



nsswe
NORTHERN SYDNEY
Symphonic Wind Ensemble

SHOWCASE CONCERT

Thursday 24th November 2016



THE CONCOURSE
CHAUWOOD

A Message from the Artistic Director

WELCOME TO THE NSSWE Showcase Concert for 2016. This has been another exciting year for NSSWE and tonight's performances unquestionably reflect the achievements of all participants in the program. Again 2016 has seen excellent quality and standards of musicianship exhibited by our musicians in all tiers of the program. Importantly this year has also been a year of pleasing artistic growth with the implementation of workshops with Dr John Lynch and the commissioning of a composition by Chris Sainsbury for the Spring Festival. All our ensembles have exceeded expectations, with many of the younger students being ready to move up to the next tier of the program. NSSWE has delivered an enticing social network for our student population with wonderful friendships developing throughout the course of the year. Our program is certainly recognized by the community as an inspirational, musical extension program for young musicians and this is an excellent achievement for our organisation.

Being part of NSSWE continually reminds me that if you believe in something with enough passion and commitment and apply a strong work ethic then anything can be possible. These elements are all evident in the hard work done behind the scenes by the Board, in governing the entire program. I hold these individuals in high esteem

for the expertise and commitment they bring, as well as an extraordinary generosity of time and effort. I'd also like to give special thanks to our incredible teams of both artistic and administration staff. Without these people none of what you see before you could be possible.

I continue to gain great enjoyment and satisfaction watching the entire program flourish, and the individual musicians themselves grow, as they rise to the challenges of their demanding repertoire. Watching their musical ability and skills developing, as well as their bond as a cohesive collegiate of friends striving for a common goal is truly inspirational. Tonight's concert is the culmination of a year's work and allows the entire NSSWE program to perform for our greatest supporters and advocates, you, our families and friends. We thank you for your support of our music making tonight, and throughout the year.

Patrick Brennan

Artistic Director and Chief Conductor



A Message from the President

WE ARE VERY PLEASED to present NSSWE's Showcase Concert for 2016 to our family and friends. The musicians are proud of the hard work they have put into practice and rehearsals over the year, and this is their opportunity to show you what a fantastic year they have had. There is no doubt that this evening's concert includes something for everyone, with a wonderfully varied program of wind ensemble classics through to challenging contemporary works and some toe-tapping popular numbers along the way.

NSSWE's ensembles have delivered memorable performances already this year at the Spring Festival at the Concourse in September, and at our Community Concerts in May and June. The younger ensembles have also been very well received at their performances on tour, with the Intermediate Wind Ensemble participating in the Bellingen Music Festival on the North Coast, the Junior Ensemble performing in the Shoalhaven at the Jamberoo Markets, and the Primary Ensemble performing in Port Stephens at the Anna Bay Markets and the d'Albora Marinas at Nelson Bay. The Senior Wind Ensemble is embarking on an international tour to Japan in December this year, another significant milestone for our musicians.

As we come to the end of 2016, I would like to

acknowledge the many people who have supported NSSWE over the year. Thank you very much to all the parent and musician volunteers who have helped to make our concerts including this evening's Showcase a success. Thank you also to all our dedicated staff, for the countless hours of work over the year helping to deliver NSSWE's program, including concerts, tours and challenging rehearsals. I would like to particularly note the valuable leadership provided by the NSSWE board, notably Alan Norton, Lizzie Smith, Ben Goldsmith and Linda Nelson, and outgoing board member Alan Smith. Finally, NSSWE is very grateful for the support we have received this year from World Projects, Turramurra Music, Gavin Little Photography and The Forest High School.

Enjoy the concert, and we look forward to sharing more music with you in 2017!

