



West Gippsland Chorale

JOY & JUBILATION

Wesley of Warragul
Victoria Street, Warragul

Friday 6th May 8pm
Saturday 7th May 2pm
2022



Joy and Jubilation Program

The compere for our concerts is Peter Gilbert

For the Beauty of the Earth

Music by John Rutter

Words by F.S. Pierpoint (1835-1917)

Sunday

Words and Music by Stephen Sondheim

Arranged by Mac Huff

The Seal Lullaby

Music by Eric Whitacre Words by Rudyard Kipling

Guest Performer: Hugo Christensen

Piano Solo: Sonatina Op.36 No. 3 (1st Movement)

by Muzio Clementi

Lux Aurumque

Music by Eric Whitacre Poem by Edward Esch

Sing Gently

Words and Music by Eric Whitacre

Java Jive

Music by Ben Oakland Words by Milton Drake

Arranged by Kirby Shaw



INTERVAL

Joy and Jubilation Program

Dirait-on

Music by Morten Lauridsen

Poem by Rainer Milke (1875-1926), from *Les Roses*

O MagnumMysterium

Music by Morten Lauridsen

Sure on this Shining Night

Morten Lauridsen

Words by James Agee

Guest Performer: Hanting Huang

Piano Solo: Paraphrase de concert sur Rigolette, S. 434
by Franz Liszt

Puttin' on the Ritx

Words and Music by Irving Berlin

Arranged by Kirby Shaw

Blue Skies

Words and Music by Irving Berlin

Arranged by Roger Emerson

Somewhere

Music by Leonard Bernstein

Words by Stephen Sondheim



Lux Aurumque

After deciding upon the poem by Edwards Esch for the lyrics for this piece, Eric Whitacre had it translated into the Latin by the celebrated American poet Charles Anthony Silvestri.

*Light,
warm and heavy as pure gold
and the angels sing softly
to the new-born baby*

Lux,
calida gravisque pura velut aurum
et canunt angeli molliter
modo natum

Dirait-on

Morten Lauridsen was so struck by Austrian-born Rainer Maria Rilke's French poems on roses that he decided to use the poems as the lyrics for his brilliant *Les Chansons des Roses*. The final piece, *Dirait-on*, was composed as a tuneful *chanson populaire*, or folk-song, and is one of four of his pieces that have become all-time best-selling choral octavos.

*Abandon surrounding abandon,
tenderness touching tenderness...
Your oneness endlessly
caresses itself, so they say;*

Abandon entoure d'abandon,
tendresse touchant aux tendresses...
C'est ton interieur qui sans cesse
se caresse, dirait-on;

*self-caressing
through its own clear reflection.
Thus you invent the theme
of Narcissus fulfilled.
English translation by Barbara and
Erica Muhl*

se caresse en soi-meme,
par son propre reflet eclaire.
Ainsi tu inventes le theme
du Narcisse exauce.
Rainer Maria Rilke, from *Les Roses*

O Magnum Mysterium

For centuries, composers have been inspired by the beautiful *O magnum mysterium* text with its juxtaposition of the birth of the new-born King amongst the lowly animals and shepherds. This affirmation of God's grace to the meek and the adoration of the Blessed Virgin are celebrated in Morten Lauridsen's setting through a quiet song of profound inner joy.

*O great mystery,
and wondrous sacrament,
that animals should see the new-
born Lord, lying in their manger!
Blessed is the Virgin whose womb
was worthy to bear the
Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia!*

O magnum mysterium,
et admirable sacramentum,
ut animalia viderent Dominum
natum, jacentum in praeseptio!
Beata Virgo, cujus viscera
meruerunt portare
Dominum Christum, Alleluia!



WGC Musical Director

Nathan Byrne

Nathan is employed by the Chorale, joining the West Gippsland Chorale as Musical Director in February 2022.

Nathan is an experienced choral, classroom, and instrumental music teacher, having worked across a variety of educational settings over the last decade. He has worked as a classroom music teacher, first at Traralgon College as a classroom music teacher and coordinator, and currently as the Head of Performing Arts - Events at St Paul's Anglican Grammar School.

After obtaining his Bachelor of Music from the University of Melbourne Conservatorium of Music under the tutelage of Dr Mark McGee, Nathan qualified with a Master of Teaching (Secondary) degree from The University of Melbourne.

Prior to classroom music teaching, Nathan was the Musical Director for the Apollo Health Music Society Choir at The University of Melbourne, Parkville. This choir was a mixed voice, un-auditioned SATB choir to suit various ability levels. In this position he directed the choir through two major concerts a year, as well as minor performances at nursing homes and hospitals between 2009 and 2014. Since then, he has been heavily involved in community musical theatre as musical director, vocal coach and rehearsal pianist for Latrobe Theatre Company since 2015. Since 2017, Nathan has been the director for a school-based vocal ensemble as part of his role at St Paul's Anglican Grammar School.

Nathan is currently the secretary of the 2022 Australian National Choral Association (ANCA) committee, Vic-Tas branch, Vice-President of the Association of Music Educators VIC Inc. (aMuse), and General Committee Member of Australian Choral Conductors Education and Training Inc (ACCET).

WGC Accompanist



Chris Sim

Chris is employed by the Chorale, joining the West Gippsland Chorale as accompanist in May 2019.

Chris has performed and taught both locally and in Melbourne for many years. She completed her formal music education at The University of Melbourne's Conservatorium of Music under the tutelage of Igor Machlak, Olga Kharitonova and Anna Goldsworthy.

