

Fostering art song



Art Song Canberra

formerly A.C.T. Lieder Society

celebrating 30 years fostering art song in Canberra

Season of Song 2006

In 2006 Art Song Canberra will celebrate the 30th anniversary of its foundation as the A.C.T. Lieder Society with six recitals of fine art song by an outstanding array of award-winning, highly-accomplished artists, many of them widely experienced on the world stage. For the first time in its illustrious 30 years the society will include in its *Season of Song* a recital of art song accompanied by orchestra.

Background

Art Song Canberra is a dedicated group of volunteers and lovers of art song. It was founded as the A.C.T. Lieder Society in 1976 by a small group of devotees of art song led by Eleanor Houston of Covent Garden fame. The society's purpose is to foster and extend the love of art song. This is done mainly by:

- presenting high quality concerts to its members and the general public. The annual series is called the *Season of Song*;
- conducting an annual *Festival of Song* in which aspiring singers perform to an audience in a relatively relaxed and friendly environment and receive advice and encouragement from an acknowledged expert;
- providing opportunities for concert performance for dedicated and talented but amateur singers. This format has met with considerable audience approval and Art Song Canberra has scheduled another such event in 2006.

Throughout its life the society has presented a series of about six vocal recitals each year. 2006 is the tenth year in which the series has been announced as a year's program and presented under the collective title of *Season of Song*.

Among the many artists who have performed for the society are such noted Australian singers as Michael Martin, Sally-Anne Russell, Warwick Fyfe, Christopher Allan, Angela Giblin and Louise Page as well as Susan Burghardt from the USA. Pianists have included Phillipa Candy, Vivienne Winther, Nigel Butterley, Margaret Legge-Wilkinson and Darryl Coote. A great many of the society's artists over the years have been highly accomplished both in Australia and internationally. Recital programs have ranged widely from such classics of the Lieder repertoire as song cycles of Schubert and Schumann to fine art song by contemporary composers such as the noted Australian Nigel Butterley. The consistently high standard of the society's programs was recognised by a Canberra Critics' Circle Award in 2002.

Season of Song 2006

The *Season of Song 2006* will celebrate the 30th anniversary of the society's foundation, especially by the inclusion of a gala concert of art song accompanied by orchestra. This is a part of the art song repertoire never before presented by this society. The National Capital Orchestra (Director: Philip Hartstein) will collaborate with us in this splendid event. The three singers in this concert, Louise Page, Christina Wilson and Geoffrey Manning, have all performed for the society before.

So, too, have many other artists performing in *Season of Song 2006*, continuing the links with our past in this celebratory year. Michael Martin, with Narelle French and Rowan Harvey-Martin are notable among these.

On the other hand, artists newly appearing for us include Melbourne bass-baritone Ian Lowe with pianist David McNicol and soprano Sara Carvalho, well known to Canberra music theatre audiences.

In April, four highly talented Canberra singers will together sing a varied and delightful program of fine art song.

In vocal recitals so frequently given by one singer, duets can seldom be heard. Duets will feature prominently in the May concert to be given by Louise Page, Angela Giblin, Phillipa Candy and Margaret Legge-Wilkinson.

In 2006 the fourteenth annual **Festival of Song** will take place. It aims to help and encourage developing singers of art song. The Festival provides an excellent opportunity to singers of all ages to sing to an audience in a friendly, non-competitive, informal setting and receive expert, encouraging comment and advice both oral and written. It is a feast of art song for audience members.

Details of the *Season of Song 2006* follow.

Sunday 26th February, 3pm

John Lingard Hall, Canberra Grammar Junior School, Alexander Street, Red Hill

Celebrating Mozart

Ian Lowe (bass-baritone) and **David McNicol** (piano)

This year is the 250th anniversary of the birth of this beloved composer. Woven together with excerpts from his letters, this concert features Mozart's Lieder and operatic and concert arias in a celebration of the life of this young genius.

