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Thank You

Tutti and State Opera SA would like to thank the following people for their support in this project.

Becky Llewellyn, Bishop Gregory O'Kelly, Edward and Pearl Clymer, Helen Haines Jennifer Stokes, Jo Tamblin, John and Suzy Tilley, Margaret Nicol, Liam Burgmann, Philip and Caroline Ellison, Liz Follett, Andre Scaffidi, Restless Dance Company, Leigh Warren Dancers, Michael McMillan, Laraine Wheeler, Celena Hayward, Alison Overall

OPERATU

**A partnership between Tutti Ensemble and the
State Opera of South Australia**

presents

the Australian Premiere

of

The Shouting Fence



Music by Richard Chew and Orlando Gough

Director - Cheryl Pickering, Musical Director - Richard Chew, Assistant Musical Director - Philip Griffin, Designer - Louise Dunn, Lighting Designer - Nick Molison, Project Manager - Rachel Fisher, Production Manager - Emma O'Neill, Executive Producers - Pat Rix, Sharon Manning, Stephen Phillips, Nigel Bray, Graphic Design - Pavlos Soteriou, Publicity - Linda Jacobssen and Michelle Colmer



Government of South Australia
Arts SA



tutti

« unlocking creativity »



• Inclusion
• Respect
• Choice



State **OPERA**
south australia

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A personal approach
to business

About Tutti and Operatu

Tutti is the Italian musical term meaning 'everyone'. Since 1997 Tutti has given adults and children of all ages, racial and socio-economic backgrounds access to quality arts activities through working with high calibre professional artists on the production of work everyone can enjoy. People with disability and those marginalized by society have always been a big part of the organisation. In 2008 Tutti won top honours in the Australia wide 'Music in Communities' awards for its work in bringing disadvantaged people together through music.

Operatu was established in 2007 as a collaboration between the State Opera and Tutti with the aim of creating professional opportunities for singers and directors with and without a disability to work with experienced artists on the production of new and recent Australian and international works.

The Australian Premiere of *The Shouting Fence* is the first of our Operatu co-productions and three Tutti soloists are making their debut alongside professional singers. With text compiled from the stories of real people and poetry by the great Palestinian poet Mahmoud Darwish it is a poetic and musical exploration of a theme close to Tutti's heart, that of finding ways to communicate against the odds and overcoming barriers that isolate. This brave and radical work was first performed on the rooftop spaces of the South Bank Centre in London and has had several productions since in England and the Netherlands.

We thank Stephen Phillips, Nigel Bray and Debra Pahl of State Opera for their support; also the Big Country Choir, Adelaide Harmony Choir, the Harmony of Hearts and Minds Choir and singers from new and emerging refugee communities through Margaret Hess and Families SA for joining us for this large chorus work. Our combined energy has given the deep themes of communication and belonging in this work renewed meaning. We especially thank Cheryl Pickering, Richard Chew and the whole artistic team for bringing this remarkable work to life for the 2009 Adelaide International Fringe Festival.

Pat Rix Founding Artistic Director

Director's Note

The Shouting Fence was composed by Orlando Gough and Richard Chew in 1998 in response to the story of villagers of Magdal Shams in the occupied Syrian Golan. Separated from their companion village since the 1967 Six Day War by a fenced-off stretch of no-mans-land, the people gathered every Friday evening to call news to their loved ones through megaphones across the divide. The fence had gone up very quickly, there were university students unable to return home to their families and mothers who had been visiting their own parents who were unable to return to their children. There is footage of a bride showing off her wedding dress at the fence and a son giving a funeral oration for his father as the coffin is held aloft on the opposite hill.

Since this time, more fences have been built in this deeply troubled corner of our planet. The country of Israel, feeling surrounded by hostile nations, has commenced building a huge concrete separation wall to divide land it regards as its own from the occupied territories of East Jerusalem, the Gaza Strip and the West Bank.

Peter Deane has been fortunate to have a career as a choral conductor, singer and music teacher. During that time he has had the privilege of touring Australia as an Opera singer, conducted some fine student choirs and watched his students grow and develop both as people and as musicians.

Robert Macfarlane graduated with First-class Honours in December 2007 from the Elder Conservatorium and studies in Adelaide with Cheryl Pickering. He has sung for Pinchgut Opera, State Opera of South Australia, Lyric Opera of Melbourne and Co-Opera and is in demand nationally as a concert singer and recitalist.

