Encore



THE NEWSLETTER FOR WASO PATRONS & FRIENDS

MARCH 2017

Your donations at work in the last year...

Here are just a few examples of how your donations made a difference to the Orchestra in the last year.

WASO purchased

specialist instruments for the Orchestra

participants in WASO's free music education program Crescendo

WASO commissioned or co-commissioned



new works, 4 of which will be premiered in 2017 WASO's Education & Community Engagement performances and workshops totalled

reached **40,756**

students, young artists and audience members

The WASO Chorus performed in

different WASO concerts

complimentary tickets to classical concerts to allow



the wider Western Australian community to experience the Orchestra

aspiring young musicians received expert instruction



international visiting artists book





WASO performed

Australian

people watched our Mahler's Resurrection concert conducted by Asher Fisch online, and **1,366**

watched our live screenings of the City of Perth Symphony in the City



WASO's performance at the Forbidden City Concert Hall in Beijing was streamed live to an audience of



Thank you for your ongoing support!

It was wonderful to celebrate the successes of 2016 with the Orchestra at our annual Patrons & Friends Christmas Party and then finish the year with fireworks and festivities at the City of Perth Symphony in the City in December last year.

Huge thanks to our hard-working volunteers who raised \$3,437 in donations from the crowd before the concert, supporting our Education and Community Engagement programs.

We look forward with great anticipation to the opening of our 2017 concert season and all the wonderful music, events and activities that the year will bring.



Events for Patrons & Friends

WASO Philanthropy enjoys coordinating a calendar of events for our Patrons & Friends. We are delighted to invite you to experience WASO from different perspectives, to draw you closer to the Orchestra and to introduce newcomers to our community of music-lovers.

These are just some of the events that we have planned for the year, so please stay tuned as we release further details of other events!

Ticket sales from Patrons & Friends events support The Friends of WASO Scholarship which provides professional development opportunities for WASO musicians.



10 & 1: Celebrating Annual Giving Patrons

Thursday 30 March, 6pm

Perth Concert Hall

For Patrons by invitation

An event to celebrate and recognise Patrons who have been part of WASO's Annual Giving program for ten years, and those who donated for the first time in 2016 – thank you! Invitations to follow.



On Stage with the Zukerman Trio

Thursday 27 April, 6pm

Perth Concert Hall

For Patrons by invitation

An intimate evening of conversation with the legendary Pinchas Zukerman, Amanda Forsyth and Angela Cheng – together, the Zukerman Trio. An exclusive opportunity to meet true masters of the art form. Invitations to follow.

Masterclass with Cellist Alban Gerhardt



The final International Artist Masterclass of 2016 was conducted by visiting German cellist Alban Gerhardt. His enduring popularity with WASO Patrons (this was his fourth visit to WASO) was demonstrated by the large audience at UWA's Callaway auditorium, who gathered to witness three very accomplished young cellists playing for him.

Alban made his concert debut with the Berlin Philharmonic and has performed with more than 250 orchestras worldwide since, with a repertoire of around 70 concerti. His warm personality and great sense of humour created a wonderful rapport and connection with our participants. He was in Perth to appear as guest artist with WASO, playing Lalo's Cello Concerto. Amusingly, notes from his previous International Artist Masterclass in 2011 revealed he was in Perth to play the Cello Concerto No.1 by Saint-Saëns 'under visiting conductor, Asher Fisch'.

Madeleine Gouge of Perth College played the first movement of the Cello Concerto by Lalo; Arianne Jacobs, a music student at UWA, played *Variations on a Slovak Theme* by Martinu; and Jeremy Garside, also a third-year music student at UWA, played the first movement of the Cello Sonata Op.40 by Shostakovich. With his humorous manner, Alban was extremely respectful to the students and was able to communicate his comments effectively.

