Melbourne Symphony Orchestra
and Arts Centre Melbourne present

Joe Hisaishi: Symphonic Concert - Music from the Studio Ghibli Films of Hayao Miyazaki

26–28 APRIL 2018
CONCERT PROGRAM

Proudly supported by Asia TOPA
A MESSAGE FROM CONSUL-GENERAL MATSUNAGA

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to Studio Ghibli in Concert.

As Consul-General, I am thankful for events like these that strengthen the Victoria-Japan relationship.

It is said that some of the buildings in Hayao Miyazaki’s films remind people of Flinders Street Station and other famous landmarks around the world.

Through these films, viewers experience meaningful stories, beautiful colours, and animated landscapes, all of which are accompanied by the iconic scores of composer Joe Hisaishi. Mr Hisaishi’s music and the catalogue of Studio Ghibli movies are loved not only throughout Japan but all over the world.

For me, Miyazaki’s works create a sense of nostalgia, as my home is located in Mitaka near the Studio Ghibli office and Ghibli Museum. It is wonderful that the interpretation of Miyazaki’s films depends on the imagination of the individual.

Presenting the best of Australian innovation, creativity and lifestyle, Australia now builds on the deep and long-standing ties between Australia and Japan and promotes exchange, partnership and strategic cooperation.

In the spirit of Australia now 2018, the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra presenting the Studio Ghibli Concert will showcase creative collaboration and highlight the strength of our enduring relationship with Japan.

H.E. Mr Richard Court AC
Australian Ambassador to Japan

In consideration of your fellow patrons, the MSO thanks you for silencing and dimming the light on your phone.

The MSO acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we are performing. We pay our respects to their Elders, past and present, and the Elders from other communities who may be in attendance.

Kazuyoshi Matsunaga
Consul-General of Japan, Melbourne

A MESSAGE FROM THE AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR TO JAPAN

Australia enjoys a strong relationship with Japan, a trusted partner with shared values and interests. We enhance our cultural connections and economic engagement through programs like Australia now, which celebrates contemporary Australia in a focus country or region each year. I am delighted that Japan is our host for 2018.

In the spirit of Australia now 2018, the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra presenting the Studio Ghibli Concert will showcase creative collaboration and highlight the strength of our enduring relationship with Japan.

H.E. Mr Richard Court AC
Australian Ambassador to Japan

NAUSICÄÄ OF THE VALLEY OF THE WIND

The Legend of the Wind
Nausicaä Requiem
The Battle between Mehve and Corvette
The Distant Days
The Bird Man

KIKI’S DELIVERY SERVICE

A Town with an Ocean View
Heartbroken Kiki
Mother’s Broom

PRINCESS MONONOKE

The Legend of Ashitaka
The Demon God
Princess Mononoke
(Soprano: Antoinette Halloran)

THE WIND RISES

(Mandolin: Ken Murray)
A Journey (A Dream of Flight)
Nahoko (The Encounter)
A Journey (A Kingdom of Dreams)

PONYO ON THE CLIFF BY THE SEA

Deep Sea Pastures
Mother Sea
(Soprano: Antoinette Halloran)
Ponyo’s Sisters Lend a Hand – A Song for Mothers and the Sea
Ponyo on the Cliff by the Sea

All Music by Joe Hisaishi
Original Orchestration: Joe Hisaishi
Orchestration: Chad Cannon
Executive Producer: Tim Fox (CAMI), Toshio Suzuki (Studio Ghibli)
Director: Joe Hisaishi
Music Director: Shinji Kawamoto (Wonder City)
Assistant Director: Satomi Takahashi
Production: Kazuko Takayasu, Shinichiro Takasugi (Promax)
Artist Management: Maki Fujisawa (Wonder City), Yusuke Yamashita (Wonder City), Akiko Suzawa (Wonder City), Yoshiaki Miura (Wonder City)

INTERVAL

CASTLE IN THE SKY
Doves and the Boy
Carrying You

PORCO ROSSO
Bygone Days

SPIRITED AWAY
One Summer’s Day
Reprise (Vocals: Mai Fujisawa)

MY NEIGHBOUR TOTORO
The Path of the Wind
Hey Let’s Go (Vocals: Mai Fujisawa & Soprano: Antoinette Halloran)
My Neighbour Totoro (Vocals: Mai Fujisawa & Soprano: Antoinette Halloran)

