

BROKEN HILL



BROKEN HILL CIVIC CENTRE | FRIDAY 4 JULY

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Sydney Youth Orchestras acknowledge the Wilyakali people, the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we perform today, and their connections to land, water, and community. We would also like to thank the Barkindji artists who have so generously shared their songs and stories with us.

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



This gala represents the tour's most ambitious collaboration, uniting professional youth musicians with the rich tapestry of Broken Hill's established musical community in a night that celebrates both classical tradition and contemporary regional artistry.

This grand finale, conducted by Benjamin Northey, brings together an extraordinary assembly of musical forces including the Broken Hill Civic Orchestra, Broken Hill Philharmonic Choir, Broken Hill Community Choir, and the Wilcannia Central School Choir alongside SYO's Big Sky Orchestra.

Featured artists Alyce Pogson, Leroy Johnson, and Aimee Volkofsky join this celebration of regional musical collaboration, performing a diverse program that spans from Mussorgsky/Ravel's magnificent "Pictures at an Exhibition" and Wells' evocative "Emu in the Sky" to the world premiere of Andrew Howes' choral commission honouring Royal Far West's centenary, plus works by talented local singer/songwriters.

Mia Patoulios
CEO

A NOTE FROM JAMES

Thank you for joining us this evening, we are so pleased to be back in Broken Hill to perform a concert that simply could not happen anywhere else in the world!



At Sydney Youth Orchestras, we aim to boldly shape the future of orchestral music and we believe that that future places core canonical repertoire alongside sounds and stories that celebrate our own unique Australian identity. Tonight is a perfect example of how all musical genres are welcome at the table and have a place.

Thank you for so generously welcoming us to your wonderful town and we sincerely hope that you enjoy this powerful celebration of genuine collaboration in action.

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

SYDNEY YOUTH ORCHESTRAS PRESENT

SYO BIG SKY ORCHESTRA

CONDUCTOR

Benjamin Northey

SPECIAL GUESTS

Broken Hill Civic Orchestra

Broken Hill Philharmonic Choir

Broken Hill Community Choir

Alyce Pogson

Fiula Havili

Leroy Johnson

Aimee Volkofsky

Willcannia Central School Choir



REPERTOIRE

Part 1

Jessica WELLS

Emu in the Sky – Premiere

Andrew Howes

Cosmic Colours over Sunrise
Premiere

Modest MUSSORGSKY

Pictures at an Exhibition
Arr. Ravel

REPERTOIRE

Part 2

Richard RODGERS

Arr. Andrew Howes

Climb Every Mountain

With choir

Paul JARMAN

Let Go the Long White Sails

With choir

Andrew HOWES

Feet in the Sand, Heart in the Bush – Premiere

With choir

in celebration of 100 years of Royal Far West

Nancy BATES With Wilcannia Community Choir

Arr. Andrew Howes

Wilcannia Song

Leroy JOHNSON

Arr. Andrew Howes

Rise Up

REPERTOIRE

Alyce POGSON & Aimee VOLKOVSKY

Arr. Andrew Howes

Satellites

Alyce POGSON

Arr. Andrew Howes

To Know You

Fiula HAVILI

Arr. Andrew Howes

Arcade

Fiula HAVILI

Arr. Andrew Howes

Green Light Red Light

GOANNA

Arr. Andrew Howes

Solid Rock

MUSICIANS

SYO BIG SKY ORCHESTRA

VIOLIN 1

Ethan Powell
Caitlin Murphy
Ashley Kim
Koki Takamura
Courtney Hamilton
Alyssa Zhang
Abigail Bush

VIOLIN 2

Joshua Kok
Annalise Yau
Eloise Dahm
Raymond Luo
Andrew Dharma
Juliette Pfiel
Demeil Anokin David

VIOLA

Alexandra Arkapaw
Derek Wu
Neil Wang
Sam Longeran
Imogen Bush

CELLO

Abigail Thompson
Natasha Tiet
Imogen Duns
Wenxin Wang
Jackson Siu Him-Lai
Linda Chi

