

# **EVOCATIVE SCENIC MELODIES**



**SUN 28 FEB 2021** 

CONCERT HALL, QPAC









### **WELCOME**

I'm very pleased to introduce this program in which we welcome conductor Umberto Clerici to guide us through some of my favourite repertoire. I was always fond of Beethoven's *Pastoral* Symphony, our central work, even before my kids watched it brought to life by Disney in *Fantasia*! Every part of the rural evocation is wonderful and one always marvels at tumultuous Beethoven's beautiful serenity in the slow movement, *Thunderstorm*.

The shorter pieces by Mendelssohn and Grieg are always a great play for the musicians, and seem more marvellously conceived every time one engages with them.

Once more I play *The Lark Ascending* by English composer Ralph Vaughan Williams; a piece central to my artistry as I've been privileged to perform it a number of times. Inspired by the 1881 poem of the same name by English writer George Meredith, this piece uses the violin to imitate a songbird while the orchestra brings to life the landscape beneath it. Escape with me, if you will, to a far-away, long-ago English country scene of pure poetry.

We thank you for your warm patronage of our concerts, and let us hope, if we might, for a full, uninterrupted year of music together.

### Warwick Adeney

Concertmaster

### IN THIS CONCERT

**Conductor** Umberto Clerici **Host** Guy Noble **Soloist** Warwick Adeney, violin

### **PROGRAM**

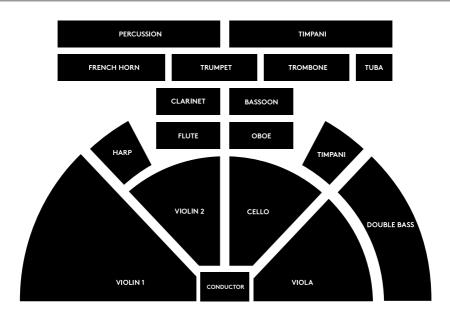
MENDELSSOHN	The Hebrides (Fingal's Cave)	10'
BEETHOVEN	Symphony No.6 in F (Pastoral), mvt 4: Thunderstorm	4
J. STRAUSS JR.	On the Beautiful Danube	9'
GRIEG	Suite No.1 from Peer Gynt,	7'
	mvt 1: Morning, mvt 4: In the Hall of the Mountain King	
<b>VAUGHAN WILLIAMS</b>	The Lark Ascending	13
GRENFELL	River Mountain Sky	6'
SMETANA	The Moldau from Má vlast	12'

 ${\it Queensland Symphony Orchestra\ acknowledges\ the\ traditional\ custodians\ of\ Australia.}$ 

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.

### 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/Second Violin

Viola

Cello

Double Bass

Harp

### WOODWIND

Wind instruments produce sound by being blown into.

Flute/Piccolo

Clarinet / E flat Clarinet / Bass Clarinet

Oboe/Cor Anglais

Bassoon/Contrabassoon

#### 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 shaken. Some instruments just make a sound; others play particular notes.

Timpani, Bass drum, Snare drum, Cymbals, Glockenspiel, Xylophone, Vibraphone, Tam-tam, Triangle, Sleigh Bells.

### WHO'S ON STAGE TODAY

#### CONCERTMASTER

Natsuko Yoshimoto

# ASSOCIATE CONCERTMASTER

Alan Smith

### VIOLIN 1

Rebecca Seymour \*
Shane Chen
Lynn Cole
Ann Holtzapffel
Joan Shih
Brenda Sullivan
Jason Tong
Stephen Tooke
Claire Tyrell
Brynley White
Sonia Wilson

#### VIOLIN 2

Gail Aitken ~
Wayne Brennan ~
Katie Betts ^
Jane Burroughs
Faina Dobrenko
Simon Dobrenko
Delia Kinmont
Natalie Low
Tim Marchmont
Nicholas Thin
Helen Travers
Harold Wilson

### VIOLA

Imants Larsens ~ Yoko Okayasu >> Charlotte Burbrook de Vere Thomas Chawner Nicole Greentree Bernard Hoey Kirsten Hulin-Bobart Graham Simpson Nicholas Tomkin Belinda Williams

#### CELLO

Trish Dean =
Matthew Kinmont +
Kathryn Close
Andre Duthoit
Matthew Jones
Kaja Skorka
Alison Smith-O'Connell
Craig Allister Young

### **DOUBLE BASS**

Phoebe Russell ~ Dušan Walkowicz >> Anne Buchanan Justin Bullock Alexandra Elvin Ken Poggioli

