



the mietta song recital **award**

2006

Programme

The Mietta Song Recital Award
promotes the performance and
wider appreciation of Art Song.

Australian National Academy of Music
South Melbourne Town Hall

Master Classes 3 & 4 May 2006

Semi-finals and Finals 6 & 7 May 2006



MiettaFoundation

Welcome to the Mietta Song Recital Award

Welcome to the 2006 Mietta Song Recital Award.

Small may be big. The Mietta Song Recital Award had its origins in the small venues of Port Fairy, where Len Vorster and the late Michael Easton created the Spring Music Festival; and in *Mietta's*, the Melbourne restaurant in which the late Mietta O'Donnell and her partner Tony Knox established a salon of all the arts, and especially music. In 1995 the four, supported by the distinguished singer Lauris Elms, initiated an award to foster art song, that intimate partnership of voice and piano which may seem small indeed, but which can nevertheless pack more punch in one minute than an aria or chorus ten times longer and louder.

The annual competitions, known from 1996 as the City of Melbourne Song Recital Award, were conducted by Mietta from 1995 until her untimely death early in 2001. The Mietta Foundation, formed to honour Mietta's memory and continue her activities, enabled a re-named Mietta Song Recital Award Committee to revive the competition, very successfully in April 2003 and again (as part of the Melbourne International Arts Festival) in October 2004. The revival won the enthusiastic support of patrons, sponsors, benefactors, institutions, performers and a great many individuals. It is pleasing that Tony Knox and Len Vorster (the original proposer of the Award) continue as members of the Committee.

From the beginning the Award aimed to assist singers to develop their skills, in master classes conducted by distinguished performers at the time of the competition, and by providing opportunities for study and performance, here and overseas, to further their careers. The winner of the 1996 competition, John Heuzenroeder, is playing Tom Rakewell in *The Rake's Progress* in Opera Australia's current Melbourne season. This year the singers and their accompanying pianists are also able to participate in four master classes given by Graham Pushee, Merlyn Quaife and Paola Bastreri-Grey, Marilyn Richardson and Caroline Almonte.

Art song is a demanding discipline, requiring perfect cooperation between singer and pianist in matching word and music, and communicating both to the audience. The process of the Award is however relatively simple: entrants submit a recording of three songs, differing in period and in style. A judging panel selects up to eight semi-finalists, inviting them (and some others) to participate in four master classes before the weekend of the competition, when the distinguished judges select up to four finalists and award the various prizes.

Since there is also an audience prize, those attending need to know that the criteria applied by the judges include: understanding of the genre; choice of material; musicianship; technical competence; rapport with the audience; pronunciation and interpretation of languages; and versatility in programme. Semi-finalists must present in their allotted fifteen minutes songs (in more than one language) from the periods 1750-1830; 1831-1940; and 1941 to the present. Finalists devise their own thirty-minute programmes to satisfy the judging criteria.

Performing an art song may be more like painting a miniature than a mural, but the result can be stupendous, as the audience will again discover.

Professor Emeritus John Poynter AO OBE
Chair, *Mietta Song Recital Award Committee*

Patrons

Dame Joan Sutherland AC DBE OM

Yvonne Kenny AM

Maria O'Donnell

Richard Bonyngé AO CBE

Judges 2006

Richard Bonyngé AO CBE

Eilene Hannan

Professor Peter Ziethen

Professor Emeritus John Poynter AO OBE (Chair)

Masters 2006

Caroline Almonte

Paola Bastreri-Grey

Graham Pushee

Merlyn Quaife

Marilyn Richardson

Mietta O'Donnell

Mietta O'Donnell (1951-2001) was a powerfully influential figure in the arts and cultural world. From the stage of her celebrated restaurant, *Mietta's*, which she and her partner Tony Knox established and ran in Fitzroy and then in Alfred Place, Melbourne, Mietta orchestrated a salon where an astonishing range of art forms was performed from comedy to art song, poetry to play readings, with music ranging from jazz to opera alongside forums for social and political issues. Her support for the arts and artists was recognised with a Green Room Award for 'Outstanding Contribution to the Performing Arts in Melbourne'.