Alban drew attention to the importance of bowing techniques and likened the difference between *forte* and *poco forte* to driving a Ferrari and trying very hard not to go over the speed limit! He encouraged the students to try

playing without the sheet music if possible to get a more rounded feel of the work saying, 'Be courageous, like a tight rope walker without a safety net'. Alban gave many pointers about relaxing each arm alternately when opportune, and suggested shoulder exercises to improve the smoothness of the bowing.

Amongst the attending Patrons there was a sense of privilege to be able to witness this special program, where visiting artists give so much to assist the burgeoning musical talent we have in Western Australia.

WASO's International Artist Masterclasses are part of our Education and Community Engagement department's Young & Emerging Artists program, and are presented with support from the UWA School of Music, celebrating Western Australia's finest young musicians and providing them with valuable access to world-class artists.

The 2017 Masterclasses will feature horn player Stefan Dohr, violinist Karen Gomyo and guitarist Karin Schaupp. For more information about the 2017 International Artist Masterclass Program please visit waso.com.au/education.

Report by Patrons & Friends Committee Vice-President Barry Neubecker. Alban Gerhardt appeared courtesy of Singapore Airlines.



International Artist Masterclass with Stefan Dohr (horn)

Wednesday 7 June, 7pm

Callaway Auditorium, UWA

Free to attend for all WASO Patrons. Seats are limited so please keep an eye on waso.com.au/education for when registrations open, and how to reserve your place.



PATRONS & FRIENDS EVENT

Creating Musical Adventures - Paul Rissmann Lecture

Tuesday 20 June, 6 - 8pm

Hale School Auditorium

Following the 2017 Patrons & Friends General Meeting held 5 - 6pm the second Judy Sienkiewicz Lecture will be presented by international educationalist, composer and presenter Paul Rissmann. Paul joins us for WASO's Education Week to present his acclaimed programs for children and young people, and we have invited him to speak to WASO Patrons & Friends on the life-changing power of music.

Tickets are \$20 for Patrons & Friends (\$25 for guests), and include a glass of wine and light refreshments.

Please book via the WASO Box Office on 9326 0000.



International Artist Masterclass with Karen Gomyo (violin)

Wednesday 23 August, 7pm

Callaway Auditorium, UWA

Free to attend for all WASO Patrons. Seats are limited so please keep an eye on waso.com.au/education for when registrations open, and how to reserve your place.



International Artist Masterclass with Karin Schaupp (guitar)

Wednesday 4 October, 7pm

Callaway Auditorium, UWA

Free to attend for all WASO Patrons. Seats are limited so please keep an eye on waso.com.au/education for when registrations open, and how to reserve your place.



PATRONS & FRIENDS EVENT

Meet the Percussion Section

Sunday 15 October, 2 – 4pm

Perth Concert Hall

On stage at Perth Concert Hall, meet the members and instruments of the self-proclaimed 'noisy section' of the Orchestra!

Tickets are \$45 for Patrons & Friends (\$55 for guests) and include wine and light refreshments.

Please book via the WASO Box Office on 9326 0000.

Brian Maloney's chair of Principal Percussion is partnered by Stott Hoare.



PATRONS & FRIENDS EVENT

Patrons & Friends Christmas Party

Thursday 14 December, 4.30pm

A much-loved event! Gather to celebrate the musical year that was, mingling with WASO musicians over a relaxed dinner and drinks after watching the final WASO rehearsal of 2017.

Tickets are \$45 for Patrons & Friends (\$55 for guests).

Please book via the WASO Box Office on 9326 0000.



City of Perth Symphony in the City 2017

Saturday 16 December, 7.30pm

Langley Park

Save the date for our spectacular, free outdoor concert!

Musical Morsels

WASO's 2017 orchestral season is full and varied, and our musicians rise to the challenge each week of performing different styles of music – Baroque, Classical, Romantic, contemporary, jazz, popular music, film soundtracks, opera and ballet scores – for audiences that range from small groups of children to outdoor concerts for tens of thousands, sometimes in the same week! Modern orchestral musicians must possess more breadth and flexibility than ever before.

Despite their busy schedule, many of our wonderful WASO musicians enjoy performing chamber music in various small ensembles as a counterpoint to their performances with the Orchestra.

