



March 2026

Newsletter

2026 Music Shoalhaven Committee

At the 2026 AGM of Music Shoalhaven the following people were elected to the committee:

President – Jan Larson, **Vice-President** – Roy Frazier, **Secretary** – Gail Stebbings

Treasurer – Margaret Perkins, **Music Director** – Ona Boyd-Frazier

Committee – Helen Gray, Jacqui Bowen, Kathy Gleeson, Susan Ballinger,
Colin Marstin.

For any enquiries, please call Jan Larson (0467 167 430)

or Ona Boyd-Frazier (0400 890 839)

Bach
AKADEMIE
AUSTRALIA



2:00pm **SATURDAY**, 21st March, 2026 at **Berry Uniting Church**

Bach Akademie Australia is a dynamic and expert group of internationally recognized instrumentalists and singers which aims to share with all Australians the inspiration and joyful excitement found in the music of Johann Sebastian Bach. Established in late 2016 by Australian violinist Madeleine Easton, Bach Akademie Australia makes the musical story of J.S. Bach immediate, rich and accessible through performances, recordings, and educational opportunities. The virtuosity of the ensemble has been honed by Madeleine and its members to create uniquely Australian experiences of Bach's timeless masterpieces, reflecting the profundity, originality and joy of his music.

Recent highlights include appearances in the Sydney Festival in 2024 and 2025, a return to the 2024 Canberra International Music Festival to perform the complete Brandenburg Concertos, and which were then presented in Sydney and Penrith in 2025 to critical and audience acclaim. The Orchestra and Choir performed Bach's Christmas Oratorio in Sydney's City Recital Hall in late 2024, ahead of its first national tour in April 2025.

BACH AKADEMIE PERFORMERS

Madeleine Easton, Violin, Artistic Director Madeleine is internationally recognized as a director, violinist and recognized authority in historically informed performance. She has appeared as a soloist and concertmaster of some of the world's most respected ensembles and orchestras, including the London Philharmonic, Orchestra, the City of Birmingham Symphony, the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, the Academy of Ancient Music, the Orquesta Sinfonica Madrid and the Australia World Orchestra. After almost two decades performing abroad, she returned to Australia and established Bach Akademie Australia, which gave its first of many sold-out performances in April 2017. She regularly returns to Europe to perform with the Monteverdi Choir and Orchestras, including their performance at the coronation of the King Charles III and Queen Camilla in Westminster Abbey, a performance of Bach's St Matthew's Passion in the Thomaskirche in Leipzig (where Bach was Kapellmeister) and a tour of Europe performing Bach's Mass in B Minor.

Susannah Lawergren, Soprano Susannah is a soprano, performing oratorio, art song, opera and contemporary music. She is a principal artist with Bach Akademie Australia and The Song Company. She has sung with Opera Australia, Sydney Chamber Opera, Sydney Symphony Orchestra, Ensemble Offspring and the Australia Ensemble. She has performed at the Sydney Festival, the Adelaide Festival and Canberra International Music Festival (ten times!) along with Baroquefest Canowindra and the inaugural Oberon Chamber Music Festival.

Simone Slattery, Violin Simone is one of Australia's most versatile musicians and creatives, with diverse experience in performance composition, curation, sound and visual design. She performs across Australia and internationally as a soloist and chamber musician on both modern and baroque violin, including with Bach Akademie Australia. Her compositions have been featured in live performance, film, and exhibitions, including the recent Clarice Beckett Retrospective at the Art Gallery of SA.

With Anthony Albrecht, she co-founded the Bowerbird Collective, which seeks to explore links between art and science. Their works have received awards and performed on numerous occasions.

Anthony Albrecht, Cello Anthony was the first Australian graduate of the Historical Performance Program at the Juilliard School in New York City. Unusually for an accomplished musician, he also has an MBA. His proficiency with the cello has taken him to festivals here and internationally, and he has performed in Australia with Pinchgut Opera, the Australian Haydn Ensemble, the Australian Romantic and Classical Orchestra, Adelaide Baroque and Van Diemen's Band. He is the Founder and Director of two music festivals in Australia: The Moonbird Festival on King Island and the Lyrebird Festival in the Megalong Valley. With Simone Slattery, he co-founded the Bowerbird Collective.

