



ASC
IFAC AUSTRALIAN
SINGING
COMPETITION

Australia's Richest Competition For Opera & Classical Singing
Featuring the Marianne Mathy Scholarship

2011 Finals Concert

Opera Theatre Sydney Opera House
Sunday 30 October 2011

Australian Opera & Ballet Orchestra

Comperé
Lyndon Terracini

Guest Artist
Zara Barrett

aussing.org.au

CELEBRATING
30
aussing.org.au
YEARS

 92.9 ABC
Classic FM
abc.net.au/classic


SYDNEY
OPERA
HOUSE


AUSTRALIAN OPERA & BALLET ORCHESTRA


IFAC
The International
Foundation For
Arts And Culture

The performance of the Australian Opera & Ballet Orchestra is proudly sponsored by the International Foundation for Arts and Culture (IFAC) and its Chairman, Dr Haruhisa Handa

Welcome

For three decades, the Competition has helped discover and provide career opportunities and funding for many of the finest young singers in our Australasia.

Tonight's Finalists are no exception.

We are privileged to present five young singers from across Australia and New Zealand — competing for prizes and opportunities that exceed \$220,000.

In addition, each of these young voices has had the benefit of being interviewed and heard by eminent professionals from the Australian and international music fraternity.

The future of opera is today's young voices

While there is no guaranteed path to a successful operatic career, many of our Competition participants have gone on to pursue careers in Australia and overseas, including Cheryl Barker, Amelia Farrugia, Lisa Gasten AO, Emma Matthews, Rachelle Durkin, the late Deborah Riedel; Stewart Skelton, Daniel Sumegi and Jeffrey Black to name a few.

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Handa



Gridiger

Dr Haruhisa Handa Chairman, IFAC

As world chairman of the International Foundation for Arts and Culture, I take pride in the arts projects we support around the world. For 13 years, we have been principal sponsor of the Australian Singing Competition and have provided the opportunity for talented young classical singers to perform with Australia's top orchestras.

Seeing aspiring artists go on to realise their potential is, for me, a real thrill and especially satisfying knowing that we have been instrumental in helping them achieve their aims.

I am delighted that, in my absence, Trustees of IFAC are in Sydney to represent me at the 2011 Finals.

This prestigious event is an occasion, which will long be remembered by the singers, and, I trust, by the audience privileged to witness their career-launching performances.

On behalf of IFAC, I wish the competitors continued success and fulfillment.

Roland Gridiger CEO, MOST

Music and Opera Singers Trust Limited welcomes NSW Premier The Honourable Barry O'Farrell MP and Mrs. O'Farrell to the 2011 Finals Concert of the IFAC Australian Singing Competition.

Dr Haruhisa Handa and IFAC's generous sponsorship allows us to engage the Australian Opera and Ballet Orchestra on stage to accompany the singers and present this spectacular event in the Sydney Opera House.

As we celebrate our 30 years we salute all the talented artists who have entered this competition and made a contribution to the fabric of Australia's cultural life.

We thank our sponsors and supporters for their confidence and good wishes and hope you enjoy hearing and meeting the cream of this year's young opera and classical singers.

Bernadette Cullen National Adjudicator

One of the most vital stages of any singer's career is to take part in singing competitions. The outcome is not always important but the evolutionary journey, which these five singers and I, as National Adjudicator, have been on since July has been an education to us all.

Opera is the highest form of art and therefore requires incredible vocal expertise. Throughout the adjudication process, we have endeavoured to look for vocal quality, technique, artistry, potential, language skills and the ability to communicate to an audience.

The conclusion of this journey is, for the adjudicators, to choose the singers most vocally equipped to do justice to the various prizes on offer, the most important of these being the Marianne Mathy Scholarship. We hope all these singers will forge a healthy operatic career and show true commitment, tenacity and honour in achieving their dreams.

I would like to thank the organisers of this most prestigious event, my fellow adjudicators, the sponsors, singers and you the audience for supporting these young operatic hopefuls. This has been an uplifting experience for me and one I will always cherish.



Cullen

Lyndon Terracini Compere

Artistic Director for Opera Australia
Lyndon has enjoyed a highly successful international opera career, as a performer, director and writer. Lyndon made his operatic debut in 1976 as Sid in *Albert Herring* with The Australian Opera and was instrumental in creating the breathtaking production of *Handa Opera* on Sydney Harbour.



Benjamin Northey Conductor

Associate Conductor with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, Benjamin's professional experience spans opera, ballet and contemporary music. He has conducted the London Philharmonic Orchestra and orchestras throughout Australia. In 2001 he was awarded a Nelly Apt Scholarship by Music & Opera Singers Trust Limited.



