

kpo

Ku-ring-gai
philharmonic
orchestra

Celebrating
50 Years
1972-2022



RHAPSODY IN BLUE & SCHEHERAZADE

Sunday 17 November at 3pm

kpo

Ku-ring-gai
Philharmonic
Orchestra

Celebrating
50 Years
1972-2022



DVORAK & TCHAIKOVSKY

Sunday 9 March at 3pm

Power & motion with
Harry Sdraulig's *Torrent*, Dvorak's
mighty Cello Concerto and the beloved
Symphony No 5 by Tchaikovsky.

Conductor: Paul Terracini



Wendy Vardouniotis
KPO President

Photo by Rez. New Point of View

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

Dear Patrons,

It is a pleasure for the KPO to be performing at The Concourse this afternoon. The programme for our last symphonic concert of the year showcases well-known orchestral repertoire. We begin with Sculthorpe's 'Kakadu', followed by Simon Tedeschi's performance of 'Rhapsody in Blue' by Gershwin. After interval we will hear Scheherazade by Rimsky-Korsakov which is one of my personal favourites.

I would like to thank you for your continued support throughout the year. As much as community orchestras exist to fulfill the needs of like-minded players, they also exist to offer the community locally accessible music and KPO has been doing this for 52 years.

Our programme for 2025 offers all the usual delights of the popular Kids Proms concerts and the NSW Secondary Schools Concerto Competition held in June. We will also be performing Tchaikovsky Symphony No.5, Beethoven's 7th Symphony and Thus Spake Zarathustra by Richard Strauss to name a few. KPO will also be going on tour to Millthorpe as the orchestra accompanying the Handa Opera Gala in April. For further information about that please see <https://operaatmillthorpe.com.au>

Tickets for our concerts next year will be on sale soon so please stay updated by visiting www.kpo.org.au

We hope you enjoy the performance today,

Wendy Vardouniotis
President KPO





Gershwin and Rimsky-Korsakov

CONCERT PROGRAMME

Sculthorpe: Kakadu

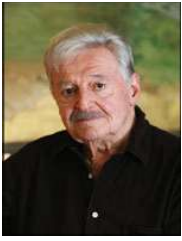
Gershwin: Rhapsody in Blue

Interval 20 minutes

Rimsky-Korsakov: Scheherazade

Conductor: Paul Terracini

Soloist: Simon Tedeschi



**Peter Sculthorpe AO OBE
(1929-2014)**

KAKADU - 1998

Born in Launceston, Peter Sculthorpe was educated at Launceston Church Grammar School, the University of Melbourne and Wadham College, Oxford. He taught at many universities in Australia and overseas. He held honorary doctorates from Tasmania, Melbourne, Sussex and Griffith. An Officer of both the Order of Australia and the British Empire, in 1998 he was elected one of Australia's Living National Treasures. In 2002, he was elected to Foreign Honorary Membership of the American Academy of Arts and Letters and in 2012 Sculthorpe received the Award for Distinguished Services to Australian Music. Because of Australia's geographical position he has been influenced by the music of Asia, especially that of Japan and Indonesia. In his later works he had been more influenced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island music and culture. Sculthorpe had a deep love for his country and its landscape. The individuality of his musical output over a long and highly distinguished career meant that even those who only knew him through his music were touched by the news of his death in 2014. His influence on Australian music has been enormous, and his impact on the people with whom he came into close contact has been, and will remain, long-lasting and unforgettable.

Orchestration

2 flutes, 2 clarinets in B flat, 2 oboes, cor anglais, 2 bassoons, contrabassoon, 4 horns in F, 4 trumpets in C, 2 tenor trombones, bass trombone, tuba, timpani, percussion (3 players), strings.