Chamber music gives our musicians the opportunity to be heard as individuals while relying on the strength and personalities of their colleagues, and it can be a powerful tool for musical growth. Chamber music requires each musician to listen expansively to their fellow performers, to contribute wholeheartedly to the ensemble, to comprehensively understand and have confidence in their own reading of the piece, yet to remain responsive to other musical ideas. The flexibility and confidence a musician can gain from playing and performing chamber music can enhance so many other areas of their career, and indeed their life.

As an audience member, it is truly special to witness the wordless communication and dynamic engagement of a small ensemble – as the melodies move from instrument to

instrument, every performer plays a variety of roles and every voice is heard within an agreed hierarchy. Many of the greatest composers in history chose to write their most personal and deeply felt musical statements in their chamber works.

It is for all these reasons that the musicians of WASO have taken the initiative to create a new chamber music series, presented in association with Perth Concert Hall. Musical Morsels was launched with a successful introductory concert in late 2016, and is a series of lunchtime chamber music concerts held in the intimate setting of the Corner Stage, which has recently been re-built with jarrah floorboards to enhance the acoustic of the space. The musicians of WASO invite you to bring your lunch and enjoy their selection of musical gems from the chamber music repertoire, performed with their Orchestra colleagues and friends.

WASO Violist Rachael Kirk says about the series, 'For a number of years now we've been wanting to present our own chamber music series and we're very excited that this dream is finally coming to fruition. What's even more exciting is that it's taking place in such a unique setting in a corner of WASO's own performance home.'

In keeping with the relaxed and friendly atmosphere, seating is unreserved, tickets are \$15 and available at Perth Concert Hall one hour prior to the performance. Keep an eye on the Perth Concert Hall website for full details of upcoming concerts. The first Musical Morsels concert on Tuesday 28 March features a string octet of

WASO musicians led by Concertmaster Laurence Jackson and will feature Mendelssohn's glorious String Octet in E flat major. The WASO oboe section (Peter Facer, Liz Chee and Leanne Glover) will also perform Beethoven's 'Variations on *Là ci darem la mano*'. The musicians of WASO look forward to seeing you there!

Musical Morsels 2017 Series



Tuesday 28 March, 12.30pm Perth Concert Hall Corner StageFeaturing a WASO String Octet led by
Laurence Jackson and WASO's oboe section

Tuesday 2 May, 12.30pm Perth Concert Hall Corner StageFeaturing the Pinnacle String Quartet

Tuesday 23 May, 12.30pm
Perth Concert Hall Corner Stage
Featuring the Darlington String Quartet

More concerts to be announced later in the year!

There are many other opportunities to hear some of these WASO chamber ensembles throughout the year, some of which are listed below.



Ensemble Vagabond

This wind quintet is an ensemble-in-residence at UWA's School of Music and features WASO musicians Peter Facer (oboe), Adam Mikulicz (bassoon) and Julia Brooke (horn).

Friday 31 March, 1pm Callaway Auditorium at UWA

Friday 15 September, 1pm Callaway Auditorium at UWA

For more information, program and tickets please call the UWA School of Music on 6488 7836.



Darlington Chamber Music

The Darlington Chamber Music Series was started by former WASO cellist Jon Tooby and regularly features WASO musicians and friends including Semra Lee-Smith (violin), Zak Rowntree (violin), Joan Wright (double bass) and Brent Grapes (trumpet).