Mietta Foundation

The Mietta Foundation was established to perpetuate the work and memory of Mietta O'Donnell and to celebrate her life by enhancing the spirit and energy of cultural life in this country. In addition to supporting the Mietta Song Recital Award as a major project, the Mietta Foundation has established a series of forums and conversations about food, books, the arts and social engagement issues including diplomacy, culture, economics and the environment.

Julian Burnside QC (Chair)	Patricia O'Donnell John Poynter	Joan Spiller Trevor Tappenden
Craig Allchin	Jill Reichstein	Ralph Willis
Lorraine Elliott		Tony Knox (Adviser)

MSRA Committee

The Mietta Song Recital Award Committee continues to provide opportunities to singers and their accompanying pianists in art song, a form which was very dear to Mietta's heart. The Committee works to enhance the calibre of the Mietta Song Recital Award and provide opportunities for professional development for singers and pianists in the form of art song.

Prof. Emeritus John Poynter AO OBE (Chair)

Avril Everingham	Hartley Newnham	Joan Spiller
Dr Helen Ferguson	Helen Noonan	Len Vorster
Margaret Haggart	Sally Romanes	Catherine Woon
Tony Knox	Mary Ryan	

Thank you to our supporters

The Mietta Foundation and the Mietta Song Recital Award Committee extend their grateful thanks to the sponsors, supporters and donors whose names appear at the back of the programme.

Call for Support

The Mietta Song Recital Award is dependent upon the support of individuals, philanthropic organisations and corporations.

Donations to the Mietta Foundation, which supports the Mietta Song Recital Award as a major project, are tax deductible.

We wholeheartedly invite sponsors and donors for the next Mietta Song Recital Award, planned for April 2008.

Donation forms are available today and from the Mietta Foundation, Suite 64, 85 Grattan Street, Carlton, Victoria 3053.

Further information is available at www.miettas.com.au/msra.html or msra@swiftdsl.com.au or call 03 9686 3335.

Prizes 2006

The Mietta Song Recital Award provides a significant pool of prizes designed to assist the professional development of the winning singer and pianist. This year finalists receive the opportunity to attend a recording workshop provided by the ABC and there are cash awards for finalists and semi-finalists. Valued in excess of \$20,000, the total prize pool from our generous donors and sponsors includes:

Goethe-Institut Prize

German language course (4 weeks) in Germany including accommodation and travel contribution

The Robert Salzer Foundation Travel Scholarship

Substantial cash prize to assist with travel expenses

O'Donnell Family Prize

Substantial cash prize to assist with further study, career development or travel expenses for study or performance

Tait Memorial Trust Prize

Funding and support for language and voice classes overseas

Mietta Travel Scholarship

Substantial cash prize to assist with travel expenses, sponsored by Melbourne Airport

Istituto Italiano di Cultura Prize

Italian language course in Italy or elsewhere

Alliance Française Prize

French language course in Melbourne

ABC Classic FM Prize

Song recording by ABC studios for an ensemble selected by the ABC

Hugh D.T. Williamson Accompanist's Award

Prize for Outstanding Accompaniment (total \$5000): \$1000 cash prize plus \$4000 towards approved further professional development

Nino Sanciolo Memorial Scholarship

Encouragement Award cash prize (\$1000)

ABC Song Recording Workshop Finalists Prize

All finalist ensembles will be offered a song recording workshop at the ABC studios

The Arnold and Mary Bram Australian Song Prize

Prize for best performance of an Australian song

MSRA Committee Prizes

Committee cash prizes for finalists and semi-finalists

Audience Prize

Prize for the performer selected by the audience. Overnight stay at The Westin Melbourne and wine from Taltarni vineyards.

The judges and the ABC may withhold or vary the listed prizes in their discretion.

