



MELBOURNE  
RECITAL  
CENTRE



melbourne symphony orchestra



*Soundscape: Sibelius Tapiola*

# 2014 METROPOLIS NEW MUSIC FESTIVAL MYTHIC SOUNDS AND STORYTELLING

1 - 12 APRIL 2014  
MELBOURNE RECITAL CENTRE



# 2014 METROPOLIS NEW MUSIC FESTIVAL MYTHIC SOUNDS AND STORYTELLING

**The Melbourne Symphony Orchestra and Melbourne Recital Centre recapture a time when the world was full of mystery, and the ancients ruled the land. This is music as a force of nature.**

The mysteries and majesty of the cosmos and its creation have captivated many composers, especially the great Finnish composer Jean Sibelius, whose *Tapiola* is a meditation on the ancient, mysterious Northern forests and a work that's had a profound influence on many of the composers and artists featured in this year's Festival.

Composer, pianist and conductor, Olli Mustonen is one of the most stimulating and thought-provoking musicians of our time.

The Finnish master returns to Melbourne to lead Australia's most important festival of contemporary music.

Olli Mustonen leads three orchestral programs and guest pianist Joanna MacGregor (UK) gives a scintillating recital. Australia's best contemporary musicians present an eclectic selection of performances grounded in nature and mystery. Dig deeper into the beginnings of our world and explore the stories and music we have weaved since the start of time.

# JOANNA MACGREGOR

## MUSICAL TOYS

TUE 1 APRIL 7.30PM | ELISABETH MURDOCH HALL | 110 MINS

Joanna MacGregor has forged a brilliant career as a provocateuse at the keyboard and as a festival director. The laterally thinking performer is known for weaving together surprising and apt pieces into fascinating concerts, delivered with passion, intelligence and brilliant technique.

J.S. Bach has been the focus of Joanna MacGregor's recent work: 'Of course, Bach is the godfather of everything for me, in the mafia sense as well as anything else,' she says. Bach's daring exploration of the 24 major and minor keys is mystical and joyous, fanciful and rigorous, and the cornerstone of the pianist's art. Inspired by Bach's example, Shostakovich pushed the genre into the

realms of deeply personal emotion, from bleak despair to giddy exuberance and created an unequivocal 20th-century masterpiece. In contrast to Shostakovich's searing intensity, Gubaidulina's set of miniature *Musical Toys* is an evocation of childhood wonder: magical but sometimes a little scary. In the same innocent mode, composers have tried to capture the sounds of birds and nature in their music since music began. From the elegant Baroque cuckoos and nightingales of Daquin and Couperin to the wild and strange blackbirds of Messiaen, MacGregor creates an aviary in the concert hall.

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Free pre-concert talk 6.45pm

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**J.S. BACH** The Well-Tempered Keyboard Book I – selections  
**SHOSTAKOVICH** 24 Preludes & Fugues, Op.87 – selections  
**GUBAIDULINA** Musical Toys

Works by RAVEL, DAQUIN, COUPERIN, MESSIAEN,  
BIRTWISTLE and PIAZZOLLA

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**Joanna MacGregor** piano

RESERVE	ADULT	CONC
Premium	\$105	---
A reserve	\$92	\$50
B reserve	\$75	\$50
C reserve	\$50	---

### Presented by

Melbourne Recital Centre

**Program partners** The Langham  
Melbourne & ABC Classic FM  
Part of Melbourne Recital  
Centre's Great Performers 2014



# PANTHEON

WED 2 APRIL 6PM | SALON | 60 MINS

Plexus presents the world premieres of five works by major Australian composers, bonded together through the inspiration of the world's diverse mythologies. Their music spawns variously from the pantheon of the ancient Greeks and Romans, the enigmatic world of the Celts, and the mystical culture of this country's first peoples. Melbourne's newest chamber ensemble, Plexus, is joined by acclaimed Australian tenor, Christopher Saunders.

**Presented by** Melbourne Recital Centre and Plexus

**ADULT \$38 | CONCESSION \$28**

**GRABOWSKY** Djuwalparra

World Premiere

**GRANDAGE** The Keep

World Premiere

**KIEREN HARVEY** Deus est Fabula

World Premiere

**KERRY** The end of many worlds

World Premiere

**MILLS** Ganymede and Leda

World Premiere

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**Plexus**

**Christopher Saunders** tenor



# THE GARDEN OF ICE

FRI 4 APRIL 6PM | SALON | 60 MINS

Youthful Melbourne-based multi-disciplinary organisation, Forest Collective present new works alongside influential composers inspired by the mythology, music and the natural beauty of Scandinavia. Jean Sibelius and Claude Debussy, known as peers and colleagues, inspired new works by Forest Collective Artistic Director Evan Lawson and peer, Lisa Illean, who have been strongly influenced by their recent time in the Netherlands and Finland. Forest Collective is joined by Melbourne soprano Rosemary Ball for a walk through this wintery garden.

