

PUPPETS-

MUSICAL PLAYTIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART



MUSIC DIRECTOR

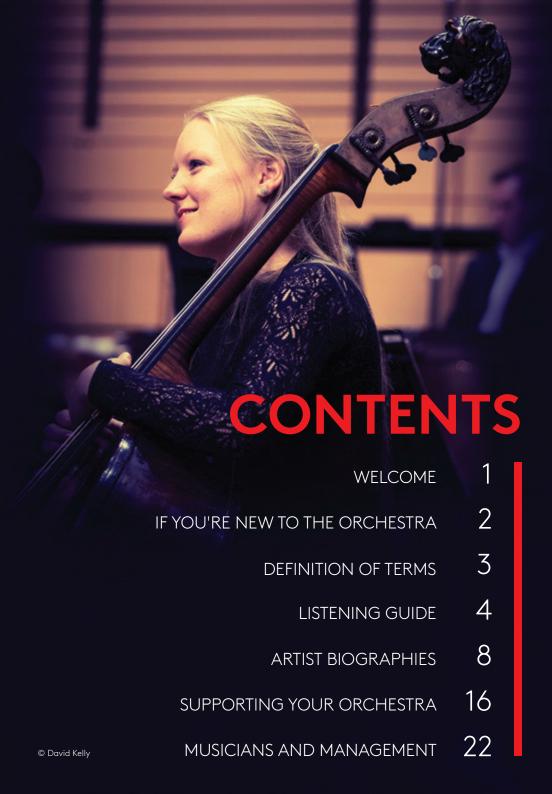
SUN 27 OCT 2019

CONCERT HALL, QPAC









WELCOME

Good morning everyone and welcome to our Music on Sundays performance, *Toys and Puppets!* We are delighted to have our Music Director Alondra de la Parra conducting this fun concert and, as always, we are looking forward to some witty banter from our host Guy Noble.

This morning you'll hear music about toys from all around the globe. Igor Stravinsky wrote music about puppets brought to life during a Russian fair for the ballet *Petrushka*; French composer Léo Delibes wrote music depicting a life-sized dancing doll for the ballet *Coppélia*; and American composer Randy Newman wrote the heart-warming score to the Pixar movie *Toy Story*, depicting the adventures of Woody and Buzz.

This is a particularly exciting performance for me because as a double bass player I spend most of my time at the back of the orchestra and this morning I get to take centre stage to perform the Bottesini Double Bass Concerto. Bottesini himself was an incredible virtuoso on the double bass and was also a prominent opera conductor in his time. He toured the world with his double bass and would come out of the pit and onto the main stage to perform his own compositions in the intervals of the operas he was conducting.

The concerto I'm performing today is special to me for a few reasons, but perhaps most notably because it was the piece I played in my audition for my job with the Orchestra in 2017. I am very honoured to have the chance to perform as soloist with my beloved Queensland Symphony Orchestra family and I hope you enjoy the concert as much as I know I will!

Phoebe Russell

Section Principal Double Bass

IN THIS CONCERT PROGRAM

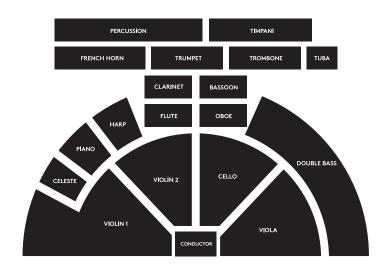
Conductor Alondra de la Parra	Delibes	Mazurka from Coppélia	6'
Host Guy Noble	Leopold Mozart	Toy Symphony in C	10
Double Bass Phoebe Russell Queensland Symphony Orchestra Music Director is proudly supported by Tim Fairfax AC.	Delibes	Excerpts from Coppélia, Suite No.1	7′
	Bottesini	Double Bass Concerto No.2	7′
		in C minor, mvt 1	
	Stravinsky	Excerpts from <i>Pulcinella</i> Suite	5′
	Debussy,	Excerpts from Children's Corner	6'
	orch. Caplet	•	
	Stravinsky	The Shrove-Tide Fair from Petrushka	10
	Newman,	Toy Story Suite	9'
	orch, Rosenbaum		

Queensland Symphony Orchestra acknowledges the traditional custodians of Australia. We acknowledge the cultural diversity of Elders, both past and recent, and the significant contributions that Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples have made to Queensland and Australia.

