QSO FAVOURITES







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. We also acknowledge the First Nations people of Yugambeh who, along with Meanjin, have a deep connection to this land and remind 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.

WELCOME

Welcome to QSO Favourites - arranged just for you!

We are absolutely delighted to have you with us today for an enchanting performance with Queensland Symphony Orchestra, as we share the timeless sounds of some of the most beloved pieces in the classical repertoire.

We begin our concert with the lively and spirited overture from Bernstein's Candide, a brilliant and witty reflection on optimism. Next, we'll be treated to Kats-Chernin's whimsical Dance of the Paper Umbrellas, where vibrant rhythms and playful melodies bring to life a delightful and imaginative scene.

We are thrilled to feature the talented soloist Ein Na, winner of QSO's 2023 Young Instrumentalist Prize, as she performs Saint-Saëns' exquisite *Introduction & Rondo Capriccioso*. Then prepare for an exhilarating experience as we dive into the first movement of Beethoven's Symphony No. 7 – a composition that Beethoven himself spoke of fondly as "one of my best works."

Our program continues with stirring selections from Bruce Rowland's score for *The Man from Snowy River*, transporting you to the rugged beauty of the Australian landscape with its evocative melodies and rich orchestration. We will then journey into Sibelius' *Finlandia* - a powerful and patriotic piece celebrating the spirit of Finland and finish in the enchanting world of Tchaikovsky's *Sleeping Beauty*.

Thank you for joining us today to celebrate all that makes classical music magical. Enjoy the show!

IN THIS CONCERT

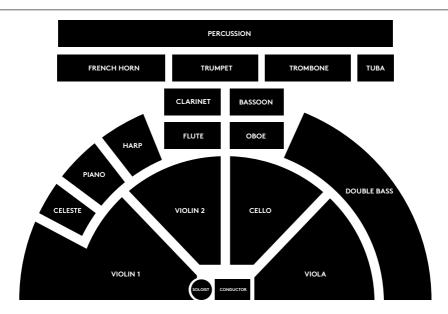
ConductorEduardo StrausserSoloistEin Na, ViolinHostAshleigh Denning

PROGRAM

BARTON	Petrichore (Sat only)	4'
BERNSTEIN	Overture to Candide	5'
KATS-CHERNIN	Dance of the Paper Umbrellas	5'
SAINT-SAËNS	Introduction & Rondo Capriccioso for Violin & Orchestra, Op.28	10
BEETHOVEN	Symphony No.7 in A, Op.92 (1st Movement)	12
ROWLAND	The Man from Snowy River Theme	5'
SIBELIUS	Finlandia, Op. 26 (Sun only)	8'
TCHAIKOVSKY	Valse from Sleeping Beauty Suite, Op.66a	6'

(Note: there is no listening guide for *Petichore*, the piece will be mentioned in concert for more clarity)

IF YOU'RE NEW TO THE ORCHESTRA



WHO SITS WHERE

Orchestras sit in sections based on types of instruments. There are four main sections in the symphony orchestra (strings, woodwinds, brass, and percussion) and sometimes a keyboard section.

STRINGS

These instruments produce sound by bowing or plucking stretched strings.

First and Second Violin

Viola

Cello

Double Bass

Harp

WOODWIND

Wind instruments produce sound by being blown into.

Flute/Piccolo

Clarinet/E-flat Clarinet/Bass Clarinet

Oboe/Cor Anglais

Bassoon/Contrabassoon

KEYBOARD

Keyboard instruments are played by pressing keys.

Piano

Celeste

Organ

BRASS

Brass players create sound by vibrating their lips. When this vibration is pushed through large brass tubes, it can create significant noise.

French Horn

Trumpet

Trombone/Bass Trombone

Tuba

PERCUSSION

These instruments create sound by being struck or, for the harp, plucked or strummed. Some instruments just make a sound; others play particular notes.

Timpani, Bass drum, Snare drum, Cymbals, Glockenspiel, Xylophone, Vibraphone, Tam-tam, Triangle, Sleigh Bells.

WHO'S ON STAGE TODAY



BEFORE WE BEGIN

Before the performance begins, get to know a few musical terms in the Listening Guide.

Movement A musical movement is a self-contained section of a larger

musical work, often characterized by its own distinct tempo,

mood, and thematic material.

Concerto A musical composition for a solo instrument or instruments

accompanied by an orchestra.

Overture An introduction orchestral piece at the beginning of major

production, like an opera or ballet.

Arpeggios A chord that is broken up and played in a rising or falling order.

