

## Maestro Adrian calls a halt JIM FAGAN

Early in 2007 Noosa Chorale's newly appointed music director Adrian King, the then choir president John Woodlock, and the writer met Chorale founder, former Noosa barrister, Joe McMahon, at Joe's office at Noosa Civic to discuss some fundraising ideas.

Before the meeting started, Joe casually remarked to Adrian, "I've always liked Carmina Burana."

"Yes," said Adrian. "It's a dramatic and passionate piece."

"Can you do it?," asked Joe.

"I've done it in England. I've always liked doing it." Adrian said.

The choir duly performed it in 2008 and reviewer Marguerite Webber called it "*a musical triumph. Carl Orff's music is mostly fast and loud, vigorous and energetic, making this one of the most popular works of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Its exciting rhythmic drive and passion make an instant impact.*"

Fifteen years later the wheel has turned full circle. Adrian (72) has informed the Chorale he will retire at the end of the year and as a final gesture to the classics he has selected Carmina Burana.



Adrian King

He will still conduct the Chorale's Christmas carol concerts in December but the performance of Carmina later this month with the choir will be performed in tandem with the Sunshine Coast Symphony Orchestra (SCSO) and the Sunshine Coast Choral Society (SCCS), both of which he is also music director.

Joining the choral section written for the *ragazzi*, or children's choir, are students from Sunshine Beach State School led by vocal teacher Andrew Burns who is also president of SCCS.

"I first conducted Orff's supreme masterpiece Carmina Burana in the UK many years ago now, and it is such a dynamic and powerful piece highlighting soloists, three choirs and all the sections of the large symphonic orchestra.

"The fact that it is one of my last concerts and the 50th Anniversary of the SCSO makes it an ideal and fantastic piece to programme.

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10 September at Bokarina <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/936182>

17 September at Peregian Springs <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/937240>

*Adrian King and*

THE SUNSHINE COAST SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA,  
NOOSA CHORALE &  
THE SUNSHINE COAST CHORAL SOCIETY PRESENT

# Carmina & Rhapsody

10 SEPTEMBER 2022, 2PM, VENUE 114, BOKARINA.

17 SEPT, 2PM, ST. ANDREW'S COLLEGE, PEREGIAN SPRINGS.

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"I know the children's choir will be absolutely brilliant in showcasing with much musicality their designated choruses from Carmina Burana.

"And I should add that included in the programme is the evocative 1920's jazz-infused sounds of Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* played by a great friend and colleague Theodore Pike.

"Who could ask for more!"

Adrian was 19 when he conducted his first choir in England, and I asked his why he was calling a halt to a career as a distinguished conductor of choirs and orchestras and a greatly respected musician.

He said, "For the very simple reason of travel! Helen and I came to Australia to be with our daughters

Louise and Sarah and our grandchildren. Apart from occasional weekends in Sydney and Melbourne we have not seen Australia.

"Consequently, we intend to travel extensively, not only in this country but also the UK and Europe."

## Three splendid soloists for Carmina & Rhapsody concert

### Theodore Pike—Piano Soloist

At the age of two, Theodore Pike was begging his parents for piano lessons, and by age four had decided that he 'wanted to be a pianist when he grew up'.



Originally from the Sunshine Coast in Queensland, Theo relocated to Brisbane to study a Bachelor of Music with Honours at the Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University, graduating in 2017. In 2019, he commenced study at the Australian National Academy of Music (ANAM) in Melbourne, and has now made Melbourne his home.

Throughout his study, Theo was mentored by Timothy Young, Daniel de Borah and Natasha Vlassenko. He has worked with international artists including Tim Munro, Lisa Moore, Sara Macliver and Benjamin Bayl, and has received masterclasses from performers including John Chen, Roy Howat, Bart van Oort, Andreas Boyde and Sivan Silver.

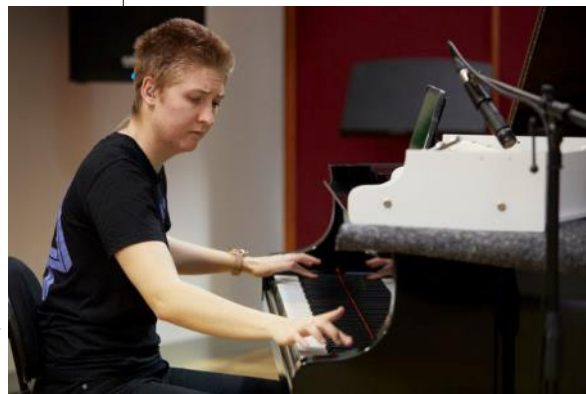
Notable performances have included Crossbows Chamber Music Festival, Australian Piano Duo Festival, Queensland Music Festival, concertos with Sunshine Coast Symphony Orchestra, and performances at Melbourne Recital Centre, Beleura House and Garden, and in the Utzon Room of the Sydney Opera House.

