

The poster features a dark background with a large, semi-circular frame. The frame's border is composed of a dense, intricate mosaic of various geometric shapes, including circles, triangles, squares, and rectangles, in shades of gray and black. At the top and bottom center of the frame, there are stylized, colorful elements resembling flags or abstract shapes in blue, white, and orange. In the center of the frame, a large, translucent orange butterfly is superimposed over a solid blue circle. Behind the butterfly, there are two overlapping squares: a light blue one and a darker blue one.

Symphonic Metamorphosis

**THE PHILHARMONIC
ORCHESTRA**

POWERED BY



BOWRAL MEMORIAL HALL
SUNDAY 22ND OF JUNE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Sydney Youth Orchestras acknowledge the Gundungurra and Dharawal people, the Traditional Custodians of the unceded land on which we perform today, and their connections to land, water, and community.

We pay our respect to Elders past and present, the original storytellers of these lands where we create music today. We extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and honour the continuation of the oldest music practice in the world.

Always Was, Always Will Be.

WELCOME



Experience the extraordinary as Sydney Youth Orchestras' Philharmonic Orchestra returns to Bowral for an unforgettable afternoon where classical masterpieces undergo brilliant transformation.

Under the direction of conductor Steve Williams, SYO's Philharmonic Orchestra will guide you through a musical journey that bridges centuries of tradition with bold innovation.

Following last year's triumphant sold-out performance, this eagerly anticipated return concert promises to be the highlight of Bowral's cultural calendar. This isn't just a concert – it's a revelation of sound that defies expectations and awakens the imagination.

The SYO's Philharmonic Orchestra is comprised of exceptional musicians aged 14-25. The Philharmonic Orchestra performs with technical brilliance and emotional depth that rivals professional orchestras. These remarkable young artists have been carefully selected from across New South Wales, bringing together the next generation of Australia's musical elite.

Mia Patoulios
CEO

A NOTE FROM JAMES

Today's concert represents the culmination of months of dedication and hard work by 60 talented young musicians under the guidance of conductor Steve Williams. As Australia's largest instrumental music program of its kind, SYO is committed to creating spaces where musical communities can flourish and grow.



Performances like today showcase the remarkable excellence that emerges when passionate young musicians come together, transforming their lives through music and sharing their artistry with our devoted audience. Your generous support makes concerts like today's possible, allowing us to present works such as *Symphonic Metamorphosis* — a captivating and versatile piece that reveals new layers of beauty with each performance. Thank you for championing SYO and investing in the next generation of musicians.

James Pensini
Head of Orchestral Training and Artistic Programming
Conductor of The Peter Seymour Orchestra

STEVE WILLIAMS

MEET THE CONDUCTOR

Stephen Williams has established himself as one of Australia's most versatile conductors, distinguishing himself with an impressive record of achievement in a variety of musical settings. In addition to conducting many of the symphony orchestras for Symphony Services International; he has conducted, recorded and toured with many of Australia's finest symphonic bands and jazz ensembles. He has directed and performed with Australian groups at the North Sea, Montreux, Edinburgh and Monterey Jazz Festivals, has conducted concerts in Carnegie Hall and taken Australian orchestras, symphonic bands and jazz ensembles to conferences and festivals in the U.S.A, Japan, Europe, the U.K, Singapore and China. On three separate occasions Stephen has been invited to conduct symphony orchestras at the prestigious Midwest Clinic in Chicago, the world's largest music educator's conference. He is the recipient of the Australian Band and Orchestra Directors Association's highest honour, the Citation of Excellence, an award he received in 2014.

Stephen is currently Student Music Programs Officer 5-12, Conducting Coordinator for The Arts Unit, a specialist unit in the N.S.W Department of Education, taking up this position at the beginning of 1999. He is the Music Director for the NSW Schools Spectacular, the world's biggest variety show and has been since 1991. He is also the founding Music Director of the Northern Beaches Symphony Orchestra. Prior to this Stephen had a full-time position as conducting coordinator for the School of Instrumental Music in Perth. He was also a member of staff at the W.A Conservatorium of Music, Edith Cowan University, lecturing and conducting in the Classical, Jazz and Education departments. Between 1992 and 1995, Stephen was a full-time member of staff at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, occupying the position of Director of the Wind Symphony as well as lecturing in Conducting, Instrumental Pedagogy and Jazz studies.