Kate Ryan is in third year at the Elder Conservatorium and previously completed a Diploma of Contemporary Music at TAFE. Kate has performed as a soloist in Handel's *Messiah*, Allegri's *Miserere Mei, Deus*, and in choral works including Mahler Symphonies 2 and 3, Mozart's Requiem, Faure's Requiem, and Taverner's *Innocence*. Kate sang the role of Belinda in Purcell's opera *Dido and Aeneas* in 2008 and this May will sing Cupid, in Offenbach's *Orpheus in the Underworld*.

Alistair Brasted joined Tutti in 2003 and took a leading role in the *Singing of Angels*. Since then he has sung lead roles in *Circles* (2004), Oliver in *Between the Worlds* (2005) and as a soloist in *Northern Lights, Southern Cross* (2007). Alistair also sings with the State Opera of South Australia Chorus. Recent productions include Verdi's *La Traviata* and Wagner's *Ring Cycle*.

Musicians

Bortier Okoe became a Master Drummer in 2000. His group Salaka recently performed for President Kufuor in the capital, Accra, and lead Ghana's 50th anniversary independence celebrations. Bortier has been an instructor for advanced students for drum and dance enthusiasts from around the world who travel to Ghana. Now settled in Adelaide, Bortier has his own drumming and dancing company, 'AFRICAN SOUL'.

Gabrielle Carter studied at Brighton Secondary School and Sydney conservatorium. In 1998 Gabi studied voice at WA conservatorium and returned to Adelaide to study with Tim Sexton. In 2004 Gabi graduated from ACARTS and in 2005 went to Ghana to study African drumming and dancing. Now director of 'AFRICAN SOUL' bringing African music and culture to Adelaide with Bortier she performs regularly with State Opera, The Borderers, Ticklish Allsorts and Adelaide Vocal Project.

Gina Chadderton studied percussion at Brighton Secondary school and has performed in many senior school ensembles and orchestras here. Highlights have been performance tours to China in 2007 and performing in Tutti's award winning Northern Lights, Southern Cross and 10th Anniversary Celebration Concert.

Paddy Montgomery specialises in the folk music of regional Greece and Turkey. He has studied traditional stringed instruments like the baglama, kemençe and oud at master classes in Greece and Turkey and performs frequently in Adelaide and Melbourne with various ensembles that play traditional Greek and Turkish music.

I am a Shadow

Now I am a shadow, lost in the desert, and shelter in the tent of a skull

Exile Song

But I am the exile. Seal me with your eyes.

Take me wherever you are. Take me whatever you are.

Restore to me the colour of face and the warmth of body.

The light of heart and eye, the salt of bread and rhythm,

the taste of earth, the motherland. Shield me with your eyes.

Take me as a relic from the mansion of sorrows.

Take me as a verse from any tragedy, take me as a toy,

a brick from the house, so that our children will remember to return.

The Children of the Stones

You are the children of the stones.

What gathers us at this hour in this place is a way back from an age of wilting.

My homeland is not a suitcase and I am not a traveller.

I am the lover and the land is the beloved.

Our martyrs are the candles for the people to move in the night.

Song of Defiance

The flag of our country is the Palestinian flag, we have no fear of death.

We are the pride of our country.

Don't let the wound sleep in your heart.

As long as there is a seed for the rain and the wind, this forest will never end.

Fragment

What is the use of talking? There is no end of talking.

There is no end to things of the heart.

The Cast

Soloists - Peter Deane, Catherine Campbell, Philip Griffin, Jayne Hewetson, Anika Hooper, Kate Wyatt, Robert McFarlane/Alistair Brasted, Joanna McWaters, Andrew Turner.

Soldiers - Tim Ayles, Dani Francis, Joel Hartgen, Juliette Karo, Myles Meline, Corrina di Niro, Alex Pickering, Cinzia Schincariol

Children - Emily Bretones, Isabelle Bretones, Martha Chew, Thomas Chew, Jordan Hensley-Twartz, Lise Jacobs, Sarah-Kate McDowell, Milla Ellison, Hannah Hewetson, Bethany Hewetson, Lucia Franks, Dell Sumner, Emily Singh, Jemma Wellens, Lisa Jacobs, Phillip Williams, Ruby O'Laughlin, Ruby Saunders, Sherry-Rose Fombason, Tracy-Kate Fombason