Semi-quaver Musical notes that are an eighth of a beat of a beat.

Triple-stopping The performance of three notes simultaneously on a bowed string

instrument.



LEONARD BERNSTEIN (1918-1990)

Overture to Candide

Immediate success doesn't guarantee immortality, but immediate failure might. One of the hit musicals of Broadway's 1956-57 season was *Li'l Abner* – based on the comic strip – which opened in November 1956 and ran for 700 performances. Two months later came the premiere of *Candide*, a highly anticipated musical version of Voltaire's satire, with a book by Lilian Hellman and music by Leonard Bernstein. The whole creative team, in fact, was deluxe, but it became one of the season's biggest flops, closing after 73 performances. Yet today *Li'l Abner* is a fascinating footnote in Broadway history, while *Candide*, revised and revived many times – twice in Australia this year – is the stuff of legend.

In Voltaire's novel, Candide endures flood, fire, famine, earthquakes and further catastrophes, all while staying faithful to the motto of his tutor Dr. Pangloss: 'All's for the best in this best of all possible worlds.' Many great moments from Bernstein's dazzling score are bottled for the ages in the show's **overture**. In a rollicking five minutes, it includes snatches of *The Best of All Possible Worlds; Oh, Happy We* and *Glitter and Be Gay*, all served up with an exhilarating verve. Bernstein conducted the first concert hall performance of *Candide's* overture with the New York Philharmonic in January 1957. Within two years it had been performed by nearly 100 orchestras, and soon became Bernstein's most frequently performed orchestral piece.



ELENA KATS-CHERNIN (BORN 1957)

Dance of the Paper Umbrellas

You may know Elena Kats-Chernin most readily for Eliza Aria, part of the score she wrote for Meryl Tankard's ballet Wild Swans, and which took on a second life after it was used as music for a bank commercial. And her Russian Rag served as the theme tune for ABC Radio National's Late Night Live for many years.

Those two pieces are a small part of her huge output, for Kats-Chernin is one of Australia's most popular and prolific composers. Her works include music created for the 2003 Rugby World Cup; a concerto for eight double basses, commissioned by the Australian World Orchestra, and newly written scores for vintage silent films.

Dance of the Paper Umbrellas (2013) was commissioned by the Hush Foundation, an organisation founded by Dr Catherine Crock, which works to transform the culture of healthcare by harnessing the power of the creative arts. Kats-Chernin has written of her inspiration:

"The idea for this piece started when I visited the leukaemia ward at the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne and witnessed the wonderful work carried out by Catherine Crock and her team. It was a moving experience that was still with me a few days later when I sat at my piano. I wondered what kind of piece I could write that would be uplifting. I wanted to enter the world of magic and possibilities. I imagined a cake adorned with multi-coloured umbrellas. A dance formed in my head, starting with a pattern in harp, marimba, plucked strings and flutes."





CAMILLE SAINT-SAËNS (1835-1921)

Introduction & Rondo Capriccioso for Violin & Orchestra, op.28

Sometimes one musician can be so dazzling a talent that composers seem compelled to create music for them to play, some of which lives far beyond the lifetimes of both the inspirer and the inspired. In the 20th century, viola works written for Lionel Tertis and music created for cellist Mstislav Rostropovich come to mind as cases in point. And in the last half of the 19th century, so do the pieces composed for Spanish violin virtuoso Pablo de Sarasate (1844-1908). He completed his formal musical education aged 15, by which time his playing had already lit up European concert platforms. In his book Great Masters of the Violin, Boris Schwarz describes him as 'suave, elegant, brilliant in a very personal way, idolised by the public in both hemispheres'.

Sarasate's caressing tone and immaculate technique inspired major works from many leading composers, including Lalo (Symphonie espagnole), Bruch (Scottish Fantasy) and Saint-Saëns, who created his first and third Violin Concertos for him, as well as the piece vou hear today.

Sarasate was just 19 when Saint-Saëns created the Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso. The many demands this showpiece makes of the soloist - passages of triple-stopping, flying **arpeagios** and furiously fast passage-work-speak volumes about Sarasate's immaculate technique. But before the virtuoso fireworks begin earnestly in the brilliant Rondo Capriccioso section, the slow, insinuating Introduction calls - yes - for fluency and brilliance, but also charm and personality, two qualities the dedicatee clearly had in abundance.

