



Noosa Chorale

Tune In

Tune In—The Newsletter of Noosa Chorale Inc

Volume 13, Number 4, June 2019

‘Slam dunk’ for Chorale’s Requiem JIM FAGAN

Basketball courts don’t usually make good concert halls unless you’re like Noosa Chorale keen to celebrate your 25th anniversary year in a way Noosa classical music fans will long remember.

Last Sunday at the Leisure Centre at Wallace Park the choir staged Italian composer Giuseppe Verdi’s *Messa da Requiem* and the 500 people who filled the Centre loved it, standing, clapping and cheering, completely swept away by what they had just heard.

Noosa Mayor Tony Wellington was there and afterwards he said: “It exceeded everyone’s expectations.

“What’s incredible is that the Leisure Centre is hardly a warm environment for this sort of entertainment but the music overwhelmed us all.

“The choir has a long and very valuable history and is honoured here in Noosa.

“I think today’s concert is probably the most ambitious of everything the choir has ever attempted. It has been a wonderful outcome.”

All in all there were 185 performers. The Requiem calls for two choirs and the Chorale invited the Sunshine Coast Choral Society to join it. The 50-piece Requiem Orchestra was handpicked by conductor Adrian King.

Performing in a basketball arena was also a first for the four soloists, Judit Molnar (soprano), Melissa Gregory (mezzo soprano), Andrew Pryor (tenor) and Jeffrey Black (baritone).

Jeffrey has starred on most of the world’s concert platforms and major opera houses like La Scala Milan, London’s Covent Garden, the New York Met, and told Tune In it was the first time he had sung the Requiem.

“It is glorious music and I would be perfectly happy singing it on a beach,” he said.

In a first for the Chorale the concert was broadcast by Noosa Community Radio FM101.3 to its Coast audience and streamed world-wide.

“We had listeners in Europe, the U.S., many parts of Australia, the Seychelles and even somewhere in the middle of the North Atlantic,” station President, Sibylle Reichs, said.

“The concert was fantastic. It had a magic atmosphere and showed how wonderful it can be for Noosa and for tourism when community groups like us get together.”

STOP PRESS!

Standing ovation at Birtinya!
See page 4



Noosa Leisure Centre becomes “concert hall”. Photo/Animalice Photography

Verdi Requiem Album

All photos this page by Animalice Photography



(above) Greg Dodds (AKA the Captain) relaying the concert to live broadcast on Noosa FM101.3



(right) Noosa Mayor Tony Wellington



(above) Soloists (left to right) Judit Molnar (soprano), Melissa Gregory (mezzo soprano), Andrew Pryor (tenor), Jeffrey Black (baritone); and below, with Maestro Adrian King

(below) A 500-strong standing ovation from the audience



Verdi transformed!

It was a dark, dreary Wednesday night, when more than 100 souls sloshed through the driving rain to Buderim, and hurried, heads bowed and sensible shoes awash, into the warm welcome from our friends at Sunshine Coast Choral Society. Hard to imagine that within two weeks our two choirs would metamorphose into an elegant and disciplined assembly of voices lifted in exquisite harmony.

And who could have imagined a vast and draughty gymnasium, whose customary sounds are the heavy thwack of a basketball and the earnest grunts of athletes, could be similarly re-imagined as a handsome and spacious setting for more than 800 music lovers – audience and performers – to join in a celebration of that

ANGIE OAKLEY

most wonderful choral work, the Verdi Requiem.

On Sunday 26 May, even the sun behaved itself, and appropriately lent its golden glow to what was unanimously declared a truly wonderful afternoon.

A standing ovation confirmed what was overheard at interval:

"Just fantastic...so happy to be here!"

"Wonderful! Uplifting!"

"Such a difficult piece, so beautifully executed."

"It sounded like angels and brought tears to my eyes...a truly spiritual experience."

'Stupendous! An absolute triumph.'