### **FLUTE**

Alison Mitchell ~ Hayley Radke >> Stephanie Vici

#### PICCOLO

Kate Lawson \*

### OBOE

Huw Jones ~

### COR ANGLAIS

Vivienne Brooke \*

### CLARINET

Brian Catchlove =

### BASS CLARINET

Nicholas Harmsen \*

#### **BASSOON**

David Mitchell >>

### CONTRABASSOON

Claire Ramuscak \*

### FRENCH HORN

Nicholas Mooney = lan O'Brien \* Vivienne Collier-Vickers Ryan Humphrey Lauren Manuel

### TRUMPET

Richard Madden = Mark Bremner

#### TROMBONE

Jason Redman ~ Ashley Carter >>

### **BASS TROMBONE**

Matthew McGeachin ^

#### TUBA

Thomas Allely \*

### TIMPANI

Tim Corkeron \*

### PERCUSSION

Josh DeMarchi >> Jacob Enoka Fraser Matthew

### HARP

Jill Atkinson \*

- ~ Section Principal
- = Acting Section Principal
- >> Associate Principal
- + Acting Associate Principal
- \* Principal
- ^ Acting Principal

### **DEFINITION OF TERMS**

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

**Allegro** means to be played briskly.

**Movement** a symphony is often divided up into different 'sections' called

movements. Each section may be played at a different speed to the previous, but each carry an overall theme of the

symphony throughout.

**Symphonic poem** a piece of orchestral music that illustrates, evokes or is based on

a poem or story.



### LISTENING GUIDE

# Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)

The Hebrides (Fingal's Cave), Op.26

At 20 years old, Felix Mendelssohn took a sight-seeing trip to the Hebrides, an archipelago off the coast of Scotland. He was deeply moved by the scene: basalt columns jutting up from the sea, the marvellous crashing of wave against rock, alluring caves (and a touch of seasickness). He wrote in a letter to his sister Fanny, also a composer: "In order to make you understand how extraordinarily the Hebrides affected me, the following came into my mind there." He then enclosed some scribblings of a score-the earliest musings of his symphonic poem.

Over the next few years, Mendelssohn chipped away at *The Hebrides* before conducting the premiere of the work's final revision in Berlin, 1833; an earlier version had premiered in London, 1832. With its bobbing pulse and turbulent string lines, it's easy to feel the composer's admiration for the untamed seascape he'd explored.

### Ludwig Van Beethoven (1770–1827)

Symphony No.6 in F, Op.68, Pastorale

IV. Gewitter, Sturm (Thunderstorm)

The fourth movement of Beethoven's *Pastorale* begins with drama. Then it gets bigger. Creeping strings herald an oncoming storm. A full orchestral blast with booming timpani signals a thunderous downpour. This is a fast-paced **Allegro** in Beethoven's programmatic work; the symphony's five **movements** encompass his respect for nature. They were completed in 1808, and reflected his cherished walks through the countryside around Vienna.

The other movements of this symphony celebrate the landscape in all its remarkable forms – quails chirping, brooks babbling, and 'cheerful feelings on arriving in the country' as the first movement's name suggests. But *Thunderstorm* shows us how tempestuous weather can be just as thrilling, bringing into the concert hall some of nature's wildest scenes.

### Johan Strauss Jr (1825–1899)

On the Beautiful Blue Danube, Op.314

There's a reason composer Johann Strauss Jr is lovingly known as the Waltz King. On the Beautiful Blue Danube was in such high demand after its orchestral premiere that his publisher printed more than one million copies of the piano score.

Some say Strauss' earliest listeners didn't think much of the work when it was first performed by the Vienna Men's Choral Association in 1867. Verses were penned by its poet Joseph Weyl with a pinch of post-Prussian War commentary. It was Strauss' orchestral adaptation that would steal the hearts of music lovers for generations to come.

The Danube River that runs through Vienna isn't actually blue. Still, this dreamy and opulent melody reflects the words of Weyl, who idyllically described it as "a picture of peace for all time".

### LISTENING GUIDE

### Edvard Grieg (1843–1907)

Suite No.1 from Peer Gynt

1. Morning

IV. In the Hall of the Mountain King

Edvard Grieq was born in 1843, surrounded by the luscious peaks and glistening waters of Norway. But when he composed Morning, he imagined palm trees rising from the desert sands of Morocco.

The movement is from Peer Gynt, first composed as incidental music to Ibsen's 1867 play and later becoming the more popular suites we hear today. Morning commences gently with flute and oboe, slowly blooming into a melody as uplifting as the rising sun.

