

**The Tutti Ensemble Holdfast Choir  
and Friends**



**CONCERT PROGRAM**

**Tuesday 7th May, 2002  
Adelaide Town Hall**

**- Interval -**

# Program

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## **Second Half: David Helfgott**

*Andante / Mendelssohn*

*Rondo Capriccioso / Mendelssohn*

*Pasquinate / Gottschalk*

*Souvenirs d'Andalousie / Gottschalk*

*Prelude - Girl with Flaxen Hair / Debussy*

*Clair de Lune / Debussy*

*Fantaisie Impromptu / Chopin*

*Ballade No. 4 F minor / Chopin*

**David Helfgott**

**with Brian Gilbertson, Jennifer Kneale and The Tutu Ensemble Holdfast Choir**

*Ombra Mai fu - George Frederic Handel from the opera Xerxes*

**Soloist Brian Gilbertson**

*Let her Kiss Me/Rise My Love - My Life, My Love/ Pat Rix and the Holdfast Choir*  
*from Diane Wolkestein's translation of Song of Songs.*

**Soloists - Brian Gilbertson and Jennifer Kneale**

*Time to Say Goodbye - F Sartori and L. Quarantotto, adapted by Frank Peterson*

**Soloists - Jennifer Kneale and Brian Gilbertson**



**McLachlan Hodge Mitchell**  
Business Advisors, Chartered Accountants, Management and IT Consultants

A note from the show's sponsor, McLachlan Hodge Mitchell  
McLachlan Hodge Mitchell is thrilled to have the opportunity to support the Tutti Ensemble Holdfast Choir in concert with David Helfgott.

It is an important South Australian community event that showcases a special part of this State's achievements in the arts and our amazing local talent.

McLachlan Hodge Mitchell is one of this State's leading business advisory and IT consulting firms. We are South Australian owned and operated and as part of the local community, we seek opportunities to contribute to significant South Australian business and government projects.

We keenly await tonight's concert following the Tutti Ensemble Holdfast Choir's magnificent performance in the sell-out Adelaide Festival show 'My Life, My Love' earlier this year.

## DAVID HELFGOTT

David Helfgott was born in Melbourne, Australia, in 1947 to Polish Jewish parents. As a teenager, David won the State finals of the ABC Instrumental and Vocal Competition six times. Isaac Stern was so impressed that he urged overseas study for the young prodigy.

It was not until 1968, though, that he went to London to study at the Royal College of Music with Cyril Smith, who wrote of his young pupil, in the romantic virtuoso works such as Liszt and Rachmaninov, his talent amounts almost to genius... temperamentally and technically in the Horowitz class.

In 1970, however, illness overtook him and he returned to Perth and a decade of obscurity. He emerged in the 1980s giving his first major recital for twelve years in June 1984 and marrying Gillian that year. Two years later, David returned overseas for study with the great pedagogue, Peter Fauchereyger, who summed up his talents, I am reluctant to use the word 'genius', but would certainly make an exception with David Helfgott. He is certainly one of the most exceptional pianists and musicians I have ever had the good fortune to know.

Recitals in London, Bonn, Vienna, Budapest and Copenhagen followed, to critical acclaim, and his Liszt, Rachmaninov, Chopin CD was nominated for an Australian Music Award in 1990.

After four years of touring, Australia, Europe and Asia, David returned to Darwin to do a live recording of Rachmaninov's Third Piano Concerto. It became a key element of Scott Hicks' extraordinary film on David's life, Shine, which helped David become known and loved around the world.

In 1997, after a sell-out tour of the US, David returned to the Royal Albert Hall, where he had triumphed in 1970 in front of 8,000 people with his Liszt E Flat Concerto. This time, David played the Rachmaninov Third to a capacity crowd and thunderous standing ovation.

David finished the year as the world's top-selling classical artist and with Billboard magazine naming the Rachmaninov CD "Classical Record of the Year". If that were not enough, David also released that year the acclaimed CD, Brilliant Piano, and received a Time for Peace award at Carnegie Hall.

## BRIAN GILBERTSON

Brian Gilbertson studied voice and drama at the Hochschule für Musik, Darmstadt under Kirsten and with Maestro Franz Beckh - both in Vienna where he made his operatic debut. He has performed in many parts of the world and throughout Australia. Concert works range from Handel's Messiah and Britten's St Nicolas to works from contemporary music. Over 45 Operatic roles range from the lyrical Don Ottavio (Don Giovanni) and Ernani (Don Pasquale), to the character Mozart (Die Verurtheilte Braut), Ubaldo (Adriano Lecocq) and Hamlet (Stravinsky's Hamlet). He appeared in Adelaide's first Ring Cycle as 'Frick' and has appeared regularly with State Opera of South Australia. In the lead up to the 2000 Olympics, Brian was an Olympic ambassador in the international Olympic Arts Festival Rhythmic World, giving concerts in Paris, London, Venice, South Africa, Asia and Mauritius. He has produced four commercial recordings and appears regularly on national television. Brian is also involved in the production and artistic direction of major regional events in South Australia.

