



Disney

# IN CONCERT

LIVE AT THE SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE





# Welcome



MM Creative Productions and Sydney Symphony Orchestra welcome you  
to *Disney in Concert: Live at the Sydney Opera House*.

We acknowledge the Gadigal people of the Eora nation as the Traditional  
Custodians of Tubowgule, the land upon which the Sydney Opera House stands.  
We pay our respects to their Elders past and present.



# *The Walt Disney Company*

From humble beginnings as a cartoon studio to its preeminent name in the entertainment industry today, Disney proudly continues its legacy of creating world-class stories and experiences for every member of the family.

Born in Chicago in 1901, Walt Disney arrived in California in the summer of 1923 with a lot of hopes but little else. He had made a cartoon in Kansas City about a little girl in a cartoon world, called “Alice’s Wonderland,” and he decided that he could use it as his “pilot” film to sell a series of these “Alice Comedies” to a distributor. Soon after arriving in California, he was successful.

A distributor in New York, M. J. Winkler, contracted to distribute the “Alice Comedies” on October 16, 1923, and this date became the start of the Disney company. Originally known as the Disney Brothers Cartoon Studio, with Walt Disney and his brother Roy as equal partners, the company soon changed its name, at Roy’s suggestion, to the Walt Disney Studio.

One night in 1934, Walt informed his animators that they were going to make an animated feature film, and then he told them the story of “Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs.” There were some sceptics in the group, but before long everyone had caught Walt’s enthusiasm, and work began in earnest. It took three years, but the landmark film debuted on December 21, 1937 and became a spectacular hit. “Snow White” soon became the highest-grossing film of all time, a record it held until it was surpassed by “Gone with the Wind.”

The year 1950 saw big successes at Disney with a return to classic animated features with “Cinderella.” The Walt Disney Studios’ success with animated films continued in 1989 with the release of “The Little Mermaid,” followed by “Beauty and the Beast” in 1991, “Aladdin” in 1992 and “The Lion King” in 1994, to name just a few. Walt Disney Animation Studios’ “Frozen” premiered in 2013 winning two Academy Awards®. The 2019 sequel, “Frozen 2” broke the record previously set by its predecessor, becoming the highest-grossing animated film of all time. With recent hits “Inside Out 2” and “Moana 2”, The Walt Disney Studios has now released 9 of the top 12 highest grossing animated films of all time.

For more than 100 years, The Walt Disney Company has created entertainment of the very highest quality. From humble beginnings as a cartoon studio in the 1920s to the company of today—which includes Disney, Pixar, Marvel, Lucasfilm, 20th Century Studios and of course Disney Concerts. Disney continues to entertain, inform and inspire people around the globe through the power of unparalleled storytelling, reflecting the iconic brands, creative minds and innovative technologies that make Walt Disney.



# Sydney Symphony Orchestra

**PATRON Her Excellency The Honourable Margaret Beazley** AK KC

Founded in 1932 by the Australian Broadcasting Commission, the Sydney Symphony Orchestra has evolved into one of the world's finest orchestras as Sydney has become one of the world's great cities. Resident at the iconic Sydney Opera House, the Sydney Symphony Orchestra also performs in venues throughout Sydney and regional New South Wales, and international tours to Europe, Asia and the USA have earned the Orchestra worldwide recognition for artistic excellence.

The Sydney Symphony Orchestra's concerts encompass masterpieces from the classical repertoire, music by some of the finest living composers, and collaborations with guest artists from all genres, reflecting the Orchestra's versatility and diverse appeal. Its award-winning education program is central to its commitment to the future of live symphonic music, and the Orchestra promotes the work of Australian composers through performances, recordings and its commissioning program.

