

Encore



West Australian
Symphony Orchestra

THE NEWSLETTER FOR WASO PATRONS & FRIENDS

SEPTEMBER 2018



Craig Whitehead, Chief Executive, WASO

Photo: Attila Csaszar

Thank You and Farewell to Craig

After nearly ten years at the helm of our Company, WASO Chief Executive, Craig Whitehead recently announced his decision to step down. Craig will move back home to Brisbane to take up the role of Chief Executive at the Queensland Symphony Orchestra.

“This has been an extraordinarily difficult decision for me to make, as my time at WASO has been the most enjoyable and fulfilling time of my career. It has been a great privilege to lead WASO and to be inspired every day by the artistry of the world-class WASO musicians, and the exceptional dedication of the staff and Board who make up this wonderful company. I am immensely proud of all that we have achieved together and I believe that the future is very bright under the leadership of Richard Goyder and the WASO Board.”

Richard Goyder, WASO's new Chairman, thanked Craig for his outstanding contribution to the orchestra:

“During Craig's time as executive leader of WASO he has overseen the appointment of a new Principal Conductor and guided the organisation through a particularly challenging operating environment. The Orchestra he leaves is much admired both for its artistic excellence and its commitment to delivering music broadly in the Western Australian community. He has also

developed very positive and common-purpose relationships with the heart and soul of the organisation, the Orchestra's outstanding musicians. We understand the reasons for Craig's decision to return to Queensland and on behalf of the Board and all other members of the organisation I wish him, Gabby and their boys every success and happiness.”

Craig will be staying with WASO until the end of November while the WASO Board will be conducting a national and international search to fill the role of Chief Executive.

On behalf of WASO's Patrons & Friends we thank Craig for his invaluable leadership in the development of our Orchestra over the past ten years, and wish him a happy and successful future in Brisbane!

As his final WASO Philanthropy event for Patrons, Craig will be hosting **WASO's 90th Anniversary Dinner** at Frasers, Kings Park on Thursday 15 November! Tickets are selling fast, so book now through the WASO Box Office on 9326 0000.



Wesfarmers Arts
Principal Partner

P&F Committee President: Farewell Robyn and Welcome Prue



Prue Ashurst & Robyn Glindemann

After ten years on the Patrons & Friends Committee, with seven as President, Robyn Glindemann recently announced her intention to step down to find more time for other commitments. Over her ten years of involvement, Robyn has played an important leadership role for WASO's Patrons & Friends, helping with everything from shaking a donation tin at Symphony in the City, to passionately advocating for WASO and ensuring the continuity of the Friends of WASO Scholarship through proceeds raised from dedicated events.

Outside of WASO, life is busy for Robyn who is a highly respected lawyer and has recently started her own business, Lantegy Legal. In the arts world, Robyn is also the Chair of the Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts and was formerly a member of the John Curtin Gallery Advisory Board at Curtin University. We have been very lucky to have had Robyn's leadership for such a long period and wish her the very best with her ongoing commitments to the cultural life of Perth.

Robyn was thrilled to announce that her replacement as President of the WASO Patrons & Friends Committee will be Prue Ashurst. Prue has a long-standing history with WASO, initially as a staff member for many years, and more recently as a pre-concert speaker, Patron and subscriber. Aside from her involvement with the Orchestra, Prue is also a dedicated and highly valued music educator, and her knowledge and profile will be a huge benefit to the P&F Committee.

Prue's dedication to her new role became evident when, only minutes after accepting the nomination as President at the Annual General Meeting, she got straight to work and hosted the 2018 Judy Sienkiewicz Lecture! We are very excited for Prue to take on the role and know that her trademark enthusiasm and passion for music will be a true asset to the Patrons & Friends Committee. Thank you Robyn and welcome Prue!

Commissions: Your chance to become part of WASO's history



Composer, Lachlan Skipworth

The commissioning of new works is a matter very close to the heart of everyone at WASO, as we aim to nurture musical careers and create new music that may become the classics of tomorrow. There has never been a better time to get involved than in our 90th anniversary year, and we invite you to write your very own piece of WASO musical history.

This year we have commissioned the superb Lachlan Skipworth to compose a new work to be premiered as part of our MACA Limited Classics Series on Fri 16 and Sat 17 November. This commission will be around 15 to 18 minutes in length and written for a full-size orchestra.

Lachlan is a home grown, world-class artist whose recent composition *Spiritus*, also commissioned and premiered by WASO with the generous support of the Simon Lee Foundation, was a nomination for the Orchestral Work of the Year at the 2018 Australian Art Music Awards. WASO was honoured to be nominated for a total of three awards at the Art Music Awards (one of which we were able to take home!) and we are proud to say that all three commissions were made possible by the generous support of WASO Patrons!

