

IT'S LIVE!
in Queensland



FESTIVAL OF OUTBACK OPERA

Vast horizons and dazzling night skies

18 – 27 May, 2022

Longreach • Winton • Barcaldine • Blackall • Tambo • Windorah



Festival of Outback Opera is supported by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland.



MESSAGE FROM THE HON. STIRLING HINCHLIFFE, MINISTER FOR TOURISM

Welcome to the Festival of Outback Opera, a wonderful opportunity to immerse yourself in the Outback's local culture and community, and hopefully explore some of the superb tourism experiences on offer here in the Outback.

The impacts of the pandemic have provided incredible challenges, but thanks to the hard work of Queenslanders our state was one of the first to put in place a COVID Safe Event Framework which paved the way for events such as this one to take place.

The Queensland Government is proud to support the Festival of Outback Opera, through Tourism and Events Queensland's Destination Events Program and it is a feature on our It's Live! in Queensland events calendar. Events are an important part of our state's economic recovery from the pandemic because they attract visitors to the region which stimulates the local economy and supports local jobs. Events are also an important opportunity for communities, friends, families and visitors to come together, creating community pride and reconnecting us.

Congratulations to the event organisers and all those involved in organising this event – may it be a successful one.

If you are visiting for the event, I encourage you to make some time to explore the diverse tourism experiences on offer in this beautiful region.

STIRLING HINCHLIFFE MP

THE HON. STIRLING HINCHLIFFE MP, MINISTER FOR TOURISM, INNOVATION AND SPORT AND MINISTER ASSISTING THE PREMIER ON OLYMPICS AND PARALYMPICS SPORT AND ENGAGEMENT.



Image courtesy of Tourism and Events Queensland

Opera Queensland acknowledges the First Peoples of the Lands across Queensland upon which we perform. We pay our respects to all of Queensland's First Peoples, their ancestors and Elders and to our shared future.



MESSAGE FROM THE HON. LEEANNE ENOCH, MINISTER FOR THE ARTS

Opera is back in the Outback.

The highly anticipated Festival of Outback Opera, presented by Opera Queensland, triumphantly returns to Winton and Longreach, and in 2022 expands its tour itinerary to include Barcaldine, Blackall, Tambo and Windorah.

Opera Queensland's Festival of Outback Opera shines a spotlight on our iconic remote venues, and provides unique backdrops to stunning operatic performances.

The Queensland Government is proud to support Opera Queensland's 2022 Festival of Outback Opera, along with the company's regional touring, and the development of *The Sopranos* with its story of the brave and bold women of opera.

I welcome audiences to the Festival of Outback Opera and its enticing program of events and applaud Opera Queensland for its continued commitment to provide exciting new ways for Queenslanders and visitors to our state to experience opera and the joy of live music amidst breath-taking backdrops.

LEEANNE ENOCH MP

THE HON. LEEANNE ENOCH MP, MINISTER FOR COMMUNITIES AND
HOUSING, MINISTER FOR DIGITAL ECONOMY AND MINISTER FOR THE
ARTS





WELCOME

Welcome to Opera Queensland's, Festival of Outback Opera, an event celebrating the energy created when stories and songs are shared amidst the extraordinary landscapes that make this part of the world such a wondrous place to be.

At a time when the noise of constant information seems to deny clarity, a trip to the Outback offers much needed respite – a chance to reset. The Festival of Outback Opera was born of Opera Queensland's belief that audiences, no matter where they are, have the right to experience art of the highest calibre. Our aim is to connect audiences from all walks of life, creating experiences inspired by each location and illuminating the universal joy that singing and storytelling offers.

Opening in Winton then travelling to Longreach, Barcaldine, Barcoo, Blackall, Tambo and Windorah, the Festival invites audiences to hear some of Australia's great singers, share a song with friends at Sing, Sing, Sing, or get involved in one of our other community events.

Opera creates a space where we can hear and see the world from perspectives beyond our own. Whether it is your first time to the opera, or you have a deep connection with the art form, we hope the festival offers you the chance to encounter something unique - be it a song ringing out of the desert, a conversation with a stranger or a shared experience with a loved one - we are thrilled that you have chosen to join us.

This is the second Festival of Outback Opera and we are grateful to Arts Queensland and Tourism and Events Queensland for their support. Special thanks also to the Winton, Longreach, Barcaldine, Barcoo, and Blackall and Tambo Councils, who have once again backed our dream to create a festival that shines a light on all that opera and the Outback have to offer.

We are already preparing for next year's festival and will have something very special share about it in the coming months. Please make the most of your time at this year's festival and know that we will be back with something just as thrilling in 2023.

PATRICK NOLAN

CEO & ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
OPERA QUEENSLAND



A NOTE FROM DANE LAM

As a conductor born and raised in Queensland, I believe that music and drama is baked into our landscape. From our rugged coast, to verdant rainforest, to our vast outback - the dramatic side of opera seems to have found its natural home here.

It has given me great pleasure as the Music Director of the 2022 Festival of Outback Opera to curate a program with some of our finest singers accompanied by the UQ Pulse Chamber Orchestra. You'll hear perennial favourites but, perhaps more interestingly, operatic rarities that speak directly to the human condition. Combine this most glorious of music with the most atmospheric of settings, beneath unending star-speckled skies, and you have the recipe for an opera festival unlike any other in the world. I cannot wait to share it with you as we revel in the beauty on stage and off in the Festival of Outback Opera 2022.

