

2015 Annual Report

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Chairman's Report

2015 reinforced that without a doubt, the West Australian Symphony Orchestra has embarked on a new chapter of excellent music-making. Maestro Asher Fisch has now completed the second year of his tenure as Principal Conductor and Artistic Adviser at WASO, and his influence has been nothing short of profound. The company presented 536 performances, workshops and artist development activities to an audience of over 206,000. Recording a profit of \$277,443, WASO has enjoyed a highly successful year, both artistically and financially.

In August WASO presented an extremely successful Brahms Festival. For the first time in Western Australia, all four of Brahms' symphonies and his four major concertos were performed over two weekends. Under the baton of Maestro Fisch and the leadership of Concertmaster-elect Laurence Jackson, these concerts garnered critical acclaim both locally and nationally. The sentiment was unanimous – WASO had raised the bar and were performing at a world-class standard. Financially, the Brahms Festival proved highly viable, attracting an audience of over 6,400 people and exceeding its financial budget by more than 9%.

There were many artistic highlights during the MACA Limited Classics and Alcohol. Think Again Masters Series, with WASO performing alongside an impressive list of guest soloists and conductors. In 2015 WASO welcomed numerous outstanding guest artists to the Orchestra for the first time. WASO debuts included soloists Mischa Maisky, Jennifer Koh, Samuel Dundas, Stefanie Irányi, and Perth's-own Paul Wright, and conductors Eugene Tzigane, Daniel Cohen (stepping in for an indisposed Otto Tausk) and Diego Matheuz.

The Alcohol. Think Again Masters Series included the world premiere of Mark-Anthony Turnage's trumpet concerto, *Håkan*. This remarkable work was co-commissioned by myself and WASO's Making Music Together Patrons, along with KölnMusik – Kölner Philharmonie, the London Symphony Orchestra and the Philharmonie Luxembourg & Orchestre Philharmonique du Luxembourg.

Under the exceptional leadership of Chorus Director Christopher van Tuinen and Chorus Vocal Coach Andrew Foote, the WASO Chorus had an exceptional year. The Chorus featured in a variety of concerts throughout the year, including the ANZAC Centenary Concert, Fauré's Requiem, Orff's *Carmina Burana* and the City of Perth Symphony in the City.

WASO presented a number of special events during 2015. To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Gallipoli landings, WASO worked closely with the Returned and Services League and the Army Museum of Western Australia to present a moving ANZAC Commemorative Concert. Featuring the Australian Army Band, the event honoured those who served their country and paid the ultimate sacrifice. WASO performed *A Journey through Jazz* with Australian jazz legend James Morrison, and celebrated a number of motion picture scores, including the final instalment of *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy, *The Return of the King*.

WASO's Community Engagement department has grown from strength to strength, and its various activities represent an important aspect of WASO's mission to touch souls and enrich lives through music. WASO's two free music education programs – OK ME! and Crescendo – play a pivotal role in the company's community engagement strategy. Based in Onslow and Kwinana respectively, both programs are now in their second year of delivery. Each exemplify a unique and committed approach to empowering children through consistent music lessons, and have profoundly influenced not only the students, but also the broader communities.

The company is committed to presenting outstanding education experiences for students and teachers. In 2015 this included the sell-out WACE Designated Works Concert for Year 11 and 12 students. WASO also presented a very successful Education Week and Open Day at Perth Concert Hall. Attended by over 5,000 students, educators and supporters, these events culminated in various performances, including the final showing of the Composition Project and the Rusty Orchestra.

WASO's relationship with the China Philharmonic Orchestra (CPO) grew stronger in 2015 through the *Symphony Cultural Bridge Project* – a three-way partnership that involves the Australia China Business Council (WA). During 2015, a series of short-term musician exchanges occurred between the two orchestras. This exciting collaboration aims to promote greater cross-cultural awareness and understanding between China and Australia, through experiences around symphonic music. The project will develop significantly in 2016 when the entire WASO tour China at the invitation of the Beijing Music Festival, and we are working towards a reciprocal tour whereby the CPO would travel to Perth.

On behalf of the Board, we are extremely grateful to those who have made it possible for WASO to present another year of wonderful music to the Western Australian community. I would like to acknowledge and thank the Federal and State Governments, our Principal Partner Wesfarmers Arts, and our many other partners, patrons, donors and subscribers, all of whom are the lifeblood of this wonderful company.

Thanks must also go to our musicians and administration staff for their diligence and enthusiasm. Finally, I thank my fellow Board members, whose collective experience, time and effort is an immeasurable contribution to WASO.



Janet Holmes à Court AC
Chairman



Chief Executive's Report

2015 was an extremely busy and exciting year for WASO both domestically and internationally. As this century unfolds, the ever-growing importance of the China-Australia relationship warrants the development of a greater cross-cultural understanding between our two countries that allow investment, trade and friendship to prosper. There is no better instrument to achieve this than music, and in March 2015, the *Symphony Cultural Bridge Project*, a partnership between WASO, the China Philharmonic Orchestra (CPO), and the Australia China Business Council (ACBC) was officially launched. This occurred in the presence of Mr Li Nan, President of the CPO, Mr Liu Jun, Vice President of the CPO, and Mr Chen Yun, Concertmaster of the CPO. Subsequently three musicians from the CPO visited Perth in April and then again in November 2015 to rehearse and perform with WASO at Perth Concert Hall, and in December three musicians from WASO travelled to Beijing and performed as guests of the CPO. 2016 will herald a highlight of the partnership to date, with WASO travelling to China in October to perform in the Beijing Music Festival and at the Shanghai Concert Hall.

In 2016, esteemed Principal Conductor and Artistic Adviser Asher Fisch will commence the third year of his tenure. His guidance and leadership have played a pivotal role in establishing a new era of musical excellence for WASO. I cannot overstate the difference that Asher's appointment has made to the Orchestra, and we were all extremely delighted when he agreed to extend his time at WASO by a further three years in 2015. I have enjoyed working with Asher immensely and I look forward to reaching even greater heights with him over the next four years.

In 2015 WASO celebrated 20 years of partnership with Ernst & Young. The partnership, which won the Australian Business-Arts Foundation's 'National Partnership of the Year' award in 2008, is today one of Australia's most enduring and successful business-arts partnerships. What started out as a small corporate hospitality sponsorship has grown into a significant annual commitment, and in 2015 the cumulative value of the partnership exceeded \$1.6 million. WASO extends its deepest gratitude to Ernst & Young for their ongoing support and commitment and looks forward to

continuing the exciting and rewarding partnership into the future.

Revenue from generous individual supporters through donations and bequests has become increasingly important for WASO to achieve its mission – to touch souls and enrich lives through music. A large portion of our philanthropic donations are channelled into our community engagement programs, which reached over 15,500 people in metropolitan and regional WA in 2015. At the 2015 APRA AMCOS Art Music Awards, WASO received the WA State Award for Excellence in a Regional Area for WASO on the Road and Onslow Kids Music Education (OK ME!). In 2015 WASO on the Road visited Geraldton for the first time and performed *The Sound of Picture Books*, in partnership with The Literature Centre.

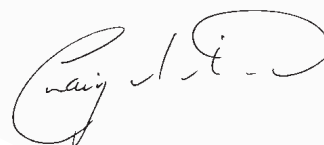
The year featured a number of inaugural events. WASO's Education Week and Open Day brought more than 5,000 students, educators and music supporters into Perth Concert Hall for a broad range of musical experiences. In addition, the company's first Community Support Month raised over \$200,000 through a concert-based funding campaign. In 2015 WASO lost one of its most generous and loved supporters in Judy Sienkiewicz. Judy's passing has been deeply felt by all at WASO and our best wishes continue to be with her family.

Musically, 2015 proved to be another outstanding year for the Orchestra. WASO welcomed the return of Pinchas Zukerman, one of the world's greatest violinists, to perform in our Brahms Festival, and legendary cellist, Mischa Maisky. WASO hosted the world premiere of Mark-Anthony Turnage's *Håkan*, written for and performed by world-renowned trumpeter, Håkan Hardenberger. To demonstrate the breadth of symphonic music and its capacity to engage people from all walks of life, WASO delighted film enthusiasts with a number of concerts, including *The Music of James Bond*, and *Back to the Future Live in Concert*.

