

VICTORIAN
OPERA



GEORGES BIZET

The Pearl Fishers



Kathryn Radcliffe

Victorian Opera presents
The Pearl Fishers
Les pêcheurs de perles

SEMI-STAGED OPERA IN THREE ACTS

Composer **Georges Bizet**
Librettist **Michel Carré and Eugène Cormon**

Conductor **Richard Mills**
Stage Direction **Elizabeth Hill-Cooper**

Cast

Leïla **Kathryn Radcliffe**
Nadir **Carlos E. Bárcenas**
Zurga **Stephen Marsh**
Nourabad **Teddy Tahu Rhodes**

Orchestra Victoria
Concertmaster **Sulki Yu**

22 April 2021
Sidney Myer Music Bowl

Original premiere 30 September 1863, Théâtre-Lyrique, Paris
Duration 2 h 40, including one interval
Sung in French with English surtitles

Production

Production Team

Stage Manager

Meg Deyell

Deputy Stage Manager

Marina Milankovic

Sound Engineer

Jim Atkins

Costume Supervisor

Mel Serjeant

Costume Assistant

Amelia Peace

Hair and Makeup

Linda Cowell

Music Preparation

Chorus

Richard Mills, Phoebe Briggs

Principal Repetiteur

Phoebe Briggs

Repetiteur

Phillipa Safey

Acknowledgements

Surtitles courtesy of Opera Australia.

Chorus

Soprano

Elizabeth Barrow

Kirilie Blythman

Teresa Ingrilli

Jane Magao

Diana Simpson

Emily Uhrich

Georgia Wilkinson

Mezzo-Soprano

Emily Barber-Briggs

Kerrie Bolton

Rebecca Crabtree

Shakira Dugan

Heather Fletcher

Emma Muir-Smith

Ursula Paez

Tenor

Alastair Cooper-Golec

Irving Dekterev

Ernst Ens

Fraser Findlay

Douglas Kelly

Timothy Reynolds

Cameron Sibly

Baritone/Bass

Robert Campbell

Darcy Carroll

Nick Cowall

James Emerson

Oliver Mann

Alex Pokryshevsky

Peter Tregear

Orchestra

ORCHESTRA
VICTORIA

Violin

Concertmaster
Sulki Yu

Principal First Violin
Yi Wang

Principal Second Violin
Monica Naselow

Associate Principal First Violin
Erica Kennedy

Associate Principal First Violin
Tomomi Brennan

Tutti

Rebecca Adler
Binny Baik
Alyssa Conrau
Rachel Gamer
Matthew Hassall
Rachael Hunt
John Noble
Christine Rüter
Lucy Warren
Tony Zhai
Natasha Lakkis *
Jenny Khafagi +++