We are now seeking a Patron to underwrite this new composition by Lachlan with a donation of \$15,000, and we hope this time it's you!

By supporting this commission, you are supporting one of the best creative minds of contemporary Australia, and your contribution will be fully tax-deductible.

This is a rare opportunity for a WASO Patron to be involved in the entire commission process – not only will you be introduced to Lachlan personally and hear about the evolution of his work, but you will of course be invited to attend rehearsals and the performances in November. You will also be credited on the actual score (forever!), and your contribution will be acknowledged in concert program notes and all other publications where the work is discussed - publicly or anonymously, whatever is your preference.

If you are interested in partnering with us for this rare project opportunity, please contact Sarah Tompkin on **9326 0017** or **tompkins@waso.com.au**. You can also find out more about Lachlan's impressive career to date at **lachlanskipworth.com**

Events for WASO Patrons & Friends

WASO Philanthropy invite you to join us at one of the remaining opportunities this year to peek behind the curtains and become involved in our wonderful community of WASO Patrons & Friends.

Ticket sales for our Patrons & Friends events fund the Friends of WASO Scholarship, which supports professional development opportunities for full-time WASO musicians. For further information, please refer to **waso.com.au/supportus**.



PATRONS & FRIENDS EVENT WASO Chorus at the Cathedral

Tuesday 16 October | 6pm
St Mary's Cathedral
For all Patrons, Friends & Bequestors

Join us in the stunning surrounds of St Mary's Cathedral as we step into the world of the WASO Chorus and observe a rehearsal for *Three Masses: Haydn, Mozart & Schubert*. The evening will begin beneath the Cathedral in the atmospheric crypt with a fascinating introduction from Prue Ashurst, before shifting to the main hall for a behind-the-scenes experience with the WASO Chorus.

This is a wonderful opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of our WASO Chorus and will of course include a glass of wine and light refreshments.

Tickets are \$40 for Patrons & Friends (\$45 for guests).
Please book via the WASO Box Office on 9326 0000.



Symphony Circle Celebration

Wednesday 24 October | 4pm
Treasury Lounge, State Buildings
For all Symphony Circle members (Bequestors) by invitation



WASO 90th Anniversary Dinner

Thursday 15 November | 6.30pm
Fraser's Restaurant, Kings Park
For all Patrons & Bequestors

Tickets are \$110 and include a three course dinner and performances throughout the evening. Hosted by outgoing Chief Executive, Craig Whitehead, this event is selling fast!

Please book via the WASO Box Office on 9326 0000.



PATRONS & FRIENDS EVENT Patrons & Friends Christmas Party

Thursday 13 December | 4.30pm
Perth Concert Hall
For all Patrons, Friends & Bequestors

Always a fun and celebratory end to the year with our WASO musicians and Emeritus musicians.

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

Please book via the WASO Box Office on 9326 0000.

We're Stoked! We hope you heard our original 'Tristan Trumpet'.



Brent Grapes with Jean and Peter Stokes welcoming the instrument upon its arrival at Perth Concert Hall.

WASO Philanthropy regularly seeks donations to help us purchase quality instruments which enable WASO to perform unique and historic repertoire in the way it was originally intended. For our recent concert performances of *Tristan und Isolde*, it was Asher Fisch's wish to purchase a rare wooden 'Tristan' trumpet, sourced handmade from the Thein brass music instrument company in Bremen, Germany.

Richard Wagner wanted an instrument resembling the Alphorn in tone quality to represent the natural pipe of the Peasant, and the wooden 'Tristan' trumpet, specially

made for this part, saw its premiere in Munich for the first performance of *Tristan und Isolde*. It was still in use there in 1897, and was also used in Bayreuth for the *Tristan* performances of 1886 and 1889.

Much-loved and generous Patrons, Jean and Peter Stokes, responded to our call-out for donations towards the purchase of this extraordinary instrument, so what you would have heard during the beginning of the third act of *Tristan* was a copy of the exceedingly rare 'real' *Tristan* trumpet!

Thank you Jean and Peter!

Tristan und Isolde – Thank You!

Our recent concert performances of *Tristan und Isolde* were a triumph and could not possibly have occurred without the generous support of our philanthropic community. We would like to thank the members of our Excellence Circle in particular who have led this truly Wagnerian level of support. We thank them for their ongoing generosity and leadership.

Jean Arkley
Bob & Gay Branchi
Janet Holmes à Court AC
Dr Patricia Kailis

Rod & Margaret Marston
John Rodgers
Michael Utsler
Leanne & Sam Walsh



Just released: Stuart Skelton's debut album with Asher Fisch and WASO – available on Spotify, Amazon, iTunes & JB Hi-Fi.