2015 marked a new era in the management of Perth Concert Hall (PCH), with WASO's sister company WA Venue and Events (WAVE) being awarded the management of the hall. I'm delighted with the response from our musicians, visiting companies, and audiences to the outstanding work undertaken by PCH

General Manager, Brendon Ellmer, and his wonderful team in 2015. However, this is just the beginning of our journey at PCH, as we continue to focus on making Perth Concert Hall the home of music in WA through unparalleled levels of customer service, and a commitment to ensuring an outstanding experience for musicians, hirers, and audiences alike.

As always, we are incredibly grateful for the extraordinary contribution we continue to receive from our loyal and passionate community of supporters, and wish to acknowledge that we do not take this for granted. I wish to extend our thanks to the Australian and Western Australian Governments, our sponsors, donors and valued audience members. In particular I would like to thank Richard Goyder and the team at Wesfarmers Arts, WASO's Principal Partner, who play a vital role in supporting the arts in Western Australia. I would also like to acknowledge the WASO Board of Directors for their strong corporate governance and wise counsel. Finally I would like to acknowledge the Orchestra, Chorus and administrative staff who make up the WASO family. Day in, day out, I continue to be inspired by this committed group of individuals who live and breathe WASO's mission to touch souls and enrich lives through music.



Craig Whitehead
Chief Executive



Key Performance Indicators

OUTCOME	MECHANISM	MEASURE	2015
ARTFORM			
• Artistic quality and excellence of craft	External reviews by national reviewers	Noted improvement in all performance areas	Feedback from Board Artistic Committee, the Orchestra Artistic Team, visiting artists, reviewers and audience indicate that 2015 was artistically an outstanding year. Key highlights were: Development of the orchestra by Asher Fisch and in particular the upper strings; the significant improvement in the Chorus, and the appointment of Laurence Jackson as Concertmaster.
	Exit interviews with conductors & soloists		
• Audience engagement and stimulation	Subscription renewals	Audience satisfaction	Subscription renewal rates for 2015 were on average 2.7% higher than 2014.
	Market research		On a scale of -100 to +100, WASO's average Net Promoter Score (NPS) for 2015 was 79.41. This is a customer loyalty metric generated from post-concert surveys across the year. An NPS greater than zero is considered good, and an NPS of +50 is excellent.
• Curation and development of artform	Commissions and WASO premieres	Number of new works and premieres	<p>One new Australian work (James Ledger's <i>Simpler Times</i>) and one international work (Mark-Anthony Turnage's <i>Håkan</i>) received world premieres.</p> <p>Two new Australian works commissioned for 2017 premieres (Paul Stanhope and Andrew Schultz).</p>
• Pit services arrangements	Service Level Agreement with WA Opera and WA Ballet	Formalise 2014 services arrangements with WA Opera and WA Ballet by provision of a written Service Level Agreement	Service Level Agreements with the WA Ballet and WA Opera are in place.

Key Performance Indicators Cont.

OUTCOME	MECHANISM	MEASURE	2015
ACCESS			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximise access and diversity of audiences 	Capital city performances home market including metropolitan Perth	Number of performances and total attendance	Metro performances and workshops totalled 179 to a total of 201,165 people. In addition, 281 classes were held for 4,969 attendees in the Crescendo music education program.
	Regional performances	Number of performances and attendance	76 performances and workshops to 5,181 people.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access through digital platforms 	Broadcasts/webcasts	Number of audio-visual broadcasts	Two productions webcast and one production broadcast.
		Number of radio broadcasts	24 new performances and 10 pre-2015 performances broadcast on ABC Classic FM.
		Reach of digital activities	2,466 views of our webcasts and City of Perth <i>Symphony in the City</i> screenings. 538 new Twitter followers, 1,592 new Facebook friends and 297,116 WASO website visits.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access through education programs 	Schools/youth performances	Number of performances/workshops	343 performances, workshops and classes across schools, including the Crescendo and Onslow Kids Music Education programs.
	Online education programs	Development of content	WASO reached students in remote locations across the north of WA through the Pilbara Education Regional Office School of the Air, funded by the Royalties for Regions program.

Key Performance Indicators Cont.

OUTCOME	MECHANISM	MEASURE	2015
SECTOR DEVELOPMENT			
• Make interconnections with other companies/ artists	Artistic collaborations	Number	WASO engaged in 18 performances with WA Opera and 26 performances with WA Ballet. WASO was also involved in 12 hire performances, including The Australian Ballet and Perth International Arts Festival. WASO collaborated with The Literature Centre for a performance at Perth Concert Hall Open Day.
• Development of artists	Artist development programs	Number of artists and number of activities	16 young artists were mentored through Young & Emerging Artists programs. 70 students performed alongside WASO musicians in chamber music performances in regional performances.
	Young artists surveyed	Training satisfaction rating	100% of survey respondents said they would recommend participation in the programs.
FINANCIAL			
• Reserves ratio	Financial analysis	Net assets divided by annual expenditure	Reserve ratio is being maintained at 21%.
• Working capital ratio	Financial analysis	Current assets divided by current liabilities	Current ratio is 1.61:1.
• Operating margin	Financial analysis	Surplus divided by income as %	WASO achieved 1.45% in 2015.

The Year in Brief

WASO presented 536 performances, workshops and artist development activities to in excess of 206,000 people.

Classical Music Performances

The number of attendees at subscription concerts for 2015 was higher across almost all series than 2014. This was partially due to one additional performance in the Classics series, and two additional performances in the Morning Symphony series.

The 2015 subscription campaign generated a revenue increase of 10.58% and tickets sales increase of 9.56% compared to 2014. Subscription tickets represented 55% (2014: 54%) of tickets sold for subscription performances.

Single night ticket sales for these performances were 6.91% higher than 2014 levels.

	No. Performances		Attendances	
	2015	2014	2015	2014
Masters	16	16	21,032	22,031
Classics	17	16	24,887	21,074
Morning Symphony	8	6	12,764	9,051
Chamber	0	6	0	2,245
Family	4	4	5,700	5,190
Latitude	0	2	0	457
Other Classical	4	6	6,421	9,489
Total	49	56	70,804	69,537

Note: Other Classical refers to the Brahms Festival in 2015, and the Beethoven Festival in 2014.

Other Performances, Workshops and Artist Development Activities

Most areas recorded steady growth across 2015. The development of WASO's two free music education programs, Crescendo and OK ME!, generated significant growth in the *Schools* activities. While both programs were piloted in 2014, their scope was greatly expanded in 2015, collectively contributing 332 lessons and workshops to the total for that category. In addition, offering free music education programs to disadvantaged communities in the state has open new philanthropic and corporate revenue streams for WASO.

There was also a particularly large number of hires, whereby the Orchestra's performance services were made available to third parties.

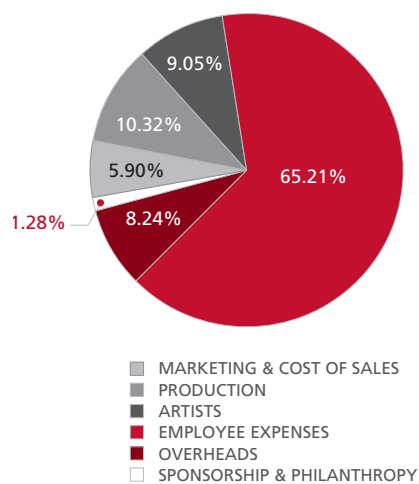
Beyond these live activities, ABC FM broadcast 24 new WASO performances, along with 10 performances from previous years. WASO broadcast two performances via web streaming, including the *City of Perth Symphony in the City* performance which was also broadcast direct to three regional centres.

	No. Performances		Attendances	
	2015	2014	2015	2014
Specials	10	11	17,620	21,269
Hires	12	4	24,606	20,550
Schools	358	89	9,930	9,500
Free and other community	55	28	37,797	27,819
Artist development	8	5	557	418
Opera	18	16	32,229	32,473
Ballet	26	25	17,769	20,137
Total	487	178	140,511	132,166

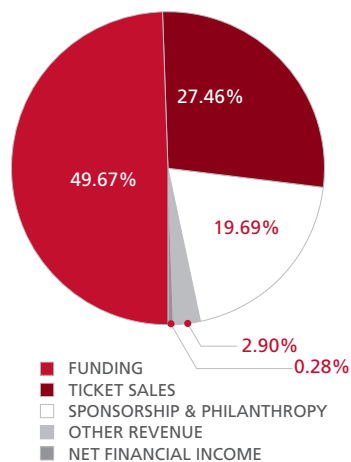
**In the 2014 Annual Report this number was reported as being 44. In that instance, the 35 Crescendo workshops were accounted for as a single workshop; similarly the 12 OK ME! workshops were counted as one workshop. To make the comparison accurate, this updated figure accounts for every workshop in 2014.*

The Year in Brief Cont.

