

Music Shoalhaven Newsletter

April, 2022



OUR MARCH CONCERT

All who attended our March concert with Samuel Dharma left on an incredible high after his brilliant performances of Brahms, Mozart, Schumann and Chopin. The pieces Sam played displayed a wide variety of emotions perfectly captured by him. It was delightful to see him spending time at the end of the concert with a young local pianist, giving her special clues as to how to get that extra vim, extra special interpretation, into properly prepared and practised pieces.

We all marvelled at his ability to memorize all the music for the concert. It was certainly a concert that highlighted amazing music for the piano.

2022 TICKET PRICES All \$30 (School Age Children Free)

CONCERT: 2:00pm, Sunday, 1st May, 2022 Nowra School of Arts



+ Guest
Matt Bruce

The programme will include songs by Poulenc, Debussy, Frank Bridge, Charles Ives, Ivor Gurney, Ivor Novello, and Graham Koehne and the Frederick Delius "Sonata for Violin and Piano in C Major" (1923).

Wendy Dixon (Soprano) has had a highly successful international career as a soprano soloist working in Europe, the Americas, Asia, New Zealand and Australia. She continues singing through performances as Grevillea Ensemble in partnership with David Miller. Together they have recorded over ten CDs of Australian Art Song.

Wendy created Opera Boot Camp Australia, a programme for 15–25-year-old potential opera singers. Sydney Art Song Society is another program of which Wendy is Artistic Director, designed for mature age singers to continue their exploration of the Art Song repertoire of various styles and countries.

Wendy is a committed educator, gaining her Master of Music (Mus.Ed.) USyd 2007 with her thesis investigating vocal repertoire for HSC and mid-adolescent performers. She has also co-written three books on Australian Art Songs. Her doctoral studies are exploring the relationship between composers and performers in the creation of contemporary art song.

Wendy is a full time lecturer in Academic Studies at the Australian Institute of Music with duties including one-on-one teaching of undergraduate and postgraduate students in classical and music theatre streams, supervision of Masters students, running masterclasses and ensembles, writing the technical vocal syllabus and examining.

David Miller AM is widely recognised as one of Australia's leading chamber musicians and vocal accompanists. In the 1995 Queen's Birthday Honours List he was appointed a member of the Order of Australia in recognition of his service to music. His distinguished career has included partnerships with Lauris Elms, Marilyn Richardson, John Pringle, Elizabeth Campbell, Tom Edmonds, Geoffrey Collins, Mark Walton, Georg Pederson and Diana Doherty, and a variety of visiting international musicians, including Luigi Alva, Meir Rimon, John Mark Ainsley, Takako Nishisaki and Boris Belkin. He has performed with several notable chamber ensembles, including the legendary contemporary music ensemble Flederman, the Huntington Trio and the Canberra Wind Soloists, and was for many years the rehearsal pianist for the Sydney Philharmonic Choir. He records for Tall Poppies, Vox Australis, ABC Classics and Wirripang, with an emphasis on the promotion of Australian music both old and new. Mr Miller was on the staff of the Sydney Conservatorium of Music for more than 40 years. He was appointed the first chair of the Ensemble Studies Unit with responsibility for Chamber Music and Accompaniment tuition and administration throughout the institution. He introduced an innovative and comprehensive program of study for aspiring collaborative pianists and actively promoted a wide variety of performance opportunities for student ensembles. This including three annual regional tours, travelling as far as Merimbula, Dubbo, Woolgoolga and of course Nowra. He was instrumental in setting up the Geoffrey Parson Australian Scholarship and other awards to assist young pianists in the development of their careers.

Since his retirement from a full-time teaching position at the Conservatorium, Mr Miller has continued to perform and record with a wide range of professional colleagues, particularly in his two ensembles, Grevillea and Charisma. In addition, he has established a private studio where he coaches young singers and instrumentalists in the art of performing in ensemble and trains pianists in the development of the special skills required of a professional collaborative pianist. He will also be continuing a busy schedule of masterclasses, lectures, conferences and interviews. The Accompanists' Guild of NSW, which he founded, has created an annual David Miller Award to honour the outstanding achievements and services he has given to young Australian musicians and the specialised discipline of piano accompaniment.



Matt Bruce (Violinist) is an in demand professional violinist, concertmaster, soloist, improviser, & pedagogue, known for passionate live performances & outstanding outcomes for his students. He has worked professionally in the industry for the past 3 decades, and is trained & experienced in classical, historical, & contemporary violin performance at the highest level.

Matt has been a member of the world-renowned Australian Brandenburg Orchestra since 1992, which he has led as Resident Concertmaster (& subsequently Associate Concertmaster) since 2013, toured with at both national and international levels, and featured as soloist on innumerable occasions over the past 2 decades. These includes Aria award winning recordings including "Tapas, Tastes of the Baroque", and in live collaboration with artists such as

Riccardo Minasi, Lixania Fernandez, Christina Pluhar, and Phillipe Jarrousky.

Classically, Matt has worked extensively with the Australian Opera, Orchestra of the Antipodes, Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra, Pinchgut Opera, Australian Chamber Orchestra, Sydney Symphony Orchestra, Hobart and Brisbane Baroque, Sydney Philharmonia, and Sydney Chamber Choir, as orchestral player, section leader, & concertmaster.

Additionally, he has a strong background in chamber music, notably as a member of the East Sydney Ensemble for a number of years, including performances at the Melbourne International Chamber Music Competition, Canberra Chamber Music Festival, Townsville International Chamber Music Festival, & the Academie de Musique in Lausanne Switzerland, as well as regional touring within Australia.