Ian Lowe studied at the Melba Conservatorium of Music and the Mozarteum, Salzburg. For 13 years he performed in operas, oratorios and concerts in Europe. Since 1996 he has been teaching and performing in Melbourne. He has been President of the Lieder Society of Victoria since 2000.



David McNicol studied with Margaret Schofield in Melbourne and Geoffrey Parsons in London. While repetiteur with Opera Australia he also accompanied its principal soloists in recitals. He has performed throughout Asia and Europe with Chamber Made Opera and national choirs. He is the official accompanist at Monash University.

Sunday 2nd April, 3pm

Music Room, Wesley Music Centre, National Circuit, Forrest

Four Canberra Songsters

Tanuja Doss (soprano), **Janene Broere** (mezzo-soprano), **Adam Laslett** (tenor) and **Greg Wallace** (tenor) with **Colin Forbes** and **Lara Dodds-Eden** (piano)

A varied program including Britten – *On This Island*, Wagner – *Wesendonck Lieder* and songs by Russian and English composers.

Tanuja Doss, Janene Broere, Adam Laslett and Greg Wallace are four Canberra singers to delight lovers of art song. They each have distinguished themselves in vocal studies and performance.

Tanuja Doss has studied music and voice since high school. For the last three years she has studied voice with Patricia Whitbread and completed her A Mus A in 2002.

Janene Broere completed her L Mus A in 2003 and is a regular singer at eisteddfods and recitals. She has performed several roles for Queanbeyan Players.

Adam Laslett completed his M Phil in piano in 2005, accompanies for the ANU School of Music and teaches piano. He has sung solos or accompanied for many Canberra groups.

Greg Wallace studies singing with Pat Davey. He is an experienced performer with the Queanbeyan Players for whom he has sung several principal roles in recent years.

Colin Forbes, keyboard performer and teacher, was on the staff of the Canberra School of Music until 1998 when he became Director of the Canberra Academy of Music and Related Arts where he is principal piano teacher and repetiteur.

Sunday 21st May, 3pm

John Lingard Hall, Canberra Grammar Junior School, Alexander Street, Red Hill

Four Hands, Two Voices

Louise Page (soprano) and **Angela Giblin** (mezzo-soprano) with **Phillipa Candy** and **Margaret Legge-Wilkinson** (piano)

Songs and duets by Handel, Monteverdi, Schubert, Dvorak and Britten sung by two of Canberra's best known singers and accompanied by two exceptional pianists who will also play piano works for four hands.

Louise Page has performed in operas, oratorios and concerts in Europe and throughout Australia. She won the inaugural Mietta's/City of Melbourne Song Recital Competition in 1995. She and Phillipa Candy have given many popular and highly praised recitals for the A.C.T. Lieder Society and have made CDs of Lieder by Richard Strauss and Erich Korngold.

Phillipa Candy has Master's degrees from Hobart and Philadelphia. She is an accompanist, teacher, répétiteur, vocal coach and conductor. In 1992 Phillipa was inducted into the Pi Kappa Lambda Society for musical excellence.

Angela Giblin has had an extensive career in Australia and overseas, in opera, concert, recital and broadcast. She received a Canberra Critics Circle Award in 1993. From 1996 to 2004 she was on the staff of the ANU School of Music. She has premièred many songs of Margaret Legge-Wilkinson.

Margaret Legge-Wilkinson, teacher of piano and composition, has performed throughout Australia and in Europe. She is co-director, pianist, composer and administrator for the Canberra New Music Ensemble. Many of her works have been heard overseas and in Australia including on ABC Classic FM.

Tuesday 13th June, 6.30pm

Music Room, Wesley Music Centre, Forrest

A Winter Warmer

Louise Page (soprano) and **Phillipa Candy** (piano)

See above for biographical information..

Sunday 25th June, 3pm

Music Room, Wesley Music Centre, National Circuit, Forrest

The Belle Epoch in Paris

Sara Carvalho (soprano) and **Alan Hicks** (piano)

The delights and elegance of songs by Delibes, Duparc, Fauré and Debussy together with operatic arias from Massenet's *Manon*.

