

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

www.wagner.org.au

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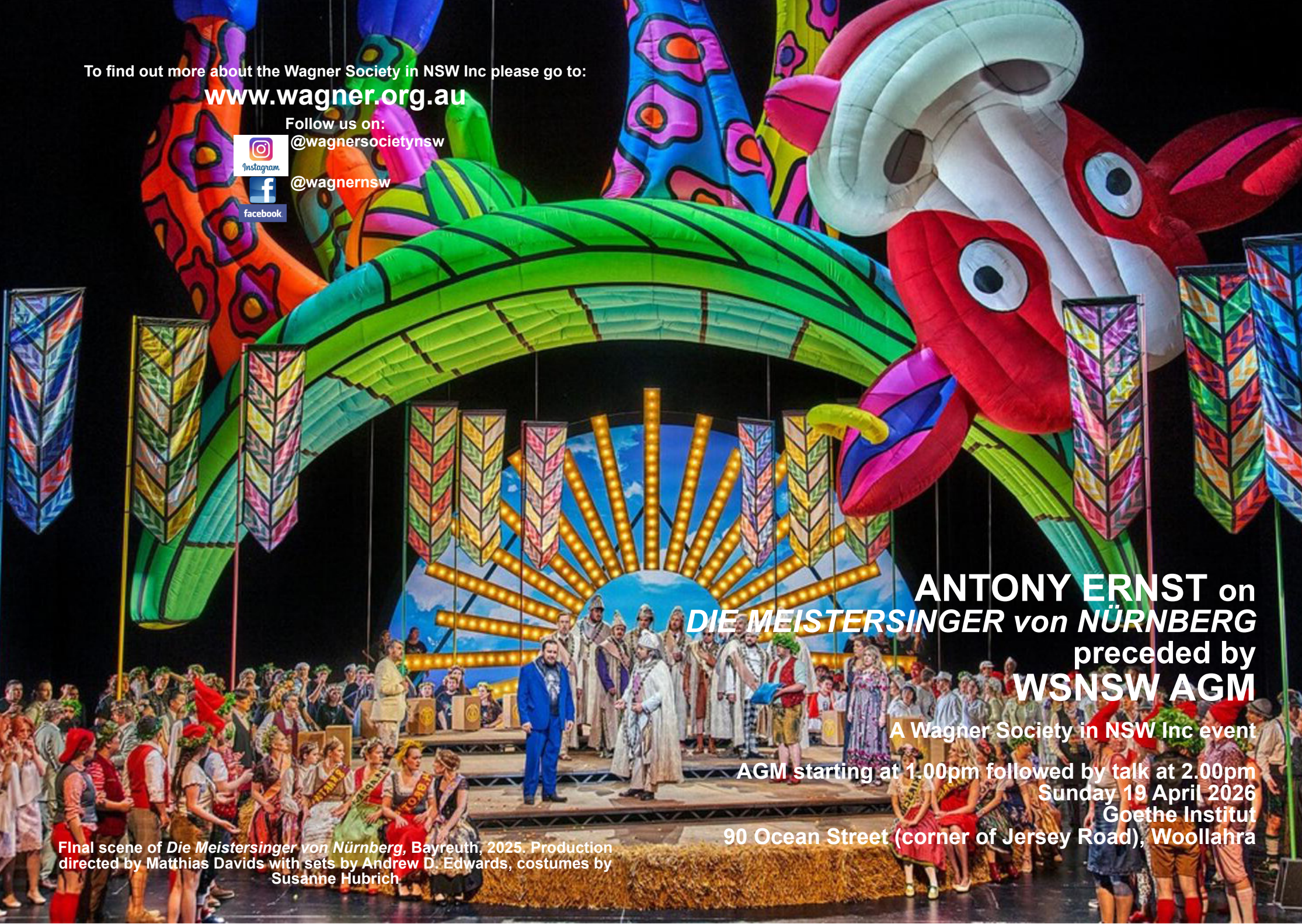


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ANTONY ERNST on
DIE MEISTERSINGER von *NÜRNBERG*
preceded by
WSNSW AGM

A Wagner Society in NSW Inc event

AGM starting at 1.00pm followed by talk at 2.00pm

Sunday 19 April 2026

Goethe Institut

90 Ocean Street (corner of Jersey Road), Woollahra

Final scene of *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*, Bayreuth, 2025. Production directed by Matthias Davids with sets by Andrew D. Edwards, costumes by Susanne Hubrich

PROGRAMME

1.00pm
WSNSW AGM

2.00pm
ANTONY ERNST

on *DIE MEISTERSINGER* von *NÜRNBERG*

About the Talk: *Die Meistersinger* is the only comedy of Wagner's mature works, and in this and many ways is a bit of an anomaly. Curiously, despite being a comedy, it has also become one of his most controversial works. What drove him to write it? What was he trying to say? What is the root of the controversy and what might Wagner's real intentions have been? *Die Meistersinger* is not the comedy you think it is.



