

Orchestra

Patron **Bill Tweddell, Chancellor, James Cook University**

Violin 1	Stephen Frewen-Lord (leader), Elena James, Jacalyn Adcock, Lauren Jones, Margot Doherty, Alison Brown
Violin 2	Victoria Hultgren, Sophie Gregory, Suva Leitch, Damien Messmer, Emily Macdonald, Lucy Fagez
Viola	Aidan Fitzgerald (leader), Emily Matthews, Julia Macario-Slatte, Jan Stuart-Street
Cello	Wade Tattersall (leader), Carole Radovanovic, Michelle Heijneman, Sophie Wark, Ingrid Miller, Jack Camp, Ange Adcock
Bass	Olivia Adcock
Flute	Monika Ortloff
Flute/Piccolo	Shinako Macdonald
Oboe	Bernie Girard*, Francesca Adcock
Cor Anglais	Bernie Girard*
Clarinet	Monika Ward, Rosie Doherty
Bass Clarinet/ Alto Saxophone	Rianta Belford
Bassoon	Sarah Manthey, Helen Land
Horn	Andrew Ryder, Annie Doherty, Suzanne Darrigan, Daniel Harley
Trumpet	Mark Smith, Jeffrey Bird, Harrison Murray
Trombone	Lachlan Cutler, Dylan Cutler, Russell West
Tuba	Andrew Hodgson
Piano	Stephanie Rigano
Harp	Leah Li
Timpani	Alana Boyles
Percussion	Ruby Ansic, Ben Fixter, Rianta Belford

* Brisbane

Concert Master: Stephen Frewen-Lord
Rehearsal Conductor: Mark Smith
Orchestra Manager: Sally Frewen-Lord

Thank You

The Barrier Reef Orchestra would like to thank all who have made this concert possible. In particular, our business partners (whom we highly recommend to you) Sturt Business Centre; Signs of Excellence; ASAP printers. Thanks to the Australian Concerto and Vocal Competition committee who run the competition every year and who enable the excellent winners to be soloists with the Barrier Reef Orchestra the following year. We would also like to thank photographers Chrissy Maguire, Cam Leitch and the musicians and back and front stage workers.

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Barrier Reef Orchestra

Townsville's Community Orchestra presents

Evening Serenade

Conductor
Mark
Shiell

Flute Concerto "Night and Now"

By Australian Composer **Elena Kats-Chernin**

Featuring **Sally Walker, Flautist**

Soprano Cassandra Wright

Winner of the Open Vocal Section of the
2016 Australian Concerto and Vocal Competition
Arias from Bizet, Puccini and Massenet

Music from

Greig, Khachaturian and Ravel

Saturday 28th October 2017

Townsville Civic Theatre

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CONCERT PARTNER



Program

Night on Bald Mountain (Mussorgsky)

Pavane for a Dead Princess (Ravel)

Je dis que rien ne m'épouvante
from *Carmen* (Bizet)
Soloist - Cassandra Wright

Adieu, notre petite table
from *Manon* (Massenet)
Soloist - Cassandra Wright

Danzon No. 2 (Marquez)

INTERVAL

Sabre Dance (Khachaturian)

Quando m'en vo from *La Boheme*
(Puccini) Soloist - Cassandra Wright

Comme autrefois from *The Pearlfishers*
(Bizet) Soloist - Cassandra Wright

Peer Gynt Suite (Grieg)

'Night and Now' (Kats-Chernin)
Soloist - Sally Walker

Program Notes - Night and Now

Night and Now was written in 2015 for flautist Sally Walker.

It is a Concerto in three movements and takes elements of the Russian personality and character as its starting point, as well as aspects of the flute itself. It draws very much on my own experiences as a child of that world, both aurally and from day to day life. Until I was 17, that was everything that I knew.

Sally often hears sketches of my works as I am writing them and she has great insight into my processes. When Sally and I began to think about what a major work for flute and orchestra would sound like, we discussed all of these qualities and how to showcase the flute as a solo instrument and emphasize its unique sound and capabilities. Sally's sound is full bodied. It isn't a little flute which flies away - it has earth. That is Sally...how she is, very earthy and elf-like at the same time. That's what flute is, the way Sally plays it.

Sally also suggested to me that I might use stories from my early years in Russia, or from my own life as a template to the overall design of the composition. And so I did. The first movement is based on two imagined Russian fairy tales: one taking place deep in the woods - always a place of foreboding and unease (for this writer), but also promise, adventure and transformation. The other is in a silvery castle, impressively elaborate and bejewelled. A place of immersive succour and plenty. Two very different "nights".

The second movement is pressing and insistent in A minor, with counterpoint, a strong pulse and discipline. The opening motif is contrasted by a more romantic, starry-eyed melody in a completely different key (D flat major). One of my overriding memories of childhood in Russia is of lining up for hours and hours for one loaf of bread or piece of cheese, and the perseverance and sometimes ultimate disappointment that had to be faced when food just ran out. This was absolutely distinct from the wonder and open-mouthed joy my family would feel when we were able to get (greatly prized) oranges or strawberries. What a joy that was! Both of these extremes, abundance and lack of it, are embedded in this movement.

The third movement begins with an extended solo cadenza for the flute. Themes and fragments recur from the preceding material as the flute crosses further through the odyssey, eventually arriving at a Tarantella in C minor (one of my favourite dramatic keys). The Tarantella is a fast dance that often seeks to alter and remould the dancer in some way. In particular, I like the story of the Tarantella evolving from the agitated dance of the victim of a tarantula bite. The bitten would attempt to draw out the spider poison through vigorous and indefatigable movements, gestures and signs. Most Tarantellas are in 6/8 but mine is in 12/8. Perhaps there were two spiders?

