



Classical
Singer
Sundays

CLASSICAL SINGER SUNDAYS PRESENTS

Christmas

DEC 14 2025, 2:30 PM
ST OSWALDS ANGLICAN
CHURCH
5 ST ANNS PL, PARKSIDE



ABOUT US

WELCOME TO CLASSICAL SINGER SUNDAYS
DECEMBER 2025 SESSION

TODAY WE CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS!

WE LAUNCHED OUR FIRST SESSION ON JUNE 4TH 2023 WITH GREAT SUCCESS AND ENTHUSIASM. SO MUCH SO THAT MANY OF OUR SINGERS HAVE RETURNED TO SING AGAIN AND MANY HAVE COME BACK TO BE PART OF THE AUDIENCE TODAY!

WITH A FOCUS ON THE CLASSICAL VOICE WE HAVE HUNDREDS OF YEARS OF REPERTOIRE OUR ARTISTS CHOOSE FROM. IT'S CERTAINLY BEEN A VIBRANT AND DIVERSE MUSICAL JOURNEY SO FAR.

CLASSICAL SINGER SUNDAYS WAS FORMED BY A GROUP OF ADELAIDE BASED ARTISTS WHO WANTED TO CREATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR SINGERS OF ALL BACKGROUNDS AND EXPERIENCES TO SING IN FRONT OF AN AUDIENCE.

CLASSICAL SINGER SUNDAYS VISION: FOSTER AND PROMOTE CLASSICAL VOICE WITHIN THE COMMUNITY FOSTER VOCAL PERFORMING IN A SAFE AND INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR SINGERS OF ALL EXPERIENCE LEVELS AND BACKGROUNDS EXPAND THE AUDIENCE FOR CLASSICAL VOICE BY PROVIDING ACCESSIBLE, AFFORDABLE AND REGULAR EVENTS



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classicalsingersundays@gmail.com



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YOUR SUPPORT

Classical Singer Sundays is a community association. As part of our vision we like to keep things low cost. To do this we need your support. Every like and share on social media helps. We also love you to share our mailing list details and website with your friends. The more people that attend the more sessions we can run!



THEME

Each Classical Singer Sundays concert has a theme from which performers choose what to perform.

Today's theme is no surprise
"Christmas"

Singers to choose their favorite carol or song that reminds them of Christmas.

CONCERT HOST



WELCOME TO OUR DECEMBER HOST ALEXANDRA WOOLSTON

Alexandra is delighted to be hosting this year's Classical Singer Sundays Christmas Concert and looks forward to sharing her love of festive music with audiences. A self-confessed Christmas enthusiast, she embraces every opportunity to celebrate the season both on and off stage.

Please refer to the ARTISTS section for full biography and performance repertoire.