3.00pm (approx) **REFRESHMENTS**

YOUR DONATIONS HAVE HELPED THESE STARS



Margaret Plummer



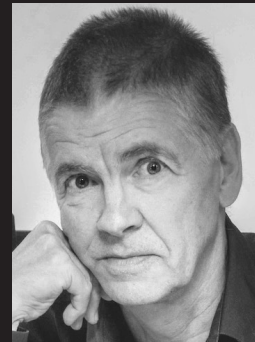
Adrian Tamburini



Olivia Swain



Daniel Sumegi



David Stanhope



Deborah Humble



Stuart Skelton



Jennifer Condon



Lisa Gasteen



Warwick Fyfe



Tabatha McFayden



Samuel Sakker

These are some of the 100 ARTISTS the WSNSW has assisted OVER 40 YEARS.
We target \$20,000 annually towards supporting Wagnerian performers from NSW.
Help continue to support our talented artists.

PLEASE DONATE

Go to www.wagner.org.au and follow the prompts for payment (EFT or PayPal).
Or contact the President on ei10wsnsw@gmail.com

WHAT'S COMING UP IN 2026

Wednesday 22 April, via zoom

10.00am: Talk by **F. PETER PHILLIPS**, President of the Wagner Society of New York

Friday April 24 at 7.30pm
Shaumet Music presents
the Jonathan Dove and Graham Vick
adaptation of
DAS RHEINGOLD
City Recital Hall Angel Place

Wednesday 6 May, via zoom

12.00noon: 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

12.00noon: DVD – **Tony Palmer's Wagner Part 2**
2.00pm: Talk by **CHRIS SORRELL** about early Wagner recordings

Sunday 19 July, Goethe Institut

12.00noon: DVD – **Tony Palmer's Wagner Part 3**
2.00pm: **PROF PETER ROENNFELDT** on **Wagner & Schumann**

Sunday 16 August, Goethe Institut

12.00noon: DVD – **Tony Palmer's Wagner Part 4**
2.00pm: Talk by conductor **SARAH PENICKA-SMITH** on **The Future of Opera & what Wagner has to do with it**

Sunday 13 September, Goethe Institut

12.00noon: DVD – **Tony Palmer's Wagner Part 5**
2.00pm: Talk by Associate Professor **ROSS ANDERSON** on his book about visionary designer Adolphe Appia, **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

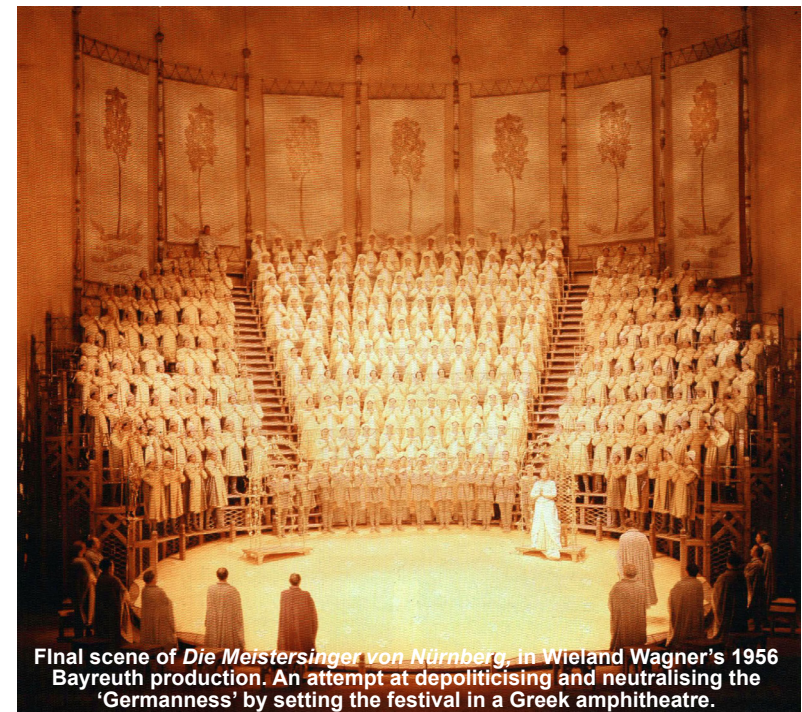
10.30am – 4.00pm: **SYMPOSIUM** on **GÖTTERDÄMMERUNG**

