

MSO *Giving*

— SEASON 2023 —

“In my first year as Chief Conductor, I’ve been fortunate to meet many passionate supporters of this fine Orchestra. It’s thanks to this generous community that great performances have been—and always will be—at the heart of what we do at the MSO. Whether at the Sidney Myer Music Bowl, with friends in Hamer Hall, or with our communities across Victoria and the world, we are here for you, with a lifetime of music.”

MSO Chief Conductor, Maestro Jaime Martín



Welcome

Dear friends,

It was a delight to celebrate Season 2022 with so many of you—our first full Season of live orchestral performances in three years. Thanks to your support, 2022 captured a triumphant moment in our great Orchestra’s history, magnified by the much-anticipated arrival of Maestro Jaime Martín as the Orchestra’s new Chief Conductor. With this spirit of optimism pervading all our activities, Season 2023 promises to build upon the momentum generated for another extraordinary year of music with our incredible musicians.

On stage and off, our focus continues to be turned to the long-term future of the MSO and delivering a lifetime of music to generations of Victorians. From supporting Australia’s next generation of musicians through our many artist development programs and contributing to the future of the orchestral artform through the commissioning of new orchestral works, to introducing the MSO to our youngest audiences and sharing the thrill of live professional orchestral performances with communities across Victoria through our extensive regional touring program, the MSO has much work to do. With the rising essential costs of delivering these important initiatives, our goal this year is to raise three million dollars to support all of these exciting activities.

All of this, of course, is possible through the generous and inspiring support of our wonderful Patrons, Trusts and Foundations, bequestors, and donors. You are at the heart of everything we do at the MSO and integral to the Orchestra’s success—thank you for your genuine desire for our Orchestra to thrive and flourish, now and into the future.

Reconnecting face-to-face with our supporters over the past year has been a highlight for all of us at the MSO and I’m delighted to confirm that our Patrons Lounge supported by Emirates will continue its post-concert format, increasing the opportunity for our musicians and guest artists to attend. Of our new Patron initiatives, I am particularly excited for our special fundraising events, where guests can enjoy an intimate evening of exquisite food, music, and company with some of the most revered guest artists featured in our Season 2023.

Whether you are a long-term Patron or considering supporting the Orchestra for the first time, there are so many ways to become involved with the MSO and actively contribute to its prosperity. I do hope you will join us as we work together to ensure our great Orchestra delivers a lifetime of music to the people of Melbourne, Victoria and beyond for generations to come.



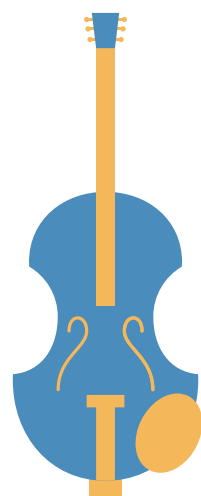
Suzanne Dembo
MSO Director of Philanthropy and External Affairs

The Power Of Giving

MSO SEASON 2022 MILESTONES

- Maestro Jaime Martín takes the helm as MSO Chief Conductor.
- Noongar man Aaron Wyatt becomes the first Indigenous conductor to lead a state symphony orchestra, when he conducted MSO's Musical Acknowledgement of Country at the Sidney Myer Music Bowl in February.
- MSO announces its three-year partnership with ANAM (Australian National Academy of Music).
- A new MSO Academy, a paid development program for emerging artists, launches in May, providing performance opportunities, chamber music projects and mentorships from MSO musicians.
- MSO establishes two First Nations programs to support young First Nations artists —The Ensemble Dutala Residency and First Voices Composer's Program.
- MSO establishes a new Commissioning Circle to help shape the MSO's legacy of introducing new works to the orchestral canon.
- MSO receives an Art Music Award for Performance of the Year: Notated Composition for WATA, a collaboration between David Yipininy Wilfred and Daniel Ngukurr Boy Wilfred, MSO Composer in Residence Paul Grabowsky AO, the Australian Art Orchestra, and the MSO, under Principal Conductor in Residence Benjamin Northey.
- With support from the Australian Government as part of the UK Australia Season 2021–2022, MSO travels to London to sign a new collaboration agreement with the London Symphony Orchestra.
- MSO announces it will present the London Symphony Orchestra in May 2023 as part of their Australian Tour with Sir Simon Rattle – their first tour here since 2014.
- MSO receives an ARIA Award for Best Classical Album for our recording with Sir Andrew Davis of The Enchanted Loom: Orchestral Works by Carl Vine.
- \$4.5M in additional funding support is secured from Federal and State Governments to help sustain the organisation through another year of major impact due to COVID.
- 10,000 students attend MSO's school concerts for Victoria's primary and secondary students at the now heavily subsidised ticket price of \$9 (down from \$17). Low ICSEA schools receive free transport and further discounted tickets.