In contrast, In the Hall of the Mountain King transports us into a fantastical cave where monsters reign. The tension builds from its opening theme, which tiptoes pianissimo extra quietly - before gaining speed. A band of trolls have captured Peer in the cavernous hall with plans to roast him on a spit! Bright major chords sound of hope, and as we hurtle towards an uproarious finale, Peer escapes - and the trolls go without their dinner.

# Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)

The Lark Ascending

For singing till his heaven fills, 'tis love of earth that he instills.

So wrote George Meredith in his 1881 poem The Lark Ascending. It's a vision that inspired Ralph Vaughan Williams to craft a tone poem of the same name, and instead of words he used a single violin to portray the lark's graceful entrance to the sky.

Vaughan Williams first composed this stunning music in 1914, ascribing violin and piano to the story of this little bird. It wouldn't be performed on its completion; World War I erupted and the composer volunteered for military service. After, he revisited the Lark, adding other instruments to support the violin's fluttering melody.

It took seven more years for the Lark to finally soar above orchestra in the Queen's Hall, London - gifting listeners with the transportive sound of peace and pastoral beauty.

Today's performance marks the centenary of the 1921 orchestral premiere.

### Maria Grenfell (1969-)

### River Mountain Sky

Maria Grenfell is a Tasmanian composer, having lived on the island since 1998. The moody landscape of Australia's southern-most state has woven its way into her music. And in 2004 the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra commissioned her to write a piece in honour of the state's bicentenary.

The resulting work, *River Mountain Sky*, is a vibrant piece of musical storytelling. The composer shines a wide spotlight on the instruments of the orchestra, blending them together to forge her own aural landscape—one that reveals wondrous seasonal skies with slow-moving clouds. We can hear the island's diverse topology—jarringly angular formations of rock, water streaming below—all surrounding her own home at the base of the looming Mount Wellington.

### Bedřich Smetana (1824–1884)

Vltava (The Moldau) from Má vlast (My homeland)

Bedřich Smetana's work Má vlast (My Homeland) was premiered in Prague, 1882 – and what a majestic celebration of his country it was. Picturesque scenes are illustrated through this suite of six **symphonic poems**: fields, woods, and a medieval castle.

In *The Moldau*, Smetana opens with wind instruments to suggest two cascading mountain springs. After they call and respond to each other's melodies, they gradually unite to form a majestic body of water, here welcomed through higher-register strings.

As you glide further along Smetana's river, listen for changes in the music: among the scenes conjured are mermaids under a moonlit sky, a wedding by the river, and whitewater rapids. The river journey eventually arrives in Prague on the flow of Smetana's final stately theme – what a tour!

Notes © Stephanie Eslake, 2021

### **ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES**



### Umberto Clerici Conductor

With a career spanning more than 20 years as a gifted cello soloist, orchestral musician, and now emerging conductor, Umberto Clerici is swiftly gaining a reputation as an artist with a diverse and multifaceted career.

Umberto started studying the cello with the Suzuki method at the age of five and continued his studies with Mario Brunello, David Géringas and Julius Berger. Umberto received several international prizes most at the Janigro Competition in Zagreb, at the Rostropovich in Paris and, in 2011, at the Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow making him the second Italian cellist ever being honoured in the history of the prize, after Mario Brunello.

As a cello soloist, Umberto made his debut at the age of 17 performing Haydn's D Major cello concerto in Japan, and has since appeared with an array of renowned orchestras internationally including the Vienna Philharmonic, St. Petersburg Philharmonic, Russian State Orchestra of Moscow, "I Pomeriggi Musicali" (Milan) and Zagreb Philharmonic. In 2003, he made his debut at the Salzburg Festival and, in 2012, he performed Tchaikovsky's "Rococo variations" conducted by Valery Gergiev. Umberto has performed on the stages of the world's most prestigious concert halls including New York's Carnegie Hall, Vienna's Musicverein, the great Shostakovich Hall of St Petersburg and Auditorium Parco della Musica in Rome.

In 2014, Umberto was appointed as the Principal Cello of the Sydney Symphony following his appointment as Principal Cellist of the Royal Opera House in Turin for four years. Umberto enjoys solo appearances with the Sydney Symphony; in 2017 with an interdisciplinary project centred on Strauss' *Don Quixote* and, in 2018, Brahms' Double Concerto.