Diana Perche

President



NSSWE Showcase Concert 2016 PROGRAM

INTERMEDIATE WIND ENSEMBLE

Conducted by Darren Jones

BEYOND THE HORIZON by Rossano Galante

THE ANGUISH OF NOSFERATU by Ed Kiefer

LOCOMOTION by Todd Stalter

JUNIOR WIND ENSEMBLE

Conducted by Kylie Tyson

WINDJAMMER by Robert Buckley

A PERCY GRAINGER SUITE by Percy Grainger

STEVIE WONDER IN CONCERT by Stevie Wonder

INTERVAL – 20 minutes

PRIMARY WIND ENSEMBLE

Conducted by Stephen Smith

PULSATION by Richard L Saucedo

THE RED BALLOON by Anne McGinty

BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY by Freddie Mercury

SENIOR WIND ENSEMBLE

Conducted by Patrick Brennan

CHILDREN'S MARCH by Percy Grainger

OCTOBER by Eric Whitacre

THE MAGIC OF THIS DAWN

by Christopher Sainsbury

GHOST TRAIN by Eric Whitacre



Intermediate Wind Ensemble

BEYOND THE HORIZON by Rossano Galante

Our concert this evening opens with an exciting fanfare, featuring the brass section. The horns and woodwinds respond with melodic harmonies, alternating the two major themes throughout the piece. This work evokes the majestic beauty of the Earth's horizon, and the mysteries beyond.

Rossano Galante is a well-known composer for symphonic wind ensembles, and has also a strong reputation as a composer of film music. He was born in Buffalo, New York in 1967 and educated at the State University of New York, where he specialised in trumpet. He later moved to Los Angeles, where he now works in Hollywood in film composition and orchestration. This work was composed in 2009.

THE ANGUISH OF NOSFERATU by Ed Kiefer

For the next piece, we briefly enter the world of horror movies, with tormented vampires and innocent victims. This piece draws its name from a German expressionist film from the early twentieth century, entitled *Nosferatu: A Symphony of Horror*. This was an unauthorised adaptation of the original *Dracula*, with changes to the names of the characters but a similar plotline. This piece depicts the misery of the vampire Nosferatu using complex changing time signatures and the extensive use of tritones. A tritone (also called a diminished fifth or augmented fourth) is a sequence of two notes which is generally avoided in conventional composition because of its dark connotations. It was called the 'devil's interval' in the early eighteenth century, and forbidden in church music. Its proliferation in this piece creates an unsettling atmosphere, familiar in the classic horror movie genre. Listen for the mysterious 'conversation' between the clarinet section and solo trumpet in the middle of the piece.



Ed Kiefer is a band director, clinician and composer in the United States with a 30 year career. He was educated at the University of North Carolina and was later Director of Instrumental Music at Pfeiffer University. He is noted for his exciting compositions for wind and percussion ensembles, highly enjoyable for both musicians and audiences.

LOCOMOTION by Todd Stalter

This fast-paced piece is all about crazy beats, the "loco". From the very first notes, the heavily syncopated semiquaver rhythms will have you trying to tap your feet. At the composition's climax, the wind and brass players 'duel' with the percussion using their hands and feet, before the final build to an exciting climax.

Born in 1966, Todd Stalter is a trumpet player, conductor and music educator from Illinois, where he is the Director of Bands at Eureka High School.



Junior Wind Ensemble

WINDJAMMER by Robert Buckley

Windjammers were majestic sailing ships, with square sails on between 3 and 5 masts. They were used in the late nineteenth century as merchant cargo ships, over long distances. The name comes from the Dutch, evoking the sound of the wind wailing through the rigging. Composer Robert Buckley was inspired to write this piece after a voyage through the islands off the west coast of Canada on a Windjammer named the "Nova Spirit". He uses trumpets at the beginning to capture the sounds of nature echoing around the islands. As the sails are set, the speed picks up, and the music is suggestive of the spectacular ship making its way through the magnificent scenery.

Robert Buckley was born in Brighton, England, and studied in the United States and Canada. As a professional composer he has written for live stage shows, television series, commercials, and films, as well as for the opening and closing ceremonies of the Commonwealth Games in British Columbia, and the Calgary Olympics. He has written for rock groups and pop artists including Celine Dion and Aerosmith, and his wind band compositions are widely played around the world.