2022 – A YEAR OF RECOVERY



150

Total number of live performances

13

MSO Commissions performed

273

Workshops and Public Programs



230,071

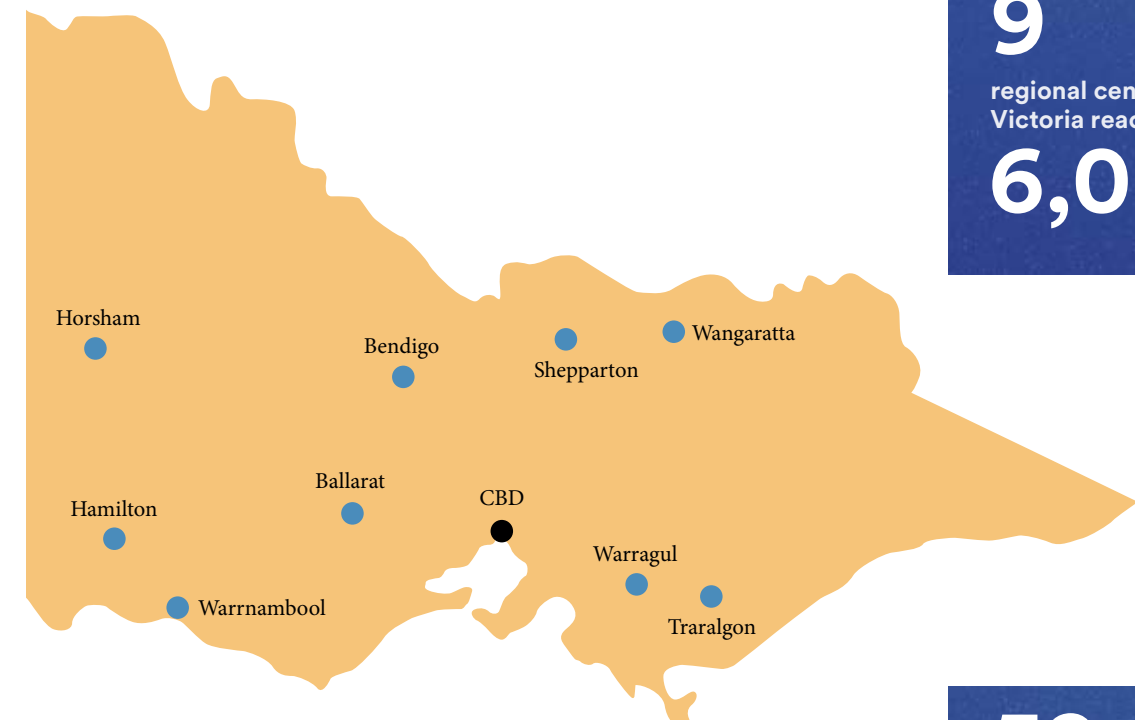
Live audience



12 World premieres



1.2M Digital audience



9
regional centres visited in Victoria reaching over
6,000+
people



59 countries
MSO concerts and content viewed via MSO.LIVE

MSO GIVING 2022

9,973

Donations and grants received

7,861

Number of donors

5,084

Number of new donors

Take the next step in your MSO journey

As a not-for-profit arts organisation, we rely on the generosity of our community to support our many programs. There are so many ways and areas of our work that you can support. Keep it simple and direct your gift to help us with general operating expenses, or peruse the following pages to learn more about the breadth and depth of the Orchestra's activities—both on and off the stage.

To assist in finding a particular aspect of our program which resonates with you, we've grouped our activities into specific Priority Areas:

- Emerging Artist Initiatives
- Musicians and Artistic Family
- Learning and Engagement
- First Nations Collaboration
- Commissioning
- Regional Touring and Engagement
- MSO Chorus
- Gifts in Wills

Within each Program Area, we've highlighted key priority initiatives requiring funding for 2023, as well as special upcoming events held exclusively for Program specific supporters. Should you be inspired to support an initiative, or you would like to find out more information, you can find the contact details of the best person to be in touch with at the bottom of each Program Area listing.

For those who are thinking of becoming an MSO Patron in 2023, our Patron overview will provide more information. And, for those supporters who are already part of our wonderful MSO Patron Family, we have included an overview of our key MSO Patron events on pages 24 and 25.

Join the MSO Family BECOME A PATRON OF THE MSO

We invite you to become a Patron and make an annual gift of \$500 or more, joining a group of like-minded supporters who are passionate about music. An annual donation as a Patron ensures that the MSO can continue doing what it does best—bringing the best music to our audiences, commissioning new Australian work, and supporting our talented musicians.

In appreciation of your very special support, Patrons enjoy a range of exclusive events and experiences. These include behind the scenes access, being the first to learn about what is going on at the MSO (including exclusive Patron pre-sales), MSO's Philanthropy Newsletter *The Full Score*, and being invited to exclusive activities with MSO musicians and guest artists, including access to our Emirates Patron Lounge at selected Hamer Hall concerts. Our Patrons are also recognised on the MSO website, in the Annual Report, and in concert programs.

If you wish, Patrons are welcome to direct their donation to the area that most interests them such as commissioning new Australian music, supporting our school programs, outreach and access, the MSO Chorus, or First Nations programs, among other worthy options.

To find out more about our Patron Program and how to join, please contact Charlotte Crocker, Philanthropy Lead on 03 8646 1551 or crocker@mso.com.au



Emerging Artist Initiatives

THE FUTURE OF OUR ORCHESTRA

Our emerging artist initiatives nurture the careers of countless artists—the future stars of the MSO—and are key to the MSO's long-term artistic standing and vibrancy. From residency programs for up-and-coming conductors and composers, to partnering with educational music institutions and orchestras, the MSO is committed to supporting our nation's emerging musical talent.



2023 Academy Members - Emily Beauchamp (violin), Cian Malikides (trombone), Alyse Faith (flute) and Oliver Crofts (clarinet)

SUPPORT THE MSO ACADEMY

Following a successful 6-month pilot in 2022, 2023 sees the MSO Academy expand to a full 12-month intensive program for four emerging instrumentalists, providing a vital final bridge to a successful professional career. Adopting a holistic approach, this year-long residency-style program provides our next generation of musicians with practical, hands-on, and tailored training across all aspects of life as a professional orchestral musician.

Academy members receive a generous stipend, perform with the MSO, undertake chamber music projects, and receive mentoring from established MSO musicians. Offstage, the program enables participants insights into the wider workings of a professional symphony orchestra—from marketing, philanthropy, financial, production and programming considerations, to media training and participation in our learning and engagement initiatives.

Recognising the initiative as an important investment in the MSO's future, Platinum Patrons Di Jameson and Frank Mercurio have generously pledged a three-year lead gift to support the program's pilot and establishment phase. We invite you to join Di and Frank in supporting this important program.

“This program has been an incredibly valuable experience and has been unique in its offerings compared to the rest of my musical education. There's really no other way to learn how to play in a professional orchestral section than by actually doing it, and especially for an emerging flautist like me, it's rare to get that opportunity in an orchestra as prestigious as the MSO.”

Lily Bryant 2022 Academy Member (flute)

SUPPORT AYO STRING FELLOWSHIPS

For more than 15 years, the MSO has delivered an annual fellowship-style program for nine string players from the Australian Youth Orchestra (AYO), providing an inspiring and immersive opportunity for these young pre-professional musicians to experience the world of a professional orchestra.

Participants spend an intensive week with the MSO, with accommodation and airfares provided to ensure financial barriers to participation are removed. Each Fellow is assigned a mentor from within the Orchestra, who provides individual feedback and instrumental tuition throughout the week. In addition to attending and playing alongside MSO musicians during rehearsals with guest conductors and soloists, students participate in various professional development sessions including concerto and excerpt preparation workshops, media training and a seminar on life as a professional musician. The week culminates with each Fellow completing a casual audition for the Orchestra. Those who successfully pass this audition are invited to join the list of casual musicians performing with the MSO.

2023 EMERGING ARTIST INITIATIVES SUPPORTER EVENTS

MSO ACADEMY EVENT

Academy at NGV Chamber Performance

Thursday 24 August, 7.30pm

NGV Southbank

Academy End of Year Showcase

Thursday 7 December, 6.00pm

Melbourne Recital Centre

SNARE DRUM AWARD

Monday 28 August, 6.30pm

Iwaki Auditorium, ABC Southbank

**Event access is complimentary for program supporters.*

To find out more about our many emerging artist initiatives and how you can help support the next generation of Australian artists and contribute to the future of the Australian music sector, please contact Nickie Warton, Head of Philanthropy on 0460 602 973 or wartonn@mso.com.au

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS WITH THE CYBEC FOUNDATION

For 20 years, the Cybec Foundation has been a loyal and generous supporter of the MSO. Beginning with the establishment of the Cybec 21st Century Australian Composers program which addressed the need for hands-on professional development opportunities for emerging Australian composers, the Foundation's continued support has enabled this nationally recognised initiative to become an exemplar for artist development programs within the sector. In more recent years, the Foundation has expanded its support for emerging artists, enabling the MSO to establish the MSO's Young Composer in Residence initiative and Assistant Conductor position.