[sydneysymphony.com.au](http://sydneysymphony.com.au)

## FIRST VIOLINS

Alexandra Osborne  
*Associate Concertmaster*  
Sophie Cole  
Sercan Danis  
Claire Herrick  
Georges Lentz  
Alexander Norton  
Léone Ziegler  
Robert Smith<sup>°</sup>  
Benjamin Tjoa<sup>°</sup>  
Marcus Michelsen\*

## SECOND VIOLINS

Emma Jezek  
*Acting Associate Principal*  
Monique Irik  
*Acting Assistant Principal*  
Rebecca Gill  
Emma Hayes  
Shuti Huang  
Benjamin Li  
Emily Qin<sup>°</sup>

## VIOLAS

Tobias Breider  
*Principal*  
Anne-Louise Comerford  
*Associate Principal Emeritus*  
Rosemary Curtin  
Stuart Johnson  
Felicity Tsai  
Andrew Jezek<sup>°</sup>

## CELLOS

Simon Cobcroft  
*Associate Principal*  
Kristy Conrau  
Timothy Nankervis  
Elizabeth Neville  
Christopher Pidcock  
Adrian Wallis

## DOUBLE BASSES

David Campbell  
Dylan Holly  
Richard Lynn  
Benjamin Ward

## FLUTES

Tomomi Matsuo\*  
*Guest Principal*  
Carolyn Harris  
Dana Alison†  
*Principal Piccolo*

## OBOES

Nicola Bell\*  
*Guest Principal*  
Alexandre Oguey  
*Principal Cor Anglais*

## CLARINETS

Francesco Celata  
*Acting Principal*  
Christopher Tingay  
Alexander Morris  
*Principal Bass Clarinet*

## BASSOONS

Hayden Burge\*  
*Guest Principal*  
Laura Brown\*  
*Guest Principal Contrabassoon*

## HORNS

Samuel Jacobs  
*Co-Principal*  
Euan Harvey  
*Acting Principal*  
Rachel Silver  
Emily Newham<sup>°</sup>  
Bryn Arnold†

## TRUMPETS

Brent Grapes  
*Associate Principal*  
Cécile Glémot  
Anthony Heinrichs

## TROMBONES

Nick Byrne  
Christopher Harris  
*Principal Bass Trombone*

## TUBA

Scott Frankcombe\*  
*Guest Principal*

## TIMPANI

Mark Robinson  
*Acting Principal*

## PERCUSSION

Rebecca Lagos  
*Principal*  
Joshua Hill<sup>°</sup>  
*Acting Associate Principal Timpani/Section Percussion*  
Timothy Constable  
Tim Brigden\*  
Alison Pratt\*

## HARP

Louisic Dulbecco  
*Principal*

## KEYBOARDS / EXTRAS

Benjamin Kopp\*  
*Guest Principal Piano*  
Katie Robinson\*  
*Guest Principal Synthesiser*  
Clive Lendich\*  
*Guest Principal Guitar*  
Leon Gaer\*  
*Electric Bass*  
Jamie Castrisos\*  
*Drum Kit*

## Bold Principal

\* Guest Musician

<sup>°</sup> Contract Musician

† Sydney Symphony Fellow



# Sydney Philharmonia Choirs

Sydney Philharmonia Choirs presents the art of choral singing at the highest standard, and develops the talents of those with a passion for singing in Sydney and beyond. Founded in 1920 as Hurlstone Park Choral Society, it has become Australia's finest choral organisation and is a Resident Company of the Sydney Opera House. Led by Artistic and Music Director Brett Weymark OAM and Associate Music Director Dr Elizabeth Scott, Sydney Philharmonia Choirs comprises three auditioned and three community choirs that perform repertoire from choral classics to musical theatre and commissions by Australian composers.

In 2020 the Choirs celebrated their centenary with an inspiring commissioning project – 100 Minutes of New Australian Music. In 2024 the Emerging Composer Awards and Choral Conducting Fellowship programs were launched. SPC's 2025 season includes great choral masterpieces including Bach's St Matthew Passion and Christmas Oratorio, Brahms' *A German Requiem*, and ChorusOz to sing Vaughan Williams' *A Sea Symphony*.