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN (1770-1827)

Symphony No.7 in A, Op.92 (1st Movement)

I. Poco sostenuto - Vivace

The question used to be: do you prefer odds or evens? This was not about roulette, but the Beethoven symphonies. The theory was that where the odd-numbered ones (1, 3, 5, 7 and 9) were heroic, ground-breaking and muscular, and the even-numbered ones (2, 4, 6 and 8) were those in which the composer wrote humorously (particularly in No. 8), pictorially (No.6, the Pastoral) or more lyrically (No.2).

But is this true and does it matter? Genius is multi-faceted, and even within one symphony Beethoven is the master of changing moods. Think of the journey from darkness to light you undertake as you listen to his Fifth Symphony-the kind of musical narrative that would become a template for symphonic composers ever after. Or contrast the impish high spirits of the Seventh Symphony's finale with the dynamic sense of purpose which drives the music you hear now.

And 'drive' is the word for this symphony. The slow introduction to this opening **movement** is punctuated by timpani strokes, before the strings' **semi-quaver** figures shoot up like rockets. Then the texture thins out, the pulse quickens, and you're suddenly in a tremendously buoyant *Vivace*. If you're inspired, after this concert, to hear the rest of the piece, you may recognise the second movement – marked *Allegretto* – as it was used memorably for a key scene in the 2010 film *The King's Speech*.

Beethoven thought highly of the symphony, calling it 'one of the happiest products of my poor talents'.

BRUCE ROWLAND (BORN 1942)

The Man from Snowy River Theme

It's hard to think of a composer more closely associated with horses than Bruce Rowland. This Melbourne-born musician has left an indelible mark on Australian cinema thanks to his scores for *The Man from Snowy River* (1982), its sequel *The Man from Snowy River* (1988) and *Phar Lap* (1983). It's not that he hasn't written other things – his scores for the TV series *All the Rivers Run* (1983) and *Anzacs* (1985), for example – but that his music for equine adventures has left such a deep impression on the Australian psyche. When he was creating the score for the first *Snowy River* film, he knew he had to create, in his words, 'big expansive wide-open spaces music,' and as soon as you hear the strings announce the horn tune which dominates the movie's main theme, you know he succeeded. There's also the fact that *Jessica's Theme* has taken on a life of its own well outside the *Snowy River* world. It's a solo piano favourite, couples have processed down the aisle to it and it's brought mourners to tears at funerals.

All this from a man who, by his own confession, only learned to read music in his late 20s. So how did he compose this, one of the most beloved scores in Australian screen history? 'I dogpaddled knee-deep in adrenalin and hoped a lot!'

JEAN SIBELIUS (1865-1957)

Finlandia, Op. 26

If you say the word 'Sibelius' the reply is usually 'Finlandia' (or if you're a musician, it might be 'you mean the music notation program'?). It's also usually the first track on any album called *The Best of Sibelius*. So what is *Finlandia* exactly? In the context of Sibelius' music, you could say that it's what the *1812 Overture* is to Tchaikovsky's: a ceremonial piece, written for a specific occasion, that somehow took on a life of its own.

Finland's Press Pension Celebrations of November 1899 were a thinly disquised attempt to create a fighting fund in support of a free press, at a time when Finland's Russian rulers were vigilantly watchful for expressions of nationalist sentiment. Yet in Finland, as in so many other "occupied territories" in Europe, Nationalism was in the air - and as the dawn of a new century approached, an air of optimism too.

The Celebrations culminated in a series of historical tableaux, staged to Sibelius' music. For the final one, called Finland Awakes!, Sibelius created the music you hear today. As one Finnish newspaper described the audiovisual spectacle: 'The powers of darkness menacing Finland had not succeeded in their terrible threats.'

It's not difficult to read the snarling brass fanfares which open Finlandia as "the powers of darkness"; the contrasting chorale-like woodwind figure which follows as a prayer for better times, and the final big, rumbustious Allegro as the march of progress towards better days and - although the term could hardly be used for fear of censorship - political independence.

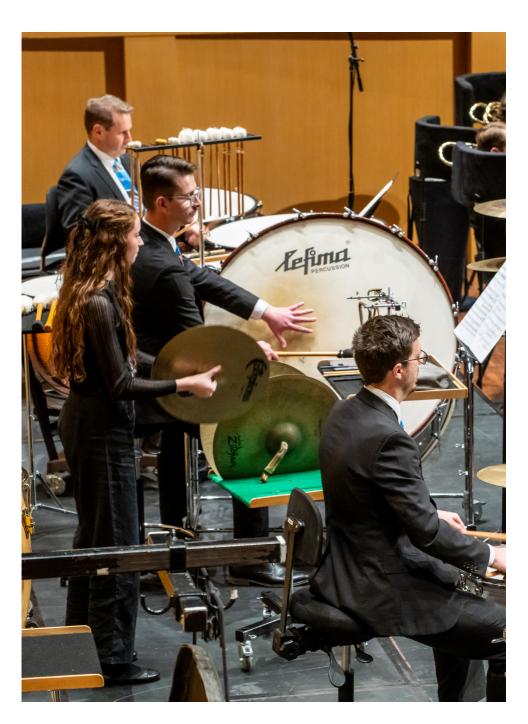
PETER ILYICH TCHAIKOVSKY (1840–1893)

