



MEDIA RELEASE

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***Celebrating Youth* with Sutherland Shire Symphony Orchestra**

Sutherland Shire Symphony Orchestra (SSSO) will pay tribute to the orchestral, choral and composition stars of tomorrow with its ***Celebrating Youth*** concert this month.

The brainchild of Guest Conductor, Beth Moloney, ***Celebrating Youth*** will take to the stage at Sutherland Entertainment Centre from 2.30pm on Sunday, 24 June. It will feature young local musicians throughout the Orchestra's string, brass, woodwind and percussion sections, plus special guests, the Sing NSW Choir.

"Celebrating Youth is a great opportunity to hear the talents, and works, of young people who make such a great contribution to the orchestral landscape," Beth Moloney said.

Highlights of the concert will include the **world premiere** of *Southern Cross Suite*, a piece written specially for this concert by local young composer, Gregory Peterson. Inspired by a visit Greg took to central Australia, *Southern Cross Suite* truly allows each of the stars in the famous constellation to shine.

Guest solo Harpist Verna Lee Brown will bring her internationally renowned talents to Harl McDonald's *Scenes from Childhood*, and the Sing NSW Choir will dazzle as they lift their voices in selections from Paul Jarman and Andrew DeTeliga's *Young Australians Voices of Achievement*.

One of the Orchestra's most respected members, Principal Clarinettist Harry Jessep, will swap his instrument for the penny whistle as he is joined by the young and talented Rachel Evans on Piccolo in Henry Mancini's *Pennywhistle Jig*. And a taste of the Emerald Isle will fill the air as the Orchestra plays Ronan Hardiman's *Lord of the Dance*, featuring Irish Dancer Hannah Eve.

Beth Moloney was born and educated in the Sutherland Shire and studied flute with John Freeland and Nicola Snekker-Seymour, later gaining her Master of Music and Bachelor of Music Education degrees and Licentiate, T.Mus.A and A.Mus.A diplomas in performance and Theory of Music.

Principally a flautist, Beth holds Accreditation as a Private Music Teacher and is also an Accredited Conductor to the Australian Bands and Orchestra Directors Association.

Beth joined the flute section of the Sutherland Shire Symphony Orchestra at age 14 and has been a member of the Orchestra since that time as well as performing and touring with a number of bands, orchestras, and ensembles of all forms. She has appeared a number of times as a soloist with the Orchestra.

Verna Lee Brown has performed as principal harpist with the Australian Opera and Ballet Orchestra, Sydney Symphony Orchestra, and the Australian Philharmonic. For nearly 10 years, she was the principal harpist for the Australian Youth Orchestra and she has also performed with the Singapore Symphony and the acclaimed Deutsche Kammerakademie Nuess.

Her harp studies have taken her to Germany and the United States. As a teacher, she has taught overseas students, given masterclasses, and teaches at several Sydney schools. Verna also founded the Sydney Harp Eisteddfod in 2005.

Greg Peterson is a prize-winning flautist, composer and arranger currently serving with the Australian Army Band Sydney. With works performed in New York's Carnegie Hall, Greg has also completed many arrangements/transcriptions for events and artists such as the 2002 Commonwealth Games, Peter Brocklehurst, Jane Scali and Jimmy Little.

His growing catalogue of original works include several successful chamber, solo and electronic pieces as well as major works for wind and brass band. His works for solo and accompanied flute have been approved for HSC and LMusA examinations in NSW. *Southern Cross Suite* is Greg's first piece for symphony orchestra.

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.

Tickets for ***Celebrating Youth*** 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.

Celebrating Youth – Full concert program

- Gregory Peterson: *Southern Cross Suite* (**World Premiere** Performance)
- Henry Mancini: *Pennywhistle Jig* (featuring Harry Jessep – Penny Whistle and Rachel Evans – Piccolo)
- Ronan Hardiman: *The Lord of the Dance* (featuring Irish dancer Hannah Eve)
- Harl McDonald: *Scenes from Childhood* (featuring Guest Soloist Verna Lee Brown - Harp)
- Paul Jarman and Andrew DeTeliga: *Young Australians Voices of Achievement* (selections), featuring the Sing NSW Choir