**Presented by** Melbourne Recital Centre  
and Forest Collective

**ADULT \$38 | CONCESSION \$28**

**SIBELIUS** (arr Lawson) Movement from  
Ten Pieces, Op.58

**ILLEAN** new work

**EKSTRÖM** Garden of Ice

**LAWSON** Dithyramb

**SAARIAHO** Ariel's Hall; Miranda's Lament

**DEBUSSY** (arr Lawson) Le Balcon for  
soprano & chamber ensemble

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**Forest Collective**

**Evan Lawson** conductor/composer

**Rosemary Ball** soprano



# GARDEN OF EARTHLY DESIRE

SAT 5 APRIL 6PM | SALON | 60 MINS

Mythology and the natural world have been a source of inspiration for generations of artists. Despite the modern world's fast-paced existence, particularly since the industrial revolution, these themes continue to intrigue and excite us. This program, performed by Six Degrees Ensemble and guest artists, is formed around the astounding *Garden of Earthly Desire*, a chamber ensemble piece by Melbourne-born/UK-based composer Liza Lim.

**Presented by** Melbourne Recital Centre and Six Degrees Ensemble

**ADULT \$38 | CONCESSION \$28**

**LIM** *Garden of Earthly Desire*

**SATOH** *The Heavenly Spheres Are Illuminated by Lights*

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**Six Degrees Ensemble**



# SAPPHO'S BUTTERFLIES

WED 9 APRIL 6PM | SALON | 60 MINS

In Sappho's Butterflies, pianist Stefan Cassomenos and soprano Judith Dodsworth bring to life two works by Melbourne composer Kevin March. *Catalogue des Papillons*, for solo piano, revels in the unique spirit of 12 exotic butterflies. Then, Cassomenos and Dodsworth recreate their ABC 'Into the Music' performance of *Mythweaver*, a song cycle based on Sappho's poetry in which a woman's night time yearnings for her lover take wing.

**Presented by** Melbourne Recital Centre

ADULT \$38 | CONCESSION \$28

## MARCH

*Catalogue des Papillons*  
*Mythweaver*

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**Stefan Cassomenos** piano

**Judith Dodsworth** soprano





# THE MELBOURNE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA AND OLLI MUSTONEN TAPIOLA

SAT 5 APRIL 8PM | ELISABETH MURDOCH HALL | 105 MINS

The boundary between myth and reality is easily crossed in dark forests and frozen expanses of the north, where encounters with the spirit-world are a regular danger. This fairy-tale landscape has shaped the work of three Finnish composers. Jean Sibelius, a national and musical hero, invokes the forest god Tapiola. *Tapiola* is music to be lost in, a journey through 'thick, dark forests that dream wild dreams, forever secret'. Einojuhani Rautavaara is an heir of Sibelius' visionary insight into other worlds. The soloist in his spellbinding Violin Concerto spins a thread of sound across a musical landscape that contrasts delicate beauty with elemental force. The baritone in Olli Mustonen's

First Symphony sings of a man taken by Death on a sleigh-ride into an icy eternity. Mustonen says, "In the music one can hear some kind of gates opening, revealing new, mysterious worlds". It is a magical showcase for the MSO led by the composer.

## SEE MORE CONCERTS FOR LESS

Subscription offer available for MSO Elisabeth Murdoch Hall concerts (Olli Mustonen). See p18 for details

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**SIBELIUS** *Tapiola*, Op.112 (1926)

**RAUTAVAARA** Violin Concerto (1977)

**MUSTONEN** Symphony No.1 'Tuuri' (2012) **Australian Premiere**

**This concert will also include a new work commissioned as part of the MSO's Cybec 21st Century Australian Composers Program**