If, like me, you're hiding among the altos, crooning quietly, you have a chance to observe a remarkable miracle...the transformative power of this music.

A group of ordinary seeming people (except soprano soloist Judit...she'd look magnificent in a bin-bag!) clothe themselves in elegant black, pick up scores and instruments, and gaze expectantly at maestro Adrian's baton.

At his bidding, they bring forth all their years of love, hard work, commitment, patience and knowledge into one joyous outpouring of what represents the very pinnacle of human achievement. It's a triumph of hope and belief, and joy, and it was a privilege to be there.



(l to r) Isa Turner, Anne Turner, Verna Parker



Vivienne Parnell, Helnuth Macy



Cooper and Anna Abbott



(l to r) Bob Ramsay, John Milland, John D'Arcy

Noosa concert goers



(l to r) Helen Bernays, Ross and Adele Hielscher, Courtney Black



Bob and Margaret Hill



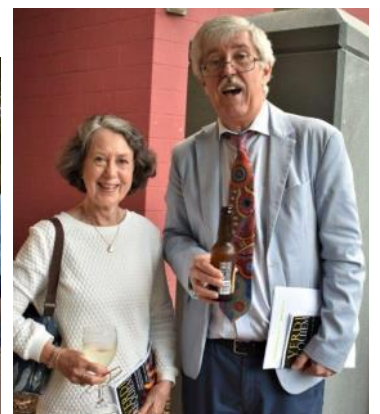
Jill and Craig Harris



Carol Stephenson & Jo Fagan (r)



(l to r) June McCutcheon, April Nusky, Hugette Brassine



Leah Morrison & Bert Mobs

All photos this page/Ann Milland; captions/Pamela Turnbull



(l to r) Jackson Allen, Aeris Sheppard, David Merry, Bronya Davey

Standing ovation at Birtinya

Stormy skies and pouring rain did nothing to dampen the enthusiasm of Sunshine Coast audiences who came in their hundreds to fill Venue 114 at Birtinya for the joint choirs' second performance of the Verdi Requiem on 2 June.

Conductor Adrian King was overjoyed: "There are not enough complimentary words to describe the two outstanding performances of the Verdi Requiem performed by the combined forces of the Sunshine Coast Choral Society and the Noosa Chorale on the last weekend in May and the first weekend in June 2019.

"Standing ovations at each performance by the appreciative, admiring audiences were undoubtedly well-earned by the wonderful soloists, superb orchestra and the two choirs."

All photos this page/ Ann Milland



Noosa Chorale says thanks a million!



And a very special thanks to Noosa Coast Guard for their help as parking attendants. And to Sherelle Scott and her team of front-of-house volunteers at the Noosa concert:

Nia Quayle
John Gregory
Jannine Ritchie
Liz Diggles
Janice Iwaniak
Mary Lester
Chris Reeve
Jenny Rogers
Melissa Long
Gillian Bensted



(above) Noosa "corral-er" Rose Brown with Sunshine Coast Society's President, Andrew Burns and (below) with Noosa Chorale secretary Cal Webb.



Maestro Adrian King has the last word!

Lastly, I thank you—the Sunshine Coast Choral Society and the Noosa Chorale for all your commitment and dedication to obtain such a high standard of presentation as demonstrated over the last two weekends. It was a great honour and pleasure to conduct you in this Verdi masterpiece. I was very proud of you all so thank you from the bottom of my heart!

Sincere best wishes, Adrian



www.noosachorale.org.au/concerts



www.noosachorale.org.au/sing-with-us



www.facebook.com/noosachorale



www.instagram.com/noosa.chorale



www.noosachorale.org.au/tune-in-newsletter



noosachorale@gmail.com



www.thej.com.au

Tune In—The Newsletter of Noosa Chorale Inc.
Editor: Cal Webb—cal@carolynwebb.com.au
Regular contributors: Jim Fagan and Angie Oakley
Thank you to our sponsors for their support in 2019

