

## The Accompanists' Guild of SA presents PIANO AS ORCHESTRA for Opera, Concerto and Recital — August 12 to 18



For the first time since Accompanists' Festivals began in 2004, the 2013 Festival focuses on the piano's role as ORCHESTRA including the Opera Répétiteur plus Concerto and Recital accompaniments of orchestral reductions.

Musician-in-residence is leading young opera répétiteur, **David Barnard**, who began his career in Adelaide. He is in town for his fourth State Opera production, Richard Strauss' *Salome*. Previous productions were *Così*, *Dutchman* and *Moby Dick*.

David's extensive skills as an opera répétiteur have seen him work with companies including British Youth Opera, English National Opera, Opera North, the Buxton Festival Opera as well as State Opera of South Australia. Highlights of David's decade in the United Kingdom as accompanist have included performing with highly profiled musicians such as sopranos Lesley Garrett CBE, Deborah Norman and Sarah Fox, tenor Christopher Lemmings and flautist Tara O'Connor. His performances have been broadcast on BBC Radio 3 & 4, RTÉ Ireland, BBC Radio Scotland and ABC Classic FM.

Highlights of the week include:

- The Geoffrey Parsons Award Auditions (Monday/Tuesday 12/13) and Final (Saturday 18 with a first prize of \$5000) when each of the three finalists must include in their 25 minute program the set work, "L'air des bijoux" (Jewel Song) - Marguerita's Recit & Aria from *Faust* by Gounod. Their soloist is soprano, **Gisele Blanchard**, who has recently returned to Australia after a career in Europe which included seven years as Principal Soprano with Nice Opera.
- Pilgrim Church Lunch hour concerts ( Wednesday 14) when at 12.10 the Junior Ensemble Musicians (Primary School students) feature piano in ensembles including junior singers and the 1.10 concert features Co-Opera répétiteur, Julie Sargeant, and soprano, Liza Cannizzaro, with a program designed to delight the JEM performers.
- The Accompanists' Conference (Sunday 18, 9am to 4pm) is a feast of stimulating presentations & performances. Musician in Residence, **David Barnard** conducts workshops highlighting the Piano as Orchestra, a masterclass and a session on State Opera's production of Strauss' *Salome* with Répétiteur mentorees, **Penelope Cashman** & **Sachiko Hidaka**. Travelling opera pianists include Co-Opera's **Julie Sargeant** and Space Encounters Children's Opera's **Emma Knights**. The Young Accompanists' Showcase presents secondary school pianists with extraordinary professional soloists, **Teresa La Rocca**-soprano, **Patrick Power**-tenor, **Wendy Heiligenberg**-violin and **Dean Newcomb**-clarinet.
- In the Closing Celebrity Recital (Sunday 18 at 3.00) **David Barnard** is joined by award winning Australian soprano, **Katrina Waters** in a recital of works by Purcell, Wagner, Tchaikovsky and Britten.

Diana Harris, Guild President and Founder remarks, "I am thrilled to emphasize the Guild's close cooperation with State Opera in 2013 including the funding of two Répétiteur Mentorships which aim to add to the small group of experienced répétiteurs in Adelaide. I look forward with great excitement to the closing Celebrity Recital when **David Barnard** and multi-award winning Australian lyric pinto soprano, **Katrina Waters**, perform technically challenging and dazzling songs which will undoubtedly sum up the week's emphasis on the piano as orchestra."

**ENDS.**

**For further information, interviews, photos and recordings, please contact:**

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# BIOGRAPHIES

## David Barnard

Born and raised in Australia of Yorkshire parents, David Barnard graduated from his B.Mus (performance) and Advan.Dip.Mus (accomp) studies at the age of 18, training as a solo pianist and chamber musician with Diana Harris.

As accompanist, he has appeared in recital with many highly profiled singers and instrumentalists including: Sarah Fox (soprano), Roland Wood (baritone), Lesley Garrett CBE (soprano), Grant Doyle (baritone), Richard Suart (baritone), Deborah Norman (soprano), Christopher Lemmings (tenor), Helen Tara O'Connor (flute), as well as playing for the masterclasses of accompanists Roger Vignoles and Graham Johnson, and composer, Mark-Anthony Turnage.

David's extensive skills as an opera répétiteur have seen him work with: British Youth Opera, English Touring Opera, The G&S Opera Company, English National Opera, Opera North, Raymond Gubbay Ltd, Buxton Festival Opera, Bulawayo Festival (Zimbabwe), and the State Opera of South Australia. David returns to SOSA in 2013 as Chief Répétiteur for *Salome* following previous engagements with the company for *Cosi*, *Dutchman* and *Moby Dick*.

Conductors have included: Peter Robinson, Fraser Goulding, Wyn Davies, Oliver Dohnányi, Stephen Barlow, Stuart Stratford, Harry Christophers, Michael Lloyd, Nicholas Cleobury, John Owen Edwards, Richard Balcombe, Nicholas Braithwaite, Timothy Sexton and, in 2013, Arvo Volmer.

In October 2011, David was invited to attend a small reception at Buckingham Palace in the presence of HM The Queen and HRH the Duke of Edinburgh for 'Significant Australians' living and working in the UK.

David's noted and wide ranging projects have been broadcast on RTÉ (Ireland), BBC Radio 3, BBC Radio 4, BBC Radio Scotland, & ABC Classic FM (Australia). He is an alumnus of the Britten-Pears School (Aldeburgh) and Yehudi Menuhin Live Music Now programme (UK).



## Katrina Waters



Born in Canberra, Katrina was awarded a full ABRSM scholarship to the RCM Opera School in London after being a finalist in the Australian Singing Competition, Mathy Awards. Since graduating with distinction, Katrina has been a developing artist on English National Opera's Opera Works program, a member of the Britten-Pears Young Artist program in Aldeburgh and a founding member of Malcolm Martineau's residency at CREAR in Scotland.

Katrina made a fach wechseln from mezzo to soprano in 2009 which was supported by a Finzi Trust Award and enabled intensive study with Liane Keegan in Berlin.

Since then Katrina is enjoying a reputation for creating new roles with living composers and librettists. Her roles for the Onassis Foundation in Oxford, Olivier award winning Opera-Up Close in London and LiveArtShow led to a Royal Opera House, Covent Garden workshop of "Personal Opera", collaboration between ROH and MIT. She also performed the role of Cherie in LiveArtShow's *Manga Sister* which was listed in Time Out Magazine's "Best in London" for 2011.

As a lyrico spinto Katrina is concentrating on Slavic and Germanic roles adding the roles of Rusalka, Marenka (*The Bartered Bride*), Tatyana (*Eugene Onegin*), Leonora (*Fidelio*) and Sieglinde (*Die Walküre*) to her repertoire.

Having returned to Australia in 2012 after almost a decade overseas, Katrina is excited by her upcoming performances of the role of The Governess in Britten's *Turn of the Screw* in Melbourne and The Mother in Menotti's *Amahl and the Night Visitors* at the Melbourne Recital Centre with the Australian Boys Choir.