Viola

Section Principal
Paul McMillan

Associate Principal
Tom Higham

Tutti

Jason Bunn
Nadine Delbridge
Ceridwen Davies +
Beth Hemming +

Cello

Section Principal
Melissa Chominsky

Associate Principal
Diane Froomes

Tutti

Sarah Cuming
Philippa Gardner
Tania Hardy-Smith
Andrea Taylor

Double Bass

Section Principal
Stuart Riley

Associate Principal
Kylie Davies +++

Tutti

Matthew Thorne

Flute

Section Principal
Lisa-Maree Amos

Associate Principal
Karen Schofield §

Principal Piccolo
Rebecca Johnson ++

Oboe

Acting Section Principal
Joshua de Graaf

Principal Cor Anglais
Dafydd Camp

Clarinet

Section Principal
Paul Champion

Associate Principal
Justin Beere

Bassoon

Section Principal
Lucinda Cran

Principal Contrabassoon
Timothy Murray

Horn

Section Principal
Jasen Moulton §

Principal Third Horn

Linda Hewett
Sharon Hatton +
Anton Schroeder ++++
Robert Shirley +

Trumpet

Section Principal
Mark Fitzpatrick

Associate Principal
Timothy Francis

Tutti

Anthony Pope

Trombone

Section Principal
Scott Evans

Associate Principal
Kieran Conrau +++

Principal Bass Trombone
Benjamin Anderson

Timpani

Section Principal
Guy du Blêt

Percussion

Section Principal
Mathew Levy

Associate Principal
James Townsend +++
Stephen Falk +

Harp

Yuko Tomonaga ++++

§ On leave

* Richard Bonyngé Orchestral Fellow

+ Guest Musician

++ Guest Principal

+++ Guest Associate Principal

++++ Guest Section Principal

For a complete listing of the musicians of Orchestra Victoria, visit: orchestravictoria.com.au

Welcome

Welcome to Victorian Opera's concert production of Georges Bizet's *The Pearl Fishers* at Arts Centre Melbourne's Sidney Myer Music Bowl.

Since its Paris premiere in 1863, Bizet's story of brotherhood and love has long carried the sweet perfume of French romanticism. It is the perfect chocolate box opera to enjoy under the stars and Victorian Opera is thrilled to present it for you Live at the Bowl.

Emerging from a year away from live performance, we are delighted to collaborate with Orchestra Victoria and the Victorian Opera Chorus. Their combined forces are a joy to hear once again!

Many of our favourite artists headline this concert production of *The Pearl Fishers*; we warmly welcome back soprano Kathryn Radcliffe, tenor Carlos E. Bárcenas, baritone and recipient of the Stubbs/Roberts Opera Prize Stephen Marsh, and bass-baritone Teddy Tahu Rhodes. They are a mighty cast and all proud Victorians.

For first timers and opera aficionados alike, a treasure trove of music and lyricism awaits. Throughout my career, I have had the pleasure of working on this opera countless times. With each experience I have developed a new

appreciation for different passages and phrases of this masterwork. I trust you will make new discoveries tonight... you may even find a pearl.

Dive in and enjoy!

ELIZABETH HILL-COOPER
CEO, Victorian Opera



Conductor's Note

Les Pêcheurs de Perles first saw the light of day in September 1863 at the independent Théâtre-Lyrique run by Parisian impresario Leon Carvalho. Bizet already had some form as an opera composer, despite his youth (24 years old at the time); he had won both a competition run by Jacques Offenbach with his one act opera *Le docteur miracle* and had also won the prestigious Prix de Rome which allowed him to live at a subsidised villa in Rome on a stipend for three years. He was obliged to send a finished work back to Paris each year; two of which, a hymn and a comic opera *Don Procopio* find recycling opportunities in *Les Pêcheurs de Perles* as the chorus 'Brahma, Divin Brahma' and the Act One finale 'Ah chante, chante encore'.

Bizet had a difficult life. Despite his extraordinary talents, he could not make a living as a composer. His works were not really universally acclaimed during his lifetime and he made a living teaching and making piano reductions of operas and orchestral works. He was strongly influenced, if not taught by Charles Gounod, and was also a friend of the young Camille Saint-Saëns. He died believing his final opera *Carmen* to be a failure, in fact its hostile reception probably contributed to his early death.

The opera industry in nineteenth century Paris was dominated by the Paris Opera and the Opéra-Comique,

both houses funded by the state. It was almost impossible for French composers to score an opportunity in either of these theatres, which concentrated on foreign repertoire at the expense of work by the French. It was left for the composers of Paris to fend for themselves; some did so brilliantly, Offenbach founding his own commercially successful theatre, Théâtre des Bouffes-Parisiens, and some independent operators like Leon Carvalho at his Théâtre-Lyrique.

It was Carvalho who offered Bizet his first commission: *Les Pêcheurs de Perles*. Time has revealed the score to be deeply original in musical language and orchestrated with a masterful poetic sense. It is hard to understand the general hostility surrounding the first performance, one reviewer noting: "There are neither fishermen in the libretto nor pearls in the music". Hector Berlioz alone recognised the beauty of Bizet's work which we value today as a unique expression of the perfumed sensibility of the French romantic preoccupation with the exotic translated into a memorable work that has become a staple of the opera repertoire.

