

Encore

WASO
West Australian
Symphony Orchestra

THE NEWSLETTER FOR WASO PATRONS & FRIENDS

FEBRUARY 2015

Welcome to 2015!



Photo: Christophe Canato.

We are delighted that you, our Patrons & Friends, helped us raise over \$500,000 through Annual Giving in 2014. Your ongoing support, no matter how small or large your gift might be, is vital for us to continue growing, educating and positively changing the lives of so many people in Western Australia.

The passion of the WASO community for this Orchestra is inspiring and is reflected in the fact that our donor base grew by 21% last year! We are proud you are part of our WASO community.

Why is your support so important this year?

This year WASO will perform over 50 orchestral concerts at Perth Concert Hall, with some of the world's finest conductors and soloists, a highlight of which will be our eagerly-anticipated Brahms Festival. In addition to performing with WA Opera and WA Ballet, we are thrilled to be performing *The Sleeping Beauty* with The Australian Ballet at Crown Theatre in October and to be part of Perth International Arts Festival.

2015 sees WASO continue to provide free music lessons to primary school students as part of our El Sistema-inspired Music Education Program in Kwinana and our Onslow Kids Music Education (OK ME!) program. WASO's Education Chamber Orchestra (EChO) will perform in venues from Kwinana to Joondalup throughout the year, as well as regularly visiting schools and sick children in Princess Margaret Hospital. WASO musicians will also head further afield, performing in schools and giving free community concerts as part of our two WASO on the Road tours around the state.

Young and emerging artists in WA will benefit from WASO musicians' mentorship in our Composition Project and through our International Artist Masterclass Program, which this year includes a masterclass with world-renowned violinist Pinchas Zukerman.

We are also excited to be holding our inaugural Education Week (22-28 June), culminating in WASO's first Open Day on 28 June at Perth Concert Hall. During this week WASO and The Literature Centre are collaborating to bring Matt Ottley and Danny Parker's award-winning picture book *Parachute* to life through music.

This is just a snapshot of what is in store for the exciting year ahead! **When we say we could not do it without you, we mean it.**


Wesfarmers Arts
Principal Partner



New venue manager for Perth Concert Hall

The West Australian Symphony Orchestra (WASO) is the new venue manager of the Perth Concert Hall.

Perth Theatre Trust Chair Peter Blaxell said as part of a new venue management arrangement, Perth Theatre Trust would lease the Perth Concert Hall from the City of Perth for 12 months as of 1 January 2015.

'Under this new agreement between Perth Theatre Trust and WASO, the Trust holds the lease, while WASO is responsible for the venue management and activation of the Perth Concert Hall in 2015,' he said. Mr Blaxell said this arrangement would be a transition year for WASO as it begins relocating to the Perth Concert Hall.

A separate not for profit entity, WA Venue and Events Management Pty Ltd, has been set up as the signatory to the agreement with the State Government. This company operates as a sister company of WASO Pty Ltd.

WASO Chairman Janet Holmes à Court AC said the new management arrangement would provide opportunities to activate the venue and bring in new hirers and new audiences. 'WASO's long association with the Perth Concert Hall has provided the company with an intimate understanding of the venue, and the needs of promoters, which we aim to use to achieve greater utilisation rates and revenue,' Mrs Holmes à Court said. 'There is a tremendous amount of potential for this venue and we're looking forward to working towards achieving our vision to create a hub of activity and vibrancy at the Perth Concert Hall and the surrounding precinct.'



Department of Culture and the Arts Director General Duncan Ord said the Department of Culture and the Arts (DCA) would be supporting WASO by managing the maintenance of the venue. 'DCA is also currently working with the City of Perth on a priority works schedule to deal with maintenance issues at the Perth Concert Hall,' Mr Ord said. He said WASO would be commissioning a feasibility study in 2015 on their full relocation to the Perth Concert Hall.