EXPENDITURE



INCOME



The Company

ORCHESTRA

Asher Fisch *Principal Conductor & Artistic Adviser*

Vladimir Verbitsky *Conductor Laureate*

Christopher Dragon *Assistant Conductor*

Violin

Graeme Norris
(*AI/Associate Concertmaster*)

Semra Lee-Smith
(*Assistant Concertmaster*)

Zak Rowntree
(*Principal 2nd Violin*)

Kylie Liang
(*Associate Principal 2nd Violin*)

Sarah Blackman

Fleur Challen

Stephanie Dean

Rebecca Glorie

Beth Hebert

Christina Katsimbardis

Ellie Lawrence

Shaun Lee-Chen

Akiko Miyazawa

Anna O'Hagan

Ken Peeler

Melanie Pearn

Graham Pyatt

Louise Sandercock

Jolanta Schenk

Jane Serrangeli

Jacek Slawomirski

Kate Sullivan

Bao Di Tang

Cerys Tooby

David Yeh

Viola

Vacant
(*Principal*)

Alex Brogan
(*Associate Principal*)

Kierstan Arkleysmith

Nikola Babic

Ben Caddy

Alison Hall

Rachael Kirk

Allan McLean

Helen Tuckey

Cello

Rod McGrath
(*Principal*)

Louise McKay
(*Associate Principal*)

Shigeru Komatsu

Oliver McAslan

Nicholas Metcalfe

Eve Silver

Fotis Skordas

Tim South

Xiao Le Wu

Double Bass

Andrew Sinclair
(*Principal*)

Joan Wright
(*Associate Principal*)

Louise Elaerts

Christine Reitzenstein

Andrew Tait

Mark Tooby

Flute

Andrew Nicholson
(*Principal*)

Mary-Anne Blades
(*Associate Principal*)

Piccolo

Michael Waye
(*Principal*)

Oboe

Peter Facer
(*Principal*)

Liz Chee
(*Associate Principal*)

Cor Anglais

Leanne Glover
(*Principal*)

Clarinet

Allan Meyer
(*Principal*)

Lorna Cook

Bass Clarinet

Alexander Millier
(*Principal*)

Bassoon

Jane Kircher -Lindner
(*Principal*)

Adam Mikulicz
(*Associate Principal*)

Contra Bassoon

Chloe Turner
(*Principal*)

Horn

David Evans
(*Principal*)

Sharn McIver
(*Associate Principal*)

Robert Gladstones
(*Principal 3rd*)

Julia Brooke

Francesco Lo Surdo

Trumpet

Brent Grapes
(*Principal*)

Evan Cromie
(*Associate Principal*)

Peter Miller

Trombone

Joshua Davis
(*Principal*)

Liam O'Malley
(*Associate Principal*)

Bass Trombone

Philip Holdsworth
(*Principal*)

Tuba

Cameron Brook
(*Principal*)

Timpani

Alex Timcke
(*Principal*)

Percussion

Vacant
(*Principal*)

Troy Greatz
(*Associate Principal Percussion
& Timpani*)

Harp

Sarah Bowman
(*Principal*)

The Company Cont.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Janet Holmes à Court AC (Chairman)
Barrie Lepley (Deputy Chairman)
Mark Coughlan
Keith Kessell
Anne Nolan
Paul Shannon
Julian Sher
Michael Utsler

ADMINISTRATION

Executive Office

Craig Whitehead	Chief Executive
Rebecca Smith	Executive Assistant

Human Resources

Tony Pickburn	Human Resources Manager
Narelle Coghill	Human Resources Coordinator
Svetlana Williams	Payroll Administrator

Artistic Planning

Evan Kennea	Executive Manager, Artistic Planning
Alan Tyrrell	Program Manager
Natalie De Biasi	Program Coordinator
Maya Kraj-Krajewski	Artist Liaison & Chorus Administrator

Orchestral Management

Keith McGowan	Executive Manager, Orchestral Management
David Cotgreave	Production and Technical Manager
Alistair Cox	Orchestra Manager
Breanna Evangelista	Orchestral Coordinator
Wee Ming Khoo	Music Librarian
Jenna Boston	Orchestral Operations Manager

Business Services

Peter Freemantle	Chief Financial Officer
Andrew Chew	Systems Administrator
Angela Miller	Accountant
Sushila Bhudia	Accounts Officer
Renu Kara	Accounts Officer
Alexander Spartalis	Information Systems Support

Community Engagement

Cassandra Lake	Executive Manager, Community Engagement
Fiona Taylor	Education Coordinator
Lily Protter	Community Engagement Assistant
Penelope Colgan	Crescendo Teaching Artist
Alicia Metusela	Crescendo Teaching Artist

Corporate Development

Marina Woodhouse	Executive Manager, Corporate Development
Cliona Hayes	Corporate Partnerships Coordinator
Ginny Luff	Corporate Partnerships & Events Coordinator

Philanthropy

Alecia Benzie	Executive Manager, Philanthropy
Jane Clare	Fundraising & Philanthropy Manager
Megan Lo Surdo	Philanthropy & Events Coordinator

Marketing

Kelli Carnachan	Executive Manager, Marketing
Nancy Hackett	Marketing Manager
Marc Missiaen	Relationship Marketing Manager
Luke Pownall	Public Relations Manager
Kirsty Chisholm	Marketing Coordinator
Zoe Lawrence	Marketing Officer

The Company Cont.

ADMINISTRATION

New West Australian Symphony Orchestra employees:

Jenna Boston	Orchestral Operations Manager
Ben Caddy	Tutti Viola
Leticia Cannell	Customer Service Officer
Narelle Coghill	Human Resources Coordinator
Penelope Colgan	Crescendo Teaching Artist
Breanna Evangelista	Orchestral Coordinator
Renu Kara	Accounts Officer
Christina Katsimbardis	Tutti Violin
Megan Lo Surdo	Philanthropy & Events Coordinator
Alicia Metusela	Crescendo Teaching Artist
Graeme Norris	A/Associate Concertmaster
Tony Pickburn	Human Resources Manager
Luke Pownall	Public Relations Manager
Lily Protter	Community Engagement Assistant
Rebecca Smith	Executive Assistant
Alexander Spartalīs	Information Systems Support
Kate Sullivan	Tutti Violin
Courtney Walsh	Marketing Assistant

And farewell to:

Josephine Aitchison*	Customer Service Coordinator
Alana Arnold*	Customer Service Officer
Gina Beers	Graphic Designer
Claire Burlinson	Executive Assistant
Richard Burton	Orchestral Operations Manager
Leticia Cannell*	Customer Service Officer
Penelope Colgan	Crescendo Teaching Artist
Margaret Daws*	Customer Service Officer
Katherine Drake	Tutti Viola
Gemma McDonald	Community Development Coordinator
Sava Papos	Customer Service & Sales Manager
Vicki Prince*	Customer Service Officer
Noel Rhind	Orchestral Operations Coordinator
Paula Schibeci	Public Relations Manager
Debra Silvester	Customer Service Assistant
Lucianna Steinhardt	Corporate Development Executive
Claire Stokes	Artistic Program Manager
Rachel Taylor	Human Resources Assistant
Beverley Trollo*	Customer Service Coordinator
Courtney Walsh	Marketing Assistant
Robyn Westbrook*	Customer Service Officer
Ellen Wisdom	Executive Manager, Human Resources
Caleb Wright	Principal Viola

We thank them for their professional and personal contributions to the company.

**As at 31 December 2015, these employees were officially employed by WASO's sister company, WA Venue and Events (WAVE), and became part of Perth Concert Hall's Ticketing & Customer Service team.*

The Company Cont.