DANE LAM

MUSIC DIRECTOR
FESTIVAL OF OUTBACK OPERA



Photo: Teagan thompson

WHAT'S ON WINTON

Wednesday
18 May

Sing Sing Sing

6.30pm

North Gregory Hotel, Winton

Thursday
19 May

The Sopranos

6.00pm

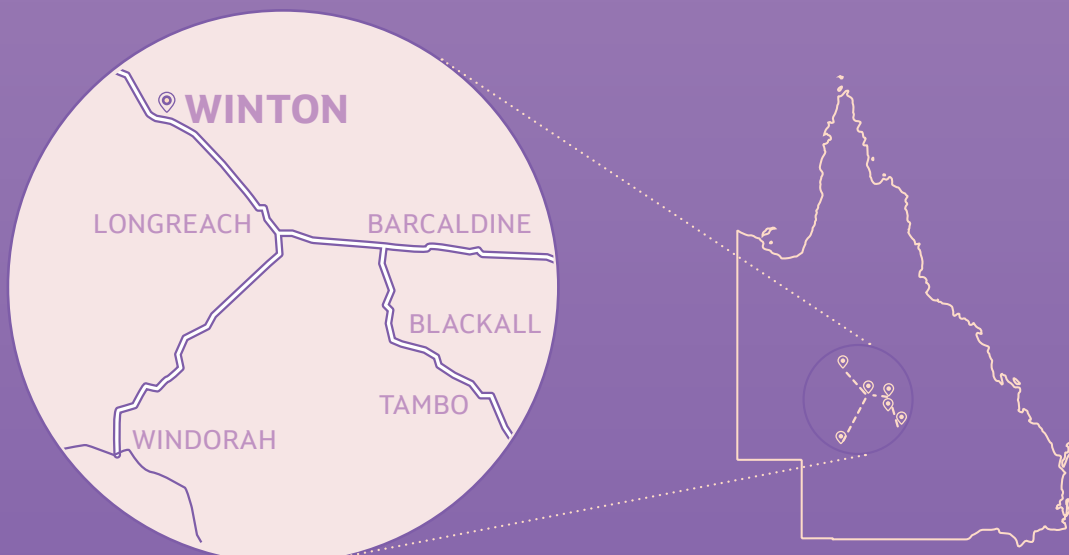
The Royal Theatre, Winton

Friday
20 May

Dark Sky Serenade

6.00pm

Australian Age of Dinosaurs,
Winton



WHAT'S ON LONGREACH • BARCALDINE

**Saturday
21 May**

Panel Discussion: Who cares about the arts in the regions?

12.30pm

Edkins Memorial Park, Longreach

Singing in the Night

6.00pm

Camden Park Station, Longreach

**Sunday
22 May**

Sing Sing Sing

2.00pm

The Branch Cafe, Longreach

The Sopranos

6.00pm

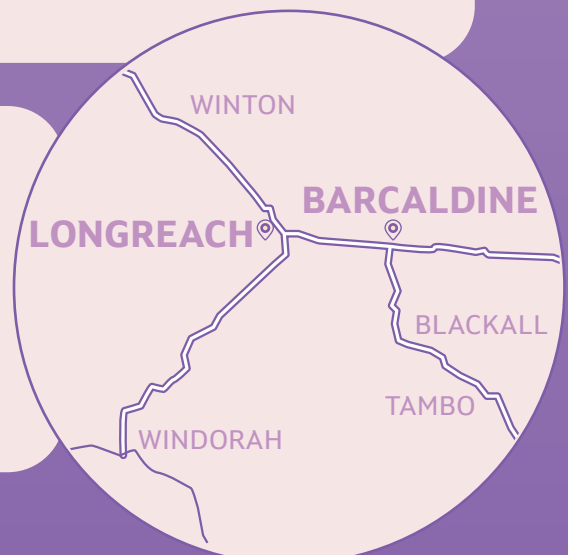
Longreach Showgrounds

**Monday
23 May**

The Sopranos

6.00pm

Barcaldine Rec Park



WHAT'S ON

BLACKALL • TAMBO • WINDORAH

Tuesday
24 May

Sing Sing Sing

6.00pm

The Lodge on Hawthorn, Blackall

Wednesday
25 May

The Sounds of Sunset

6.30pm

Tambo Shire Hall Lawn

Thursday
26 May

The Sopranos

6.00pm

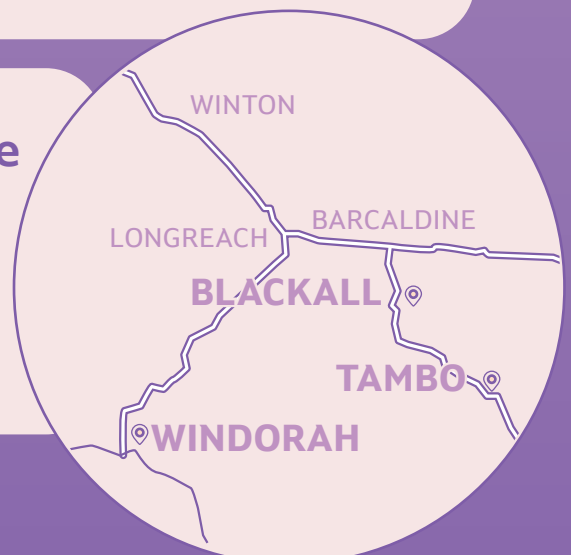
Blackall Woolscour, Blackall

Friday
27 May

The Long Way Home

6.30pm

Sandos Sandhill,
Windorah



CREATIVE TEAM & CAST

DARK SKY SERENADE & SINGING IN THE NIGHT

CREATIVE TEAM

Music Director **Dane Lam**
 Director **Patrick Nolan**
 Lighting **Bernie Tan-Hayes**
 Sound **Geoff McGahan**