A PERCY GRAINGER SUITE by Percy Grainger, arranged by Frank Erickson

This piece is a melodious arrangement of several classic pieces by Percy Grainger, one of the most famous composers in the wind ensemble genre. Grainger was particularly fascinated with folk tunes and traditional forms, and these are reflected in this suite. This arrangement is in three



parts: *Country Gardens*, initially referred to by Grainger as "Roughly sketched for 2 whistlers and a few instruments," *Irish Tune from County Derry*, one of Grainger's best known and expressive works, and *Molly on the Shore*, featuring constantly moving quavers and semiquavers.

A contemporary of Grainger, Frank Erickson (1923-1996) was an American composer, conductor, and noted arranger. After serving in World War II, he lectured at the University of California, and was a professor of music at San Jose State University.

STEVIE WONDER IN CONCERT by Stevie Wonder, arranged by Paul Murtha

Stevie Wonder (the stage name of Steveland Hardaway Morris) is a well known American performer and songwriter with numerous top ten hits, twenty-five Grammy awards and over 100 million albums sold. Born in 1950 in Michigan, he became blind soon after birth, but was a child prodigy, playing piano, drums and harmonica from a young age. His career developed in the late 1960s and 1970s as one of the foremost R&B musicians with the Motown label, and his career turned to much more popular successes in the 1980s.

Paul Murtha has arranged this exciting selection of popular Stevie Wonder hits of the 1960s and 70s. This upbeat medley includes the songs *Sir Duke*, *You Are the Sunshine of My Life*, *I Wish*, and *Signed, Sealed, Delivered, I'm Yours*.



Primary Wind Ensemble

PULSATION by Richard L Saucedo

The Primary Wind Ensemble opens their performance this evening with *Pulsation*, subtitled *A "Groove" for "Grove"*. This piece was commissioned for the Central Grove Middle School in Indiana in 2008, and it is a piece with an energetic pulse and contemporary groove. The piece constantly alternates time signatures between duple and compound time. It features the driving percussion section, as well as solo flute and clarinet in the opening.

Richard Saucedo is a well-known freelance arranger and composer, and a well respected guest conductor, adjudicator and clinician from Indiana in the United States. He was Director of Bands at Carmel High School for thirty-one years, and has written for marching band, concert band and orchestra.

THE RED BALLOON by Anne McGinty

Anne McGinty was inspired to write *The Red Balloon* after looking only once at a painting of a grandfather with a small boy, holding a red balloon. The music evokes this balloon floating in the air using a theme introduced by the flute. The single melodic line is gradually passed around the ensemble to almost every section, and the piece is quietly reflective.

Anne McGinty (born 1945) has written more than two hundred pieces over a career spanning more than thirty years. She was the first woman to write for the United States Army Band. She has studied flute performance and composition at Ohio State University and Duquesne University in Pennsylvania.

BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY by Freddie Mercury, arranged by Paul Murtha

The Primary Wind Ensemble's final piece in this concert is a dramatic arrangement of *Bohemian Rhapsody*, a single released by British rock band Queen in 1975, and featured on the "prog rock" album *A Night at the Opera*. Freddie Mercury spent over six years writing the work, a suite of six separate



movements described as a "mock opera".

Paul Murtha has arranged *Bohemian Rhapsody* for concert band. The arrangement includes the dramatic introduction, ballad and operatic sections. Listen for lyrical melodies and excited interjections from the brass.

Senior Wind Ensemble

CHILDREN'S MARCH by Percy Grainger

Percy Grainger was born in 1882 in Melbourne, Australia, and studied music in Frankfurt and London before moving to the United States, where he spent most of his life. A noted composer, arranger and concert pianist, Grainger was famous in his own time for his experimental and aleatory compositions, and his use of unusual and rare instruments. His band compositions called for instruments which are rarely found today, such as the heckelphone, bass oboe, double-bassoon and sarrusophone – though fortunately Grainger was remarkably flexible in his instrumentation for all his works. Grainger's experience as a saxophonist in United States Army Bands in the First World War inspired him to compose music for wind ensembles, and he was considered to be the most significant composer of music for wind bands of his era.

Children's March: "Over the Hills and Far Away" is one of the works which was most frequently performed during his lifetime, and it was one of five significant works written especially for wind ensembles. It begins with a folk-like melody, but gradually adds layers of complexity to the original theme, with multiple voices and demanding roles for the percussion, woodwinds and horn. *Children's March* was first performed in 1919 by the Goldman Band at Columbia University.