Semi-finalists

Ensembles

Amanda Cole *Mezzo Soprano*
David McNicol *Pianist*

Judith Dodsworth *Soprano*
Calvin Bowman *Pianist*

David Greco *Baritone*
Paul Myers *Pianist*

Stuart Haycock *Tenor*
Paul Myers *Pianist*

Benjamin Martin *Tenor*
Amanda Hodder *Pianist*

Alexandra Sherman *Mezzo Soprano*
Amir Farid *Pianist*

Leon Warnock *Baritone*
Jodie Lockyer *Pianist*

Derek Welton *Baritone*
Calvin Bowman *Pianist*

Judging

The judging panel will take into account the special characteristics of song recital as an artistic partnership between singer and pianist and will consider:

- Understanding of the genre
- Choice of material
- Musicianship
- Technical competence
- Rapport with the audience
- Pronunciation and interpretation of languages
- Versatility in programme.

The finalists will be announced after the completion of the semi-finals.

On Sunday May 7 the selected finalists will perform their finals programme which is shown on pages 18 & 19.

At the finals the audience will be invited to vote for the performer of their choice.

Recording of Performances

The semi-finals and the finals are being recorded for broadcast by ABC Classic FM.

Programme *Semi-finals May 6*

Amanda Cole *Mezzo Soprano*
David McNicol *Pianist*

Schumann
Er ist gekommen
Schubert
Der Zwerg
Debussy
La chevelure
Corelli
How do I love thee?
Love cannot fill

Judith Dodsworth *Soprano*
Calvin Bowman *Pianist*

Schubert
Die Forelle
Duparc
Phidylé
Barber
Nuvoletta
Bowman
The poem and the bird

David Greco *Baritone*
Paul Myers *Pianist*

Schubert
Frühlingstraum
from *Die Winterreise*
Der Schiffer
Fauré
Clair de lune
Berg
Regen
Erster Verlust
Ich liebe dich
Glanville-Hicks
Come sleep

Stuart Haycock *Tenor*
Paul Myers *Pianist*

Schubert
Die Liebe hat gelogen
An den Mond
Respighi
Nevicata (Snowfall)
Pioggia (Rain)
Nebbie (Fog)
Poulenc
Paganini
from *Metamorphoses*

Benjamin Martin *Tenor*
Amanda Hodder *Pianist*

Schubert
Ganymed
Duparc
Le manoir de Rosemonde
Sibelius
War det en dröm? Op 37 No 4
Kay
She tells her love
The nightingale has a lyre
of gold
Two Encore Songs

Alexandra Sherman *Mezzo Soprano*
Amir Farid *Pianist*

Bellini
Vaga luna
La farfalletta
Fauré
Automne Op18 No 3
Fleur jetée Op 39 No 2
Gavrilin
She who suffers
from *Russian Songbook*

Leon Warnock *Baritone*
Jodie Lockyer *Pianist*

Schumann
Schöne Wiege meiner Leiden...
Beethoven
Der Kuss
Duparc
Phidylé
Barber
Nocturne

Derek Welton *Baritone*
Calvin Bowman *Pianist*

Strauss
Zueignung Op 10 No 1
Schubert
Der Musensohn
Butterworth
Look not in my eyes
Think no more, lad
Bowman
Now touch the air softly
Schubert
Ständchen

Singers

Amanda Cole

Mezzo Soprano

Accompanied by
Pianist David McNicol



Amanda Cole holds a music degree from the University of Melbourne, specialising in early music, and is in her fourth year of the Master of Music performance programme at the Victorian College of the Arts. Amanda also studies performance and the Alexander Technique with Catherine Madden in Seattle, Washington.

Amanda's operatic roles and oratorio appearances include Belinda in Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* for Eastern Metropolitan Opera, and Second Witch in the same opera for St Martin's Theatre. Solo appearances with various ensembles and orchestras include Handel's *Messiah*, Bach's *St John Passion*, Vaughan Williams' *Mass in G Minor*, Mozart's *Mass in C Minor*, Couperin's *Leçons de Ténèbres* and Rorem's *Evidence of Things Not Seen*.

