

# ADELAIDE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE MUSIC



**For the ASO, 2008 is all about the Music!**

**Adelaide Symphony Orchestra Launch Season 2008**

**EMBARGOED 12.00 NOON MONDAY 3 SEPTEMBER**

SEASON 08

For the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra's 2008 season, names across all musical genres including **Nigel Kennedy**, **Lisa Gasteen** and **Kurt Elling** will reaffirm the ASO's position as not only South Australia's largest arts organisations but also confirm the orchestra's chief purpose in music making.

Adelaide Symphony Orchestra Chief Executive, Rainer Jozeps said, 'While one would expect it of an orchestra, it is good, nevertheless, to remind ourselves and the community, that the ASO's sole purpose is to make music. Whether it's for children or adults, whether it's rock or classical, whether it's for the well informed or the general public, whatever activity we're engaged in, it's all about the music'.

As demonstrated by the range and breadth of activities the ASO are involved in there is something for everyone's musical taste in the 2008 program. From the symphonic canon of the classical world in the Master Series, to star studded gala concerts, richly flavoured Showcase programs and a strong community focus through regional tours, the music of the ASO is successfully reaching more people than ever before.

## **Star Studded Gala Events**

In Season 2008 the ASO have secured an array of world class artists, sparing no expense to attract the leading names of classical music. This is no more evident than in the orchestra's three Gala concerts, Gala One stars the internationally renowned bad boy of violin **Nigel Kennedy**, Gala Two **Cellissimo: a celebration of the cello** with **Ralph Kirshbaum** and Gala Three the breathtaking **Lisa Gasteen** returning to Adelaide to showcase Wagner and Strauss.

## **Definitive Master Series Program**

The ASO's signature Master Series has evolved to a new level with the confirmation of a classical program which hosts some of the finest virtuosos in the world performing one of the most diverse programmes of music seen in recent years. Soloists include internationally renowned cellist **Ralph Kirshbaum**, young pin up conductor **Kristjan Jarvi**, one of the great names of violin and conducting podium in **Dmitry Sitkovetsky**, young gun of the piano **Kirill Gerstein**, mezzo **Christianne Stotijn**, familiar Australian talent in Soprano **Sara Macliver** and Baritone **David Thelander** and Russian pianist **Alexander Melnikov**.

The great mix of composers featured in the series include **Beethoven**, **Mahler**, **Dvorak**, **Tubin**, **Faure**, **Mendelssohn**, **Mahler**, **Strauss**, **Wagner**, **Britten**, **Tchaikovsky**, **Mozart**, **Sibelius**, **Brahms**, **Ravel** and **Berlioz**.

**ADELAIDE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA - It's all about the music.**

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## Showcase Series broadens

The popular Showcase Series again delivers a diverse mix of musical genres. Following on from the success of previous jazz outings the ASO will perform with one of the most definitive voices and unique interpreters in jazz today, **Kurt Elling**. Following performances of the music of Queen the ASO will deliver the music of one of the most definitive rock bands of the 70s, **Deep Purple**. Following its success **ASO plays Pink Floyd** will return in 2008 to relive the glory of its original. **James Morrison** will head a contemporary musical tribute to the great **Duke Ellington** with Australian jazz pianist **Joe Chindamo**. For those who love film, **ASO Goes to the Movies** will feature music from household names like Charlie Chaplin, John Williams, Clint Eastwood who have all composed wonderful music for film while tunes from Titanic, Fame and Chariots of Fire which leapt off the celluloid to become top 10 radio hits.

## Strong community focus

In 2008 ASO's music making will reach all sectors of the community. From the return of the popular favourites **Santos Symphony under the Stars** and **Alfresco Concerts** to a **Country Arts SA Regional Tour** the ASO will leave no stone uncovered. With the popularity and diversity of its ETSA Utilities Education program growing more children are being exposed to the orchestra. In 2007 a total of 13,500 children will have experienced the ASO through touring ensembles, school performances and innovative programs like **Toe Tapping Toddlers** and the hugely successful Miss Lily and the ASO. In 2008 audiences, young and old can enjoy the popular return of musical clown **Melvin Tix** who dazzled audiences in his 2006 season. The ASO will also team up with Windmill Performing Arts to present a dramatic theatrical double bill, **The Composer is Dead/ Grampa** which will enter the make believe world with a twist!