WASO CHORUS

Christopher van Tuinen *Chorus Director*

Andrew Foote *Vocal Coach*

Lea Hayward *Accompanist*

Soprano

Julie Anderson
Valerie Bannan
Lisa Barrett
Marian Birtwistle
Anna B'rner
Annie Burke
Kathryn Buselich
Alinta Caroll
Clara Connor
Rebecca Cooper
Cate Creedon
Ceridwen Dumergue
Bronwyn Elliott
Fay Farah
Davina Farinola
Joanna Fawcett
Amanda Fimmel
Lindsay Foster
Louise Gillett
Kath Goodman
Lesley Goodwin
Pauline Handford
Diane Hawkins
Ruth Henderson
Blanche Holzman
Michelle John
Emma Lambert
Katherine Langdon
Ginny Luff
Ciara McCaughey
Marie McKinnon
Alicia Metusela
Gemma Mullaney
Elysia Murphy
Stephanie Parkinson
Rochelle Rabel
Erika Riecken
Fiona Robson
Jane Royle

Sarah Shneier
Gosia Slawomirski
Magdalena Todea
Margaret Warburton
Rochelle Williams
Nicole Zago

Alto

Marian Agombar
Lisa Barz
Janet Baxter
Llewela Benn
Daniela Birch
Patsy Brown
Imogen Castledine
Sarah Choy
Sue Coleson
Catherine Dunn
Julie Durant
Kaye Fairbairn
Jenny Fay
Susanna Fleck
Di Graves
Louise Hays
Victoria Hogg
Jill Jones
Serena Kay
Gaylene Kelso
Shew-lee Lee
Kate Lewis
Diana MacCallum
Chrissie Mavrofridis
Tina McDonald
Lyn Mills
Margot Morgan
Lynne Naylor
Philomena Nulsen
Deborah Pearson
DeborahPiesse
Shannon Reid

Liz Rombawa
Neb Ryland
Louise Sutton
Claire Taylor
Olga Ward
Moira Westmore
Jacquie Wright

Tenor

John Beamish
Rod Gonzales
Allan Griffiths
Peter Handford
David Lancaster
Patrick Melling
Don Moore
John Moreton
John Murphy
Grant O'Neil
Andrew Paterson
Jay Reso
Rey Rombawa, Jr.
Chris Ryland
Kim Sebbage
Stephen Turley
Malcolm Vernon
Matthew Vukomanovic

Bass

Justin Audcent
Michael Berkeley-Hill
Charlie Bond
Allan Davies
James Devenish
Tony Errington
Ken Gasmier
Stephen Hastings
Brian Kent

Tony King
Benjamin Lee
Andrew Lynch
Tony Marrior
Benjamin Martis
John Moreton
Peter Ormond
Viv Read
Jim Rhoads
Glenn Rogers
Steve Sherwood
Chris Smith
Tim Strahan
Robert Turnbull
Mark Wiklund
Donald Wilson
Andrew Wong

Artistic Report

In his second year as Principal Conductor and Artistic Adviser, Asher Fisch built upon the artistic achievements of 2014 and explored new repertoire areas with his orchestra.

If the cornerstone of Asher's first year as Principal Conductor was the Beethoven Festival, the highlight of the 2015 season was undoubtedly the Brahms Festival – all four symphonies and the four major concertos performed over two weekends. WASO and Asher were joined by acclaimed soloists Pinchas Zukerman, Garrick Ohlsson and Amanda Forsyth in the concertos, and impressed audiences and critics with their technical assurance and interpretative command.

This was the first time that this cycle of Brahms' major orchestral works had been presented in Western Australia, and the reviews in national and local media attested to the continued artistic growth of the Orchestra under Asher Fisch:

The last time I heard Brahms' Second Symphony it was care of an excellent Berlin Philharmonic – this was better.
- Limelight Magazine

This was world-class playing from a band at the top of its game and conducting of this special kind, from a Maestro in profound communion with a favourite composer, doesn't come along every day. Don't miss it.
- Limelight Magazine

Fisch combines rare attention to phrase-level detail with a strong sense of long-term form, and as a result each symphony built irresistibly to its climactic final bars.
- The Australian

These concerts were led by Concertmaster-elect Laurence Jackson, who joined the Orchestra

full-time in January 2016. At the time the leader of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Laurence's strong leadership skills, gentle authority and impressive musicianship will undoubtedly be a major asset to the orchestra in seasons to come.

A delight of the 2015 season was the WASO debut by one of the world's greatest cellists, Mischa Maisky. A musician acclaimed for his intensely passionate performances, Maisky performed two works not often heard in Perth – Strauss' Don Quixote and Bloch's *Schelomo*. Other highlights of the 2015 season included a deeply moving performance of Faure's Requiem by Simone Young, an entertaining and effervescent performance of Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* by Shaun Lee-Chen with Paul Dyer, a stunning rendition of Bernstein's Serenade by American violinist Jennifer Koh and a powerful performance of Mahler's Symphony No.1 by Asher Fisch.

WASO takes great pride in building ongoing relationships with some of the world's great musicians, helping to ensure a continuity of high-quality music-making across the season. In 2015 we welcomed back returning and regular guest conductors, including Conductor Laureate Vladimir Verbitsky, Simone Young, Baldur Brönnimann, Giancarlo Guerrero, Alexander Lazarev, Paul Dyer, Nicholas Carter, Guy Noble, Nicholas Buc and Benjamin Northey, and soloists Sarah Chang, Siobhan Stagg, Douglas McNicol, Ingrid Fliter, Tobias Cole, Kathryn Stott (after an absence of almost exactly 20 years), Håkan Hardenberger (following a gap of almost 25 years), Diana Doherty, James Morrison, Kate Ceberano, and WASO's Shaun Lee-Chen, Andrew Nicholson and Rod McGrath.

Making their WASO debut were

conductors Eugene Tzigane, Daniel Cohen (stepping in for an indisposed Otto Tausk) and Diego Matheuz, and soloists Mischa Maisky, Jennifer Koh, Samuel Dundas, Stefanie Irányi, WASO's Andrew Sinclair and Perth's-own Jennifer Barrington and Paul Wright.

James Morrison returned to once again astonish and delight our audience with his multi-instrumental virtuosity and command of a wide range of jazz styles. We took a step back (and forward!) in time as we presented the iconic 1980's hit film *Back to the Future* live, and we concluded our three-year project of presenting the Lord of the Rings trilogy of films live at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre.

WASO honoured the 100th anniversary of the Gallipoli landings with a special ANZAC Commemorative Concert in April, presented in association with the Returned and Services League and the Army Museum of Western Australia. This concert was conducted by Assistant Conductor Christopher Dragon and featured guest artists Donna Simpson of The Waifs.

Our Morning Symphony Series featured eight concerts across the season (up from six in 2014) and our Family Series concerts continued to attract children, parents and grandparents in large numbers to the Perth Concert Hall.

WASO was also delighted to work with the Australian Ballet in 2015, performing for their Perth season at Crown Theatre. The Orchestra performed a special concert with leading Australian singer/songwriter Josh Pyke, and were engaged to perform as part of the Doctor Who Symphonic Spectacular at Perth Arena and From Broadway to La Scala show at the Perth Concert Hall.

Artistic Report Cont.

Australian Artists

As one of Australia's leading orchestras, WASO seeks to engage talented Australian artists and showcase their artistry to our audience. In 2015 we were delighted to work with the following Australian artists:

Conductors

Vladimir Verbitsky, Simone Young, Benjamin Northey, Peter Moore, Christopher Dragon, Vanessa Scammell, Nicolette Fraillon, Nicholas Buc.

Other Artists

Siobhan Stagg, Douglas McNicol, Paul Dyer, Richard Butler, Kate Ceberano, Stephen Curry, Donna Simpson, Hetty Kate, Josh Pyke, James Morrison, William Morrison, Harry Morrison, David Jones, St George's Cathedral Consort.

WASO Musicians

WASO was proud to highlight the exceptional talents of Andrew Nicholson, Shaun Lee-Chen, Rod McGrath and Andrew Sinclair in our 2015 season.

Assistant Conductor

2015 marked Christopher Dragon's final year as WASO's Assistant Conductor. He continued working closely with and being mentored by Asher Fisch and other guest conductors. Christopher conducted the ANZAC Commemorative Concert, the family concert Rhythm in Your Rubbish and directed our special concert with Australian singer/songwriter Josh Pyke. We were delighted that after his three years as WASO's Assistant Conductor, Christopher was appointed to the position of Associate Conductor of the Colorado Symphony, beating a field of over two hundred applicants.

New Music

In 2015 WASO was privileged to present the world premiere of a new trumpet concerto *Håkan* by the acclaimed English composer Mark-Anthony Turnage. This was a WASO-initiated co-commission by Janet Holmes à Court AC and the Making Music Together Patrons, along with KölnMusik – Kölner Philharmonie, the London Symphony Orchestra and the Philharmonie Luxembourg & Orchestre Philharmonique du Luxembourg.