'The initial 12-month agreement will give us time to respond to the City of Perth's longer term strategy to make the Perth Concert Hall and its forecourts a venue which offers a broad range of classical and contemporary music and events.'

WASO has appointed Brendon Ellmer as the new General Manager of the venue. Mr Ellmer has spent the last six years as General Manager of the State Theatre Centre of Western Australia.

Leading Western Australian catering consultancy service Heyder & Shears have been awarded the food and beverage contract for the venue and began operations at the first concert on 6 January.

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.

facebook

Join over 9,100 others and 'like' us on Facebook to keep in touch with your Orchestra. Go to facebook.com/WestAustralianSymphonyOrchestra.

twitter

Are you one of our 2,200 followers on Twitter? Follow us at twitter.com/_waso_ for all the latest WASO news.



We are now on Instagram! Follow us at instagram.com/_waso_ to get an exclusive look at what goes on behind the scenes.

freezone

Did you know you can watch WASO concerts online? Head to freezone.iinet.net.au/vod/freezone/music/waso/ to catch up on concerts dating back to 2009 that you want to relive or may have missed.

WASO Chorus Celebrates and Remembers



WASO Chairman Janet Holmes à Court AC and Zvi and Carmela Yom-Tov with WASO Chorus members.



Zvi and Carmela Yom-Tov with tenor Andrew Paterson.

On 2 December 2014, and as part of our Giving Tuesday celebrations, we gave thanks to the wonderful WASO Chorus members who have volunteered with us for 10 years or more. These dedicated Chorus members have made an enormous artistic contribution to WASO, devoting many hours of their time and talent to bringing joy to thousands of WASO audience members.

Many of the WASO Chorus will remember Sagitte Yom-Tov, who joined the Chorus in 2003 and was a member until she very sadly passed away in 2013. Her parents, Carmela and Zvi, wanted to acknowledge the incredible work of the Chorus and, with WASO Chairman Janet Holmes à Court, presented certificates of recognition for 10 years of service to the WASO Chorus to 23 volunteer singers.

Zvi and Carmela Yom-Tov have been seeking ways to remember Sagitte through 'gifts of love' that celebrate, commemorate and remember their daughter's life. They have made several donations to organisations that Sagitte supported or that represented the life she led. They want to celebrate Sagitte's love of music and singing and have done this through a donation to the Orchestra's Endowment Fund. This is a fund where capital is invested (major gifts and bequests) and income generated from this investment is used to fund ongoing costs at WASO. Where and when possible, the Sagitte Yom-Tov Fund earnings will be used to support Chorus activities.

To learn more about the Orchestra's Endowment Fund, please contact Alecia Benzie, Executive Manager, Philanthropy on 9326 0020 or benziea@waso.com.au or visit waso.com.au.

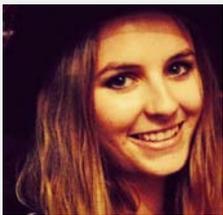
'To touch souls and enrich lives through music'

What does WASO's vision mean to you?



Having spent most of our lives working and without music, WASO has opened up a whole new universe. A world of beauty and order, of joy and sadness, of exhilaration and moderation. We commend WASO for its part in providing musical encouragement to young people. They are receiving a benefit which we unfortunately never had.

Jean & Peter Stokes – WASO Patrons



WASO's mission to premiere, encourage and support Australian music and young local musicians in Perth and throughout WA certainly enriches many lives. This state is lucky to have such a wonderful organisation working towards bringing exciting new music into our world here on the west coast.

Courtney Walsh – WASO Marketing Assistant



What is important to me is that they [WASO] reach out to the community. They travel and give free community concerts, visit hospitals and go to schools. I want to inspire kids to not just sit in front of the TV and play PlayStation, but learn how to express themselves... and that is easiest through music.

Alban Gerhardt – Cellist



In 2014, I spent time reassuring some of our Rusty Orchestra musicians who were nervous about playing alongside professionals. When I asked one lady how she was enjoying it, she replied that it was the best thing she had ever done in her life. It was such a wonderful thing to see her and all the other 'Rusties' buzzing with excitement after the concert.