Single tickets on sale **1 December 2007**

Book through **BASS**, Dial 'N' Charge 131 246 or online [www.bass.net.au](http://www.bass.net.au)

**Compose your Own** subscription from a variety of concerts in the program and save up to 20%

For subscription packages contact the ASO on 8233 6233

**For further media information on ASO's 2008 Season:** Jeff Smith

Ph (08) 8233 6205 or 0402 677 389 [smithj@aso.com.au](mailto:smithj@aso.com.au)

## **Celebrate Season 2008 with Star Studded Gala Events...**

### ***Nigel Kennedy & Lisa Gasteen and a Celebration of the Cello...***

It is with excitement that the ASO announce three prestigious gala events as part of Season 2008. Following the previous success of performances by these two artists the ASO is delighted to present the return of **Nigel Kennedy** and **Lisa Gasteen** to Adelaide concert stages.

*February – 2 magical concerts*

#### ***Nigel Kennedy Plays Beethoven and Mozart***

Is there a better way to commence the ASO's new concert series than with the world's most popular 'rock baroque' violin virtuoso, Nigel Kennedy? Following his sold out performances of Vivaldi in 2006, Kennedy will be making a welcome return performing Beethoven's Violin Concerto and Mozart's Violin Concerto No. 4. Kennedy's EMI recording of Beethoven's violin concerto has received international acclaim. While the Mozart Violin Concerto has never been released Kennedy recently recorded both the Beethoven and Mozart Violin Concerto's with the Polish Orchestra for commercial release in March 2008.

Opportunities to see Nigel Kennedy perform the classical repertoire may be limited as he has famously been quoted as saying 'every concert could be his last'. Famous for pushing musical boundaries Kennedy has recently focused on jazz and recording for Blue Note, don't be surprised to hear a touch of Hendrix in the Beethoven Violin Concerto.

ASO Chief Executive Rainer Jozeps is thrilled to have Nigel Kennedy returning to the orchestra. 'Nigel Kennedy and Australia are clearly developing a special relationship. After many years away from the Australian concert platform and such a grand return in 2006 we are fortunate to secure Nigel's services. He has some unfinished business with the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra and we can't wait', Jozeps enthused.

April – 1 night special – 3 stars on stage

#### **Cellissimo: A celebration of the cello – Australian First**

The ASO are bringing the stars of the cello to Adelaide for an Australian first celebration, Cellissimo.

International star of the cello, Li –Wei Qin and Nicolas Altstaedt will join the ASO and Adelaide's ever popular Ng twins, Pei – Jee and Pee – Sian on stage for one special concert.

Cellissimo will feature a new and exciting work and world premiere for cello and orchestra ( Homage to Hendrix ) by Australian composer Matthew Hindson ( dedicated to Li-Wei ) and a double cello concerto for the Ng twins by Estonian composer Tonu Korvits. Cellissimo is part of the Adelaide Cello Festival which also includes an ASO performance with the godfather of cello Ralph Kirshbaum as part of the ASO Master series. Cello enthusiasts may be interested to note that a range of events will be held in Adelaide as part of the Festival.

August – 1 concert only!

***Lisa Gasteen Returns to the ASO***

Singing wonder of the operatic world Lisa Gasteen will return to the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra in 2008 for one very special concert gala. Lisa Gasteen has become one of the world's foremost interpreters of the Wagner / Strauss heroines.

Orchestra members are looking forward to reacquainting themselves with the wonderful Lisa Gasteen. Hailed around the world as the new Australian soprano wonder, Lisa Gasteen starred in the 2004 Adelaide Ring Cycle and today she is in huge demand around the world.

'Australian cities are fighting like cats to secure her services and the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra has scored a national coup due largely to Ms Gasteen's special relationship with the ASO and Adelaide via The Ring Cycle', ASO Chief Executive Rainer Jozeps said on confirming Lisa Gasteen in the 2008 program.