This premiere was conducted by Baldur Brönnimann, a noted new-music exponent who returned to WASO following his successes in the 2012 and 2014 seasons.

The good news is Mark-Anthony Turnage's wonderful first trumpet concerto From the Wreckage wasn't a one-off after all. And, like the first, [Håkan] is a masterpiece... Turnage's unequalled ability to absorb disparate styles so stylishly, uncompromisingly and yet strangely accessibly... has again shown him for the modern master he is.

- Limelight Magazine

For a composer to enjoy ten premieres from the one orchestra is a very, very rare thing, and so we were delighted to celebrate James Ledger's 10th WASO premiere with the first performance of his *Simpler Times*, conducted by Principal Conductor Asher Fisch. *Simpler Times* is James' longest and most artistically challenging orchestral work to date:

Simpler Times oscillating between simulated cries of anguish and implacable, unyielding rhythms which drew this listener willingly into the composer's sound and mood world. In the more energetic moments of Ledger's work, the players charged at the notes with athletic abandon in a work swarming with intriguing ideas.

- The West Australian

Broadcasts

The ABC supports WASO through regular broadcasts of our concerts throughout the year. A total of 24 broadcasts of new WASO performances were heard on ABC Classic FM around Australia and the world. WASO webcast two performances live, which are also available on-demand. Selected webcasts were screened at the Northbridge Piazza and James Street Amphitheatre, and the Symphony in the City webcast was also simulcast at theatres in Albany, Kalgoorlie and Margaret River. It was also broadcast live at 23 Community Resource Centres, including Toodyay, Kalbarri, Nannup, Kununurra, Bridgetown and Coolgardie via Westlink.

WASO Chorus

Continuing their work to improve the quality and consistency of the WASO Chorus were Chorus Director Christopher van Tuinen and Chorus Vocal Coach Andrew Foote. Members of the Chorus performed at a special service at Kings Park commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the taking of the famous 'Cheops Pyramid' photo of the 11th Battalion A.I.F., as well as at the Doctor Who Symphonic Spectacular at Perth Arena at the start of the year. The full Chorus then performed a wide variety of repertoire across the season, including Fauré's Requiem, Orff's *Carmina Burana* and the first WASO performance of Villa-Lobos's Chôros No. 10 *Rasga o coração*. They also performed at the ANZAC Commemorative Concert, Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King, and *Symphony in the City*.

Artistic Report Cont.

City of Perth Symphony in the City

Our annual season-ending City of Perth *Symphony in the City* drew approximately 20,000 people to Langley Park for a richly varied concert. Conducted for the first time by Principal Conductor Asher Fisch, the program included highlights of the forthcoming 2016 season, as well as popular classics and great movie music scores. Two WASO principal musicians (Andrew Nicholson and Andrew Sinclair) were the featured soloists, and Australian comedian and actor Stephen Curry was a witty and entertaining presenter.

Collaborations

The Australian Ballet

Tchaikovsky: *Sleeping Beauty*
Conductor – Nicolette Fraillon

Perth International Arts Festival

Mozart *Dances*
Choreography – Mark Morris
Mozart: Piano Concerto No.11 and
Piano Concerto No.27
Conductor – Colin Fowler
Puccini: *Madama Butterfly*
Conductor – David Parry

West Australia Opera

Rossini: *Barber of Seville*
[Opera in the Park]
Conductor – Richard Mills

Mozart: *The Marriage of Figaro*
Conductor – Antony Walker

Gounod: *Faust*
Conductor – Brad Cohen

West Australian Ballet

Embraceable You
A Celebration of Balanchine
Conductor – Myron Romanul

Delibes: *Coppélia*
Conductor – Myron Romanul

Hire Events

In 2015 WASO was hired to perform at the following events:

Doctor Who Symphonic Spectacular
From Broadway to La Scala



Community Engagement Report

The West Australian Symphony Orchestra is passionate about sharing our dynamic and entertaining Education and Community Engagement program with communities across the State, and in 2015 we connected with more than 15,500 audience members across metropolitan and regional WA. At the 2015 APRA AMCOS Art Music Awards, WASO received the WA State Award for Excellence in a Regional Area, for WASO on the Road Touring and Onslow Kids Music Education (OK ME!) programs. In further recognition of the company's work in this field, the Australia Council for the Arts profiled WASO on the Road Touring and OK ME! in an online resource, as programs that exemplify excellence in the field of community engagement.

Community Outreach

At the heart of WASO's community outreach programs lie our free music education programs; Crescendo, our El Sistema-inspired music education program, and Onslow Kids Music Education (OK ME!). Both in their second year of delivery, WASO remain the only major performing arts company in the state working with principals and school communities to deliver education programs in this way.

The Crescendo program delivered weekly music lessons to all Pre-primary and Year 1 students at Medina Primary School, North Parmelia Primary School and Kwinana Christian School. The vocal-based program builds musical skills through singing, listening and movement-based exercises encouraging the students to find their voice and participate in music appreciation and learning in their own way. Kwinana is a low socioeconomic area of metropolitan Perth, and WASO's Crescendo program seeks to empower these children through classical music, using it as a tool to help them reach their full potential and learn life values.

Onslow Kids Music Education Program (OK ME!) continued at Onslow Primary School in the far North-West of WA. Teaching artists visited the school for one week each term teaching music through ensemble playing using percussion instruments, instrument making and building. Students have formed a percussion ensemble and perform at school events. The year culminated in a public performance at the Shire of Ashburton's Christmas festivities.

Our expanded Harmony Music program visited more schools than ever before, including a visit to a regional school for students with Special Educational Needs. Now in its eighth year, the Hospital Orchestra Project (HOP) program at Princess Margaret Hospital for Children is run in partnership with the School of special education needs: Medical & Mental Health, with support from the Starlight Children's Foundation, who broadcast our visits live throughout their hospital TV network. Both of these programs, importantly, are offered free and address issues of access for students who might otherwise be unable to physically participate

in the enjoyment of live musical performance.

Our second Rusty Orchestra program was even bigger and better than the first, with more than 50 amateur musicians from Perth and regional WA performing alongside WASO musicians in an 80+ strong orchestra to an audience in excess of 1,200 people.



Community Engagement Report Cont.

Education

A number of new initiatives and special events were offered in our education program. It was particularly exciting and successful to shine the spotlight on the range of programs we offer by presenting our inaugural Education Week and Open Day at Perth Concert Hall. More than 5,000 students, educators and musical supporters enjoyed a broad range of musical performances and workshops in age-specific settings. These included the final showing of our Composition Project, workshop presentations of *The Sound of Picture Books*, presented in partnership with The Literature Centre and featuring a new work titled *Parachute* (Danny Parker - Author, Matt Ottley – Illustrator/Composer), full symphony orchestra primary school concerts, EChO performances and our Rusty Orchestra.

The WACE Designated Works Concert featured the WASO Chorus for the first time. Again a sellout, the demand for the program and outstanding feedback has necessitated a move to a larger venue in 2016.

WASO's 15-piece Education Chamber Orchestra (EChO) doubled the previous years' number of school performances across the Perth metropolitan area.

WASO continued to offer programs linked to the 2015 subscription series, providing access to world-class soloists, conductors and a wide range of orchestral repertoire through attendance at Open Rehearsals, Backstage Pass events and Morning Symphony concerts. As special events in our Open Rehearsal series, Simone Young and James Morrison

both opened their final rehearsal to students and educators.

WASO's commitment to visiting regional and remote locations across the state saw the addition of a third WASO on the Road tour – a two-day tour to Leinster Community School. Other WASO on the Road tours visited the Pilbara (Karratha, Dampier, Roebourne and Onslow) in May, where we once again presented live-to-air performances in partnership with the Pilbara Education Regional Office (Department of Education) via the video conferencing technology funded through Royalties for Regions Pilbara Cities Education Project, as part of the E-Learning Pilbara Project. As a first for WASO on the Road, we toured in partnership with The Literature Centre to Geraldton in September, where *The Sound of Picture Books* featuring *Tree* (Danny Parker - Author, Matt Ottley – Illustrator/Composer) was performed for schools groups and at a community concert.



Young and Emerging Artists

WASO's Young & Emerging Artists programs are offered free to aspiring professional musicians. Programs are tailored to participants needs, with a focus on mentoring and hands-on training experiences. For the first time, the International Artist Masterclass program featured a composer, Mark-Anthony Turnage. A stellar line up of guest artists for the Masterclass series included Håkan Hardenberger (trumpet), Pinchas Zukerman (violin) and Kathryn Stott (piano). The Composition Project was again led by Artistic Director James Ledger, and four composition students participated in the three-month-long workshop program, which in 2015 was profiled on ABC TV.