Past Performances:

*1998 Conductor
Henryk Pisarek*

*Notes compiled by:
Suzanne Cattell*

Sculthorpe wrote about his composition. 'Kakadu' was commissioned by Emanuel Papper as a present for his wife upon her birthday. Since the Beethoven Variations of the same name, it is well-known that kakadu is the German word for cockatoo. Certainly there are cockatoos in my music, as well as many other kinds of birds. The work, however, takes its name from the Kakadu National Park in northern Australia. This enormous wilderness area stretches from coastal tidal plains to rugged mountain plateaux, and in it may be found the living culture of its Aboriginal inhabitants, dating back for fifty thousand years. Sadly, today there are only a few remaining speakers of Kakadu or Gagudju. The work, then, is concerned with my feelings about this place, its landscape, its change of seasons, its dry season and its wet, its cycle of life and death. In three parts, the outer sections are dance-like and energetic, sharing similar musical ideas. The central section is somewhat introspective and is dominated by a cor anglais solo representing the voice of Emanuel Papper, who commissioned the work. Apart from this solo, the melodic material in Kakadu, as in much of my recent music, was suggested by the contours and rhythms of Aboriginal chant."

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George Gershwin
(1898-1937)

RHAPSODY IN BLUE - 1924

Arranged for Piano and Orchestra by Ferde Grofe (1942)

George Gershwin was born Jacob Gershowitz in New York the son of immigrant parents. At age 12 he began to study music seriously.

The Broadway years of 1924-1929 produced many famous songs but George continued his interest in orchestration.

In 1924 he wrote *Rhapsody in Blue* originally scored for piano and jazz band.

Rhapsody in Blue occupies a special place in American music: It introduced jazz to classical concert audiences, and simultaneously made an instant star of its composer. From its instantly recognizable opening whine in the clarinet through to its brilliant finale, *Rhapsody in Blue* epitomizes the Gershwin sound and instantly transformed the 25-year-old songwriter from Tin Pan Alley into a composer of "serious" music. On January 4, 1924, Ira Gershwin showed George a news report in the New York Tribune about a concert put together by jazz bandleader Paul Whiteman that would endeavour to trace the history of jazz. The report concluded with a brief announcement: "George Gershwin is at work on a jazz concerto." Gershwin contacted Whiteman to refute the Tribune article, but Whiteman eventually talked Gershwin into composing a concerto. Gershwin completed *Rhapsody in Blue* in five weeks.

The original opening clarinet solo, written by Gershwin, got its trademark jazzy glissando from Whiteman's clarinetist Ross Gorman. This opening unleashes a floodgate of colourful ideas, which blend seamlessly into one another. The pulsing syncopated rhythms and showy music later give way to a warm, expansive melody The *Rhapsody* seemed to have something pertinent to say and was saying it forcefully and directly, with personality and conviction. At the first performance in 1924 in New York City there were several seconds of silence when the performance ended and then all hell broke loose. The *Rhapsody* is one of Gershwin's most recognizable creations and a key composition that defined the Jazz Age. Gershwin's piece inaugurated a new era in America's musical history, established his reputation as an eminent composer and became one of the most popular of all concert repertoire.

Orchestration

Orchestration:

Solo piano,

2 flutes,

2 oboes,

2 clarinets,

bass clarinet,

2 bassoons,

3 horns,

3 trumpets,

3 trombones,

tuba,

timpani,

percussion

and strings.

Past performances:

1982 Conductor:

Richard Gill

1989 Conductor:

Carl Hammond

Soloist Roman Rudnytsky

1998 Conductor:

Ivan Ungar

Soloist Simon Tedeschi

1999 Soloist

Simon Tedeschi

Notes compiled by:

Suzanne Cattell



**Nicolai
Rimsky-Korsakov**
(1844-1908)

Scheherazade Suite Symphonique Op.35 (1888)

**Jared Adams - Concert Master of Ku-ring-gai Philharmonic Orchestra
and Violin soloist in Scheherazade**

- 1 The Sea and Sinbad's Ship.
- 2 The Kalandar-Prince.
- 3 The Young Prince and the Young Princess.
- 4 Festival at Baghdad. The Sea. The Ship Breaks against a Cliff Surmounted by a Bronze Horseman.

