

## OPERA IN THE ARBORETUM - PEARL BEACH - 24 MARCH 2018



With five and a half months to go, we thought that we had better let you know what we have planned for our next opera. We are very pleased to announce that our lead singer will be soprano **Greta Bradman**, the winner of the 2013-14 Australian International Opera Award and a Fellow at the Australian National Academy of Music. In 2015 Greta recorded 'My Hero' her debut album that became the highest ever charting Australian classical album on the pop chart and debuted at number one on the classical chart.



Accompanying her will be mezzo-soprano **Deborah Humble**, one of Australia's most successful international artists. In 2004, she was awarded the prestigious Dame Sutherland Scholarship and the following year, she became a Principal Mezzo with the State Opera of Hamburg.



A graduate from the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts with a Bachelor of Music and a Diploma in Classical Voice, baritone **Alex Sefton** was a member of the Opera Australia Schools Company performing hundreds of times to thousands of students around Australia.



Australian/Italian tenor **Virgilio Marino** completes the line-up of singers. He was the winner of the Tenor Award at the Sydney Performing Arts Challenge, the Dame Sutherland Award and a finalist in both the MacDonald's Opera Competition and Australian national Eisteddfod in Canberra. He made his debut at Theater Regensburg in Germany performing the roles of Il Duca di Mantua in Rigoletto as well as the title role Oberon.



We welcome back after 12 years, Russian born violinist **Evgeny Sorkin**. At the age of 10, Evgeny was chosen to perform a concert tour of the USA, including a performance at the Department of State in Washington. He has won many prizes at international competitions with 1st. prize at the 2002 Togliatti International Violin Competition, 2nd prize at the 2003 Caltanissetta International Music Competition and top prizes in Taneev and Gisborne International Music Competitions.



Pianist **Francis Greep** returns for his third performance with us. He has an international reputation for his work as a vocal coach, recitalist, chorus master, continuo player and conductor. He has worked for Opera Australia as part of the Music Staff and as Assistant Chorus Master. As well as Head of Music at Houston Grand Opera and West Australian Opera.



The Opera in the Arboretum would not be complete without the '**Central Coast Chamber Orchestra**' under the baton of **Patrick Brennan**. The orchestra consists of 20 plus very talented youngsters and professional musicians from the Central Coast. Every year the event gives them the opportunity to accompany some of Australia's finest opera singers.

We are expecting another full house for next year's event so we suggest that you consider booking early. The time is 3.00 to 5.30 and it is a BYO picnic, rug and chairs. Most important the Arboretum is a non-smoking venue and no dogs allowed.

This year, instead of a ticket around the neck, we are using a "**Wristband Ticket**" that will gain you entry to the Opera and enable you to go in and out of the event without any problem. The band should be attached to your wrist when you enter the Arboretum; once attached, the band can only be removed by tearing it off. Entry will be refused if you are not wearing a wristband or if the band has been tampered with, defaced, torn, damaged or repaired.

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**We are pleased to advise that tickets are now available!**

**TICKETS:** Adult: \$70.00 / Senior: \$67.00  
10 or more tickets: \$63.00 each  
High school student: \$36.00  
Primary school student: Free

**BOOKINGS:** TEL: (02) 4342 8183  
(02) 4342 3593  
(02) 4341 6004

Check our website for more information and thank you for your support.  
All money raised will go to local, international and Rotary charities.

**WEB:** [www.opera.pearl-beach.com](http://www.opera.pearl-beach.com)