In 2000 Amanda was awarded a Churchill Fellowship for studies in language coaching in France, Germany and Italy. She has taught Languages for Singers at the Victorian College of the Arts, the University of Melbourne and the Australian Catholic University. She is currently focussing on new and different ways of approaching performance and voice teaching which differ from the traditional.

Judith Dodsworth

Soprano

Accompanied by
Pianist Calvin Bowman



Graduating with distinction from the Canberra School of Music, soprano Judith Dodsworth studied in London and Vienna, working with the Arnold Schönberg Chor, Concentus Vocalis Wien and NeuOper Wien. Returning to Australia, she completed a Master's degree in performance at the University of Melbourne where she studied with Merlyn Quaife.

Recent operatic roles include the title role and Mercedes in OzOpera's *Carmen*, the lead soprano role in *Opiume*, a new chamber opera for the Singapore and Hong Kong Art Festivals, and the Wife in the Australian premiere of Michael Nyman's *The Man who Mistook his Wife for a Hat*, for Operalive. Oratorio performances include Handel's *Messiah*, the *Requiems* of Mozart and Fauré, and Haydn's *Nelson Mass*.

Première performances of Australian works include Lindsay Brunsdon: *I fell into a Cauldron*, *A Season in Hell*, Nirmali Fenn: *Some Words*, Johanna Selleck: *Becoming*, Larry Sitsky: *Bone of my Bones*, and Calvin Bowman's song cycles *Now Touch the Air Softly* and *Beyond the Grass Tree Spears*.

Forthcoming engagements include *Carmen* with OzOpera, Anastasio in Vivaldi's *Giustino* for Lyric Opera of Melbourne, Bach's *Cantata 51 Jauchzet Gott in allen Landen*, and chamber music with Miscellany Ensemble.

Singers

David Greco

Baritone

Accompanied by
Pianist Paul Myers



Lyric baritone David Vincent Greco has a Bachelor of Music (Performance) majoring in Vocal Studies at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music.

David is a full-time member of *Cantillation*, a professional Sydney-based vocal ensemble, recording for ABC Classics. Their repertoire spans works from the early 15th Century to 20th and 21st Century avant garde composers.

David's recent performances include: soloist with Emma Kirkby for the Musica Viva tour of Sydney and Melbourne, Bach's *Cantatas 9, 140 and 147*, Britten's *Rejoice in the Lamb*, Mozart's *Vespers*, and Handel's *Alexander's Feast*.

David's future performances include bass soloist in Mozart's *Coronation Mass*, NSW Musica Viva tour with the Song Company, NSW Musica Viva tour *Sounds Baroque*, and bass soloist in Haydn's *Nicholas Mass*.

His opera and operetta roles include Rameau's *Dardanus*, Monteverdi's *Orfeo*, Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte* and *Le Nozze di Figaro*, Donizetti's *Don Pasquale*, Poulenc's *Dialogues of the Carmelites* and Gilbert and Sullivan's *HMS Pinafore*.

David has been accepted into the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester for September 2006.

Stuart Haycock

Tenor

Accompanied by
Pianist Paul Myers



Tenor Stuart Haycock became interested in singing whilst studying the clarinet at the West Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA). He has a Bachelor of Performing Arts, majoring in Voice, and is studying for a Graduate Diploma of Opera at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music.

Stuart's operatic repertoire includes the title role in Bernstein's *Candide*, Fileno in Haydn's *La Fedelta Premiata*, Little Bat McLean and Elder Gleaton in Floyd's *Susannah*, as well as roles in operas by Monteverdi and Purcell. Stuart has performed with the West Australian Opera since 2002, including the world premiere performance of *Nostradamus*.

Stuart's concert repertoire includes Carissimi's *Jephthe*, Purcell's *The Faery Queen*, Handel's *Messiah*, Charpentier's *Te Deum*, Mozart's *Great Mass in C Minor*, Michael Haydn's *Requiem*, Bach's *Mass in A Major* and *Christmas Oratorio*, Ramirez's *Missa Criolla*, Dvorak's *Mass in D* and Mendelssohn's *Elijah*.