[sydneyphilharmonia.com.au](http://sydneyphilharmonia.com.au)

## SOPRANOS

Lucy Andrews  
Nicola Awad  
Anita Burkart  
Nicolette Burr  
Arianni Brini  
Kirsten Busby  
Caiyi Chen  
Joann Chiang  
Eleanor Donovan  
Madison Dring  
Rachel Evans  
Georgia Hopkins  
Annabel Jeffery  
Miriam Jeffery  
Jasmin Jungo  
Karissa Kee  
Camila Perez Lacha  
Maggie Lin  
Lucy Lush  
Samantha Macourt  
Belis Macpherson

Ishi Mahadurage  
Harriet McLean  
Lauren Mitchell  
Charlotte Moore  
Georgia Moore  
Amelia Myers  
Binh-An Nguyen  
Xin Yuan Quek  
Maya Schwenke  
Scarlett Stockdale-Linke  
Joyce Tang  
Lily Tindale  
Lucie Vagenheim  
Xia Lian Wilson  
Liv Wishart  
Tiffany Wong  
Dorothy Wu

## ALTOS

Jasmin Borsovszky  
Amelia Bussing  
Jamie Chen  
Jennifer Chen

Awen Davidson  
Alisa-Jean Fifita  
Lily Fowler  
Ash Fry  
Alison Goldingay  
Madeleine Halls  
Peyton Hawkins  
Emma Holley  
Kay Hughson  
Georgia Lee  
Laura McKay  
Caitlin McNamara  
Jess Moore  
Madi Moore  
Kathleen Morris  
Alleyne Moss  
Ines Obermair  
Audrey Ormella  
Lara Rogerson-Wood  
Abbie Truman  
Gabrielle Utian  
Kishia Ventura  
Noriko Yamanaka

## TENORS

Henry Chang  
Benjamin Jackey  
Caleb Mayo  
Razi Ramez  
Michael Shen  
Jono Simpson  
Aemar Sunga  
Samuel Zong

## BASSES

Scott Hekking  
Jason Jiang  
Jonathon Kelley  
Dion Marks  
Chris Masson  
Steven Nilam  
Michael Nolan  
Craig Nudelman  
Edward Phillips  
Daniel Rae  
Raymond Ross  
Sam Zhan

ELIZABETH SCOTT Chorus Master

DANIEL GUO, JEM HARDING Rehearsal Pianists

## SYDNEY PHILHARMONIA CHOIRS

BRETT WEYMARK OAM Artistic and Music Director

DR ELIZABETH SCOTT Associate Music Director

TIM CUNNIFFE Assistant Chorus Master and Principal Rehearsal Pianist







# Jessica Gethin

Award-winning Australian conductor Jessica Gethin has gained widespread attention for her stellar musicianship and vibrant energy on the podium. As one of the most versatile conductors in the country, Jessica glides seamlessly between core symphonic repertoire to ballet, opera, contemporary and film score. Jessica's international roster includes engagements with the Sydney Symphony, Melbourne Symphony, West Australian Symphony Orchestra, Adelaide Symphony, Singapore Symphony, Dallas Opera, Orchestra Victoria, Perth Symphony, Malaysian Philharmonic, Tasmanian Symphony, Opera Queensland, Orchestra Macao, the West Australian Ballet and The Australian Ballet among others.

Jessica is currently the Principal Conductor of the West Australian Ballet, Artistic Advisor of Orchestra Victoria and Head of Orchestral Studies and Conducting at the WA Academy of Performing Arts. From 2011-2019 Jessica was the Chief Conductor of the Perth Symphony and is now Ambassador and lead faculty for their Women on the Podium initiative.

Her accolades include being listed in Limelight Australia's Top 20 Artists and AFR's 100 Most Influential Women of Australia, a winner of the Brian Stacey Emerging Australian Conductor Award, a Churchill Fellow and inaugural Dallas Opera's Hart Institute Fellow, a finalist in the West Australian of the Year Awards and induction into the 2024 WA Women's Hall of Fame.







# Nick Afoa

Nick Afoa is a New Zealand-Samoan actor and baritone who has recently completed the Australian tours of *Miss Saigon* (Opera Australia) and *Rent* (LPD Productions).

