



MEDIA RELEASE

29th September, 2009

Immediate Use

Give your baby an ear for music

The Adelaide Youth Orchestra presents its hugely popular annual program **Babies Proms** for two performances at the Grainger Studio, on Sunday, 25 October. Performed by the Adelaide Youth Sinfonia, the Adelaide Youth Orchestra's second full orchestra, Babies Proms are a fun and engaging way for young children to discover live music in a fun and relaxed environment.

Babies Proms is a one-hour program tailored specifically for children aged 0 -5 years. The concert includes favourite nursery rhymes, pop music and short orchestral pieces, from *Row, Row, Row Your Boat* and *Ram Sam Sam* to excerpts from Grieg's *Peer Gynt*, Handel's *Music for the Royal Fireworks* and even Lalo Shifrin's theme from *Mission Impossible*.

Inspired by the famous *Last Night of BBC Proms* where the audience sings along with the orchestra, Adelaide Sinfonia conductor Joanna Drimatis created the concert series as a way for young children to participate in symphonic music. Says Drimatis "I've always loved the way the *Last Night of The Proms* allows everyone to engage with the orchestra and become fully immersed in the experience of symphonic music. *Babies Proms* is a perfect way for parents to introduce the excitement of live performance to their children. It is certainly a lot of fun for us to perform and we hope the audiences feel free to move and sing along to the music as we play."

This year, the Adelaide Sinfonia welcomes back special guests the Young Adelaide Voices Junior Choir. This fifty-strong group of singers made up of reception to Year 3s, perform two pieces as part of the Babies Proms program.

The concerts will be compered by Adelaide actor and "yummy-mummy" Bronwen James and are sure to be as popular as ever. Book now to give your children a perfect introduction to live music with a full symphony orchestra.

Adelaide Youth Orchestra presents

Babies Proms

Bronwen James, compere

Special guest the Young Adelaide Voices' Junior Choir

Sunday 25 October 2009, 11AM and 12:30PM

ASO Grainger Studio

91 Hindley Street, Adelaide

Tickets: All \$15, Family \$45

Book at BASS 131 246

/ENDS

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BIOGRAPHIES

Adelaide Youth Sinfonia

The Adelaide Youth Sinfonia (AdSI) is AdYO's second symphony orchestra and young musicians who participate in AdSI enjoy the full orchestral experience. Playing in AdSI also offers an opportunity for young musicians to work with their peers from around the State.

AdSI's repertoire is chosen to focus on developing orchestral techniques and explores a wide range of music from Baroque, Romantic, to the 20th Century with a specific commitment to performing contemporary Australian repertoire for young musicians. This orchestral experience is an ideal preparation for young musicians who may wish to continue on to the Adelaide Youth Orchestra.

Under conductor, Joanna Drimatis' direction, AdSI has performed a series of masterworks and new Australian orchestral music, including Handel's *Water Music*, Copland's *Rodeo*, Vaughan Williams' *English Folk Songs* Bizet's *Carmen Suite*, John Williams *Raiders of the Lost Ark* and excerpts from Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake* and orchestral works by Australian composers, Katy Abbot, Iain Grandage and James Ledger.

In 2008, AdSI with the support of the Australia Council for the Arts commissioned a new orchestral work called, *Winter Sinfonia* by Adelaide composer, John Polglase. During the commissioning process, ABC Classic FM recorded a documentary for future air-play in their Sunday Feature slot.

Joanna Drimatis, Conductor

Joanna Drimatis completed a Masters in Music at the University of Texas at Austin, majoring in violin and conducting. She also has degrees from the University of Western Australia and the Canberra School of Music. Joanna has conducted the University of Texas Orchestra and orchestras for the University of Texas String Project. In 1995, Joanna was awarded the Texas Bass Scholarship enabling her to participate in the Conducting Seminar Programme at the Aspen Music Festival studying with Murry Sidlin. Joanna's conducting teachers have included Timothy Muffitt and David Effron and she has participated in masterclasses in the USA and New Zealand.

In 1997 Joanna moved to NZ where she became Music Director of the Christchurch Youth Orchestra. Joanna also conducted the Christchurch Symphony, the Nelson Symphony and the University of Canterbury Chamber Orchestra. Joanna is active as a performer and has played in orchestras and festivals on violin and viola in the USA, Germany, and Australasia.

Since 2004, Joanna has lived in Adelaide, where she is a part-time lecturer at the Elder Conservatorium of Music. In addition to her work for the Adelaide Youth Orchestra association, Joanna has guest conducted the Elder Conservatorium Symphony Orchestra, the Burnside Symphony Orchestra and was engaged as a conductor for the 'Big Play' (2007) an initiative of the SA Chapter of Orchestras Australia. In 2010, she has been invited to conduct the St. Matthews Chamber Orchestra in Auckland, New Zealand.

Joanna has recently completed and passed her Doctor of Philosophy in Musicology. Her PhD thesis is titled, "A Hidden Treasure: Symphony No.1 by Robert Hughes". A

major part of the dissertation was the editing of Robert Hughes' Symphony No.1 which will be published this year by All Music Publishing and Distribution.

Young Adelaide Voices Junior Choir

Catering for choristers from Reception to Year 3 at school, the Junior Choir focuses on learning music and singing in a fun-filled environment with games, movement and loads of enthusiasm. The energy created by the 50-strong group of girls and boys is electric!

Junior Choir Tutor ~ Kristie Fudge

Kristie loves singing and is an ex-Young Adelaide Voices chorister and tutor. She was a part of the choir from 1992 -1999 and participated in 2 overseas tours.

Music has played a huge role in Kristie's life, learning the piano, flute and percussion at various stages in her life, as well as taking part in Dalcroze Eurhythmics music lessons. She is also a regular presenter at Orff Schulwerk music conferences for teachers.

Kristie has a Bachelor of Education and is currently teaching full time at Westport Primary School. She teaches a year 4 class as well as teaching music, choirs and percussion ensembles across the school.

In her spare time Kristie is the Musical Director of the Shine Christian Community Choir.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

| *Music for the Royal Fireworks* by Handel

| *Waltz from Coppelia* by Delibes

| *Hall of the Mountain King* from *Peer Gynt* by Grieg

| Row, Row, Row your Boat

| Ram Sam Sam

| *March from Carmen* by Bizet

| *Danse Infernale* from the *Firebird Suite* by Stravinsky

| *Mission Impossible* [by Lalo Shifrin](#)