'I'm really looking forward to working with the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra again. Their work on The Ring Cycle in 2004 proved them to be a very fine group of musicians well and truly up to the task of even the most demanding scores. It'll be good to see their familiar faces again and I hope we can relax and enjoy presenting some other Wagner pieces as well as that baddest of bad girls, Salome!' **Lisa Gasteen** said.

## Adelaide Symphony Orchestra Master Series Attracts the 'Who's who' of the classical world

Continuing the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra's flagship series the 2008 Master Series has attracted a line up of talent which qualifies the statement... It's all about the music.

'A great deal of time has been spent sourcing the cream of the crop in the classical world. Much attention has been given to our Showcase concerts, which is fabulous, but we must remind people that the orchestra's staple is our Master Series. The 2008 Master Series is testament to what we are all about, not only attracting the biggest names in classical music but also focusing on the orchestra's development in repertoire and forging their relationship with Chief Conductor Arvo Volmer even further into his new era with the orchestra'. **James Koehne, ASO Artistic Administrator**

### Highlights of the series include:

Highly sought after international cello star and mentor to Adelaide Ng twins, **Ralph Kirshbaum** will perform Dvorak's beautiful Cello Concerto [MS 2] ASO Principal Cellist Janis Laurs says, 'Ralph Kirshbaum is a much loved and special cellist and has been a most welcome visitor as performer and teacher over many years. He has a huge profile as a concert artist and cellist internationally and is one of the most respected amongst his peers'.

The eagerly awaited return of young Estonian Conductor **Kristjan Jarvi** who has a reputation for raising the pulse of female members of audiences in concert halls around the world [MS 3] In the same concert experience the unusual combination of the bandoneon and orchestra with guest soloist **Carel Kraayenhof** – THE tango phenomenon of the Netherlands.

Hear the beauty of Faure's familiar Requiem [MS4] with the power of the **Adelaide Chamber Singers'** and popular Australian talent in the form of Soprano **Sara Macliver** and Baritone **David Thelander**.

Witness one of the world's most diverse musicians in **Dmitry Sitkovetsky** [MS 5] as he combines his two flourishing careers as a violinist and conductor. In demand internationally for his brilliance in both fields a certain highlight of the evening will be hearing Sitkovetsky's take on Mendelssohn's loved Violin Concerto.

Following on from the ASO's defining Mahler performance of Symphony No. 2 under Chief Conductor Arvo Volmer the ASO will perform Mahler's Symphony No.3 with Dutch mezzo **Christianna Stotijn** [MS6] This will be the debut Adelaide performance of Mahler's Symphony No.3. An historic highlight!

## Adelaide Symphony Orchestra 2008 Master Series Artists

### Kirill Gerstein

Russian pianist Kirill Gerstein is quickly proving to be one of today's most promising and intriguing young artists. Gerstein was First Prize winner at the 2001 Arthur Rubinstein Piano Competition and received a 2002 Gilmore Young Artist Award in the USA.

This young gun has to be seen to be believed!



### Ewa Kupiec

Ewa Kupiec's career and reputation have grown world-wide at an extraordinary rate in the last five years. In 2002 she made her American debut with the Milwaukee Symphony, swiftly followed by further engagements in the USA, and in 2008 she will make her debut with the Minnesota Orchestra. In Japan, Kupiec made her recital debut in Tokyo in 2002 and she returns there later this year to perform with the Yomiuri Nippon Symphony and Nagoya Philharmonic. Kupiec's first visit to Australia in 2005 was hailed as a great success and has endorsed her musical presence on the international concert scene: her performances of Chopin's First Concerto with the Melbourne Symphony were chosen by the orchestra to be included on their first live recording. Kupiec returns to Australia for recital and concerto tours in 2007 and 2008.