Community Access

In 2015, WASO provided close to 1,600 complimentary tickets to classical concerts to allow the wider Western Australian community to experience the Orchestra on stage at Perth Concert Hall. Tickets were provided to school groups and teachers, as fundraising prizes for fetes, raffles and quiz nights, to Companion Card holders and a range of other community groups and not-for-profit organisations.

Philanthropy Report

...to touch souls and enrich lives through music.

Through the power of philanthropic partnerships, our community of Patrons and Friends underpin WASO's ability to achieve its vision to touch souls and enrich lives through music. Our Patrons' belief in what we do inspires us, and we thank them all for their ongoing support.

WASO Philanthropy grew by 9% in 2015 and it remains an important and steadily growing income stream for the company. The foundation stone of WASO Philanthropy, our Annual Giving campaign, raised over \$600,000. Special acknowledgement and thank you to the Patrons who have made annual donations since 2006:

Jean Arkley
John & Debbie Borshoff
Alan Dodge & Neil Archibald
Glenda Campbell-Evans & Ken Evans
Arthur & Nerina Coopes
Sue & Gregg Marshman
Margaret & Rod Marston
Mary Ellen MacDonald
Con & Betty Michael
Frances Morrell
Barry & Val Neubecker
Maggie Venerys

Alongside Annual Giving we are seeking to build an *Excellence Circle* with the purpose of supporting WASO's ability to be excellent and to continuously strive to achieve best practice across ALL we do. Our Excellence Circle members are a network of Patrons including long-term subscribers, business and community leaders who value and understand WASO and the leadership role it plays in the Western Australian community. Supporting Excellence in 2015, we thank Jean Arkley, Janet Holmes à Court, Torsten and Mona Ketelsen, Andrew Marsden, Bob and Gay Branchi and Michael Utsler.

We held our inaugural Community Support Month in June during which over \$200,000 was raised and we welcomed over 40 new Patrons & Friends to the WASO philanthropic community. This concert-based fundraising campaign was designed to communicate directly to concert goers about the power and importance of philanthropic support to WASO and, in turn, what WASO gives back to the community. Musicians, board and staff were involved in this successful campaign.

Our Community Engagement and Education Programs are fundamental to our vision to touch souls and enrich lives through music. Reach Out is a philanthropic campaign that supports our education and community engagement programs. We are extremely grateful for the Trusts, Foundations and individual donors who support these programs.

Bequests and the Endowment Fund of the Orchestra

Gifts of bequests are now vital to WASO's future and we are committed to building our Endowment Fund through major gifts and bequests. A bequest is a gift to all Western Australians and to the future of culture and the arts in our community. Most of our bequests will be invested and preserved in the Endowment Fund for the Orchestra and the income earned used to support WASO's activities and programs into the future. Each year we receive notice of several bequests. We now have 34 known bequests and those will have a significant impact on the size of our Endowment Fund over the next 20 to 30 years.

In 2015 Judy Sienkiewicz, a dear Patron, subscriber and Friend of the Orchestra passed away. We would like to acknowledge Judy's support in assisting with launching our bequest

program. In her final year with us, Judy made a major gift to WASO, in addition to the bequest she left WASO in her will. We would like to thank Judy, and Judy's family, for their support.

Staying in touch with our WASO Philanthropy Community

Alongside three editions of our *Encore* newsletter, events for Patrons and Friends are a wonderful way for this special community to stay in touch with each other and with our musicians. Alongside our exclusive events for Patrons, we also hold a series of events for the whole Patrons and Friends community. Thank you to our Patrons & Friends Committee who helped create these events in 2015:

- Rod McGrath & Britten
- Pinnacles String Quartet
- Andrew & Ali at The Ellington
- Patrons & Friends Christmas Party

All proceeds from these events go towards the Friends of WASO Scholarship which supports professional development opportunities for musicians. In 2015 this Scholarship was awarded to Associate Principal Trombone, Liam O'Malley and Associate Principal Horn, Sharn McIver.

Our 2015 Patrons & Friends Committee:

Robyn Glindemann, President
Barry Neubecker, Vice President
Gina Humphries, Secretary
Glenda Campbell-Evans
Wolfgang Lehmkuhl
Graham Mahoney
Margaret Marston
Chris Rtshiladze
Christine Reitzenstein
(WASO musician representative)
Alecia Benzie
(WASO management representative)

Philanthropy Report Cont.

Volunteers

Our volunteer community grows each year and plays an important role at WASO. In 2015 the volunteer community contributed over 1,500 hours in the office and at Perth Concert Hall.

Thank you to all our volunteers who helped in the WASO office and Perth Concert Hall:

Andrew Poli
Andrew Yuncken
Annette Cottey
Annie Hood
Barbara Kent
Barry Neubecker
Brenda Pullan
Brian MacFarlane
Brigitte Bauer
Calvin Snyders
Chris Louthean
Christine Rtshiladze
Colin Barr
Colin Kennedy
Colin King
Daniela Egloff
Edel Taylor
Elizabeth Teale
Eric Lawson
Gina Humphries
Glenda Campbell-Evans
Graham Mahony
Heidi Polome
Jan Reid
Jan Stacey
Jo Emanuel
Jo King
John Bonny
Jop Delfos
Judy Leembruggen
Julie Mews
Laura Bracken
Leonie Brewer
Liz Harrison
Lucia Siciliano
Mary Azzopardi
Mary West
Nelson Mews
Nicky McLaughlin
Noel Nicholson

Pam Bennet
Pauline Handford
Penny King
Peter Mountford
Regina Hansen
Robyn Paul
Robyn Forshaw
Rod Hay
Rosemary Hart
Rosemary Panting
Ruth Thorn
Sandra Carruthers
Sandy Tasker
Shani Wong
Stan Vicich
Sue Blackham
Sue Rule
Susana Schmidt
Suzy Poli
Val Neubecker
Val Ferreira
Valerie Vicich
Verna McLeod
Vonnice Brown
Wendy Brown
Wolfgang Lehmkuhl

And thank you to the many volunteers who worked tirelessly at our 2015 City of Perth *Symphony in the City*.

We thank the following Patrons for their generous contribution to WASO Philanthropy across 2015:

OUR SUPPORTERS

Endowment Fund for the Orchestra

This fund includes major donations and bequests:

Tom & Jean Arkley
Janet Holmes à Court AC
Sagitte Yom-Tov Fund

Estates

WASO is extremely grateful for the bequests received from estates:

Rachel Mabel Chapman
Mrs Roslyn Warrick
Judy Sienkiewicz

Symphony Circle

Recognising Patrons who have made a provision in their will to the Orchestra:

Mr John Bonny
Dr G Campbell-Evans
Anita & James Clayton
Judith Gederó
Wolfgang Lehmkuhl
Tosi Nottage in memory of Edgar Nottage
Nigel & Dr Heather Rogers
Gavin Toovey & Jaehan Lee
Sheila Wileman
Anonymous (17)

Excellence Circle

Supporting excellence across all we do:

Jean Arkley
Bob & Gay Branchi
Janet Holmes à Court AC
Torsten & Mona Ketelsen
Andrew Marsden
Michael Utsler

The WASO Song Book

We are grateful to those who have supported new works commissioned for the Orchestra by WASO:

Janet Holmes à Court AC
Peter Dawson
Geoff Stearn
Anonymous (2)

Reach Out

Supporting our Education & Community Engagement programs:

Jean Arkley
Prue Ashurst
Creative Partnerships Australia
Ron & Penny Crittall
Ken Evans
Feilman Foundation
The James Galvin Foundation
Robyn Glindemann
Ken Johnson
Barrie & Jude Lepley
McCusker Charitable Foundation
Minderoo Foundation
Mrs Morrell
Lynn Murray
Joan Reyland

Philanthropy Report Cont.

John & Alison Rigg
Simon Lee Foundation
The Stan Perron Charitable
Foundation
Jean & Peter Stokes
Trish Williams - Strategic Interactions
Anonymous (1)

ANNUAL GIVING

We are proud to acknowledge the following Patrons for their generous contribution to WASO in the last twelve months through WASO's Annual Giving program.

Principal Conductor's Circle

Gifts \$20,000+

Janet Holmes à Court AC
Patricia New
Judy Sienkiewicz (dec.)