After making his debut with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra at the Sydney Opera House, Umberto is swiftly becoming recognised in his capacity as a conductor. Future highlights in Australia will include returns to the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, Canberra Symphony as Artist in Residence and debuts with the Melbourne and Queensland Symphony Orchestras. Further afield Umberto will conduct the Izmir and Istanbul State Orchestra della Valle d'Aosta

Umberto also enjoys his position as the Artistic Director of the Sydney Youth Orchestra Chamber Ensemble.

Umberto plays a 1722 Matteo Goffriller and a 1758 Carlo Antonio Testore.



### Guy Noble Host

Guy Noble has conducted the Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Western Australian, Tasmanian, Queensland and Canberra symphony orchestras, the Auckland Philharmonia, and the Hong Kong Symphony and Malaysian Philharmonic orchestras. He was the host and accompanist each year for Great Opera Hits (Opera Australia) at the Sydney Opera House, conducted Opera Queensland's 2014 production of La Boheme, and is conductor and host for the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra's Classics Unwrapped series at the Adelaide Town Hall. In 1991 he was a network announcer on BBC Radio 3, host of Breakfast on ABC Classic from 1999 to 2001 and a presenter on ABC TV's Dimensions in Time series. He appeared four times on ABC TV's Spicks and Specks which still air at odd hours of the day or night.

Guy has worked with a wide variety of international performers including Harry Connick Jr, 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 was the first conductor and host for the Symphony in the City for the West Australian Symphony Orchestra and returns regularly to entertain upwards of 25000 happy concertgoers at Langley Park.

Some career highlights include doing a raffle with Princess Margaret in London, sharing a chat in a lift with John Gielgud at BBC Broadcasting House, cooking pasta live on stage with Maggie Beer and Simon Bryant and the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra and singing backing vocals with Kate Ceberano. Guy is pleased after a covid-inspired hiatus to return in 2021 for music and laughter with the QSO.



### Warwick Adeney Soloist

Warwick Adeney was born into a large family of violinists and trained at Queensland Conservatorium alongside three of his siblings. There he learnt with Dr Anthony Doheny, was a member of the Ambrosian Quartet, and emerged as the Gold Medal graduate of 1984.

He joined Queensland Theatre Orchestra under Georg Tintner, and rose to the concertmastership in 1989. During the years of Anthony Camden's musical oversight, Warwick Adeney played many solos, including the memorable Lark Ascending with Sir Neville Marriner, and directed many concerts.

In 2001, the amalgamation of orchestras in Queensland occurred and Warwick Adeney served (initially as co-concertmaster with Alan Smith) under conductor Michael Christie, Johannes Fritzsch, and Alondra de la Parra. Over the years Warwick Adeney has continued to enjoy the privileged and challenging life of the orchestra, and become something of a specialist in ballet solos and the Four Seasons along the way.

Married to Michele, a fellow musician, Warwick Adeney is blessed with nine children, all of whom learn a variety of instruments, and the family attends a weekly traditional Latin mass.

The violin Warwick plays is a Venetian instrument from the early 18th century, possibly by Carlo Antonio Testore.

### MUSIC CHAIR SUPPORTERS

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### Warwick Adeney

Prof Ian Frazer AC and Mrs Caroline Frazer Estate of Barbara Jean Hebden Cathryn Mittelheuser AM John Story AO and Georaina Story

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Arthur Waring

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Jessica Read

### Lynn Cole

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### Sonia Wilson

Wei Zhang & Ping Luo

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Dr John H. Casey

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#### SECOND VIOLIN

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### Simon Dobrenko

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Dr Julie Beeby David Miller Arthur Waring

### ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL CELLO

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John Story AO and Georgina Story

### **CELLO**

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Anne Shipton

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MJ Bellotti

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Robin Spencer Anonymous

### **Craig Allister Young**

Di Jameson

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### ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL DOUBLE BASS

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John Story AO and Georgina Story

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Graeme Rosewarne and Jim O'Neill

### Ken Poggioli

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Irit Silver

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#### **Kate Travers**

Dr Julie Beeby

### PRINCIPAL BASS CLARINET

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### **Evan Lewis**

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### Claire Ramuscak

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### SECTION PRINCIPAL FRENCH HORN

### Malcolm Stewart

Arthur Waring

# PRINCIPAL FRENCH HORN Ian O'Brien

David Miller and Rosslyn Walker

### ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL FRENCH HORN

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### Paul Rawson (Acting)

Dr Pamela Greet and Mr Nicholas Beaton

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### Jason Redman

Frances and Stephen Maitland OAM RFD

### ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL TROMBONE

### **Ashley Carter**

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Vacant

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Dr Graham and Mrs Kate Row

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#### Josh DeMarchi

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# Queensland Symphony Orchestra (QSO) has been captivating audiences for over 70 years – thank you for making QSO the

### Health and Wellbeing

organisation it is today.