Program Notes by Elena Kats-Chernin

Conductor



Mark Shiell

Mark Shiell is currently Principal Conductor and Artistic Director of the Zelman Memorial Symphony Orchestra in Melbourne and has also conducted major orchestras in Australia and Russia including Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, West Australian Symphony Orchestra, St Petersburg State Academic Symphony Orchestra and the Moscow Symphony Orchestra. He has conducted the Barrier Reef Orchestra on three occasions previously - *A Musical Feast*, *Masterworks* and *Bohemian Classics*. Mark is now returning to his earlier career as a flautist and flute teacher so this is the last time he will conduct this Orchestra. We wish him well in his music and future career.

Flautist



Sally Walker

Flautist Sally Walker was Grand-finalist in the Leonardo de Lorenzo International Flute Competition (Italy), won 2nd Prize in the Friedrich Kuhlau International Flute Competition (Germany) and was awarded prizes from the DAAD, Ian Potter Cultural Fund and the Queen's Trust.

She has toured and recorded with the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, is a former Principal Flute of the Deutsche Kammerakademie Neuss and has performed as Guest Principal Flute with the City of Birmingham Orchestra, BBC National Orchestra of Wales, NDR Radio Philharmonie Hannover and the Australian Chamber Orchestra. She has performed in the Festivals of Salzburg, Lucerne, Edinburgh, Tanglewood and the London Proms. From 2003 - 2005 she played full-time with the Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra and in the following year was appointed Lecturer of Flute and Academic Studies at the University of Newcastle. She is deeply committed to chamber music and is the Artistic Director of the "Twilight Musical Dialogues" series. Alongside her chamber music projects, Sally devotes herself

passionately to both Early and Contemporary Music and has released three CDs with pianist Philip Meyers: "Hemispheres" (featuring many works written for her), "Kaleidoscope" and "French Miniatures". She has performed in over twenty countries and numerous composers have dedicated works to her. In 2013 she premiered Andrew Ford's composition for her entitled "Once upon a time there were two brothers..." with the Shanghai String Quartet at the Melbourne Festival. In 2014 she premiered Andrew Chubb's "Berceuse" (both the flute and piano and flute and guitar versions). In 2015, she premiered Elena Kats-Chernin's Concerto "Night and Now", written for her, with the Darwin Symphony conducted by Matthew Wood, with subsequent performances with the Zelman Meorial Symphony and Newcastle Youth Orchestra. She is very much looking forward to performing in Townsville for the first time.

Australian flautist Sally Walker has been hailed as "master of both the early wooden as well as the silver flute... atmospheric, fine musicianship" (Hamburger Rundschau); "a godly flexibility and colouring in her most soul-stirring tone formation ... breathtaking musicality" (Die Rheinpfalz); "sustained brilliance" (Canberra Times).

Vocalist



Cassandra Wright

Cassandra Wright is a versatile soprano with diverse performance experience. Originally from Cairns, Cassandra is a current student of the Queensland Conservatorium studying under Dr. Margaret Schindler. Whilst at the Conservatorium, Cassandra has won the Elizabeth Muir Memorial Prize for the highest marks in her performance recital and the Blanche and Hugh Campbell Award for her vocal studies.

A passionate performer, she has sung the roles of La Bergere and La Chouette in Ravel's *L'Enfant et les Sortilèges*, as well as being a member of the ensemble of *Die Zauberflöte*, *Idomeneo*, *L'elisir d'amore*, and *L'Etoile*. In 2017, Cassandra performed "Twilight Song" - a sold-out solo recital in Cairns. Other performance highlights include *Così fan tutte* (Fiordiligi) and *Die Tote Stadt* (Marietta) for Sound Thinking Opera. Cassandra has performed the role of Christine Daaé in the 2014 and 2016 Cairns Choral Society productions of *The Phantom of the Opera*.

Cassandra was awarded the Vocal Aggregate and Most Pleasing Voice at the North Queensland Eisteddfod in 2017, and won the Lieder and Sacred sections at the Queensland Vocal Competition. In 2016, Cassandra won the Australian Concerto and Vocal Competition, also receiving the Audience Choice Award.

Her current community involvement includes the running of a growing music school and singing at St. Andrew's and St. Thomas Aquinas Churches in Brisbane. Next year, she will undertake an Honours year at the Conservatorium, whilst continuing to perform and teach.

Composer



Elena Kats-Chernin

As one of Australia's foremost composers, Elena Kats-Chernin's vibrant and uplifting music has attracted commissions from the world's leading symphony, opera and ballet companies and featured at the opening ceremonies of the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games and the 2003 Rugby World Cup. She has received many prestigious prizes such as the Helpmann, Limelight, Sounds Australian, Sydney Theatre Award and an Individual Sidney Myer Performing Arts Award. Composer-in-Residence with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra in 2017, Kats-Chernin's latest album for ABC Classics, *Unsent Love Letters*, played by Tamara-Anna Cislowska, reached no. 1 on the ARIA and iTunes charts and is internationally available on Deutsche Grammophon. She has a special affection for Townsville, after many happy years of being a guest artist at the AFCM and is delighted to return.

Elena wrote her flute concerto *Night and Now* in 2015 for the virtuoso soloist Sally Walker with the generous support of the Australia Council.