RICHARD MILLS

Conductor

Artistic Director, Victorian Opera

Synopsis

Act 1

On a beach, a group of fishermen celebrate the commencement of the pearl fishing season. They select Zurga to be their king. Zurga gratefully accepts the role and their confidence in his abilities. Nadir, a woodsman, arrives after a long absence and recounts his time in the jungle. Zurga and Nadir were once friends and reminisce of their past rivalry for the hand of the enchanting priestess Leïla, whom they had seen together at the Brahman temple in the town of Kandy. Despite their past rivalry, they swear that the oath of friendship they pledged has never been broken.

In the distance a boat is seen which carries the unknown virgin priestess whose duty it is to pray for the safety of the fishermen. Zurga tells Nadir and the other fishermen that she is veiled and must not be approached during her prayer vigil. The priestess arrives accompanied by Nourabad, an elder priest. The village welcomes them. Zurga swears in the priestess as protectress of the fishermen and tells that should she betray her oath, she will be put to death. The priestess embraces her duty as protectress.

Nadir recognises the priestess as Leïla and, gazing affectionately at her, affirms his love and swears to protect her from all danger.

Act 2

Inside a ruined temple, Nourabad reminds Leïla of her oath to pray for the safe return of the fishermen and to keep faithful to her vows. Leïla tells Nourabad not to fear, she will honour her vow. She recounts a promise made when merely a child to shelter a fugitive whose life was in danger and required protection. As reward for keeping her promise, the fugitive gave her the necklace she wears by way of thanks.

When Leïla is left alone, she recalls the love that fills her heart. She senses Nadir's presence. Hearing his voice from a distance, the passion reignites. Nadir reaches the sanctuary and declares his love for Leïla. She begs him to leave but agrees to meet him the following day.

On leaving, Nadir is spotted by Nourabad and captured by the guards. Nourabad accuses the lovers of sacrilege and the crowd cries for vengeance. A storm approaches. The enraged crowd attempts to kill the lovers. Zurga rushes in and declares as

king, he alone will decide their fate.

Zurga wishes to protect his friend Nadir and leans towards mercy.

Nourabad tears the veil from Leïla and on recognition of the priestess and Nadir's broken oath, Zurga declares they will be punished for their crimes. The storm rages and the crowd pray to Brahma. Zurga separates the lovers and they are taken away.

Act 3

Alone in his tent and with the storm abating, Zurga laments his friend's deceit. Leïla appears and declares she will willingly die but pleads for Nadir. Zurga, consumed by jealousy at the idea of losing Leïla to Nadir, declares that the sentence of death shall be carried out. Leïla, accepting this fate, asks that the necklace gifted to her by

the fugitive many years prior be sent to her mother. Zurga recognises the necklace as his own.

A funeral pyre has been erected for the guilty lovers to be put to death. Nourabad leads Leïla to the pyre where Nadir is already in chains. As the two lovers are about to be killed, a glow from the distant village can be seen. Zurga rushes in and declares it is on fire. The crowd rush to fight the flames. Zurga tells Nadir and Leïla that he set fire to the village. He shows the necklace belonging to Leïla and reveals it was once his and that she saved him from death long ago. He unfastens their chains and tells them to flee. The lovers make their escape and are seen in the distance, safe from harm. Zurga is left to face his destiny.



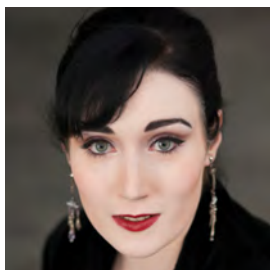
Creatives and Cast



Richard Mills

Conductor

Victorian Opera's Artistic Director Richard Mills, AM, is an internationally recognised composer pursuing a diverse nationwide career as conductor, artistic director, and advisor. Having conducted all of Australia's major symphony orchestras and opera companies Richard also has an extensive discography of orchestral compositions, including his own works. This year Richard conducts *The Pearl Fishers*, *Voss* (Meale) and a new commissioned Christmas oratorio for Adelaide Symphony Orchestra. Richard's commissioned works include concertos, symphonic works, ballet and chamber music, song cycles and his operas, *Summer of the Seventeenth Doll*, *Batavia* and *Love of the Nightingale*. He is currently an Associate Professor, Faculty of Music, University of Melbourne.



