

# Visual Story

## Sydney Symphony Orchestra Summer Series at Sydney Town Hall

Friday 13 & Saturday 14  
February 2026

«SYDNEY»  
«SYMPHONY»  
«ORCHESTRA»



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# Acknowledgement of Country



The Sydney Symphony Orchestra acknowledges the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation, the Traditional Custodians of this land and water.

We pay our respects to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples today.



# Inclusion Statement

## **You are welcome here.**

We want you to feel it is OK to be your authentic self here without judgement.

Please let us know if there is anything we can do that would make you feel more comfortable and included – for instance show you to a quieter area.

You are also welcome to use your own strategies to help you feel engaged and relaxed.





# What is a Visual Story?

Visual stories are for **everyone!**

It uses words and pictures to explain what might happen in a new place or situation.

It can make it easier to understand what to expect, and can help things feel a bit more predictable.

It is written in a clear way, so the information is easy to follow.



# About the Sydney Symphony Orchestra

The Sydney Symphony Orchestra was established in **1932**.

It is the largest orchestra in Australia and performs **up to 150 concerts** a year.

The Sydney Symphony is usually made up of **100 permanent full-time musicians**.





# About the Sydney Symphony Orchestra

The **conductor** leads the musicians to help them play together.

The orchestra's Chief Conductor is **Simone Young**.



# About the Sydney Symphony Orchestra

Many of the Sydney Symphony's concerts are performed at the Orchestra's home in the Concert Hall at the **Sydney Opera House**.

Sometimes they perform in other venues in Sydney, like the **City Recital Hall**, and the **Sydney Town Hall** where the *Sydney Symphony Summer Series* concerts will be.

You can learn more about Sydney Symphony Orchestra on their website: [sydneysymphony.com](http://sydneysymphony.com)





# About the Concerts

In 2026, the Sydney Symphony Orchestra will present **four concerts** as part of the Summer Series at Sydney Town Hall.

These concerts are:

## Friday 13 February

- [Lunchtime Classics with the Sydney Symphony](#)
- [Spooky Classics with the Sydney Symphony](#)

## Saturday 14 February

- [Relaxed Classics with the Sydney Symphony](#)
- [Romantic Classics with the Sydney Symphony](#)

Each of these concerts will feature different music. Click on the links above to learn more.





# About the Venue

**The Sydney Town Hall is a late 19th-century town hall building located in the Sydney Central Business District (CBD).**

It is often used as a performance venue, for music, dance and theatre, a function space, and is also where the City of Sydney Council Chambers are.

This is the front of the Sydney Town Hall – it is on George Street. This is where you will find the front door.