### Alexander Melnikov

Alexander Melnikov has earned a reputation as one of the finest Russian pianists of his generation. Born in Moscow in 1973 he began his music studies at the age of 6 at Moscow's Central Music School, and then continued at the Moscow Tchaikovsky Conservatoire. Later he completed his post-graduate studies in Munich with Elisso Wirssaladze and at the Fondazione per il Pianoforte (Lago di Como, Italy) where he had lessons with Andreas Staier and Carl-Ulrich Schnabel among others.

### Ralph Kirshbaum

*The distinguished career of Texas-born Ralph Kirshbaum encompasses the worlds of solo performance, chamber music and recording and places him in the highest echelon of today's cellists.* (Los Angeles Times). Ralph Kirshbaum has appeared with most of the world's great orchestras and conductors including Sir Colin Davis, Andre Previn, Zubin Mehta and Sir Simon Rattle, and is one of the world's most sought-after classical musicians.





## Carel Kraayenhof

Carel Kraayenhof has been THE tango phenomenon in the Netherlands since the wedding of Prince Willem Alexander and Princess Maxima in 2002: more than 55 million people all over the world saw 'Maxima's tear' and the Dutch people opened their hearts collectively to tango music. The CD of the song sold almost 100.000 copies. Since 2002 the Dutch have attended Kraayenhof's concerts with his Sexteto Canyengue in large: the many-sided Argentinean tango with its romantic melodies touched everyone.

## Dmitry Sitkovetsky

Is one of a rare breed of artists whose career successfully manifests itself in a number of creative ways. As a violinist, he works with the very best orchestras in Europe, Japan and the USA and performs with conductors such as Abbado, Ashkenazy, Blomstedt, Sir Andrew Davis, Charles Dutoit, Mariss Jansons, Paavo Järvi. He is a regular guest of the most important festivals in Salzburg, Lucerne, Edinburgh, Verbier, Ravinia, and the BBC Proms. Since 1990, Sitkovetsky has developed a flourishing conducting career. He is Music Director of the Greensboro Symphony Orchestra. Between 1996 and 2001 he was Principal Conductor and Artistic Advisor of the Ulster Orchestra and is a Principal Guest Conductor of the Russian State Symphony in Moscow and conducts orchestras regularly throughout Europe and USA.



## Otto Tausk

"The sensation of the Gergiev Festival 2003"; just one of many reviews of praise following Otto Tausk's successful debut with the Orchestra of the Mariinsky Theatre. As assistant conductor of the Rotterdam Philharmonic Otto Tausk had the opportunity to develop further. On various occasions he was required to stand in for principal conductor Valery Gergiev, resulting in several memorable concerts. Since then he has become a sought after conductor with major symphony orchestras at home and abroad.



## Christianne Stotijn

Born in Delft in 1977, Christianne Stotijn studied both violin and voice at the Amsterdam Conservatoire gaining her solo diploma for violin in 2000. Her voice coaches are Udo Reinemann, Jard van Nes and Dame Janet Baker. Stotijn was finalist in the 2006 ECHO Rising Stars and 2005 Borletti Buitoni Award and has been selected for the BBC's New Generation Artist Scheme. She has given many concerts and recitals in her own country and abroad highlights of which include appearances with the Orchestre des Champs-Elysees, Concerto Koln, Orchestre National de Paris and Concertgebouw. Conductors with whom she has collaborated include Haitink, Rozhdestvensky, Bruggen, Jaap van Zweden, and Philippe Herreweghe. Future concert engagements include Das Lied von der Erde with the Rotterdam Philharmonic, Kindertotenlieder at the Concertgebouw, St Matthew Passion with the Boston Symphony and Ruckert Lieder with Chicago conducted by Haitink.

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## Kristjan Jarvi

One of the most exciting and dynamic conductors of his generation. Born in Estonia in 1972, he began his career assisting Esa-Pekka Salonen at the Los Angeles Philharmonic, with whom he made his debut at the Hollywood Bowl in 1999. He went on to become Chief Conductor of the Norrlands Opera and Symphony Orchestra, Sweden (2000-2004) and was appointed Chief Conductor and Music Director of the Tonkünstler Orchestra, Vienna in 2004. He has recently been appointed Artistic Adviser of the Kammerorchester Basel. Kristjan Järvi conducts the Tonkünstler Orchestra at its two home venues: the esteemed Musikverein - the heart of Vienna's traditional music making, and Festspielhaus, St Pölten.