Kathryn Radcliffe

Leïla

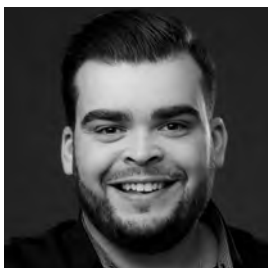
Winner of the 2014 Herald-Sun Aria, Melbourne-based soprano Kathryn Radcliffe has recently made several important débuts - Delia in *Il viaggio a Reims* for Opera Australia, The Queen in *The Princess and the Pea* for Victorian Opera and as Frasquita in *Carmen* for the Tasmanian Symphony. In 2021, she sings Leïla in Victorian opera's production of *The Pearl Fishers*. For VO, she also performed The Blue Fairy in Respighi's *The Sleeping Beauty* and Echo in Kevin March's new opera *Echo and Narcissus*. She made her Vienna debut in a small role in *The Cunning Little Vixen*.



Carlos E. Bárcenas

Nadir

Colombian-born, Carlos holds a Bachelor of Music Performance and a Master of Music (Opera Performance) at the University of Melbourne. His roles have included Alexander (*Il Re Pastore*, Mozart), Michael (*Pecan Summer*, Cheetham), Tony (*Masterclass* by Terrence McNally 2018), Arnoldo (*Guillaume Tell*, Rossini), Elvino (*La Sonnambula*, Donizetti), Tebaldo (*I Capuleti e I Montecchi*, Bellini), Edgardo (*Lucia di Lammermoor*, Donizetti), Steuermann (*The Flying Dutchman*, Wagner), Maese Pedro (*Master Peter's Puppet Show*, de Falla). Carlos appeared as Prince April in Victorian Opera's production of Respighi's *The Sleeping Beauty* and makes his role debut as Nadir in Bizet's *The Pearl Fishers*. He received a Green Room Award for his performance in *The Flying Dutchman*.



Stephen Marsh

Zurga

Stephen Marsh is a 29-year-old baritone from Geelong, Victoria currently under the tutelage of renowned baritone Roger Howell. Stephen was a member of the Melba Opera Trust for both 2018 and 2019. As well as working professionally with Victorian Opera since 2017, Stephen is the inaugural recipient of Victorian Opera's Michael Stubbs and Malcolm Roberts Opera Prize for 2021. He is also an Associate of Melbourne Opera's Richard Divall Emerging Artist Programme. In 2021, Stephen reprised the role of The Woodcutter in Respighi's *The Sleeping Beauty*. He also makes his role debut of Zurga in Victorian Opera's production of Bizet's *The Pearl Fishers*, as well as Marcello in *La bohème* in Switzerland.



Teddy Tahu Rhodes

Nourabad

New Zealand bass-baritone Teddy Tahu Rhodes has performed with the international opera companies of San Francisco, Austin, Washington, Philadelphia, Dallas, Cincinnati, Houston, New York, the Hamburg Staatsoper, Bayerische Staatsoper (Munich), Théâtre du Châtelet (Paris), Theater an der Wien (Vienna), Welsh National Opera and Scottish Opera. On the concert platform, he is a regular guest with all the major Australasian orchestras. Other engagements include recitals at Sydney's Utzon Room and in Washington DC, three national tours with the Australian Chamber Orchestra and the BBC Proms. He debuted at New York's Carnegie Hall in 2009. His numerous accolades include an ARIA (Best Classical Record for *The Voice*), two Helpmann Awards and the 2006 Lighthouse Award. Most recently, he has been honoured with a Green Room Award for Best Male Artist in a Leading Role for his performance of Don Giovanni for Opera Australia plus a MO Award (Operatic Performer of the Year).