Thank you Colin!



WASO Volunteer, Colin Kennedy

WASO volunteers play an integral role in our community, contributing over 1,500 hours every year in the Perth Concert Hall, WASO office and the WASO music library. This year we are acknowledging one of our most hardworking and long-serving volunteers, Colin Kennedy.

Colin has volunteered with WASO since 1991, specifically in the music library, assisting our Music Librarian of the time. He has worked alongside an incredible six

successive Music Librarians, so has an intricate and unrivalled knowledge of our Orchestra's repertoire in recent years.

Colin's assistance has meant that our Music Librarians have been able to keep up with the increasing demand resulting from our ever-expanding concert seasons. However with the continued expansion of concerts, WASO has now had to add a part-time Assistant Librarian to our full-time Music Librarian role.

Prior to his volunteering tenure at WASO, Colin led quite a varied and at times, adventurous, life. From Claremont, Western Australia to England, Austria and Canada, Colin travelled the world and eventually, after flying from country to country on a friend's plane in 1957, settled back in Western Australia, opening his own pharmacy in Moora, WA.

Although he did not play an instrument himself, Colin was always a lover of opera and his son played viola for WASO for sixteen years. His wife, Joan, began volunteering in the WASO Friends office and would often bring home scores for Colin to repair. Eventually, when the Orchestra's offices moved from the old ABC studios to their current location on Hay Street, he was called in to assist with the resettlement of the music library and has been volunteering regularly since.

We are so lucky that such a wonderful person as Colin has been so generous with his time and we would like to publicly thank him for this outstanding contribution to our Orchestra.

Musos of WASO: a peek behind the curtain

Over the past few months many of our musicians have been spending time in the Seven West Media TV studios with *The West Australian* newspaper's Will Yeoman. 'Musos of WASO' is a series of short, filmed interviews with our much-loved WASO musicians and focuses on their musical journeys and experiences as orchestral musicians.

From our Principal Trumpet, Brent Grapes sharing his hobby of flight simulation to Associate Principal Cello, Louise McKay, discussing the long process of selecting an appropriate bow for her cello, the series really is a fascinating peek behind the scenes! To watch the video series and learn a little more about your musicians' lives, go to the Arts section of *The West Australian* Newspaper's website (thewest.com.au/entertainment/art) and search for 'Musos of WASO'.



Principal Trumpet Chair, Brent Grapes is partnered by NAB. Principal 3rd Horn, Robert Gladstones. Associate Principal Cello Chair, Louise McKay is partnered by Penrhos College.

'Musos of WASO' only scratches the surface of the vast talent pool contained within our Orchestra. If you are interested in learning more and deepening your connection to the Orchestra, you may wish to support an Orchestral Chair. Orchestral chair partnerships are a unique way to develop a closer relationship with the Orchestra and the particular musician you are supporting.

To find out more please contact Jacinta Sirr on 9326 0014 or sirrj@waso.com.au.

How would you like your name on a WASO music stand?



Imagine sitting at Perth Concert Hall and seeing our musicians play from *your* music stand! WASO orchestral management is looking to update our tired and much loved (in other words: old) music stands, and we are hoping that you can come to the rescue!

WASO's current music stands have been in ceaseless use not only at Perth Concert Hall but also at countless other performance venues and on regional tours, so we are now looking to purchase a total of 60 new professional, state-of-the-art music stands to be permanently stationed at Perth Concert Hall.

The best thing about it: you can have your name on it!

Our musicians are in need of 60 stands in total – 30 for the brass and winds and 30 for the violins, resulting in a total cost of \$30,570. We are hoping you can help us get there!

We are seeking donations of \$500 to cover the purchase of one stand. Patrons donating towards a stand are invited to have a plaque acknowledging their donation attached to the stand.

We are over half way there but still require further contributions towards more stands! If you like the idea of this very tangible giving opportunity, please get in touch with Sarah Tompkin on 9326 0017 or email tompkins@waso.com.au. All donations to this campaign are tax-deductible.

Crescendo Cheer in North Parmelia



WASO Teaching Artists Griffin Wright and Brianna Louwen run vocal warm-ups

On Friday 29 June, WASO Philanthropy invited Crescendo Giving Circle members and other interested Patrons to a Crescendo Open Class at North Parmelia Primary School. These open classes are an excellent way to experience first-hand and up close how our Crescendo Program - the only free, long-term music education program of its kind in WA - operates, and the astonishing results it achieves. This time, the Year 3's and 4's performed, led by WASO teaching artists, Griffin Wright, Brianna Louwen and Fiona Campbell, for a crisp morning start at 8.45am.

