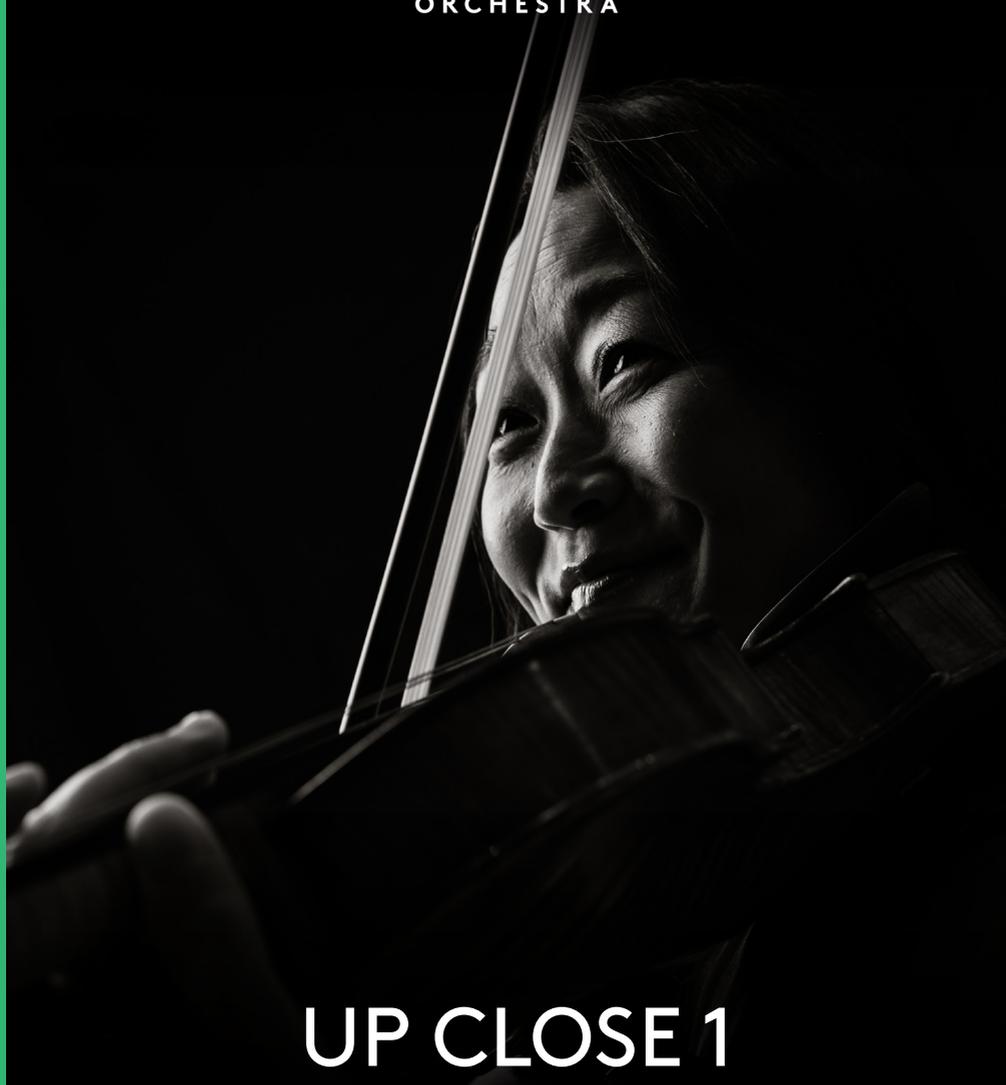


STUDIO SESSIONS



QUEENSLAND SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA



UP CLOSE 1

SEASON 2026

WELCOME

We are very excited to welcome you to our first Studio Session of the year, where we invite you into our rehearsal studio – our creative home!

As always, in these sessions we play smaller orchestral repertoire uncondacted, and you can experience the orchestra up close, where you can see every gesture and feel every breath.

We open with the majestic overture to *The Magic Flute*, featuring the trombones to add to the occasion, and to finish, Beethoven's Symphony No.2, full of wit, brilliance and virtuosity, which will have you on the edge of your seat!

In between, the strings will create a chant-like, unique sound world in Pärt's *Greater Antiphons*, where ancient and modern sounds resonate together.

We very much look forward to sharing this wonderful music with you, up close and personal!

Natsuko Yoshimoto
Director & Violin



STUDIO SESSIONS: UP CLOSE 1

Queensland Symphony Orchestra Studio
Friday 20 February 2026 7.30pm

IN THIS CONCERT

Natsuko Yoshimoto Director & Violin
Queensland Symphony Orchestra

PROGRAM

MOZART	Overture to <i>The Magic Flute</i>	9'
ARVO PÄRT	<i>Greater Antiphons</i>	15'
	I. O Wisdom	
	II. O Adonai	
	III. O Root of Jesse	
	IV. O Key of David	
	V. O Morning Star	
	VI. O King of all People	
	VII. O Emmanuel	
BEETHOVEN	Symphony No.2	35'
	I. Adagio molto – Allegro con brio	
	II. Larghetto	
	III. Scherzo: Allegro – Trio	
	IV. Allegro molto	

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Doors open at 7pm
This concert will end at approx. 8.50pm
Please note, there will be no interval in this concert

WHO'S ON STAGE



Scan the QR code for the list of musicians playing in today's concert.

THANK YOU

We are grateful for all donations to QSO and give special acknowledgement to Natsuko's Music Chair Program supporters: Professor Ian Frazer AC and Caroline Jean Hebden, Dr Cathryn Mittelheuser AM, and John Story AO and Georgina Story.

ARTISTIC SUMMARY

Our Up Close Studio Sessions are always fan favourites. In the intimacy of our home studio, every breath, every up bow becomes imbued with meaning. Following the direction of Natsuko from the Concertmaster position, the musicians must rely on unspoken communication to play as one organism and express the full emotion of the music they play.

Tonight's program wrings the full gamut of the emotional spectrum from every note. Mozart's *Magic Flute Overture*

bursts with playful energy, bright orchestral colour, and theatrical wit, setting the stage for adventure and fantasy. Arvo Pärt's *Greater Antiphons* (in its string orchestra arrangement) brings meditative, spiritual stillness, with shimmering string textures and minimalist elegance. The full ensemble returns for Beethoven's *Symphony No.2*, a piece infused with optimism and rhythmic vitality, showcasing the composer's humour and early mastery of classical form.

NATSUKO YOSHIMOTO

Natsuko Yoshimoto joined Queensland Symphony Orchestra as Concertmaster in 2021. Born in Japan, Yoshimoto studied at the Yehudi Menuhin School, Royal Northern College of Music and the Curtis Institute of Music, and received teaching from Lord Menuhin and Wen Zhou Li. She received the Gold Medal in the 1994 Shell/London Symphony Orchestra Competition and the Orchestra Ensemble Kanazawa Award, and the Iwaki Award for outstanding achievement as a Japanese artist.

She has appeared as a soloist with The Hallé, Orchestra Ensemble Kanazawa,

Hong Kong Sinfonietta, and the Philharmonia, London Symphony, Odense Symphony, Tokyo Symphony, Tokyo Philharmonic, Melbourne Symphony and Adelaide Symphony Orchestras. Yoshimoto is a member of Ensemble Q and has been the leader of the Australian and Grainger String Quartets.

Yoshimoto teaches at the Queensland Conservatorium of Music. She has given world premieres of works by prominent Australian composers, and has recorded for Virgin Classics, ABC Classics, Melba Records and Tall Poppies.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Queensland Symphony Orchestra provides a spoken Acknowledgement of Country at the beginning of each concert to encourage awareness and to demonstrate our respect for First Nations cultures and traditions, as well as signalling our commitment to a more inclusive and equitable society. We acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of Meanjin where we work, rehearse and perform: the Turrbal and Yuggera peoples, whose deep connection to

this land reminds us to always protect and care for it.

Queensland Symphony Orchestra acknowledges the traditional custodians of Australia. We acknowledge the cultural diversity of Elders, both past and present, and the significant contributions that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples make to Queensland and Australia.



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