UQ Pulse Chamber Orchestra
 Featuring
Adam Chalabi (Violin)
Patrick Murphy (Cello)
Narelle French (Keyboard)

CAST

Shaun Brown
Marcus Corowa
Eva Kong
Emma Nightingale
Hayley Sugars
Ashlyn Tymms
Kang Wang

Piano **Narelle French**

THE SOUNDS OF SUNSET

CAST

Marcus Corowa
Amber Evans
Eleanor Greenwood
Michael Honeyman

Piano **Kylie Los**

THE LONG WAY HOME

CAST

Marcus Corowa
Emma Nightingale

Piano **Catherine Lynagh**

THE SOPRANOS

CREATIVE TEAM

Written and reimagined for tour by
Laura Hansford and **Patrick Nolan** from
 an original work by **Sarah Holland-Batt**

Director **Laura Hansford**
 Concept Designer **Marg Horwell**
 Costumes **Karen Cochet** and **Bianca Bulley**
 Musical Director **Jason Barry-Smith**

CAST

Amber Evans
Eleanor Greenwood
Eva Kong
Jason Barry-Smith
Michael Honeyman

Piano **Kylie Los**

SING SING SING

Director **Jason Barry-Smith**
 Piano **Kylie Los**
 Piano **Amanda Strong***

~Wednesday 18 May

*Sunday 22 May

SINGERS

Jason Barry-Smith
Marcus Corowa
Eva Kong
Emma Nightingale*

CREATIVE TEAM & CAST

UQ PULSE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Violin 1

Adam Chalabi*
Ann Carew
In Yi Chae
Jasmine Milton
Lili Stephens

Violin 2

Isabelle Watson*
Sophia Goodwin
Hanah Lee
Abigail Lui
Fan Yang

Viola

Liam Mallinson*
Helena Burns
Daniel Casey
Emilia Siedlecki

Cello

Patrick Murphy*
Ting Yan Lai

Double Bass

Alexandra Elvin*

***Principal**

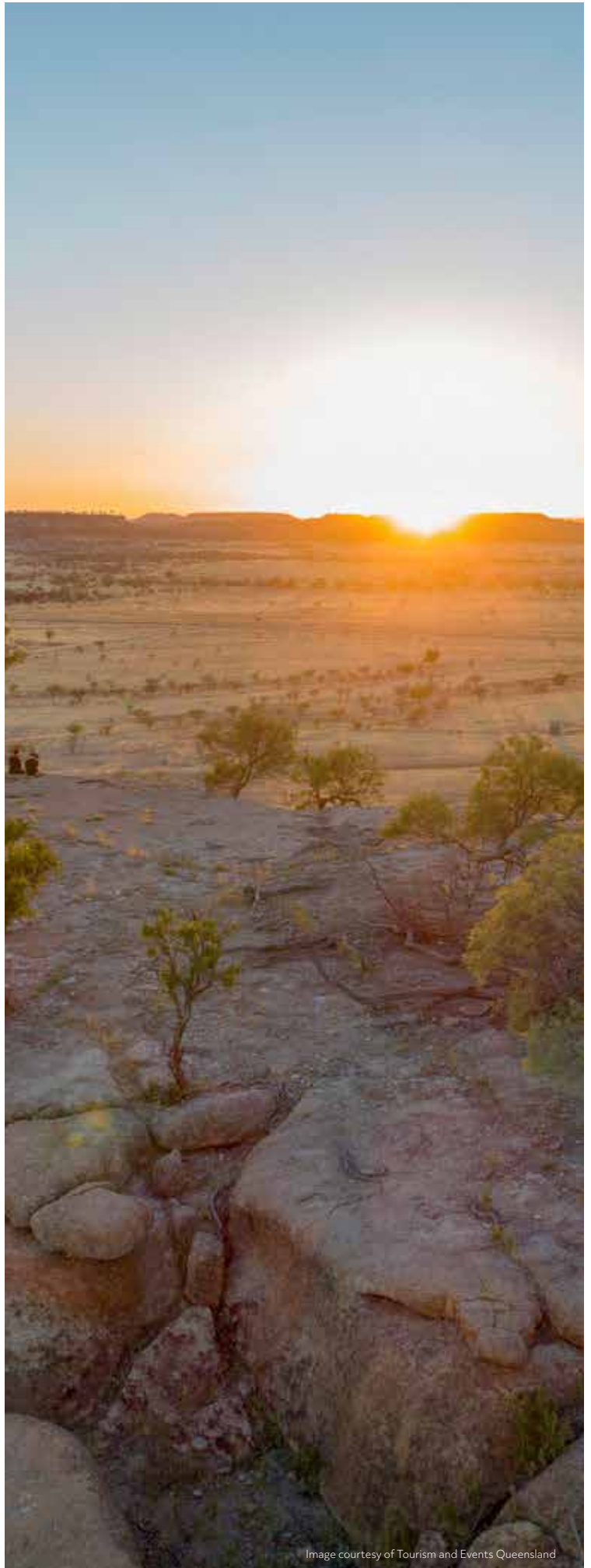


Image courtesy of Tourism and Events Queensland





Music Director
DANE LAM

Australian-Chinese conductor, Dane Lam, is Principal Conductor of the Xi'an Symphony Orchestra. Operatically, he enjoys a close relationship with London's Opera Holland Park and companies including Opera Queensland, Opera Australia and Scottish Opera. He was recently appointed Resident Conductor and Associate Music Director of Opera Queensland.