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

★ "The North Wind (Christmas Day)" – Group Carol led by Fiona McArdle

"Geistliches Wiegenlied" – Catherine Campbell

★ "Giunse alfin il momento... Deh, vieni, non tardar" – Teresa Chen

"People" – Bev Koch

★ "The Adelaide Plains Carol" – Jamie Webster

"Adeste Fideles" – Laura Feier

"Cancioncilla de navidad" – Jemimah Lanyon

"Hallelujah" – Poppy Saleeba

"Comfort ye my people" – Ash Sharma

★ "I know that my Redeemer liveth" – Danielle Ruggiero–Prior

"Schliesse, mein Herze, dies selige Wunder" – Ros Lock

INTERVAL

★ "In Dulci Jubilo" – Mel Cavanagh

"It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas" – Oscar Mitchell

"Bereite dich Zion" – Barbara Heidrich

"Panis Angelicus" – Chany Hoffmann

"O Holy Night" – Bridget O'Reilley

★ "Pie Jesu" – Susie Oconnell

"A Christmas Carol" – Vanessa Lee Shirley

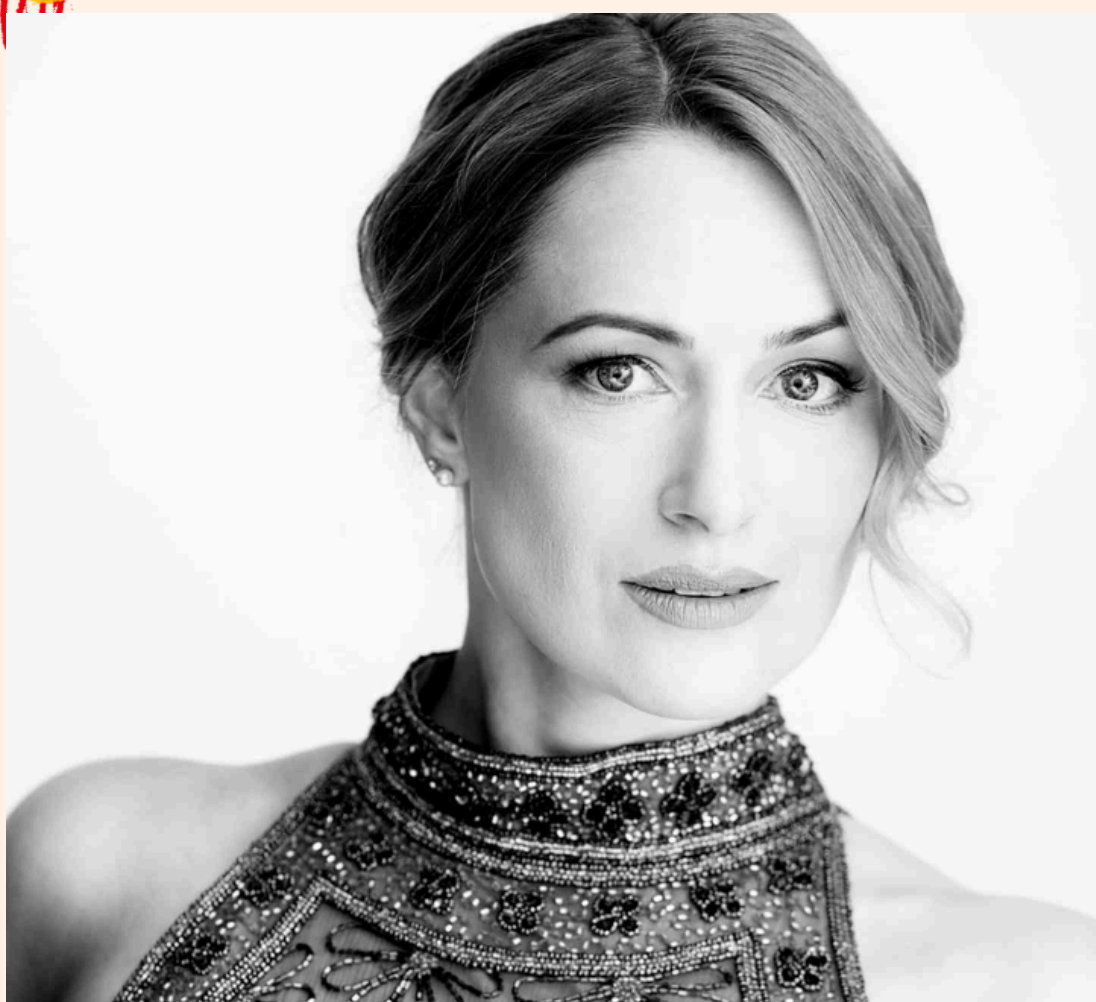
"Make we merry" – Alexandra Woolston

★ "Hark the Herald Angels" – Group Carol led by Fiona McArdle

"Have yourself a merry little Christmas" – Barbara Rennison

★
ACCOMPANIST
JOSEPH INGRAM

ARTISTS



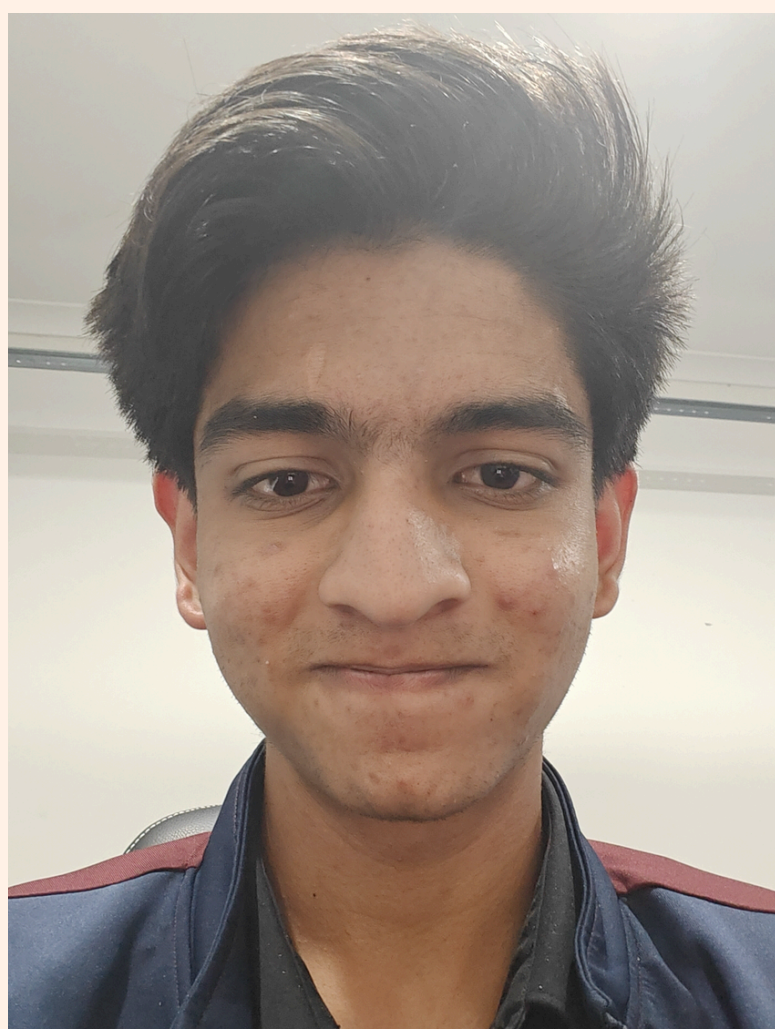
ALEXANDRA WOOLSON

"Make we merry"
Karl Jenkins

Alexandra graduated from the Elder Conservatorium of Music in 2005 and has since established herself as a versatile and accomplished performer. A long-standing member of the State Opera South Australia chorus, she has appeared in over thirty mainstage productions with the company. Alexandra appeared as The Plaintiff in Trial by Jury and Constance in The Sorcerer for their recent G&S Fest.