Darlington String Quartet

Sunday 14 May, 3pm, St Cuthbert's Church, Darlington

Sunday 21 May, 3pm, Churchlands Concert Hall

Darlington Piano Trio

Sunday 11 June, 3pm, Darlington Town Hall Wednesday 14 June, 7pm, Churchlands Concert Hall

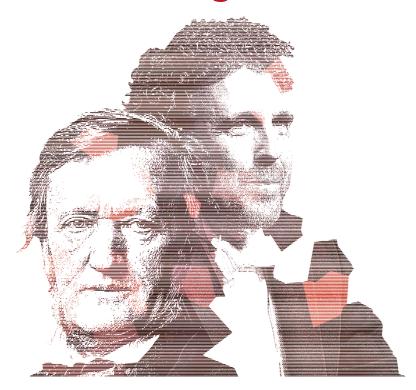
The Darlington Ensemble

Sunday 27 August, 3pm, Darlington Town Hall Wednesday 30 August, 7pm, Churchlands Concert Hall

Sunday 15 October, 3pm, Darlington Town Hall Wednesday 18 October, 7pm, Churchlands Concert Hall

For more information, program and tickets please visit darlingtonconcerts.com.au

WASO, Wagner and You



Performance Dates

Perth Concert Hall Inspiring Wagner, 6 September 2017 Wagner's World, 9 September 2017 Tristan & Isolde, 16 & 19 August 2018

2017 marks the beginning of one of WASO's most exciting undertakings to date, with the first instalment of our *WASO* & *Wagner* project.

Led by Principal Conductor Asher Fisch, WASO will present a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for Western Australians to join a thrilling journey of discovery through Wagner's music, the composers Wagner influenced and those who inspired him. Asher Fisch is widely recognised as one of the world's leading

Wagner conductors and is in regular demand by major European and American symphony orchestras and opera houses to conduct his work. WASO and Asher Fisch will be joined by some of the finest artists in the world to deliver an innovative program of music, lectures and events inspired by the seminal composer. This two-year project across the 2017 and 2018 WASO seasons will reveal the ways Wagner's work transformed the art form of classical music forever.

The first part of the two-year project, and the centrepiece of the upcoming 2017 season, will be Wagner and Beyond, comprising two concerts in September that will explore the colossal impact of Wagner's writing on the history of music. These concerts will then form the prelude to two concert performances of Wagner's ground-breaking opera *Tristan und Isolde* in 2018 that will be a

milestone for the company, befitting of WASO's 90th anniversary celebrations.

For *Tristan und Isolde* we are thrilled to have secured a stunning cast of the world's finest Wagner singers, including internationally-acclaimed Australian tenor Stuart Skelton, who has established himself as the leading exponent for the role of Tristan, and acclaimed Dutch Wagner soprano Eva-Maria Westbroek in the role of Isolde.

How to be involved

WASO & Wagner is an expensive undertaking for the company as the scale of Wagner productions incurs significant costs, and we seek your support to help fund this bold artistic project.

Your donation will support an exquisite cast of singers and give you priority access to the very best seats in the house. You will also have the opportunity to enjoy exclusive behind-the-scenes experiences and special events designed specifically for our supporters, and be acknowledged in performance collateral.

We are seeking two year contributions. Patrons may donate their contribution in full or make a commitment now and pay their pledge over the two years in instalments. For further information on donation options or to join our WASO & Wagner campaign, please contact Alecia Benzie, Executive Manager Philanthropy on 9326 0020/ benziea@waso.com.au; Sarah Tompkin on 9326 0017/tompkins@waso.com.au or go to waso.com.au/supportus.

All donations are fully tax deductible.

Celebrating Ten Years of Annual Giving



Asher Fisch appears courtesy of Wesfarmers Arts.

Each year we celebrate those who have made contributions to WASO's Annual Giving fund for ten consecutive years. Annual Giving is the backbone of WASO's Philanthropy program, and in 2017 we are proud to acknowledge the following Patrons for their ten years of generosity. We are humbled by your commitment to the Orchestra, and your ongoing support is deeply appreciated. Thank you!