About Us

Reimagining the potential of opera and musical theatre, for everyone

Victorian Opera is the state opera company of Victoria. We make creative, accessible and affordable work for everyone while adventurously evolving our art form.

Since the company was founded in October 2005, Victorian Opera has entertained hundreds of thousands of people with our imaginative approach to opera and musical theatre. Each year, we premiere at least one new Australian opera and have commissioned 32 new works since our formation.

We employ hundreds of people across the creative industries, recruit some of the finest local singers, and collaborate with Australia's leading companies, venues and learning institutions.

The next generation of talent is developed from the ground up through the Victorian Opera Youth Chorus Ensemble (VOYCE) and our innovative Access All Areas: Livestream Program.

We also stage opera in Tasmania biennially to share the joy of our art form even further.

Recognised for our unique contribution to the country's operatic landscape, Victorian Opera proudly became

an Australian Major Performing Arts company in 2019. In 2021 we will transition to the newly formed National Performing Arts Partnership Framework.

As the world went into lockdown, we got to work; sharing our passion far and wide with a range of web series and online performances. Returning home to the stage, we embrace the new normal and will continue to perform in Victoria's finest theatres and concert halls to give our audiences the best possible and safest experience.

Be it live or online, Victorian Opera is here to inspire you.



@VictorianOpera #VictorianOpera

Photography: Charlie Kinross pp. 2, 6
Marianne Goggin p. 9

Cover illustration: Hipworth

Our Team

Founding Music Director

The late Richard Gill AO

Victorian Opera Board

Chairman **Genevieve Overell**

Roger Box, Vivienne Corcoran,
Richard Kurth, Siobhan Lenihan,
Selina Lightfoot, Stephen McIntyre, Grant
Powell, Patricia Stebbens, Oshadee Siyaguna
(Board Observer), Anna Pitt (Board Observer)

Executive

Artistic Director

Dr Richard Mills AM

Chief Executive Officer

Elizabeth Hill-Cooper

Head of Finance and Corporate Services

Stephen Sweeney

Artistic, Engagement & Production

Head of Production

Damion Holling

Education Manager

Ioanna Salmanidis

Head of Music

Phoebe Briggs

Repetiteur

Phillipa Safey

Company Manager

Luke Hales

Assistant Company Manager

Hannah Bullen

Production Manager

Eduard Inglés

Deputy Production Manager

Peter Darby

Production and Music Coordinator

Carlos E. Bárcenas

VOYCE Director

Angus Grant

Finance & Corporate Services

CRM and Ticketing Manager

Nichole O'Duffy

Finance Assistant

Marianne Goggin

IT and Operations Coordinator

Peter Darby

Marketing

Media and Communications Executive

Scott Whinfield

Graphic Designer

Sharni Morter

Development

Head of Development

Louise O'Loughlin

Philanthropy Executive

Peter Garnick

Development Coordinator

Rhylla Mitchell

Office Administrator

Silvana Vaxelaire

Season Staff

Surtitle Operator

Timothy Mallis

Thank You

We thank our generous patrons.

Patron-In-Chief

The Hon. Linda Dessau AC, Governor of Victoria

Founding Benefactors

The Late Dame Elisabeth Murdoch AC
Lady Potter AC

Leadership Syndicate (\$40,000+)

Jane Hemstritch
Hans & Petra Henkell
Dr Michael Stubbs & Malcolm Roberts

Artistic Director's Circle (\$10,000+)

John & Diana Frew
The Gailey Lazarus Foundation
Elizabeth Hill-Cooper
Suzanne Kirkham
Peter & Anne Laver
Mercer Family Foundation
Richard Mills AM
Joy Selby Smith
Nigel Simpson & Madeleine Coulombe in Memory
of Joseph H. Coulombe
Prof Barbara van Ernst AM
Dr John & Mrs Elizabeth Wright-Smith