Nick's theatre debut was ten years ago in Sydney's Capitol Theatre playing the role of Simba in *The Lion King* in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Perth. He was then cast in the role in London's West End for five years.

Since returning to New Zealand, Nick has cast and co-directed the original production of *Pacifica the Musical*, which premiered in Auckland in 2022.

Nick made his film debut in *Mysterious Ways* and previously represented New Zealand in rugby, securing a Junior Rugby World Cup title in South Africa.







# Christine Allado

Christine Allado is one of the West End's leading ladies and was nominated for a Grammy for her recording work as Tzipporah, lending her powerful vocals to the iconic song "When You Believe" in *The Prince of Egypt*. She is best known internationally for playing Peggy Schuyler and Maria Reynolds in the Olivier Award-winning Original London cast of *Hamilton*, a role for which she was nominated for a WhatsOnStage and an IARA Award.

Christine most recently starred as Julie Jordan in the Royal Festival Hall's orchestral summer season of *Carousel*. She is slated to appear as Jo in *Jo: The Little Women Musical* at Royal Festival Hall in 2025.

Further credits include appearing alongside Bernadette Peters and Lea Salonga in Stephen Sondheim's *Old Friends* (Gielgud Theatre), *We Will Rock You* (London Coliseum), *In The Heights* (Kings Cross Theatre), *Here Lies Love* (National Theatre), *From Here to Eternity* (Shaftesbury Theatre), *Sweet Charity* (Royal Exchange Theatre) and many others.

She tours the world as Andrea Bocelli's guest artist for his many sold-out arena concerts in Europe and Asia. Further concert credits include the Olivier Awards at the Royal Opera House and London Palladium, *Magic at the Musicals* at the Royal Albert Hall and *The Music of Hans Zimmer* and *The Music of The Lord of the Rings* arena tours across Europe.

TV and film credits include *The Prince of Egypt* (Amazon Prime), *Art Detectives* (Paramount+) and Netflix's beloved children's series *Rhyme Time Town*, amongst others.







# Amy Manford

Australian/American soprano Amy Manford is best known globally for her performance as Christine Daaé in *The Phantom of the Opera*, both in Australia and the original West End production.

Amy has toured around the world with classical crossover legend Andrea Bocelli and recently made her US debut at the iconic Hollywood Bowl in Los Angeles.

She was awarded 'Creative of the Year' at the 2023 *Marie Claire* Women of the Year awards and has sung at iconic events such as the 2021 AFL Grand Final in Australia and for King Charles at Buckingham Palace in London.

Amy has co-produced/performed in a number of live concerts with Disney, including the 100th anniversary celebration concert which premiered at the Sydney Opera House and toured Australia in 2023. In the same year, she also released her first EP, *A Dream is a Wish*, which is available to stream on all platforms.

In 2025, Amy will perform as a special guest alongside Andrea Bocelli for his tours in Asia, Australia and South Africa and with Hauser on his North American tour. She will also continue working in the songwriting space after releasing her first original song, "Ghost of You" in 2024.

Amy is trained classically in Opera and studied her Masters at the Royal College of Music in London after completing a Bachelor of Music at the West Australian Academy of Performing Arts.







# Ruwa Ngwenya

Ruwa Ngwenya is one of Australia's most in-demand leading ladies having most recently starred as Tina in *Tina: The Tina Turner Musical*, which toured nationally and for which she received extraordinary reviews.

She made her professional theatre debut in 2013 as Shenzi in *The Lion King* and a string of successful musicals followed including roles in *We Will Rock You*, *Beautiful: The Carol King Musical*, *Ragtime* and *Moulin Rouge: The Musical*.

Ruwa was awarded Best Performance in a Leading Role in a Musical at the Sydney Theatre Awards and Rising Star at the *Marie Claire* Women of the Year Awards in 2024. She has also performed at iconic sporting events including the Australian Open, State of Origin and at the 2024 NRL Grand Final.

