



## Bach to the Future:

### Wagner's Roots and the German Nation.

A Weekend Workshop on Wagner and The Ring

Led by Dr Antony Ernst

6 August, 2016 2.00pm - 5.00pm  
7 August, 2016 10.00am - 5.00pm

Goethe Institut,  
90 Ocean St, cnr Jersey Road,  
Woollahra

## Bach to the Future



**Antony Ernst** is currently Manager of Artistic Planning with the Orchestre Philharmonique de Strasbourg.

He is a frequent guest lecturer on opera and a music tour leader in Australia and overseas. He has been CEO of Sydney Youth Orchestras and a dramaturg, director, writer, lecturer, translator and administrator, for companies such as Opera Australia, Sydney Symphony, Bell Shakespeare, Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra, Deutsche Oper am Rhein, Staatsoper Dresden, Teatro dell'Opera di Roma, Opera Frankfurt and Teatro Maestranza Seville.

He is an inspiring lecturer, speaking without notes and entertaining audiences with lively wit and entertaining anecdotes, as well as showing the benefits of his long study of and experience in classical music.

## Program

Richard Wagner has always been recognized as a great innovator, a man who transformed music composition. After his introduction of chromaticism, composers had to adapt to this new world.

In 2013, before the Melbourne Ring the entertaining and well-informed Antony Ernst had held an audience of 180 spell-bound for two days at the Wagner Society in Sydney as he introduced the themes and inspirations of Wagner's great Ring of the Nibelung, so much so that they gave him a standing ovation. In the following year, 2014, he drew our attention to the influence of Wagner on younger composers, and how those of later generations came to terms with Wagner's musical innovations. This year he will focus on Wagner's place in the long tradition of German music and how Wagner has drawn from such great predecessors as Bach and Beethoven.

### Saturday, August 6

#### 2.00 - 3.15: Wagner's Upbringing in the North German Tradition.

Wagner was the first major Protestant opera composer and his musical training in the Bach traditions of Leipzig and Dresden would give him a groundwork for his construction of The Ring which was independent of the main Italian and South German Schools.

## DON'T MISS OUT. REGISTER NOW

Send this registration form to  
Workshop Registration,  
Wagner Society in NSW  
GPO Box 4574, Sydney 2001  
Or register online at [www.wagner.org.au](http://www.wagner.org.au)

### Step 1: Attendees register

#### Person 1

Name	
Address	
Email	
Phone	

#### Person 2

Name	
Address	
Email	
Phone	

### Saturday, August 6

#### 3.15 - 3.30 Afternoon tea.

#### 3.30 - 5.00: The Great Passion and The Ring.

How the rituals of the Bach cantatas, and especially the St Matthew Passion, fed into the creation of The Ring.

### Sunday August 7

#### 10.00 – 12.00: German Identity

How the notion of German folklore and identity found a voice in early Wagner operas espousing an idea of German nationhood attractive to the political forces trying to forge an empire.

#### 12.00 - 1.00 Lunch

#### 1.00 - 5.00: (Afternoon Tea, 3.15 – 3.30)

**The Misapprehension of The Ring**  
Although apparently the ultimate expression of German Nationalism - and often seen as such - The Ring actually speaks out against all the principles on which the German nation was established. It is the first truly internationalist work. The Protestant spirit of social protest lives on.

### Step 2: Choose attendance pattern

**Earlybird** (before May 31):  
Members: \$85.00 Non-members: \$100.00

**Full workshop** (after June 1):  
Members: \$96.00 Non-members: \$120.00

**Students:** \$50

**Saturday August 6 only:**  
Members: \$40.00 Non-members: \$45.00

**Sunday August 7 only:**  
Members: \$70.00 Non-members: \$80.00

(Lunch and teas are included in prices)

### Step 3: Payment

**EFT:** The Wagner Society, Westpac, Paddington  
BSB: 032040 A/C 911323  
Please include your name and Ernst in your transfer details

**Cheque:** Make payable to The Wagner Society and send to  
GPO Box 4574, Sydney 2001.

**PayPAL:** If you would prefer to pay using PayPal go to our web site <http://wagner.org.au/> and add the amount you wish to pay in the 'donate' box then follow the instructions for credit card payments.