The Cybec Foundation's 20 years of unwavering support represents a significant investment in the future of Australian music, the orchestral artform, and the individual lives and professional pathways of 80 young composers, as well as the conducting careers of Benjamin Northey, Tianyi Lu, Nicholas Bochner, and our current Young Composer in Residence, Carlo Antonioli. Testimony to the power and impact strong philanthropic support can deliver, more than 80 new Australian works have been commissioned through Cybec-funded programs, with many alumni becoming established composers both in Australia and abroad and enjoying subsequent commissions with the MSO.

We are deeply grateful to the Cybec Foundation's generous and consistent giving to the Orchestra over many years, and for their shared desire to provide opportunities for talented Australian composers and conductors to hone their craft.



Musicians & Artistic Family

THE HEART OF THE MSO

Whether conductor, soloist, orchestral musician, composer, guest or collaborating artist, our wonderful and talented creatives are the very heart and soul of the MSO, bringing our annual Season of music to life on stage.

By supporting our MSO Musicians and Artistic Family you can play a crucial part in delivering extraordinary, world-class musical moments for audiences across Melbourne, Victoria and beyond, all whilst deepening your personal connection with the Orchestra and its musicians.

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While I've conducted orchestras around the globe, Melbourne remains my spiritual home and the MSO, my extended family. Since my early days growing up in Ballarat to international appearances with the likes of the London Philharmonic Orchestra, I have remained a proud Victorian, committed to sharing the power and magic of orchestral music with our wonderful audiences.

”

Benjamin Northey MSO Principal Conductor in Residence

SUPPORT BENJAMIN NORTHEY: CELEBRATING 20 YEARS WITH THE MSO

Renowned Australian conductor Benjamin Northey was appointed to the role of MSO Principal Conductor in Residence following a long-standing and highly successful relationship with the MSO. Known for his ability to command an audience on stage and off, Benjamin leads the Orchestra through several programs at Hamer Hall, Melbourne Town Hall, and across Victoria.

At ease with conducting core repertoire from the traditional orchestral canon as he is leading schools' concerts or conducting live movie soundtracks, Maestro Northey's extraordinary talent and creative energy makes him one of the most esteemed and in-demand Australian conductors of his generation. In 2023 we mark a significant milestone for the MSO and Benjamin Northey and celebrate 20 years since he made his professional debut with the Orchestra at the Sidney Myer Music Bowl.

SUPPORT MSO'S 2023 ENSEMBLE IN RESIDENCE: GONDWANA VOICES

Founded by Lyn Williams AM in 1997, Gondwana Voices is Australia's national children's choir for treble singers aged 10–17. With a reputation for performances of outstanding musicianship, the choristers of Gondwana Voices come from all around Australia, from the cities, the suburbs, and the bush to perform captivating and challenging music.

The choir tours nationally and internationally and has taken part in the World Symposium on Choral Music in Rotterdam and the BBC Proms. In 2019, Gondwana Voices performed Brett Dean's *Vexations and Devotions* with the Berlin Radio Symphony Orchestra under maestro Vladimir Jurowski at the Berlin Philharmonie. The choir has recorded three albums for ABC Classic.



SUPPORT A GUEST ARTIST

Are you excited for a particular guest artist performing with the MSO this year? Did you know that you can make a gift in support of one of the many consummate conductors or soloists who perform alongside our great Orchestra?

MSO is fortunate to attract guest artists of the highest calibre from across Australia and the world, thanks to our artistic reputation. We invite you to support a vital part of MSO's artistic vibrancy and have your name aligned to your favourite artist in 2023.

2023 ADOPT A MUSICIAN EVENTS

ADOPT A MUSICIAN SEASON WELCOME EVENT

Join Chief Conductor Maestro Jaime Martin and the musicians of the MSO for an insight into the working rehearsal of Britten's *War Requiem*.

Thursday 13 April, 6.30pm
Hamer Hall, Arts Centre Melbourne

ADOPT A MUSICIAN DINNER

As our way of saying thank you, supporters of our Adopt a Musician program will be invited to join their adopted musician at a unique dining experience at the home of the MSO—Hamer Hall. What better place to spend a celebratory evening shining the spotlight on the artistry and achievements of our wonderful musicians?

Tuesday 18 July, 7:00pm
Hamer Hall, Arts Centre Melbourne

**Event access is complimentary for program supporters.*

JOIN THE MSO'S ADOPT A MUSICIAN PROGRAM

Our musicians are the beating heart of the MSO, devoting countless hours to providing music that motivates and inspires. We invite you to support the music and the orchestra you love while getting to know your favourite player at the same time. Through our Adopt a Musician program, you can honour their talent, artistry, and life-long commitment to music.

Joining the Adopt a Musician program enables you to:

- Develop a relationship with a musician of your choice.
- Watch and enjoy the musical career of your adoptee.
- Gain a deeper insight into the world of your musician.
- Enjoy relaxed social occasions with your musician, other adopters, and the MSO family.
- Receive recognition in MSO concert programs and the MSO website.

Adopting an MSO musician is easy:

1. Select a player you'd like to support. See profiles of all our musicians at mso.com.au/behind-the-music/meet-the-musicians.
2. Involve your friends. Together you can adopt a player by forming a syndicate to help make adopting more affordable.
3. Contact us. We're here to help with your adoption and organise your first meeting with your musician.

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Our family has subscribed continuously to the MSO for around 85 years, and we have all derived much pleasure from seeing and hearing this world class orchestra. When we thought about what more we could do to show how the MSO had enriched our lives, it occurred to us that the Adopt A Musician program might be the ideal vehicle.

The percussion section has always appealed to us as being a close-knit and fun-loving group, so we elected to adopt one of their players a few years ago. We now have a lovely relationship with "our boy" (Rob Cossom) which even extends to the occasional social contact. There is no doubt that participation in this program has enhanced our MSO experience and we unreservedly recommend the Adopt A Musician program to anyone who wishes to gain an even more intimate contact with our fabulous musicians.

”

- Rhyl Wade & Clem Gruen

To find out how you can support one of our talented artists, please contact Charlotte Crocker, Philanthropy Lead on 03 8646 1551 or crockerc@mso.com.au

Learning & Engagement

INSPIRING A LOVE OF MUSIC

Each year, MSO's Learning and Engagement department presents a wide-ranging suite of programs and experiences for the hearts and minds of music lovers of all ages and backgrounds. From our highly renowned Schools Program and family concerts, to further learning opportunities for adults, our Learning and Engagement programs reflect the fact that the joy of music discovery is a lifelong journey that never stops.

