

MEDIA RELEASE  
30<sup>th</sup> August 2006



*and the winner is...*

## Announcing the recipients of the 2006 National Orchestral Awards

*Each year the orchestral sector come together to recognise those individuals and orchestras who have made outstanding achievements within their sphere of influence and the acknowledge organisations who continue to support orchestras and orchestral music making in Australia.*



Photograph: Zoe Alderson

*Picture left to right:*

**Martin Jarvis**, Awards Judging Panel Chair, **Robyn Bignell**, Bluescope Steel, Winners of the Enlightened Support Award, **Valda Silvy**, Awards Judge, **Bruce Mildenhall**, Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier of Victoria who presented the Awards, **Leigh Vaughan**, winner of the Individual Regional Award.

## **Lifetime Achievement Award**

---

proudly sponsored by Orchestras Australia

To an individual for prolonged achievement in, or contribution to, the Orchestral sphere.

### **Richard Meale**

Richard Meale's lifetime of composing, broadcasting and artistic administration have immeasurably furthered the cause of music in Australia. Since youth, Richard's inspiration has been to share contemporary music, vigorously promote awareness of it and encourage the works of young Australians. He has been at the forefront of *avant-garde* music in Australia.

*There is no-one who can dispute the fact that Richard Meale is a major landmark in the Australian music landscape, and he is indeed one of Australia's greatest living artists...*

John Davis, General Manager, Australian Music Centre

*In his steadfast adherence to his artistic integrity and ideals, in his superb musical craftsmanship and brilliant imagination, Richard Meale stands as a model of creative power and musical artistry..*

James Koehne, Artistic Administrator, Adelaide Symphony Orchestra

## **Special Commendation** **for contribution to Orchestral music in Australia**

---

proudly sponsored by Orchestras Australia

This was a new highly commended area never awarded before. This commendation is intended to recognise the long-term voluntary work given by people in the community orchestral sector.

### **Jenny Johnson**

Jenny Johnson has volunteered in various capacities including forming and managing orchestras for over 40 years. she has been involved with Stonington Symphony, the Buller Summer School and the Astra Orchestra & Choir. She has supported many young aspiring professional musicians and provided opportunities for them to perform important work through her involvement as a committee member of the Stonington Symphony.

## Individual Metropolitan Award

---

To an individual who has fostered excellence, innovation and/or creativity in an Orchestra in a Metropolitan Area.

### Maestro Gianluigi Gelmetti

As Artistic Director and Chief Conductor of Sydney Symphony Orchestra, Gelmetti has worked to develop a unique sound for the orchestra and reach new artistic standards. He has sought to increase the love of orchestral music in Sydney and beyond by widening the reach of the orchestra through the internet, recording and touring and to change what people think of orchestral music through his mission of Shock of the New, reflected in the 2005 season: "500 years of Rebel Music".

*..He has a theatrical essence as a person and a conductor which makes even the most difficult, arcane pieces of the classical music repertoire accessible and entertaining...*

The Hon Bob Carr

*...It was Maestro Gelmetti who was responsible for taking the SSO to new audiences with performances in...the outback, which has never been done before and...to a demographic which does not generally have an opportunity to attend Sydney performances...*

Sandra Nori MP

## Individual Regional Award

---

proudly sponsored by In the Chair Pty Ltd

*To an individual who has fostered excellence, innovation and/or creativity in an Orchestra in a Regional Area*

### Leigh Vaughan

Leigh Vaughan has committed years of tireless effort to the cultural development in the Mid North Coast of NSW region, particularly with the Sinfonia Mid North Coast Inc. She has taught music to countless children and adults and has been instrumental in the establishment, growth and presentation of many regional cultural groups. She has worked to address the needs and issues of regional music and education with initiative and vision.

*...Leigh is a dynamic individual with a strong sense of community, who has devoted her life to fine music development for young and old alike...*

Regional Arts Development Officer Arts Mid North Coast

## Enlightened Support Award

---

To an individual, a company or an organisation who or which has provided enlightened or exceptional support to an Orchestra or to Orchestras.

### BlueScope Steel

BlueScope Steel celebrated 20 years of ongoing support for the BlueScope Steel Youth Orchestra in 2005 and in this year gave an additional \$100 000 to fund the Orchestra's tour of charity recitals to Yogyakarta, Indonesia, a commendable sponsorship as youth music does not offer the high visibility of professional orchestras. This tour worked to develop relationships between Wollongong and Yogyakarta, which culminated in a Friendship City Agreement. This agreement will see benefits for the Wollongong community and BlueScope Steel.