As well as regular performances on the piano, Theo enjoys working and performing as a percussionist. He has performed with the Australian Contemporary Opera Company, ANAM

Orchestra, Queensland Youth Symphony, Queensland Wind Orchestra, Sunshine Coast Symphony Orchestra, and Noosa Orchestra, as well as a performance on-field for the 2015 NRL Grand Final series.

Theo also has a keen interest in collaborative music, and particularly enjoys exploring the relationships between piano and percussion in his performances.

When not at the piano, Theo enjoys cooking, reading and finding new additions for his quirky sock collection.



### Judit Molnar—Soprano Soloist

Judit was born in Hungary and graduated from the prestigious Liszt Academy of Music in 2008.

She performs at solo and chamber concerts, festivals, oratorios and operas in Hungary, Italy, Austria, Germany, Czech, Poland, Slovakia and UK, as well as in her adopted country Australia.

During her time of study, she made her operatic debut in the role of Adina in *L'elisir d'amore* ("The Elixir of Love"), a comic opera by Donizetti.



Judit has sung the roles of Musetta (*La Boheme*), Lola (*Cavalleria rusticana*), Spirit and First Witch (*Dido and Aeneas*), and Serpina (*La Serva Padrona* ("The Maid Turned Mistress") by Giovanni Battista Pergolesi).

On the concert stage Judit has performed as soloist with the North-Hungarian Symphony Orchestra, the Lehar Festival Bad Ischl in Austria, Queensland Pop's Orchestra, Vienna Pop's Orchestra, Canberra Symphony Orchestra, and the Queensland Symphony Orchestra, in diverse

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repertoire ranging from Handel's oratorios to Christmas concerts and New Year's Eve galas.

Based on the Sunshine Coast since 2019, Judit is an active chamber musician. In addition to being a founding member of Fragments Ensemble, she is the soprano of the baroque music ensemble Arioso, and

the Strauss in da Haus' duo featuring the always popular Viennese style.

Judit is currently undertaking Doctoral Research through Griffith University, and maintains an active private teaching studio.

In addition to her onstage roles, Judit has recorded several albums, such as a Christmas special *O Holy Night*, and

*My Beautiful Homeland* featuring popular Hungarian songs and arias by Kodály, Erkel, Lehár and Strauss.

Her latest recording was released in 2021 with the Arioso Ensemble, featuring their most popular repertoire by Vivaldi, Händel and Bach.

## Daniel Smerdon—baritone soloist

Born and raised in Brisbane, Daniel studied at the Queensland Conservatorium of Music, graduating with a Bachelors Degree in cello performance, and a Graduate Diploma and Master of Music Studies in opera performance.

Experiencing a rapid rise on the operatic stage, Daniel has sung the title roles of Figaro in *The Barber of Seville* at the Varna Opera Theatre in Bulgaria, and again with Co-Opera in Adelaide, with whom he has also sung a title role in *The Mikado*.

Daniel has sung title roles in Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi* with Opera Gold Coast, Tchaikovsky's *Eugene Onegin* at the Eurasia Opera Festival in New



York, and Mozart's *Don Giovanni* in Weimar, Germany.

Principal Artist of Varna State Opera in Bulgaria in 2019, and Principal Guest Artist at Co-Opera, Adelaide, Daniel is also the lead cellist for the Ignatius Music Society in Brisbane.

Daniel his principal debut with Opera Queensland in Verdi's *La Traviata* in July 2022. He is also performing as a soloist in Opera Queensland's Home Grown Opera initiative.

He has a busy end to 2022, booked as a voice soloist with some of Brisbane's finest musical groups, the Brisbane Pops Orchestra, and the newly formed Amadeus Orchestra.

## Did you know that 20% of Aussies sing in the shower?

Research commissioned by [www.bright-r.com.au](http://www.bright-r.com.au) has revealed that the morning shower, for one in every five Aussies, is a secret sanctuary for aspiring singers wanting to fine-tune their vocal chords.

The most popular time to shower is between 7am and 8am, and the most popular songs being belted out include the 1980s song by pop group Wham, "Wake Me Up Before You Go-Go".

And that's not all! Apparently one in 20 of these people believe they have what it takes to win a reality TV singing competition! Yikes!

What about you? Are you a secret shower singer? Do you love that thrill of opening your

lungs and belting out your favourite song with your vocal chords deliciously warmed up in the shower? Or perhaps you're happier accompanying your culinary creativity in the kitchen with a portion of Neil Diamond's "Red Red Wine". Or maybe you prefer to reply to the dog with a little Bach.



Whatever way your vocal chords take you, maybe it's time you took the next step and joined

a choir. Noosa Chorale would love to welcome you. Starting on Tuesday 27th September, we will commence rehearsing for our much-loved Christmas concert.

Rehearsals are every Tuesday night, 7pm to 9.15pm, at The J Theatre, Noosa Junction.

Full details about joining the Chorale can be found on the "Sing with us" page on our website: [www.noosachorale.org.au](http://www.noosachorale.org.au)

If you are thinking of joining, please send us an email as soon as possible, so we can hold a music score for you. We will add your name to our singer email list for weekly updates and reminders. Email: [noosachorale@gmail.com](mailto:noosachorale@gmail.com)



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