Rob Gladstones – WASO Principal 3rd Horn



I meet people here in Perth who tell us, 'We feel we get the same quality here as we do when we go to London and New York, and we are so happy that we can hear such high levels of music-making in our home town.' For me, that's the reward for all the work that we are doing. We can really communicate with everybody – with experienced concert-goers, newbies, older people, anybody.

Asher Fisch – WASO Principal Conductor & Artistic Adviser

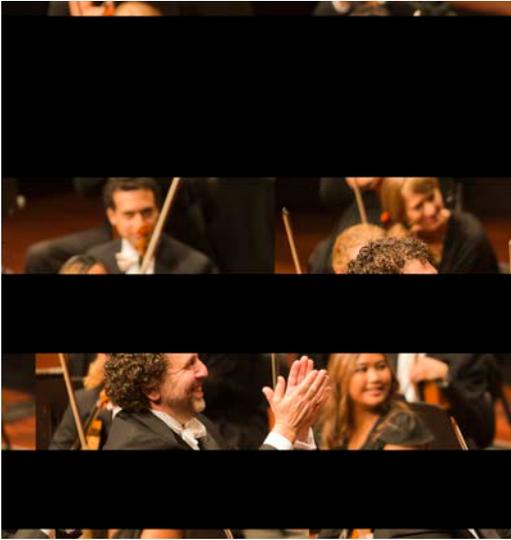
Asher Fisch appears courtesy of Wesfarmers Arts.

We'd love to hear what WASO's vision means to *you!*

To let us know, please contact Jane Clare on 9326 0014 or clarej@waso.com.au. We also invite you to support WASO's vision by making a donation. To make a donation, please contact Jane or you can donate online at waso.com.au.



Annual Giving – It Starts with You



The impact of supporting your Orchestra is powerful and far-reaching. Your donations go directly towards ensuring WASO is able to achieve its vision *to touch souls and enrich lives through music*. You make every performance and every note possible.

We invite you to become a WASO Patron this year by making a donation to our Annual Giving campaign. WASO Patrons enjoy opportunities to experience WASO from different perspectives – not just from the auditorium – being invited to exclusive events, getting to know our musicians and receiving regular updates. All donations over \$2 are fully tax deductible.

If you wish to become a Patron, increase or renew your gift, you can do so by filling in the form at the back of this edition of *Encore* or by contacting Jane Clare on 9326 0014 or clarej@waso.com.au. It is also quick and easy to log in and make a donation online at waso.com.au by clicking the red **Make a Donation** button. You can also donate at the WASO Box Office or on the phone, with your ticket purchases.

Thank you for your support!

Regular Giving

You can now give regular donations to WASO and support your Orchestra on an ongoing basis.

Regular donations are simple and easy to set up, and every donation helps, no matter how big or small. Your chosen amount is automatically debited from your credit card and you can choose to give every month, 3 months, 6 months or annually. Your regular donation is secure and can be changed, paused or cancelled at any time. At the end of the financial year you will receive a receipt for your contributions. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

If you wish to make a regular donation, increase or renew your gift, you can do so by filling in the form at the back of this edition of *Encore* or by contacting Jane Clare on 9326 0014 or clarej@waso.com.au.

Celebrating ten years of Annual Giving



Last year we celebrated ten years of giving and recognised those individuals who had been making contributions to WASO since the commencement of our Annual Giving program in 2005.

