



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Thursday 10 April 2008

### **Sutherland Shire Symphony Orchestra celebrates 2008 with *Something Old - Something Australian***

One of Haydn's most beloved symphonies, a famous Mozart overture, works by Maestro Sven Libaek and an Australian bassoon concerto will ring in Sutherland Shire Symphony Orchestra's 2008 concert season at Sutherland Entertainment Centre on Sunday, 27 April at 2.30pm.

The Orchestra's Principal Conductor and Musical Director, Sven Libaek, has devised an inspiring program entitled *Something Old - Something Australian*, which will highlight the talents of the Shire's only community symphony orchestra.

The program features some of the world's most enduring orchestral works dating back to the 1700s with Mozart's *Abduction from the Seraglio* (Overture) and Haydn's *Symphony No. 3 in D Major* (Drum Roll).

In addition to these two great masters, the Orchestra will captivate the audience with John Carmichael's *Fetes Champetres* (featuring the Orchestra's Principal Clarinetist, Harry Jessep), Sven Libaek's *Farewell to Belle* and his arrangement of well-known Australian tunes, *Melodies of Australia*, plus a special performance of Colin Brumby's *Concerto for Bassoon and Orchestra*, featuring the Orchestra's own Principal Bassoonist, Mark Pinner.

"*Something Old - Something Australian* brings together some of the best of the old European orchestral world and the new world of Australian orchestral music," Mr Libaek said.

"This concert is a great opportunity to enjoy some older works while relishing the chance to explore some others that were composed here and represent a uniquely Australian flavour."

Mark Pinner began his musical career at the age of 10 as a baritone and cornet player in the Bankstown Municipal and East Hills Boy's High School bands. Initially taught by local teachers he was accepted into extension studies, on trumpet, at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music under Ken Smith and Lew Campbell.

During high school Mark was also a member of the Secondary Schools Symphonic Wind Ensemble and Orchestra and the Sydney Youth Orchestra. Mark later studied with James Blunt at the Sydney College of Advanced Education and the University of NSW. In 1987 Mark was awarded his Licentiate Performer's Diploma from Trinity College of Music London. While completing his Bachelor of Music Education degree at UNSW, Mark took up the clarinet and saxophone and, eventually, the bassoon.

Mark's performing experience is wide, encompassing jazz, rock and classical genres. As an orchestral musician Mark has performed professionally with the Elizabethan Trust/Australian Opera and Ballet Orchestra, the Hunter Orchestra and Melbourne Philharmonic and is regular guest with a number of community orchestras including the Strathfield Symphony Orchestra and Sutherland Shire Symphony Orchestra. He also has many years experience as a conductor.

Mark was principal bassoon with the City of Sydney Wind Ensemble for several years. He has many years' experience in both professional and amateur musical theatre as well as cabaret and club shows, both as a player, and musical director. Mark has also played lead

alto, clarinet, tenor and baritone saxophones with a number of leading big bands around Sydney and he still regularly performs with small jazz groups, blues and rock bands.

At present, Mark is the Director of Music of the NSW Department of Corrective Services where he is responsible for a concert band of 64. In addition to this position Mark is also concentrating on solo bassoon performance and freelance orchestral work as both a performer and conductor. Mark is also a music arranger specialising in orchestral transcriptions and the arrangement of early music for band. Mark also holds a Master of Arts with Honours, from Macquarie University and is currently studying for his doctorate, specialising in the compositions of colonial composer William Luscombe Searelle.

Sutherland Shire Symphony Orchestra was founded in 1970. Over the past 38 years, it has developed to become one of Australia's most prestigious community orchestras and a major training orchestra for young musicians. The orchestra performs a series of four concerts each year in Sutherland and regularly tours to other centres around NSW as well.

Sven Libaek first conducted the Sutherland Shire Symphony Orchestra in 1975, and took over as resident conductor in 1996. A graduate of the famous Julliard School in New York, Mr Libaek is an internationally renowned composer of film and television scores. He was a leading composer for the animation company, Hanna-Barbera, and has worked with many artists including Neil Diamond and Lionel Ritchie.

Tickets for ***Something Old - Something Australian*** cost \$20 for adults and \$17 for concessions, with primary school children accompanied by an adult admitted FREE! Tickets are available by contacting Sutherland Entertainment Centre on 9521 8888. The Centre is located at 30 Eton Street, Sutherland.

Sutherland Shire Symphony Orchestra is generously supported by Sutherland Shire Council. For more information about the orchestra, visit [www.sssso.org](http://www.sssso.org) .

### ***Something Old – Something Australian***

#### ***Full concert program***

- **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart:** *Abduction From The Seraglio* (Overture)
- **Joseph Haydn:** *Symphony No 103* in D Major (Drum Roll)
- **John Carmichael:** *Fetes Champetres*
- **Sven Libaek:** *Farewell to Belle*
- **Colin Brumby:** *Concerto for Bassoon & Orchestra* (Soloist: Mark Pinner, Bassoon)
- **Arr. Libaek:** *Melodies of Australia*

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