Stuart has given recitals for Music Amica, the West Australian Lieder Society, Blackwood River Chamber Festival and ABC Classic FM. He has been Young Artist with the West Australian Symphony Orchestra, is a winner of the Ralph Thompson Memorial Art Song prize, and was a finalist in the Mietta Song Recital Award in 2004.

Singers

Benjamin Martin

Tenor

Accompanied by
Pianist Amanda Hodder



Benjamin Martin holds a Bachelor of Music Performance (1999) from the University of Tasmania and a Master of Music Performance (2005) from the University of Melbourne.

Benjamin's diverse repertoire includes Monteverdi's *Il Combattimento di Tancredi e Clorinda*, Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*, Bach's *St John* and *St Matthew Passions*, Beethoven's *Mass in C*, Handel's *Messiah*, Haydn's *St Nicholas* and *Nelson Masses*, Mozart's *Così Fan Tutte*, *Coronation Mass* and *Requiem and Vespers*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Rossini's *Petite Messe Solenne*, Hindemith's *Hin und Zurück*, and the Australian premières of Frigyes Hidas's *Requiem* and Brenton Broadstock's *Stations of the Cross*.

Competition highlights include: Finalist – 3MBS Young Performer of the Year 2004, Winner – The Armstead Singing Award 2004, and Winner – Nino Sanciolo Award – Mietta Song Recital Award 2004.

Currently under the tutelage of Anna Connolly, engagements for 2006 include tenor soloist for the Bach Cantata Programme at St John's Southgate, and Mozart's *Great Mass in C Minor* for the Melbourne Chorale at Hamer Hall.

In August 2006 Benjamin will perform as soloist in Purcell's *King Arthur* as a Young Artist at the prestigious Britten-Pears School in Aldeburgh (UK).

Alexandra Sherman

Mezzo Soprano

Accompanied by
Pianist Amir Farid



Born in St Petersburg, Russia, Alexandra Sherman studied piano in Jerusalem and Singing in Melbourne. An honours graduate of the VCA, Alexandra has received the Queen's Trust for Young Australians Award, The University of Melbourne Clarke Scholarship, The Australian Singing Competition comprising The Marianne Mathy and Joan Sutherland Awards, Symphony Australia Young Performer of the Year Award and the Countess of Munster Star Award. These scholarships enabled her to study at the Royal College of Music, London, where she completed her post-graduate studies and received operatic training.

Alexandra performs widely in oratorio and recital in Europe, Australia and the UK. Concert highlights include Mahler's *Songs of a Wayfarer*, Berlioz' *Les Nuits d'Été*, Elgar's *Sea Pictures*, Prokofiev's *Alexander Nevsky*, De Falla's *El Anor Brujo* and Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater*.

In 2005 Alexandra was accepted into the Centre Français de Promotion Lyrique in Paris as a Fiché Artist, made her début at Wigmore Hall, and covered the roles of Juno and Ino in *Semele* at the Scottish Opera, and the role of Minskwoman in Jonathan Dove's *Flight* at Glyndebourne.

In 2006 Alexandra will make her début at the English National Opera in John Adams' *Nixon in China*, and will appear at the BBC Proms.

Singers

Leon Warnock

Baritone

Accompanied by
Pianist Jodie Lockyer



Leon Warnock has a Bachelor of Education (Graduate Programme) from Griffith University (2002), a Graduate Diploma - Opera (1998) and a Bachelor of Music - Voice (1997).

Opera performances include Mozart's *Le Nozze di Figaro*, Roussel's *Le Testament de Caroline*, Smetana's *The Bartered Bride*, Britten's *Albert Herring* and *Billy Budd*, Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi*, Verdi's *Otello*, Janecek's *The Cunning Little Vixen*, Berlioz' *La Damnation de Faust*, Rossini's *Cinderella*, Giordano's *Andrea Chenier*, Gounod's *Faust* and Hammond's *Software*.