Dane made his debut, aged eighteen, with the Sydney Symphony; recent engagements include Angela Hewitt, Stephen Hough, Ning Feng, Barry Douglas, and Kirill Gerstein with XSO; *La bohème* and *Don Giovanni*

at Opera Australia, *L'arlesiana* and *Così fan tutte* for Opera Holland Park, *Giulio Cesare* for Bury Court Opera, *La clemenza di Tito* and *La rondine* for National Opera (Canberra), *Orfeo ed Euridice* and *Le nozze di Figaro* for Opera Queensland, *The Rake's Progress* and *La traviata* for Scottish Opera.

Dane Lam will conduct Opera Queensland's new production of *La traviata* in July. In 2023, he conducts *Carmen* in Perth; he also conducts the Xi'an, Hawai'i, Sydney, Melbourne, Queensland, Adelaide and West Australian Symphony Orchestras.



Concept and Co-writer
PATRICK NOLAN

Currently the CEO & Artistic Director of Opera Queensland, Patrick Nolan has created productions for Opera Australia, WA Opera, Sydney Chamber Opera, New Zealand Opera, Seattle Opera, Sydney Theatre Company, Belvoir St, Griffin Theatre, Melbourne Theatre Company, London 2012 Cultural Olympiad, 2014 Glasgow Commonwealth Games and all the major Australian capital city festivals.

From 2009–2014 he was Artistic Director of Legs On The Wall, creating works that toured Australia, UK, Korea and Brazil. In 2015, Patrick was awarded an Australia Council Fellowship to support research into large scale outdoor performance and the relationship between extreme physicality and storytelling.

Operas include: *Oscar and Lucinda* Opera Queensland with Sydney Chamber Opera and Victorian Opera; *Tosca*, *A Flowering Tree* and *The Marriage of Figaro* Opera Queensland; *Verdi Requiem* Opera Queensland with Bleach Festival; *Katya Kabanova* Seattle Opera and NZ Opera; *Notes from Underground* Sydney Chamber Opera; *A Flowering Tree* Perth Festival and WA Opera; *Acis and Galatea*, *Dido and Aeneas*, *Il combattimento di Tancredi e Clorinda*, *Eugene Onegin*, *Pelléas et Mélisande* Opera Australia; *La bohème*, *Eugene Onegin* New Zealand Opera; the world première of *Love in the Age of Therapy* by Paul Grabowsky and Joanna Murray-Smith for the Sydney and Melbourne Festivals.



SHAUN BROWN

Australian baritone Shaun Brown has performed and studied in England, Germany, France, Italy, and the United States of America, where he completed a Doctor of Musical Arts at the University of North Texas. A former Opera Queensland Young Artist, Shaun is known to Queensland audiences for his many appearances including roles in *Don Giovanni*, *The Merry Widow*, *Carmen*, *Le nozze di Figaro* and the Brisbane and touring productions of *La Bohème*, *Il barbiere di Siviglia* and *Ruddigore*, or *The Witch's Curse*!

Internationally, Shaun has sung for Opéra de Lyon, at the New Zealand International Arts Festival, Freiburg Opera, The Atelier du Rhin, and has performed in New York at the Center for Contemporary Opera in operatic works by Jake Heggie. He has performed to critical acclaim as a concert soloist, covering repertoire including Britten's *War Requiem*, Bach's *St Matthew Passion*, Handel's *Messiah* and Mendelssohn's *Elijah*. Currently, Shaun is Director of Performance at The University of Queensland School of Music, and is in high demand as an adjudicator for vocal and choral competitions across Queensland. Shaun will perform the role of Barone Douphol in Opera Queensland's new production of *La traviata* in July.



MARCUS COROWA

Marcus Corowa has captured the hearts of Australians with his silky, soulful voice and charming stage presence. An award-winning First Nations entertainer, Marcus is an accomplished singer/songwriter, actor and mentor. His credits include: Opera Queensland: *Are you Lonesome Tonight*; Opera Australia: *Bran Nue Dae*, *The Rabbits*; Sydney Theatre Company: *The Secret River*; Belvoir: *Barbara and the Camp Dogs*; Michael Cassel Group: *Beautiful - The Carole King Musical*; The Little Red Company: *Your Song*; Short Black Opera: *Pecan Summer*; Queensland Music Festival: *Behind the Cane*; Big Mama Productions: *Song for the Mardoowarra*.

Drawing on his Aboriginal and South Sea Islander heritage, Marcus creates captivating music with elements of blues, jazz and funk; a combination that won him the Most Promising New Talent in Music award at the 2012 Deadly Awards and that can be heard on his EPs *Water & Air* and *The Greater You*. Marcus studied a Diploma of Music at EORA TAFE and is a positive role model and advocate for diversity and inclusion, committed to using his voice to mentor and inspire young Australians.