With such a diverse range of experiences and activities, your support is vital to ensure the following programs remain accessible to our community:

- Ears Wide Open
- Music & Ideas
- Pre-Concert Talks
- Open Rehearsals
- Schools Concerts
- Jams for Schools
- MSO Ignite
- Online Schools Incursions
- Melbourne Music Summit for Teachers
- MSO for Schools Website
- Family Jams and Jams for Juniors
- Classic Kids Concerts
- *The Pizzicato Effect*
- Relaxed Performances
- Work Experience Program



SUPPORT RELAXED PERFORMANCES

Help us deliver three family performances for those who would benefit from more relaxed environments such as people with autism, sensory sensitivities, learning disabilities and Tourette's Syndrome. Our relaxed performances take place in Hamer Hall, a safe and relaxed environment with elements adapted to reduce anxiety and discomfort. Concertgoers can expect:

- A downloadable visual story emailed to ticket holders ahead of the concert
- A relaxed attitude to noise and movement during the concert
- Lights to stay on during the concert
- Open doors and chill-out break areas
- General admission seating with space for freedom of movement
- Friendly, trained staff.

SUPPORT SCHOOLS CONCERTS \$9 TICKET INITIATIVE

Each year, the MSO brings together wonderful artists and stunning repertoire to inspire 10,000 primary and secondary students through our Schools Concerts.

A generous commitment from an anonymous MSO Patron has enabled the Orchestra to meet the needs of our student community and reduce the price of school concert tickets from \$17 to just \$9. By making these concerts more accessible to all Victorian students, this important investment has tremendous impact setting thousands of students on a path of emotional and intellectual discovery through the art of music.

Your gift will support this generous funding and help more students than ever experience the thrill of a live symphony orchestra through our \$9 student ticket initiative.

SUPPORT THE MSO'S MELBOURNE MUSIC SUMMIT

The Melbourne Music Summit is the MSO's annual conference designed to support and inspire educators of all types including generalist classroom or music specialist teachers, and private instrumental teachers. Presented live and online, highlights will include keynote addresses, workshops, masterclasses, and conversations with leading music educators and artists of the MSO.

Help us engage the very best music and education experts, including Karen Kyriakou, a leading early childhood music educator, and our Creative Chair for Learning and Engagement, Dr Anita Collins, an award-winning educator, researcher, and writer in the field of brain development and music learning.

SUPPORT MSO IGNITE

Share the love of music with 1,000 students from schools experiencing barriers to participation through our Ignite program, which provides subsidised tickets and free transport, prioritising schools with an ICSEA (Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage) lower than 1000. Often students attending low ICSEA schools have a student cohort with a lower than average socio-economic background.



SUPPORT MSO'S CREATIVE CHAIR FOR LEARNING AND ENGAGEMENT

Dr Anita Collins is an award-winning educator, researcher, and writer in the field of brain development and music learning. Anita is the author of *The Music Advantage*, a book for parents and teachers about the extraordinary and often surprising benefits of learning music for children from newborns to teenagers.

2023 EVENTS FOR LEARNING & ENGAGEMENT SUPPORTERS

CLASSIC KIDS: FORCES OF NATURE CONCERT & LUNCH

Friday 9 June, 10.30am
Hamer Hall, Arts Centre Melbourne

THE PIZZICATO EFFECT MID-YEAR CONCERT

Wednesday 21 June, 5pm
Broadmeadows Town Hall

CLASSIC KIDS: A SYMPHONIC CHRISTMAS MORNING TEA

Saturday 16 December, 11am
Hamer Hall, Arts Centre Melbourne

**Event access is complimentary for program supporters.*

For more information on our Learning and Engagement activities and to find out ways you can support these initiatives, please contact Nickie Warton, Head of Philanthropy on 0460 602 973 or wartonn@mso.com.au

First Nations Collaboration

HONOURING THE OLDEST MUSIC PRACTICE IN THE WORLD

For more than 117 years the MSO has performed on the lands of the Kulin Nations. Guided by MSO's First Nations Creative Chair Deborah Cheetham Fraillon AO and as one of Australia's leading performing arts organisations, we are committed to strengthening our relationship with First Nations communities across Victoria and to deepening our understanding of and respect for the unique cultures and histories of the First Nations peoples who celebrate the oldest music practice in the world.



SUPPORT EMERGING FIRST NATIONS ARTISTS

In partnership with the MSO, Short Black Opera established The Ensemble Dutala Residency to provide emerging instrumentalists with the opportunity to undertake side-by-side workshops and performances with the MSO, and receive mentorship from established MSO players.

First Voices is the MSO's second new initiative for emerging artists, creating a welcoming space to identify and develop the compositional talent of two First Nations composers each year. Through mentoring and the practical experience of a paid commission to develop a chamber work with the MSO, First Voices is a program in which cultural narrative is expanded and empowered.

SUPPORT MSO'S FIRST NATIONS CREATIVE CHAIR: DEBORAH CHEETHAM FRAILLON AO

Yorta Yorta woman, soprano, composer and educator, Deborah Cheetham Fraillon has been a leader and pioneer in the Australian arts landscape for more than 25 years. In the 2014 Queen's Birthday Honours List, Deborah was appointed as an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO), for "distinguished service to the performing arts as an opera singer, composer and artistic director, to the development of Indigenous artists, and to innovation in performance", and in 2021 was announced as MSO's First Nations Creative Chair.

FIRST NATIONS GIVING CIRCLE

Introduced in 2022 with the generous support of Virtuoso Patrons and Life Members Michael Ullmer AO and Jenny Ullmer, our First Nations Giving Circle plays a vital role in helping us realise many significant First Nations initiatives and artistic outcomes across our Season.

Annual gifts of \$2,500+ in support of our First Nations initiatives will enable you to join the MSO's First Nations Giving Circle, where you can connect with like-minded music-lovers and enjoy access to special MSO First Nations and Patron events.

“It's such an amazing opportunity to conduct one of the state symphony orchestras. While I've been involved in some big productions before [...] this opportunity with the MSO represents such a huge step forward, both for me as an individual and for Indigenous representation in Australian classical music.”

Aaron Wyatt Conductor

2023 FIRST NATIONS GIVING CIRCLE EVENTS

EQUITY TRUSTEES FIRST NATIONS LAUNCH

Patrons of the MSO's First Nations Giving Circle are invited to an exclusive event with MSO's Major NAIDOC Week Partner, Equity Trustees. Join Deborah Cheetham Fraillon AO and Aaron Wyatt for this very special event.

Wednesday 29 March, 6.30pm
Iwaki Auditorium

MUSIC & IDEAS: FIRST VOICES SHOWCASE

Hear the premiere of two works by First Nations composers performed by members of Australia's first ensemble for classically trained First Nations musicians alongside members of the MSO.

