



Barrier Reef Orchestra

Townsville's Community Orchestra Presents

Slavonic Splendour

Featuring Music by
Wagner, Reinecke,
Tchaikovsky and Dvorak

International Conductor:
Theodore Kuchar

Saturday 25th June 2022 at 5.30pm
Sir George Kneipp Theatre (JCU)



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Theodore Kuchar - Conductor



Multiple award-winning conductor Theodore Kuchar is the most recorded conductor of his generation and appears on over 130 compact discs for the Naxos, Brilliant Classics, Ondine, Marco Polo, Toccata Classics and Centaur labels. He was recently appointed Principal Conductor of the Lviv National Philharmonic Orchestra of Ukraine and has served as the Artistic Director and Principal Conductor of two of Europe's leading orchestras, the National Symphony Orchestra of Ukraine and the Janacek Philharmonic Orchestra (formerly the Czech Radio Orchestra) while also serving as the Principal Conductor of the Slovak Sinfonietta. In the 2011-12 season he commenced his tenure as the Artistic Director and Principal Conductor of the Orquesta Sinfonica de Venezuela and prior to that served as the Music Director and Principal Conductor of the Queensland Philharmonic Orchestra in Brisbane, Australia. In addition to his conducting activities he has served as the Artistic Director of two of the world's pre-eminent chamber music festivals, The Australian Festival of Chamber Music (1991-2007) and the Nevada Chamber Music Festival (2003-2018). In September 2021 he commenced duties as the Artistic Director and Principal Conductor of The Thomas de Hartmann Project, a concert and recording project which BBC Radio 3 recently described as "arguably the most important recording project by a major, yet relatively unknown, composer of this new decade". The project will be divided between record labels including Pentatone, Toccata Classics and Nimbus and including soloists Joshua Bell and Matt Haimovitz. With the Lviv National Philharmonic Orchestra of Ukraine, he will undertake a six-week United States Tour during the period January to February, 2023.

Lyubov Dika - Contralto

Lyubov Dika became a full-time member of the Lviv National Opera of Ukraine in 2004 upon graduation from the National Academy of Music in Lviv. Initially, she began her studies on the national folk instrument of her country, the bandura, before transitioning to voice. Her vocal development subsequently took her into a more European and operatic environment. Lyubov's repertoire in the theatre and concert-hall has ranged from Mozart and Rossini, the Italians Verdi and Puccini, and to the present-day Ukrainians including Yevhen Stankovych and Myroslav Skoryk.

Lyubov lives in Lviv with her husband, Theodore, and loves visiting Australia.

Leah Xiang Li - Harp Soloist

Townsville based harpist Leah Xiang Li enjoys a diverse career as an orchestral and chamber musician, soloist, instrumental teacher and primary school language teacher.

Leah graduated from the Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University under the tutelage of Sebastien Lipman. She was the recipient of the Ross Peters 4MBS Chamber Music Prize and performed for the Honourable Dame Quentin Bryce (former Governor-General of Australia). Leah's repertoire spans from the Baroque to the present day. She has a special interest in Jazz and is seeking to fulfil this passion through further study.

Program

1. The Water Goblin (Vodnik), Op. 107 *Antonin Dvorak*
2. Harp Concerto in E Minor, Op. 182 2. Adagio *Carl Reinecke*
3. Aria: Erda's Warning Weiche, Wotan, Weiche from *Das Rheingold* *Richard Wagner*
4. I Know That I Have Sinned *Ukrainian Folksong*
- Interval
5. Symphony No. 5 in E minor, Op. 64 *Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky*

- I Andante - Allegro con anima
- II Andante cantabile, con alcuna licenza
- III Valse. Allegro moderato
- IV Finale. Andante maestoso - Allegro vivace

Program Notes

1. The Water Goblin (Vodnik), Op. 107

Antonin Dvorak

Antonin Dvorak (1841-1904) was a Czech composer best known for his nine symphonies. Later in his career he wrote five symphonic poems (1896-1897) of which *The Water Goblin* was one of these.

The Water Goblin is a creature of European mythology, with differences in the myth according to nationality. The Czech version of the goblin has a human body, with green skin. He's thought to be the cause of drownings and stores the soul of the drowned victim in a porcelain cup. Some tales of the water goblin portray him as rather comical, but Dvorak used a poem based on the tale written by Karel Erben, a Czech poet, writer and collector of folk tales and songs which is a sorrowful tale.

2. Harp Concerto in E Minor, Op. 182 2. Adagio

Carl Reinecke

Carl Heinrich Carsten Reinecke (23 June 1824 – 10 March 1910) was a German composer, conductor, and pianist in the mid-Romantic Era.