**Address:** 483 George Street, SYDNEY NSW 2000

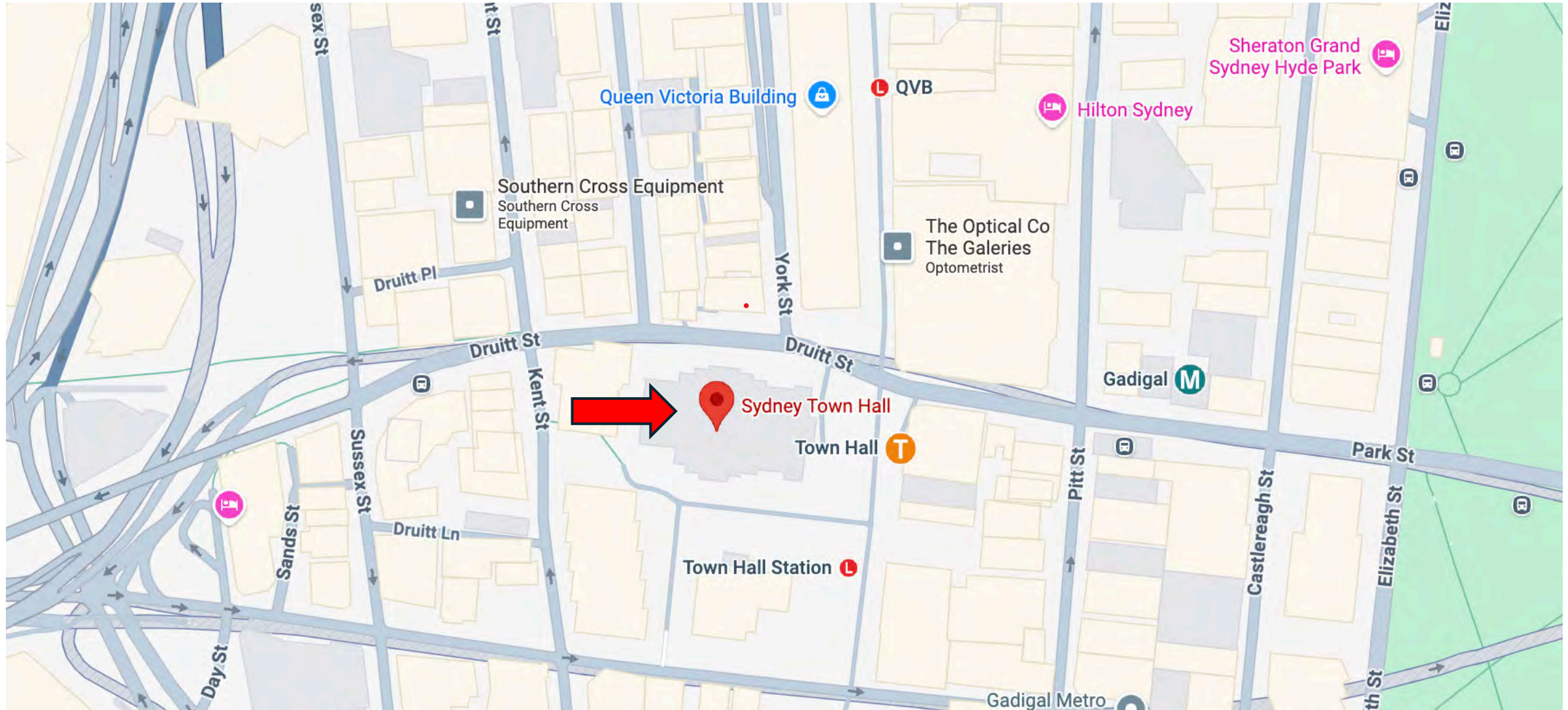
**Phone:** (02) 9265 9333

**Website:** [cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/landmarks/sydney-town-hall](https://cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/landmarks/sydney-town-hall)





# Map of local area



# Accessibility Features



**Wheelchair Access** – The accessible entrance to the building is via the **Druitt St** entrance (opposite the Queen Victoria Building). A lift is available at this entrance.

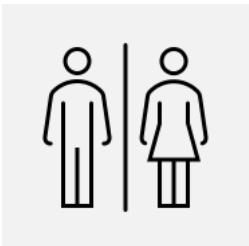
**Wheelchair/Mobility Parking Access** – There are 3 on street wheelchair/mobility parking places nearby:

1. **93 Bathurst Street** (1x parallel parking space)
2. **252 Pitt Street** (2x parallel parking spaces)



## Other Parking Options:

- There are more parking options at the **Wilson Car Park at St Andrews House car park** at 464 Kent Street.
- Pre-book your parking at [bookabay.wilsonparking.com.au](https://bookabay.wilsonparking.com.au)
- [Click here](#) to view more on street parking options.



## Toilets / Changing places / Gender neutral toilets:

Ground Floor: Accessible toilets are in the **North Corridor** (Druitt St side) towards the stage.

First Floor: Accessible toilets are towards the stage on both the **Northern and Southern Corridors**.



