

MEDIA RELEASE

Classic Helen Zerefos springs a September song with Sutherland Shire Symphony Orchestra

One of Australia's best-loved performers will bring a special sparkle to the Sutherland Entertainment Centre next month, when soloist Helen Zerefos, OAM, joins Sutherland Shire Symphony Orchestra's (SSSO) Spring concert, *Viennese Classics*.

Helen and guest conductor Michael Psaltis will lead southern Sydney's only community orchestra on Sunday, 12 September, through a musical garden of favourites by Johann Strauss, Franz Schubert and Franz Lehar including the timeless *Blue Danube Waltz* and the *Unfinished Symphony*.

"Sutherland Shire Symphony Orchestra is proud and pleased to welcome back the incomparable Helen Zerefos," said Michael Psaltis. "We are very honoured to present this delightful concert with one of Australia's – and the Shire's – most gifted performers as our special guest soloist."

Helen Zerefos is one of Australia's most prolific entertainers. As one of the select few who were resident stars of major television series such as *Say it with Music* and **The Sound of Music**, there are over 600 television shows to her credit. She also compered her own television show called "Let's Go Greek Endaxi" on the Ten Network, and has done thousands of stage shows and concerts, performed in theatre and recorded a number of CDs.

In 1996 Helen was awarded an OAM in recognition of her services to charitable organisations including the Ageing and Alzheimer Research Foundation.

Guest Conductor Michael Psaltis gained his Associate Diploma in Arts (Music) from Illawarra Institute of Technology, Goulburn. He then attended the Sydney Conservatorium of Music where he studied conducting under Maestro Henryk Pisarek.

Michael's musical director credits include local productions of *Hair*, *Calamity Jane*, *Oklahoma!*, *Annie* and many others. Michael has also conducted two previous SSSO concerts and co-conducted several orchestra proms concerts.

Sutherland Shire Symphony Orchestra was founded in 1970. Over the past 34 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 *Viennese Classics* are available by contacting Sutherland Entertainment Centre on 9521 8888 and cost \$18 for adults and \$15 for concessions plus booking fee (primary school children accompanied by an adult are admitted free).

Sutherland Entertainment Centre is located in Eton Street, Sutherland, and the concert starts at 2.30pm.

Sutherland Shire Symphony Orchestra is generously supported by Sutherland Shire Council. For more information about the orchestra, visit www.sso.org/

Viennese Classics – Full Concert Program

- Franz Schubert: *Symphony No.8 in b minor* (the "*Unfinished*")
- Johann Strauss: *Thunder & Lightning Polka* Op.324
- Johann Strauss: *Voices of Spring* waltz, Op.410
- Josef Strauss: *Feuerfest Polka*, Op.269
- Johann Strauss: *Furioso Polka*, Op.260
- Franz Schubert: *Rosamunde* Overture, Op.26
- Johann Strauss: *Viennese Life*, *
- Franz Lehar: *Vilja*, *
- Johann Strauss: *Nuns' Chorus*, *
- Andreas Romberg: *When I Grow Too Old To Dream*, *
- Johann Strauss: *One Day When We Were Young*, *
- Johann Strauss: *Blue Danube*, Waltz Op.314, *
- Johann Strauss: *Radetzky March*, Op.228

*** features guest soloist Helen Zerefos, OAM**

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