

**A CONVERSATION WITH NOEL STAUNTON**  
**My journey in Wagner**  
a Wagner Society in NSW Inc event

**2.00PM Sunday 18 June 2023**

**Goethe Institut**

**90 Ocean Street (corner of Jersey Road), Woollahra**

Opening image of the 2004 Adelaide *Ring*, Erda in the Rhine, *Das Rheingold*.  
Director Elke Neidhardt, designer Michael Scott Mitchell, producer Noel Staunton.

To find out more about the Wagner Society in NSW Inc. please go to:

**[www.wagner.org.au](http://www.wagner.org.au)**



## PROGRAMME

12.30pm DVD *'Frozen Music – The Sydney Opera House, It's more than just opera'* (1984, 53 Mins)



### SHORT BREAK

2.00pm NOEL STAUNTON in conversation

3.00pm (approx) **REFRESHMENTS**



### ESTEBAN INSAUSTI host

Esteban is a practicing Architect. A graduate of the University of Sydney, he has worked on a range of typologies including theatres (Red Box, Monkey Baa Theatre, Telstra Auditorium), public buildings and large commercial mix use developments here and overseas. He was an Examiner for the NSW Board of Architects and served on the RAlA Chapter Council. With a Master of Arts Degree in Theatre Studies from the UNSW, he foolishly passed up the opportunity to study at NIDA when accepted for the Set Design course in 1983. His passion for music, theatre and opera stems from an early age, including serving on the ABC Youth Concert Committee. He had the honour

of presenting the commissioned bust of Sir Eugene Goossens to the ABC on the ABC's 50th anniversary - it is still there in the SOH Concert Hall foyer. Esteban is the current President of the Wagner Society in NSW.

## DONATIONS TO WSNSW

Your Society has a number of recurrent philanthropic projects for which we seek your help. One such project, which we would like to focus on is the **Jane Mathews AO Scholarship**, named in honour of our late President Justice Jane Mathews AO.

The Society joined with **PACIFIC OPERA** to establish a \$5,000 annual scholarship to help young potential Wagnerians. It also forges stronger ties between our two organisations.

**There are a number of projects your WSNSW supports which would benefit from your help. If interested in contributing please contact the President.**