Share the joy of music with those that need it most.

### Regional

Expand QSO's reach throughout greater Queensland.

### **Education and Community**

Provide the gift of music to our most important citizens, the children of Queensland.

### Digital

Help us connect with remote communities.

### Corporate Partnerships

Experience 'Money Cannot Buy' and commercial benefits.

### Become a Music Chair Supporter

Join this special group - support your favourite musician.

### **Annual Giving**

Guarantee the vitality and longevity of QSO.

### Planned Giving

Make your musical passion your legacy.

For more information on how you can support QSO please contact the Development Team – P: 07 3833 5017 E: development@aso.com.au W: aso.com.au/support-us.





David Miller supports Wayne Brennan and Matthew Kinmont through the Music Chair program.

### HOW HAS QUEENSLAND SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA IMPACTED YOU?

I don't remember there being a single day (from early childhood) when music was not a vital part of my life and constantly in my head. Encouraged very much as a child in a musical household, I won a place in a professional London choir at the age of 9 and have played and performed (though not professionally) ever since. I have been a regular concert goer and listener from an early age and even though the quality of recorded music is now so good, it can stand no proper comparison with the thrill of live music. This is particularly true of orchestral music; the enforced absence of concert going in the last year has only served to underline and reinforce just what a total experience it is to be part of a live performance of great music superbly played, which is my experience with QSO. To see the musicians living their experience and communicating with one another as they play is a dimension that the very best recording just can't get close to!!

### WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO YOU TO SUPPORT QSO?

The Orchestra brings an indescribably beautiful and utterly essential element to my life which would be very much the poorer without it. Supporting the musicians, has the additional benefit of bringing me just that little bit closer to the orchestra and to the musicians as real personalities and not just people playing instruments.

### WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO THOSE CONSIDERING SUPPORTING QSO?

Do so without hesitation. Not only do you help bring all of this wonderful music to life for the benefit of the community, you will become far more involved in the music, the musicians and the life of the orchestra.



#### **PATRON**

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### HARP

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- ~ Section Principal
- = Acting Section Principal
- >> Associate Principal
- + Acting Associate Principal
- \* Principal
- Acting Principal







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#### QUEENSLAND PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE

PO Box 3567, South Bank, Queensland 4101 T: (07) 3840 7444 W: gpac.com.au

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#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

The Queensland Performing Arts Trust is a statutory body of the State of Queensland and is partially funded by the Queensland Government

The Honourable Leeanne Enoch MP, Minister for Communities and Housing, Minister for Digital Economy and Minister for the Arts.

QPAC respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the Lands across Queensland and pays respect to their ancestors who came before them and to Elders past, present and emerging.

Patrons are advised that the Performing Arts Centre has EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURES, a FIRE ALARM system and EXIT passageways. In case of an alert, patrons should remain calm, look for the closest EXIT sign in GREEN, listen to and comply with directions given by the inhouse trained attendants and move in an orderly fashion to the open spaces outside the Centre.

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### **COMING UP**



### **ENIGMA** -

FRI 9 APR 7.30PM SAT 10 APR 3PM & 7.30PM Concert Hall, QPAC

Conductor Soloist Johannes Fritzsch Joseph Nolan, organ

Poulenc Elgar Organ Concerto in G minor Enigma Variations

Enigin

and more



# **CINEMATIC**

SAT 24 APR 3PM & 7.30PM Concert Hall, QPAC

Conductor and Host Nicholas Buc

**INCLUDES MUSIC FROM** 

Giacchino
The Incredibles
Silvestri
The Avengers
Zimmer
Gladiator
Williams
Star Wars
and more



# PICTURES AT AN EXHIBITION -

FRI 30 APR 11AM SAT 1 MAY 3PM & 7.30PM Concert Hall, QPAC

Conductor Soloists Benjamin Northey Alison Mitchell, flute Irit Silver, clarinet

Rimsky-Korsakov

Kerry

Overture from May Night Sinfonia Concertante for Flute,

Clarinet and Orchestra (World Premiere)

Mussorgsky

Pictures at an Exhibition

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### HAVE YOUR SAY

We love to hear from our audience. What did you think of the concert? What was your favourite piece? Who do you want to hear more of? Let us know!

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