

# Rising Australian classical music stars and seasoned professionals brought together for a unique event

Young music student Jack Stephens is helping to give voice to some of Australia's best young classical musicians

Sydney musician Jack Stephens, 25, is both the Producer and Director of this week's unique outdoor performance of Purcell's Operetta King Arthur within the grounds of Australia's oldest University College.

He is also singing one of the Bass parts and even working with the cast to pull together costumes to support the production.

Currently working to complete his Doctorate of Music from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, Jack is the principal lay-clerk and Choir Tutor at St Andrew's Cathedral and is used to singing and playing great music, having worked extensively within choral music and as a soloist. He is also an accomplished brass player, having recently performed as a soloist in Schumann's Konzertstück (Concerto for Four Horns) alongside Robert Johnson (Principal Horn of Sydney Symphony Orchestra).

As part of his studies, he is the driving force behind this one off concert performance being performed at the University of Sydney this Friday.

Purcell's Operetta King Arthur

Hailed as one of the greatest works of western music

Tells the story of King Arthur's Britons as they battle the Saxons

Unique one-off event - 7:00pm, Friday 9 April

Semi-staged in the open-air Quadrangle of St Paul's College - Australia's oldest University College within the University of Sydney

The event promises to transport the audience back to the early 6th Century- taking them on a tale of medieval adventure and mysticism.

"This is a real cross-generational event – seasoned professionals will be pairing up with some of Australia's best young musicians - including Soloists from Pinchgut Opera, Australian Brandenburg Orchestra, Sydney Symphony, Opera Australia and the Song Company, " said Jack.

"In performing this extra-ordinary event, I have the privilege of working with some incredible performers including the legendary Peter Cousens, Artistic Director of the Talent Development Project Foundation, who will be narrating our version of the operetta.

"We also have some amazing soloists – all backed by an 18 period piece orchestra," he said.

One of those soloists is the talented Chloe Lankshear, currently Principal Soloist with Pinchgut Opera, Australian Brandenburg Orchestra and the Song Company.

"A highlight on Friday will be Chloe singing 'Fairest Isle' - one of the most loved songs throughout the world.

"I invite anyone who will be in Sydney who loves classical music to secure some of the limited tickets, grab their picnic rug, bring along some food and drinks, and be transported to medieval times and be immersed in this great sounding tale of King Arthur," said Jack.

## INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITIES IN SYDNEY THIS WEEK

Peter Cousens, Jack Stephens (pictured) and Chloe Lankshear are available for interview this week.

NOTE: Some of the cast in costume can be arranged from Wednesday onwards (costumes being finalised right now!)

## EVENT DETAILS

Purcell's Operetta King Arthur

When: Friday April 9 at 7pm

Where: Quadrangle, St Paul's College, University of Sydney, 9 City Rd, Camperdown, NSW 2050

Cost: \$40-\$60

Tickets: [tinyurl.com/kingpurcell](https://tinyurl.com/kingpurcell)

## THE PERFORMERS AND PLAYERS

Conductor | Ross Cobb

Concertmaster | Fiona Ziegler

Narrator | Peter Cousens

Soprano | Chloe Lankshear, Josie Ryan, Elise Morton

Mezzo soprano | Stephanie Dillon, Hester Wright

Tenor | Joshua Oxley, Elias Wilson

Bass | Jeremy Boulton, Jack Stephens

Violin | Fiona Ziegler, James Tarbotton

Viola | Sophie Nickel

Cello | Zoltán Szabo

Bass | Will Hansen

Harpsichord | Nathan Cox

Bassoon | Harley Milano

Oboe | Edward Wang, Joshua Ning

Recorder | Isabelle Palmer, Aimee Brown

Trumpet | Simon Wolnizer, Jonathan Baker

Timpani | Adam Cooper-Stanbury

## Contacts

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