Like many Russian composers in the late 19th century, Rimsky-Korsakov began with little experience in music. Although he was from a musical family, his first job was as a naval officer. Whilst on duty he partly wrote the first symphony ever composed by a Russian and the symphonic poem Sadko. However, no one was more surprised than he when, at the age of 27, he was offered the post of Professor of Composition at the St. Petersburg Conservatoire. As a strong nationalist and a devoted student of the folk tunes of his native country, he was urged by a strong dramatic impulse, with much rhythmic force and a vivid sense of orchestral colour.

Scheherazade is a symphonic suite composed in 1888. It is based on The Book of One Thousand and One Nights, sometimes known as Arabian Nights. The orchestral work combines two features common to Russian music, dazzling, colourful orchestration and an interest in Eastern music. In 1887, whilst working to complete Alexander Borodin's unfinished opera Prince Igor, Rimsky-Korsakov composed this suite based upon four separate and unconnected episodes from The Arabian Nights. It was written to produce a sensation of fantasy narratives from the Orient. The composer deliberately made the titles of the movements vague so that they are not associated with specific tales or voyages of Sinbad. In a later edition he did away with titles altogether, desiring instead that the listener should hear his work only as an Oriental-themed symphonic music that evokes a sense of fairy-tale adventure. He said, "All I desired was that the hearer, if he liked my piece as symphonic music, should carry away the impression that it is beyond doubt an Oriental narrative of some numerous and varied fairy-tale wonders and not merely four pieces played one after the other on the basis of themes common to all four movements." Rimsky-Korsakov went on to say that he kept the name Scheherazade because it brought to everyone's mind the fairy-tale wonders of Arabian Nights and the East in general. The tales of Arabian Nights have been passed down from the 10th century by word of mouth, although some were committed to manuscript from the 12th century onwards.

Scheherazade is often considered Rimsky-Korsakov's most popular work. It is a score replete with beguiling orchestral colours, fresh melodies with a mild oriental flavour, a rhythmic vitality largely absent from many major orchestral works of the later 19th century and a directness of expression. It is full of glorious solo opportunities. Its vitality, the charm of its tunes and the effortless brilliance of its orchestration never fail to delight the listener.

The first performance was conducted by the composer at St Petersburg on 3rd November 1888.

Orchestration:

*Double woodwind,
4 horns
2 trumpets,
3 trombones,
tuba,
timpani
percussion,
harp
and strings.*

Past Performances:

*1975 (2 performances)
Conductor:
Christopher Nicolls.
1996 Conductor:
Henryk Pisarek.
2010 Conductor:
Ron Prussing.*

*Notes compiled by:
Suzanne Cattell*



Simon Tedeschi

SIMON TEDESCHI

Simon Tedeschi is one of Australia's most renowned classical pianists, and a critically acclaimed author. Recipient of the Young Performer of the Year Award, the Creativity Foundation's Legacy Award (USA), the New York Young Jewish Pianist Award and a Centenary of Federation Medal, he has performed for audiences, royalty and world leaders worldwide, from the Sydney Opera House to Carnegie Hall. Acclaimed by respected critics and peers as "true greatness" (SMH), Simon performed his first Mozart piano concerto in the Sydney Opera House aged nine, later studying and performing in the USA. Since returning in 2009, he regularly performs as soloist with all the major Australian symphony orchestras, and tours nationally for festivals, venues and presenters including Musica Viva Australia. Uncommonly for a classical pianist, Tedeschi also crosses into jazz, and has co-written and toured internationally the Sydney Opera House' Meeting Mozart children's show (produced by CDP), and a number of shows combining words and music, for Monkey Baa Theatre, and with Australian theatre icon, John Bell AO OBE.

