

Deborah Humble as Erda in Melbourne Opera's production of
Der Ring des Nibelungen, Bendigo, 2022.

DEBORAH HUMBLE on HOW TO LEARN AN OPERA SCORE

A Wagner Society in NSW Inc event

2.00pm Sunday 8 February 2026

Goethe Institut

90 Ocean Street (corner of Jersey Road), Woollahra

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PROGRAMME

12.30pm

DVD **INBRUST IM HERZEN: FAMOUS GERMAN ARIAS & SCENES**



2.00pm

DEBORAH HUMBLE
HOW TO LEARN AN OPERA SCORE

3.00pm (approx) **REFRESHMENTS**

YOUR DONATIONS HAVE HELPED THESE STARS



Elizabeth Campbell



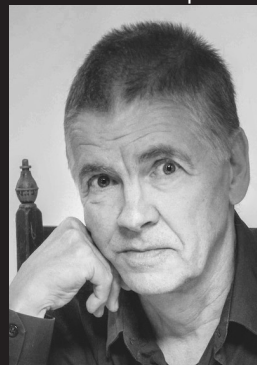
John Wegner



Bernadette Cullen



Daniel Sumegi



David Stanhope



Marilyn Richardson



Stuart Skelton



Jennifer Condon



Lisa Gasteen



Warwick Fyfe



Tabatha McFadyen



Samuel Sakker

These are some of the 100 ARTISTS the WSNSW has assisted OVER 40 YEARS.
We target \$20,000 annually towards supporting emerging Wagnerian performers from NSW.
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Or contact the President (ei10wsnsw@gmail.com).

WHAT'S COMING UP IN 2026?

Sunday 1 March, Goethe Institut

12.00 noon: DVD – **Tony Palmer's TV classic Wagner – Episodes 1+2**

2.00pm: Talk by **MIKE DAY** about **Wagner's painter contemporaries**

Sunday 29 March, Willoughby Uniting Church

12.00 noon: DVD – **Tony Palmer's Wagner Part 3**

2.00pm: Talk by conductor **TOBY WONG** on **Shaumet Das Rheingold**

Sunday 19 April, Goethe Institut

1.00pm: **AGM**

2.00pm: Talk by TBA

Wednesday 22 April, via zoom

12.00 noon: Talk by **F. PETER PHILLIPS**, President of the Wagner Society of New York

Wednesday 6 May, via zoom

12.00 noon: Talk by Belgian Bass **TIJL FAVEYTS**

Sunday 17 May, Mosman Art Gallery

2.00pm: **Wagner's Birthday concert**, with heldenbaritone

WARWICK FYFE & soprano **LEE ABRAHMSSEN**

with **GLENN AMER** at the piano

Sunday 21 June, Goethe Institut

12.00p noon: DVD – **Tony Palmer's Wagner Part 4**

2.00pm: Talk by **CHRIS SORRELL** about **early Wagner recordings**

Sunday 19 July, Goethe Institut

12.00 noon: DVD – **Tony Palmer's Wagner Part 5**

2.00pm: Talk by TBA

Sunday 16 August, Goethe Institut

12.00 noon: DVD – **Tony Palmer's Wagner Part 6**

2.00pm: Talk by conductor **SARAH PENICKA-SMITH**

Sunday 13 September, Goethe Institut

12.00 noon: DVD – TBA

2.00pm: Talk by Associate Professor **ROSS ANDERSON** on his book **The Appian Way**

Sunday 11 October, St Columba Community Centre

2.00pm: Concert with mezzo-soprano **DEBORAH HUMBLE** and

SHAROLYN KIMMORLEY at the piano

Saturday 21 November, Goethe Institut

10.30 am – 4.00pm: **SYMPOSIUM** on **GÖTTERDÄMMERUNG**

Sunday 13 December, St Columba Community Centre

2.00pm: **CHRISTMAS CONCERT** and party

DEBORAH HUMBLE

Australian mezzo-soprano

Deborah Humble is noted for her operatic & concert performances worldwide. The recipient of two Greenroom Award nominations, she has sung more than 70 operatic roles.

A former principal artist with both Opera Australia & the Hamburg State Opera, Humble was a recipient of the AOAC Joan Sutherland Award in 2004 & a finalist at the International Wagner Competition in Seattle in 2008.

