2022, students can audition to be part of the **Young Mannheim Symphonists National Winter Academy** and/or to attend one of the three state-based **Young Mannheim Symphonists Intensives** in New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland.

For more information about Young Mannheim Symphonists, please visit arco.org.au/yms-2022



National Winter Academy

4 – 9 July
The King's School
Sydney

Residential camp for
students from all over
Australia

Artists

Young Mannheim Symphonists

Mario Dobernig
Guest Conductor

Program

JOHANN STRAUSS II
Gypsy Baron Overture

BEETHOVEN
Symphony No.5 in C minor, Op.67

SCHUBERT
'Unfinished' Symphony No.8, D.759

QLD Intensive

10 – 14 April
St Peters Lutheran College
Indooroopilly

Artists

Young Mannheim Symphonists

**Rachael Beesley &
Nicole van Bruggen**
Directors

NSW Intensive

19 – 23 April
venue tbc

Program

EMILIE MAYER
Overture No.2 in D major

MOZART
Symphony No.31 in D major,
K.297/300a *Paris*

VIC Intensive

27 September – 1 October
Camberwell Grammar School
Canterbury

BEETHOVEN
Symphony No.8 in F major, Op.93

Acknowledgements

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Young Mannheim Symphonists Sponsor



Venue Partners



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Support the Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra

Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra would not exist without the time, treasure and talent donated by our extraordinary patrons and is extremely grateful to the generous individuals, families and foundations who make significant contributions to our orchestra's performance and education activities.

Our ability to continue that journey rests on donors who share our vision and our passion. Help us reimagine the rich music of the late 18th to early 20th centuries by making a tax-deductible donation to the Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra.

For all donation and bequest enquiries, please feel free to contact our

General Manager, Nicole van Bruggen

nicole@arco.org.au | 0452 514 730

Annual Giving Program

Large or small, all levels of financial and in-kind gifts contribute greatly to sustaining the Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra's performance and education activities.

To make a one-off or repeat donation, please visit our website arco.org.au/donate

Richard Gill AO Memorial Fund

Richard established the Richard Gill AO Memorial Fund to enable us to:

- provide opportunities to foster a love and enjoyment of historically informed performance in Australia
- make music accessible to the broadest possible audience
- educate and inspire future generations of Australian musicians

Together we can continue his legacy. Please consider donating. arco.org.au/richard-gill-memorial-fund

Donor Circles & Bequests

Become a Patron of the Co-Artistic Directors, or a Principal Chair Patron through our Donor Circles.

For enquiries about joining our Donor Circles or for information about how you can make a bequest to the Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra, please visit: arco.org.au/donor-circles



**"A radiant
return to the stage."**

Limelight

Tickets

All tickets can be purchased from the Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra website arco.org.au

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02 8256 2222	03 9699 3333	02 4929 1977	136 246

For all other ticketing enquiries please call 0452 514 730.

Stay COVID Safe

In response to continued uncertainty surrounding the global pandemic, we would like to assure you that the Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra is committed to the safety of its audiences, musicians, production team and students. We will continue maintaining a safe environment, and applying public health orders in all relevant states and territories as they relate to ticketing and seating arrangements for public events as well as incorporating COVID Safe measures into our education programs. For each venue and program in each city and state, the Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra has a COVID Safe plan in place.

We understand that our community may be contemplating the risks of attending future performances and education programs which is completely understandable. We are exploring all the ways to enable your continued patronage with the utmost safety in mind and look forward to welcoming you.

As was the case with many of our 2020 and 2021 programs, we are willing and prepared to pivot immediately if we feel that our audiences, musicians, production team or students are at any risk and have plans in place for this eventuality.

Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra is a registered COVID Safe organisation.

**"Nothing less than the best ...
a balance between reason and passion,
between intellect and spirit."**

State of the Art

Book online @ arco.org.au