Sara Carvalho graduated Master of Music from the ANU. She has performed widely in Canberra music theatre and concert. Sara won a Canberra Critics Circle Award in 2002 and Canberra Area Theatre Awards in 2002 and 2004. She is now a Developing Artist with Opera Queensland.

Alan Hicks was for eight years a freelance pianist, teacher and vocal coach in London where he appeared at major venues including the Wigmore Hall, Purcell Room and St John's Smith Square. He performed with the King Piano Trio and also with the contemporary music group, the Bennelong Ensemble, including in concert tours of Italy and the UK.

Sunday 10th September, 3pm

Llewellyn Hall, ANU School of Music

Gala 30th Anniversary Concert

Louise Page (soprano), **Christina Wilson** (mezzo-soprano) and **Geoffrey Manning** (baritone)

with the **National Capital Orchestra** conducted by **Philip Hartstein**



continued

Mahler – Selected Rückert Lieder

Canteloube – Selected Songs of the Auvergne

Eric Gross – Six Henry Lawson Settings

The ACT Lieder Society celebrates its thirtieth anniversary with a collection of songs for voice and orchestra sung by some of Canberra's finest exponents of art song.

Louise Page has performed in operas, oratorios and concerts in Europe and throughout Australia. She won the inaugural Mietta's/City of Melbourne Song Recital Competition in 1995. She and Phillipa Candy have given many popular and highly praised recitals for Art Sing Canberra (now the A.C.T. Lieder Society) and have made CDs of Lieder by Richard Strauss and Erich Korngold.

Christina Wilson graduated from the Canberra School of Music, won the Marianne Mathy Scholarship and went on to postgraduate studies at the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester and the National Opera Studio, London. Christina has appeared in opera, concert and recital in Australia, the USA, Europe and throughout Britain.

Geoffrey Manning has performed widely as a lyric baritone in opera, musicals, oratorio and recital. He has performed several pieces written for him by Australian composers Richard Mills and Hans Günter Mommer.

The National Capital Orchestra, founded in 1983 as the Canberra Pops Orchestra, later renamed the Canberra Community Orchestra, is Canberra's premier non-professional orchestra. It performs a wide range of music including the major works of the symphonic repertoire.

Philip Hartstein, musical director of the National Capital Orchestra since 2000, received a Canberra Critics' Circle Award for his work with the NCO in 2003. He has conducted for Canberra Youth Music since 1998. He plays regularly in the Canberra Symphony Orchestra and is active in chamber music.

Sunday 12th November, 3pm

Music Room, Wesley Music Centre, National Circuit, Forrest

Reflections

Michael Martin (tenor), **Rowan Harvey-Martin** (violin) and **Narelle French** (piano)

A welcome return by this entertaining trio with an afternoon of reminiscing involving music that has a special place in the artists' lives and careers. The music will be by Britten, Quilter, Kreisler, Sarasate, Gounod and others.

Michael Martin is a Principal Guest Artist with Opera Australia, Opera Queensland and all other state companies. Soloist with all the state Symphony Orchestras, Michael is a highly sought-after concert performer and teacher.

Rowan Harvey-Martin is Principal Violin with the Canberra Symphony Orchestra, Concertmaster of The Haydn Bande and leader of the Linnaeus String Quartet. Rowan is also Musical Director of the Oriana Chorale and The Llewellyn Choir.

Narelle French, Head of Music and Director of Young and Developing Artist programs with Opera Queensland, is a much sought-after vocal coach, concert arranger and performer. Narelle appears by courtesy of Opera Queensland.

CONCERT CANCELLED OWING TO SINGER'S ILLNESS



On **Sunday 20th August** at 10am Art Song Canberra will present its

Fourteenth Annual Festival of Song

Canberra Southern Cross Club, Phillip

This is an opportunity for performance and review for singers of all ages
and for a feast of art song for audience members.

Patron: Her Excellency Mrs Marlena Jeffery
Supported by the ACT Government



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