A regular guest on ABC TV, for ABC Classic and Radio National, Simon also features in renowned director Scott Hicks' new film, The Musical Mind, released in November 2023 (marking 25 years since his Oscar-winning film, Shine), alongside musical luminaries Daniel Johns, Ben Folds, and David Helfgott.

In 2024, Tedeschi's major concert engagements include with Sydney Symphony Orchestra - in a new show created by Simon and Roger Benedict, 'When George met Arnold', exploring the music and late friendship of George Gershwin and Arnold Schoenberg; performances with John Bell at the Sunshine Coast Chamber Music Festival and Noosa Alive! Festival; regional touring for Musica Viva Australia, and a handful of jazz programs including a new tribute to Dave Brubeck for UKARIA with leading jazz musicians.

Simon's latest album, 'Debussy - Ravel' with violist and conductor Roger Benedict, received a 2023 ARIA award nomination for 'Best Classical Album', adding to his numerous recordings for ABC Classics/Universal Music such as The Gershwin Collection, Mussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition, R. Strauss' Enoch Arden, and concerti by Mozart, Tchaikovsky and Grieg.

Alongside his performing career, Tedeschi is fast gaining renown as a writer of note, winning the prestigious Calibre Essay Prize for 2022 and Tedeschi's critically acclaimed literary debut, Fugitive (for Upswell Publishing) shortlisted in the 2023 Victorian Premier's Literary Awards, and 2023 Judith Wright Calanthe Award for a Poetry Collection. Speaking engagements include for Sydney Writers' Festival and more. <http://www.simontedeschi.com/>



PAUL TERRACINI

KPO ARTISTIC DIRECTOR AND CHIEF CONDUCTOR

Dr Paul Terracini was born in Sydney in 1957 and has enjoyed a career in Australia and internationally as an instrumentalist, composer, arranger, and conductor. He has held permanent positions as Principal Trumpet in the Australian Opera and Ballet Orchestra (1975-1979); Lecturer in Trumpet, Brass Ensemble and Big Band at the Queensland Conservatorium of Music (1982-1988); and Solo Trumpet in the Danish Chamber Players, Denmark (1991-2007).

As a composer and arranger, his music has been heard throughout the world in a variety of genres, performed and recorded by, amongst others, the New York Philharmonic Orchestra, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Boston Symphony Orchestra, San Francisco Symphony Orchestra, Residentie Orchestra in The Hague, Sydney Symphony Orchestra, Julliard School of Music, Prague Symphony Orchestra, Australian Chamber Orchestra, Danish Chamber Players, Australian Brass Quintet, and at festivals and conferences on every continent. His music for the two-part ABC television series, Hymns of the Forefathers, in which he developed many of the traditional English hymns into symphonic poems, received international acclaim and was released on CD and DVD by ABC Classics. His title music for the television series, Classical Destinations, which was produced for three seasons, was featured on the 'Number 1 Classical Album of the Year,' released by Decca.

As an instrumentalist, he performed as soloist in Australia, Europe, USA, and Asia. Within Australia, his solo performances included concertos with the Melbourne, Queensland, West Australian, and Tasmanian Symphony Orchestras.

Paul Terracini has recorded 10 CDs as conductor with the Prague Symphony Orchestra and appeared as an opera conductor at the German Rossini Festival in Bad Wildbad, for the Danish Bel Canto Society, and the Storstrøms Symphony Orchestra, in Denmark. He is presently the Artistic Director/Chief Conductor of the Ku-ring-gai Philharmonic Orchestra (2017-); and the Penrith Symphony Orchestra (2010-) with which he has, apart from programming and conducting the symphonic repertoire, pioneered the performance of chamber opera in Western Sydney. For many years he has been invited as a guest conductor/composer to music schools and universities in Europe, USA, China, and Australia. He conducts regularly for the Conservatorium High School, and as a choral conductor, he has recorded for ABC Classics with Ars Nova Copenhagen, the Sydney based choir, Cantillation, and is presently the Artistic Director of the Blue Mountains chamber choir, Academy Singers (2012-).