ADULT	CONCESSION
\$54	\$44

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**Olli Mustonen** conductor

**Kristian Winther** violin

**Juha Kotalainen** baritone

**Melbourne Symphony Orchestra**

**Presented by**

Melbourne Symphony Orchestra  
& Melbourne Recital Centre

THE MELBOURNE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA AND

# OLLI MUSTONEN

# FRESCOES OF DIONYSIUS

WED 9 APRIL 8PM | ELISABETH MURDOCH HALL | 105 MINS

Rodion Shchedrin (b.1932) is one of the most important and interesting composers in Russia today. Shchedrin was anointed as Shostakovich's successor in the 1970s, going on to bridge the Soviet and post-Soviet eras. His music, however, adheres to no political or musical ideology, but is often concerned with memory, nostalgia, deep emotion, fused with a limitless imagination for new and surprising colours and textures. The 'Sotto voce' concerto was composed for the master cellist Rostropovich. As the concert's name implies, the music is full of 'voices' – the cello's, the orchestra's – wordless, yet eloquent. In the haunting finale, the cellist is joined by the sounds of Shchedrin's childhood. Marko Ylönen is the impassioned soloist in this 20th century masterpiece. Kristian Winther and the MSO perform the world premiere of brand new work by Mustonen composed especially for the Metropolis Festival.

**SHCHEDRIN** *Frescoes of Dionysius*  
**MUSTONEN** *Sonata for violin and orchestra*  
**World Premiere**  
**SHCHEDRIN** *Sotto voce* concerto for cello and orchestra

**This concert will also include a new work commissioned as part of the MSO's Cybec 21st Century Australian Composers Program**

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**Melbourne Symphony Orchestra**

**Olli Mustonen** conductor

**Kristian Winther** violin

**Marko Ylönen** cello

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## SEE MORE CONCERTS FOR LESS

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Elisabeth Murdoch Hall concerts  
(Olli Mustonen).  
See p18 for details

**Presented by** Melbourne Symphony  
Orchestra & Melbourne Recital Centre

**ADULT \$54 | CONCESSION \$44**



# LOGIC

THU 10 APRIL 6PM | SALON | 60 MINS

The musicians of Syzygy Ensemble share a deep empathy with music of our own time as well as an unbridled desire to share this enthusiasm with audiences in a way that may stretch your ears but never slap you in the face. Each work on this program uses a carefully chosen set of parameters to systematically envelop the audience's senses. *Vines Economy of Wax* talks about the precision of a beehive, while John Luther Adams' *The Light Within* sets waves of rolling sound in motion according to strictly controlled rules. The result is sensory overload – chaos sprung from order.

**Presented by** Melbourne Recital Centre  
& Syzygy Ensemble

**ADULT \$38 | CONCESSION \$28**

**HUGHES** new work for quintet  
World Premiere

**VINES** *Economy of Wax*

**PINTCHSER** *Twilight Song*

**HOSOKAWA** *Stunden Blumen*

**ADAMS** *The Light Within*

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**Syzygy Ensemble**

**Judith Dodsworth** soprano

**Jess Fotinos** harp

**Daniel Richardson** percussion





THE MELBOURNE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA AND  
**OLLI MUSTONEN**  
CONCERT CHAMPÊTRE

**SAT 12 APRIL 8PM | ELISABETH MURDOCH HALL | 105 MINS**

Olli Mustonen's pastoral *Concert champêtre* was inspired by the colourful history of a country manor house, evoking its courtly residents, Finnish folk life and the awe-inspiring nature around it. It ends with a mysterious and fantastic vision of spirits and shamans in the primeval forests. The unique and uncompromising voice of Joonas Kokkonen (1921-1996) made him one of the most distinguished of Finland's composers. ...*durch einen Spiegel*... explores the tensile strength of the string section in a kaleidoscopic chain of melody embellished by the other worldly chimes of a harpsichord, as if seen 'through a glass darkly.' Young Finnish composer Ilari Kaila's concerto embraces the cello's

warm and expansive sound and its gift for song, setting it in a web of magical orchestral sonority. Cellist Marko Ylönen is one of Finland's leading musicians, and a passionate advocate of his country's contemporary music.

**SEE MORE CONCERTS FOR LESS**

Subscription offer available for MSO Elisabeth Murdoch Hall concerts (Olli Mustonen).