## Ian Munro

One of Australia's most distinguished and awarded musicians, with a career that has taken him to thirty countries in Europe, Asia, North America and Australasia. His award in 2003 of Premier Grand Prix at the Queen Elisabeth International Competition (Belgium) is a unique achievement for an Australian and follows on from multiple prizes in international piano competitions in Spain (Maria Canals), Italy (Busoni), Portugal (Vianna da Motta) and the UK, where his second prize at the Leeds International Piano Competition in 1987 established his international profile.



## Amy Dickson

Classical saxophonist Amy Dickson performs regularly throughout the UK and in her native country, Australia. She has won many prizes and was the first saxophonist to win the Gold Medal at the Royal Overseas League competition in London and the Symphony Australia Young Performer of the Year Award 2004. Amy studied at the Royal College of Music in London, the Amsterdam Conservatorium and the Sydney Con. She has performed internationally in venues including Wigmore Hall, Bridgewater Hall and South Bank Centre. Amy has signed with SONY BMG to record three CDs.

## Sara Macliver

Sara Macliver is one of Australia's most popular and versatile artists, and is regarded as one of the leading exponents of Baroque repertoire in Australia. Sara trained in Perth, where she was a pupil of the renowned soprano Molly McGurk. During that time she was a Young Artist with the West Australian Opera Company.

Sara is a regular performer with Symphony Australia Orchestras in Perth, Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide, Queensland and Tasmania, as well as Musica Viva, Melbourne Chorale, the Australian Chamber Orchestra, the Australia Bach Ensemble, the Australian Brandenburg Orchestra and Sydney Philharmonia Choirs among others.





## James Ehnes

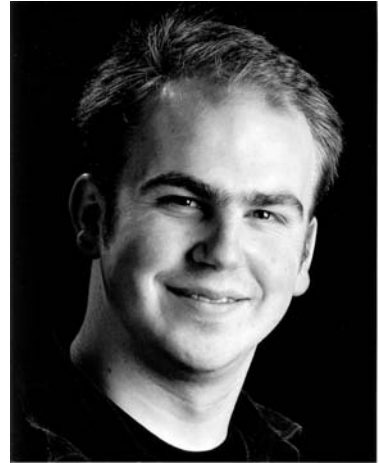
*"One of the most gifted and sincerely expressive artists to have emerged in recent times" (The Daily Telegraph, London)*

James Ehnes has rapidly established a pre-eminent reputation among concert violinists. He has performed with such renowned conductors as Vladimir Ashkenazy, Sir Andrew Davis, Charles Dutoit, Ivan Fischer, Lorin Maazel, Michael Gielen, Hans Graf, Miguel Harth-Bedoya, Richard Hickox, Paavo Järvi, Andrew Litton, Zdenek Macal, Sir Charles Mackerras, David Robertson, Stanislaw Skrowaczewski, Christian Thielemann, Bramwell Tovey, and Bobby McFerrin, appearing with orchestras throughout Europe, Asia, the United States, and Canada.

## David Thelander

South Australian baritone David Thelander graduated from the Elder Conservatorium in 1997 with an Associate Diploma in Music and then again in 1999 with a Bachelor of Music gaining entry into Honours in 2000.

David recently sang the role of Schaunard in Puccini's *La Bohème* for the State Opera of South Australia and, in 2006, sang the High Priest in *Nabucco* for SOSA, Escamillo in *Carmen* for OzOpera and appeared in concert with the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, the Southern Sinfonia, Dunedin and The Japan Philharmonic Orchestra, Tokyo. In 2007, he makes his Opera Australia debut in *The Pirates of Penzance* and appears in *Un Ballo in Maschera*, *Little Women* and *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* for SOSA.