Platinum Patrons (\$5,000+)

Beth Brown
Carolyn & Stephen Coffey
Michael Rigg & Gerard Condon AM
Mary-Jane Gething
Peter & Jenny Hordern
Peter Lovell & Michael Jan
Kaye E Marion
Grant Powell & Sally McCutchan
Greg Shalit & Miriam Faine

Gold Patrons (\$2,500+)

Joanna Baevski
Mr Anthony Buzzard & Dr Pamela Craig
Pam Caldwell
Alan Chuck & Wendy Hughes Chuck
Jim Cousins AO & Libby Cousins
Jennifer Darbyshire & David Walker
Earl of Wilton
Freda Freiberg
Bob Garlick
Peter Garnick
John & Gaye Gaylard
Peter J. Griffin AM & Terry Swann
Linda Herd

Ian Kennedy AM & Dr Sandra Hacker AO
Dr Garry Joslin & Prof. Dmitry Reed AM
Richard Laslett & Colin Gunther
RJ-AM Charitable Trust
Ian Manning & Alice De Jonge
Ms Linley Martin
Ian Merrylees
Dr Paul Nisselle AM & Mrs Sue Nisselle
Tom & Ruth O'Dea
Dr Richard Reed & Vivienne Reed OAM
Tomasz & Elzbeita Romanowski
Prof Cheryl Saunders & Ian Baker
Marian & Ken Scarlett OAM
Craig D'Alton & Peter Sherlock
Lynne Sherwood
The Sparky Foundation
Rosemary & Dr Alan Tait
Secret Admirers (2)

Silver Patrons (\$1,000+)

Dr Zita Ballok
Laurie Bebbington & Elizabeth O'Keeffe
Philip Benjamin & Sandy Benjamin OAM
Nancy Bomford
Box Family
Stuart Brown
Susan Brownrigg
The Hon David Byrne
Elise Callander
Jennifer Cook
Beatrice & Richard Donkin
Dr M Elizabeth Douglas
The Late Dr Helen M Ferguson
Bill Fleming
Brian Goddard
Nance Grant AM MBE & Ian Harris
Luke Hales
John L Harrison & David J Wright
Hartmut & Ruth Hofmann
Damion Holling
Anne Houlihan
Simon L Jackson & Brian Warburton
David Joseph
Angela Kayser
The Hon Rod Kemp & Mrs Daniele Kemp
Pat & Alun Kenwood
Angela & Richard Kirsner
John Landy AC & Lynne Landy
Dr Anne Lierse
Selina Lightfoot
Ian & Judi Marshman
Graham McCallum & Mary Kehoe

Gillian Montgomery
Isobel Morgan OAM
Greg Noonan
Elspeth & Brian Noxon
Jillian Pappas & George Pappas AO
Helen Paton
Jane Patrick & Robert Evans
Campbell & Christine Penfold
Prof Michael Quinn AM & Prof Susan Carr
John Rickard
Kay Rodda
Aubrey Schrader
Phillip & Sue Schudmak
John & Thea Scott
Bernadette Slater & Charles Edmonds
Michael Smith & Sonia Fuenteseca
Patricia Stebbens
James Syme
Andrea Tappe
Caroline & Richard Travers OAM
Chris & Helen Trueman
Neil Twist
Prof. Belinda Tynan
Russell Waters & Marissa Barter-Waters
Ian Watts OAM
Rev Noel Whale
Diana & Robert Wilson
Secret Admirers (5)

Bronze Patrons (\$500+)

Seonaid Alexander
Prof Dennis Altman AM
Jenny Anderson
Lesley Bawden
Ines & Dr Donald Behrend
Kirsty A Bennett
Cheryl R Benson
David Bernshaw & Caroline Isakow
Stephen & Maura Best
Ms Shirley Breese
Dr Sylvia Cardale
Mal Carter
Vivienne Corcoran
Ian Dallas & Judith Hall
Susan Donath
Margaret Flatman
Dennis Freeman
Alan Gunther
John Haasz
Dr Janet Hiller
Eduard Ingles & Kate Fryer
Dr Irene Irvine & Prof. Iain Wallace
Joan Janka
Jack & Marie Kirszenblat