This year we are extremely proud to acknowledge the following Patrons who have made a donation of \$500 or more to our Annual Giving program every year since 2006:

Neil Archibald & Alan R Dodge AM
Jean Arkley
Tony & Mary Beeley
Matthew J C Blampey
Debbie Borshoff
Dr G Campbell-Evans
Lyn & Harvey Coates AO
Arthur & Nerina Coopes

Jop & Hanneke Delfos
Robyn Glindemann
Jannette Gray
Stephanie & John Kobelke
Mary Ellen in memory of Kerensa
Gregg & Sue Marshman
Rod & Margaret Marston
Betty & Con Michael AO
Mrs Morrell
Jane & Jock Morrison
Val & Barry Neubecker
John & Paula Phillips
John & Alison Rigg
Maggie Venerys
Adrienne & Max Walters
Anonymous (2)

Thank you for your ten years of giving. Your ongoing support is deeply appreciated.



A New Venture for Tutti Horn Francesco Lo Surdo

You may be used to hearing him play in WASO's horn section, but Friends of WASO Scholarship recipient Francesco Lo Surdo is also an award-winning coffee roaster!

Frankie tells us it all started when Dave Evans (Principal Horn) showed him how to roast coretto (hack) coffee. He says, 'The word coretto is a name that has been given to the technique and equipment I use to roast coffee, which involves using an old bread machine, a heat gun from Bunnings, a kitchen tile and some digital thermometers. It's very makeshift but gets a great result. I roast in a small shed in the back yard of my house in Bayswater. Smith (my Dachshund/Jack Russell cross) definitely makes it clear he wants to be a part of the process.'

The company name Espresso Lo Surdo came about just after Frankie started roasting coffee. 'I was giving a lot of coffee away to friends, so I started charging a small amount to cover the cost of buying the green coffee beans,' he says. 'When my birthday came around a couple of years ago, Liam O'Malley (Associate Principal Trombone) and Julia Brooke (Tutti Horn) bought me 100 coffee bags and 100 stickers with "lo.surdo" on them. When they ran out, I decided to stick with "Espresso Lo Surdo".'

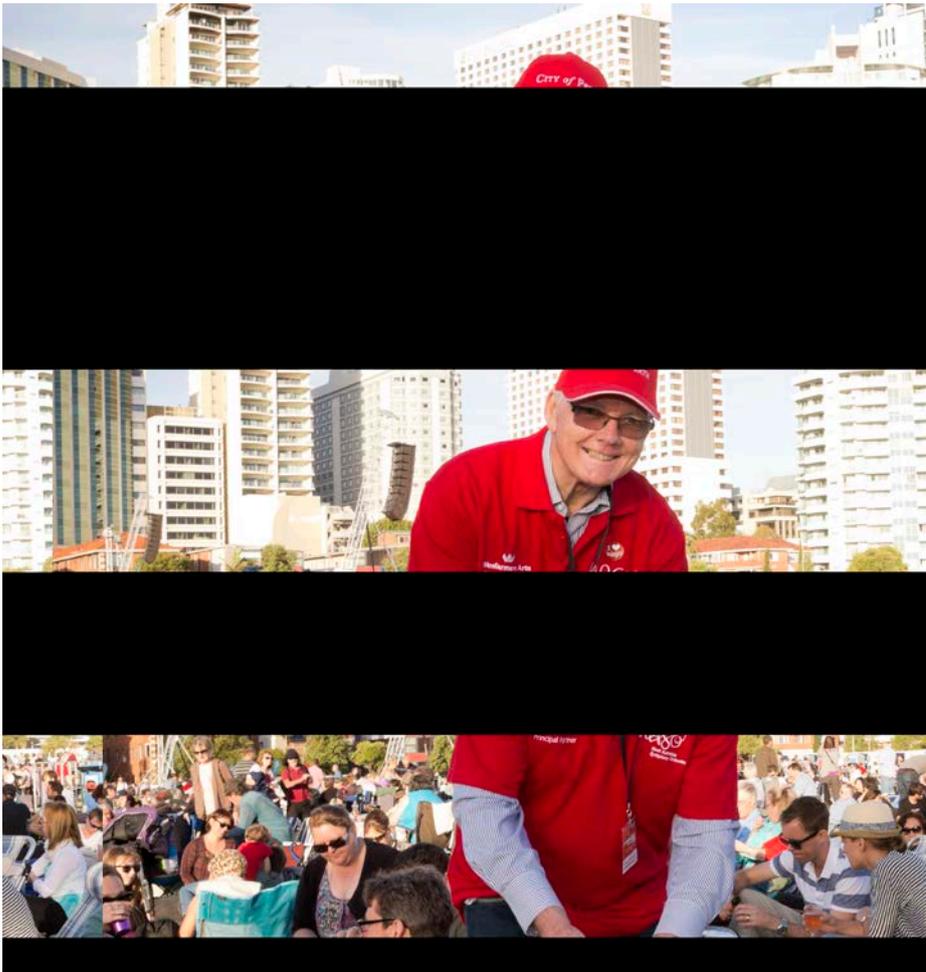
Frankie now supplies many of the musicians with their coffee and enjoys getting feedback from the many caffeine addicts in the Orchestra. But it's not only the musicians who enjoy Espresso Lo Surdo. The Golden Bean is an annual competition for coffee roasters in Australia, which is the biggest of its kind in the world with 1400 coffee roasters from around the country entering in 2014. Frankie tells us, '2014 also happened to be the first year home roasters could enter their coffees into two categories: espresso and milk coffee. I was very happy to receive a silver medal for milk coffee and bronze for espresso.' Congratulations Frankie!