EVA KONG

In 2019, soprano Eva Kong sang the title role in Opera Australia's touring production of *Madama Butterfly* and made her début as Violetta (*La traviata*) in Seoul, South Korea; she also appeared as soprano soloist in *Iris dévoilée* for Sydney Symphony Orchestra and sang Kumudha in *A Flowering Tree* for Opera Queensland. Her 2020/2021 engagements included the title role in *Manon* for Korean National Opera and the Countess in *The Marriage of Figaro* for Opera Queensland.

In 2017/2018, she sang La Charmeuse in *Thaïs*, took the soprano solos in *Carmina Burana* for the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra and sang Donna Anna (*Don Giovanni*)

for Opera Queensland.

Her performance as Laura in *Luisa Miller* for Opera Australia earned her a Green Room Award. For the national company, she has also sung Donna Anna in *Don Giovanni* and Liù in *Turandot*.

Eva received a Helpmann Award Nomination and was a Green Room Award Winner for her commanding appearance as Madame Mao in *Nixon in China* for Victorian Opera.



EMMA NIGHTINGALE

Emma Nightingale is an emerging lyric soprano from Brisbane, Australia. In 2019 she was selected as a Young Artist for the Pacific Opera program in Sydney, with concert credits including soloist in *A Viennese Gala* with the Willoughby Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Dr Nicholas Milton AM.

Emma played Gretel in Opera Queensland's schools touring production *Hansel and Gretel* (2019) in collaboration with shake & stir theatre co., as well as appearing in the Opera Queensland chorus for *Ruddigore* (2017), *Peter Grimes* (2018), *Don Giovanni* (2018) and *A Flowering Tree* (2019).

In early 2020, Emma began the year performing the Foreign Woman in Menotti's *The Consul*, as part of the flagship production of the for-purpose opera start-up – The CoOperaTive – in Sydney. She is also a core member for internationally acclaimed classical crossover group, The Seven Sopranos, and has appeared with them for Bleach* on the Gold Coast, Brisbane Lord Mayor's Christmas Carols, Opera in the Gardens, and in concert with The Brisbane City Pops Orchestra. During her time in isolation in 2020, she performed online – as part of Opera Queensland's An Aria A Day initiative.

In 2021, Emma returned to school stages in the brand-new primary school jukebox opera *The Frog Prince* with Opera Queensland and shake & stir theatre co., as well as in *La bohème* for secondary students.



HAYLEY SUGARS

Hayley Sugars was a member of the Opera Queensland Young and Developing Artist Program (2007-2009) and has enjoyed success in many national competitions, including winning the German-Australian Opera Grant in 2010. This success resulted in contracts with the Hessisches Staatstheater Wiesbaden and the Landestheater Coburg.

Operatic repertoire includes Donna Elvira in *Don Giovanni*, the title role in *Rinaldo*, Mrs Grose in *Turn of the Screw*, Rosina in *Il barbiere di Siviglia*, Varvara in *Katja Kabanova*, Flora Bervoix in *La traviata*, Mirabella in *Der Zigeunerbaron*, Suzuki in *Madama Butterfly*, Cherubino in *Le nozze di Figaro*, Dido in *Dido and Aeneas*, Valencienne in *Merry Widow*, Prince Orlovsky in *Die Fledermaus*, Brangäne

in *Tristan und Isolde*, Auntie in *Peter Grimes* and Marcellina in *Le nozze di Figaro*.

Since returning to Australia, Hayley has performed to great acclaim for Opera Queensland, New Zealand Opera and Brisbane Festival. Most recently, she has performed Mahler's Symphony No. 2 and Handel's *Messiah*, as well as being featured as a soloist in Opera Queensland's 2021 Verdi Gala and *The Sopranos* in QPAC's Concert Hall. In July she performs the role of Flora in Opera Queensland's new production of *La traviata*.



ASHLYN TYMMS

Ashlyn Tymms most recently performed with the West Australian Opera as Dorabella in the Glyndebourne Festival production of *Così fan tutte*. In 2020, she also sang Hansel in the WAO production of *Hansel and Gretel*. Making her debut with the company as Lapák and Mrs Pásková in *The Cunning Little Vixen*, Ashlyn has also sung Flora in *La traviata* and Lady-in-Waiting in Verdi's *Macbeth* - as well as singing regionally with the company in *The Pinnacles*, the *Valley of the Giants* and *Opera in the Quarry*.

Ashlyn graduated as a HF Music Scholar at the Royal College of Music, London (Masters of Vocal Performance with Distinction) and has been awarded the Outstanding Australian Musician Award by the Royal Over-Seas League, London. She sang Rosimonda in Handel's *Faramondo* at the London Handel Festival. Other roles include Judith in the world premiere of *The Two Sisters* with Tête à Tête Opera, La marchande de journaux in Poulenc's *Les mamelles de Tirésias*, Euridice in Monteverdi's *L'Orfeo*, the title role in *Dido and Aeneas*, Eurydice in Offenbach's *Orpheus in the Underworld* and Berenice in Rossini's *L'occasione fa il ladro*.

Ashlyn has performed extensively within Australia, UK and Asia on the concert platform. Major appearances have included Vaughan Williams' *Serenade to Music* at Buckingham Palace (hosted by The Prince of Wales), a tour to South Korea in recital with the London Cello Orchestra and Verdi's *Requiem* at the Sydney Town Hall.

