

ADELAIDE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE MUSIC



MEDIA RELEASE

ASO and Windmill Team for Double Bill with a Twist!

Will the inspector discover the culprit?, what fabulous discoveries will young Emily make when she visits her Granpa's house to play? All will be revealed in the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra and Windmill Performing Arts June blockbuster double bill, **The Composer is Dead and Granpa**.

The Composer is Dead and Granpa sees Windmill and the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra join forces for a unique celebration of story – telling through music and performance.

The worldwide phenomenon and charm of children's character Lemony Snicket comes to life in The Composer is Dead. This 'who done it' mystery takes the audience on a witty investigative hunt through the orchestral instruments when a composer is discovered 'lifeless'.

Lemony Snicket's character was developed by children's author Daniel Handler who has enjoyed international success with a number of children's books. For The Composer is Dead San Francisco based composer Nathaniel Stookey joined forces with Handler with the aim of creating a work which introduces children to the pleasures of classical music in a fun and lively way that pays homage to some of history's greatest composers.

Howard Blake's new hit Granpa, based on the animated film and children's illustrated story book by John Burningham follows the fantastic adventures of young Emily and her rambunctious elderly grandfather. Each time she visits him their day-to-day activities somehow transform into fantastic adventures. Caterpillars and spiders become giant, the house becomes Noah's Ark, and a rollercoaster turns into a Spitfire. Granpa is a beautiful and touching study of that special relationship between old and young.

The creative heart behind Granpa, Howard Blake is an accomplished pianist and composer who wrote Granpa in the form of a miniature opera. The production features narration by South Australian actor and children's performer **Paul Blackwell** in addition to a children's chorus.

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SEASON 08

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The Composer is Dead and Granpa, the production, is suitable for children aged 5 years and over and families. It will enjoy its Australian premiere season with the **Adelaide Symphony Orchestra** from **Thursday 12 - Saturday 14 June** at the ASO's Grainger Studio. With the Schools' Season sold out and with no extension possible, tickets remain only for the General Public Season

The creative team behind *The Composer is Dead and Granpa* is; Director **Andy Packer**; Set and Lighting Design; **Geoff Cobham**; Musical Director; **Timothy Sexton**. The cast comprises **Paul Blackwell**.

Public season details:

June, 6pm and Saturday 14 June, 2pm and 6pm
Symphony Orchestra Grainger Studio (91 Hindley Street)

Tickets are \$29 adults; \$19 children; SPU \$25 and families (4) \$85. Bookings may be made at all BASS outlets, Bass Dial n' Charge 131 246 and online www.bass.net.au

For further information, images and interviews please contact:
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