Frankie also creates a cold brew coffee. He says, 'I like to use a Japanese coffee pot made by Japanese brand Hario to make it. This method brews the ground coffee beans in contact with water for up to 24 hours, kind of like how you would brew a cup of tea. The result is a very sweet, smooth, strong coffee that is great for summer.'

You can find Espresso Lo Surdo coffee for sale at a fantastic cheese shop in Bayswater called Little Cheese Shop.



Top: Smith acts as quality control.
Bottom: Frankie's Golden Bean medals.



Patrons & Friends Committee member Graham Mahony.

Volunteers raise funds for WASO Education & Community Engagement

We would like to say a huge thank you to all those who volunteered at 2014's Symphony in the City, and especially to those who helped fundraise for our Education & Community Engagement programs.

We were delighted with the response from the audience members who were very supportive and helped us raise nearly \$2,000. This money will go directly towards many of the WASO Education programs, including our El Sistema-inspired Music Education Program. The Symphony in the City audience watched a beautiful short film about this exciting new project, which you can view at waso.com.au.

Can't attend
a concert?
Donate your ticket!

Demand for great seats at WASO performances is high. If you cannot attend a concert, please 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 see 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.

Note: Only applies to tickets sold by WASO. Transaction fees are not eligible for inclusion in the donation.



Pins for WASO Patrons

We are very lucky to have had these lovely pins designed and crafted specially for WASO Patrons by The Perth Mint. We have been presenting these pins to our Patrons as a small token of our thanks for a number of years. Many of our Patrons wear their pin to WASO concerts and other events, and some have even modified their pin to include a diamond, or to hang on a necklace. It is a great conversation starter and helps spread the word about supporting your Orchestra.

If you are a Patron but have not received your pin and would like one, please let Jane know so we can arrange to get one to you. You can contact Jane on 9326 0014 or clarej@waso.com.au.

Patrons & Friends Events

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We are delighted to reveal our 2015 calendar of events for Patrons & Friends.

Tickets for these events can be purchased by calling the WASO Box Office on 9326 0000 and all proceeds support the Friends of WASO Scholarship, providing professional development opportunities for WASO musicians.



Rod McGrath and Brilliant Britten

Sunday 12 April, 2pm

Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts (PICA), Perth Cultural Centre

Principal Cello Rod McGrath will treat Patrons & Friends to a wonderful rendition of a Benjamin Britten cello suite, complete with an explanation of its complicated musical structure and Britten's compositional techniques.