2021-2022 engagements include the title role in *Carmen* and Santuzza in *Cavalleria rusticana* for West Australian Opera; she also appears as soloist with the West Australian Symphony Orchestra, Sydney Philharmonia and the Vienna Pops Orchestra.



KANG WANG

Australian-Chinese tenor Kang Wang is one of the most sought-after young lyric tenors in the opera world. He is a former member of the Lindemann Young Artist Development Program of the Metropolitan Opera and was a finalist in the 2017 Cardiff Singer of the World competition.

This season, Kang makes his house and role debut at Washington National Opera as Ferrando in *Così fan tutte*. He also makes his house debut at Seattle Opera as Rodolfo in *La bohème* and returned to Opera Australia in the same role. In concert, he joined the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra for a performance celebrating the Chinese New Year.

Highlights of recent seasons include house debuts at Opera Australia as Alfredo and at Pittsburgh Opera as Don Ottavio in *Don Giovanni*, as well as performances of Tan Dun's *Buddha Passion* with the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Gustavo Dudamel. Kang makes his Opera Queensland main stage debut in the role of Alfredo in a new production of *La traviata*.



Kang Wang, Festival of Outback Opera 2021. Photo: Helen Kidd

THE SOPRANOS



Director & Co-writer
LAURA HANSFORD

Laura Hansford has worked on Opera Queensland productions for the last decade as both an artistic and technical collaborator. Most recently, Laura directed OQ's touring production *Are You Lonesome Tonight*, and was Associate Director on Circa's *Italian Baroque* presented with the Australian Brandenburg Orchestra at Sydney Festival 2022.

In 2021/2022 Laura was a resident Director with Circa and was the Project Lead on their inclusive Circus program Circability. Laura has acted as Assistant Director on a variety of productions – for Opera

Queensland: *The Marriage of Figaro* (2021), *Tosca* (2019), *Songs to Die For* (2019); and for Victorian Opera: *The Barber of Seville* (2019), *Pelléas and Mélisande* (2018).

Laura has worked extensively with companies such as Opera Australia, Victorian Opera, Queensland Symphony Orchestra, New Zealand Opera and State Opera South Australia. In 2020 Laura was nominated as an Emerging Female Artist at the Matilda awards.



Concept Designer
MARG HORWELL

Marg Horwell has designed for *The Truth, Sexual Misconduct of the Middle Classes*, *The House of Bernarda Alba*, *Lilith the Jungle Girl* (with Sisters Grimm), *Birdland*, *I Call My Brothers*, *Peddling, Cock, Constellations*, *Marlin* (Melbourne Theatre Company); *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, *How to Rule the World*, *Lord of the Flies*, *The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui* (Sydney Theatre Company); *Because the Night*, *Melancholia*, *Bliss*, *Caravan*, *Blasted*, *Revolt. She Said. Revolt Again*, *The Testament of Mary*, *The Real and Imagined History of the Elephant Man*, *I Am a Miracle*, *The Good Person of Szechuan*, *The Homosexuals or 'Faggots'* (Malthouse Theatre); *Salome*

(English National Opera); *Avalanche* (The Barbican); *Unsere Kleine Stadt* (Theater Basel); *Anthem* (Performing Lines); *Lorelei* (Victorian Opera and Opera Queensland); *Leviathan* (Circa); *Shit, Love, Big Heart*, *Savages* (Dee & Cornelius); *The Marriage of Figaro* (Opera Queensland).

Marg's awards include 2005, 2007, 2009, 2013, 2015, 2016 and 2019 Green Room Awards, and 2013 Sydney Theatre Awards.

THE SOPRANOS



Musical Director and Singer
JASON BARRY-SMITH

Jason Barry-Smith's study in Brisbane, Munich, London and Rome led him to a singing career on the Australian and New Zealand concert, music theatre, and operatic stage. With almost 40 roles in his repertoire, he's performed in some of Opera Queensland's most successful productions since 1995, and he's also performed for the Brisbane Biennial, Brisbane Cabaret Festival, Opera Australia (Opera on the Beach), the Tokyo Arts Foundation, the State Opera South Australia, New Zealand Arts Festival, and New Zealand Opera.

Jason also created the roles of Aldo in *Mimma – A Musical of War & Friendship*, Samuel in *Electric Lenin* for NORPA and Julian in *Quartet* for the New Zealand Arts Festival. He's also a well known singing teacher, musical director, arranger, and director who specialises in regional community based arts projects.



Piano
KYLIE LOS

Kylie Los graduated in 2002 from the Queensland University of Technology with a Bachelor of Music (Distinction), studying piano under Mark Gibson. She was later a member of Opera Queensland's Young and Developing Artist Programs (2006 – 2009, Repetiteur) and assisted with the musical preparation for many productions.

In 2010 Kylie undertook overseas training, studying in Germany with Michael Clark before commencing a Master of Music (Repetiteur) at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama, London, where she studied with Laura Roberts. She was subsequently a Guildhall Artists Fellow, studying and working in London from 2011 – 2013. In 2013 Kylie was assistant conductor and chorus master for the Guildhall School's production of *Le nozze di Figaro*. She was repetiteur for Grange Park Opera's production *Les Carmélites* and played orchestral keyboard in performances with the English Chamber Orchestra. In 2014, Kylie returned to London as principal repetiteur for Grange Park Opera's *La traviata*.