Ruwa's intrinsic musical instincts pay homage to her Zimbabwean heritage. She enjoys self-expression and art exploration through the release of original music, including her EP *Humble Brag*, a vibrant body of work encompassing pop, RnB and afrobeat influences.

Ruwa is a celebrated alumni of the Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School (VCASS) and has studied a Bachelor of Music Performance at Melbourne University's Victorian College of the Arts.

With acting credits on *Neighbours*, Ruwa has cemented her place in the Australian entertainment industry as an artist breaking down barriers for performers of diverse backgrounds and showcasing a fresh take on what it means to entertain.







# Joshua Robson

Since graduating from the Victorian College of the Arts, Joshua Robson has forged a highly successful career onstage winning the Rob Guest Endowment Award in 2014.

Joshua's most recent performance was as Quasimodo in *Quasimodo the Musical*. Other stellar credits include Count Carl-Magnus Malcolm in *A Little Night Music* (Hayes Theatre) for which he received rave reviews, Victorian Opera's *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* and *Metropolis* (Little Eggs Collective).

In 2022 Joshua starred as the titular role in *The Phantom of the Opera* with Handa Opera on Sydney Harbour, for which he was nominated for Best Lead Performance in a Musical at the Sydney Theatre Awards.

Joshua has toured nationally in *Shrek the Musical* (GFO), *Muriel's Wedding the Musical* (Global Creatures), *My Fair Lady* (Opera Australia/GFO), *Les Misérables* (Cameron Mackintosh), *Dream Lover: The Bobby Darin Musical* (GFO) and *King Kong: Live on Stage* (Global Creatures). In 2024, Joshua joined Silvie Paladino, Chloe Zuel and Marina Prior in *Superstars - A Celebration of Andrew Lloyd Webber & Tim Rice* (The Very Popular Theatre Company) and *Carousel - A Concert* (Enda Markey Presents) featuring Anna O'Byrne.

Joshua annually performs with The Little Red Company's production of *Christmas Actually*, a concert dedicated to the music of Love Actually.

He is the proud director/ founder of Joshua Robson Productions. JRP has staged and toured productions of *Guilty Pleasures*, *Violet*, *Songs for a New World*, *Bonnie & Clyde*, the multi-award winning production of *In the Heights*, *City of Angels* and most recently *Little Women*. Later this month, JRPs next production, *The Producers*, opens at Hayes Theatre, Sydney.



# Act One

## *"Disney Memories Overture"*

Arranged by Brad Kelley

## *Suite from The Little Mermaid*

Music by Alan Menken and Lyrics by Howard Ashman

1. Poor Unfortunate Souls 2. Eric To The Rescue 3. Ursula Rising  
4. Whirlpool 5. Triton Reprimands 6. Part of Your World 7. Happy Ending

## *"We Know the Way"*

from *Moana*

Music by Opetia Foa'i

Lyrics by Opetia Foa'i & Lin-Manuel Miranda

## *"How Far I'll Go"*

from *Moana*

Music and Lyrics by Lin-Manuel Miranda

Arranged by Benjamin Rauhala

## *"You're Welcome"*

from *Moana*

Music and Lyrics by Lin-Manuel Miranda

## *"Almost There"*

from *The Princess & the Frog*

Composed by Randy Newman

## *"Arabian Nights"*

from *Aladdin*

Music by Alan Menken and Lyrics by Howard Ashman

## *"A Whole New World"*

from *Aladdin*

Music by Alan Menken and Lyrics by Tim Rice

## *Suite from Pocahontas*

Music by Alan Menken and Lyrics by Stephen Schwartz

1. Farewell 2. Colors of the Wind 3. Farewell Reprise

## *"Show Yourself"*

from *Frozen II*

Music and Lyrics by Kristen Anderson-Lopez and Robert Lopez



# Act Two

## *Suite from The Hunchback of Notre Dame*

Music by Alan Menken and Lyrics by Stephen Schwartz

1. Bells of Notre Dame 2. Someday 3. God Help the Outcasts 4. Out There

## *"Battle with the Forces of Evil"*

from *Sleeping Beauty*

Music Originally Adapted by George Bruns from the Tchaikovsky ballet  
Arranged and Orchestrated by Carl Rydlund