OCTOBER by Eric Whitacre

October is one of the most well known pieces in the professional wind band repertoire today. Composed in 2000 and commissioned by the Nebraska Wind Consortium of thirty schools, this piece is full of lyrical flowing melodies and beautiful harmonies. Inspired by the autumn month in the northern hemisphere, the piece features simple pastoral themes inspired by composers such as Vaughn Williams and Elgar. The piece showcases the solo oboe in the opening and middle section, and also features the tenor saxophone. The result is a stunningly moving and beautiful composition.

Eric Whitacre was born in Reno, Nevada in 1970, and began his musical career playing synthesiser, with dreams of becoming a rock star. Turning to composition at an early age, he studied music at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and at the Juilliard School in New York. He has composed orchestral works for the London Symphony Orchestra, the Tallis Scholars and The King's Singers, among others, and his wind ensemble works have been performed by the United States Marine Band (the "President's Own") - notably including his surprising, fast-paced work *Godzilla eats Las Vegas*.

THE MAGIC OF THIS DAWN by Christopher Sainsbury

NSSWE is very proud to have commissioned our first work this year. Australian composer Christopher Sainsbury composed *The Magic of this Dawn* for the 2016 Spring Music Festival, and attended the premiere in September. The musicians are looking forward to performing it for Japanese audiences when on tour in December.

Christopher Sainsbury is an accomplished composer for orchestra, choir, and guitar. He has written works for the Australian Chamber Orchestra, the Queensland Philharmonic Orchestra, the Dutch ensemble Bosgraaf-Elias, and the New England Philharmonic Orchestra, Boston (USA) as well as for Aboriginal theatrical productions in Redfern, Sydney. Sainsbury is member of the Dharug nation,

the Aboriginal people from the northern part of Sydney, and he actively draws on his Indigenous heritage in his compositions. His compositions are inspired by local soundscapes, including the bushland and birdsong of the Northern Sydney and Central Coast regions.

This piece is in five parts, and is full of rich harmonies and recurring melodies. Sainsbury uses constantly switching time signatures to create an unsteady sense of movement, and uses the bright staccato sounds of each instrument to evoke the crispness of the morning.

GHOST TRAIN by Eric Whitacre

The Senior Wind Ensemble will end this evening's concert with the first movement of the thrilling *Ghost Train*, another work by Eric Whitacre. His first piece for wind ensemble, Whitacre wrote this first movement of his eventual triptych at the age of 23, after becoming transfixed by the powerful sounds of a wind ensemble rehearsing at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. In the words of Whitacre himself:

"The legend of the Ghost Train, a supernatural machine that roars out of the night through forgotten towns and empty canyons, is deeply rooted in American folklore, and it was this spirit I worked to capture."

The piece is intensely rhythmic, and makes frequent use of cluster chords, extreme changes in tempo and compound time signatures. The piece contains many locomotive motifs, reproduced through the instruments and percussion of the ensemble. Listen for the flute train whistles, Doppler effects from trombones, the acceleration of the train with a snare drum, the sounds of a railroad crossing on chimes, and the 'sound of old, rusted metal sluggishly waking' in a novel percussion instrument: a waterphone.





WE ARE RECORDING THIS CONCERT!

A CD recording of this year's NSSWE Showcase Concert will be available in the new year. Orders must be placed and paid for tonight so that we know how many to produce. All 4 performances will appear on the CD which will cost \$22 each.

Please see one of our staff during the interval to place your order. Cash or credit card payments accepted.

NSSWE Conductors 2016

PATRICK BRENNAN Artistic Director and Chief Conductor

A highly regarded professional conductor, Patrick Brennan has studied music at undergraduate and postgraduate levels, and was selected to participate in the prestigious Symphony Australia Conductor Development Program. As a professional musician, Patrick has worked with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, the Sydney Philharmonia, the Australian Chamber Orchestra, the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra, and the Australian Opera and Ballet Orchestra. In 2009 he was also invited to be the NSW representative member of the steering committee writing the bassoon syllabus for the Australian Music Examinations Board (AMEB).