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Violin

Vivien Jeffery
(Deputy Concertmaster)
Catalin Ungureanu~
Adrian Keating~
Tony Gault~
Danny Rosenbaum
Airena Nakamura
(Principal Second Violin)
Marek Kruszynski
Robert Sek
Rachel Westwood
Jaroslaw Talar
Rebecca Irwin
Virginia Blunt
Rachel Easton
Samuel Podjarski
Tom Dundas
Kerry Martin
Stephanie Zarka
Anna Albert

Viola

Virginia Comerford
David Dixon
Magda Kruszynska
Valmai Coggins
Stefan Duwe
Robyn Stout

Cello

Eszter Mikes-Liu
Andrew Hines
Henry Urbanavicius
Andrew Wilson
Paul Stender
Christopher Lockhart-Smith

Bass

Brett Berthold
Jenny Druery
James Menzies
Mark Lipski

Flute

Libby Pring
Alistair Howlett

Piccolo

Diane Berger

Oboe

Matthew Tighe*
Mark Bruwel

Cor Anglais

Andrew Malec

Clarinet

Richard Rourke*
Lisa McCowage
John Lewis

Bassoon

Matthew Ockenden*
Jennie McLachla

Horn

Michael Dixon
Victoria Chatterley
Frankie Io Surdo
Philip Wilson

Trumpet

Brian Evans
Christopher Perrin

Trombone

Brett Favell*
William Farmer

Bass Trombone

Brett Page

Tuba

Edwin Diefes

Timpani

David Clarence

Percussion

Allan Watson

Harp

Owen Torr

Celeste

Stephen Walter

Italics indicate Principal

** indicates Associate Principal*

~ indicates Principal First Violin

IFAC

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Orchestra Management

ORCHESTRA MANAGER
Gérard Patacca
DEPUTY ORCHESTRA MANAGER
Emma In der Maur
OPERATIONS MANAGER
Anna Dodgshun
ASSISTANT ORCHESTRA MANAGER
Ella Howard
DEPUTY ORCHESTRA MANAGER
Emma In der Maur
SENIOR STAGING ASSISTANT
Scott Moon

For Opera Australia

CHIEF EXECUTIVE
Adrian Collette AM
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
Lyndon Terracini
ASSISTANT MUSIC DIRECTOR
Tony Legge

Zara Barrett

Guest Artist
Dramatic Soprano

2011 Opera Awards Winners

Zara has performed many roles in Australia and internationally including Mimi and Musetta in *La bohème*, Micaëla in *Carmen* and Vitellia in *La Clemenza di Tito* with companies such as Opera Queensland, National Opera Wellington, Glimmerglass Opera and Pittsburgh Opera in the United States.

2011 Opera Awards

The following prizes have already been awarded

YMF Australia Award
Armstrong-Martin Scholarship
Haas Award
Editorial Resources Prize
Zara Barrett

Royal Over-Seas League Music Bursary
Clarissa Spata

Britten-Pears Young Artist Programme
Louise Fenbury

Glyndebourne Festival Prize
Sam Sakker

4MBS Classic FM Award
Celeste Lazarenko

YMFA Grant
Adrian Tamburini

2011 Opera Awards Adjudicators

Dr Di Bresciani
Peter Coleman-Wright
Andrea Molino
Elizabeth Whitehouse

MOST is indebted to Dr Di Bresciani and the Board of the YMF Australia for the YMFA Award and to all our sponsors for their generous support of all artists.



2011 Finalists

Naomi Johns 25*
soprano, NSW

Emma Moore 23*
soprano, NSW

Morgan Pearse 22*
bass baritone, NSW

Gérard Schneider 23*
tenor, WA

Bryony Williams 22*
soprano, NZ

* Age as of 23 June 2011

Tonight's young singers
are already stars

Each of these young voices has
already participated in months
of effort, culminating in tonight's
grand performances.

They have had the benefit of being
interviewed and heard by eminent
professionals from the Australian
and international music fraternity.

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Johns



Moore



Pearse



Schneider



Williams

“Give of your best
and after be proud
It is enough
It is everything”

Marianne Mathy-Frisdane

The IFAC Australian Singing Competition is Australasia's richest competition for young opera and classical singers, featuring the prestigious and internationally respected Marianne Mathy Scholarship.

Over the 30 years, more than 2,500 young singers have participated in the Competition for a prize pool exceeding \$2.5 million.

This year alone, the prize value for the entire Competition (including the Semi-Finals and tonight's Finals Concert) is valued at almost \$250,000.

The Marianne Mathy Scholarship

The Australian Singing Competition evolved from The Marianne Mathy Scholarship, established from a bequest in the will of Marianne Mathy-Frisdane, a distinguished singing teacher.