In addition to his performing commitments, Matt has been a dedicated and successful teacher of violin and music principles for over 25 years. He is passionate about presenting music education through real, dynamic, & meaningful contexts. As well as one on one teaching, he presents masterclasses, guest directs training ensembles, and mentors players at every level from elementary to postgraduate and professional students, including tertiary institutions such as The Australian Institute of Music and Newcastle Conservatorium of Music.



Wendy Dixon and David Miller AM

AFTERNOON TEA – We encourage everyone to bring along a plate of goodies for afternoon tea. You may just like to bring a dip or some crackers and cheese or interesting biscuits or maybe you're a wonderful cook and can whip up some cakes or slices or scones to share. All these things help us to have a great time at the end of the concert chatting to one another and to our guest artist (s).

Our June Concert: Daniel Röhn Alone

Tales of the Solo Violin

2:00pm Sunday, 19th June, Nowra School of Arts

You will not want to miss this concert, full of amazing Violin playing expertise and humour.

Listen to what people on the world stage say of Daniel's playing...

A rich tone, flawless technique and intonation, captivating musicianship and an extremely engaging stage presence ~**THURGAUER ZEITUNG, SCHAFFHAUSEN/ SWITZERLAND**

Like Heifetz and Stern before him, Röhn is so mesmerisingly in control that above all one is left marvelling at what a fabulous score Carmen really is when it's played like this ~**THE STRAD, LONDON**

A remarkable example of refined lyricism, depth and sensitivity ~**LE MONDE DE LA MUSIQUE, FRANCE**

Rarely encountered combination of technical excellence and musical depth... Difficult to imagine a better realisation ~**BBC MUSIC**

Röhn is an exceptionally talented violinist well worth hearing ~**GRAMOPHONE**

If every performer communicated as well, as part virtuoso and part inspired educator, more concert halls would be packed – and his certainly was. (Carnegie Hall) ~**NY CONCERT REVIEW**

Röhn forms these works fittingly with a romantic tone, making virtuosity shine with sovereignty. A nostalgic journey through time that arouses emotions and entertains enthrallingly ~**FONO FORUM**

With a golden hand ~**RONDO**



This is a concert that any young person studying violin will not want to miss. Parents and Grandparents, bring your young musicians along with you.

In fact, no-one should miss this outstanding concert.

Any children of school age have free entry to the concert.
 Tickets for parents bringing children \$25.

UPCOMING MUSIC SHOALHAVEN CONCERTS

19th JUNE	Daniel Röhn Alone TALES OF THE SOLO VIOLIN, Nowra School of Arts
7th AUGUST	FOUR HANDS Piano Duets Daniel Herscovitch and Clemens Leske, Nowra School of Arts
2nd OCTOBER	TBA Change of date from September. Mark in your diary.
13th NOVEMBER	SOUTHLAND with Conductor Lesley Challenger, Nowra School of Arts

OTHER CONCERTS IN OUR AREA

Gerringong Music Club

15th May, 2022

Alma Moodie Quartet with Kristian Winther, Anna da Silva Chen, Alexina Hawkins, and Thomas Marlin.

Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre

World of Musicals Monday, 9th May

Lloyd Webber and Friends, Morning Matinee, 11th May

Mirusia, 12th May

AMTC Annie, 20th-29th May

Mark Vincent Tribute to Mario Lanza, 4th June (accompanied by the Sydney Chamber Orchestra Quartet)

Baroque Fusions, 9th June French Elegance, Italian Passion, German Rigour
(Featuring six members of the Australian Brandenburg Orchestra)

Sydney Symphony Orchestra, 24th June *Shining Brightly* – inspired by Bach

Shoalhaven Eisteddfod Showcase, 2:00pm 25th June

Check out the Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre website <https://shoalhavenentertainment.com.au> for more details and for future concerts you may enjoy.

Wollongong Art Gallery,

3:00pm, 24th April, 2022

The Song Company

A 12 piece vocal ensemble of some of the most exciting new apprentice singers from around the country! *Tremors of Earth* is a 60min choral concert, featuring the performance of the mesmerizing polyphonic work 'The Earthquake Mass' by 15th Century composer Anton Brummel - sung from its original notation! The Mass will also be paired with contemporary works by Alice Chance & Antony Pitts.

See The Song Company website for more details:

<http://the.song.company/tremors-of-earth>

The Shoalhaven Eisteddfod

Why not visit the eisteddfod and enjoy watching sections from all the performing arts?

The program, in detail, is available on the website www.shoalhaveneisteddfod.org.au

DANCE	Schools	12th May	Check out the venues for each section in the Program
	Individual & Troupes	13th/14th May	
VOCAL	Schools	19th May	
	Individual & Groups	21st/22nd May	
INSTRUMENTAL	Schools	26th May	
	Individual & Groups	26th-29th May	
SPEECH & DRAMA	Schools	31st May/1st June	
	Individual & Duos	31st May	

EISTEDDFOD SHOWCASE Saturday 25th, June 2022 at 2:00pm Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre Bridge Road, NOWRA Box Office: 1300 788 503 shoalhaventertainment.com.au Tickets on sale at the Centre Box Office

2022 Admission Prices

[Nowra School of Arts & Nowra Christian School](#)

Session Ticket – \$5.00, School Children – Free

[Shoalhaven Indoor Sports Centre](#)

Session Ticket (Schools) – \$5.00, Dance Troupes– \$10.00, School Children – Free