Patrick has worked with numerous music students throughout NSW in various capacities within the Department of Education and Training (DET) Arts Unit, in government and non-government schools and in tertiary institutions, including the Sydney Conservatorium of Music and the Newcastle Conservatorium of Music. In 2010 he was appointed Co-Director of the DET Junior State Wind Band. Patrick was also the founder and Chief Conductor of the Northern Sydney Schools Wind Orchestra (NSSWO) for 5 years. In 2012, Patrick was appointed Artistic Director of the Central Coast Conservatorium of Music. Patrick founded NSSWE in 2010, and as Artistic Director and Chief Conductor, he heads the vibrant NSSWE team of professional conductors who work with our four wind ensembles.

DARREN JONES Conductor, Intermediate Wind Ensemble

Darren is a fully qualified school music teacher and brass instrumentalist who has played with a wide variety of ensembles in Australia and the UK. A conductor, tutor, band trainer, adjudicator,

composer, performer and arranger, Darren has worked with children and music from newborns to HSC students and is a firm believer in music being pivotal in a child's development and education.

A former student of the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester and Salford University, Darren holds a Bachelor of Arts, a certificate of performance from the London Guildhall School of Music and Drama and a Postgraduate Certificate of Education in Music from the Manchester Metropolitan University. Darren plays trumpet professionally with the University of New South Wales Army regiment band where he has performed at many events, including as bugler at the ANZAC Day NRL test in 2011. Darren is principal conductor of Killara High School's Senior Concert Band and of Gosford Selective High School's Concert Band.

KYLIE TYSON Conductor, Junior Wind Ensemble

Kylie Tyson graduated from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music with a degree in Education, majoring in Trumpet and Voice. Since graduating, Kylie has worked extensively with students throughout NSW as a primary, secondary and tertiary music educator both in the classroom and on the podium. Kylie held the position of Director of Bands at Monte Sant' Angelo College for 6 years. In addition to working with NSSWE and Collaroy Plateau Primary School, she works as a Choral Director for the Hummingbird Community Choir Group. Having played trumpet and piano since the age of nine, Kylie was a member of the Sydney Youth Orchestra, Hornholity Big Band and the Noterity Function Band. She has also adjudicated for numerous festivals including the Yamaha Festival.

Kylie's expertise and contribution to music education in Sydney led to her being invited to lecture at the University

of Technology and University of Western Sydney in Primary Music Education. She has been the author of numerous music education analysis and resource kits for the Sydney Symphony Orchestra Education Program and was a member of the Australian Broadcasting Commission children's 'Sing' program between 1998 and 2002.

STEPHEN SMITH Conductor, Primary Wind Ensemble

Stephen attended the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, graduating in 2004 with a Bachelor of Music in performance on Classical Trombone. In 2008 Stephen took an opportunity to gain experience in regional NSW, accepting a role at the Macquarie Conservatorium in Dubbo. Stephen's interest in conducting began when he was approached by the local town band in Dubbo to become their musical director. Under his leadership, they transformed from a struggling brass band to a thriving concert band, winning their category in the NSW State Band championships in 2014. He also oversaw the development of multiple band programs through his role at the Macquarie Conservatorium.

Stephen has almost completed his Masters of Music Studies majoring in Conducting, under the tutelage of Associate Professor Dr John Lynch at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music. As well as undertaking full time studies, Stephen currently works as a conductor and brass tutor at various schools around Sydney including Moriah College, Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta and Kegworth Primary School in Leichhardt.

NSSWE on tour

Our younger ensembles have enjoyed tours this year and our Senior Wind Ensemble is about to embark on an 8 day trip to Japan.

Senior Wind Ensemble Japan, 8 – 17 December

The tour to Japan is designed to be both educational and inspiring for our senior musicians in the NSSWE program. Highlights of the tour include exchange performances with Shizuoka Eiwa Girls School Bands and Suzugamine Girls High School, workshop with conductor Atsushi Yamashita, performance at Osaka Gakugei High School, as well as visits to many culturally significant areas in Tokyo, Mt Fuji, Hiroshima, Shiga and Kyoto.