## *"Once Upon a Dream"*

from *Sleeping Beauty*

Music and Lyrics by Sammy Fain and Jack Lawrence

## *"Reflection"*

from *Mulan*

Music by Matthew Wilder and Lyrics by David Zippel

## *"I'll Make a Man Out of You"*

from *Mulan*

Music by Matthew Wilder and Lyrics by David Zippel  
Orchestrated by Tatsuki Tsuboi

## *"Zero to Hero"*

from *Hercules*

Music by Alan Menken and Lyrics by David Zippel

## *"Beauty and the Beast"*

from *Beauty and the Beast*

Music by Alan Menken and Lyrics by Howard Ashman

## *Suite from The Lion King*

"Nants' Ingonyama" Written by Lebo M and Hans Zimmer  
"Circle of Life", "Be Prepared", and "Circle of Life (Reprise)" Music by Elton John and Lyrics by Tim Rice  
"He Lives in You" Music and Lyrics by Mark Mancina, Jay Rifkin, and Lebo M  
"King of Pride Rock" Written by Hans Zimmer and Lebo M

1. Nants Ingonyama 2. Circle of Life 3. Be Prepared 4. He Lives in You  
5. King of Pride Rock 6. Circle of Life (Reprise)





















*Disney 100: The Concert at the Sydney Opera House*

Featuring the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, Jessica Gethin, Mark Hill, Amy Manford,  
Ainsley Melham, Genevieve McCarthy, Lyndon Watts and Chloé Zuel.

Photography by Jarrad Seng and Peter Rubie.

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#DisneyinConcertAustralia



# MM Creative Productions

MM Creative Productions is Australia's leading presenter of Disney in Concert, best known for creating unforgettable live concert experiences that bring Disney's iconic stories and music to life.

Founded in 2020 by Amy Manford and Genevieve McCarthy, MM Creative has quickly built a reputation for excellence, working closely with Disney Concerts in the United States to produce bespoke orchestral experiences for the Australian audience.

In 2023, MM Creative had the honour of launching Disney's 100th anniversary celebrations in Australia with *Disney 100: The Concert* at the Sydney Opera House Concert Hall. The sold out event, later touring to the Gold Coast and Perth, was praised by *The Australian Financial Review* as "gleefully over the top" and "a sumptuous night of entertainment."

Proudly collaborating with Australia's finest orchestras, performers and venues, MM Creative continues to elevate the symphonic concert space, reimagining Disney classics in a fresh and sophisticated way for audiences of all ages.

With some exciting collaborations on the horizon, MM Creative is gearing up for promising future seasons both in Australia and beyond.

Subscribe via [mmcreativeproductions.com](https://mmcreativeproductions.com) for news and updates.





# *MM Production Team*

Amy Manford – Co-Founder | Creative Producer  
Genevieve McCarthy – Co-Founder | Executive Producer

Jessica Gethin – Conductor  
Michaeljon Slinger – Movement Director  
Christina Polimos – Music Director, Soloists

Des O'Neill – Sound Design  
Peter Rubie – Lighting Design  
Chadrick Keating – Monitors Engineer  
Erin Coubrough – Vision Operator | Assistant Stage Manager  
Claire Miller – Wardrobe Assistant

The Peach & Pineapple Co – Public Relations  
Workshop Creative – Hero Artwork Design  
Monkey London – Artwork Retouching  
Stef King – Prop Photography

Zulu Pronunciation Guide – a collaborative effort from Odúnifé African  
Language School

With special thanks to Brannon Fells and the teams at Disney Concerts, US  
and The Walt Disney Company Australia & New Zealand.







MM  
CREATIVE PRODUCTIONS

Disney  
CONCERTS

SYDNEY  
SYMPHONY  
ORCHESTRA

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