The CD, Paul Terracini: Music for Brass, on which he conducted members of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra performing his own music, was released on the Tall Poppies label. This recording won the 2017 "CD of the Year" award in Great Britain, from Brass Band World Magazine. His work in youth music in Western Sydney, as Artistic Director of Penrith Youth Orchestra, continues to bear fruit as the organisation enjoys its sixth season in partnership with the Australian Chamber Orchestra and the Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre.

VALUABLE VIOLIN COMES HOME TO AUSTRALIA

Winner of the 2024 KPO Concerto Competition Teresa Yang receives the A. E. Smith 1946 Violin on loan as the Emily Sun Violin Prize, thanks to the generosity of Emily Sun, now an international Violinist and Professor of Violin at the Royal College of Music, London who adjudicated the KPO Concerto Competition in 2023.



Emily Sun with the A. E. Smith 1946 Violin.



Emily Sun presenting the Violin to Teresa Yang.



Emily sun watching Teresa Yang playing the first sweet notes on the A. E. Smith Violin.



Teresa Yang with the A. E. Smith Violin showing the new case donated by Gita and Jerry Adler in memory of the late Gertie Skalsky.

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NOVEMBER 2024

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Michelle Cheung
Graeme Gee
Sandy Giugni
Marianne Goodyer
Graham Jowett
Jonathan Karanikas
Mariangela Martinez
Elizabeth Vierboom

VIOLIN 2

Anne Marie Braid
Anne Cahill
Miluska Hofman
Kiri Johnston
Louise Keller
Thea Lau
Alison Ma
Emma Stewart
Phillip Young

VIOLA

Sarah Nichols
Anna Grindley
Jenny Kemp
Kelly Dai
Anne Cornford
Andrew Rothfield
Yoojin Choi
Phil Silver
Val Tate
Janet Agostino

CELLO

Ros Graham
Sergio Arias
Arthur Balkizas
Nick Comino
Robert Kitchen
Foster Langbein
Ivana Snaidr
Sonia Sze
Michele Tridgell
Lucy-Rose Tyler

DOUBLE BASS

Brian Nelson
Carol Jeon
Leo Wu

FLUTE

Andrew Watkins
Morwenna Collett
Judith Gee

OBOE/COR ANGLAIS

Lewis Cornwell
Rhonda Jones
Elizabeth Nurthen

CLARINET

Martin Brown
Emma Robinson
Hannah Bolitho
Louise O'Brien

BASSOON

John Fletcher
Nerida Hext

CONTRA BASSOON

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Bass Clarinet

Louise O'Brien

Alto Saxophone

Sam Dong
Lauchlan Bissex

Tenor Saxophone

Payge Eminovski

FRENCH HORN

Simon Jones
Tina Brain
Elana Traurig
Sarah Hobson

TRUMPET

Raph Harvey
David Imlay
Alex Butler
Ivan Zhu

TROMBONE

Merrilyn Vardouniotis
Ann Mason

BASS TROMBONE

Paul Mace Mason

TUBA

Leo Huang

PERCUSSION

Jane Makeham
Kirsten James
Lawrence Lau
Jill Bottomley

HARP

Audrey Woo

THE KU-RING-GAI PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

KPO's objectives are to provide a permanent opportunity within the municipality of Ku-ring-gai for players to perform music for symphony orchestra and other ensembles. To encourage the appreciation of such music especially by young people; To sponsor and conduct concerts; Workshops and other musical activities as a contribution to music and education within the community; To sponsor and conduct musical competitions and promote recognition of promising young orchestral musicians within our community; To promote and development of Australian music and composers through commissioning and selection of Australian works in concert programs.

(Extract from Ku-ring-gai Philharmonic Orchestra Articles of Association)

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Lewis Cornwell

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Conductor Paul Terracini
Soloists Simon Tedeschi, Piano



Sunday 17 November at 3pm
The Concourse Concert Hall,
Chatswood



For more information
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