Legend of 'The Mathy'

'The Mathy' limited edition Drago Marin Cherina bronze statuette was first awarded to soprano Rachelle Durkin in 2000.

'The Mathy' has become synonymous with the Marianne Mathy Scholarship, the featured award within the IFAC Australian Singing Competition.

2011 Prizes & Opportunities

Marianne Mathy Scholarship

The scholarship assists the recipient with a program of study and/or singing activity.

The winner of the Scholarship will also receive:

ABC CLASSIC FM PRIZE Studio recording engagement for national transmission on ABC Classic FM

FAYE FRANCO PRIZE IT consultancy and up to six months service cost for a "classical singer" website

2MBS-FM PRIZE Recording Engagement Studio recording with 2MBS-FM 102.5 to be broadcast on the Australian Fine Music Network

LIGHTBOX PHOTOGRAPHIC AWARD Portfolio of publicity photographs

EDITORIAL RESOURCES PRIZE Professionally produced resume

ORAL HISTORY TAPED interview by oral historian Diana Ritch will be recorded and retained within the Oral History Collection of the National Library of Australia

THE MATHY Limited edition Drago Cherina sculpture presented by Music & Opera Singers Trust Ltd

The Handa Prize

An audition in Tokyo in 2012. The prize includes return airfare, accommodation and expenses in Tokyo. If the recipient is successful at the audition, he/she will receive a professional engagement in Tokyo with return airfare, accommodation and expenses.



Australia's Richest Competition For Opera & Classical Singing
Featuring the Marianne Mathy Scholarship

Guildhall School of Music & Drama Award

Fees for one year's study at the Guildhall School in the Post Diploma Vocal Training Course in the academic year 2012/2013. The winner will also receive the SHEILA PRIOR AUSTRALIAN OPERA AUDITIONS COMMITTEE PRIZE and the PHOEBE PATRICK AWARD.

Royal Northern College of Music Award

Fees for one year's study at the College in Manchester in the academic year 2012/2013. The winner will also receive the CLARK & ASSOCIATES PRIZE and the NELL PASCALL AWARD.

Mozart-Opera Institute Award

Fees for one year's study at the Mozarteum University Salzburg in the Post Diploma Opera Course at the Mozart-Opera Institute in the academic year 2012/2013. The winner will also receive an additional subsidy for accommodation and the WOODWARD FAMILY PRIZE.

Nelly Apt Scholarship

Airfares, living expenses and Scholarship to attend the International Vocal Arts Institute in Israel in July 2012.

Merenda Scholarship

Cash grant to enable the recipient to study the Italian language in Italy.

Anselmo Colzani Prize

Fees, accommodation, lessons and master classes in the 2012 Budrio Colzani 10-day summer program.

Philip & Myrtle Foster Memorial Award
Audience vote prize presented by Sydney Opera House.

Symphony Australia Young Vocalist Award

An engagement with a professional Australian symphony orchestra, and cash award.

Universal Music Australia Prize

Classical CDs & DVDs

Elizabeth Whitehouse Award

12 sessions of vocal coaching, technique and interpretation with soprano Elizabeth Whitehouse in Germany. The winner will also receive the HAAS AWARD presented by Music & Opera Singers Trust Ltd.

David Harper Award

Ten lessons with David Harper in Australia or the UK.

Christine Leaves Award

Thirty hours of publicist consultation, business and promotional planning over a 12-month period.

David Giles Meditation Award

A tailored Vedic Meditation course for each Finalist.

Lillie Chiropractic Award

A posture and voice control body review for each Finalist.

Opera Australia Prize

Opportunity for all Finalists to attend rehearsals in Melbourne or Sydney, observing an opera throughout the stages of its production.

Prizes already awarded

Ingrid Davidson Award
Naomi Johns

Lisa Gastean Opera Summer School Prize
Erika Simons

Parszos Prize
Naomi Johns

Sally Lee Prize
Emma Moore

Radzynski Family Prize
Erika Simons

Tinkler Encouragement Award
Caitlin Cassidy

Victorian Opera Prize
Olivia Cranwell

New Zealand Symphony Orchestra Award
Bryony Williams

Queensland Symphony Orchestra Award
Claire Candy

West Australian Opera Award
Caitlin Cassidy, Joanna Norman
and Gérard Schneider

West Australian Symphony Orchestra Award
Caitlin Cassidy, Joanna Norman
and Gérard Schneider

Running Bare Prize
All Semi-Finalists

Nelly Apt Scholarship Announcement

Nelly Apt Scholarship for an instrumentalist
Emily Sun, violin

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Adjudicators

Bernadette Cullen

National Adjudicator

One of Australia's foremost mezzo sopranos, Bernadette has an extensive international career. She has been a Guest Artist with Opera Australia, Opera Queensland, WA Opera, Victoria State Opera, MSO, ASO, WASO and SSO.

Peter Czornyj

The Director of Artistic Planning at the Sydney Symphony, Peter was formerly the Artistic Administration of the Cleveland Orchestra. During his extensive career, Peter has worked closely with many of today's most esteemed artists, conductors and composers.

Dobbs Franks

With an international music career that has spanned over 50 years, Dobbs has conducted over 40 operas as diverse as Bartok's *Bluebeard's Castle*, Stravinsky's *Rake's Progress* and Gluck's *Orfeo*. Dobbs was Music Director of the WA Ballet and for six years Music Director of the Australian Ballet.

Anthony Legge

Assistant Music Director at Opera Australia, Anthony has conducted *Barber of Seville*, *Macbeth* and *Of Mice and Men*. He has recorded two CDs with Chandos accompanying Linda Finnie, published *The Art of Auditioning* and appeared as a judge on the Channel 4 Operatunity series.

Stephen Mould

Senior Lecturer in Operatic Studies at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, University of Sydney, Stephen has worked in opera houses since 1986 as a coach, musical assistant and conductor and has worked with companies in the UK, Germany, Austria, Belgium, and USA.

Roderick Lakin

Non-Voting Chair

As Director of Arts for the Royal Over-Seas League for almost thirty years, Roderick Lakin has expanded and developed its international arts programme, supporting hundreds of talented young professional artists and musicians from all over the UK and the Commonwealth. He comes tonight directly from The Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Perth.



Cullen



Mould



Czornyj



Legge



Franks



Lakin



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Sydney Opera House Trust

Mr Kim Williams AM (Chair)
Ms Catherine Brenner
Rev Dr Arthur Bridge AM
Mr Wesley Enoch
Ms Renata Kaldor AO
Mr Robert Leece AM
Ms Sue Natrass AO
Dr Tom Parry AM
Mr Leo Schofield AM
Mr Evan Williams AM

2011 IFAC ASC Adjudicators

The IFAC Australian Singing Competition expresses its gratitude to all the Adjudicators for their dedication and professionalism.

National Adjudicator

Bernadette Cullen

Finals

Peter Czornyj
Dobbs Franks
Anthony Legge
Stephen Mould
Roderick Lakin
(non-voting chair)

Semi Finals

Peter Czornyj
Anthony Legge
Stephen Mould

Heats

NSW – Michael Black,
Rowena Cowley
VIC – Antoinette Halloran,
David Kram
WA – Marilyn Phillips

Executive Management

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Richard Evans
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
Claire Spencer
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER
David Antaw
DIRECTOR, BUILDING
DEVELOPMENT & MAINTENANCE
Greg McTaggart
DIRECTOR, VENUE PARTNERS & SAFETY
Julia Pucci
DIRECTOR, MARKETING,
COMMUNICATIONS
& CUSTOMER SERVICES
Victoria Doidge
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER SOH PRESENTS
Jonathan Bielski

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Special Thanks

Peter Alexander
David Bainbridge
Amanda Buckworth
Carina Cargill
Patrick Carrick
John Crawford
Owen Chambers
Laura Crocco
Rochelle Dew
Andrew Dixon
Michael Gasson
Dina Gridiger
Lindsay Kearney
Roderick Lakin
Greg Lenthén
Jenny Liu
Bridget Patterson
Bruce Pollack
Maree Ryan
Tristan Taylor
David Terrazas
Adrian Ussher
Lilli Usser



2012 IFAC Australian Singing Competition

Thursday 25 October
Sydney Opera House

National Adjudicator Jeffrey Black

UK-based baritone &
1983 Mathy Scholarship
recipient

Accommodation has
been generously
provided for Bernadette
Cullen by the Hughenden
Boutique Hotel.



Music & Opera Singers Trust

The IFAC Australian Singing Competition is proudly administered by Music & Opera Singers Trust (MOST®). MOST promotes excellence in the arts, music, education and community development sectors by creating and managing programmes and activities to recognise and develop creative potential and provide career opportunities for individuals.

Since 1982 MOST has contributed millions of dollars in grants, scholarships, tuition, travel, mentoring programmes and other opportunities through their portfolio of activities.

Patron-in-chief

GOVERNOR-GENERAL
OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA
Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC

Chief Executive Officer

Roland E Gridiger

Co-ordinators

Vivian Zeltzer
Ben Oxley

Directors

Roland E Gridiger (Chair)
David Bainbridge
Ilana Gridiger
Joyce Parszos
Dianne Speakman

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