Choir 1 - Adelaide Harmony Choir, Unisa students, Refugee Services SA
Adrian Crowe, Albert Oates, Ann Busch, Anne Ind, Anne Milne, Annette Day, Avril Oates, Barbara Fitzsimmons, Brian Williams, Daniel Roberts, David Purling, Des Borgelt, Diwan Oak, Evelina Fombason, Fiona McDowell, Georgia Williams, Gerakline Drummond, Helen Schofield, Hilary Thompson, Hong Evans, Irene Lim, Jane Frankham, Jemma Matthews, Jenny Mutton, Jill Worthington, John Jackson, Judith Hodgson, Judy Taylor, Katy Mayger, Lynett Musuka, Margaret Hosking, Mary Davis, Mary Silver, Megan Fishers, Michael Milnes, Miriam Dodd, Mosten Myers, Noel Carthew, Phillip Silver, Rebecca Wellens, Robert Brook, Rosemary Sobey, Rosemary Turnath, Sandy How,

Sarah Linn, Sarah-Kate McDowell, Sue Smith, Susanna Bragg, Terry Grant, Val Kilgour, Viv Rusk, Wendy Barrett

Choir 2 - Tutti, Big Country Choir (Clare), Harmony of Hearts and Minds Choir (Elizabeth) Aimee Crathern, Ali Roach, Alison McAllister, Alison Newman, Andrew Downing, Anna Donders, Ashley Masters, Bob Caust, Brenton Shaw, Bronwyn Roberts, Caroline Ellison, Caroline Hardy, Claire Butler, Donald Maynard, Donna Eerden, Dougie Jacobssen, Elizabeth Williamson, Emma Brougham, Emma Taylor, Grant Thomas, Greg Evangelou, Hazel Williams, Helen Drew, Jackie Saunders, Jacky Boxall, Jane Hewitt, Jenna May, Jerry Sayce, Joan Shugg, John Dally, Jonathan Bligh, Judy Dally, Karina Button, Keith Twartz, Lily de Leo, Louise Morpeth, Maria Edwards, Marian Edwards, Marj Cameron, Mark Andrew, Megan Guster, Michael McMillan, Michele Hall, Pat Luscombe, Pat Rix, Philip Ellison, Phillip Silver, Rachel Fisher, Ros Franks, Rosalie Garland, Roslyn Rix, Roy Stewart, Silvia Lopresti, Sue Downing, Sue May, Trish Ferguson, Trish Hensley, Warwick Smith, John Monten, Kate Jenkins, Kelsie Peterkin, Lauckie Wurst, Libby Brady, Lily Anlezark, Nic Willson-Jones, Paul Macleod, Rennie Bradtke, Rosie Bloom, Sharon Munce, Sue Puccetti, Darren Read, James Spencer, Kathy Leech, Marj Moritt,

Dogs - Diesel Crowe, Tegan Hensley, Krash de Leo

Artistic Team

Co-composers Richard Chew and Orlando Gough. British based Orlando Gough is one of Britain's most important British contemporary composers of ballet, theatre, film and choir music. Adelaide based Richard Chew is a composer, conductor, pianist and singer whose music has been played and broadcast in the UK, Europe and the USA.

Director Cheryl Pickering is a director, singing teacher and singer. Recently returned to South Australia after 17 years working in the UK Cheryl is co-director of 60-Minute Opera, developing opera for young people in association with State Opera of South Australia and Unisa. Cheryl will produce and perform in the opera *Daughter of the Sea* in the 2009 Come Out Festival.

MD and Co-composer of this work Richard Chew lectures in music at Unisa, is a regular guest lecturer for the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, and conductor of the Adelaide Harmony Choir. His opera *Daughter of the Sea* will be performed in Come Out 2009.

Assistant MD Phillip Griffin (also soloist and musician) studied conducting and singing at the WA Conservatorium of Music. He has worked as a musical director, singer, conductor, composer and instrumentalist in many parts of Australia and Europe. He lived in the Middle East for three years including the beginning of the current Palestinian uprising.

Designer Louise Dunn graduated from AIT Arts in 2002. Her designs include: *The Singing of Angels* (2003) and *Northern Lights Southern Cross* (2007) for Tutti, *Crossing Paths* (2006) for Kurruru, *Soaring* (2005) for Cirkidz and Kurruru, *Love! Valour! Compassion!* (2003) and *5 Women Wearing the Same Dress* (2004) for Mixed Salad, *Chilli* (2006) for SYTE, *Kit's Kat* for Urban Myth Theatre of Youth, and *Don Giovanni* (2006) for Co-Opera.

Lighting and Video Designer Nic Mollison designs for theatre, dance and youth arts companies on local, national and international productions. Past productions include *Seven*, *Wunderlust* and *Mixed Doubles* with Leigh Warren and Dancers, *Crossing Paths* and *Of The Future* with Kururu, *Maestro* and *Honk if you are Jesus* for The State Theatre Company Of South Australia, *Soaring* and *Up in Smoke* with Cirkidz, *Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Curfew* with Urban Myth Theatre of Youth, *Sonic Landscapes* with the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, *Richard III*, *The Unexpected Man*, *Waiting for Godot* and *Lion Pig Lion* with director Michael Hill and *King Of The West End* with Director Corey McMahon.