*The company has taken every opportunity to leverage its cultural/business relationship which has.. developed a closer and more cooperative relationship resulting in a more vigorous cultural life for the community...*

Peter O'Neill, Director Wollongong City Gallery.

### Honourable Mentions awarded to:

**Hydro Tasmania** for their support of the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestras Australia

**Emirates** for their support of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra

## Professional Orchestra Award

---

To a professional orchestra which has extended the public's perception of Orchestras.

### Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra

The Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra has made significant contribution to extending the public's perception of orchestras and set itself apart from other orchestras in the county with its Australian Music Program, which works to tell the stories of Australian people and creating a valuable resource for the rest of the nation and the world by performing and recording the music of the past, present and emerging composers. The TSO has made a conscious effort to heighten the public's sense of time and place and educating the state and nation about their sense of place in the global context by celebrating what is unique about Tasmania and Australia and it's environment.

[The Australian Composers Series is] *One of the most significant recording initiatives of any Australian orchestra in the past decade*

Sydney Morning Herald

*I applaud the TOS for this important and ambitious undertaking; it is the only orchestra in Australia presently making the recording of Australian music such a high priority...*

Brett Dean, Composer

## Community Orchestra Award

---

Proudly sponsored by Hal Leonard Pty Ltd

To a community orchestra which has extended the public's perception of Orchestras.

### Willoughby Symphony Orchestra

Willoughby Symphony proved orchestral music fun and relevant as entertainment for contemporary urban children by challenging the boundaries of traditional performance practice. In 2005 the symphony created *Peter VS The Wolf* – an integration of theatre and the orchestral music in a bi-lingual performance. The piece allowed audiences to engage with classical music and contemporary drama while requiring active multi-cultural collaboration on the part of musicians, the actors and the organisers.

## Youth Orchestra Award

---

Proudly sponsored by Symphony Australia

To a youth orchestra which has extended the public's perception of Orchestras.

### The BlueScope Steel Youth Orchestra

The BlueScope Steel Youth Orchestra has extended the public's perception of orchestras through its performances and venues in 2005. The BSYO was made more accessible to a diverse range of community groups and engaged all ages through its move away from the concert hall to more outdoor venues and providing free concerts. Their performance works sought to have social, political, diplomatic and humanitarian aid results and their tour to Indonesia played a part in the formation of the Friendship City Agreement between Wollongong City and Yogyakarta, Indonesia.



Photograph: Zoe Alderson  
Bruce Mildenhall and  
Nigel Edwards, BSYO

*The orchestra no enjoys a position of high respect in the community and its busy schedule of activities...demonstrate the degree to which the community values its contribution...*

Peter O'Neill Director, Wollongong City Gallery

## School Orchestra Award

---

Proudly sponsored by Sibelius Pty Ltd

To a school orchestra which has achieved recognition within its school and/or wider community

### Brighton Secondary School Symphony Orchestra

The Brighton Secondary School Symphony Orchestra, a full complemented government school orchestra, demonstrates educational leadership and to presents highly acclaimed performances of repertoire from traditional orchestral canon and works from 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries without reduction or compromise, including the 2005 Ian Potter foundation commissioned work, *Never This Sun, This Watcher* by Nigel Butterley. It was the first time a school orchestra performed at a public Elder hall Lunch Hour Concert and was a reflection of the esteem and confidence the Adelaide educational community has for the Brighton Secondary School Symphony.



*...I was particularly impressed by the accurate observance of quite detailed dynamic indications. The music was played with understanding and conviction...*

Nigel Butterley

*The performance of the Brighton Secondary School Orchestra at the Friday lunch hour concert along with the opportunity to observe rehearsals (by final year Bachelor of Music Education students at Elder) reflects an aspect of the Orchestra's contribution to the wider community...*

Jenny Rosevear, Head, Bachelor of Music Education Program,  
Elder Conservatorium of Music

### Honourable Mentions awarded to:

**Pembroke Symphony Orchestra**, Adelaide

**Penleigh-Essendon Grammar School (PEGS) Chinese Orchestra**, Melbourne

### 2006 Award Judging Panel

**Associate Professor Martin Jarvis**, Charles Darwin University; Darwin Symphony Orchestra and Chair, Orchestras Australia

**Nick Heyward**, Managing Director, Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra

**Geoff Rosbrook**, General Manager Queensland Youth Orchestras

**Patrick Thomas** MBE, Conductor; Chair, 2MBS

**Valda Silvy**, Director, Penrith Conservatorium of Music

**George Golvan** QC, Melbourne