



The Wagner Society

(Patron — Sir Charles Mackerras)

Registered Office: 141 Dowling Street, Woolloomooloo 2011
Telephone enquiries: 358 1919 (Bus. Hours)

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NEWSLETTER NO. 14

March 1984

Patron:	Sir Charles Mackerras	<u>Committee:</u>
President:	Leonard Hansen	Michel Arnould Jean Byrne Janet Wayland
Vice President:	Sue Kelly	
Secretary:	Clare Hennessy	<u>Co-opt:</u> Judy Ferfoggia Joseph Ferfoggia
Treasurer:	Murray Smith	
Editor:	Richard King	
Honorary Life Members:	Werner Baer M.B.E. Leonie Rysanek	

COMING EVENTS: [*See tear-off booking slips at end of Newsletter]

Talk by Sir Charles Mackerras, 27th March, 1984, 6.15pm *

Qantas Theatre, New Qantas House, Jamieson Street, City
Members \$5; Nonmembers \$7; Concession \$4 - includes refreshments.

Parisfal Film - Sunday 11th and Sunday 18th March, 1984

Academy Twin Theatre, Paddington.
Commencing 5.45pm, meal break 7.35pm. Bookings at theatre.

Annual Dinner and Annual General Meeting: Friday 18th May, 1984 *

Concordia Club, Stanmore Road, Stanmore. Guest of Honour (to be advised)
6.30pm meeting, dinner at 7.30 for 8pm.
No charge for meeting. Dinner, including wine, \$22.00
See tear-off booking slip at end of Newsletter

Siegfried - Concert Performance, Melbourne, Saturday 2nd June, 1984, 4.30pm *
(See article on page 2 and tear-off booking slip at end of Newsletter)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The occasion of a lecture by our Patron, Sir Charles Mackerras, is one we can look forward to with a great deal of interest. Many members will remember how, two years ago, he entertained us with a lively discussion on the subject of concert performances of Wagner. Since that time Sir Charles' busy schedule has prevented him from spending any time with us, although he did generously stand last year as Chief Adjudicator in the Wagner Society Scholarship judging panel and gave us much helpful advice concerning that event. He is now returning to Sydney in mid-March after conducting engagements in London, Vienna and New York, to name but a few of the principal cities.

For the ABC, Sir Charles has a monumental programme ahead of him, with a time schedule that is less than dignified for a conductor of such repute. Fortunately, he has a major work of his beloved Wagner to present - "Siegfried" in Melbourne - and for Sydney there will be a concert performance of the epic "Trojans" by Berlioz. The fact that the controlling forces behind the S.S.O. have seen fit to spread this rarely heard work over two nights will not, one hopes, diminish its impact. Wagner was greatly influenced by Berlioz's use of orchestral textures, so no doubt we will have some interesting comparisons to make when we hear these lush sounds fill the Concert Hall.

Sir Charles' talk to us on the 27th March is as yet untitled, but his rosy wit is sure to keep us amused, and his approachable personality will encourage questions to satisfy any lingering curiosity.

I urge you all to attend.

LEONARD HANSEN

SIEGFRIED

A concert performance of 'SIEGFRIED' will be given in Melbourne on Saturday, 2nd June, at 4.30pm by the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra and Australian Opera soloists under the baton of Sir Charles Mackerras. Rita Hunter and Alberto Remedios take the leading roles.

The Wagner Society is organising a group tour for the occasion, as previous concert performances have been such exciting events and well worth attending. Travel will be by luxury coach leaving Sydney at 8pm Friday, 1st June, with one night's accommodation in a motel not too far from the Melbourne Arts Centre. A dinner will be organised, in conjunction with the Victorian Wagner Society members, in the first long interval of the performance.

The return journey would be made on Sunday 3rd, arriving Sydney about 10pm.

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Siegfried Tour facts:

Travel & accommodation)	single ...	\$ 95.00
costs per person)	twin share ..	75.00
)	triple share ..	68.00

This includes continental breakfast and transfer to and from Concert Hall.

Concert tickets : \$30.00 - A Reserve
\$25.00 - Pensioners & students under 17 years.

The cost of the meal at interval has not yet been determined.

As there are only 44 seats on the coach, and as bookings must be finalised as soon as possible, your early reply on the application form is necessary.

WAGNER SOCIETY 1984 GUESSING COMPETITION - Drawn at Annual General Dinner

- 1st Prize: 2 Premium Seats for Das Rheingold
2nd Prize: New HMV 7-record set "Wagner on Record"
3rd Prize: Book "Richard and Cosma Wagner" by Geoffrey Shelton.

Tickets are \$1 each (books of 5 enclosed). Please return unused tickets - requests for more tickets will be appreciated.

EDITORIAL

The concert by Connell Byrne, Werner Baer and Algimantas Motiekaitis at Old Darlington School, Sydney University, last Friday night was magnificent. Australia can be proud to claim Connell as a native born son who can and does appear on the major Opera House stages of the world.

The programme was varied and contained some lighter items, catering for all tastes, but it was the Wagner we all enjoyed, naturally. The Hall was packed to capacity. Connell's voice is full of great richness and power and I, for one, can hardly wait to hear him sing in the Concert or Opera Hall of the Sydney House, backed by an orchestra to do him justice. His intonation, clarity and diction left nothing to be desired. Werner Baer gave great support as partner and accompanist both for the cellist and our tenor. The programme notes, together with full texts, were compiled by our member, Mr. Michael Edgeloe. We are grateful indeed to Michael for his dedication and scholarship.

The concert was recorded by 2MBS FM and will be broadcast at a future date. I would suggest members contact the station as soon as possible to check.

The committee worked very hard and when one considers we are all professional, employed or self-employed people who have clients, patients, everyday problems and advance planning in our own vocations, I would

venture to say no one could call any of our functions amateur, but we need your support. Don't hesitate to ring or write - tell us of your expertise in any field which may be of assistance. Every member of the society is a valuable individual whose enthusiasm will keep our group relevant and vital.

Bravo Connell Byrne!!

EDITOR

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 18th May, 1984

The fourth Annual General Meeting of our Society will be held on Friday, 18th May, in the Concordia Club, Stanmore Road, Stanmore, at 6.30pm.

Agenda

Apologies
Minutes of Third Annual General Meeting
President's Report
Treasurer's Report
General Business
Election of Office Bearers.

Any member who wishes to be considered for election should complete the enclosed nomination form.

Any member who cannot attend the meeting but wishes to exercise their voting right should fill in the proxy voting form. Please note only financial members are eligible to vote.

Subscriptions are due on 1st April for a year to 31st March 1985. A membership renewal form is also enclosed. All forms should be returned by May 14th.

PROXY

The Secretary
The Wagner Society
141 Dowling Street
WOOLLOOMOOLOO NSW 2011

I cannot attend the fourth Annual General Meeting, but give my proxy
vote to _____

who is a current financial member of the Society.

Signed _____

Address _____