Valse from Sleeping Beauty Suite, Op.66a

In the 20th century, ballet gave the world musical milestones meant to be danced toincluding Ravel's Daphnis and Chloe, Stravinsky's The Rite of Spring, Prokofiev's Romeo and Juliet and Copland's Appalachian Spring. But in Tchaikovsky's day, major composers felt that ballet - frivolous, pretty, decorative - was too inconsequential to warrant their attention; along with his French contemporary, Delibes, Tchaikovsky was the first composer to write ballet music of real grandeur and emotional ambition.

The Sleeping Beauty, based on the classic tale by Perrault, tells of the Princess Aurora, the evil spell cast upon her by Carabosse, the powerful magic of the Lilac Fairy, Prince Désiré's journey to the hidden castle to awaken Aurora from her slumbers, and the wedding celebrations which follow. Working to a detailed scenario by choreographer Marius Petipa, Tchaikovsky created a score which continues to enchant audiences to this day. He loved the story and approached his task with, as he put it, 'the warmth and enthusiasm upon which the worth of a composition always depends.' This Waltz-one of ballet's most famous - is danced in Act I, at the celebrations for Aurora's 20th birthday.

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ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES



Eduardo Strausser

Conductor

In the 2024/25 season, Brazilian conductor Eduardo Strausser begins his first year as Principal Conductor and Music Director of Norrlandsoperan. The season features an extensive Nordic tour in November 2024 and the world premiere of Jenny Wilson's debut opera, *The Lovers*, in March 2025.

Deepening his strong relationships with Antwerp Symphony Orchestra, summer 2024 sees Strausser's first appearance at the Royal Concertgebouw Hall with the orchestra and soloist Yeol Eum Son.

Strausser continues his relationships with Ulster Orchestra, the Hallé, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and Orchestre de Montpellier as well as debuts with Bilbao Orkestra Sinfoniko, San Diego Symphony and Pacific Symphony. Other US engagements have included the symphony orchestras of Kansas City, Utah, North Carolina, Detroit and Indianapolis.

Working extensively across Australia, Strausser appears twice this season with Sydney and Queensland Symphony Orchestras, as well as debuts with Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra and Adelaide Symphony Orchestra.

Previously Resident Conductor of Teatro Sao Paolo from 2014-2016, Eduardo has become an experienced opera conductor and productions in Sao Paolo have included *Elektra* and Carlos Gomes' Fosca, as well as performances of *The Nutcracker* with Balé da Cidade de São Paulo and a Stefano Poda production of Mahler's Symphony No.1. He is now based in Berlin but still returns home to Latin America for quest conducting.

Most recently he led Leonard Ever's *Die Odyssee* for Zurich Opera and other highlights include *Tosca* for Northern Ireland Opera and Theater Magdeburg which he also conducted for Staastheater Hannover alongside productions including *Il Barbiere di Siviglia, Hansel and Gretel* and *Die Zauberflöte*. Elsewhere he has also conducted *La bohème* for Teatro Municipal do Rio de Janeiro and Teatro Verdi di Padova.

From a young age, Eduardo developed an interest in works by contemporary composers. Through his studies at the Zurich University of Arts, he worked with the visionary Karlheinz Stockhausen. Also as a student he took part in the International Forum for Conductors at the Ferienkurse für Neue Musik in Darmstadt, where he had the chance to work closely with composers György Kurtág and Brian Ferneyhough.

Eduardo works with top soloists, including Javier Perianes, Nobuyuki Tsujii, Alexandra lowe, Isata Kanneh-Mason, Marie-Ange Nguci, Paul Lewis, Augustin Hadelich, Richard Galliano, Cédric Tiberghien and Steven Osborne among others. A multilinguist, Eduardo speaks eight languages fluently including German, Italian, French, Spanish and Hebrew.