Intermediate Wind Ensemble Bellingen and Port Macquarie, 23-25 September

Including public performances at the Bellingen Music Festival and the Artist Markets in the Vine at Cassegrain Winery.

Junior Wind Ensemble Gerringong and Illawarra, 28-30 October

Including public performances at Wollongong Centro Shopping Centre and Jamberoo Markets.

Primary Wind Ensemble Port Stephens and Nelson Bay, 4-6 November

Including public performances at Anna Bay Community Markets and D'Albora Marinas Nelson Bay.



NSSWE CONGRATULATES ALL OF OUR MUSICIANS:

Naomi Ainsworth
Aisha Alas
Gabriella Andrade Wood
Jade Andrews Little
Lola Ankcorn
Oliver Atchinson
Brooke Atkin
Christian Austen
Kirsten Bartlett
Lara Bartlett
Olivia Barton
Bernadette Beaugeard
Aurelie Beaugeard
Emma Benson
Holly Benson
Maia Berry
Emma Beukers
Madison Bidder
Natasha Blythe
Alex Bohm
Maya Bongarzoni
Ryley Boston-Bowe
Mollie Boyd
Lewis Boyd
Helena Bragge
Jimmy Brown
Rohan Bull
Caroline Bull
Kye Burns
Max Butera
Kirrily Butler
Alexander Cable
Liam Caden
Anton Callow
Zoe Casey
Scarlet Cashman
Prudence Cashman
Izaak Cerneaz
Maddie Clacy
Matthew Cook
Elise Cooke
Josh Corner
Emily Costa
Tyger Cox
Jessica Crosby
Brigid Crowley
Reece Crowther
Rory Davis
Hannah Davy

Samuel De Kroon
Ella Doughty
Michaela Douglas
Aija Draguns
Joanna Drewe
Ishbel Dunsmore
Matthew Eatough
Emma Eatough
Lachlan Everett
Keira Fagan
Britney Farrar
Scarlett Ferguson
Clara Ferrari
Olivier Flokstra
Matthew Francis
Sarah Gatherer
Alexandra Gee
Dylan George
Emma Gillman
Zali Gollmer
Chelsea Gompels
Breyton Gooden
Thomas Goodwin-Barlow
Will Green
Natalie Guyot
Charli Hammond
Fredrik Hancock
Ethan Hardwick
Matilda Hardy
Mikayla Harvey
Holly Haynes
Kellen Haynes
Matt Haynes
Caitlin Heffernan
Bianca Henderson-Brooks
Anouck Heyse
Amy Hicks
Ryan Hills
Max Hindman
Charlotte Holway
Kirstie Holway
Daniel Horsnell
Jamison Houchell
Isabella Hughes
Alex Hughes
Jasmine Humphrey
Alicia Humphrey
Isabelle Ironside
Pia Jacobs

Robert Johnson
Lukas Johnston
Sammy Johnston
Alec Jones
Teresa Karlin
Lexie Kerfoot
Dean Kilshaw
Nilan Kumarage
Jack Lawson
Tiarne Lawson
Peter Longhurst
Aiden Love
Jeremy Ludriks
Dorothy MacDermott
Ben Marshall
Leilani Mauricio
Liam Mayer
George McKee
Charlotte McLoughlin
Skye Mcphee
Vincent Miller
Kate Mitchell
James Morgan
Zoe Moshovelis
Caitlin Mulquiney
Jackson Munro
Ella Murphy
Miku Nakamura
Alec Nelson
Keira Noah
Emily Norton
Jemimah O'Donoghue
Rory O'Hara
Brianna O'Young
Ben Osborne
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Hugo West
Georgia Weston
Isabella White
Charli Wiles
Dominic Wood
Jessica Yendell
Krstof Zajicek

Thank you to our manager, stage crew and roadies: Mandy Arnold, Jade Andrews-Little, Roscoe Frazier, Ben Perche, E-Yang Liu, and Denis Perche.

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Thank you!

NSSWE would like to thank our sponsors and supporters who have made such amazing things possible this year:



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Finally, a special thank you to our dedicated staff and our many enthusiastic volunteers who have contributed countless hours throughout the year.



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