# Accessibility Features



**Hearing Loop** – There is a hearing loop available at the venue.



**Familiarisation Tours** – Touch/Familiarisation tours of the building can be arranged.



**Assistance Animals** – Working/Guide dogs are welcome at Sydney Town Hall, just let the Sydney Symphony know via email at [info@sydneysymphony.com](mailto:info@sydneysymphony.com) before you arrive so that we can make any special arrangements if you need them.

# What to Do During the Performance

- Your ticket will be scanned by an usher as you arrive.
- You are welcome to dress in a way that makes you feel comfortable – you do not need to wear formal clothes.
- You are welcome to move around the space before the concert starts, but please do not touch any instruments.
- Flash photograph and filming are not permitted during the concert.





# What to Do During the Performance

- Please try to keep talking to a minimum volume and please do not talk when the orchestra is playing.
- You can clap, but please wait until after each piece of music has finished. Usually, you can tell when this has happened because the conductor will turn around to face the audience.
- Eating is not allowed in the Centennial Hall where the performance takes place. You can eat food and drink in the Vestibule of the Sydney Town Hall or outside the venue.



# Sensory Information

**During your visit to the Sydney Town Hall you might have different sensory experiences.**

These could include:



Bright lights



Unexpected touch - The seats are close together so you might brush against others



Dark areas



Sounds like clapping, announcements, instrument tuning



Crowding



Instruments that range from soft to very loud, and low to high pitches



# What to Bring / What Not to Bring

Sometimes it is busy, noisy, bright and loud at a Sydney Symphony Orchestra concert.  
**You can bring things to help you enjoy the day.**

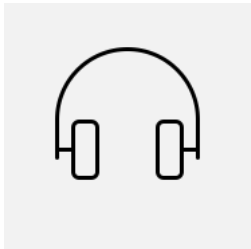
Things you might want to bring include:



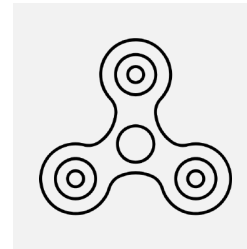
Sunglasses and Hat



Water Bottle



Headphones



Sensory Tools

If you bring a backpack, you will need to give it to the person at the cloak room facility in the main foyer, as backpacks and other large bags are not allowed inside the concert hall. Handbags are allowed.

# Food and Drink

There will be food and drinks for sale in the **Vestibule** of the Sydney Town Hall.

Purchases can only be made by bank/credit card.

Only food and drinks bought from the catering providers in the Vestibule can be consumed in the Sydney Town Hall.  
Food and drinks purchased from outside the Sydney Town Hall can not be consumed inside the hall.





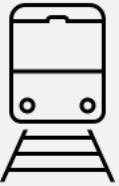
# Food and Drink

If you would like to get food/drink elsewhere before or after the concert there are many options nearby, some are:

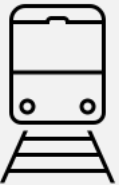
- Woolworths – George Street, across from the Sydney Town Hall
- [The Galleries](#) – Accessed via George Street
- [World Square](#) – Accessed via George Street



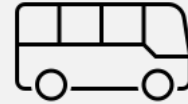
# Planning my Journey



**Metro** – There is a metro station called **Gadigal** nearby. From there it is a 5-minute walk to Sydney Town Hall.



**Train** – Trains travel directly to Sydney Town Hall, arriving at **Town Hall Station** on George Street.



**Bus** – Buses travel to Sydney Town Hall, arriving at **Park Street**, which is across from the Sydney Town Hall. From there it is a 5-minute walk.



**Ferry** – The nearest ferry alights at **Darling Harbour Wharf**. From there it is a 15-minute walk to Sydney Town Hall.



# Planning my Journey



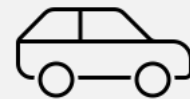
**Taxi/Rideshare** – The closest designated taxi rank is at **Pitt St** and **Castlereagh St**. From there it is a 5-minute walk to Sydney Town Hall.