Evelyn Kolar
Dr Shirley Lanning
Dr Kathy Laster
Joan Lefroy AM & George Lefroy AM
Paul & Glenys Lejins
Siobhan Lenihan
Dr Justus Lewis
Dr Carlson Loke
Dr Kristina & Bruce Macrae
Monita Mascitti-Meuter & Paul Mascitti
Christopher McCabe
Jocelyn & Andrew McLeish
Douglas & Rosemary Meagher
Beverley Middleton
Susan Mountford
Anne T Myers
Jill Page OAM & Roy Page
Lyn Payne
Greg J Reinhardt AM
Harold & Elspeth Riggall
Michael Riordan & Geoff Bush
Libby Smith & John Middleton
Douglas Savage & Diane Mosley
Bruce Sims & Peter Ronge
John E Smith
Dr Rosalynd Smith
Lady Southey AC
Julia Stoppa & Daniel Bogemann
Christine Stott
Teresa Tjia
Catherine Walter AM
In memory of Helen Robertson
The late Ken & Merle Morris
Secret Admirers (9)

Bequestors

Jenny Anderson
Graeme Bawden & Len de Kievit
Lesley Bawden
Frank & Danielle Chamberlin
Dr Garry Joslin & Prof. Dimity Reed AM
Jane Kunstler
Richard Laslett & Colin Gunther
Gregory J Reinhardt AM
Tony Wildman & Robert Gibbs
Secret Admirers (6)

If you are interested in becoming a Victorian Opera Patron, or having a confidential discussion about leaving a gift to Victorian Opera in your Will, please contact Louise O'Loughlin, Development Manager on (03) 9001 6405 or email louise@victorianopera.com.au

Current at time of printing.

Orchestra Victoria

Management

Artistic Director **Nicolette Fraillon AM**
Executive Director **Sara Pheasant**
Head of Operations and Planning **Nathan Smith**
Orchestra Manager **Simonette Turner**
Deputy Orchestra Manager **Jessica Hort**
Artistic Planning and Engagement Manager
Elise Lerpiniere
Philanthropy Manager **Vanessa Parry**
Executive Assistant to the Executive Director
Hannah Prouse
Orchestra Coordinator **Nathaniel Currie**

Philanthropy at Orchestra Victoria

The Hamilton and Western District Fund
Endowed by the Geoff and Helen Handbury Foundation

The Richard Bonyngne Orchestral Fellowship
Generously Supported by Lady Potter AC CMRI

General Support
The Judith & Alasdair McCallum Fund
Lesley & Bob Qualtrough Bequest

Support from Trusts and Foundations
Besen Family Foundation
The William Buckland Foundation
Hamer Family Fund
The Robert Salzer Foundation

Estates
The Estate of Mrs Neilma Bailieu Gantner

Planned Giving

G C Bawden & L de Kievit
Lesley M Bawden
Cusack-Muller Bequest
Canny Quine Foundation

Musical Chairs

Principal Gifts of \$10,000
Mr Robert Albert AO RFD RD &
Mrs Elizabeth Albert
Section Principal Horn
Susan & Leith Campbell
Section Principal Violin
Mr Jim Cousins AO & Mrs Libby Cousins with
Igor & Jenny Zambelli
Section Principal Timpani
Peter Griffin AM & Terry Swann
Section Principal Flute
Ms Linda Herd
Principal Cor Anglais
Don & Angela Mercer
Section Principal Double Bass
Lady Southey AC
Section Principal Cello

Orchestra Technicians **Joshua Bridges, Rory Wilson**
Orchestra Librarian **Glynn Davies**
Orchestra Accountant **Isabel Pena**