For Co-Opera, Alexandra's featured roles include Laetitia (The Zoo), Musetta (La Bohème), Papagena (The Magic Flute), Casilda (The Gondoliers), and Kate (The Pirates of Penzance). She has also performed in major Adelaide Festival productions such as Le Grand Macabre, Saul, Hamlet, and The Golden Cockerel.

Her extensive stage experience further includes leading roles such as Cinderella (Into the Woods), Rose Maybud (Ruddigore), Mabel (The Pirates of Penzance), Josephine (H.M.S. Pinafore), Julie Jordan (Carousel), Tracy Lord (High Society), Rose (The Secret Garden), and Petra (A Little Night Music).



ASH SHARMA

"Comfort ye my people"

G.F Handel

A passionate singer who has been singing at multiple choirs including St. Peter's Cathedral choir, Elder Conservatorium Chorale and multiple choirs at school. Currently in year 11 and loves early music.



BARBARA HEIDRICH

"Bereite dich Zion"

J.S. Bach



Her early experience was through her church choir, & a local Gilbert & Sullivan society. Later, she sang with the G&S Society of S.A., before joining The State Opera, where she has sung as a chorus member for many years. In 2022 she sang the role of the Abbess in Puccini's "Suor Angelica" for Mopoke Theatre Productions. Barbara sang at the inaugural "Classical Singer Sundays", & this year, took part in a master class run by them, in conjunction with the Adelaide Eisteddfod Society for competition participants. She went on to win 1st prize in the 40 yrs.& over Operatic Voice Solo section. Barbara is currently taking part in a drama course run by the W.E.A. She has been grateful to take part in the C.S.S. concerts, which has given her a chance to perform some of the items in her repertoire.