The class started with vocal warm-ups, singing vowels and days of the week in vocal sirens with hand movements illustrating the pitch changes in direction (pictured). The students then revisited the 'Fossils' from Saint-Saëns' *Carnival of the Animals* and had to guess the individual instruments - having attended WASO's performance of this work during Education Week+ in June.

After some more clapping and singing games, they sang two songs in rounds accompanied on the piano, before moving on to the violins. The violin teacher explained how he asks the students to pay particular attention to the correct positioning of the violin, as well as posture. As these students have only had seven lessons, it is crucial to get the positioning right (which can be difficult and exhausting when you're not used to it!).

It was obvious to our spectators just how much the students enjoyed themselves and how the structure of the class was aiding the team spirit, as well as how far these students had come in their musical understanding from the program's first beginnings four years ago. When Cassandra Lake, Executive Manager Community Engagement, asked two students at the conclusion of the class to give three words that expressed how they feel about the violin lessons, the first student humorously responded that it was



Photography: Andy Tyndall

"painful, difficult and interesting" and the second added that it was "amazing, fun and exciting!"

There was a lot of enthusiasm, talent and commitment in the room, and Morning Tea with parents and teachers after the class gave everyone a chance to catch up and learn more about Crescendo. If you would like to help make this long-term program in Kwinana sustainable, you can sign up to our Crescendo Giving Circle with a gift of \$1,500 annually, approximately covering the cost of one student participating in the program for a year (each student participates in the program for seven years, from Pre-Primary through to Year 6). Please call Sarah Tompkin on 9326 0017 or email her on tompkins@waso.com.au to sign up or for more information.

Crescendo is supported by Crown Resorts Foundation, Packer Family Foundation, The Stan Perron Charitable Foundation, Tianqi Lithium Australia and the Crescendo Giving Circle.



Rudy Zomer with Maddie

Coffee Corner

Our Philanthropy & Annual Giving Manager, Jacinta Sirr, has been busy getting out and about catching up with Patrons for coffee and a chat. A highlight was meeting Rudy Zomer at Fur Baby Café and meeting his beautiful dog Maddie! It was great getting to know Rudy better and of course talking about WASO (a shared favourite topic!).

Jacinta hopes to continue getting to know WASO Patrons better and to gain insights into their WASO experiences in the Orchestra's 90th Anniversary year. Call 9326 0014 or email sirrj@waso.com.au to keep the coffee flowing!

I wish to support my Orchestra



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Phone (day) Phone (night) Mobile
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My Gift to WASO

I wish to make a donation of \$

- ☐ For Annual Giving
- ☐ For the specific purpose of

Annual Giving Campaign

Our Annual Giving Program supports WASO's commitment to inspirational performances.

| | |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Impresario Patron | \$10,000 – \$19,999 |
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- ☐ I have made a donation by Electronic Funds Transfer (BSB: 086 217 ACCT: 322210801) Please note this is a new donation account. If making a funds transfer, please put your surname and DONATION in the description line, return this completed form or email philanthropy@waso.com.au advising a donation has been made, and to which campaign.
- ☐ I have donated online via waso.com.au
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Please note that credit card transactions will appear as Perth Concert Hall on your statements.

Thank you for your support of WASO

- ☐ I prefer my donation to be acknowledged as: name(s)
- ☐ I prefer my donation to remain anonymous.
- ☐ Please send me information on making a bequest to WASO in my Will. Your enquiry will be treated in confidence.
- ☐ I have already made a bequest to WASO.

Please send this form to WASO Philanthropy, PO Box 3041, East Perth, WA, 6892. For more information, contact Jacinta Sirr on 9326 0014 or sirrj@waso.com.au or Sarah Tompkin on 9326 0017 or tompkins@waso.com.au. WASO respects your privacy. You can view our privacy policy at waso.com.au.
All donations over \$2 are fully tax deductible. ABN 26 081 230 284.

OFFICE USE ONLY DATE RECEIVED: DATE POSTED:

WASO's 2019 Season Brochure: behind the scenes

By now you will have received WASO's stunning 2019 Season Brochure in the mail and we hope you're excited about next year's season! Perhaps you're also wondering how the photos were taken...so here's a little snap shot into the behind-the-scenes fun required to capture those beautiful images, taken by Matt Sav.

Let us know which 2019 concert you are most excited about! Email philanthropy@waso.com.au and let us know which is your favourite 2019 concert and tell us why, your name, email and phone number, and you will go into the draw to win a double pass to a 2019 WASO Masters or Classics concert of your choice.