To ensure an enjoyable concert experience for everyone, please remember to turn off your mobile phones and all other electronic devices. Please muffle coughs and refrain from talking during the performance.

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IF YOU'RE NEW TO THE ORCHESTRA



WHO SITS WHERE

Orchestras sit in sections based on types of instruments. There are four main sections in the symphony orchestra (strings, woodwinds, brass, and percussion) and sometimes a keyboard section.

STRINGS

These instruments produce sound by bowing or plucking stretched strings.

First and Second Violin

Viola

Cello

Double Bass

WOODWIND

Wind instruments produce sound by being blown into.

Flute / Piccolo

Clarinet/Bass Clarinet Oboe/Cor Anglais

Bassoon/Contrabassoon

KEYBOARD

Keyboard instruments are played by pressing keys.

Piano

Celeste

BRASS

Brass players create sound by vibrating their lips. When this vibration is pushed through large brass tubes, it can create significant noise.

French Horn

Trumpet

Trombone/Bass Trombone

Tuba

PERCUSSION

These instruments create sound by being struck or, for the harp, plucked or strummed. Some instruments just make a sound; others play particular notes.

Timpani, Harp, Anvil, Bass Drum, Bass Drum with Attached Cymbals, Bell Tree, Chimes, Cymbals (Pair), Cymbal Tree, Drums, Glockenspiel, High Hat, Mark Tree, Piatti, Ratchet, Sleigh Bells, 3-Snare Drum, Piccolo Snare Drum, Rivet Cymbal, Sit-Down Drums, Songbells, Suspended Cymbal, Tam Tam, Tambourine, Triangle, Vibraphone, Xylophone

DEFINITION OF TERMS

The following terms appear in bold the first time they appear in the listening guide.

a chord which is broken up and played in a rising or falling order. **Arpeggio**

Ballets Russes an influential Russian travelling ballet company from the early

20th century who were based in Paris.

an ornamental passage either improvised or written out, usually Cadenza

played by a soloist or group of soloists and often displaying virtuosity.

Cassation an informal instrumental work often performed outdoors.

Commedia dell'arte Italian theatrical comedy performed by travelling performance

groups throughout Italy in the 16th century.

Concertante a piece of music which contains one or more solo parts.

an orchestral work which features a solo instrumentalist. Concerto

Czardas a Hungarian dance which begins slowly but has a fast finish.

Libretto the text of a vocal work.

Mazurka a Polish folk dance which emphasises the second or third beat.

Movement a self-contained section of a work.

Nocturne a short composition that evokes night-time.

an Italian composer and performer who was known for his Paganini

remarkable violin playing.

Ragtime music originating from the 1890s which is characterised by

a syncopated or 'ragged' rhythm and typically performed

on the piano.

Tableaux sections or scenes of a work.

Syncopated syncopated music has a variety of rhythms which disrupt a

reaular beat.

a German composer who lived from 1813–1883 and was known Wagner

for his operas such as the Ring Cycle and Tristan and Isolde.

LISTENING GUIDE

Léo Delibes (1836-1891)

Coppélia

Mazurka

Suite No.1:

Nocturne

Czardas

In 1870 Delibes made his name with the ballet Coppélia, ou La fille aux yeux d'émail (The Girl with Enamel Eyes), based on a lightly gothic tale of E.T.A. Hoffmann. Young Franz finds himself drawn to a beautiful young woman whom he sees sitting on the balcony of a house and takes to be the daughter of Dr Coppelius. Unbeknown to Franz, the house is full of mechanical creatures and the beautiful girl is of course a doll. He is drawn into the house where Dr Coppelius plans to rob him of his life force to animate the doll, Coppélia, but is saved when his faithful fiancée, Swanilda, intervenes by disguising herself as the doll and rescuing him.

The ballet includes several national dances, including the **Mazurka** and **Czardas**. We hear the **Nocturne** at the beginning of Act II, as Swanilda and her friends sneak into Dr Coppelius' workshop.