CATHERINE CAPBELL

"Geistliches Wiegenlied"
Johannes Brahms



Catherine is an actor, singer, director and educator. Her credits include performances in Australia and New York in cabaret, as well as musical theatre, opera, comedy, showbands and theatre.

Catherine is a member of the State Opera of SA Chorus: including Candide (State Theatre Company); Praskovia in Merry Widow; Cora The Boots in Boojum!. Roles include with Co*Opera and Various People, and the Adelaide Festival: Barrie Kosky's Saul and most recently Robert Lepage's The Nightingale and Other Tales. Catherine will sing the role of Jack's Mother in Into The Woods for State Opera in 2026.

As a much-loved cabaret artist, she's performed many times in the Adelaide Cabaret Festival: as a solo artist, and with her trio Gentlemen Prefer Curves, as well as in shows with Andrew Lippa, Jason Robert-Brown and Maltby & Shire. She created the character of Greta in the award-winning Berlin Cabaret, and co-wrote My Blue Angel with Frank Ford, touring to New York and in Australia. SA Premiere roles include: The Witch, Into The Woods (Space Theatre, AFC); Mimi, A New Brain (Davine Productions). In 2024 she was nominated for an Adelaide Critics Circle Award for A Cheery Soul at Holden Street Theatres (Mrs Custance). She once sang backing vocals for Split Enz and has never quite gotten over it.

Catherine is a teaching academic at UniSA in Performing Arts (unique in Australia: experiential learning in theatre and music with no auditions).

Training: Acting (AC Arts); Musical Theatre (Honours), Drama Centre (Flinders); Cabaret School, Yale (U



BEVERLY KOCH

"People"
Jule Styne



Have sung all my life
Choirs musicals

Cabaret „--- Thrilled to be still singing at 85
Chant n dance at many kirtans. Teach yoga n
meditation

EMERGING
ARTIST



BRIDGET O'REILLEY


"O Holy Night"
Adolphe Adam

My name is Bridget O'Reilley, I am 13 years old and in year 8, attending Kapunda High School and have been taking private vocal lessons since I was 9, starting classical training at the age of 11. Since the age of 5 I have continued with private violin lessons, whilst also learning clarinet at school. Music is a very big and important part of my life. I thoroughly enjoy songwriting and have written a number of original songs, recently I participated in a songwriting workshop, organised by APRA, which has further enhanced my knowledge. I also have performed in the Balaklava Eisteddfod, winning first prize in my section of vocal classical solo. My older brother has a band and I play bass and guitar. Some of my hobbies include reading, swimming, going for walks in nature and of course listening to a wide variety of music.









BARBARA RENNISON

"Have yourself a merry little
Christmas"
Hugh Martin



Barbara sang her first chorus with SA State Opera in 1980 and has sung frequently with them ever since. Following her vocal studies at The Elder Conservatorium, she spent 2 years in Manchester UK to gain her postgraduate Diploma in Performance at the RNCM (1993) studying with Ryland Davies. From 1995 to 1999, Barbara worked with Co-Opera in Adelaide, SA & touring through Australia in solo chorus and roles such as Marcellina in Marriage of Figaro and the title role in Madam Butterfly. In 1995 she won the Vocal Aggregate prize at the Traralgon Eisteddfod. Barbara moved to Sydney in 1999, where she was a member of the Opera Australia chorus. Here she undertook vocal coaching with Anna Connolly and Janice Chapman. Barbara's last chorus with OA was Turandot in the Park in 2008. She also performed the roles of Rosalinda in Die Fledermaus and The Abbess in Sound of Music with 2 amateur Music Companies, before returning to SOSA chorus in 2009. She has now renewed her association with Co-Opera again and says that life and music often comes around full circle! Barbara was a founding member of Graduate Singers, the Woodville Concert Choir and Adelaide Chamber





JAMIE LYNN WEBSTER

"The Adelaide Plains Carol"