Sunday 13 December, St Columba Community Centre

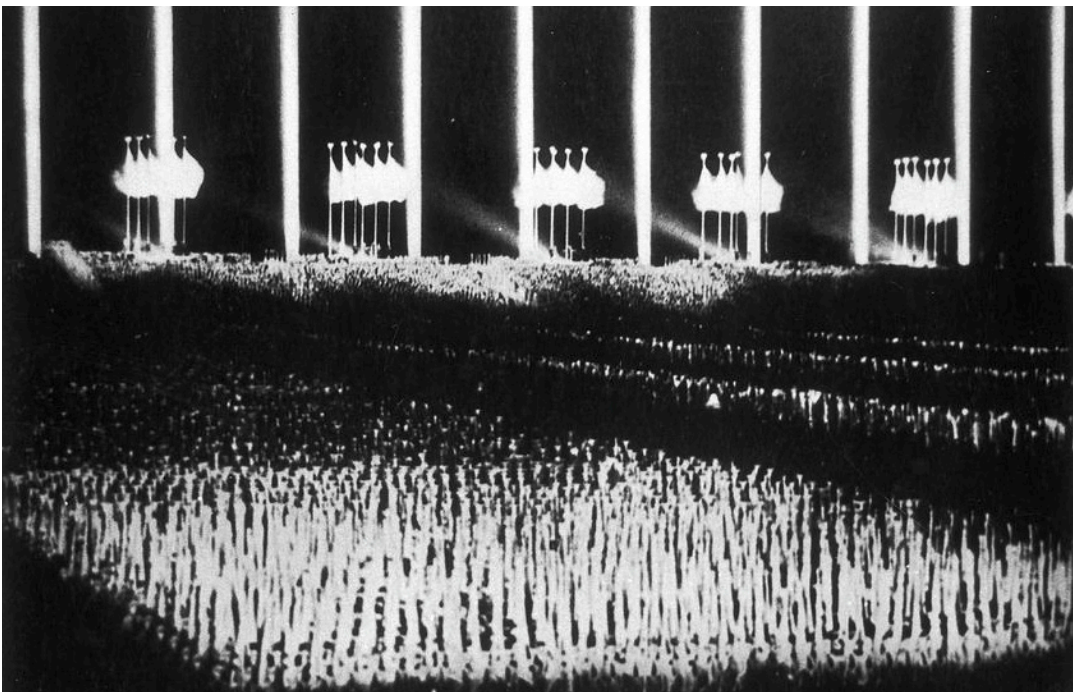
2.00pm: **CHRISTMAS CONCERT** and party

ANTONY ERNST

Australian-born Antony Ernst has a multi-faceted career as a dramaturg, director, arts administrator, writer, translator, lecturer, and consultant. Management posts include General Manager of the Orchestre de Chambre de Lausanne in Switzerland, Orchestra Director of the Royal Danish Orchestra in Copenhagen, Head of Artistic Planning and Production at the Orchestre Philharmonique de Strasbourg in France, and Artistic Planning Manager at the Auckland Philharmonia in New Zealand. He has worked as a director with opera houses in Sydney, Dresden, Düsseldorf, Rome, Frankfurt, and Seville. He is also much in demand as a lecturer on opera and classical music, particularly about Wagner, Janáček, and Strauss. He is the creator and director of the Peer Gynt project, which he has produced in Hobart (in English); Bremen, Germany (in German); and Tromsø and Bodø, Norway (in Norwegian).



Final scene of *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*, in Wieland Wagner's 1956 Bayreuth production. An attempt at depoliticising and neutralising the 'Germanness' by setting the festival in a Greek amphitheatre.



Above: Nuremberg rally in the 1930s with Albert Speer's cathedral of light effects from the 1936 Berlin Olympics. Every post war (German) production of *Meistersinger* confronts this image in Act 3



Below: Is Wagner on trial in Barrie Kosky's 2017 Bayreuth production. Or is it Sachs (Michael Volle)? Or German art?

Shaumet Music

DAS RHEINGOLD

RICHARD WAGNER



FRIDAY 24 APRIL 2026

City Recital Hall, Sydney

Adaptation of *The Rheingold* by Jonathan Dove and Graham Vick, orchestration by Jonathan Dove, by arrangement with Birmingham Opera Company.

Conductor: Toby Wong

Director: Anke Hoepfner-Ryan and Barry Ryan

The cast includes: Simon Lobelson (Alberich), Shane Lawrencev (Wotan), Raphael Hudson (Loge), Livia Brash (Fricka), Aleta Shang (Freia), Bernard Leong-Lokman (Donner), Jill Sullivan (Erda), Tristan Entwistle (Fasolt), Charles Cole (Fafner), Camilla Wright (Woglinde), Katrina Waters (Wellgunde) and Angelique Tot (Flosshilde)

The WNSW is proud to assist Shaumet Music with the hiring and licensing costs of the score for their production of *Das Rheingold*.