Leon's solo baritone performances include a recital with the British School in Rome (2005), Mozart's *Requiem* with the Central Coast Symphony (2005 and 2003), Mendelssohn's *Elijah* with the Sydney University Choir (2004), and Vaughan Williams' *Songs of Travel* with the TOPS Orchestra Sydney (2003).

Australian premières include Rautavaara's *Vigilia* at the Brisbane Festival (2002), Haltgren's *Bright Sunlit Morning* (2002), and Goldenthal's *Fire, Water, Paper – Vietnam Oratorio* at the Brisbane Biennial Festival (1997).

Leon was a finalist in the German Australian Opera Grant Wiesbaden in 2004, won the encouragement prize for a Best Young Singer at the City of Melbourne Song Recital Award in 1999, and received a Goethe Scholarship to study German in Germany in 1999.

Derek Welton

Baritone

Accompanied by
Pianist Calvin Bowman



Derek Welton holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Melbourne, majoring in German and Linguistics.

Derek has performed a number of roles in Mozart's operas: Papageno in *The Magic Flute*, Guglielmo in *Così Fan Tutte*, and Masetto in *Don Giovanni*, for the Melbourne Opera Company, and Count Almaviva in *Le Nozze di Figaro* for In Good Company (Melbourne). In March 2006 Derek made his New Zealand and international début in the title role in Salieri's *Falstaff* for Opera Otago.

Derek's concert repertoire spans composers from Bach to Sir John Tavener. Baritone/bass solo performances include Bach's *Magnificat*, Brahms' *Ein Deutsches Requiem*, Handel's *Messiah*, and the title role in Mendelssohn's *Elijah*. Upcoming engagements include the role of Jesus both in Bach's *St Matthew Passion* and the Australian première of Heinrich von Herzogenberg's *Die Passion*, and bass solos in Stainer's *The Crucifixion* and Handel's *Messiah*.

In 2005 Derek won a full scholarship to the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London, in the final of the Australian Singing Competition. He was runner-up in the Herald Sun Aria, and won the Geelong Aria and the 2005 Booroondara Eisteddfod Vocal Championship.

Pianists

Calvin Bowman

Pianist for Judith Dodsworth
& Derek Welton



Calvin Bowman graduated with a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from Yale University, assisted by a Fulbright scholarship, the inaugural Anthony Joseph Pratt award for the Visual and Performing Arts. His principal teachers include John O'Donnell and Thomas Murray, organ; Donald Thornton, piano; Davitt Moroney, harpsichord; and Graeme Koehne and Ezra Laderman, composition.

In 1995 Calvin presented the complete Bach organ works to critical acclaim. He has featured regularly on ABC Classic FM, and in 2000 presented a TV broadcast for the 250th anniversary of Bach's death. In 2001 he was organist in the première of a work for organ, didgeridoo and narrator written by Philip Glass for the re-opening of the Melbourne Town Hall organ.

Calvin's art songs have been lauded by Barbara Bonney as "very beautiful and well written". He is a laureate of the 2005 Ned Rorem Award for Song Composition and the 2005 Diana Barnhart American Song Competition, and has received numerous commissions. His work will shortly be published by Alfred Lengnick and Company, Great Britain.

In 2006 Calvin will be performing Graeme Koehne's *Capriccio* for piano and strings with Australia Pro Arte to mark Koehne's fiftieth birthday. He will also act as organist and producer for a disc of music by Philip Glass for the composer's own label, Orange Mountain Music.