Since returning to Australia, Kylie has worked extensively as a pianist, piano teacher and choral conductor. She has worked with Opera Queensland, Queensland Conservatorium Singers and the Gondwana National Choral School (2020). Kylie has had a strong involvement with Opera Queensland's Learning, Regional and Community programs and is delighted to be touring with Opera Queensland's *The Sopranos*.

THE SOPRANOS



AMBER EVANS

Amber Evans is an Australian vocalist, conductor and composer. She regularly performs as an early music soloist, chamber ensemble vocalist, and contemporary opera/ vocal specialist, with consistent touring engagements in Australia, the US and the UK.

Winner of the inaugural US Dwight and Ursula Mamlok Advancement Award for the interpretation of contemporary music, she is committed to the vital artistic collaboration with composers to thoughtfully contribute to the musical canon of the present day. An exponent of the capabilities of the “extra-normal” voice, Ms Evans has premiered over fifty specialised vocal works, engaging

audiences with ever-changing insights into the paramount role of the voice in the evolution of art-making.

Since returning to her hometown in Brisbane, Amber is the newly appointed inaugural lecturer for aural studies at the Young Conservatorium, has stepped in as assistant conductor for The Australian Voices, established the vocal sextet Formant, and continues to engage in ongoing online projects with composers and artists in the US and the UK. Amber is one of Opera Queensland’s 2022 Young Artists.



ELEANOR GREENWOOD

Eleanor Greenwood is a graduate of London’s Royal Academy of Music Opera School and Australian National University School of Music, and first prize winner of the McDonald’s Operatic Aria. She made her professional debut in Ireland at the Opera Festival in Wexford, in Statkowski’s little known Polish Opera, *Maria*. Eleanor recently made her debut in the role of Sieglinde (*Die Walküre*). A diverse soprano, other recent roles include Ortlinde in *Die Walküre*, Dama in Verdi’s *Macbeth* and Annio in *La clemenza di Tito*.

In the UK and Ireland Eleanor sang at Grange Park Opera, the Dorset Opera Festival, and she returned to Wexford Festival Opera in various roles. She also sang at the Ryedale Festival

in North Yorkshire, the Ashover Festival in Derbyshire, for West Sussex Opera and the Bloomsbury Festival in London.

Eleanor has sung the soprano solos in Handel’s *Messiah* at Brisbane City Hall and Mozart’s *Requiem* at St Andrew’s Cathedral. Concerts include Opera by the Lake (Childers), Music on Sundays (QSO), Opera in the Paddock (Armidale), Mozart by Moonlight (Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne), Opera in the Park (Boroondara). Eleanor has toured Chinese Poly Theatres in opera and concert productions. Eleanor is one of Opera Queensland’s 2022 Young Artists

THE SOPRANOS



EVA KONG

In 2019, soprano Eva Kong sang the title role in Opera Australia's touring production of *Madama Butterfly* and made her début as Violetta (*La traviata*) in Seoul, South Korea; she also appeared as soprano soloist in *Iris dévoilée* for Sydney Symphony Orchestra and sang Kumudha in *A Flowering Tree* for Opera Queensland. Her 2020/2021 engagements included the title role in *Manon* for Korean National Opera and the Countess in *The Marriage of Figaro* for Opera Queensland.

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MICHAEL HONEYMAN

As a principal singer with Opera Australia, Michael Honeyman has distinguished himself in the title roles of Wozzeck (Helpmann Award for Best Male Performer in an Opera), *King Roger* (Green Room Award for Male Lead in an Opera and Helpmann Award nomination for Best Male Performer in an Opera), and *Simon Boccanegra*. Other leading roles for the company include Miller (*Luisa Miller*), Valentin (*Faust*), Escamillo (*Carmen*), Ford (*Falstaff*), Di Luna (*Il trovatore*), Donner (*Das Rheingold*), Ortel (*Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*), Amfortas (*Parsifal*), as well as Escamillo (*Carmen*), Sharpless (*Madama Butterfly*) and Amonasro (*Aida*) for Handa Opera on Sydney Harbour, and

Amonasro for Opera on the Beach.

Michael has also performed for West Australian Opera, the role of Valentin for State Opera South Australia, Ned Keene (*Peter Grimes*) for Sydney Symphony Orchestra and Brisbane Festival, *Elijah* and Dvořák Requiem for Sydney Philharmonia Choirs, and Beethoven's Ninth Symphony for the 40th birthday celebrations of the Sydney Opera House. He has given recitals for ArtSong Perth and for ABC Classic.

Michael studied vocal performance at Australia National University, graduating with first-class honours, and subsequently he trained at the Australian Opera Studio on full scholarship.

SING SING SING



Musical Director
and Host
JASON BARRY-SMITH

Jason Barry-Smith's study in Brisbane, Munich, London and Rome led him to a singing career on the Australian and New Zealand concert, music theatre, and operatic stage. With almost 40 roles in his repertoire, he's performed in some of Opera Queensland's most successful productions since 1995, and he's also performed for the Brisbane Biennial, Brisbane Cabaret Festival, Opera Australia (Opera on the Beach), the Tokyo Arts Foundation, the State Opera South Australia, New Zealand Arts Festival, and New Zealand Opera.

Jason also created the roles of Aldo in *Mimma – A Musical of War & Friendship*, Samuel in *Electric Lenin* for NORPA and Julian in *Quartet* for the New Zealand Arts Festival. He's also a well known singing teacher, musical director, arranger, and director who specialises in regional community based arts projects.