Shirley Barraclough Lesley & Peter Davies Rai & Erika Dolinschek Bridget Faye AM Isobel Glencross Hon Justice S R Moncrieff Patricia New Gail & Tony Sutherland Michael & Helen Tuite
Dr Robert Turnbull
Stan & Valerie Vicich
Joyce Westrip OAM
Dr & Mrs Chris Whitaker
Hilary & Peter Winterton AM
Anonymous (1)



A Tuba, a Cello and 64 Years of Kindness

In June last year, WASO Philanthropy asked supporters to help us purchase a cello and a German style C tuba for the Orchestra. We were looking for a new cello to be played as part of our Education Chamber Orchestra (EChO) performances in metropolitan schools and regional areas in WA, and the C tuba was much needed for the Orchestra's current and future main-stage repertoire. Much to our musicians' delight, WASO Patrons Jean and Peter Stokes came forward and generously helped WASO with the purchase of both of these instruments.

As a small way of thanking them for their wonderful act of generosity, we invited Peter and Jean backstage to the Perth Concert Hall Green Room after the Masters Series concert on 26 August to meet the WASO brass section. This date also just happened to be the night of Peter and Jean's 64th (!) wedding anniversary, and the brass section gladly jumped at the opportunity to serenade them!

Jean and Peter also met with WASO Double Bass Andrew Tait in his instrument workshop on 27 November and enjoyed seeing 'their' cello in the process of being made – a unique experience which they both cherished. Jean and Peter learned a lot about the characteristics of instrument making, Andrew's own history and how he came to be one of Australia's most sought-after luthiers. Andrew and his wife Wendy were the perfect hosts and it was an occasion for all to remember.

Jean and Peter said that they were looking forward to seeing 'their' instrument on stage at Perth Concert Hall and imagining the cello travelling around Western Australia for performances in regional communities.

'Our appreciation of music has come late in life.
Fortunately this has now been fulfilled by
becoming Patrons of WASO. Building on our
new relationship with the Orchestra was the
chance to donate the tuba and it was a thrill to
be invited to a special performance of the brass
section recently. Our commitment also is for a
cello, currently being made by Andrew Tait, and
we were privileged to visit Andrew and his wife
Wendy in their studio to see the progress in the
making of the instrument. Special thanks to
Sarah for making the arrangements. We are
looking forward to a great 2017 with WASO!'

What Jean and Peter have not mentioned here is that this was actually the second time they have donated towards instruments for WASO, as they also kindly gifted two new hand-crafted trombones to the WASO brass section in 2013!

Now all that's left for us to say is, 'Thank you, Peter and Jean!' WASO's audiences will all benefit from your kind donations to the Orchestra and we are all indebted to your generosity and spirit of giving.

WASO Philanthropy seeks donations towards specialist instruments for the Orchestra. If you are interested please call Planned Giving Manager, Sarah Tompkin, on 9326 0017 or email her on tompkins@waso.com.au and she will be very pleased to talk you through current and future giving opportunities.



Andrew Tait, Jean and Peter Stokes with Wendy Tait in Andrew's instrument workshop.



Jean and Peter Stokes with WASO Principal Tuba Cameron Brook backstage at Perth Concert Hall.



Jean and Peter Stokes with the WASO Brass Section backstage at Perth Concert Hall.

Connect with WASO online!

There have never been more ways to experience WASO, wherever you are across our vast state, country or globe. We love to connect with our community of supporters online. We are delighted to launch the **re-vamped WASO Philanthropy pages at waso.com.au!**Visit our new pages for plenty of information about the Orchestra's campaigns and activities, upcoming and past events and the WASO Philanthropy team.

Have you taken a look at WASO's YouTube channel lately? It's full of goodies – watch full performances dating back to 2011, exclusive interviews and bonus clips at youtube.com/WestAustSymOrchestra.



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I wish to support my Orchestra



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My Gift to WASO	Annual Giving Campaign
I wish to make a donation of \$	Our Annual Giving Program supports WASO's commitment to inspirational performances.
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• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	1, East Perth, WA, 6892. For more information, contact Sarah Tompkin on 9326 0014 or janec@waso.com.au. WASO respects your privacy. You can yer \$2 are fully tax deductible. ABN 26 081 230 284.
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Pins for WASO Patrons

These lovely pins have been designed and crafted especially for WASO Patrons by The Perth Mint. It is our pleasure to present a pin to each new WASO Patron as a small token of our appreciation.

