

WESTERN SYDNEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Holiday Concert

2 2025

WSSO CONCERT NO.9

7:00 PM. 18 July 2025

Pioneer Theatre
Castle Hill

NSW
Sydney Australia



The Sydney Contemporary Orchestra Inc.



INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Holiday Concert 2, 2025!

We are so pleased to have you with us tonight. This concert is designed to bring a sense of calm and serenity, allowing you to unwind while enjoying a rich cultural experience. As you immerse yourself in the music, we hope it offers you a glimpse into the timeless history and tradition of classical music, while also providing an opportunity to connect with others who share a deep love for the art form—fostering a wonderful sense of community.

A special thank you goes to our generous sponsors, the Hills Shire Council, the SCO Foundation, and Carlingford Music Centre, for their invaluable support.

We would also like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to our talented musicians, whose dedication, passion, and commitment to their craft make this performance truly special.

Finally, a sincere thank you to the volunteer Management Committee members. Without their hard work and dedication, this concert would not be possible.

Dr Brian Chatpo Koo

Founding Conductor, Artistic & Executive Director

Western Sydney Symphony Orchestra
The Sydney Contemporary Orchestra Inc

PROGRAM

L.V. Beethoven

Symphony No.8

In F Major

I. Allegro vivace e con brio

II. Allegretto scherzando

III. Tempo di menuetto

IV. Allegro vivace

F. Schubert

Symphony No.2

In Bb Major

I. Largo — Allegro vivace

II. Andante

III. Menuetto: Allegro vivac

IV. Presto

Conductor

Dr Brian Chatpo Koo

Concertmaster

Beata Stanowska

7:00 PM. 18 July 2025

Pioneer Theatre
Castle Hill

NSW
Sydney Australia

F. Schubert Symphony No. 2 in B flat Major



Franz Schubert – Symphony No. 2 in B-flat Major, D. 125 (1814–1815)

Schubert composed his Symphony No. 2 at the age of 17, between 1814 and 1815. Despite his youth, the work reveals both a reverence for classical models—especially Beethoven—and an emerging individuality, particularly in his treatment of melody and orchestral color.

Movements:

Largo — Allegro vivace

Andante

Menuetto: Allegro vivace — Trio

Presto

Movement I: Largo — Allegro vivace

The symphony opens with a slow Largo introduction that leads into a bright and energetic Allegro vivace. The first theme of the Allegro is clearly modeled on the main theme of Beethoven's *The Creatures of Prometheus* overture—a nod to Schubert's admiration for Beethoven. Yet even in imitation, Schubert's voice shines through with lyrical invention and charm.

Movement II: Andante

This is the only movement in Schubert's symphonic output structured as a theme and variations—a set of five. The theme itself is simple and songlike, offering fertile ground for exploration primarily through instrumentation and tone color rather than dramatic melodic transformation.

Variation I: The theme is shared between violins and winds.

Variation II: The theme moves to low strings and woodwinds.

Variation III: A return to the violins and winds, echoing the first variation.

Variation IV: A darker turn in C minor, featuring triplet-sixteenth notes and increased rhythmic momentum.

Variation V: Maintains the triplet rhythm in the background while the melody re-emerges in a form close to its original—serving as a kind of recapitulation. A coda rounds off the movement.

Movement III: Menuetto — Trio

The Minuet is forceful and scored for full orchestra (*tutti*) in a *fortissimo* dynamic, providing a dramatic contrast to the more delicate Trio section. The Trio features winds, violins, and pizzicato bass, and its melody is a variation of the second movement's theme. This creates a subtle melodic and harmonic link between the central movements, a sophisticated touch that showcases Schubert's developing compositional technique.

Movement IV: Presto

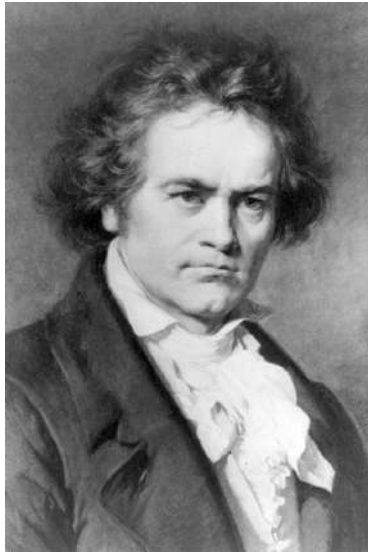
The symphony concludes with a Presto, a lively and spirited movement in fast simple duple time. Its galloping rhythm and buoyant themes bring the symphony to an exhilarating finish, revealing Schubert's flair for joyful, rhythmic propulsion.