With assistance from staff of

The Australian Ballet

Publicist **Sophie Rennard**
External Relations Grants Manager **Kate Horwood**

Board

Libby Christie AM
David Hallberg
Sally Underwood

Tutti Gifts of \$5,000
Mr Andrew Fairley AM
Tutti Violin

Annual Giving

The Conductor's Podium
Gifts \$35,000+
Mr Robert Albert AO RFD RD &
Mrs Elizabeth Albert

Leader Circle
Gifts \$10,000-\$34,999
Ms Linda Herd, Don & Angela Mercer,
Mrs Margaret S Ross AM, Lady Southey AC

Performer Patrons
Gifts \$5,000-\$9,999
G C Bawden & L de Kievit in memory of Richard
Gill AO, Gaye & John Gaylard, Mr Richard Guy
OAM & Ms Claire Guy, Hans & Petra Henkell,
Dr Alastair Jackson AM, Judith & Alasdair
McCallum, Jan & Keith Richards

Patrons
Gifts \$1,000-\$4,999
David & Cindy Abbey, Matthew & Joanne Angus,
Bernadette Beattie & the late George Waters, Eva
Besen AO & Marc Besen AC, Caroline & Stephen
Brain, Beth Brown & Tom Bruce, G Croft, Jane
Edmanson OAM, Ed & Marj Eshuys, Valerie & Ian
Guthrie, Louis J Hamon OAM, Peter & Carmel
Johnson, David McAllister AM, Michelle & Ian
Moore, Marie Morton FRSA, Professor David G
Penington, Kerryn Pratchett, Judith Robinson,
Libby Smith, P & J Spark, Bruce & Leona Sterling,
Dr Victor Wayne & Dr Karen Wayne OAM,
Anonymous (1)

Supporters
Gifts \$100-\$999
(22)

Current at the time of printing.

Our Partners

We acknowledge and thank our partners who make our work possible

Government Partners



Victorian Opera is assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body.

Victorian Opera is supported by the Victorian Government through Creative Victoria.

Foundation Partner



University Partner



Awards



VICTORIA DAY AWARD for the Arts



Trusts and Foundations

The Marian & E.H. Flack Trust

Gailey Lazarus Foundation

William Angliss Charitable Fund



Henkell Family Fund 2
Ballandry (Peter Griffin Family) Fund

Major Partners



Official Partner



Media Partners



Supply Partners



Corporate Member



Performance Partners



*Subscribe, save,
and support the arts*



With its fresh, new-look magazine, *Limelight* offers Australia's best coverage of music, arts and culture through in-depth, analytical and literary articles.



Subscribe with promo code **VO** to save an extra 10% on an annual print and digital subscription, normally \$88.

Scan and subscribe now or limelight-arts.com.au

Upcoming Events



Parrwang Lifts the Sky

12 June

Arts Centre Melbourne, Playhouse

Did you know that Parrwang the Magpie created the first dawn? This new Australian opera by Yorta Yorta composer Deborah Cheetham AO tells the creation story of sunrise, based on a traditional story from Wadawurrung Country.



Lorelei

29 June to 2 July

Palais Theatre, St Kilda

The three fashionista sirens who seduced Melbourne in 2018 return to sing sailors to their doom once again. Questioning patriarchal norms and the stories we're used to telling, it's the show that redefined modern opera. Don't miss the boat, these modern sirens sang to packed houses last time. Simply irresistible.



Voss

4 August

Palais Theatre, St Kilda

Our nation's history is filled with tales of ill-fated men pursuing their destiny in the harsh Australian outback. One of those was a German explorer called Ludwig Leichhardt, immortalised as Voss in Patrick White's novel. A love story and a spiritual adventure across the vastness of our country.

For more information and ticket bookings, please visit:
victorianopera.com.au

VICTORIAN OPERA

victorianopera.com.au

Share Your Thoughts

Let us know what you thought of
The Pearl Fishers.

Visit victorianopera.com.au/survey