Amir Farid

Pianist for
Alexandra Sherman



Amir Farid is well known to Melbourne audiences as a solo pianist, associate artist and chamber musician. Under the guidance of Professor Ronald Farren-Price, Amir completed his Bachelor of Music degree at the University of Melbourne with Honours in 2004. From 2003 to 2005 he attended the Australian National Academy of Music (ANAM), working with Rita Reichman, Timothy Young and Geoffrey Tozer. In 2003, Amir won the Dandenong Eisteddfod's three major sections and Gold Medallion. He was a semi-finalist in the 2003 Lev Vlassenko National Piano Competition, finalist and special prize winner in the 2004 Australian National Piano Award, and winner of the 2005 Hephzibah Menuhin and 3MBS Performer of the Year awards. Amir's performance of Beethoven's *Piano Concerto No.4* at the 2005 ANAM Concerto Competition prizewinners' concert received a standing ovation. Recently he performed Beethoven's *Emperor Concerto* with the Melbourne Youth Orchestra. Amir is pianist of the Benaud Trio, winning the Piano Trio prize at the prestigious 2005 Australian Chamber Music Competition.

Pianists

Amanda Hodder

Pianist for Benjamin Martin



Amanda Hodder completed a double major in piano performance and accompaniment at the Tasmanian Conservatorium of Music in 1997, and moved to Melbourne in 1999.

Amanda has won many awards for her work as a classical accompanist, including the Allan MacArthur Award at the 2003 National Liederfest, and the Hugh D.T. Williamson Accompanist's Award for Outstanding Accompaniment at the 2004 Mietta Song Recital Award, enabling her to spend part of 2005 studying in Paris and Southern Germany. Amanda is currently studying keyboard with Donna Coleman, which has also been made possible by the Hugh D.T. Williamson Accompanist's Award.

Amanda has worked as accompanist and répétiteur for the University of Ballarat, The National Theatre Drama School, Melba Memorial Conservatorium of Music, Cameron Macintosh/IMG (*Oliver!*), Chamber Made Opera, Operalive, Melbourne Opera Company and OzOpera. She is currently employed as an accompanist at the Victorian College of the Arts, and is the chief répétiteur for Lyric Opera of Melbourne.

In 2006 Amanda will begin work with the newly formed state opera company, Victorian Opera.

Jodie Lockyer

Pianist for Leon Warnock

Jodie Lockyer is a graduate of the Victorian College of the Arts where she studied piano with Michael Kieran Harvey. In 1991 she won the Bill Burrell Memorial Trust scholarship, enabling her to study accompaniment with Margaret Schofield. In 1996 Jodie travelled to England to study at the Royal Northern College of Music, majoring in accompaniment with John Wilson and Carole Pressland.

In 1997 Jodie won the Margaret Tudor Evans Prize for piano accompaniment and was a finalist in The Royal Overseas League competition.

Jodie has been accompanist for the Royal Melbourne Philharmonic Society and The Melbourne University Choral Society, and has recently taught at Loreto Mandeville Hall and Westbourne Grammar. She is currently an accompanist at the Victorian College of the Arts, The Defence Force School of Music and the RACV Club.

Jodie has appeared in master classes with Victor Morris, Malcolm Martineau, Geoffrey Parsons, Anne Howells and Ronald Farren-Price. She has also recorded CDs with the RNCM Wind Orchestra for the Chandos label.

Pianists

Paul Myers

Pianist for David Greco
& Stuart Haycock



Paul Myers graduated with distinction from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music where he majored in accompaniment, studying ensemble with David Miller and solo piano with Gerard Willems. Paul also holds a Post Graduate Diploma in Accompaniment. Scholarships include the Mollie Neale Memorial Award and the Horace Keats Memorial Award.

In 2005 Paul pursued his love of art song and in particular German Lied at the Detmold Hochschule für Musik in Germany, where his studies involved the great Lieder singers Thomas Quasthoff and Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau. During a study tour in London Paul was able to have lessons with the pianists Julius Drake and Michael Dussek.

Already an experienced recitalist, Paul has performed extensively in Sydney and regional New South Wales as well as New Zealand, working with international artists such as Wanda Wilkomirska, Michael Halliwell and Opera Australia soloists Shu Chen Yu and Judd Arthur. Paul has made several appearances on television and radio.