★ Jamie Lynn Webster

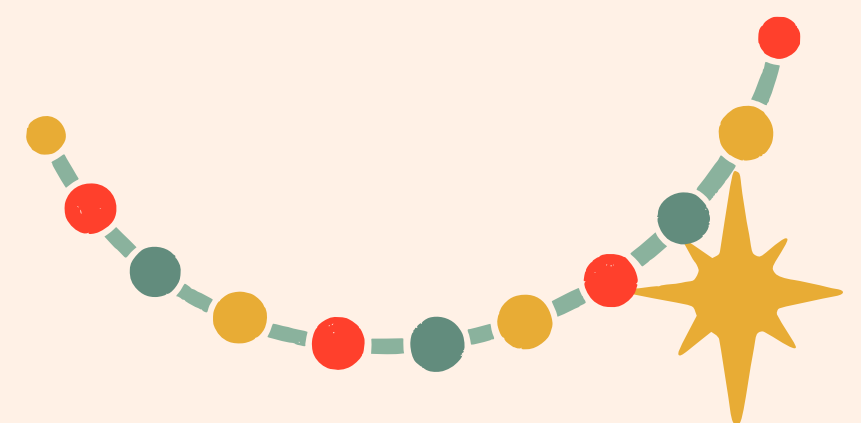
Jamie Lynn Webster is a musicologist and ethnomusicologist performing works with culturally and historically meaningful contexts for diverse modern audiences. She instructs vocal, piano, and trumpet students at Pedare Christian College and privately, leads music for English services at St. Augustine's and Unley Uniting in Unley, and conducts choirs in Portland, Oregon remotely.

POPPY SALEEBA

"Hallelujah"
Leonard Cohen



EMERGING
ARTIST



I am vocalist from the Barossa Valley performing across classical, Jazz, musical theatre and contemporary styles with a background in musical theatre. I have recent developing my classical voice including singing in Italian with my mentor.

Performing this in the musicals, Glass Houses as Harper and in Chitty Chitty Bang Bang as the Toymaker. One day I hope to take the stage and sing in an opera.

CHANY HOFFMANN

"Panis Angelicus"
Cesar Franck



Her latest performance was singing Rossini's Petit Messe Solennelle in November in Elder Hall after took over the role of Mother Abbess in the Sound of Music by The Gilbert and Sullivan Society of South Australia in October. She played Evita 2021 (Emsemble) Priscilla, Queen of the desert 2023 (Cynthia). As a late starter (started singing career by joining Mount Lofty singers in 2018) nothing can make her stop singing even her broken leg (literally !) she performed in Miss Saigon 2019 (MET) Mamma Mia 2019 (MET) Les Misérables 2022((NLTC) The Mega Musical Nunsense 2023 (MET) The Wedding Singer 2024(NLTC) The Hunchback of Notre Dame 2024 (NLTC) The Mikado 2025 (SA Light Opera) She won first prize for the classical voice in Eisteddfod 2025. She sings in Korean Adelaide Singers and Adelaide Philharmonia Chorus recently performed in 80 years of liberation ceremony (KAS) and John Rutter's Magnificat (APC) as a soloist . She is a board member of the Classical Singer Sundays who created opportunities singing in public for people who passionate singing classical music.



DANIELLE RUGGIERO-PRIOR

"I know that my Redeemer liveth"
G.F. Handel

Danielle Ruggiero Prior's career spans over 30 years, and has seen her perform in Opera, musical theatre, corporate stages, film, and as a concert soloist. She graduated in 1998 with a Bachelor of Music (Voice Performance). Danielle has been a Chorus member of State Opera South Australia since 1999 and she was most recently in their production of Donizetti's Lucia Di Lammermoor and Gounod's Romeo et Juliette. Her roles include The Witch (Into the Woods), Mabel (The Pirates of Penzance), Josephine (HMS Pinafore), Phyllis (Iolanthe) and Lady Psyche (Princess Ida)

OSCAR MITCHELL



EMERGING
ARTIST

"It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas"
Meredith Wilson

Oscar is 14 years old and currently in year 8 at Marryatville High School in the Special Interest Music programme. Oscar has been singing for many years and plays the flute. He has started learning the bagpipes.