Reinecke was born in what is today Hamburg, Germany, province of Altona. Technically he was born a Dane, as until 1864 the town was under Danish rule. He received all his musical instruction from his father, (Johann Peter) Rudolf Reinecke, a music teacher and writer on musical subjects. Carl first devoted himself to violin-playing, but later on turned his attention to the piano. He began to compose at the age of seven.

In 1851, Reinecke became a professor at the Cologne Conservatory. In ensuing years, he was appointed musical director at the German metropolis of Barmen, and became the academic, musical director and conductor of the Singakademie at Breslau. In 1860, Reinecke was appointed director of the Gewandhaus Orchestra concerts in Leipzig, and professor of composition and piano at the Conservatorium. He served as a teacher for 35 years, until his retirement in 1902.

3. Erda's Warning from *Das Rheingold*

Richard Wagner

Das Rheingold is the first of the four music dramas that constitute Richard Wagner's *Der Ring des Nibelungen*, (English: *The Ring of the Nibelung*). It was performed, as a single opera, at the National Theatre Munich on 22 September 1869, and received its first performance as part of the Ring cycle at the Bayreuth Festspielhaus, on 13 August 1876.

Wagner wrote the Ring librettos in reverse order, so that *Das Rheingold* was the last of the texts to be written. It was, however, the first to be set to music. The score was completed in 1854, but Wagner was unwilling to sanction its performance until the whole cycle was complete. He worked intermittently on this music until 1874. The 1869 Munich premiere of *Das Rheingold* was staged, much against Wagner's wishes, on the orders of his patron, King Ludwig II of Bavaria. Following its 1876 Bayreuth premiere, the Ring cycle was introduced into the worldwide repertory, with performances in all the main opera houses, in which it has remained a regular and popular fixture.

4. I Know That I Have Sinned

Ukrainian Folksong

It is the opinion of most scholarly critics that there are no other Slavic people so rich in folklore as the Ukrainians. The Ukrainian songs and airs are innumerable. A Ukrainian peasant is a singer in the full sense of the word; singing is his daily bread. No engagement of any kind goes without singing or "ex tempore" improvisation of some air and words. The proverb is well known that "a Cossack (a Ukrainian) laughs and sings through his tears," which means that even in time of his woes and worry a Ukrainian sings: sighs and sings!

Ukrainian Folk Songs. A historical treatise by Rev. Humphrey Kowalsky. 1925. Published by The Stratford Company, Boston, Massachusetts.

5. Symphony No. 5 in E minor, Op. 64

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

The Symphony No. 5 in E minor, Op. 64 by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky was composed between May and August 1888 and was first performed in Saint Petersburg at the Mariinsky Theatre in November of that year with Tchaikovsky conducting. It is dedicated to Theodor Avé-Lallemant, Director of the Hamburg Philharmonic Society, whom Tchaikovsky met in Hamburg in January 1888.

This symphony received both positive and negative reviews when first performed across the globe, including Prague in 1888, New York and Hamburg in 1889, Manchester and London in 1894. Melodies will be familiar throughout the performance, having been borrowed for use in film and advertising music.

Orchestra

Violin 1

Stephen Frewen-Lord
Julia Ramsbotham
Lauren Jones
Katisha Lindee
Lara Herlambang
Alison Brown (Brisbane)
Cara Taggart (Mt Isa)
Alicia Nannes (Bowen)

Violin 2

Olivia Jung
Chinsia Burns
Levi Murakami
Mary Anne Anderson
Alexander Thomas
Philip Haig
Anne Truong
Charlotte To
Helen Truong

Viola

Emily Wilson
Jessica Winton
Bridget Wegner
Lucas Collier
Laura Thomson (Brisbane)

Cello

Carla Mulligan
Miles Devlin
Alison Patterson
Margaret Loftus
Arabella Campbell
Angela Summers
Sophie Wark

Bass

Olivia Adcock
Stephen Kluver

Piccolo

Linda Bridge

Flute

Monika Ortloff
Shona Wood

Oboe

Sylvia Caban (Brisbane)
Francesca Adcock

Clarinet

Jacinta Payne
Monika Ward

Bass Clarinet

Erin Smart

Bassoon

Sarah Wagner (Brisbane)
Helen Land

Horn

Andrew Ryder
Annie Doherty
Alexandra Bowman
Nicholas Bail

Trumpet

Arthur Florence
Jeffrey Bird

Trombone

Lachlan Cutler
Russell West
Gianni Adcock

Tuba

Dylan Cutler

Timpani & Percussion

Maxwell Hanks
Ally Quin
Noel Price

Concert Master:

Stephen Frewen-Lord

Orchestra Manager:

Sally Frewen-Lord

Patron:

Bill Tweddell, Chancellor,
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Thank You

We would like to thank everyone
who has made this concert possible.

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