LEARN MORE AT
SYO.COM.AU

THE PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

POWERED BY



CONDUCTOR - Steve Williams

Hector BERLIOZ

Roman Carnival Overture, Op.9 (1843)

Ella MACENS

The Space Between Stars (2017)

Dimitri SHOSTAKOVICH

‘October’ Symphonic Poem, Op.131 (1967)

Paul HINDEMITH

Symphonic Metamorphosis on Themes by Weber (1943)

Hindemith’s masterful re-imagining of classical themes with modern sensibilities



Musicians

VIOLIN 1

Anna Dunlop
Celine Choi
Clayton Poon
Courtney Hamilton
David Milic
Eloise Dahm
Isabelle Pannell
Koki Takamura
Lauren Lin

VIOLIN 2

Andrew Dharma
Angelina Jin
Ching Ka Janelle Lin
Ethan Duhs
Isabella Wilson
Joel Ilsar
Marie Park
Sophia Wong

VIOLA

Antonia Touma
Lara van den Dolder
Lola McKenzie
Neil Wang
Sophie Gan

CELLO

Abigail Thompson
Ashley Huang
Darius Giann
Erik Wild
Esther Yang

Ivy Wu

Juliette Roumanoff
Max Troughton
Melody Su
Rose Marie Li

DOUBLE BASS

Amelia Kim
Estelle Lee
Sophie Gallagher-Horne

FLUTE

Ellie Foulkes
James Hillier
Kai Simpson-Smith

OBOE

Aanya Mathur
Orin Kim Narushima
Sophia Hillier

CLARINET

Felix Coster
Lara Ueki
Lucille Healy

BASSOON

Emily Ava Wan
Rose Hart
Ruby Bron

FRENCH HORN

Christian Lau
Horace Tan
Kesitaike Nila
Sophie Moulds

TRUMPET

Darien Sim
Liam McRae
Maksim Stevanovski
Matilda Dearden
Mya Hill

TENOR TROMBONE

Rory Kane
Tom Borbilas

BASS TROMBONE

Thomas Woodcock

TUBA

Ashton Parris

PERCUSSION

Hayden Markham-Ball
Josephine Scott
Marco Constantino
Noam Zemack
Tenor Manns
Valdas Cameron

THE PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

POWERED BY 

OUR DONORS

On behalf of the young musicians, staff and Board of Sydney Youth Orchestras, we would like to acknowledge and thank the following individuals, companies and foundations for their support and generosity in championing the future of orchestral music in Australia.

\$50,000+

The Howarth
Foundation

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Dixon
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Alex Oh
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ChanJuan Zheng

If you are interested to learn more about how your donation will make a positive impact on SYO, please contact Georgia Wilson, Head of Development, at georgia.wilson@syo.com.au.

DONATIONS



<https://syo.com.au/support/>

Sydney Youth Orchestras is a not-for-profit organisation and relies on the generosity of our supporters to achieve all that we do. Please consider donating by following the QR code, or contact Georgia Wilson, Head of Development to discuss how you can help: georgia.wilson@syo.com.au.

OUR PEOPLE

The success and vibrancy of SYO would not be possible without our team of talented, passionate and hardworking staff. We thank you all for your continued dedication and commitment to the development of young musicians and for your part in building a thriving, musical community.

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Orchestral Program

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James Pensini*

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Conductors - Strings

Program

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Alina Belshaw

Dr Sada Muramatsu

Sandi Oh*

Accompanist - Strings

Szu-Yu Chen

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Assistants

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Natalie Liu*

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Teachers

Alina Belshaw

Adele Cummings

Emma Ritchie

Carla Trott

Alana Thorne*

Barry Walmsley

Jeffrey Willey

* SYO Alumni

SPECIAL THANKS

SYO would like to thank our
tutors, mentors, families,
volunteers, and collaborators
for their continuous and
dedicated contributions.

OUR PARTNERS

We wish to thank each of our supporters for their continued involvement and contribution toward the future of SYO and the next generation of young musicians.



Sydney Youth Orchestras
is supported by the
NSW Government
through Create NSW.



ANGULLONG
VINEYARD

COMING UP AT SYO



2025 Big Sky Tour

Building on the success and partnerships established in 2023, SYO will once again travel across the state performing and collaborating with regional communities and artists.

28 June - 8 July 2025

Visit: syo.com.au



2025 Symbiosis

A unique collaborative concert featuring members of The Sydney Youth Orchestra, emphasising the powerful synergy that emerges when musicians work together.

9 August 2025

Visit: syo.com.au



2025 The Planets

Listen to the amazing Sydney Youth Orchestras' Symphonic Wind Orchestra performing Gustav Holst's 'The Planets' and more starry music before you embark on an evening of star and planet gazing.

16 August 2025

Visit: syo.com.au

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Hosted by Matthew Coorey, Tempo speaks with some of the biggest names in orchestral music, exploring their journey from youth orchestra to world stage. The podcast series also features questions from SYO musicians.

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