Franz Peter Schubert was an Austrian composer who bridged the late Classical and early Romantic eras. Though he died young at the age of 31, he was remarkably prolific, leaving behind a vast body of work. His output includes nine symphonies, numerous pieces for piano and chamber ensembles, and a wealth of vocal music—especially Lieder (art songs)—that helped shape the Romantic tradition. Schubert's gift for melody, emotional depth, and innovation in form and harmony marked him as one of the most influential composers of the 19th century.

L.V. Beethoven

Symphony No.8

In F Major



Symphony No. 8 in F major, Op. 93 –
Ludwig van Beethoven

Composed in 1812, Beethoven's Eighth Symphony is known for its cheerful character, vibrant energy, and dynamic orchestration. While it is often considered more light-hearted than some of his other symphonies, it is far from superficial, featuring powerful accents and exuberant volume throughout.

The symphony comprises four movements:

I. Allegro vivace e con brio

Set in F major and simple triple meter, the first movement follows the classical sonata form. It includes a dramatic development section that builds to a massive crescendo, culminating in the return of the opening theme at an extremely loud dynamic (*fortississimo*). The movement ends quietly, offering balance to its energetic beginning.

II. Allegretto scherzando

This movement, in B-flat major (the subdominant), features a light and playful rhythm with staccato semiquavers in the winds. A prominent motif of sixty-fourth notes adds brilliance, especially when taken up by the full orchestra at the close of the

coda.

III. Tempo di menuetto

In ternary (ABA) form, this graceful minuet includes a trio section highlighting solos for horns and clarinet, recalling a more classical, courtly dance style.

IV. Allegro vivace

The finale is composed in sonata rondo form and maintains a quick tempo. The principal theme recurs three times. Its extended coda is one of Beethoven's most complex and imaginative, featuring two particularly dramatic and surprising musical moments.

Background and Legacy

The symphony premiered on 27 February 1814 in Vienna's Redoutensaal, on a program that also included the recently completed Seventh Symphony. Though Beethoven conducted the performance, his increasing deafness made his direction difficult to follow, prompting the orchestra to look to the concertmaster for cues.

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770–1827) was a German composer and pianist whose works mark the transition from the Classical to the Romantic era. Despite progressive hearing loss, he continued to compose some of his greatest works in near-total deafness. His innovations in symphonic form, harmony, and emotional expression place him among the most influential composers in Western music history. He died at age 56.

WESTERN SYDNEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA



Founded in 2019, the Western Sydney Symphony Orchestra (WSSO) is a community Symphony Orchestra serving the communities of Western Sydney suburb communities.

Directed by the Artistic Director Dr Brian Chatpo Koo, the WSSO hosts a series of classical music concerts, providing captivating performances that showcase incredible diversity and skill across a variety of crowd pleasing classics and new works of Australian composers. Through these events the WSSO builds a vibrant, sustainable and inclusive local community for lovers of classical and symphonic music.

Based in Western Sydney, and supported by the Hills Shire Council, the Western Sydney Symphony Orchestra provides valuable and development opportunities, and encourages local participation from talented amateur and professional musicians. All professional musicians, music teachers, and classical music lovers who are over the age of 15 are welcome to join this dynamic orchestra.

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Dr Brian Chatpo Koo

Founding Conductor and Artistic & Executive Director Dr. Brian Chatpo Koo is a Sydney-based musician. Having studied music at the

University of Hong Kong and the University of Sydney, Brian was the first person in Australia to receive a Ph.D. degree in music composition. Supported by the Hong Kong University Grant, Brian also studied music at the International Summer Course for New Music in Darmstadt, Germany, and obtained his Licentiate and Fellowship Diplomas from the Trinity College of Music in London.

As a conductor, Dr. Koo has conducted many symphony orchestras and music ensembles to premiere his compositions around the world.

He founded the Sydney Contemporary Orchestra in 2013. Together with about 100 of the finest Sydney professional musicians and a strong volunteer management team, Brian is dedicated to creating a platform where more new orchestral works can be written, performed, heard, recorded, published, and become a part of our music culture, as he believes music development history is written by composers' creativities. To encourage and to reach the pinnacle of this creativity and art, Brian believes that it must be through devotion, perseverance, determination, and most importantly constant performance. Since 2013 the SCO has held 19 concerts and performed 100 new works of composers from 50 countries up to 2024.