Dr Esther Kim, Harpsichord Esther is a Korean/Australian keyboardist, performing as a continuo player. She has performed with Australian Chamber Orchestra, Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, West Australian Symphony Orchestra and New Zealand Symphony Orchestra. Esther lectures in Early Keyboard at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, where she studied as an undergraduate, completing a Bachelor's degree with first class Honours in piano performance. She has also been awarded Master's degrees and received her PhD from universities in Australia and Germany focussing on her interest in historically informed performance and the performance of period keyboard instruments such as church organs, the harpsichord and the clavichord.

GROUP QUOTE: Bach Akademie Australia is so looking forward to being on the South Coast for our Music in the Regions tour, our first time performing across the area. As Australia's only dedicated Bach ensemble, we aim to put the composer's music front and centre of the Australian concert stages and share with you the inspiration and joyful excitement we find in the music of Johann Sebastian Bach. I have devised a special program exploring the life and music of Bach for you. Four Bach Akademie members and I will perform Bach: A Life in Music, sharing this great composer's life through his sacred and secular works. We will perform his famous and brilliant Concerto for two violins in D minor and some of his most special arias for soprano, featuring Susannah Lawergren, as well as exploring his home life through his Coffee and Wedding Cantatas. Bach's music is so full of dance and energy. At the end of performing his works, it feels that he has opened his soul, his spirit and his joy, for us. It's truly remarkable. We feel very lucky to have the opportunity to share this music with you across March, and look forward to meeting you at our performances. Madeleine Easton, Artistic Director

Afternoon Tea at the end of the concert is a wonderful time for the audience to talk to the performers. Music Shoalhaven has a great reputation for fabulous afternoon teas. Let's keep up the fantastic tradition and help bring along something to share!



SHOALHAVEN EISTEDDFOD needs volunteers to help in many ways...cashiers, timekeepers, helping to move children from one area to another, announcing items, etc. Why not take the time to help? It is very rewarding to not only be a helper but also to hear the performers, too. Please contact Ken O'Neill for more information on 0409 981 466 or kconeill750@gmail.com



Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750) was a German organist and composer whose work is today regarded as amongst the finest of mature baroque music (c. 1600-1750). More famous as an organist than as a composer in his own lifetime, Bach's rich legacy encompasses sacred and secular works, notably cantatas, organ pieces, and concertos, which influenced many later composers.

Amongst Bach's most critically acclaimed music are his *Magnificat*, his Mass in B minor, and the *Brandenburg Concertos*. The famous melody 'Air on the G String', which uses the lowest string on the violin, is taken from Bach's third orchestral suite.

Our programme will include: J.S. Bach Concerto for two violins in D minor, BWV 1043, J.S. Bach Arias and Recitative from Wedding Cantata, BWV 202 and J.S. Bach Coffee Cantata, BWV 211

Our Next Concert:
2:00pm, Sunday, 26th April, 2026
Berry Uniting Church



Daniel Röhn – We are very excited to welcome Daniel back to Music Shoalhaven. He had us on the edge of our seats with his artistry in 2022. Daniel began his studies at the age of 14 with Ana Chumachenko at the University of Music and Performing Arts Munich. He was a scholarship holder of the Anne-Sophie Mutter Foundation and was nominated for the "Rising Star" Awards by Konserthuset Stockholm in 2005. He has performed and continues to perform with many European Orchestras. Daniel plays a Joseph Rocca violin from 1840.

Music Shoalhaven 2026 Concerts

2:00pm Sunday, 26th April *Daniel Röhn - Violin* at **Berry Uniting Church**

2:00pm 23rd August TBA Nowra School of Arts

2:00pm Sunday, 13th September *Luminescence Chamber Singers* at Nowra School of Arts

2:00pm Sunday, 11th October *Joshua Han - Piano* at Nowra School of Arts

2:00pm Sunday, 15th November *Angelique Tot - Mezzo-Soprano* at Nowra School of Arts NSOA

Tickets will be available at the door with cash or card. Adults/Concessions: \$40

Children/School Age Students: free

Other Concerts coming up in March, April and May for Your Diary:

FOOD OF LOVE CHOIR and TRILOGY –
2:00pm, Sunday 12th April, Presbyterian
Hall, Nowra. Tickets \$20

