



Bust of Richard Wagner commissioned in 1912 from Stuttgart born artist Emil Julius Epple (1877-1948) sharing the foyer of the Stuttgart Opera House with Beethoven and Mozart.

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WAGNER'S BIRTHDAY CONCERT

A Wagner Society in NSW Inc event

LEE ABRAHMSEN, soprano
WARWICK FYFE, heldenbaritone
GLENN AMER, at the piano

2.00pm Sunday 17 May 2026
Mosman Art Gallery
1 Art Gallery Way, Mosman



Wagner Society in NSW Inc.
established 1980



PROGRAMME

2.00pm CONCERT by
LEE ABRAHMSSEN (soprano) and **WARWICK FYFE** (heldenbaritone)
with **GLENN AMER** (at the piano)

RICHARD WAGNER (1813 -1883)
Tatest du's wirklich? from *Tristan und Isolde*
Warwick Fyfe

Du bist der Lenz from *Die Walküre*
Lee Abrahmsen

W G JAMES (1892 -1977)
Six Australian Bush Songs
Warwick Fyfe

RICHARD WAGNER (1813 -1883)
Liebestod from *Tristan und Isolde*
Lee Abrahmsen

SHORT BREAK

RICHARD WAGNER (1813 -1883)
Heda heda heda from *Das Rheingold*
Warwick Fyfe

GIUSEPPE VERDI (1813 -1901)
Ecco l'orrido campo from *Un Ballo in Maschera*
Lee Abrahmsen

RICHARD WAGNER (1813 -1883)
Die Frist ist um from *Der fliegende Holländer*
Warwick Fyfe

PERCY GRAINGER (1882 -1961)
The Sprig of Thyme
The Power of Love
Willow Willow
Lee Abrahmsen

RICHARD WAGNER (1813 -1883)
Dutchman duet (complete) from *Der fliegende Holländer*
Lee Abrahmsen and Warwick Fyfe

Dich Teure Halle! from *Tannhäuser*
Lee Abrahmsen

Drinks and BIRTHDAY CAKE*!

*Cake generously prepared and provided by **Barbara de Rome**

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the repast this afternoon!

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 WSNWS 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 17 June, via zoom

7.00pm: **THOMAS LAUNIUS** on *Parsifal* (part 2)

Sunday 21 June, Goethe Institut

12.00noon: DVD – **Tony Palmer's Wagner Part 2**

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

Wednesday 9 July, via zoom

7.00pm: **CHRISTOPHER COOK** *Tristan und Isolde* - Whose Love Story?

Sunday 19 July, Goethe Institut

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

2.00pm: **PROF PETER ROENNFELDT** on *Wagner & Schumann*

Sunday 2 August, St Columba Community Centre

2.00pm: **AN OPERATIC CELEBRATION FOR LEONA** with, amongst others, **JESSICA HARPER** and **BRAD COOPER**

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 – 5.00pm: **SYMPOSIUM** on *GÖTTERDÄMMERUNG*

Sunday 13 December, St Columba Community Centre

2.00pm: **CHRISTMAS CONCERT** and party

WARWICK FYFE, heldenbaritone

Warwick Fyfe has performed the following Wagner roles professionally: Holländer and Daland in *Der Fliegende Holländer*; Wolfram and Reinmar in *Tannhäuser*; Heerrufer in *Lohengrin*; Wotan/Wanderer, Alberich, Hunding and Fasolt in *Der Ring*; Hans Sachs, Beckmesser, Kothner and Ortel in *Meistersinger*; and Klingsor in *Parsifal*. He will be adding two more roles soon but is not yet at liberty to discuss this. His most recent Wagner performances were as Alberich in *Siegfried* for Sydney Symphony and a Wagner Gala with Lee Abrahmsen and the Corpus Medicorum Orchestra under the baton of Fabian Russell. He will perform Alberich in *Götterdämmerung* for Sydney Symphony at the end of this year.



Warwick Fyfe in his award winning turn as Alberich in OA's *Der Ring des Nibelungen*, Melbourne 2013.



Lee Abrahmsen as Isolde with Neale Cooper as Tristan in Melbourne Opera's production of *Tristan und Isolde*, 2018.



LEE ABRAHMSEN, soprano

Lee Abrahmsen is a multi award winning Australian soprano celebrated for her work on both the operatic stage and the concert platform. She has appeared with leading companies including Opera Australia, Opera Queensland, Victorian Opera, Melbourne Opera, Sydney, Queensland and Melbourne Symphonies, Omega Ensemble, Corpus Medicorum and internationally at the Edinburgh Festival, St Martin in the Fields in London, and venues across China and Japan.

With more than 45 principal roles to her name, Lee has sung nearly every major soprano role in the Wagner canon, establishing her as Australia's most sought after Wagnerian singer of this generation. Her acclaimed performances include Isolde in *Tristan und Isolde*, Brünnhilde in *Siegfried*, Sieglinde in *Die Walküre*, Elisabeth in *Tannhäuser*, Senta in *Der Fliegende Holländer*, Eva in *Die Meistersinger*, and the Marschallin in *Der Rosenkavalier* - all for Melbourne

Opera. Other highlights include the Countess in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, *Madama Butterfly* (Opera Australia), Leonora in *Fidelio* and title role in *Tosca*.

Her awards include the Herald Sun Aria, the Opera Awards Royal Overseas League Award, Acclaim Awards Italian Award, Opera Chaser's Best Performer for Isolde, and multiple Melbourne Greenroom awards nominations.

A dedicated educator, she is the founder of IVT (Italian Vocal Technique), a North Melbourne-based training and performance initiative devoted to cultivating expressive, technically disciplined singers. Through IVT, Lee works with emerging and advanced artists alike, providing specialised bel canto instruction and curating performance opportunities.

GLEN AMER, at the piano

A unique entertainer, Glenn Amer is the only artist in the history of recordings to have made acoustically recorded cylinders, pianola rolls and compact discs. He was the youngest pianist to ever record pianola rolls, having made his first recordings for the Mastertouch Piano Roll Company when he was 17.

Glenn studied in London as a twelve year old, with renowned Australian accompanist, Geoffrey Parsons, and Vocal Pedagogue, Erich Vietheer. Glenn has been working with singers since his first concert at the age of eleven. He cannot remember how many singers he has played for, but for many years was the exclusive accompanist to famed soprano, Rita Hunter CBE and internationally renowned Heldentenor, Horst Hoffmann. He has worked as a pianist and conductor with Opera Queensland and Opera Australia. For a number of years, Glenn was both Artistic and Musical Director for Pacific Opera.



In his 'spare' (non-operatic) time, he can be found touring the world presenting his one-man show where he is described as having "the fingers of Liberace and the voice of Mario Lanza"! To date he has travelled to over 70 countries.

He is Director of Music to St. Peter's Anglican Church, Cremorne and often gives pipe organ recitals around the country. He conducts as well, and has recently returned from conducting all over Taiwan.

Glenn is a passionate collector of historic 78s and cylinders. His non-musical interests include vintage cars and motion pictures. His latest CD "*The Great Piano Showman*" is now available at all JB HiFi stores.