Leopold Mozart (1719-1787)

Toy Symphony (Sinfonia Berchtolsgadensis) in C, Hob.II:47

- I. Allegro
- II. Menuetto
- III. Finale: Allegro

Over the years, this symphony has been variously attributed to several composers, including Joseph Haydn and his younger brother Michael. Recent opinion, though, favours Leopold Mozart (court composer, esteemed violin pedagogue, and father of Wolfgang Amadeus) on the basis that the *Toy Symphony*'s three **movements** appear in a multi-movement **cassation** thought to have been composed by him. Whatever the work's provenance, it is entirely appropriate to include it in a concert celebrating toys and puppets, featuring, as the piece does, such visitors to the orchestra as toy trumpet, drum, rattle, and bird-warblers imitating the cuckoo, nightingale and quail.

Giovanni Bottesini (1821–1889)

Double Bass Concerto No.2 in C minor

Allegro moderato

This work may well shatter the preconceptions of those who assume the role of the double bass within the orchestra to be solely one of rhythmic and harmonic foundation. Bottesini received initial training in his home town of Crema as a singer, timpanist and violinist before applying to the Milan Conservatory for a scholarship. He took up the double bass as it was one of only two scholarships on offer, and later toured the world as a leading virtuoso in addition to forging a distinguished career as a conductor (a good friend of Verdi, he led the premiere of *Aida* in Cairo in 1871).

Bottesini's output as a composer was prolific and encompassed several genres, however it is for his solo and concertante double bass pieces that he is chiefly remembered, extending as he did the expressive and technical capabilities of the instrument. The richly Romantic **Concerto** No.2's opening movement features a beautiful, highly lyrical solo line, perhaps reflecting Bottesini's operatic leanings. The dazzling **cadenza** attests to his reputation as the '**Paganini** of the double bass'.

Igor Stravinsky (1882–1971)

Suite from Pulcinella

- 1. Sinfonia
- 7. Vivo
- 5. Toccata

In 1919, the **Ballets Russes'** impresario Sergei Diaghilev suggested to Stravinsky that he arrange some pieces by the 18th-century composer Pergolesi (some of which have since been attributed not to Pergolesi, but to his contemporaries). The resulting ballet, *Pulcinella*, premiered in Paris the following May.

Pulcinella is a stock character of Italian **commedia dell'arte** (the character's Russian incarnation, *Petrushka*, had earlier formed the basis of Stravinsky's 1911 ballet for the Ballets Russes). *Pulcinella*'s scenario was taken from an original 18th-century Neapolitan **libretto**. Pulcinella, having dallied with the affection of all the local women, has incurred the murderous wrath of their fiancés. However in a plot involving disguise and trickery, all is resolved including Pulcinella's marriage to Pimpinella.

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LISTENING GUIDE

Claude Debussy (1862–1918), orch. André Caplet (1878–1925)

Children's Corner

Doctor Gradus ad Parnassum Golliwogg's Cake-Walk

The six piano pieces that make up Debussy's 1908 suite Children's Corner are dedicated to the composer's young daughter Claude-Emma, or 'Chouchou'. Though they evoke a child's world, they are too demanding for children to play. Their charm and ease of comprehension, however, quickly put them among Debussy's most popular music, which may be partly why he allowed his disciple and friend André Caplet to orchestrate Children's Corner in 1910.

Doctor Gradus ad Parnassum was the title of a collection of graduated studies for the piano by Muzio Clementi, the bane of budding pianists. Debussy commented: 'A little humour aimed at old Clementi - a kind of progressive, hygienic gymnastic exercise to be played every morning.'

The cakewalk was danced to the **syncopated** marches of **ragtime**, then just beginning to be known in Europe. As part of his love-hate relationship with **Wagner**, Debussy 'hid' in the middle of this piece a quotation of the famous opening bars of *Tristan and Isolde*. The jerky rhythms in *Golliwogg's Cake-Walk* are just right for a doll, and make an ironic context for the 'Wagner' quote.

Stravinsky

Petrushka (1947 version)

The Shrove-Tide Fair

Petrushka, the second of Stravinsky's ballets for the Ballets Russes, started life as a **concertante** work for piano and orchestra. Stravinsky's original conception was of 'a puppet, suddenly endowed with life, exasperating the patience of the orchestra with diabolical cascades of **arpeggios**'. Diaghilev, however, saw its balletic potential, and Petrushka was staged in Paris in 1911, with Nijinsky dancing the title role of the puppet whose love for the Ballerina is unrequited.