An important evening of music and conversation that will celebrate the vital contribution our First Nations musicians and composers make to the ongoing vitality of the orchestral sector.

Wednesday 21 June, 5pm
Broadmeadows Town Hall

NAIDOC WEEK CELEBRATIONS

Friday 7 July
Post Concert, Hamer Hall, Arts Centre Melbourne

EUMERALLA, A WAR REQUIEM FOR PEACE

Eumeralla, a war requiem for peace brings into focus a period of Australia's history that is yet to be fully understood. Written and composed by acclaimed Yorta Yorta soprano, composer and Artistic Director of Short Black Opera, Deborah Cheetham Fraillon AO, this requiem for peace, will be sung entirely in the ancient dialects of the Gunditjmarra people.

Saturday 14 October
Post Concert, Hamer Hall, Arts Centre Melbourne

*Event access is complimentary for program supporters.



CELEBRATING FIRST NATIONS IN 2022

As part of the MSO's First Nations Engagement strategy, Season 2022 saw several wonderful initiatives celebrate First Nations artists and creativity.

History was made at the Sidney Myer Music Bowl when Noongar man Aaron Wyatt became the first Indigenous person to conduct an Australian state symphony orchestra where he led the performance of *Long Time Living Here*. Also at the Sidney Myer Music Bowl, the MSO presented one of the final performances from the late Archie Roach in *One Song: The Music of Archie Roach*. Through nine breathtaking orchestral songs, arranged by—and performed with—MSO Composer in Residence Paul Grabowsky AO, Roach delivered one of the most moving performances in recent memory.

Commissioned by the MSO and in a first-time collaboration between Deborah Cheetham Fraillon AO and Kalkadunga Yidaki master William Barton, *Baparrripna* had its world premiere at the 2022 Season Opening Gala, conducted by Jaime Martín. Created for orchestra and yidaki (didgeridoo), in *Baparrripna* (Yorta Yorta for Dawn), Cheetham Fraillon and Barton evoked the light and sound of this peaceful time of day.

During NAIDOC Week 2022, three new, high-profile programs elevated, celebrated, and advanced important First Nations voices and proved extremely popular with audiences. In MSO + Spinifex Gum, the MSO brought together Marliya, a choir of talented young Indigenous women and girls from Far North Queensland and the Torres Strait with the music of Felix Riebl and Ollie McGill (*The Cat Empire*). Attracting a significant new, and younger, audience demographic, Electric Fields + MSO (pictured left) was a concert collaboration that saw a capacity Hamer Hall audience on their feet in appreciation. The award-winning electronic music duo Electric Fields—Zaachariaha Fielding (vocals) and Michael Ross (keyboard/producer)—sang in Pitjantjatjara, Yankunytjatjara, and English.

Finally, at the 2022 Art Music Awards, the MSO accepted the award for "Performance of the Year: Notated Composition"; awarded to the Orchestra together with the Australian Art Orchestra, Paul Grabowsky AO, Daniel Ngukurr Boy Wilfred and David Yipinyiny Wilfred (conducted by Benjamin Northey) for the MSO's 2021 concert, *WATA: a Gathering for Manikay Performers, Improvising Soloists and Orchestra*.

To find out more about this exciting program or how to join the First Nations Giving Circle, please contact Nickie Warton, Head of Philanthropy on 0460 602 973 or wartonn@mso.com.au

Commissioning

BRINGING AUSTRALIAN STORIES TO LIFE

Commissioning is a crucial part of the MSO's DNA and plays a key role in the ongoing life of the orchestral artform. By regularly engaging local and international composers, the MSO has a strong reputation for supporting the innovation, creation, and promotion of new music. We are especially proud to shine the spotlight on Australian composers and share their music with audiences around the world. In doing so, your MSO is actively contributing to a uniquely Australian voice to the orchestral canon.

In 2023, the Orchestra will premiere 22 new MSO commissions including works by Elena Kats-Chernin, Paul Grabowsky AO, Composer in Residence Mary Finsterer whose Chair is supported by Kim Williams AO, and 2023 Cybec Young Composer in Residence Melissa Douglas. Reflecting this extraordinary commitment to the creation of new works, we seek your support to enable the development and presentation of the following world premieres of MSO commissions:

Julia Potter	<i>Stay Close</i>
Christopher Healey	<i>Vita Nostra: Our life (is brief)</i>
Joseph Franklin	<i>you are meadow</i>
Naomi Dodd	<i>Dawn 'til Dusk in Kosciuszko</i>
Melissa Douglas	<i>Fanfare</i>
Melissa Douglas	<i>New Work</i>
Melissa Douglas	<i>New Work</i>
Mary Finsterer	<i>Mysterium I</i>
Mary Finsterer	<i>Lumen</i>
Mary Finsterer	<i>Stabat Mater</i>
Paul Grabowsky AO	<i>Concerto Grosso</i>
Paul Grabowsky AO	<i>New Work</i>
Katy Abbott	<i>New Work</i>
Sir James MacMillan	<i>Christmas Oratorio</i>
Elena Kats-Chernin	<i>Double Concerto for Violin and Cello</i>
Alex Turley + Sangam	<i>Belonging (Andal)</i>
Alex Turley + Sangam	<i>The Way Forward (Chalisa)</i>
Alex Turley	<i>Chroma</i>
James Henry	<i>New Work</i>
Vonda Last	<i>New Work</i>
Mark Holdsworth	<i>Songs for the Dead: Concerto for Viola</i>
Brenda Gifford	<i>New Work</i>



MSO COMMISSIONING CIRCLE

Joining our Commissioning Circle allows you to deepen your involvement with the MSO and assist in the creation of ground-breaking new musical works. By supporting our Commissioning Circle with an annual gift of \$2,500 or more, you can help the MSO to contribute to the future of the orchestral artform and create new opportunities for leading and emerging composers. Members of this exciting circle of innovation enjoy priority access to commissioned artists and the works themselves, in addition to MSO Patron events and invitations.



HONOURING AN EXTRAORDINARY LIFE THROUGH MUSIC

Over recent years, the MSO has been fortunate to have received support for new commissions that celebrate a special wedding anniversary, birthdays and a lifetime remembered.

This October, the MSO's world premiere of a new piece by celebrated Australian composer, Elena Kats-Chernin, will be of particular significance for Bob Weis and his family who chose to honour the memory and extraordinary life of their mother, Sara (pictured left), by supporting the commissioning of this new work.

Bob revealed that having decided to honour his mother through music, working with the MSO was a natural choice. "Mum loved the arts and was an avid music lover and long-time subscriber to the MSO. During her final years, I would accompany her to performances."

Sara was many things throughout her life: mother, grandmother, great grandmother, she lived through the horrors of wartime Europe, studied fine arts, spoke nine languages, and was Principal of an orphanage for survivor children in Łódź, Poland in the immediate post-war years. In 1950, looking for a better life, she came with her husband Adam and infant son to Melbourne as a refugee.