Special thanks: Studio Ghibli, Yutaka Toyama (Promax), Ayame Fujisawa (Wonder City)
Screen Movie Editing: Kenichi Itagaki
Columbia Artists Management: Tim Fox, Alison Williams, Alek Deve, Arne Bock
JOE HISAISHI
CONDUCTOR/PIANO

Joe Hisaishi was born in Nagano, Japan. He started to show his interest in minimal music when he was a student at Kunitachi College of Music, and started his career as a modern music composer. Presentation of MKWAJU in 1981 and the release of his first album Information in the following year kick-off of his career as a solo artist. Since his debut, he has released nearly 40 solo albums, including Minima_Rhythm (2009), Melodyphony (2010) and the latest solo album The End of the World (2016).

Starting with Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind (1984), Hisaishi has produced music for 10 Hayao Miyazaki films. He also composed the music for HANA-BI (1998) directed by Takeshi Kitano, Departures (2008) directed by Yojiro Takita, Villain (2010) directed by Sang-il Lee, The Tale of Princess Kaguya (2013) directed by Isao Takahata and The Little House (2014) directed by Yoji Yamada. He has collaborated on the music production of several projects like Contrabass Concerto (2015), TRI-AD for Large Orchestra (2016) and The East Land Symphony (2016). His unique inputs to the concerts as a contemporary musical composer is highly appreciated and his continuous enthusiasm for musical activities that go beyond ordinary creative work is anticipated worldwide.

MAY FUJISAWA
VOCALS

Mai Fujisawa is a Japanese singer and lyricist born in Tokyo. She made her debut on screen at the age of 4, singing Nausicaä Requiem from her father Joe Hisaishi's soundtrack to Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind, Studio Ghibli's earliest film.

In 2012, she sang the opening theme of Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows – Part II, with music by Alexandre Desplat. In 2015, the UN's 70th memorial year, she joined the UN Singers Peace and Hope Concert Tour in Tokyo, Hiroshima and Nagasaki as a guest singer and served as producer for the Tokyo performance.

In 2016, she sang and wrote lyrics for the theme song for an American documentary film about WWII called Paper Lanterns, with music by young American composer Chad Cannon.

Mai also sang the main theme for Clouds Above the Hill, a long-running historical drama series on NHK TV about the Meiji Revolution, based on the original story by Ryoitaro Shiba. Additionally, she wrote and sang the ending theme song for Ojarumaru, an anime TV show commemorating the 70th anniversary of the end of WW II, which was overwhelmingly popular among children in Japan.

ANTOINETTE HALLORAN
SOPRANO

One of Australia’s most accomplished and best-loved sopranos, Antoinette Halloran performs regularly with all the major Australasian opera companies and symphony orchestras and appears frequently on national television and radio.

In 2017, she sang the title role in Tosca for West Australian Opera (Helpmann Award nomination), The Fox in The Cunning Little Vixen for Victorian Opera, was associate artist for José Carreras' National Tour and was soloist with the Melbourne, West Australian and Christchurch Symphony Orchestras. She returns to Opera Australia in 2018 as Praskovya in The Nose and makes major appearances with Victorian Opera and Opera Queensland.

Engagements for Opera Australia have included the title roles in Madama Butterfly and Rusalka, Mimi in La bohème, Stella in A Streetcar Named Desire (Green Room Award), Donna Elvira in Don Giovanni and Rosalinde in Die Fledermaus.
KEN MURRAY
MANDOLIN
Kenn Murray has developed a career as a guitarist combining performance, composition, teaching and research.

He has championed and recorded Spanish music from the early twentieth century worked extensively with contemporary Australian composers and has been active as a performer of Brazilian and South American musical styles.

He graduated with a PhD from the University of Melbourne, where he is Senior Lecturer at the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music.

KEN MURRAY
MANDOLIN

MELBOURNE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CHORUS
For more than 50 years the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra Chorus has been the unstinting voice of the Orchestra’s choral repertoire. The MSO Chorus sings with the finest conductors including Sir Andrew Davis, Edward Gardner, Mark Wigglesworth, Bernard Labadie, Vladimir Ashkenazy and Manfred Honeck, and is committed to developing and performing new Australian and international choral repertoire.