He last appeared with the Tullii Ensemble in 'My Life, My Love' at the Adelaide Festival 2002 in the role of the Pilot.

In 2002 Brian has a number of national corporate appearances and will perform the role of Beadle in the State Opera of South Australia's production of *Sammy Todd*.

## JENNIFER KNEALE

Jennifer graduated with an Honours Degree in Music (Performance) and a Diploma of Education from the Adelaide University. She was a Young Artist with Opera Queensland. She toured Australia and New Zealand with Les Misérables (Ernestine, Cosette cover) and Australia and Asia in Ken Hill's Freedom of the Opera (Abraham and Christine, Charlotte and Jermol cover). She has performed with Co Opera's Magic Flute (Pamina) and My Fair Lady.

Jennifer appears regularly with the State Opera of South Australia and later this year will appear as Jermol in *Sammy Todd*. With the same company she has performed the roles of Barbina (Marriage of Figaro), Papagena (Magic Flute), Gretel (Hansel and Gretel), Ruthie in the Parks Concert (Baker of Sardinia) and covered the Weekend in The Ring Cycle. More recently Jennifer sang the role of The Angel Figure in the Australian Band's Opera production of Carmina Burana and Sogno di una Notte in the Faure Requiem (Sacred & Profane), and was a Flower Maiden in Wagner's *Tristan*. Jennifer played young Pearl in 'My Life, My Love' at the Adelaide Festival 2002.

## PAT RDX

A well known South Australian playwright and composer. Pat is the Artistic Director of the Tullii Ensemble and Conductor of Tullii's Hothouse Community Choir. Her passion is bringing the strengths of mainstream and community arts practices together. Pat's work is increasingly gaining an international profile. Produced plays include *Burrows* (also being performed in the High Beam Festival), and *Performing Lines*, recently produced in Canada, *Freeway* and *Square Pegs for Junction Theatre* and *One Dream to Go* for SPLASH. Co-written works include *Tides for Week, Wild Rice for Junction Theatre* and *Allegro and Mad, Wilded Friday for Mainstream Theatre*. Recent musical works include the opening ceremony chorale for Festival of the Coast 2001 and *KickedART - Vancouver* - in August 2001. During the last two years she has brought her love of writing and music together to develop 'My Life, My Love'. Pat was awarded an honorary ARTS SA Life-career Fellowship in 2002 to bring this work to fruition.

## Stephen Goldsmith

Steve will open the concert and welcome people to Kaurna land. Steve is a great friend and supporter of the tribe. As a Kaurna Narungga man, he is a well-known performer, story-teller and cultural consultant. He has toured Australia, North America, Europe and England and has the honour of being the first didgeridoo player to perform in Shakespeare's Globe Theatre. Steve took the role of the aboriginal spirit Tamda in the recent production *My Life, My Love*.

## Phillip Griffin

Phillip is both a classical guitarist and conductor who has worked extensively in Australia and overseas. He has taught singing at drama schools around the country and has a particular love of Balkan music, especially Macedonian gypsy music. Phillip conducted the Holdfast Choir during their recent sellout success of State Theatre's *My Life, My Love*, for the Adelaide Festival.

## The Band

Our band is made up of people we have known and worked with for some time. We are very fortunate in having Tony Nirts, an award winning songwriter and sound engineer as our band leader. Warwick Smith is a resident at Minda Inc who has been playing with us for four years. Nat Brice, Alles Shuter and Lauren Pitwood are outstanding emerging artists who have played with us on many occasions including *My Life, My Love*. Likewise community players Norma Moorbridge and Andrea Spurling from the Rhythm Method. Dancer/choreographer and drummer Roland Cox is a long time colleague who joins us again for this concert with our over-50s player Paul Sotiriou. Stephen and Jamie Goldsmith are also long time colleagues who featured in *My Life, My Love*. We welcome Lyndon Grey who is performing with us for the first time this evening.

## The Tutti Ensemble Holdfast Choir

This choir began as an initiative of Minda Inc in August 1997 with Pat Rix as leader. In four and a half years we have grown from a small group of 12 intellectually disabled people and two support workers at Minda enjoying choral singing as a recreational option, to a diverse group of over 70 singers and musicians. In the last two years, The Tutti Ensemble Holdfast Choir has become an international role model for community cultural development and promotion of diversity.