The ballet comprises four **tableaux**, the first of which is set in a St Petersburg square during the Shrove-Tide fair. Amid the bustle of street performers, vendors' cries and organ-grinders, a showman pulls back the curtains of his puppet theatre and with his flute charms three puppets to life...

Randy Newman (b. 1943), orch. Joel Rosenbaum

Toy Story Suite

The innovations of CGI (Computer Generated Imagery) in the 1980s and 1990s brought a new level of realism to animation, endowing the genre with traits more commonly found in the field of live-action filmmaking. Pixar's first full-length animated feature, 1995's *Toy Story*, centres around the adventures of Woody and Buzz and their journey from toyroom rivalry to firm friendship. With ingenious plot devices and a script pleasing in equal measure to film buffs and younger viewers, *Toy Story* harnessed Pixar's groundbreaking technology in service of time-honoured, heart-warming storytelling. For the soundtrack the studio engaged Randy Newman, a musician with an impressive screen composing pedigree (he is the nephew of Golden Age Hollywood composer Alfred Newman) and a knack for writing catchy, witty pop songs. Newman's big-budget orchestral score received an Oscar nomination, as did his theme song, 'You've Got a Friend in Me'.

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ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES



Alondra de la Parra Conductor & Music Director

Alondra de la Parra has gained widespread attention for her spellbinding and vibrant performances and her commitment to Latin American composers. She has conducted over 100 of the world's most prestigious orchestras including London Philharmonic Orchestra, Bamberg Symphony, Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra, Berlin Radio Symphony Orchestra, Berlin Radio Symphony Orchestra and Orchestra dell'Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia

In 2017, she began her term as Music Director of Queensland Symphony Orchestra, making her the first ever Music Director of an Australian orchestra. She is an official Cultural Ambassador of Mexico, where she saw platinum-level sales of her first album 'Mi Alma Mexicana' and, in March 2017, was named brand ambassador for Mercedes-Benz Mexico. In July 2017, Deutsche Welle created 'Musica Maestra', a new classical format featuring Alondra as both protagonist and reporter in a series of several web videos and television shows.

In the 2019/20 season, she will return to Tonhalle-Orchester Zürich, to Staatsoper Berlin for the resumption of Yuval Sharon's production of Mozart's *Zauberflöte* and to Royal Opera House in June 2020.

She recently conducted Tchaikovsky's Romeo and Juliet with Queensland Ballet in Brisbane, and next year will perform a concert at Komische Oper Berlin with cellist Jan Vogler and return to the Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen, which she has been closely working with for several years now. Alondra will also celebrate debuts with the Vienna Radio Symphony Orchestra, Orchestre Philharmonique du Luxembourg with Rolando Villazón, Frankfurt Radio Symphony, and Staatskapelle Dresden.

Engagements of the last seasons include her celebrated return to Orchestre de Paris, an appearance with the Verbier Festival Orchestra, her debut at Festival de Pâques in Aix-en-Provence, as well as the world premiere of the new production T.H.A.M.O.S at Mozartwoche Salzburg, together with Camerata Salzburg and the theatre collective La Fura dels Baus around Carlus Padrissa.

Photo © Peter Rigaud

Queensland Symphony Orchestra Music Director is proudly supported by Tim Fairfax AC.



Guy Noble

Host

Guy Noble has had a long association with Queensland Symphony Orchestra, having first worked with the orchestra in 1994. He has been host of the Music on Sundays series since 2005 and conducted the Orchestra in many other concerts in QPAC, Cairns, Townsville and the Gold Coast. When he isn't with Queensland Symphony Orchestra, Guy also performs with the other major orchestras around the country. He also has worked with the Malaysian Philharmonic, the Hong Kong Philharmonic (in Music of John Williams) and the Auckland Philharmonic in their Unwrap the Classics series, and the Bergen Philharmonic as part of the Bergen Festival. He is also host and conductor of the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra's Classics Unwrapped series at the Adelaide Town Hall.