Tasked with musically representing such an extraordinary life and woman, Elena Kats-Chernin has worked with Bob regularly throughout the commissioning process. Bob, who has been "an unabashed fan of Elena's for a long time" describes this experience as "amazing".

"I've spent hours sharing anecdotes about mum—and Elena would jot a musical idea down on manuscript there and then and play it back to me on the piano."

In working with Elena, there is an inherent understanding and connection. "Elena is also from a migrant background, whose family also moved to Australia for a better life, although in different circumstances. If mum were still alive, I'm sure they'd be conversing in at least 3 mutual languages."

2023 COMMISSIONING CIRCLE EVENTS

METROPOLIS SERIES REHEARSAL EXPERIENCE WITH MARY FINSTERER

Members of our Commissioning Circle are invited to attend the rehearsal of the world premiere of Mary Finsterer's MSO commissioned piece, *Stabat Mater*. Set within the stunning ambience of St Patrick's Cathedral, witness Principal Guest Conductor, Benjamin Northey, musicians of the MSO, and the Choir of Trinity College Melbourne rehearse and collaborate with MSO's Composer in Residence, Mary Finsterer, to bring the notes on the page to life for the very first time.

Tuesday 26 September, 7:30pm
St Patrick's Cathedral, East Melbourne

**Event access is complimentary for program supporters.*

Should you wish to join the Commissioning Circle, dedicate a new work to a loved one or mark a special event, or to find out how you can support the development of the orchestral canon for future generations to enjoy, to please contact Nickie Warton, Head of Philanthropy on 0460 602 973 or wartonn@mso.com.au

Regional Touring & Engagement

AN ORCHESTRA FOR ALL VICTORIANS

Our annual regional touring program is a great source of pride for the MSO as we focus on championing community participation and enabling access for all. We love connecting with audiences throughout our wonderful State, bringing people together through the uplifting power of music.

Across 2023, the MSO will be hitting the road to bring magical symphonic moments to the eight regional Victorian centres of Ballarat, Bendigo, Warragul, Shepparton, Wangaratta, Warrnambool, Hamilton, and Horsham. Reaching an estimated 8,000+ Victorians, MSO will deliver a tailored suite of 35 activities, including:

- Gala evening concerts
- Daytime Schools performances
- Community engagement activities
- School workshops
- Digital livestreams specifically for regional audiences

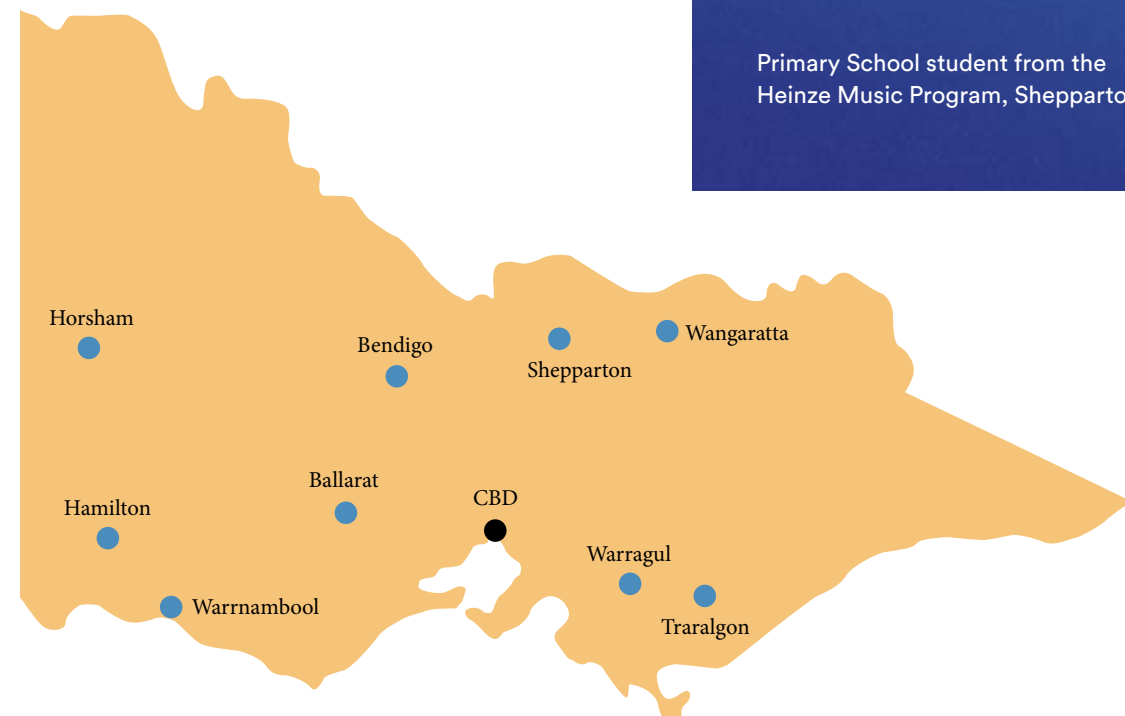
Taking the Orchestra on the road is a considerable investment for the MSO. In addition to the wonderful support received from government and our trusts and foundations, funding from our partners and donors is crucial to our Orchestra's ability to engage and connect with Victorians across the State.

“It was such an amazing couple of days when you all visited Mildura. Please come back again! Shepparton, Wangaratta and Albury are so lucky to have you next month.”

Mildura District Orchestra community player

“It was amazing and I have never heard instruments play and sound like that before -It was a really cool experience and I loved learning how to conduct.”

Primary School student from the Heinze Music Program, Shepparton



GEELONG FRIENDS OF THE MSO

The Geelong Friends of the MSO plays an important part in supporting the Orchestra and ensuring the continuation of the subscription series annual concerts in Geelong's splendid Costa Hall. Benefits include:

- Invitation to a reception after every Geelong concert with the opportunity to meet the conductor and soloist
- Invitation to attend the presentation of the new season's programs and artists
- Opportunities to hear the orchestra at work in open rehearsals
- An opportunity to become more closely involved with the MSO's activities through the Adopt a Musician program

SIGN UP TO THE GEELONG FRIENDS OF THE MSO

Cost for an annual membership is \$80 for couples and \$45 for individuals. If you would like to become involved more closely with the MSO and reside in the Geelong and Surf Coast area, please visit mso.com.au/geelongfriends and complete the online enquiry form.

2023 REGIONAL TOURING SUPPORTER EVENTS

ON COUNTRY EXPERIENCE IN GUNDITJMARA LAND WITH DEBORAH CHEETHAM FRAILLON AO

Supporters of our Regional Touring and First Nations programs are invited to join musicians of the MSO in Warrnambool, with an on-country experience in Gunditjmarara land, led by Deborah Cheetham Fraillon AO. This is an important opportunity for the Orchestra and its stakeholders to visit the site of the Eumeralla wars in advance of the MSO performance in Melbourne of Eumeralla, a war requiem for peace in October. More event details to follow throughout the Season.