See p18 for details

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**KAILA** Cello Concerto

**SHCHEDRIN** Music for two oboes, two horns, celesta & strings

**KOKKONEN** ... *durch einen Spiegel*...

**MUSTONEN** Concert champêtre

ADULT	CONCESSION
\$54	\$44

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**Melbourne Symphony Orchestra**

**Olli Mustonen** conductor

**Marko Ylönen** cello

**Presented by**

Melbourne Symphony Orchestra  
& Melbourne Recital Centre

# DICHOTOMIE

SAT 12 APRIL 6PM | SALON | 60 MINS

Finland-based Australian pianist Aura Go presents a rich musical journey that delves deep into the realm of mythology and resurfaces with an infectious celebration of the natural world. Acclaimed Finnish composer Esa-Pekka Salonen's gripping piano work *Dichotomie* receives its first Australian performance, framing the powerful (and at times even frightening) depictions of spirits and spirituality by countrymen Pehr Henrik Nordgren and Einojuhani Rautavaara, Australia's renowned Larry Sitsky, and seminal American composers Henry Cowell and George Crumb.

**Presented by** Melbourne Recital Centre and Aura Go

**ADULT \$38 | CONCESSION \$28**

**SALONEN** *Dichotomie* **Australian Premiere**

**SITSKY** Chant of Gatha Ushtavaiti from 'Dimensions of Night'

**NORDGREN** Miminashi-Hoichi / Hoichi the Earless from 'Kwaidan Ballads', Op.17

**CRUMB** A Little Suite for Christmas, A.D. 1979

**COWELL** The Banshee

**RAUTAVAARA** Icons

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**Aura Go** piano



# METROPOLIS SOUNDSCAPE

The Metropolis soundscape (see front of brochure) is an actual 3 dimensional sculpture that we created from the soundwave of Sibelius' *Tapiola*. This new musical object encapsulates the contemporary spirit of the Metropolis festival with references to a city skyline, while also appearing to be plucked from an ancient forest. The image is instantly familiar as a trunk with bark and rings, yet it's a tree you have never seen before, the wood is translucent green and it's incision suggests the music has formed the trunk from thin air.

The designers avoided, as much as possible, any sense of scale. The idea that this might be 10cm across or 10m across is what makes it so interesting - perspective is left to the viewer. First and foremost, this soundscape is from a musical origin, and secondly, it suggests it has arrived from an enchanted ancient forest within a mythical world, very much like the experience of this year's Metropolis Festival.

## WHERE TO FIND US



# TICKET PACKAGES AND PRICES

## FESTIVAL PACKAGES

Buy any 3 Hall and/or Salon concerts and receive  
**20% discount\***

Buy any 4 Hall and/or Salon concerts and receive  
**30% discount\***

\*Does not apply to concession

## MSO ELISABETH MURDOCH HALL CONCERTS (OLLI MUSTONEN) 3 CONCERT SUBSCRIPTION

Adult **\$132** | Concession **\$108**

## INDIVIDUAL CONCERTS

Adult **\$54** | Concession **\$44**

## JOANNA MACGREGOR RECITAL

Premium **\$105** | A reserve **\$92** (Concession **\$50**)

B reserve **\$75** (Concession **\$50**) | C reserve **\$50**

## SALON CONCERTS

Adult **\$38** | Concession **\$28**

## BOOK NOW

**METROPOLISFESTIVAL.COM.AU**



# METROPOLIS 2014 CALENDAR

## TUESDAY 1 APRIL

### MUSICAL TOYS

Joanna MacGregor piano

Elisabeth Murdoch Hall | **7.30pm**

Free Pre-Concert Talk | **6.45pm Salon**

## WEDNESDAY 2 APRIL

### PANTHEON

Plexus

Salon | **6pm**

## FRIDAY 4 APRIL

### THE GARDEN OF ICE

Forest Collective

Salon | **6pm**

## SATURDAY 5 APRIL

### THE GARDEN OF EARTHLY DESIRE

Six Degrees Ensemble

Salon | **6pm**

### TAPIOLA

Melbourne Symphony Orchestra

Elisabeth Murdoch Hall | **8pm**

## WEDNESDAY 9 APRIL

### SAPPHO'S BUTTERFLIES

Stefan Cassomenos piano

Judith Dodsworth soprano

Salon | **6pm**

### FRESCOES OF DIONYSIUS

Melbourne Symphony Orchestra

Elisabeth Murdoch Hall | **8pm**

## THURSDAY 10 APRIL

### LOGIC

Syzygy Ensemble

Salon | **6pm**

## SATURDAY 12 APRIL

### DICHOTOMIE

Aura Go piano

Salon | **6pm**

### CONCERT CHAMPÊTRE

Melbourne Symphony Orchestra

Elisabeth Murdoch Hall | **8pm**





#METROPOLIS2014

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INFO & TICKETS: [METROPOLISFESTIVAL.COM.AU](http://METROPOLISFESTIVAL.COM.AU)

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