# **From stars of contemporary jazz to iconic rock ASO's Showcase Series is all about the music!**

Renowned for pushing its musical boundaries the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra's popular Showcase Series offers a diverse program

## **Kurt Elling and the ASO**

Building on the successes of previous jazz collaborations the ASO teams with one of the most prominent voices of modern jazz. A performer who is well regarded for his improvisational live technique, his ASO concert will see Elling in his element. With a new release, *Night Moves*, making an impact on critics and audiences around the world now is the time to discover Kurt Elling and his rich tones. Listen for Elling's passionate lyrics, intertwined with humour as he prowls the stage in his unique style. For further information [www.kurtelling.com](http://www.kurtelling.com)

## **ASO Plays Deep Purple**

What is the next logical stage in the world of rock – orchestra you ask? After countless requests 70s rock band Deep Purple will receive the ASO treatment. Following on from the London Philharmonic's Concerto for Group and Orchestra, collaboration between Deep Purple's Jon Lord and the London Philharmonic, the ASO will present this concerto with a difference before performing Deep Purple's biggest hits in the second half of the concert.

## **ASO Plays Pink Floyd: The Encore**

One of the most successful ASO explorations in ASO rock returns under the direction of ASO Creative Producer Steve Brown. All the Floyd hits will be present and an innovative stage show as ASO play tribute to one of the iconic bands of the 70s.

## **Tribute to Duke Ellington – James Morrison and Friends**

Duke Ellington stands as one of musical giants of the twentieth century, a musician who created many of the classics of the jazz repertoire, and confidently blended jazz with the classical tradition to give it new energy and inspiration. Australia's jazz legends James Morrison and Joe Chindamo join the ASO to present the quintessential celebration of the music of the one and only Duke, with specially-commissioned arrangements of evergreen favourites and a selection of Ellington's own orchestral music.

## **ASO goes to the Movies**

For more than a hundred years, the movies have shaped our imagination and inspired our emotions. And throughout their existence, the synergy of music with the images on the screen, the endless variety of story-telling and the magical charm of the great actors has created wonderful memories for all of us. The soundtrack of our lives has been composed by some of the best composers of the era: Korngold, Chaplin, Morricone, John Barry, Elmer Bernstein and John Williams, to name a few. And all of these composers will be featured in this sparkling concert event. For this, our first celebration of movie music in four years, we have drawn together the perfect blend of the greatest musical moments from the movies.

## There is only one clown at the ASO

The ASO and its musicians are delighted to announce its headline act for the ETSA Utilities Education Program is balloon making conductor and brass playing clown Melvin Tix.

Petter Vabog has been performing as Melvin Tix for over 21 years throughout the world, presenting an enormous program filled with familiar favourites and his own unique humour and magic. Melvin Tix's concerts are a mixture of music, balloon sculptures and lots of laughs.

Melvin Tix is the conductor, the master of ceremonies, the soloist and has also made the arrangements of the music. Clowning around with Melvin Tix will be an exciting performance for everyone.

ASO Violinist Shirin Lim said of the announcement of Melvin Tix's return 'I'm looking forward to working with Melvin Tix again! When he was last here, I laughed at all his jokes every single time, right up until the last performance. Not only was he a funny man, he was a good musician to work with too. I'm not sure what I enjoyed the most - watching him, or watching the faces of the kids watching him!'

### Other Education Highlights are:

- **Toe Tapping Toddlers** – a fun interactive concert giving children the chance to explore orchestral music through movement and dance.
- **It's a Hit** – meet the percussion instruments of the ASO in a show which explores unusual objects and how one person's trash can be another's percussion treasure
- **Brass Zoo** - Get your hands and lips on your favourite brass instrument after the ASO brass section perform 20 minutes of popular music
- **String Quartet** – In 2008 audiences can experience the wonderful story that is Miss Lily's Fabulous Pink Feather Boa after it performed to 8000 children in 2007
- **Wind Quintet** – An excellent introduction to music exploring the world of pitch and sound with this quartet
- **The Composer is Dead/ Grampa** – A dramatic theatrical double bill with a twist! In association with Windmill Performing Arts the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra will suspend reality with a narrator, performers and choir.

### Further information on education programs and bookings

Tammy Hall, Education and Development Coordinator  
Ph. 8233 6253