The philosophy of our choir is that there are no barriers to participation, therefore people with physical and intellectual disabilities and members of the community from widely differing age groups and musical experience are accepted and encouraged. Our repertoire has evolved to include gospel and popular songs as well as old favourites and traditionals. We also sing songs from other cultures and original songs by contemporary writers.

The Choir is available for performances. Among the many community and conference presentations and performances we have done there have been many highlights. These include the Opening of The Festival of the Coast in January 2001, Channel 7 and The Advertiser Carols by Candlelight 2000, Robert Theobald's 'Healing Century' lecture at the Adelaide Town Hall in 1999, the 2001 Bartercard Jazz Festival at Glenelg and especially - opening Canada's Kickstart Celebration of Disability Arts and Culture in Vancouver last August 2001 with a song-cycle composed and conducted by Pat Rix.

But by far our most outstanding achievement to date is the development and performance of Pat Rix's *My Life, My Love* for State Theatre and the Adelaide Festival. This work was directed by the wonderful Rosalind Clemenle, conducted by Ryszard Pusz and Philip Griffin and performed with Brian Gilbertson, Jennifer Kneale, Barbara West and Steve Goldsmith together with many other outstanding actors, performers and musicians. A sell-out success and hailed as a triumph of inclusivity, the whole experience was inspirational and testament to our motto and theme song - **ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE!**



# THE TUTTI ENSEMBLE HOLDFAST CHOIR

Artistic Director - Pat Rix

Conductor for My Life, My Love excerpts - Philip Griffin

Assistant Conductor, U Mamua and Anything is Possible - Joael Hartgen

## Choir

Abbie Storry

Andrew Johnston

Carmen Stewart

Chris Davies

Christine Brown

David Leitch

Harry Sutton

Jan Houlby

Jeremy Hartgen

Jordan Hensley-Twartz

Keith Twartz

Margaret Hooper

Marion Harris

Melissa Plummer

Molly Brannigan

Nikki Zerella

Patty Parker

Roslyn Rix

Sara Stodart

Sofia Balfour

Trish Hensley

Yvonne Ayliffe

Alan Stewart

Anne Tragerza

Caroline Ellison

Christian Madigan

Colleen Woodford

Emma Brougham

Ian Dobson

Janet Dickson

Jodie Lupton

Joel Phillips

Kenneth Linford

Margo Wilson

Mark Andrew

Michele Madigan

Nick Carter

Nina Owen

Paul Nelson

Sally Bell

Shannon Mitchell

Sue Downing

Trudy Madigan

Andrew Downing

Barbro Spry

Carolyn George

Christie Tooth

Craig Wilkins

Grant Thomas

Jackie Smith

Jason Thiele

Joel Hartgen

Katherine Chinnick

Lilby Brady

Maria Edwards

Megan Storry

Milroy Orab

Nikol Mortier

Pat Luscombe

Ros Cleavelly

Sally Potter

Silvia Lopresti

Sylvia Hartgen

Wendy Parsons

## Musicians

Tony Nirta - guitar

Alies Sluiter - violin, accordion

Jamie Goldsmith - didgeridoo and sticks

Norma Mockridge - percussion

Paul Soteriou - congas

Lauren Pittwood - clarinet/sax

Lyndon Grey - double bass

Nat Brice - piano

Stephen Goldsmith - didgeridoo and sticks

Andrea Spurling - percussion

Nat Brice - piano

Roland Cox - congas

Warwick Smith - snare drum

**The Tutti Ensemble Holdfast Choir  
would like to thank its sponsors and supporters:**

**McLachlan Hodge Mitchell  
University of South Australia  
High Beam Festival  
Arts in Action  
The Crippled Children's Association of South Australia  
Quality Performers Management  
Julie Sloan Management Pty. Ltd.  
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Minda Incorporated  
Stamford Grand Hotel  
Benson's Limousines  
Show Group Travel  
The Business Card Shop - Norwood  
Janome Sewing Solutions  
Harmony Choir  
Department of Education, Training and Employment**

**The Tutti Ensemble Holdfast Choir**

**This Choir is acknowledged as the first of its kind in the world.  
It began at Minda Inc. South Australia in August 1997.  
Membership included people with physical and intellectual  
disabilities and members of the wider community.  
People from differing age groups and all levels of experience  
of music are accepted and encouraged.**

**We welcome your interest  
email - [priz@merlin.net.au](mailto:priz@merlin.net.au)  
[tuttersandclips@hotmail.com.au](mailto:tuttersandclips@hotmail.com.au)**