**SUNDAY AFTERNOON
SING-A-LONG CONCERT**

FEATURING
THE FOOD OF LOVE CHOIR &
TRILOGY

**SONGS OF THE
50'S, 60'S AND 70'S**

**12 APRIL
2026**

2:00 - 4:00 PM
AFTERNOON TEA
PROVIDED

**PRESBYTERIAN HALL NOWRA
\$20 PER PERSON - TICKETS AT
THE DOOR**

ALL PROCEEDS TO SUPPORT LOCAL SINGING GROUP
HAPPY SOUNDS

GERRINGONG MUSIC CLUB "SONIDO"

2:00pm, Sunday, 29th March at
Gerringong Town Hall

A vibrant interactive kids concert featuring SONIDO, a dynamic musical group blending Latin American heritage with the sounds of modern multicultural Australia. The performance will invite children to explore music, language and storytelling in an inclusive and engaging setting.



SHOALHAVEN LYDIAN SINGERS "ANIMAL CRACKERS"

2:00pm Saturday, 18th April at Berry
School of Arts
2:00pm Sunday, 19th April at Nowra
School of Arts.

LYDIAN SINGERS



1. Animal Crackers



Songs about
all creatures -
great and
small.

**Sat 18 April - Berry School of Arts
Sun 19 April - Nowra School of Arts**

2. Night & Day

Uplifting and soulful
songs about the
sun, the stars and
the moon.



**Sat 15 Aug - Berry School of Arts
Sun 16 Aug - Nowra School of Arts**

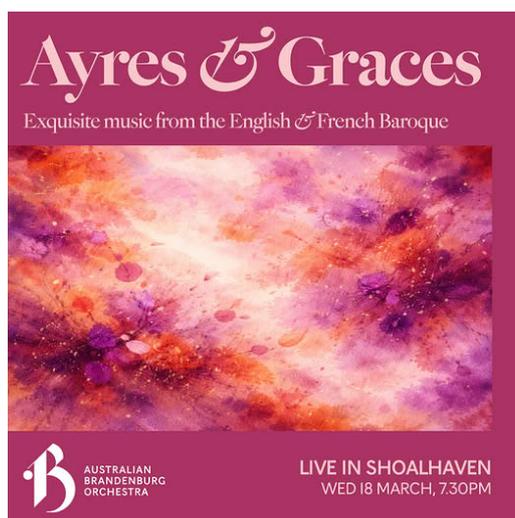
3. What Sweeter Music



"What sweeter music
can we bring than a
carol for to sing".
Join us for a Cantata!

**Sat 5 Dec - Berry School of Arts
Sun 6 Dec - Nowra School of Arts**

SHOALHAVEN ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE



7:30pm, Wednesday, 18th March. Tickets: Adults - \$45 Concession - \$30

Celebrating chamber music from the English and French Baroque, **Ayres & Graces** features a brilliant ensemble of Brandenburg musicians on an eclectic combination of period instruments, directed by Principal Baroque Flute Melissa Farrow.

NOWRA TOWN BAND CONCERT 3rd May at Wesley Centre, Nowra. More information in the April Newsletter.

SHOALHAVEN EISTEDDFOD BENEFIT CONCERT 2:00pm 3rd May, Berry Uniting Church. Janet Morris (Soprano) Ona Boyd-Frazier (Soprano), Susie Smith (Clarinet) and David Foley (Accompanist), will present a concert featuring the songs of Mozart and Schubert.

SHOALHAVEN EISTEDDFOD (shoalhaveneisteddfod.org.au for more information)

DANCE	School Dance Thursday, 7 th May Other Dance Friday, 8 th May – Saturday, 9 th May
INSTRUMENTAL	School Instrumental Thursday, 14 th May Other Instrumental (including Jnr, Teen and Open Piano Championships) Thursday, 14 th May – Sunday, 17 th May
VOCAL	School Choral Tuesday, 19 th May Other Vocal (including Jnr Contemporary Championship and the Open Aria Contest) Friday, 22 nd May – Sunday, 24 th May
SPEECH & DRAMA	School Verse-Speaking Tuesday, 26 th May School Drama Wednesday, 27 th May Other Speech and Drama Wednesday, 27 th May – Friday, 29 th May