Impresario Patron

Gifts \$10,000 - \$19,999

John Albright & Susan Lorimer
Gay & Bob Branchi
Gavin Bunning
Tony & Gwennyth Lennon
Margaret & Rod Marston
Joshua & Pamela Pitt
Trish Williams - Strategic Interactions

Maestro Patron

Gifts \$5,000 - \$9,999

Jean Arkley in memory of Tom Arkley
Bill Bloking
Dr Roland & Therese Brand
Ian & Elizabeth Constable
Moira & John Dobson
Tim & Lexie Elliott
Bridget Faye AM
Gilbert George
Dr Patricia Kailis
Keith & Gaye Kessell
Dr Ronny Low & Dr Emma Richardson
Bryant & Louise Macfie
Robert May
Jill Mulheron
Paula & John Phillips
Peter & Jean Stokes
Richard Tarala & Lyn Beazley AO
Sue & Ron Wooller
Anonymous (5)

Virtuoso Patron

Gifts \$2,500 - \$4,999

Prof Fred & Mrs Margaret Affleck
Neil Archibald & Alan R Dodge AM
Peter & Marjorie Bird
Alan & Anne Blanckensee
Sally Burton
Dr G Campbell-Evans
Mark Coughlan & Dr Pei-Yin Hsu
Stephen Davis & Linda Savage
Richard Farago
Robyn Glindemann
Annette & Vincent Goerke
Jacoba Hohnen & Ted Samson
Sylvia & Wally Hyams
Mrs Morrell
Jane & Jock Morrison
Anne Nolan
Tim Pavy & Cathy Cole
Gail & Tony Sutherland
Ros Thomson
M & H Tuite
Joyce Westrip OAM
Alan Whitham
Andrew & Marie Yuncken
Anonymous (1)

Principal Patron

Gifts \$1,000 - \$2,499

Ron & Sue Adams
Caroline Allen & Sandy Dunn
Prue Ashurst
Margaret Atkins
Betty Barker
Tony & Mary Beeley
David & Suzanne Biddles
Kevin Blake
Matthew J C Blampey
Namy Bodinner
Peter & Eve Boland
Mr John Bonny
John & Debbie Borshoff
Dr & Mrs P Breidahl
Jean Brodie-Hall AM
Marilyn & Ian Burton
Prof Jonathan Carapetis & Prof Sue Skull
Peter & Sue Clifton
Helen Cook
Arthur & Nerina Coopes
Hon June Craig AM
Gay & John Cruickshank
Lesley & Peter Davies
Julian Dowse

Bev East
Lorraine Ellard
Annette Finn
Don & Marie Forrest
Erich & Liz Fraunschiel
Dr Andrew Gardner
Roger & Ann Gillbanks
Graham & Barbara Goulden
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Deidre Greenfeld
Grussgott Family Trust
David & Valerie Gulland
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Richard B Hammond
Pauline & Peter Handford
Warwick Hemsley & Melissa Parke
Dr Penny Herbert in
memory of Dunstan Herbert
Michael & Liz Hollingdale
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John & Katrina Hopkins
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Bill Kean
Noelle & Anthony Keller AM
Michael & Dale Kitney
Nelly Kleyn
Stephanie & John Kobelke
Irving Lane
Paul Lee
Meg Lewis
Rosalind Lilley
Teresa & Jemima Loveland
Graham & Muriel Mahony
Gregg & Sue Marshman
Betty & Con Michael AO
Hon Justice S R Moncrieff
Valmae & Geoff Morris
Val & Barry Neubecker
Delys & Alan Newman
Dr Phillip & Mrs Erlene Noble
John Overton
Ron & Philippa Packer
Michael & Lesley Page
Athena Paton
Adrian & Ruth Phelps
Charmian Phillips in

Philanthropy Report Cont.

memory of Colin Craft
Pamela Platt
Andrew & Suzanne Poli
Thomas & Diana Potter
Alison & John Price
Barry & Dot Price
Dr Leon Prindiville
Chester Reeve
Joan Reyland
John & Alison Rigg
Ms Elizabeth Sachse &
Dr Lance Risbey
Nigel & Dr Heather Rogers
Gerry & Maurice Rousset OAM
Roger Sandercock
Dr R & J Schwenger
Margaret & Roger Seares
Melanie & Paul Shannon
Eve Shannon-Cullity
Glenice Shephard
Julian & Noreen Sher
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Paul Smith
Michael Snell & Vicki Stewart Anna
Sweetingham
Lisa & Andrew Telford
The Ambient Foundation
Ruth Thomas
Gene Tilbrook
Gavin Toovey & Jaehan Lee
Mary Townsend
James & Rosemary Trotter
Dr Robert Turnbull
Maggie Venerys
Stan & Valerie Vicich
Adrienne & Max Walters
Diana Warnock
Watering Concepts
Ian Watson
Patricia Weston
Ann Whyntie
Jean & Ian Williams AO
Jim & Gill Williams
Margaret Wilson
Judith Wilton & David Turner
Hilary & Peter Winterton AM
Anonymous (21)

Tutti Patron

Gifts \$500 - \$999

Geoff & Joan Airey
Catherine Bagster
Merle I Bardwell
Bernard & Jackie Barnwell
Shirley Barraclough
Mrs Berwine Barrett-Lennard
Colin Beckett
Pamela M Bennet
Michael & Nadia Berkeley-Hill
John & Sue Bird in
memory of Penny Bird
Dermot & Jennifer Blackweir
Susy Bogle
Elaine Bonds
Diane & Ron Bowyer
Elizabeth & James Brown
Lucia Buralli
Ann Butcher & Dean R Kubank
Michelle Candy
Nanette Carnachan
Claire Chambers & Dr Andrea
Shoebridge
Fred & Angela Chaney
Dr Anne Chester
Lyn & Harvey Coates AO
Agatha & Alex Cohen AO
Brian Cresswell
Gina & Neil Davidson
Jop & Hanneke Delfos
Judy Dolan
Rai & Erika Dolinschek
Simon & Pamela Douglas
Mrs G Ewen
Joan Gagliardi
George Gavranic
Elaine Gimson
Isobel Glencross
Douglas & Regina Hansen
Alan Harvey & Dr Paulien de Boer
Eric & Elizabeth Heenan
John and Sue Huan
Christopher, Julie & Rosemary Hudson
Mr John Hylton-Davies JP, VJ
Peter Ingram
Cynthia Jee
Peter S Jones
B M Kent
Dorothy Kingston
Ulrich & Gloria Kunzmann
John Kusinski & Annie Motherway
Trevor & Ane Marie Lacy
Louis & Miriam Landau

Martin & Ruth Levit
Megan Lowe
Mary Ellen in memory of Kerensa
Jennifer & Arthur McComb
Mrs Carolyn Milton-Smith in
loving memory of Emeritus
Prof John Milton-Smith
S B Monger-Hay
Dr Peter Moss
Marianne Nilsson
Marjan Oxley
Graham & Hildegard Pennefather
Bev Penny
Alpha & Richard Pilpel OAM
Ann Rawlinson
Clarissa Repton
James & Nicola Ridsdill-Smith
Leigh Robinson
Chris & Serge Rtshiladze
Judith E Shaw
The Sherwood Family
Paul & Margaret Skerritt
Hendrik Smit
L Sparrow & Family
Peggy & Tom Stacy
Eleanor Steinhardt
Ruth E Thorn
Patricia Turner
S R Vogt
Anne Watson
Joy Wearne
Dr & Mrs Chris Whitaker
Violette William
Janet Williams
Dr Robyn Yeo
Chris Ziatas
Anonymous (19)

Friends

Gifts \$40 - \$499

Thank you to all our Friends who
support WASO through their gifts.

Corporate Development Report

The West Australian Symphony Orchestra thanks its exceptional network of corporate and government partners for their long-term vision and commitment in 2015.

The ability to maintain a high level of corporate and government support in challenging economic conditions is testament to the value and strength of the relationships that WASO and these partners have fostered over many years.

Highlighting the importance of enduring relationships, in 2015 WASO and EY celebrated 20 years of partnership. One of the longest-standing partnerships between a professional services firm and arts organisation in WA, it also received national recognition, winning the Australian Business Arts Foundation's 'National Partnership of the Year' Award in 2008. Special initiatives marked the anniversary throughout 2015, both at EY and WASO, culminating in a special event at WASO's final concert for the year at Perth Concert Hall, EY Presents James Morrison with WASO.