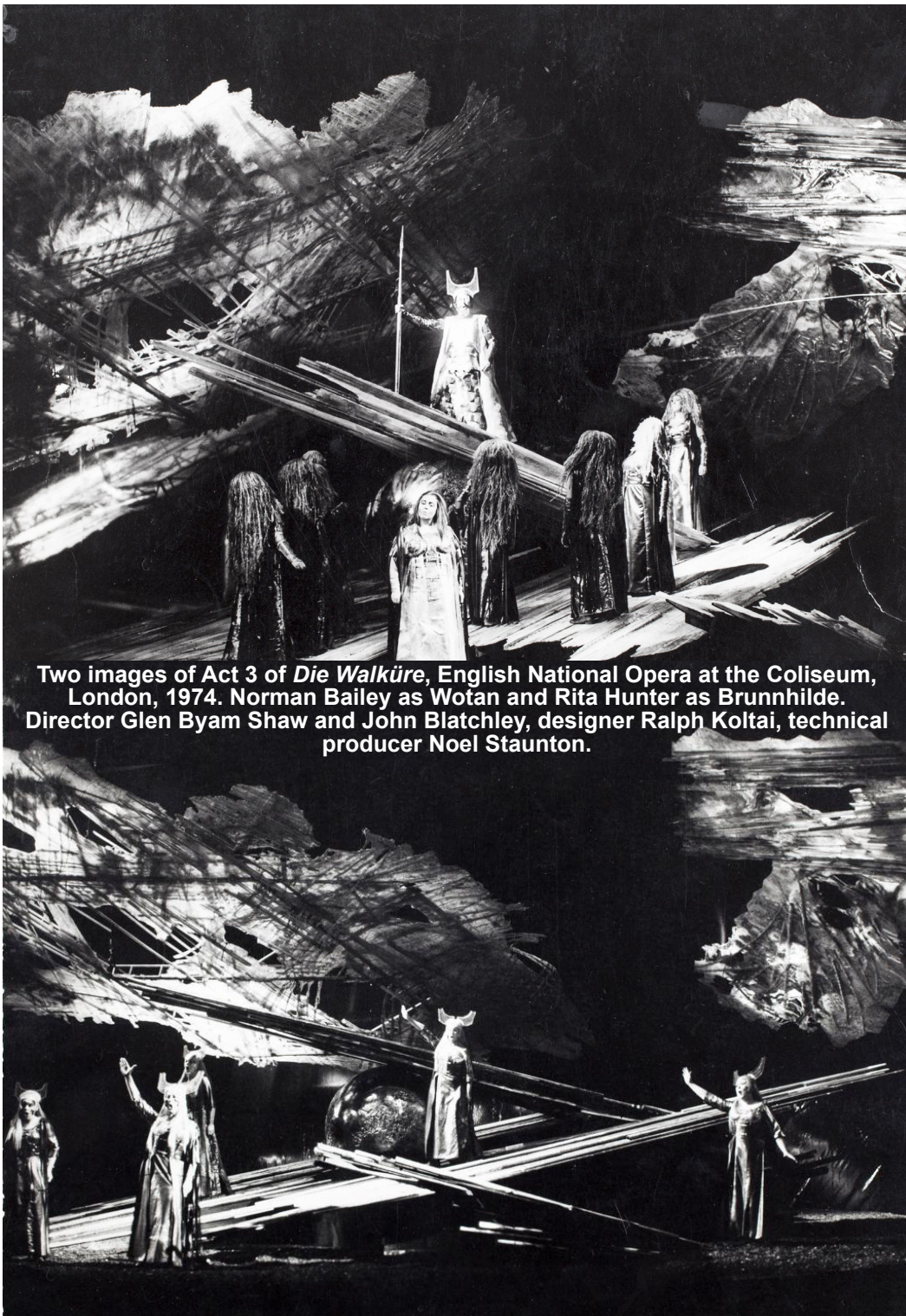
## WHAT'S COMING UP NEXT?

Reception for our Patron **Simone Young AM** on **Wednesday 12 July** at **St Columba**. Please note that this is a special event on a Wednesday evening.

A recital by bass baritone **Chris Curcuruto** on **30 July** at **St Columba**.

**Tahu Matheson**, OA conductor talks to us about the Ring, **20 August** at the **Goethe Institut**.

We are also relaunching the **Wednesday Zoom series** from July with some very interesting speakers from overseas. Stay tuned.



Two images of Act 3 of *Die Walküre*, English National Opera at the Coliseum, London, 1974. Norman Bailey as Wotan and Rita Hunter as Brunnhilde. Director Glen Byam Shaw and John Blatchley, designer Ralph Koltai, technical producer Noel Staunton.



## NOEL STAUNTON

Noel Staunton is a freelance creative director and producer specialising in large-scale productions and special events. His expertise is in festivals, opera, classical music, music theatre, contemporary dance and large public events.

Noel was the Artistic Director of the Brisbane Festival from 2010 - 2014. His career in the performing arts has been extensive, working in various high level production and technical positions throughout the UK and Australia, including Glyndebourne Festival Opera, ENO, as technical director for the legendary Goodall Ring and technical director at Opera Australia. He has also toured productions extensively throughout Europe and the United States. He produced the first Australian Ring Cycle in Adelaide and was previously the CEO of Sydney Dance Company. In 1999, Noel set up Bazmark Live with Baz Luhrmann, where as Executive Producer he created many live theatrical events that were staged across the world including Broadway, Cannes, New York, London and Sydney. He produced *La Bohème* for Baz Luhrmann on Broadway, San Francisco and Los Angeles. He has produced some of the most impressive events in Australia including for the NSW Government the Sydney Harbour Bridge 75th Anniversary Celebration and for the Commonwealth Government the G20 Cultural Program.

He is the current Chairman of the Board of NIDA.



The legendary setting for Act 3 of *Die Walküre*. Adelaide 2004.  
Director Elke Neidhardt, designer Michael Scott Mitchell, producer Noel Staunton.