Sing Sing Sing, North Gregory Hotel 2021. Photo: Teagan Thompson

SING SING SING



Pianist
KYLIE LOS

Kylie Los graduated in 2002 from the Queensland University of Technology with a Bachelor of Music (Distinction), studying piano under Mark Gibson. She was later a member of Opera Queensland's Developing and Young Artist Programs (2006 – 2009, Repetiteur) and assisted with the musical preparation for many productions.

In 2010 Kylie undertook overseas training, studying in Germany with Michael Clark before commencing a Master of Music (Repetiteur) at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama, London, where she studied with Laura Roberts. She was subsequently a Guildhall Artists Fellow, studying and working in London from 2011 – 2013. In 2013 Kylie was assistant conductor and chorus master for the Guildhall School's production of *Le nozze di Figaro*. She was then repetiteur for Grange Park Opera's production *Les Carmélites* and played orchestral keyboard in performances with the English Chamber Orchestra. In 2014, Kylie returned to London as principal repetiteur for Grange Park Opera's *La traviata*.

Since returning to Australia, Kylie has worked extensively as a pianist, piano teacher and choral conductor. She has worked with Opera Queensland, Queensland Conservatorium Singers and the Gondwana National Choral School (2020). Kylie has had a strong involvement with Opera Queensland's Learning, Regional and Community programs and is delighted to be touring with Opera Queensland's *The Sopranos*.



MARCUS COROWA

Marcus Corowa has captured the hearts of Australians with his silky, soulful voice and charming stage presence. An award-winning First Nations entertainer, Marcus is an accomplished singer/songwriter, actor and mentor. His credits include: Opera Queensland: *Are you Lonesome Tonight*; Opera Australia: *Bran Nue Dae*, *The Rabbits*; Sydney Theatre Company: *The Secret River*; Belvoir: *Barbara and the Camp Dogs*; Michael Cassel Group: *Beautiful - The Carole King Musical*; The Little Red Company: *Your Song*; Short Black Opera: *Pecan Summer*; Queensland Music Festival: *Behind the Cane*; Big Mama Productions: *Song for the Mardoowarra*.

Drawing on his Aboriginal and South Sea Islander heritage, Marcus creates captivating music with elements of blues, jazz and funk; a combination that won him the Most Promising New Talent in Music award at the 2012 Deadly Awards and that can be heard on his EPs *Water & Air* and *The Greater You*. Marcus studied a Diploma of Music at EORA TAFE and is a positive role model and advocate for diversity and inclusion, committed to using his voice to mentor and inspire young Australians.

SING SING SING



EVA KONG

In 2019, soprano Eva Kong sang the title role in Opera Australia's touring production of *Madama Butterfly* and made her début as Violetta (*La traviata*) in Seoul, South Korea; she also appeared as soprano soloist in *Iris dévoilée* for Sydney Symphony Orchestra and sang Kumudha in *A Flowering Tree* for Opera Queensland. Her 2020/2021 engagements included the title role in *Manon* for Korean National Opera and the Countess in *The Marriage of Figaro* for Opera Queensland.

In 2017/2018, she sang La Charmeuse in *Thaïs*, took the soprano solos in *Carmina Burana* for the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra and sang Donna Anna (*Don Giovanni*)

for Opera Queensland.

Her performance as Laura in *Luisa Miller* for Opera Australia earned her a Green Room Award. For the national company, she has also sung Donna Anna in *Don Giovanni* and Liù in *Turandot*.

Eva received a Helpmann Award Nomination and was a Green Room Award Winner for her commanding appearance as Madame Mao in *Nixon in China* for Victorian Opera.



EMMA NIGHTINGALE

Emma Nightingale is an emerging lyric soprano from Brisbane, Australia. In 2019 she was selected as a Young Artist for the Pacific Opera program in Sydney, with concert credits including soloist in *A Viennese Gala* with the Willoughby Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Dr Nicholas Milton AM.

Emma played Gretel in Opera Queensland's schools touring production *Hansel and Gretel* (2019) in collaboration with shake & stir theatre co., as well as appearing in the Opera Queensland chorus for *Ruddigore* (2017), *Peter Grimes* (2018), *Don Giovanni* (2018) and *A Flowering Tree* (2019).

In early 2020, Emma began the year performing the Foreign Woman in Menotti's *The Consul*, as part of the flagship production of the for-purpose opera start-up – The CoOperaTive – in Sydney. She is also a core member for internationally acclaimed classical crossover group, The Seven Sopranos, and has appeared with them for Bleach Festival on the Gold Coast, Brisbane Lord Mayors Christmas Carols, Opera in the Gardens, and in concert with The Brisbane City Pops Orchestra. During her time in isolation in 2020, she performed online – as part of Opera Queensland's An Aria a Day initiative.

In 2021, Emma returned to school stages in the brand-new jukebox opera *The Frog Prince* with Opera Queensland and shake & stir theatre co., as well as in *La bohème* in Opera Queensland's first show for secondary students.



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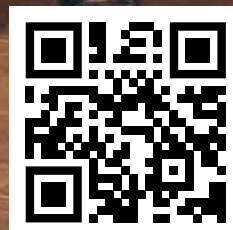


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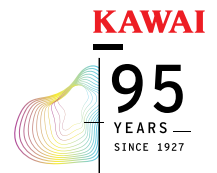
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