JEMIMAH LANYON

"Cancioncilla de navidad"
Jaime León Ferro



A late starter to the classical voice scene. Jemimah performed in her first show in her "late twenties" her adult theatre debut was in She Loves Me (Therry Theatre) 2014. She has performed in numerous choral groups and regularly sings with Sacred Hearts. Her notable roles include Cousin Hebe – HMS Pinafore (G & S Society 2019 & SALOS 2017), Sacharissa – Princess Ida (SALOS 2019) & the Narrator/Cinderellas Mother – Into the woods (Elephant in the room 2020).



Nowdays she spends most of her time working on her vocal craft, wasting time on duolingo – badly learning Spanish and rewatching British Sit-coms. In her limited spare time she is part of the CSS Committee, Board member for Co-Opera and Co-Convener of the Vocal Divisions for the Adelaide Vocal Eisteddfod. These allows her the privilege to hear and support so many singers in South Australia and provide opportunities for voices to be heard (literally).



At home this is put up with good nature by her family and two crazy Corgis. Mostly Jemimah is glad we are now in November and the family Christmas music embargo has been lifted and she can listen to Christmas music on repeat!





ROSLYN (ROS) LOCK

"Schliesse, mein Herze, dies
selige Wunder"
J.S. Bach

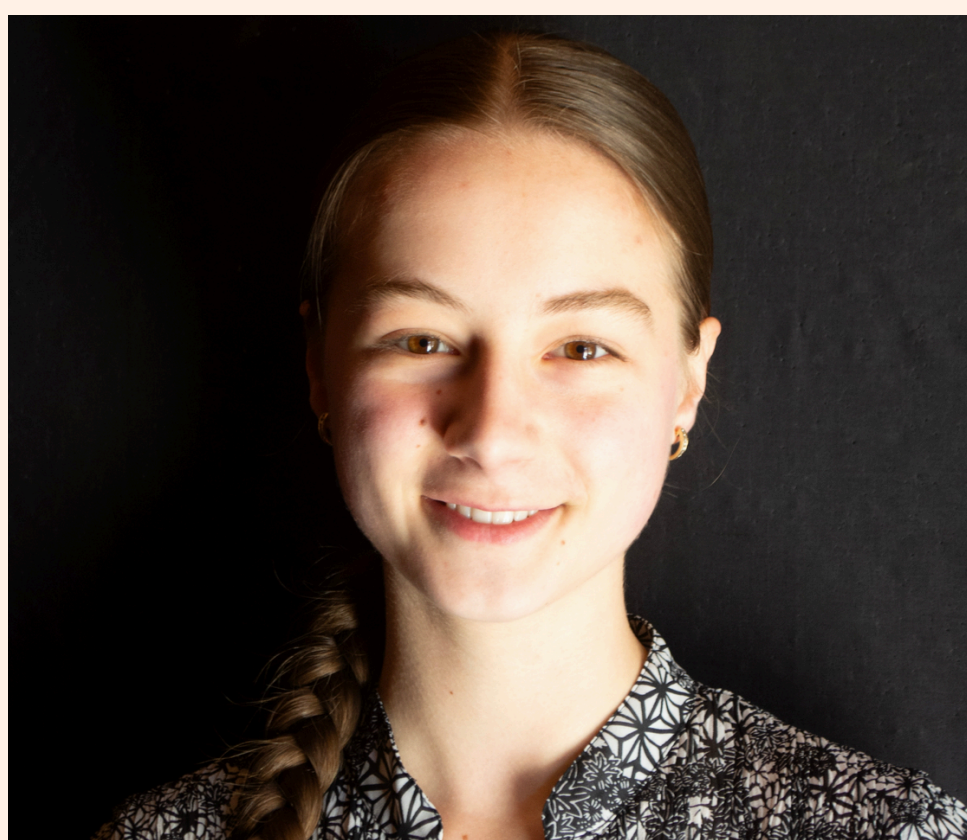


One of my favourite quotes comes from Ralph Waldo Emerson. His words "Only connect," were used by EM Forster in the novel, 'Howard's End.' "Only connect! That was the whole of her sermon. Only connect the prose and the passion, and both will be exalted, and human love will be seen at its height. Live in fragments no longer. Only connect, and the beast and the monk, robbed of the isolation that is life to either, will die."