WASO's network of corporate supporters was spearheaded by Wesfarmers Arts as Principal Partner. And as WASO's Principal Conductor partner, Wesfarmers' commitment continued to underpin the artistic excellence delivered by Asher Fisch and the Orchestra throughout the year.

In 2015 WASO was pleased to secure the following new partnership:

- WASO engaged and partnered with Future Logic as the new IT Services partner.
- As WASO established a formal health and wellness program for musicians and staff, a partnership was established with Star Physio as the Orchestra's physiotherapy provider.

- Real Insurance supported WASO's Hospital Orchestra Project Christmas performance through a special grant. For this performance musicians were joined by WASO Chorus members to provide a special concert for children at Princess Margaret Hospital.

WASO also recognises the following partners for their support of major programs and initiatives that provided an important foundation for many artistic, education and community activities:

- Lotterywest and City of Perth for their support of WASO's free and largest concert, *Symphony in the City*, which saw the Orchestra perform to 20,000 people in Langley Park and reach many more across the state through webcasts and broadcasts.
- Healthway and MACA Limited for their ongoing and growing support of WASO's flagship Masters Series and Classics Series, respectively.
- Chevron Australia for their commitment to the Onslow Kid's Music Education program (OKME!) and WASO on the Road tours to the Pilbara and Kwinana area. These Chevron-supported programs were awarded the 2015 Art Music Awards: Excellence in a Regional Area for WASO on the Road Touring, and Onslow Kids Music Education (OK ME!) in West Pilbara.
- Singapore Airlines for their generous support and providing their excellent service to WASO's international artists, Principal Conductor Asher Fisch and musicians.

Throughout the year WASO's corporate partners were treated to networking events offering exclusive access to behind-the-scenes experiences. *Music to Change Life* provided guests an opportunity to meet and hear from visiting Venezuelan conductor and violinist, Diego Matheuz about how his life was impacted by the successful music-based social initiative, El Sistema. The event showcased WASO's new Crescendo program in Kwinana which was inspired by the successful Venezuelan model.

In November WASO hosted a *World Artist Dinner* at which guests were treated to an evening of fine dining and magnificent vistas in the beautiful setting of Fraser's, Kings Park. Argentinian pianist, Ingrid Fliter, spoke about her achievements and passions and WASO's Principal Conductor, Asher Fisch, shared his vision for WASO.

Finally, the corporate events calendar came to a close under the stars at the spectacular annual community concert, *City of Perth Symphony in the City* at Langley Park.

2015 Corporate Partners

WASO appreciates and applauds all 2015 partners for their generous support.

Aquinas College
Chevron Australia
City of Perth
Clayton Utz
ConocoPhillips
EY
Hale School
Heyder & Shears
Healthway
Howard Park Wines
Future Logic
Grace Removals Group
Japan Australia LNG (MIMI)
Leeuwin Estate
Lepley Properties
Lotterywest
M2 Technology
MACA Limited

Mitsubishi Corporation
Mitsui E&P Australia
Penrhos College
Perron Group
Pierro Margaret River Vineyards
Quadrant Energy
Real Insurance
RICOH
Singapore Airlines
Star Physio
Stott Hoare
The Perth Mint
The West Australian
University of Western Australia
Vasse Felix
Water Corporation
Wesfarmers Arts



West Australian Symphony Orchestra Pty Ltd

Corporate Governance Statement

General

As the largest performing arts company in Western Australia, WASO is committed to high standards of corporate governance.

WASO is a wholly-owned subsidiary of WASO Holdings Limited. The Board consists of a maximum of ten directors.

The Company's Board is currently made up of eight highly qualified individuals with credentials across a wide spectrum including backgrounds in business, music, law, accounting, economics, marketing, investment and banking.

Role of the Board

The Board is responsible for providing strategic guidance to the Company, and for the effective oversight of management. As such the Board is accountable for the West Australian Symphony Orchestra's overall performance and for ensuring the Company performs its functions in a manner consistent with sound commercial practice.

The Board has adopted a formal charter which defines the roles and responsibilities of the board and management. A separate board policy (BS-005 "Authority Limits") ensures an appropriate delegation of authority to management.

The Board sets the Company's key objectives and strategies through a rolling five-year strategic plan, which is revised annually. It also approves the artistic program and budget on an annual basis, and monitors the major risks facing the organisation.

New Board members are provided with appropriate information to ensure that they understand their roles and responsibilities, including the Board Charter, Constitution and other relevant information.

Board Sub-Committees

In order to deal with the many issues that confront the Orchestra and to assist the Board in the discharge of its responsibilities, a number of Board sub-committees have been formed. These comprise the following:

Artistic

Mark Coughlan
Keith Kessel

Finance, Audit and Risk

Anne Nolan
Julian Sher
Paul Shannon

Development, Marketing & Sales

Barrie Lepley
Mike Utsler

Accommodation

Janet Holmes à Court AC
Julian Sher
Barrie Lepley

Nominations & Remuneration Committee

Janet Holmes à Court
Barrie Lepley
Keith Kessel

The sub-committees each have a charter that clearly defines the role of the committee, its members, terms of reference and duties. The sub-committees meet on a regular basis and meetings are formally minuted. The minutes are tabled at Board meetings and any issues raised from the minutes are discussed and dealt with as appropriate. The Board sub-committee structure is regularly reviewed.

This Committee reporting structure allows the Board to receive and review regular comprehensive reports on all key business areas.

Board Size, Composition & Terms of Appointment

The Board is comprised of an appropriate number of well qualified individuals who have a proper understanding of the current and future issues facing the organisation. All Board members are non-executive.

The composition of the Board is regularly reviewed to ensure that the composition meets the current and future needs of the Company.

Directors are appointed for specific terms and re-appointment is not automatic. The Board does not believe that a maximum term of tenure would be in the best interests of the Company.

Ethical Decision Making

The Board is committed to maintaining ethical and responsible decision-making processes based on the principles of fairness, integrity and honesty and to ensure compliance with Australian laws and regulations.

Directors who may have a material personal interest in a matter to be considered by the Board or a board committee are required to make the nature of that interest known and must not be present while the matter is being considered. Details of such disclosures are recorded in the minutes of the meeting. Where an issue to be considered by the Board or a board committee is thought to present a Director with a potential conflict of interest that Director will not be provided with the related material in the first instance.

The Board has adopted the code of conduct promulgated by the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Promote Diversity

WASO promotes a workplace that actively seeks to include, welcome and value unique contributions of all people and hence embraces diversity. Diversity includes, but is not limited to, gender, age, ethnicity, disability and cultural background.

A diversity action plan is currently being compiled with a view to completion during 2016.

Integrity in Financial Reporting

The Board requires the CEO and CFO to attest in writing that the Company's financial reports present a true and fair view of the Company's financial condition and operational results and are in accordance with relevant accounting standards.

The Board has established a Finance, Audit & Risk Committee that has a formal charter and includes at least one member who has financial expertise. The Finance, Audit & Risk Committee considers the effectiveness of the external auditor on a regular basis.

Management of Risk

The Board has approved a risk management policy and implemented a risk management program, designed to identify the sources of risk, quantify the impact of these risks and any related controls, and reduce risk through practical and cost effective measures.

The program involves the development of standards throughout the Company, which require awareness and action from all sub-committees to minimise risks and losses. In addition, the Company uses risk hedging

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Corporate Governance Statement Cont

techniques, including insurance, to reduce the financial impact of any uncontrollable or catastrophic losses. The Company carries sufficient insurance for the size and nature of its business to protect its assets.

The Company's risk management framework is reviewed annually by the Board and the risk environment is monitored regularly for changes that may be relevant to the Company.

Board Performance Appraisal

The Board has participated in an external review of its performance in 2014. The Board has also undertaken to ensure such a review is completed at least once every two years. In alternate years, the Directors will conduct an informal review of the Board's performance during the previous twelve months. To this extent the Board has completed a self-assessment survey in 2015.

Remuneration Practices

The Board adopts remuneration policies that are designed to attract and retain talented and motivated individuals and to encourage enhanced company performance. The Board has input to the remuneration of the CEO and Principal Conductor.

The Board does not receive any remuneration from the Company.

Interests of Stakeholders

The legitimate interests of stakeholders are recognised by the Board. Procedures have been established to guide compliance with legal obligations in areas such as OHS and to ensure the timely provision of relevant information to funding agencies.

West Australian Symphony Orchestra Pty Ltd

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