MUSICIANS

Western Sydney Symphony Orchestra

Dr Brian Chatpo Koo

Founding Conductor, Artistic & Executive Director

Beata Stanowska

Concertmaster

Violin I

Beata Stanowska

Rachael Gock

Isabella Leung

Jason Wei

Phoebe Ge

Sylvia Xie

Charis Song

Violin II

Chaylah Chivas

Angela Shen

Aimee Lin

Oliver Xie

Siena Yang

William Shui

Lucas Xie

Viola

Parvin Afandiyeva

Sally Wang

Hannah Zhou

Cello

Vanessa Chalker

Roger Gock

Ashleigh Wong

David Ge

Ian Macourt

Larence Law

Double Bass

Vitaliy Palitsyn

Bryton Johnson

Flute

Megan Amos

Adrienne Alexander

Oboe

Dianne Harrell

Clarinet

Brian Ee

Nikki Amos

Bassoon

David Pow

French Horn

Andrew James Smith

Bill Cotis

Trumpet

Oliver Osborne

Angus Freckelton

Timpani

Steven Machamer

Symphonic Training Program

Sydney Hills Junior Orchestra
Sydney Hills Youth Orchestra

Proudly supported by the Hills Shire Council, hosted by the **Sydney Contemporary Orchestra - YOUTH SYMPHONY**, the Symphonic Training Program provides the opportunity for young musicians. The training will be focused on well-known symphonies by famous composers. This training program will broaden their potential music career by building up classical orchestral music repertoires, as well as imparting to them the value of communication, teamwork, and discipline.

Directed by Dr Brian Chatpo Koo, this program has 40 scheduled rehearsals and two concerts with carefully selected programs covering a variety of cultural aspects and artistic values.

Divided into two groups, the **Sydney Hills Youth Orchestra** and the **Sydney Hills Junior Orchestra**.

Sydney Hills Junior Orchestra (under 15 years of age, AMEB grade 2 – 5 or equivalent)

Rehearsal time: 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Sydney Hills Youth Orchestra (under 25 years of age, AMEB grade 5 – LMus or equivalent)

Rehearsal time: 7:30 pm – 9:30 pm

Rehearsals: Friday evenings during the school terms:

For more information please contact us:
management@sys.org.au

OUR UP COMING CONCERTS

Concert Series 2025

29 January 2025, 7:00 P.M.

CHINESE NEW YEAR CONCERT

Pioneer Theatre
Castle Hills

19 April 2025, 7:00 P.M.

HOLIDAY CONCERT 1 2025

Pioneer Theatre
Castle Hills

18 July 2025, 7:00 P.M.

HOLIDAY CONCERT 2 2025

Pioneer Theatre
Castle Hills

30 Sep. 2025, 7:00 P.M.

ORANGE BLOSSOM FESTIVAL

CONCERT 2025

Pioneer Theatre
Castle Hills



Our Sponsor



Carlingford Music Centre

Australia's Premier Pianos since 1982
Largest Online Musical Instrument Centre

Welcome to Australia's Premier Piano,
Guitar Centre & Largest Online Musical
Instrument Centre with over 400,000 Musical
items

Carlingford Music Centre Est.1982 , your
ultimate destination for true valued quality
musical instruments.

As a leading musical instruments company
with over 50 years legacy, we take great
pride in being your trusted source for all
things musical items. Our passion for
providing an exceptional musical experience
and unparalleled reliability sets us apart.

*Present this program booklet you
can ask for a 10% OFF RRP
Musical Accessories & Music
Books, a FREE Gift for any Piano
Or Digital Piano purchase from
now to the end of 2025.*



ACKNOWLEDGMENT

*We gratefully acknowledge our supports
our musicians, and the Management
Committee of the Sydney
Contemporary Orchestra*

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

President - Dr Brian Chatpo Koo
Secretary - Rajishwar Datt
Treasurer - David Gock
Rawah Dorranean
Rosanne North

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Executive Director - Dr Brian Chatpo Koo
Orchestra Manager - Rosanne North
Office Manager - Rajishwar Datt
Finance Manager - David Gock
Publicity Manager - Rawah Dorranean
Concert Manager - Rita Lee



The SCO Foundation



The Hills Shire Council

office@wssso.com.au
www.wssso.com.au

The Sydney Contemporary Orchestra Inc.
WESTERN SYDNEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA