

PROGRAMME

Camille Saint-Saens (1835-1921) Bacchanale from Samson and Delilah

Late in the nineteenth century a young French composer came to the attention of the eminent Hector Berlioz, who quipped that "the only thing this young genius lacks is inexperience." The subject of this remark went on to become one of the most influential French composers at the end of the nineteenth century. The Bacchanale opens with an exotic oboe solo whose oriental flavour evokes the lithe image of a dancer sinuously swirling behind flowing veils to please the onlookers lounging on their pillows. Suddenly, the party comes to life and quickly grows into a revel as the guests are drawn into a frenetic dance. As the excitement builds all around them Samson and Delilah drift into a private world of their own. The music presents a serene interlude that turns into a sensuous episode, as a bond develops between the two star-crossed lovers. Its tender themes transform into passionate melodies until they eventually give way to the original dance music. This grows more and more intoxicating until it reaches a frenzied climax as the guests fall exhausted from their efforts.

W. A. Mozart - (1756-1791) Sinfonia Concertante for violin & viola op.104

1. Allegro Maestoso 2. Andante. 3. Presto

At the time of this composition in 1779, Mozart was on a tour of Europe that included Mannheim and Paris. Mozart had been experimenting with the sinfonia concertante form and this work can be considered his most successful realization in this combination of symphony and concerto.

INTERVAL

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky - (1840 - 1893) Symphony No. 4. In F minor, Op.36

1. Andante 2. Sostenuto 3. Andantino 4. Scherzo Allegro con fuoco

Tchaikovsky's **Symphony No. 4 in F minor**, Op. 36, was written between 1877 and 1878. The symphony's first performance was at a Russian Musical Society concert in Moscow on February 22 1878, with Nikolai Rubinstein as conductor.

A harsh brass fanfare opens the symphony and recurs throughout it. "This is Fate," Tchaikovsky wrote, "the power which hinders the pursuit of happiness"

The two main themes of the first movement proper are a restless yearning string melody and a wistful dance-like theme introduced by solo clarinet. The latter offers some moments of consolation only to be driven savagely into the background by the Fate theme. The coda is stark and uncompromisingly tragic: Fate seems triumphant.

The second movement shows another phase of sadness," Tchaikovsky continued. "Here is that melancholy feeling that envelops one when sitting alone at night exhausted by work, a host of reminiscences arise. It is sad, yet sweet, to lose oneself in the past."

The atmosphere of gloom is dispelled by a playful scherzo, where the strings play pizzicato from first bar to last. In the middle section, oboes and bassoons give out a rustic dance tune, while brass and piccolo offer a humorous imitation of military band music.

A brilliant flourish for full orchestra gets the finale under way at top speed. Woodwinds introduce the main theme, a Russian folk song called *In the Meadow There Stands a Birch Tree*. A confident march-like theme appears. After this sequence is repeated, the atmosphere gradually loses its sense of well being. The Fate theme makes a catastrophic reappearance, bringing the festivities to a grinding halt.

But all is not lost. "If you find no pleasure in yourself, look about you. Go to the people. See how they can enjoy life and give themselves up entirely to festivity. There still is happiness, simple, naive happiness. Rejoice in the happiness of others – and you can still live." The music regains its momentum to end in a blaze of celebration.

*Proceeds from this concert will be donated to Save the Children Fund
For future programmes - www.bso.org.au*

Conductor: Philip Paine

In 1988, after completing his Bachelor of Music degree at the Tasmanian Conservatorium of Music, Philip moved to Sydney to take up his first appointment as a tutti horn player with the Elizabethan Theatre Trust (now the Australian Opera and Ballet Orchestra). During his final year there he became acting associate principal in the orchestra. In 1992 Philip was appointed to a tutti position in the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra. He then completed a Masters degree in performance at the University of Adelaide in 1995. Around this time Philip was appointed as principal third horn in the ASO, before resuming in 2011 his original position at the ASO as a tutti horn player.

Philip has performed with the QSO and ACO as a tutti horn player and also with the Adelaide Chamber Orchestra, TSO and MSO as a principal horn player. He has also played as a member of the Adelaide Brass Quintet.

As a soloist Philip has performed with the Burnside Larsens and Unley Symphony Orchestras. He has also appeared as a soloist at the Barossa Chamber Music Festival and with the ASO.

Philip's first introduction to conducting was in 1988 with the Glenorchy City Concert Brass. In 2009, after a considerable break, Philip was appointed as music director of the Hahndorf Town Band.

This was followed up in 2010 by an appointment as music director of the Adelaide Sinfonia (the second orchestra in the Adelaide Youth Orchestra group). Philip is a tutor in Horn at the Adelaide Conservatorium. He has also tutored the Australian Youth Orchestra and been selected as a specialist in brass to audition the AYO candidates. Philip was appointed music director of the Burnside Symphony Orchestra in 2013.

Soloist: Violinist - Minas Berberyan

Minas was born in Sofia, Bulgaria. He graduated at the Sofia School of Music and later at the Bulgarian State Conservatoire, studying under Prof. Yossif Radionov. In 1994 he moved to South Africa where he worked for the National Symphony Orchestra of the South African Broadcasting Corporation in Johannesburg. During this time Minas became a regular participant in the local music scene, particularly as a chamber player. In 2002 Minas moved to Adelaide to join the ranks of the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra. Since then he has been actively involved in the musical life of Adelaide, including being co-concertmaster during 2004 Ring Cycle, live music broadcasts for Classic FM and numerous other chamber concerts.

Soloist: Violist - Imants Larsens

Born in Switzerland, Australian violinist/violist Imants Larsens began playing the violin at the age of three in Adelaide, studying first with his grandmother Alita Larsens, then with Keith Crellin. He continued his studies at the Musikhochschule Zentralschweiz in Lucerne under the guidance of his father Gunars Larsens, graduating with Lehrdiplom and Konzertreife diplome degrees with distinction. Whilst in Europe Imants participated actively in master-classes with renowned musicians, including Pinchas Zukerman and the Vermeer Quartet. Imants has won numerous awards and prizes in competitions both in Australia and overseas. He has performed as a soloist with orchestras in France, Switzerland and Australia and has appeared in numerous international festivals. Imants was concertmaster for national and South East Asia tours of Don Giovanni with CoOpera and also toured Europe with the Australian Youth Orchestra and was concertmaster when the AYO performed with the Cat Empire.

Imants holds the position of Associate Principal viola of the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra. In 2012 he was guest Assistant Principal viola with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra and has recently performed as guest Principal viola with the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra. He performs regularly as a soloist and chamber musician on both violin and viola.

Burnside Symphony Orchestra

Violin 1 - Charmaine Coombes* Nadina Paine Sally Armstrong Marietta Resek Fiona Robinson Charles Newland Frances Griffin Alice Powell Scarlett Gallery Kate Worley

Violin 2 Robyn Handreck Athalie Scholefield Mayuko Chen Steve Salomon John Salomon Mariam Moubarak Shelley Barrett

Violas - Christine Batty* Philip Griffin Donna Hughes Evelyn Phlox Brian Setchell

Celli - Jonathon Hall* Tanya Monro Vaike Aldridge Kym Williams Aileen Chatterton Allison Griffiths

Bassi - Rob Sanderson* Mark Pedder

Basoon: Norm Etherington *Ali Bell **Contra Bassoon:** Liz Ampt **Flutes:** Maria Foot Scott Gunn

Horns: Loretta Mattiolo * Adam Black Laura Cram Jordan Puckridge Alice Dyer **Oboes:** Terri Kenny Josh Oates

Cor Anglais: Jo Bridgeman **Clarinets:** Pip Weston Barbara Radcliffe Derek Jones **Trombones** - Michael Dight Dominic Meehan

Tuba - Chloe Higgins **Trumpets** - John Pater Douglas Pearce Orson Paine **Timpani** - John Lee **Percussion** - Andrew Timko

Sam Gallery Sebastian Phlox Dominic Johnson

*denotes Principal



Burnside Symphony Orchestra
Burnside Town Hall
December 10, 2014
8.00pm