For more information on MSO's Regional engagement activities and to help us share our music with communities across Victoria, please contact Nickie Warton, Head of Philanthropy on 0460 602 973 or wartonn@mso.com.au

MSO Chorus

THE VOICE OF THE ORCHESTRA

Our choristers are essential for many of the orchestral canon's most beloved works. Where would we be without Handel's *Messiah*, Orff's *Carmina Burana* or the Requiems of Mozart, Verdi and Fauré? What about Beethoven's 9th and Mahler's 2nd and 8th Symphonies?

MSO's 160 choristers give their time voluntarily every week to rehearse and perform our Season's choral repertoire. On average, our Chorus performs 14 times a year. It's an extraordinary annual commitment for these semi-professional singers, who under the artistic guidance of Chorus Director, Warren Trevelyan-Jones, bring so much colour, joy, and vibrancy to our annual Season of music.

To attract the best singers from across Melbourne and beyond and remove financial barriers to participation, the MSO Chorus doesn't charge membership fees. That's why, despite our Chorus' immeasurable and unquestionable artistic value, we seek support from our music-loving community to assist with the Chorus' annual costs.

Your gift to the MSO Chorus will:

- Place a music score in each chorister's hands through the essential purchase and hire of orchestral and a capella choral scores.
- Support the role of world-class Chorus Director, Warren Trevelyan-Jones—an essential part of MSO's Artistic Family.
- Provide a piano accompanist at every Chorus rehearsal.
- Enable professional development opportunities for Chorus members, such as workshops with guest conductors, language coaches and vocal trainers.
- Include the Chorus in touring plans by subsidising key costs such as accommodation and buses.
- Contribute to the choral artform by commissioning and performing new choral works—both orchestral and a capella.
- Shine the spotlight on our Chorus by supporting production costs associated with a capella performances.

SUPPORT MSO's CHORUS DIRECTOR WARREN TREVELYAN-JONES

Warren Trevelyan-Jones is regarded as one of the leading choral conductors and choir trainers in Australia and is an integral member of MSO's Artistic Family. He began his singing career as a Choral Scholar and Lay Clerk in Exeter Cathedral Choir, going on to sing in Winchester Cathedral Choir, and in 1999 was appointed Lay Vicar in the Choir of Westminster Abbey, London.

Warren has also been a regular member of many of the leading early music ensembles both in Britain and abroad. These include Vocal consort Berlin, the Gabrieli Consort, Taverner Consort, Orchestra of the Renaissance, The Kings Consort, Dunedin Consort, Collegium Vocale of Ghent, and La Chapelle Royale of Paris. He has also performed with The Sixteen and the Tallis Scholars.

He is also an experienced singing teacher, qualified Music Therapist and co-founder of The Consort of Melbourne and, the Gramophone award-winning group Ensemble Plus Ultra.

2023 CHORUS SUPPORTER EVENTS

BRITTEN'S WAR REQUIEM POST CONCERT CELEBRATION

Friday 14 April, 9:30pm
Hamer Hall, Arts Centre Melbourne

EUMERALLA, A WAR REQUIEM FOR PEACE CHORUS REHEARSAL EXPERIENCE

Thursday 12 October, 6.30pm
Hamer Hall, Arts Centre Melbourne

**Event access is complimentary for program supporters.*

To learn more about the MSO Chorus and discover how you can help support its vital contribution to our artistic offering, please contact Nickie Warton, Head of Philanthropy on 0460 602 973 or wartonn@mso.com.au



Gifts in Wills Become A Guardian Of The MSO

For more than a century, the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra has held a very special place in the heart of Melbourne's and Australia's cultural landscape. As a leading arts organisation, it is our core responsibility and privilege to be custodians of a rich and vibrant artform. Our performances are a living connection to a centuries-old tradition—a tradition which still has the power to inspire, move, and enthrall the human spirit.

We are also an important living link to the orchestral artform's future. By nurturing talented artists, encouraging music education, and commissioning and performing new music, MSO is contributing a unique voice to the next chapter of orchestral music's long history.

We invite you to become a custodian of our Orchestra by including a Gift in your Will to MSO. Making a bequest is a powerful way to leave a lasting and meaningful legacy beyond your lifetime. You can direct your gift to an area that is important to you or to the general work of the Orchestra. And, because all bequests to the MSO are directed to the MSO Now and Forever Future Endowment Fund, it means it continues in perpetuity, helping to build a strong financial platform from which we can look to the future with confidence.

GIVE AN EXTRAORDINARY GIFT

By remembering the MSO in your will you are:

- Contributing to the MSO's future and making a difference, without impacting your current financial situation.
- Ensuring your personal connection to the orchestra continues beyond your lifetime.
- Supporting the Orchestra's long-term sustainability.
- Honouring a source of personal joy and enrichment and sharing this with future generations.

If you wish your planned gift to MSO to be used for a specific purpose, we invite you to consult with a member of our Philanthropy team. All details of your bequest will be held in confidence.

MSO CONDUCTOR'S CIRCLE

The MSO's Conductor's Circle program honours those supporters who make this extraordinary commitment to safeguarding the Orchestra and the artform for future generations. As a member of the Conductor's Circle, you will be invited to become closer to the MSO and its musicians through various special events and opportunities across our annual season.

Have you already included the MSO in your Will? If so, please let us know! We'd love to officially welcome you to our Conductor's Circle and thank you for your meaningful future gift.

CONDUCTOR'S CIRCLE HIGH TEA

Friday 17 November 2023, 2.30pm
Sofitel Melbourne on Collins

Our annual Conductor's Circle Celebration honours those supporters who have made the important decision to leave a gift in will to the MSO. As a thank you for helping safeguard the future of our Orchestra and our artform, Conductor's Circle members are invited to celebrate with Chief Conductor Jaime Martín and musicians of the MSO at a very special high tea.

For more information on becoming a member of the Conductor's Circle and a confidential discussion on including a gift to MSO in your Will, please contact Nickie Warton, Head of Philanthropy on 0460 602 973 or wartonn@mso.com.au.



MAKE A GIFT TO MSO'S NOW & FOREVER FUND

Since its first performance in 1906 the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra has earned a reputation for offering the very best in orchestral music, nurturing home-grown talent and collaborating with guest artists and organisations from across the world.

However, to continue to serve our communities and maintain our momentum as a leading cultural organisation, sustained, secure, and steady growth remains an important priority for the MSO.

As we consider the innovation, infrastructure, resources, education and training needs, and the career and development pathways of artists that will fortify and enable the MSO to flourish, we continue looking to the future and working strategically to lay solid and sustainable foundation.