DOUBLE BASS

Paighnthor Acevedo-Martin
Amelia Kim
Sophie Gallagher-Horne
Noah Taylor
Emma Faulkes

FLUTE

Isabelle Ironside
Ellie Foulkes
Kai Simpson-Smith

OBOE

Sophia Hillier
Olivia Jiayuan Yang
Callum Bennett

CLARINET

Emma Shan
Alice Betteridge
Felix Coster

BASSOON

Rose Hart
Lucinda Paterson
Anna McWeaney

HORN

Sophie Moulds
Yaeli Freeman
Theodore Ward
Chelsea Bai

TRUMPET

Liam McRae
Maksim Stefanovski
Percy Speed

TENOR TROMBONE

Rory Kane
Thomas Woodcock

BASS TROMBONE

James McNaughton

TUBA

Ben Clarke

PERCUSSION

Joshua Chee
Noam Zemack
Hayden Markham-Ball
Ollen Djonov

KEYBOARD

Andrew Dharma

BENJAMIN NORTHEY

MEET THE CONDUCTOR

Australian conductor Benjamin Northey is Chief Conductor of the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra and Principal Conductor and Artistic Advisor for Learning and Engagement at the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra. He has held various significant positions with Australian orchestras and will become Artistic Director of the Australian Conducting Academy in 2025.



Northey studied at Finland's Sibelius Academy and the Stockholm Royal College of Music. He is acclaimed for his work in the Asia-Pacific region, receiving awards like the 2001 Symphony Australia Young Conductor of the Year. He conducts major orchestras globally and collaborates with renowned artists across diverse genres. Northey is also active in promoting new works by contemporary and First Nations composers and in music education. His recordings are available on ABC Classics.

FEATURED ARTISTS

ANDREW HOWES

Andrew Howes is SYO's composer in residence, a Sydney-based composer with a profound fascination with creating music deriving its initial artistic intent from the ever present natural forces of the Australian Landscape. His works have been performed by ensembles including the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, the Queensland Symphony Orchestra, Orchestra Victoria, the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra, Enigma & Kristian Winther Quartets, the Australian and Sydney Youth Orchestras, the Song Company, the Omega Ensemble and Moorambilla Voices, where he has been composer-in-residence six times.



ALYCE POGSON

Alyce Pogson is an emerging songwriter and school teacher living and working in Broken Hill on Wilyakali Country. Her songs explore the warmth of campfires, the trials of remote living, and the quiet riches of friendship.



FIULA HAVILI

Fiula Havili is a Wiradjuri and Tongan artist from Menindee, NSW. Fiula's family, faith and Aboriginal and Tongan heritage propel him and his songwriting.



LEROY JOHNSON

Leroy Johnson is a Barkindji / Malyangappa musician and national park ranger, living on country at Mutawintji, in far west NSW. Leroy sings songs about self-determination, culture and family, his deep love for country and the stories it holds.



AIMEE VOLKOFSKY

Aimee Volkofsky brings to life the rich tapestry of Broken Hill's history - the stories of worker's uprisings, rebel women, and the resilience forged in the face of tragic hardship.



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.

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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.



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

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

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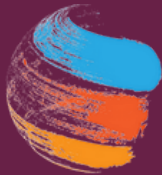
We wish to thank each of our supporters for their continued involvement and contribution toward the future of SYO and the next generation of young musicians.



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



ANGULLONG
VINEYARD



WEST
DARLING
ARTS

COMING UP AT SYO



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



2025 A German Requiem

'A German Requiem' speaks of consolation, its music is rich with emotion. It is, as Brahms wrote, 'a human requiem'. And in 2025, we present an expansive and heartfelt interpretation with the Festival Chorus and special guests, The Sydney Youth Orchestra.

25 October 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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Sydney Youth
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