



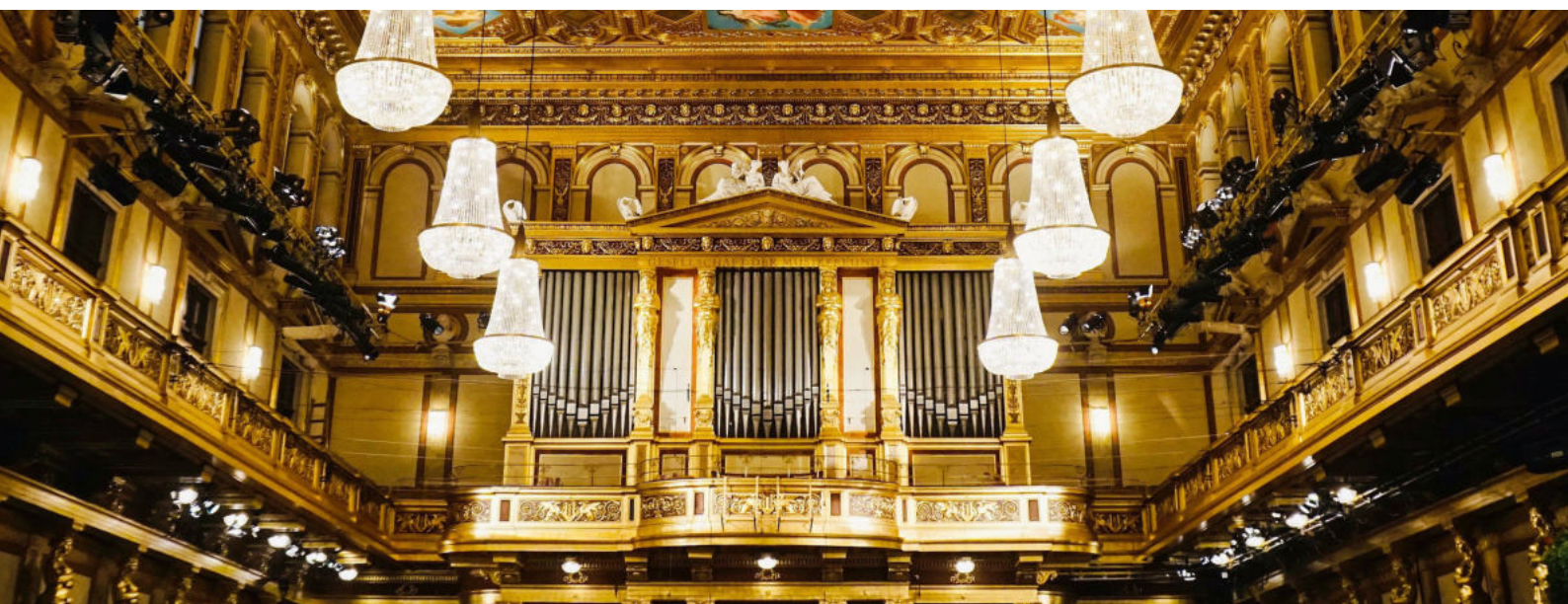
# **Queensland Youth Symphony**

**Conductor Simon Hewett**

## **2023 International Tour**

**26 November to 17 December**

**Singapore Vienna Salzburg Würzburg  
Bamberg Berlin Hamburg Bremen**





# FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



**Simon Hewett**

QYO Artistic Director  
QYS Conductor

The Queensland Youth Symphony (QYS) has a long and proud history of international touring. Starting with outstanding success at the 1972, 1976 and 1980 International Festivals of Youth Orchestras in Lausanne, Switzerland and Aberdeen, Scotland, the focus switched to the Asia/Pacific region in the 80s and 90s including groundbreaking tours to China, Japan, South Korea, USA, Canada and New Zealand. Since 2000, four of our five international tours have incorporated both Europe and Asia, and all five have included Germany.

This 14<sup>th</sup> international tour by QYS will build on the success of previous tours and extend the orchestra's profile and reputation. Of the eight major concerts, six will be presented in cities where QYS has never performed before. We are particularly excited to be performing at Vienna's famous Musikverein concert hall, home of the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra. This will be the first ever performance by an Australian symphony orchestra in that venue!

QYS members will be proud ambassadors for Queensland and Australia, showcasing and celebrating the outstanding quality of music making and music education in our state. The tour's success will rely on support from many quarters including sponsors and donors, government agencies, venues, schools and universities, local orchestras and community organisations.

I invite you to become involved in a tour that will feature brilliant and engaging performances, youthful passion and enthusiasm, and extraordinary musical and personal growth opportunities for our young musicians.

## QYS AND SIMON HEWETT

The 90-member **Queensland Youth Symphony (QYS)** is the leading orchestra of Queensland Youth Orchestras (QYO). Founded by John Curro AM MBE (1932-2019) in 1966, QYO has 540 musicians in 8 orchestras including 3 symphony orchestras, 2 wind orchestras, 2 string orchestras and a big band. QYS has a well established reputation as one of the world's finest youth orchestras, acknowledged through critical reviews of performances during international tours and in Australia. The orchestra specialises in large scale orchestral works from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century through to the present day and it regularly commissions new Australian works. Major repertoire for the 2023 international tour includes:

Rachmaninov - Symphony No. 2

Mussorgsky/Ravel - Pictures at an Exhibition

Debussy - La Mer

Ravel - Daphnis & Chloe Suite No. 2

Ravel - Sheherazade

Barton - Apii Thatini Mu Murtu

Copland - Clarinet Concerto

Tchaikovsky - Violin Concerto

Various Opera Arias

**Simon Hewett** was appointed Artistic Director of QYO in 2021. He completed a Bachelor of Music at the University of Queensland (First Class Honours and a University Medal), received a German Government Scholarship and finished his studies in conducting at the Hochschule für Musik 'Franz Liszt' in Weimar, Germany. He made his debut at the Sydney Opera House in 2003 and subsequently returned many times to conduct Marriage of Figaro, Così fan tutte, Barber of Seville, Otello, Aida, Macbeth, Tosca and Turandot. Following his appointment as Kapellmeister and Assistant Music Director to the Hamburg State Opera in 2005, Simon conducted over 500 performances in Hamburg of a large repertoire of opera and ballet. He was Principal Conductor of the Stuttgart Opera from 2011 to 2016, and has appeared as a regular guest conductor at the Royal Opera House Covent Garden, the Paris Opera and the Vienna State Opera. In October 2023, Simon will make his debut conducting appearances at La Scala, Milan.





# TOUR CONCERTS

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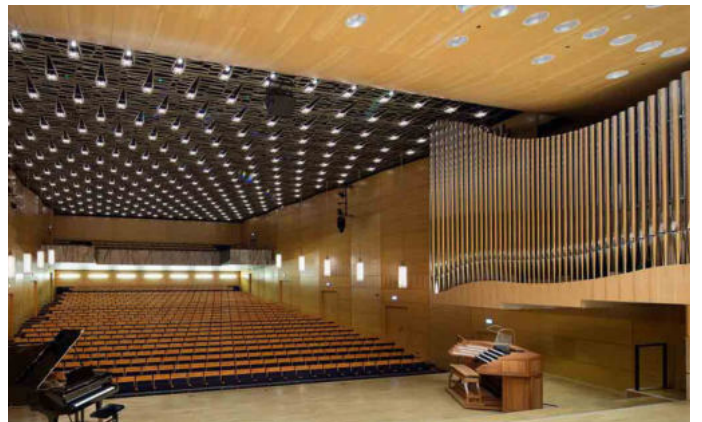
Tuesday 28 November - Esplanade Concert Hall, Singapore



Friday 1 December - Musikverein Goldener Saal, Vienna



Saturday 2 December - Mozarteum Concert Hall, Salzburg



Tuesday 5 December - Great Hall, Hochschule für Musik, Würzburg



Thursday 7 December - Bamberg Concert Hall



Saturday 9 December - University of the Arts Concert Hall, Berlin



Tuesday 12 December - Die Glocke Concert Hall, Bremen



Wednesday 13 December, Laeiszhalle, Hamburg



# TOUR SOLOISTS



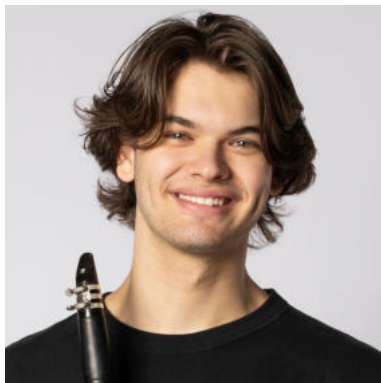
Award-winning Indigenous Australian soprano, **Nina Korbe**, has been actively involved in the creative industries from a young age. She graduated in 2022 with a Master of Arts at the Royal Academy of Music in London, studying under Head of Voice, Kate Paterson, Raymond Connell and Anna Tilbrook. Nina has performed in many operas, including *La Bohème*, *Die Fledermaus*, *Barber of Seville*, *Peter Grimes*, *Verdi's Requiem* and *Dido and Aeneas*.

Nina will perform as soprano soloist with QYS in performances of Ravel's *Sheherazade* and opera arias in Germany and Austria during the 2023 QYS tour.



For two decades, **William Barton** has forged a peerless profile as a performer and composer in the classical musical world, from the Philharmonic Orchestras of London and Berlin to historic events at Westminster Abbey for Commonwealth Day, Anzac Cove and the Beijing Olympics. His awards include Winner of Best Original Score for a Mainstage Production at the Sydney Theatre Awards and Winner of Best Classical Album with ARIA for *Birdsong At Dusk*. With his prodigious musicality and the quiet conviction of his Kalkadunga heritage, he has vastly expanded the horizons of the didgeridoo, and the culture and landscape that it represents.

At the QYS tour concert in Singapore, William will perform a work he wrote in 2021 called *Apri Thatini Mu Murtu* (To sing and carry a coolamon on country together).



**Lewis Blanchard** is one of Australia's leading young clarinetists and a member of the 2023 Australian Youth Orchestra. He was Principal Clarinet in the Adelaide Youth Orchestra from 2020 to 2021 and has been Principal Clarinet in the Queensland Youth Symphony since 2022. As a recipient of the Griffith Futures Scholarship, Lewis is studying a Bachelor of Music degree at the Queensland Conservatorium under the guidance of clarinetist and composer Paul Dean.

During the 2023 QYS tour, Lewis will perform as soloist in the Copland and Nielsen Clarinet Concertos.



**In Yi Chae** started playing the piano before turning to the violin at the age of 9. She has been a prizewinner at many competitions and performed with the Queensland Symphony Orchestra after winning the 2016 Young Instrumentalist Prize. She completed her year 12 studies at Somerville House in 2019 and is currently a 3<sup>rd</sup> year student at the University of Queensland School of Music, under the tutelage of Associate Professor Adam Chalabi.

In 2020, In Yi was the inaugural UQ Friends of Music scholarship recipient. From 2021 to 2023, she has held the position of concertmaster in the Queensland Youth Symphony and in 2023 she is also a member of the Australian Youth Orchestra. During the 2023 QYS tour, In Yi will perform as soloist in the Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto.

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