

The Armidale Symphony Orchestra

Violin 1

Errol Russell
(Concertmaster)
Colin Sholl
Margaret Howard
Steven Ellison
Marie Mackenzie
Jhana Allen

Violin 2

Marian Barford
Maurice Anker
Beth Kenrick
Jennifer Bakon
Melanie Bird
Graham Mackay
Anne Gates

Violas

Sofia Dodds
Laurie Pulley
Chris Cunningham

Violoncellos

Sue Metcalfe
Eleanor Streatfeild
Rhonda Davey
Camilla Tafra
Keira Bird
Andrew Alter

Double Basses

Sarah Christopher
Arlene Fletcher
Vicki Harbison

Flutes

Geoff Derrin
Sharon Davidge

Oboe

David Rowe

Clarinets

Chris Garden
Ben Sindel

Bassoon

Alex Bell
Peter Maddox

French Horns

Alastair Finco
Kerry Hawkins
Bruce Menzies

Trumpets

John Kellaway
Georgina Chorley

Trombones

David Brown
Angus Trenerly
Ben Keogh

Tuba

Brian Glover

Percussion

Murray Winton
Wendy Huddleston
Steve Thorneycroft
Daniel Bale

Gods Drawing Board

Music: Elena Kats-Chernin. Libretto and Illustrations: Ralph Steadman.

A major new commission for the Armidale Symphony Orchestra and the Armidale Drama and Musical Society in a staged performance for Orchestra, Chorus, Vocal Soloists, Children's Voices and Dancers. Special parts have been written for Errol Russell (violin), Stephen Tafra (guitar), Robyn Bradley (piano), Murray Winton (percussion) and Zana Clark's recorder quartet.

Premiere **December 6 & 7** Lazenby Hall

The Armidale Choral Society

A SPRING CONCERT

Conductor Graham Maddox

Pianists Robin Bradley and Richard Peter Maddox

Works include Brahms *Love Song Waltzes*
and the Haydn *Te Deum Laudamus*

3 pm Sunday 7 September Armidale Uniting Church

Armidale Symphony Orchestra

Conductor

Graham Howard

Soloists

Steve Thorneycroft, Steve Tafra
and Murray Winton

3 pm Sunday 17 August 2008
Lazenby Hall UNE

www.armsymph.org

PROGRAM

English Folk Songs Suite

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872 - 1958)

Seventeen Come Sunday

My Bonny Boy

Folk Songs from Somerset

This suite based on three folk songs was written in 1923 for brass band by Vaughan Williams. It was subsequently arranged for full orchestra by Gordon Jacob, a student of Vaughan Williams. The first and third movements are stirring marches with a quiet Intermezzo between them.

Irish Tune from County Derry

Percy Grainger (1882 – 1961)

Everybody knows the Irish *Londonderry Air*, or *Danny Boy*. As with many of the folk songs that he notated from folk singers of the time, Grainger completed numerous arrangements of this folk song. The most beautiful version is that presented today, arranged purely for strings and horn. This arrangement is guaranteed to stir the emotions.

Spin Cycle

Steve Thorneycroft (1973 -)

Soloists Steve Thorneycroft, Steve Tafra (guitar), Murray Winton (marimba)

This piece grew from the impact that a favourite quilt (made by my Mum) that hangs on a wall at home has had on my compositional style. With 2008 marking significant musical anniversaries as well as the 10 years that the quilt has hung on my wall, the opportunity to bring them together in a piece of music was too good to resist! *Spin Cycle* has five ‘panels’, representing the number of panels in the quilt. Central to each quilt panel is a hexagon, represented musically by the guitar duo, with colours that appear to ‘spin’ around this central core. The integration of the colours and ‘spin’ effect in each panel are represented musically by the interlocking cyclic rhythmic patterns and the subtle changes and additions that occur with each repetition. The marimba/vibraphone part is an integral part of this minimalistic ‘sound’ and grew to become featured as this piece developed around the integration of the marimba with the rhythmic structures in the guitar parts. – *Steve Thorneycroft*

INTERVAL

Symphony No. 5 (Reformation)

Felix Mendelssohn (1809 – 1847)

I. Andante – Allegro con fuoco

II. Allegro vivace

III. Andante

IV. Choral: Andante con moto – Allegro maestoso

Like Mozart before him, Mendelssohn was a child prodigy and a prolific musician and composer during his short life. This symphony is named the Reformation because it was written to celebrate the 300th anniversary of the Lutheran Church. This is apparent in the fourth movement which is based on Martin Luther’s chorale *A Mighty Fortress is Our God*, with a powerful version of it played by all sections to conclude the symphony.

Shepherd’s Hey

Percy Grainger (1882 – 1961)

As well as composing and arranging, Grainger was a virtuosic pianist and brilliant showman. He was chosen by Grieg to premiere his Piano Concerto in A Minor around the world. When Grainger played it in Sydney, he completed the frenetic cadenza without mistake, leapt off the stage, ran to the back of the Town Hall where he touched wood on the doors, and sprinted back just in time to conclude the movement. It is that energy that is encapsulated in the high-spirited arrangement of this English folk tune.

Steve Thorneycroft and Steve Tafra - EphenStephen

The two Steves have enjoyed a long and fruitful musical association, with 2008 marking their 20th year. During this time they have performed and toured in Australia and overseas and in venues from the Sydney Opera House to the local pub. They have released two CDs, one of Australian music written for them by Armidale composers and the other of their arrangement of J.S. Bach’s famous Goldberg Variations which was released earlier this year. EphenStephen are pleased to celebrate their 20th anniversary with the CD release and through this event. They have enjoyed many performances with the ASO (both as individuals and together) since 1983 and are looking forward to sharing both of these anniversaries with Armidale musicians and friends.

Graham Howard

Graham Howard was born in Penrith in 1973. He co-won the Sydney Symphony Orchestra School Composer's Competition in 1990 and 1991 and conducted many of his own compositions during this period. He has conducted numerous ensembles in Sydney and NSW since 1992. Graham completed a Bachelor of Music (Hons) at The University of Sydney in 1996 majoring in Composition. His composition teachers included Anne Boyd, Ross Edwards and Peter Sculthorpe. He taught composition and lectured at The Australian International Conservatorium of Music, and taught at The King's School, Parramatta, where he was also Head of Composition in 2005. Graham is also the photographer for The Nature Conservation Council of NSW, a role he began in 2005. Graham previously conducted the Armidale Symphony Orchestra in a performance of his composition *Footprints at Four Creeks* in December 2007.

Fiori Musicali

Concert of English Music
Conductor Wendy Huddleston

7.30 pm, Wednesday August 20

St. Ursula’s Chapel
\$15 and \$10 (concession)