MEL CAVANAGH

"In Dulci Jubilo"
R. L. de Pearsall



Mel is a 16-year old soprano based in regional South Australia. She has been studying classical voice since the age of five, and music is her true passion! Her journey has included performing with the South West Opera Company in Western Australia and exploring a wide range of repertoire, from Baroque arias to works by contemporary Australian composers. Most recently, she was honoured with the Ralph Hatcher Memorial Prize for Best Classical Vocalist at the Balaklava Eisteddfod. She is a member of Young Adelaide Voices, along with the Elder Conservatorium Chorale, and is preparing to sing at the Con in 2027.

She is deeply grateful for the opportunity to perform today, and looks forward to sharing her love of song!





LAURA FEIER



"Adeste Fideles"
John Francis Wade

Laura Feier graduated with Bachelor of Music degree from The Music Academy in Cluj Napoca, a beautiful medieval town in the heart of Transilvania – Romania, with a rich musical heritage.

After completing her studies she was awarded a scholarship at the Royal Conservatorium in Hague – The Netherlands.

After settling in The Netherlands, she focused her career towards operatic roles and the vocal symphonic genre.

Her repertoire includes masterpieces such as Coronation Mass, Requiem and Exultate Jubilate by Mozart, Messiah by Handel, The Creation and The Seasons by Haydn, Stabat Mater by Pergolesi.

Her operatic roles included Adina in The Elixir of Love, Nanetta in Falstaff by Verdi, Norina in Don Pasquale by Donizetti, Rosina in Barber of Seville, Oscar in Masked Ball, Zerlina in Don Giovanni by Mozart, Adele in Die Fledermaus by J Strauss, Mi in The Land of Smile by F Lehar and many others.

Laura resettled in Adelaide a few years ago and has started collaboration with State Opera SA and more recently with Adelaide Baroque Ensemble.



TERESA CHEN



"Giunse alfin il momento...
Deh, vieni, non tardar"
W.A. Mozart

Yishan Chen is a master's student in vocal performance, having graduated from South China Normal University and currently studying at the Elder Conservatorium of Music, University of Adelaide. As a Soprano, she specializes in classical and romantic arias and art songs.

Passionate about classical vocal artistry, she participated in many concerts and musical projects, including the Big Sing At The Opera 2025; Singer in Concert, Semester 2, 2025. Aspiring to become a professional vocalist and stage performer, she is dedicated in exploring a wide range of repertoires and techniques and hoping to share the aesthetic charm of vocal music with the audience in the future.