Ein Na **Violinist**

Ein Na is a 15-year-old violinist and student at Somerville House, who has studied under Spiros Rantos. At just 10 years old in 2019, she won first prize and the Special Achievement Award at the Brisbane International Youth Music Competition and toured Europe as a soloist with the Tagiev Chamber Orchestra. In 2021, she earned her LMusA Diploma with Distinction and won first prize in the Diploma Section of the AUSTAQ Concerto Competition.

In 2022, at the age of 13, she was the winner of the 47th John Curro National Youth Concerto Competition, as the first Queensland winner in 20 years since Ray Chen. The next year, she reached the finals of the Kendall National Violin Competition, taking first prize with the Kendall String Academy and was awarded a concert violin made by master luthier Michal Prokop. In 2023, Ein also performed at the 4MBS Festival of Classics' Young Virtuosi Concert, and with the Brisbane Symphony Orchestra at Brisbane City Hall. She won first prize in the 2023 QSO Young Instrumentalist Prize and was accepted early into the Heifetz International Music Institute Summer Program. Additionally, she was honoured as the Young Virtuoso of the Year representing 4MBS radio station, a national competition for musicians under 30.

This year, Ein's string sextet, Take 6, in which she serves as first violinist, won second prize in the National Strike A Chord chamber competition. She has a deep love for chamber music and enjoys sharing her music with others.

Ein would like to dedicate her performance to her late teacher, Spiros Rantos, who passed away in September, Renowned Greek-Australian violinist, conductor and educator Spiros moved to Australia in 1976 along with partner, pianist Brachi Tilles. He tauaht at the Victorian College of the Arts, the University of Southern Queensland and the University of Melbourne. He served as senior lecturer at the University of Queensland until his retirement in 2009 but continued to teach privately. He leaves behind a legacy of great musicians and will be remembered fondly by all who knew him.

QSO Harmony



If you enjoy the Morning Masterworks concerts and would like to enrich your relationship with Queensland Symphony Orchestra (QSO), we warmly invite you to join QSO Harmony.

QSO Harmony is a new giving circle that will support QSO's Health and Wellbeing Program, while allowing you to connect with those sitting alongside you in the Concert Hall.

This circle will give the gift of connection to our supporters and those who need it most through the Health and Wellbeing Program.

As a member of QSO Harmony you will enjoy opportunities to meet behind the scenes before the Morning Masterworks concerts, an invitation to QSO Health and Wellbeing concerts, and updates on the impact of your support.

For more information, please scan the QR code or contact the Development office on (07) 3833 5027 or development@qso.com.au.



Under the Tree



(L-R) Ashley Carter, Associate Principal Trombone; Jacob Enoka, Section Musician Percussion (contract); Hayley Radke, Associate Principal Flute; and Tim Allen-Ankins, Associate Principal French Horn.

Queensland Symphony Orchestra (QSO) has a very special Christmas wish this year, and we would love to respectfully ask for your help. We have been working hard, and so have our instruments, with some of them now needing to politely retire.

In consultation with our musicians and the performance services team, we have compiled a list of urgent instruments that we would love to put under the tree for Christmas, in time for our 2025 season. A full list of what we need is available on our website.

We are grateful for your support. Please contact Development on (07) 3833 5027 or visit www.qso.com.au/UnderTheTree to help us with this request.

Please scan the QR code for more information.



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Umberto & Natsuko

FRI 15 NOV 7.30PM SAT 16 NOV 1.30PM

Concert Hall, QPAC

Conductor/SoloistUmberto Clerici, celloSoloistNatsuko Yoshimoto, violinSoloistEleanor Lyons, sopranoSchubertRosamunde Overture

R. Strauss Four Last Songs

Brahms Concerto for Violin and Cello in A minor (Double Concerto)

Wagner Overture to The Flying Dutchman



Cinematic

FRI 22 NOV 7.30PM SAT 23 NOV 1.30PM & 7.30PM

Concert Hall, QPAC

Conductor Nicholas Buc **Soloist** Daniel Le, Piano

Features music from

Batman | Interstellar | Superman How to Train Your Dragon | The Lion King

and many more



Beethoven's Ode to Joy

THU 28 NOV 7.30PM FRI 29 NOV 7.30PM SAT 30 NOV 1.30PM

Concert Hall, QPAC

Choir

Conductor Umberto Clerici **Soloists** Eleanor Lyons, sa

Eleanor Lyons, soprano

Ashlyn Timms, mezzo soprano Andrew Goodwin, tenor

Samuel Dundas, baritone Brisbane Chamber Choir

Beethoven Symphony No.9 (Choral)

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