



MEDIA RELEASE

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Sutherland Shire Symphony presents world premiere performance of *The James Craig sails again*

The 237th anniversary of the arrival of Lieutenant James Cook's barque *Endeavour* will not be the only maritime marvel to be observed on 29 April this year, as Sutherland Shire Symphony Orchestra will present the live **world premiere** of a brand new suite celebrating the rebirth of another famous ship – *The James Craig*.

The Orchestra's Principal Conductor and Musical Director, Sven Libaek, will be at the helm from 2.30pm at Sutherland Entertainment Centre for the premiere of *Suite from The James Craig Sails Again*, which will be a highlight of the Orchestra's first concert for 2007, ***The Old and the New***.

Mr Libaek has composed the suite from the score he was commissioned to write for a new documentary film about the restoration of this iconic 19th Century ship.

"The *James Craig* is famous to many people, especially Sydney-siders, and she has certainly been through a remarkable experience from near desolation to now being sea-worthy again," Mr Libaek said.

"While it's a pure coincidence that this piece will have its world premiere on the anniversary of Cook's arrival at Kurnell, it's also a great reminder to us all of the importance that maritime history has to our country like ours."

Other pieces to be featured in ***The Old and the New*** include Mozart's *Symphony No. 39*, Suite from Handel's *Water Music* (excerpt), Bach's *Brandenburg Concerto No. 3* and Tchaikovsky's *Waltz of the Flowers*.

Sutherland Shire Symphony Orchestra was founded in 1970. Over the past 37 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 ***The Old and the New*** cost \$20 for adults and \$17 for concessions, with primary schoolchildren 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 .

The Old and the New – Full concert program

- Georg Friedrich Handel: *Water Music* (excerpt)
- Johann Sebastian Bach: *Brandenburg Concerto No.3*
- Peter Illich Tchaikovsky: *Waltz of the Flowers* from the *Nutcracker Suite*
- Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart: *Symphony No.39*
- Sven Libaek: Suite from *The James Craig Sails Again* (world premiere)