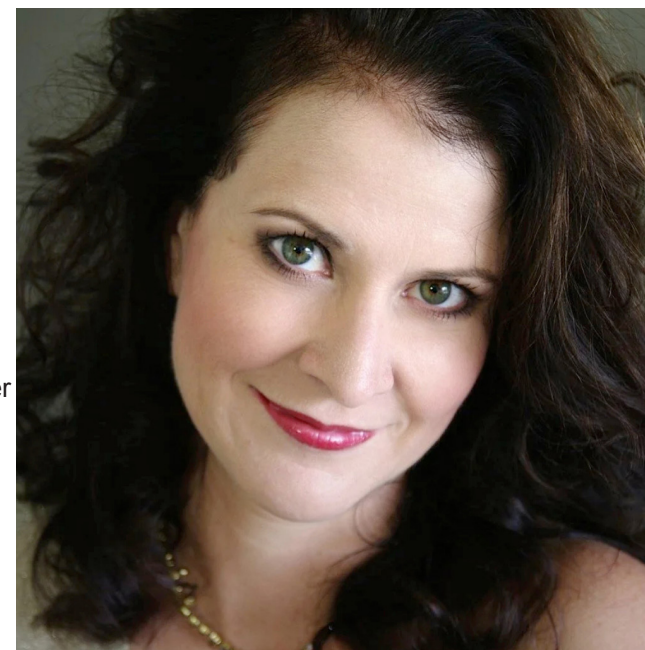
Recordings include Erda in *Das Rheingold* & *Siegfried* (Naxos, Hong Kong Philharmonic conducted by Jaap van Zweden) Erda, First Norn & Schwertleite (Oehms, Hamburg State Opera conducted by Simone Young), Clarissa in *The Love For Three Oranges* (Chandos, Opera Australia conducted by Sir Richard Hickox), *Marvellous Mezzo-sopranos and Contraltos* (Naxos) and *Mahler's Symphony No. 2* conducted by Simone Young, released by Deutsche Grammophon in 2025.

Recent opera engagements for Opera Australia include La Cieca in *La Gioconda* alongside Jonas Kaufmann conducted by Pinchas Steinberg & Waltraute & Fricka for three *Ring Cycles* in Brisbane conducted by Philippe Augin. She sang Erda & Waltraute for three *Ring Cycles* in Bendigo for Melbourne Opera conducted by Anthony Negus, & made two further role debuts with the company as Magdalena in *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg* & Dalila in Saint-Saëns' *Samson et Dalila*. For Victorian Opera she made two Strauss role debuts as Clairon in *Capriccio* & Klytämnestra in *Elektra*. Earlier this year this year she made two significant role debuts in the UK; Herodias in Strauss's *Salome* & as Madame de Croissy in Poulenc's *Dialogues of the Carmelites*.

Recent performances on the concert platform include Waldtaube in Schoenberg's *Gurrelieder*, Waltraute in Wagner's *Die Walküre* & Beethoven's *9th Symphony* with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra conducted by Simone Young, Mahler's *8th Symphony* with the Western Australian Symphony Orchestra conducted by Asher Fisch, Verdi's *Requiem with the Queensland Symphony Orchestra* conducted by Umberto Clerici, Mahler's *3rd Symphony* with the Auckland Philharmonia conducted by Giordano Bellincampi, Mozart's *Requiem* with the London Chorus at Cadogan Hall & Mahler's *Symphony No. 2* for the New Zealand and Dunedin Symphony Orchestras.

Further performances in 2026 include Verdi's *Requiem* with the Canberra Symphony Orchestra, Waltraute in *Die Götterdämmerung* for the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, a solo recital for the Elder Hall Recital Series in Adelaide & multiple performances of the one woman opera *Bon Appetit!* by Lee Hoiby depicting the famous chef Julia Child.

Deborah has been included in the *Who's Who of Australian Women* since 2009 & is Patron of both the Wagner Society of South Australia & the Newcastle Music Festival. She is a Music Board member for the Tait Memorial Trust in London & a Mentor for the Dame Nellie Melba Young Artists' Programme. WSNSW recently assisted Deborah to undertake preliminary preparation for the role of Kundry.





A Fricka, an Erda and two Waltrautes. From top left: Deborah Humble as Erda with Daniel Sumegi as Wotan in *Das Rheingold*, OA, Brisbane Ring 2023. Top right Deborah Humble as Waltraute in *Götterdämmerung*, OA, Brisbane Ring 2023. Bottom left, as Erda, centre stage, in *Das Rheingold*, Melbourne Opera, Bendigo 2022. Bottom right as Waltraute in *Götterdämmerung* with Antoinette Halloran as Brünnhilde, Melbourne Opera, Bendigo 2022.

