

WAGNER SOCIETY POST AGM RECITAL

Sunday May 25, 2015 2.30 pm

Christopher Richardson Bass Baritone

Matthew Reardon Tenor

Michael Curtain Pianist

Sibilar gli angui d'Aletto (Argante's aria - from *Rinaldo*) - Handel Christopher

Where'er You Walk (from *Semele*) – Handel Christopher

Widmung (from *Myrthen* Op. 25) – Schumann Christopher

Cygne sur l'eau (#1 from *Mirages*) – Fauré Christopher

Est ist genug (from *Elijah*) – Mendelssohn Christopher

Vedrommi intorno from *Idomeneo* by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart Matthew

Blaue Augen hat das Mädchen – Schumann. Christopher and Matthew

SHORT BREAK

Ch'ella mi creda from *La Fanciulla del West* (*The Girl of the Golden West*) – Puccini Matthew

Come Away, Death (# 1 from *Let Us Garlands Bring*) – Finzi Christopher

Fear No More the Heat o' the Sun (# 3 from *Let Us Garlands Bring*) – Finzi Christopher

Liebesbotschaft (#1 from *Schwanengesang*) – Schubert Christopher

O du, mein holder Abendstern (from *Tannhäuser*) – Wagner Christopher

O Mimì, tu più non torni (from *La Bohème*) – Puccini Christopher and Matthew

Au fond du temple saint (from *Les pêcheurs de perles*) – Bizet Christopher and Matthew

CHRISTOPHER RICHARDSON

Sydney-based bass-baritone, Christopher Richardson studied piano and cello in Tasmania, until he changed to voice. He has trained with Jane Edwards, Glenn Winslade and Sharolyn Kimmorley.

Christopher appears regularly on the concert and opera stage as soloist in oratorio, opera, music theatre, recital and radio broadcasts. Performance highlights include Haydn's *Creation*, Handel's *Messiah*, Mozart's *Requiem* and *Solemn Vespers* and performances with choir and orchestras, including Newcastle University, the Royal Melbourne Philharmonic, OperaQ, and most recently with the Sydney University Graduate Choir and TSO. He performed in *KURSK: an Oratoria Requiem* by David Chisholm at the Melbourne Festival. and with Syzygy Ensemble, in Conyngham's chamber opera, *The Apology of Bony Anderson*.

Most recently Christopher received a scholarship from the **Wagner Society of New South Wales** to attend the **Lisa Gasteen National Opera School** in Brisbane - a three week intensive working with some of the industry's finest singers, coaches, and conductors. Christopher also won the Royal Melbourne Philharmonic Aria Award for outstanding oratorio work. www.christopher-richardson-bassbaritone.com

MATTHEW REARDON

Tenor Matthew Reardon is a second year scholarship holder in the **Dame Nellie Melba Opera Trust**.

Matthew graduated from the Western Australia Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA) after completing a degree in Communications contemplating a career in radio.

He has sung *A Child of Our Time*, *The Rake's Progress* and *Die Fledermaus*.

Matthew made his professional solo operatic debut in the indigenous opera *Pecan Summer*. He was in the WAO chorus and just appeared in **Opera Australia's** *Madame Butterfly* on the Harbour. He also appeared in the Perth International Arts Festival.

Matthew held a full Opera and Arts Support Group scholarship at the **Lisa Gasteen National Opera Summer School** and reached the finals in the McDonalds Operatic Aria. He is the recipient of a **Wagner Society German Course Award**.

MICHAEL CURTAIN

Michael is currently a repetiteur for **Opera Australia's** touring schools program. He has performed with many singers, particularly Natalie Aroyan, Christopher Hillier, Jonathan Abernethy, Anna Dowsley, and Jane Edwards.

Michael is also repetiteur for the Sydney Philharmonia Choirs, Sydney Children's Choir, Sydney University Graduate Choirs, and previously the Tasmanian Chorale and St Mary's Cathedral (Hobart). His ensemble work includes the Sydney Symphony Fellowship, Sinfonia and Sinfonietta.

Michael has been official accompanist for McDonald's Sydney Eisteddfod and the Joan Sutherland & Richard Bonyngue Foundation. He has also worked in music theatre, as musical director for Jason Robert Brown, and Gilbert and Sullivan. Michael studied piano performance and accompaniment with David Miller AM, Clem Leske, and Natalia Ricci at the Sydney Conservatorium.

www.wagner.org.au