Commissions include Brett Dean’s Katz und Spatz, Ross Edwards’ Mountain Chant, and Paul Stanhope’s Exile Lamentations. Recordings by the MSO Chorus have received critical acclaim. It has performed across Brazil and at the Cultura Inglese Festival in Sao Paolo, with The Australian Ballet, Sydney Symphony Orchestra, at the AFL Grand Final and at Anzac Day commemorative ceremonies.

WARREN TREVELYAN-JONES
MSO CHORUS MASTER
Warren Trevelyan-Jones is the Head of Music at St James’, King Street in Sydney and is regarded as one of the leading choral conductors and choir trainers in Australia. Warren has had an extensive singing career as a soloist and ensemble singer in Europe, including nine years in the Choir of Westminster Abbey, and regular work with the Gabrieli Consort, Collegium Vocale (Ghent), the Taverner Consort, The Kings Consort, Dunedin Consort, The Sixteen and the Tallis Scholars.

Warren is also Director of the Parsons Affayre, Founder and Co-Director of The Consort of Melbourne.

MESSAGE FROM JOE HISAIshi
久石譲

メルボルンの皆さんを含むコンサートができることが大変嬉しく思っています。

僕が宮崎さんのお映画を担当するようになったのは30年以上前からです。

まさに奇跡です。そして次作のオファーも頂いています。とても嬉しい限りです。

宮崎さんの映画は我々が「生きる」という意味と「生きる喜び」を教えてくれます。その中で書いた音楽はまさに僕の人生そのものでもあります。

今も、皆さんがその世界を共有できるとは、望外の喜びです。

楽しい時間をお過ごしいただけることを願っています。

久石 譲
2018年4月

MESSAGE FROM TOSHIo SUZUKI

宮崎駿と久石譲が出会って35年、あの時、あの場面で、ふたりが出会っていなければ——

そう考えると空恐ろしくなる。

久石譲のいないジブリなんて。

繰り返すが、宮崎アニメには、久石譲一人しか似合わない。

元気で行こう。絶望するな。

スタジオジブリ　鈴木 敏夫

I am Joe Hisaishi.

I am excited to perform this concert in front of the people of Melbourne. It has been more than 30 years since I began working with Mr Miyazaki on his movies. It’s a miracle!

I am blessed to have been offered the opportunity to work on Miyazaki’s next new creation.

Miyazaki’s movies teach us about the meaning of life, and the joy of living. The music I have been writing for these movies is such a large part of my life. It gives me so much joy to be able to share this world with you.

I hope you enjoy it.

Joe Hisaishi
April 2018

It has been 35 years since Hayao Miyazaki and Joe Hisaishi met; it is unimaginable to consider what would have happened if they hadn’t met at that time. Joe Hisaishi is the only match for Miyazaki’s anime.

By listening to Joe’s music, we are inspired to keep good spirits and to never give up hope.

Toshio Suzuki
Studio Ghibli
You may also enjoy...

HARRY POTTER AND THE PRISONER OF AZKABAN™ IN CONCERT

9 – 10 NOVEMBER
Plenary, MCEC

Get ready to encounter a Dementor™, ride the Knight Bus™ and discover just who Sirius Black™ really is. Relive the magic of your favourite wizard in Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban™ — in Concert.

Based on the third instalment of J.K. Rowling’s classic saga, fans can now experience the thrilling tale accompanied by the music of a live symphony orchestra as Harry soars across the big screen.


MSO SIDE-BY-SIDE

2 June, 7.30pm
Arts Centre Melbourne, Hamer Hall

All tickets $35!

Join the MSO, led by Cybec Assistant Conductor, Tianyi Lu, and talented students from Melbourne University’s Master of Music (Orchestral Performance) and the Melbourne Youth Orchestra for an evening of toe-tapping music.

The program features works by Bernstein, the latest commission from MSO’s Cybec Young Composer in Residence, Ade Vincent, and Elgar’s Cello Concerto, performed by rising Australian star cellist, Eliza Sdraulig.

MSO + CIRCUS OZ: TUTTI

7 – 8 September 2018
Arts Centre Melbourne, Hamer Hall

Tickets from $29.

Prepare for an adventure as the MSO musicians entwine their music around the acrobatic limbs of Circus Oz in a spectacular fusion of two extraordinary and dramatically different art forms.

Be swept up by the power of the Orchestra as Australia’s daredevil stunt masters defy the laws of physics and push the boundaries of impossibility.

Family-friendly and Adults Only shows both on sale now.

Tickets for these shows and more at mso.com.au