**Light Rail** – There is a light rail station called **Town Hall Station** directly outside the venue on George Street.



**Bike** – Bike parking facilities are available on both the **Druitt St forecourt** and the **Sydney Square** side of the building.



**Car** – Wilson Parking operates the St Andrews House car park at **464 Kent Street**.

Pre-book your parking at [bookabay.wilsonparking.com.au](https://bookabay.wilsonparking.com.au)

For further public transport information, please call 131 500 or visit [transportnsw.info](https://transportnsw.info)

# Arriving at the Sydney Town Hall

- When you arrive, you will enter through the main door on **George Street**.
- There will be a queue in the Foyer where people are picking up and scanning their tickets.
- If you have a bag or any item the size of a backpack or larger, you will need to cloak it at the **cloakroom**.
- The cloakroom attendant will give you a ticket which you should keep on your person. You will give this back to the cloakroom at the end of the concert to pick up your item.





# Arriving at the Sydney Town Hall

Once you walk through the foyer, you will enter **The Vestibule**, which is a big room in front of the Centennial Hall, where the concert will be held.



# Arriving at the Sydney Town Hall

After the Vestibule, you will walk through to the **Centennial Hall** where an usher will scan your ticket, and they will also help you find your seat.





# Before the Concert

Please make sure you are seated before the concert begins.

When the concert starts, there will be an announcement to welcome the audience and to ask people to switch off their mobile phones.

Then the conductor for these concerts, **James Judd**, will walk onstage, and people will start clapping to welcome him.

James Judd is a British conductor. He is the Music Director of the Daejeon Philharmonic in South Korea and the Music Director Emeritus of the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra.



# During the Concert

- The orchestra will play music in the order listed on the program for each concert.
- In between some of the works, Vanessa Hughes will present interesting facts about some of the pieces.
- The daytime concerts, *Lunchtime Classics* and *Relaxed Classics* will run for approximately **1 hour** and there will be no interval.
- The evening concerts, *Spooky Classics* and *Romantic Classics* will run for approximately **2.5 hours** with a 20-minute interval.





# During Interval

During the interval you can stand up from your seat and go to the toilet or go get some fresh air.

There will be an announcement halfway through the interval asking you to begin returning to your seat.