Chris has been awarded both her Associate in Music Australia and Licentiate in Music Australia for piano, and, after obtaining her Bachelor of Music degree with Honours, qualified with a Master of Teaching (Secondary) degree from The University of Melbourne.

A recipient of the Janet Clarke Hall Scholarship, the Vera Moore Scholarship and the William Angliss Scholarship, Chris has held positions as both a non-resident and resident music tutor and official accompanist at University College, The University of Melbourne, as an instrumental and music theory teacher at the Parkville Music School, an orchestral pianist for the Australian Conservatoire of Ballet Orchestra, and as classroom, ensemble and instrumental teacher for a number of metropolitan and regionally based schools.

Chris continues to teach music theory and piano privately in Gippsland, while performing as an accompanist for both chamber and solo engagements, in eisteddfods, exams and musicals.



7.



Solo Pianist

Hugo Christensen

Hugo started playing the piano when he was 5, and has now been learning for 8 years. He is studying with Deanna Tabensky and enjoys learning according to the Suzuki method.

Hugo is enamoured with the fact that keyboard instruments can play many different melodies and chords concurrently. He is particularly interested in the music of film score composers and hopes to become a professional film composer himself. He is a member of the St Paul's Academy of Music and has recently joined the Warragul Municipal Band. Hugo is currently preparing for his Grade 6 AMEB Piano examination.



Solo Pianist

Hanling Huang

Starting piano in 2016, Hanling Huang is now studying the piano with Mikhail Solovei as his piano teacher and will reach his sixth year of learning the instrument around August 2022.

Hanling loves music written in the classical, romantic, and baroque eras, and also enjoys some composers of the contemporary style. He loves being able to project his feelings and emotions into his music and letting it speak for him, as does he enjoy simply listening to the beautiful melodies it can create.

In the past, Hanling has received several awards for his music, his most recent one being first place in the MSV audition/competition. One of the most influential prizes he has obtained in his career as a musician was the first place he received when he was 9 years old, as it was a turning point to how he and his family saw his musical abilities.

West Gippsland Chorale

Sopranos:

***Esther Bruerton, Sue Carson, Janette Clark,
Lynne Davine, Judy Hopkins, Julia Malcolm,
Vivian Morton, Rosemary Nicholson, Mary Ockerse,
Felicity Porter, Fiona Powell, Narelle Stilwell.***

Altos:

***Annie Bain, Leonie Broeren, Helen Chambers,
Robyn Gray, Tessa Grubb, Kimberly Imperial,
Kathie Olden, Anne Outhred, Jenny Steele,
Kay Stephenson, Alice Youlden.***

Tenors:

***Simon Fraser, Peter Gilbert, Geoff Leunig,
Ian Outhred, Sam Stephens, Ewan Stilwell.***

Basses:

***Tim Burnett, Peter Eshuis, Graeme Marriott,
Michael Sayer, John Taylor, Ray Wilson.***



West Gippsland Chorale

West Gippsland Chorale members are feeling both joyful and jubilant, as they prepare to offer their May 2022 series of concerts.

Since the Christmas concerts in 2021, the chorale has welcomed a new Musical Director, Mr. Nathan Byrne.

Choristers have very much enjoyed getting to know Nathan, who brings his own brand of both joy and jubilation to choir rehearsals.

This group of talented local singers has been working hard to make up for lost time due to lockdowns in 2021 and 2022 and all members realize what a privilege it is to work with professionals such as Nathan and accomplished performer Chris Sim at the piano.

Nathan is an experienced choral, classroom, and instrumental music teacher and is currently the Head of Performing Arts – Events at St Paul's Anglican Grammar School. He is also well known for his involvement in community musical theatre in director and vocal coach roles.

Chris has performed locally and in Melbourne for many years, completing her formal music education at the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music. Chris teaches music theory and piano privately as well as accompanying both chamber and solo engagements.

West Gippsland Chorale

We predict that regular concert attendees and newcomers alike will find something to appreciate at the May concerts. Those who attended the Christmas series will be pleased to hear that Eric Whitacre's Sing Gently, written in 2020 as a response to the global pandemic and performed by a Virtual Choir at that time, will be in the program for a second time. Seal Lullaby, another Whitacre composition, with Lyrics by Rudyard Kipling is also featured.

The choir loves performing works by Morten Lauridsen, and the varied program includes three works by this giant of Choral music.

For audience members who like to tap their feet, we provide some classics such as Java Jive and Blue Skies. In tribute to Stephen Sondheim, we also perform two much-loved songs: 'Somewhere' from "Westside Story" and 'Sunday' from "Sunday in the Park with George".

Whenever possible, the Chorale likes to support younger performers. We look forward to hearing solo works from guest performers Hugo Christensen and Hanting Huang. The 'Wesley of Warragul' venue provides an outstanding venue for the choir and the young performers alike to shine and share music with our community.

West Gippsland Chorale

Are you interested in joining the Chorale?

Please contact our secretary Kay Stephenson (sec52.wgc@gmail.com) to arrange an audition with Nathan Byrne, our Musical Director.



West Gippsland Chorale contacts:

President: Robyn Gray

robyn.gray.wgc@gmail.com

Secretary: Kay Stephenson

sec52.wgc@gmail.com



West Gippsland Chorale Inc. is a member of the Australian National Choral Association and is listed on the Register of Cultural Organizations

Donations are gratefully accepted and are fully tax deductible under subdivision 30-B of the *Income Assessment Act 1997*



Our thanks to *Need to Read* for facilitating ticket sales
25B Victoria Street, Warragul (03) 5622 0299

We are also very grateful for the generous support of:

The Gazette
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CHORALE**

Our website is:
<https://westgippslandchorale.org.au>