

MEDIA RELEASE

Sydney Symphony Orchestra to engage next generation of concert-goers with Family Concert series

Olympic Orchestra – 26 Mar, 2pm
Carnival of the (Australian) Animals – 24 Sep, 2pm
The Bush Concert – 5 Nov, 2pm



The Sydney Symphony Orchestra is set to continue its highly popular Family Concert series, with three fun-filled concerts – *Olympic Orchestra*, *Carnival of the (Australian) Animals* and *The Bush Concert* – programmed in the orchestra's 2017 season.

Aimed at children aged 3-12 and their families, the concert series is designed to instil in its young audience a life-long love for the wonders of classical music.

The first concert – **Olympic Orchestra** – will see beloved Australian conductor Guy Noble and the musicians of the SSO showcase some of the music that has accompanied our most memorable sporting moments in a concert of muscle, sweat and cheers!

Australia is notorious for its fearsome fauna - any visitor can tell you about our biting, stinging animals! In the second concert – **Carnival of the (Australian) Animals** – composer Matthew Hindson has written a piece that celebrates all of Australia's most fearsome creatures: big and hairy, small and scary, and finishing with the most dangerous creatures of all - humans! Then TV personality Richard Morecroft narrates the music that started it all - Saint-Saëns' *Carnival of the Animals*.

The Bush Concert will bring the sounds of the Australian bush alive in a heart-warming concert for children. Adelaide composer Mark Simeon Ferguson has set Helga Visser's

picture book classic to music, with the orchestra providing the sounds of all the bush birds. In this concert Barry Conrad (*The X Factor*) will tell the endearing story of how, during a terrible drought, the birds put on a gala concert to cheer themselves up with singing, dancing and magic tricks. Kids will love picking the "galahs" and "noisy miners" from amongst the different instruments on the Sydney Opera House stage.

Audience members will be invited to participate in activity stations set-up in the Concert Hall foyers before and following each of the concerts.

Activities will include a Composing Wall where children will be encouraged to write their own pieces of music, an Exotic Instrument Stand where they can learn about instruments including the *Shakuhachi* and *Theremin* and a Percussion Club where an SSO percussion musician will be teaching participants about percussion music and techniques.

#ENDS#

Concert Details:

Olympic Orchestra

Sun 26 Mar, 2pm
Concert Hall, Sydney Opera House

WALDTEUFEL The Skaters' Waltz
COPLAND Fanfare for the Common Man
MILLS Countdown Fanfare
RAVEL Bolero
DVOŘÁK New World Symphony:
Largo
HOLST The Planets: Jupiter
R STRAUSS Thus Spake Zarathustra: Introduction
CONTI Rocky: Fanfare and Theme (Gonna Fly Now)
WILLIAMS Olympic Fanfare

Toby Thatcher conductor
Guy Noble compere

Carnival of the (Australian) Animals

Sun 24 Sep, 2pm
Concert Hall, Sydney Opera House

HINDSON Dangerous Creatures
SAINT-SAËNS Carnival of the Animals
with words by Bradley Trevor Greive

Toby Thatcher conductor
Richard Morecroft narrator

Suitable for ages 3+ and their families.

The Bush Concert

Sun 5 Nov, 2pm
Concert Hall, Sydney Opera House

FERGUSON The Bush Concert (based on the book by Helga Visser)

Toby Thatcher conductor
Barry Conrad narrator

Suitable for ages 5+ and their families.

Bookings through Sydney Symphony Orchestra 9am – 5pm Monday to Friday on 8215 4600 or select your own seat at: www.sydneyorchestra.com

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