Group Carols led by Fiona McArdle

The North Wind (Christmas Day)
William G James

Hark the Herald Angels
F Mendelssohn

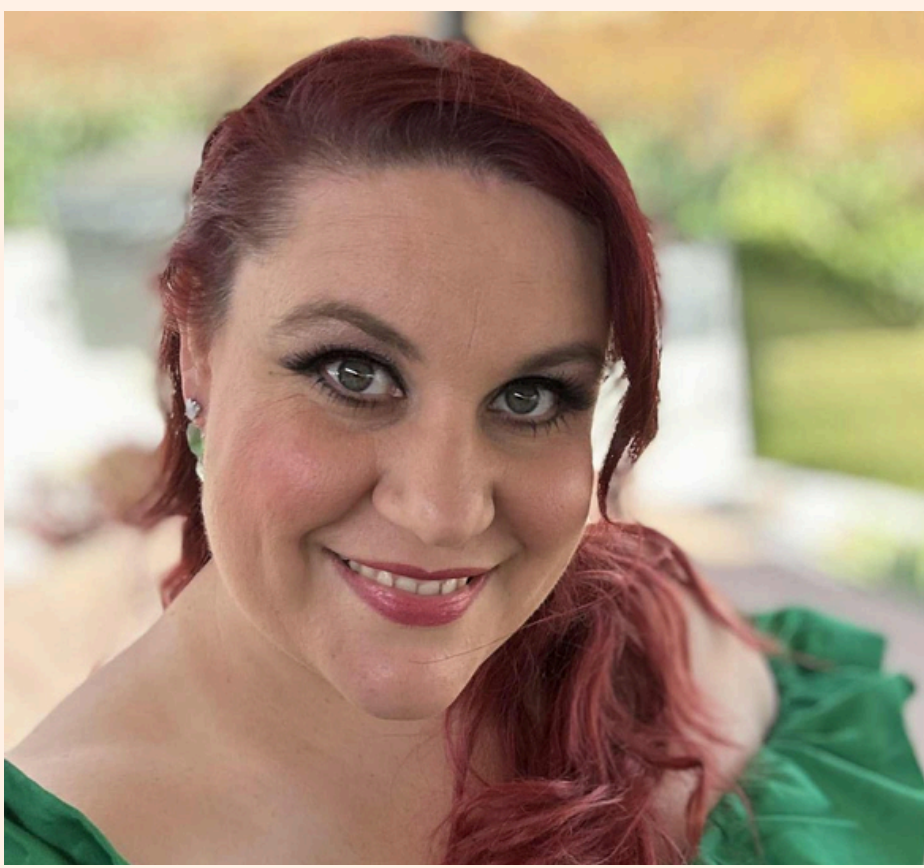


SUSIE OCONNELL

"Pie Jesu"
Lloyd Weber



Susie is a graduate of The WA Academy of Performing Arts where she completed a Bachelor of Musical Theatre. Her passion for music theatre began when she performed as Marty in Grease (Blackwood High School, 1989). She then played Winnie Tate in Annie Get Your Gun (Mayfair Theatre Company 1991), Pippa in The Spiders Web (Therry 1991), Chava in Fiddler In The Roof (HMC 1992), Chorus The Gondoliers (G&S Society 1992), Mrs Higgins maid in My Fair Lady (HMC 1993) and Susan Miller in Calamity Jane (HMC 1993). Whilst at WAAPA, Susie performed professionally as soloist at the Opening of the Perth Festival (WA Opera Company, 1996) and as Mr Higgins Maid in My Fair Lady (WAMTC 1996). Susie then won the professional role of understudy Tess in 'Tess of the D'Urbervilles' at the Savoy Theatre on the West End, London (JFK Productions, 1999) and in Ireland performing at The Pavillion Theatre in Dublin, as Princess Etain in The Quest of the Good People' (JFK Productions 2000). After returning to Sydney, Susie joined the Sydney Philharmonia and Sydney Motet Choir (2003–2007). Most recently Susie performed as Mother Abbess in The Sound of Music (G & S Society, 2025), Aunt March in Little Women (HMC, 2025) and as Mrs Squires in The Music Man (MCMT, 2024).



VANESSA LEE SHIRLEY



"A Christmas Carol"
Tom Lehrer

Vanessa Lee Shirley's creative credits include work as a singer, director, designer, producer and makeup artist. As a performer she has toured extensively with Co-Opera (throughout Australia and Europe) and is a member of the Adelaide Festival Chorus and State Opera chorus, highlights include: The Merry Widow, Carmen, La Boheme, La Traviata, HMS Pinafore, Messa di Requiem, The Golden Cockerel and Macbeth. As a principal performer in amateur theatre, Vanessa has a diverse list of credits to her name. Favourites include Bad Idea Bear in Avenue Q, Madame Thenadier in Les Miserables, Annas in Jesus Christ Superstar, The Fairy Queen in Iolanthe (G&S), Electra in Gypsy (Gin and Vodka Productions) and Mary in Jesus Christ Superstar (Murray Bridge Players). She is the founder of Little World Media, recently producing and directing Ordinary Days. She has directed and designed productions for both Walford Girls and Pulteney Grammar, including Cats and The Addams Family. With an Advanced Diploma of Design, Vanessa has served as lead makeup artist for a variety of local films and theatre productions, including State Opera South Australia, Adelaide Symphony Orchestra and Adelaide Festival. Vanessa recently directed and designed We Will Rock You for Pelican Productions, which has been nominated for 3 TASA awards, including Best Youth Musical.



CLASSICAL SINGER SUNDAYS

WISHES YOU A
SAFE AND WONDERFUL
FESTIVE SEASON