Guy is the host and accompanist each year for *Great Opera Hits* (Opera Australia) in the Joan Sutherland Theatre of the Sydney Opera House. His *Opera!* The Opera will be performed as part of the inaugural season of Coast Opera Australia in December.

Guy has worked with a wide variety of international performers with orchestras across Australia, including Harry Connick Jnr, Ben Folds, The Beach Boys, The Pointer Sisters, Dianne Reeves, Glenn Frey, Randy Newman, Clive James, Conchita, The Two Cellos, Alfie Boe, and Olivia Newton John. He is also the host of Concert Hall on Qantas Radio.

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ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES



Phoebe Russell Section Principal Double Bass

Double bassist Phoebe Russell enjoys a career as an active soloist, performer and educator. Born in Melbourne, Australia, Phoebe studied at the Australian National Academy of Music under the tutelage of Damien Eckersley. At the age of 17, she moved to Berlin and within months made her debut in the esteemed double bass section of the Berlin Philharmonic. A graduate of Berlin Philharmonic's Karajan Academy, Phoebe has performed in more than twenty countries across the globe with some of the world's leading orchestras. The last few years have seen her perform with the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Radio Symphony Orchestra Berlin, Deutsches Symphonie Orchester, the Netherlands Philharmonic, and the Mahler Chamber Orchestra, among others.

In 2017, Phoebe was appointed Principal Double Bass of Queensland Symphony Orchestra and is regularly invited to orchestras as a quest principal. She has been invited to perform as Principal Double Bass with many Australian symphony orchestras, and has most recently returned from a Europe tour leading the double bass section of the Mahler Chamber Orchestra. She has had the privilege of working under several world class conductors, some personal favourites including Sir Simon Rattle, Gustavo Dudamel, Andris Nelsons, Daniel Barenboim, and Zubin Mehta.

An avid soloist, Phoebe is regularly invited to perform as recitalist in Australia and abroad including to a full house in the Berlin Philharmonic lunch concert series. She has performed as soloist with orchestras including the Tasmanian and Canberra Symphony Orchestras and the Baden Baden Philharmonic. Phoebe is also an active member of Ensemble Q, one of Australia's most dynamic new ensembles and enjoys an engaging schedule of chamber music collaborations in Brisbane and around the country.

Parallel to her busy performance schedule, Phoebe is a passionate educator and is the lecturer in double bass at The University of Queensland and a faculty member of the Queensland Conservatorium of Music.

Photo © Peter Wallis

Chair sponsored by Sidney Irene Thomas (In memory)





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ALONDRA'S SEASON FINALE

FRI 15 NOV 11AM **SAT 16 NOV 7.30PM** CONCERT HALL, QPAC CONDUCTOR ALONDRA DE LA PARRA PIANO PAUL LEWIS

GRIEG Piano Concerto in A minor TCHAIKOVSKY Symphony No.5 in E minor RAVEL Rapsodie espagnol*

*Ravel not featured in Friday concert.



ALONDRA DE LA PARRA MUSIC DIRECTOR

Queensland Symphony Orchestra Music Director is proudly supported by Tim Fairfax AC The Artist-in-Residence program is supported by The University of Queensland Presented in association with QPAC









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TCHAIKOVSKY AND BEETHOVEN

FRI 1 NOV 2019 7.30PM Concert Hall, QPAC

Conductor Violin

Alondra de la Parra Nemanja Radulovic

Ibarra Tchaikovsky Beethoven

Sinfonia No.2, 'Las Antesalas del Sueño' Concerto in D for Violin and Orchestra

Symphony no.6 in F (Pastorale)



TIMELESS —

FRI 15 NOV 2019 11AM SAT 16 NOV 2019 7.30PM Concert Hall, QPAC

Conductor Piano

Alondra de la Parra

Paul Lewis

Grieg Tchaikovsky

Piano Concerto in A minor Symphony No.5 in E minor Rapsodie espagnol*

* Ravel not featured in Friday concert



CHAMBER PLAYERS —

SUN 24 NOV 2019 3PM

Queensland Symphony Orchestra Studio, ABC Building, South Bank

Michael Haydn Divertimento in C String Quintet in C, Op.29 Beethoven

Martinů String Sextet, H.224

A delightful afternoon of music hand-picked by our musicians.

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