'For me Britten is one of the great composers of the 20th century and as an orchestral musician it has always been my regret that he didn't write more symphonic works. He did however compose a sonata for cello and piano (his Cello Symphony), a truly great piece for solo cello and large symphony orchestra, and three solo cello suites. All of these were written at the end of his career for the great Russian cellist Rostropovich.

'Each suite is about twenty minutes long and all are full of Britten's trademark qualities of fabulous musical ideas, wonderful structure and incredible knowledge of what the instrument is capable of. The first truly great suites were written by Bach and I think it is no coincidence that Bach's first three suites and those of Britten are in the same keys.

'The suite I will present at this event has the same number of movements as Bach's suites. For me the whole piece could represent two friends journeying through life together depicting how they are affected by events. Are our two characters friends at the end? You decide!' – Rod McGrath

Tickets for this event are \$45 for Patrons & Friends (\$55 for guests) and include a glass of wine and light refreshments. Why not make a day of it? PICA is open from 10am to 5pm and entry to the gallery is free. Find out more at www.pica.org.au.

WASO's Open Rehearsals in 2015

In the past, attending WASO's open rehearsals was advertised exclusively to our Patrons & Friends.

In 2015, you will instead be able to hear the Orchestra in rehearsal as a WASO subscriber.

Stay tuned for details about how to register for this free opportunity!



Patrons & Friends Events

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Pinnacle String Quartet Sunday 24 May, 2pm, 57 Murray Street, Perth

Enjoy an afternoon of music and local history at the newly refurbished National Trust property, 57 Murray Street.

WASO musicians Rebecca Glorie, Cerys Tooby, Rachael Kirk and Fotis Skordas will perform some beautiful chamber music featuring a wide range of styles including the music of Mozart, a movement of Dvořák's glorious *American Quartet* and maybe even a tango or two!

This is also a unique opportunity for WASO Patrons & Friends to learn about the extraordinary history of this beautiful early 20th century building before it is leased to new occupants. You are invited to take a short tour of the venue with a National Trust guide after the performance has concluded.

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



Ali, Andrew & Friends at The Ellington Tuesday 8 & Wednesday 9 September, 5.30pm for 6.00pm, The Ellington Jazz Club



Back by popular demand, WASO's Principal Flute Andrew Nicholson and singer Ali Bodycoat bring their friends together for a musical sojourn from the world of contemporary to classic jazz at The Ellington Jazz Club – one of Perth's most exciting live music venues!

Embracing classical and jazz perspectives, Ali and Andrew will perform with a trio from the cream of Perth's musicians: Tom O'Halloran on piano, Shane Pooley on double bass and Daniel Susnjar on drums. This year they will also be joined by one or two special guest WASO musicians. We invite you to the sublimely intimate Ellington Jazz Club to plunge into this melodic world.

Tickets are \$60 for cabaret-style table seating and \$40 for standing, and include a drink on arrival and tasty tapas bites from a shared platter. Of course you can order more food and drinks from the table-service waiters or at the well-stocked bar.



Tickets can be purchased by calling the WASO Box Office on 9326 0000 and all proceeds support the Friends of WASO Scholarship, providing professional development opportunities for WASO musicians.

Patrons & Friends Events

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Patrons & Friends General Meeting Tuesday 5 May

Details of the 10th annual General Meeting of WASO Patrons & Friends will be announced soon.



The 10K Quiz Night Friday 6 November

Keep this Friday night free!

Details of this exciting fundraising event will be announced soon.



Patrons & Friends Christmas Party

Celebrate another wonderful year of music-making.

Details and ticket information to be announced soon.

Stay tuned for further details.

Changes to *Encore* in 2015

Thank you to all our Patrons & Friends who took the time to give us feedback about how you would like to receive and read *Encore*. Many of you still prefer to receive a hard copy in the mail and we will continue to send *Encore* to all our Patrons & Friends in 2015. However, as the cost of printing and posting *Encore* is growing, you will now receive this newsletter three times a year rather than quarterly.