Many of our Patrons wear their pin to WASO concerts and events, and some have even customised their pin to include a precious stone or to hang as a necklace pendant. It is a great conversation starter and shows your commitment to supporting your Orchestra.

If you are a Patron but have not yet received your pin, please contact Jane on 9326 0014 or janec@waso.com.au who can arrange one for you.

Can't attend a concert? Donate your ticket!

Demand for great seats at WASO performances is high. If you are unable to attend a concert, why not consider donating your ticket for resale? We will send you a tax deductible receipt and you will create an opportunity for another music lover to enjoy the performance.

To donate your ticket, please contact the WASO Box Office on 9326 0000. Tickets must be received by the WASO Box Office at least two business days prior to the performance. Please post your tickets to WASO, PO Box 3041, East Perth, 6892.

Transaction fees are not eligible for inclusion in the donation.

Simon Lee Foundation: Supporting Young Artists in WASO Residencies

WASO's Artist in Residence program has been operating since 2012 in partnership with the Simon Lee Foundation, and aspires to build an alumni body of young artists in Western Australia that can connect, create and support each other.

We are delighted to introduce young artists whose work you will have the pleasure of listening to in 2017.



Composer in Residence 2016 Lachlan Skipworth

In 2016 the Simon Lee Foundation supported Composer in Residence Lachlan Skipworth, a young Western Australian composer whose distinctive music has already been performed throughout Australia and the world.

Lachlan originally trained as a clarinettist before going on to receive a Master of Music (Composition) from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, where he studied with Roger Smalley and Anne Boyd. Interestingly, Lachlan is also an active shakuhachi performer, and has spent three years studying this end-blown bamboo flute, and its ancient honkyoku tradition, in Japan.

Lachlan has written for a variety of large and small ensembles including WASO, the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, the Sydney Youth Orchestra, the Song Company, Synergy Percussion and for various international artists at Musica Viva. WASO's premiere performance of Lachlan's Clarinet Concerto (featuring soloist Ashley Smith and conductor Baldur Brönnimann) was awarded *Performance of the Year* at the prestigious 2015 Art Music Awards.

Lachlan's composition *Spiritus* will be performed in WASO's Trifonov Plays Tchaikovsky concert on 10 and 11 March 2017 at Perth Concert Hall. Later in the year another of his compositions will be performed at the WASO Chorus Sings Lux Aeterna concert at St Mary's Cathedral. It will be very exciting to hear the products of Lachlan's time as Composer in Residence with WASO.

We would also like to congratulate Lachlan and his wife, WASO violinist Akiko Miyazawa, on the arrival of their daughter Yuki, born in November!



Assistant Conductor 2017 Elena Schwarz

Many of you will have already heard the exciting news that Elena Schwarz has been appointed Assistant Conductor of both the West Australian Symphony Orchestra and the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra in 2017. This is the first joint Assistant Conductor position between two major Australian Orchestras, and Elena will divide her time between Perth and Hobart in 2017 alongside her other engagements in Europe. At WASO she will follow on from our previous Assistant Conductor Christopher Dragon, who is now the Associate Conductor at the Colorado Symphony.

Award-winning Swiss-Australian conductor Elena Schwarz studied at the Geneva University of Music in the class of Laurent Gay, before specialising in contemporary performance with Arturo Tamayo at the Conservatorio della Svizzera Italiana. She has also been a member of Symphony Services International's Conductor Development Program since 2013, and has participated in conducting courses with Asher Fisch, Christopher Seaman, Johannes Fritzsch and Giordano Bellincampi.

Elena is the winner of the first prize at the 'Princess Astrid' competition with the Trondheim Symphony Orchestra (Norway) and of the second prize at the 2015 Jorma Panula competition in Vaasa (Finland). In October 2016, she was selected as one of three young conductors to be supported by the French Performer's Association, Adami.

We congratulate Elena on her new position and look forward to welcoming her to Perth soon!