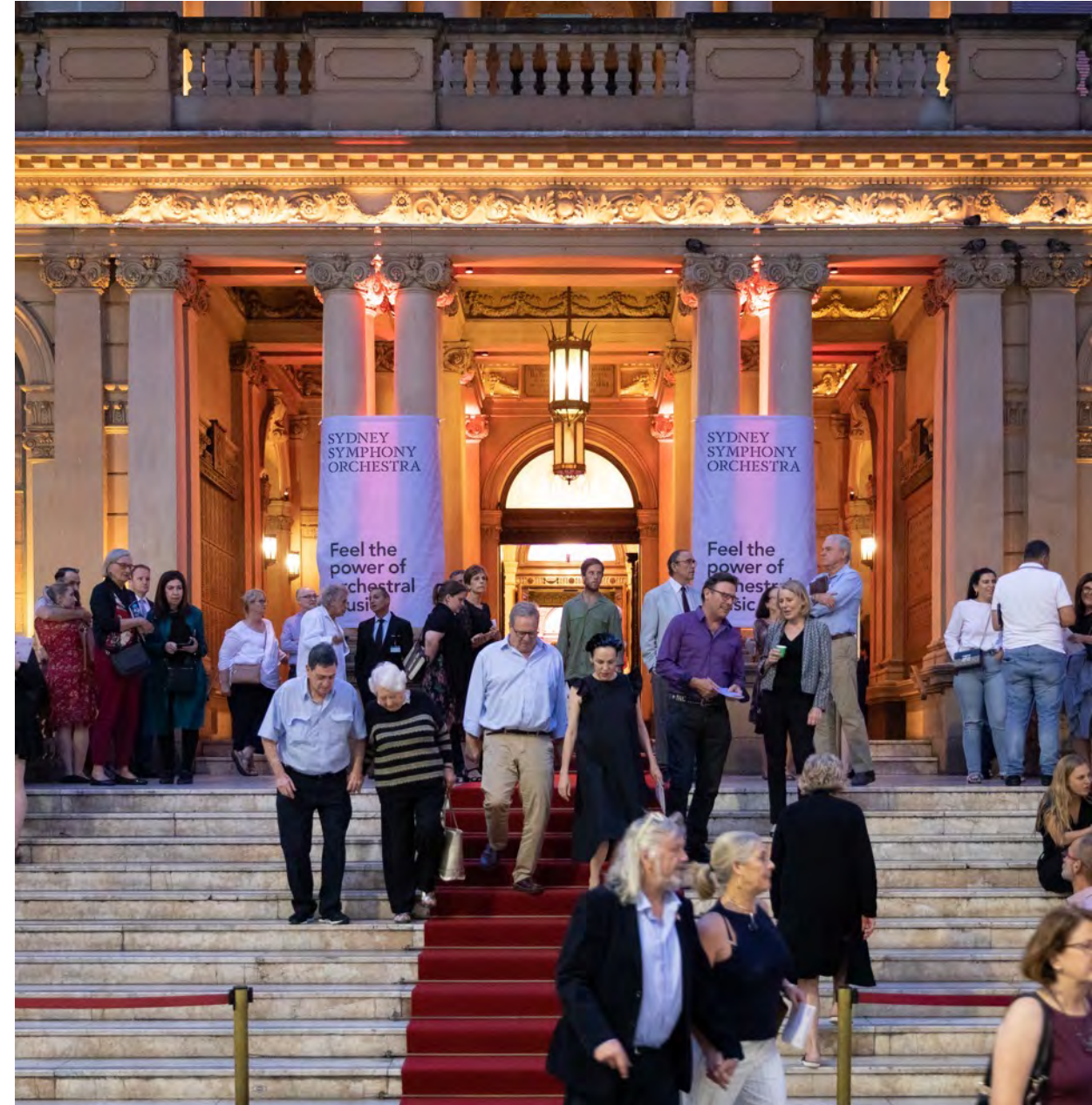
This announcement will be repeated 5 minutes before and 1 minute before the second half of the concert begins.





# Leaving the Sydney Town Hall

- To exit the venue, you can head towards the back of the hall or a nearby exit where the ushers have opened the doors.
- If you like, you can wait in your seat until there isn't as much crowding, or leave promptly when the performance has concluded to avoid queues.
- Once you have collected any items that you have left with the cloak room, you can exit through the main entrance.
- There are plenty of public transport options such as light rail, train, metro and bus which are very close to the venue.





# Frequently Asked Questions



## **Where are toilets/accessible toilets located?**

Accessible unisex toilet facilities are available on each publicly accessible floor of the building.



## **Where can I get help?**

The ushers who are located on the side of the hall will be happy to help you with any questions you have.



## **Where can I go if I feel overwhelmed or need somewhere quiet?**

The Vestibule which is located outside the hall is a quieter area than the Centennial Hall. You are also welcome to step outside.

# Frequently Asked Questions



## How will I find out about any disruptions or changes?

The Sydney Symphony Orchestra will contact the person who booked the tickets if there are any changes to the performance.



## Who should I contact for more information?

For further information about the performance, you can contact the Sydney Symphony Orchestra on **02 8215 4600** and at [info@sydneysymphony.com](mailto:info@sydneysymphony.com), or for more information about Sydney Town hall, you can contact **02 9265 9333**.



## Where/how can I provide feedback?

After the concert you will receive a post-concert survey to the email the booking was made under. You can also contact the Sydney Symphony Orchestra phone number above.



# Thank you!

Thank you for visiting the  
Sydney Symphony Orchestra  
at the Sydney Town Hall.