Soloists

Andrew Turner (baritone) has performed operatic roles in Luxembourg, Germany, Switzerland, Hungary, Romania, Finland and Singapore and toured Australia with Co-Opera. He recently produced and directed *The Pirates of Penzance*, in which he also played the *Pirate King*. Andrew's roles with the State Opera of SA include Marullo (*Rigoletto*), Prince Yamadori (*Madama Butterfly*) and Ping (*Turandot*).

Annika Hooper has been a member of Tutti Ensemble and Tutti Arts since 2004. Annika is a member of Tutti's 'Blind Date' cabaret ensemble who have just completed the 'Out of the Square' season in theatres around Adelaide. Annika has sung solo at the Adelaide Carols by Candlelight in 2007 & 2008 and has performed at the Bundaleer Weekend on several occasions

Catherine Campbell has appeared in the Adelaide Cabaret Festival since it began in 2001, the Barossa International Music Festival, Melbourne Comedy Festival and at the famous cabaret venue *Don't Tell Mama* in New York. A founder of the award-winning cabaret/comedy trio *Gentlemen Prefer Curves*, she also co-wrote *My Blue Angel: Marlene Dietrich* with Frank Ford, and the role of Greta for the cult show *Berlin Cabaret*. Catherine has performed with the SOSA since 1997 and co-wrote the comedy opera *Is There a Tenor In The House?* Catherine was awarded an Arts SA Emerging Artists grant to study cabaret at Yale Univ in the US in 2006.

Jayne Hewatson is a member of Heaven Knows a cappella whose four-part harmonies have been inspiring audiences with their gospel sound for the past 13 years. For much of that time she has also been singing with Tutti Ensemble and performed in several of their productions including "My Life, My love" and "Northern Lights, Southern Cross". Jayne also directs "Under the Lamp Post, an Inclusive community choir based at Westcare.

Joanna McWaters Joanna has performed throughout Australia, Europe and Asia. Past roles include Rosalinda, Adele, Nedda, Cobweb, First Lady, Second Sprite, Papagena and Jake Heggie's one-woman opera, "At the Statue of Venus", to critical acclaim. She will appear as "Eileen o da Freya" in Richard Chew's "Daughter of the Sea" in the 2009 Come Out Festival.

This wall is also dividing communities, separating people from their places of work, schools, hospitals, and their families and friends. A complex system of permits regulates the use of gates in the wall. The building of the separation wall has been condemned by the UN, by many international governments and by the Supreme Court of Israel itself, but the government of Israel continues to extend the wall. This production of *The Shouting Fence* explores the feelings and experiences of Palestinian people as they attempt to lead their lives under increasing restrictions. However, we do not imagine that there is only one side to this conflict. Many peoples claim a strong historical entitlement to the same lands; acts of violence have been committed on both sides, and acts of great heroism and compassion have also been witnessed within both the Israeli and Palestinian communities. *The Shouting Fence* is about the people who live in these troubled lands, the daily difficulties they face, and about the search for connection and hope amidst this complex conflict.

Cheryl Pickering March 2009

Libretto Fragments

The Calling

Who are you? I don't know Where did you come from? I don't know
How did you get here? I don't know Where are you going? I don't know
Earth Poem

And they asked him: Why do you sing? And he answered: I sing because I sing.
And they searched his chest, but could only find his heart
And they searched his heart, but could only find his people
And they searched his voice, but could only find his grief
And they searched his grief, but could only find his prison
And they searched his prison but could only see themselves in chains.

Our Land Is Not Our Land

When I plant aubergines I need permission
When I plant olive trees I need permission
One year's imprisonment, the tree is destroyed. Our land is not our land
Love Song (Text from The Song of Songs sung in Hebrew and Arabic)
Set me as a seal upon thine heart, as a seal upon thine arm
For love is strong as death, passion cruel as the grave
Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it

Children's Song

Ay eye ee ay ah oo oo, my mummy is a baker
Ay eye ee ay ah oo oo, yum, yummy, yum, yummy
Ay eye ee ay ah oo oo, my daddy is a dentist
Ay eye ee ay ah oo oo, erhh erhh, erhh erhh
Ay eye ee ay ah oo oo, my sister is a show-off
Ay eye ee ay ah oo okey pokey, okey pokey
Ay eye ee ay ah oo oo, my brother is a cowboy
Ay eye ee ay ah oo oo, look this way, look that way, bang bang