The MSO's Now and Forever Fund aims to raise a base endowment which will provide a stable source of revenue over the longer term through careful, independent investment of the corpus and utilising the annual returns from that capital. In short, this means that the MSO will be able to enhance the delivery of all facets of its services and better weather the storm of events outside the Orchestra's control – the benefits of which will be reaped by our audiences, our artists, our sector, and our business for years to come.

The MSO is seeking support from the philanthropic and corporate community to support the Now and Forever Future Fund. For more information about how you can be involved, please contact Suzanne Dembo, Director of Philanthropy and External Affairs on dembos@mso.com.au.

THANK YOU GANDEL FOUNDATION

Our heartfelt thanks to John Gandel AC, Pauline Gandel AC and the Gandel Foundation for their generous and inspiring support for MSO's International Engagement activities through our Now & Forever Future Fund.

Gandel Foundation's support plays an important role in the Orchestra's future international projects. Their flagship grant enables the MSO to further extend our international reach, perform on the global stage, engage and partner with international artists and organisations, co-commission new works and sustain our long-standing reputation as key cultural ambassadors for Australia.

"The MSO plays a vitally important role in enriching our lives, and by connecting internationally they also help Australians to have that important window to the rest of the world - and experience the best it has to offer."

"We wish the MSO all the very best in their activities, and we are excited and honoured to be involved in helping secure their future - and we encourage others to do the same! By joining forces and building their endowment fund we can all play a role in strengthening the MSO for generations to come."

– John Gandel AC and Pauline Gandel AC

Gandel Foundation's contribution aids the hosting of the London Symphony Orchestra with Sir Simon Rattle this Season in May.



Pictured above (left to right) at our Season 2022 Mid-Season Gala: Chair of MSO International Advisory Board, Michael Ullmer AO, Gandel Foundation CEO Vedran Drakulic OAM, MSO Chair David Li, MSO Managing Director Sophie Galaise, Gandel Foundation Director Barry Fradkin OAM, Guest Artist Sheku Kennah-Mason, Deborah Goldsmith and Gandel Foundation's Deputy Chairman Graham Goldsmith AO.

MSO Patron Program

2023 PATRON EVENTS

We warmly invite our MSO Patrons and supporters to become closer to the MSO through a range of Season activities and special events. Deepen your knowledge of the Orchestra at an open rehearsal, meet our musicians and artistic leaders at the MSO Emirates Patrons Lounge, or mingle with fellow music lovers at our special events.

With more MSO Giving activities to be released through 2023 the Season, it will be an exciting year with the MSO. We hope you can join us!



MSO EMIRATES PATRONS LOUNGE

[Riverside Mezzanine, Hamer Hall – Select Dates](#)

We are delighted to welcome you to a post-concert drink with the MSO family! Stay after the concert for a relaxed gathering at Riverside Mezzanine (formerly Bombini Buzz) where you will meet our musicians and fellow Patrons. Digital invites will be sent to MSO Patron ticket holders prior to select concert dates throughout the year.

Selected dates for the first half of 2023 include:

- **Brahms' Violin Concerto and more**
Saturday 11 March, 9.30pm
- **Britten's War Requiem**
Friday 14 April, 9.30pm
- **Northern Reflections: Sibelius and Shostakovich**
Saturday 22 April, 4.30pm
- **Elgar's Cello Concerto**
Saturday 3 June, 9.30pm

OPEN REHEARSALS

[Hamer Hall – Select Dates](#)

Discover more about our music from world-class conductors, gain a special behind-the-scenes insight into a working MSO rehearsal, and join your fellow Patrons for a post-rehearsal wine thanks to MSO Partner, TarraWarra Estate.

- **Open Rehearsal with Chloe van Soeterstede**
Thursday 26 October, 6.30pm
- **Open Rehearsal with Sir James MacMillan**
Thursday 14 December, 6.30pm

PATRONS END-OF-SEASON CELEBRATION WITH JAIME MARTÍN

[Saturday 18 November, 5.00pm](#)
[Hamer Hall, The Arts Centre Melbourne](#)

Join us for a special end of Season gathering with our very own chief conductor Maestro Jaime Martín, the MSO family, and fellow Patrons as we celebrate another year of superb music-making. Kick-start your festive season and help us to farewell Maestro Martín as he conducts his final concert for the year. This event is complimentary for MSO Patrons.

New Patron Initiatives in 2023

MSO CAPTAIN'S TABLE AT THE DECK

Perfect for our Patrons who attend performances solo but would love to be part of a tutti section, the MSO Captain's Table is a way to increase the social aspect of your MSO night out. If you are looking to strengthen and create new friendships with fellow music lovers, get to know key personnel from the MSO and enjoy a delicious pre-concert meal (set menu) at Southbank's The Deck then our MSO Captain's Table is the answer! Stay tuned for future dates and further details..

\$120 per head
Bookings essential. Limited to 15 people.

HOST AN MSO PATRONS LOUNGE

Do you have a special anniversary, birthday or milestone coming up in 2023? Why not celebrate this with your MSO Patron Family by hosting one of our Emirates MSO Patron Lounges? A contribution of \$1,000 will provide catering from Arts Centre Melbourne to really turn our post-concert gatherings at Riverside Mezzanine (formerly Bombini Buzz) into a night to remember.

For more information and pricing, please contact MSO Philanthropy on 03 8646 1551 or by emailing philanthropy@mso.com.au.

MSO CONCERT DEDICATIONS

Dedicating an MSO concert to the music lover in your life—whether honouring their memory, acknowledging an anniversary or simply just because - is a thoughtful way to show how much you care whilst helping to support their Orchestra. A donation of \$5,000 will see your dedication announced live at the selected MSO Performance and included in our concert program in print and online.

For more information, please contact MSO Philanthropy on 03 8646 1551 or philanthropy@mso.com.au.

2023 MEET THE ARTIST FUNDRAISING DINNER SERIES

Join MSO's 2023 superstars for an evening of conversation, fine food and wine as we raise funds for MSO's Artistic Program. Enjoy a two-course meal with paired wine as you hear about our artists' careers, what it takes to work alongside the world's leading conductors and soloists, and the highs and lows of being on the international stage.

- **Maestro Jaime Martín with Ray Chen**
July 2023
- **Maestro Jaime Martín with Javier Perianes**
July 2023
- **Maestro Benjamin Northey with Deborah Cheetham Fraillon AO**
October 2023

Tickets are \$500 per person, per event or \$1,200 per person, per series. Event locations to be advised.

Tickets are strictly limited and we invite you to share this with others who may enjoy these exclusive events with our guest artists.

To secure your place or seek further information, please contact Charlotte Crocker, Philanthropy Lead on 03 8646 1551 or at crocker@mso.com.au.

Thank you for being part of our story

We extend our deepest gratitude to our generous donors, trusts and foundations, and corporate partners that power the MSO.

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