David McNicol

Pianist for Amanda Cole



David McNicol's interest in accompanying began as a teenager accompanying singers and instrumentalists at eisteddfods and musical societies. He graduated as a soloist from the Melba Conservatorium, where he studied accompaniment with Margaret Schofield, and was later awarded a scholarship to study accompanying in London with Geoffrey Parsons.

In 1990 David joined Opera Australia as trainee répétiteur, accompanying principal artists in recitals throughout Australia. He has served as official accompanist for the Herald Sun Aria final, the German-Australian Operatic Award, the Welsh Singer of the Year Award and the Lieder Society's *Liederfest*.

David has performed as soloist and accompanist in many live broadcasts for ABC Classic FM. Internationally, David has performed throughout Asia and Europe. In 2004 he toured South Korea, accompanying Helen Noonan in Chamber Made Opera's production of *Recital*.

Official accompanist and vocal coach at the Melba Conservatorium, David is very involved in the musical life of Melbourne as a freelance pianist and accompanist.

Judges

Richard Bonyngé AO CBE

Richard Bonyngé's distinguished international career as a conductor and music director has been recognised with awards including the Commandeur des Arts et Lettres (1989), the AO (1989) and the CBE (1977).

Australian born, Richard Bonyngé has conducted at most of the world's great opera houses, including the New York Metropolitan, Covent Garden, Paris, Barcelona, San Francisco and Chicago. He has conducted also at the Edinburgh and Vienna Festivals and Maggio Musicale (Florence), in San Carlo, Naples, Rome, Moscow, St Petersburg, Los Angeles, Madrid, Hamburg, Buenos Aires, Lisbon and Munich.

Richard Bonyngé's oeuvre includes countless video, opera and ballet recordings, including the ballets of Adam, Delibes, Tchaikovsky and Offenbach. He has held the positions of Musical Director of the Sutherland-Williamson Grand Opera, Artistic Director of the Vancouver Opera and Musical Director, Opera Australia.

The Mietta Song Recital Award is honoured to have Richard Bonyngé as an inaugural Patron.

Eilene Hannan

Distinguished Australian soprano Eilene Hannan has performed in major opera houses and concert halls in Britain, Europe and Australia. Noted for opening the Sydney Opera House as Natasha in Prokofiev's *War and Peace*, which she also performed at the Metropolitan Opera in New York, her international opera career includes performances as Rusalka, and Mélisande in *Pelléas et Mélisande* for the English National Opera, Sallinen's *The King Goes Forth to France* for the Royal Opera House Covent Garden, and Pat Nixon in *Nixon in China* for the Frankfurt Opera. Other roles include Susanna in *Così fan tutte*, Pamina in *The Magic Flute* among many others.

In Australia Eilene Hannan has appeared with Opera Australia in roles as diverse as the Marschallin in *Der Rosenkavalier*, the Governess in *The Turn of the Screw*, for which she won a Green Room Award, and Emma in *The Summer of the Seventeenth Doll*. Other Australian performances include Gutrune in *Götterdämmerung* in the State Opera of South Australia's acclaimed production of Wagner's *Ring*.

Professor Peter Ziethen

Peter Ziethen is currently Professor for Voice at the Munster Hochschule, a position he has held for many years. His performance career has been primarily in the field of recital and oratorio. For some years he taught concurrently at Detmold Hochschule and prior to that spent some years teaching at the Vienna Hochschule. He is also in demand for master classes.

As a teacher Professor Ziethen has travelled the world running courses on German Lied, Operetta, Contemporary German Lied and Opera. Many of his students are enjoying careers in Germany. He works as a duo with his wife, pianist Gerda Ziethen-Hantich, performing repertoire from Bach to contemporary composers.

Professor Emeritus John Poynter AO OBE

Professor Emeritus John Poynter AO OBE, Chair of the Mietta Song Recital Award Committee, is currently a Professorial Fellow at the Australian Centre, University of Melbourne. Positions held at the University have included Deputy Vice-Chancellor (1975-1991); Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Cultural Affairs); Dean of the Faculty of Music, Visual and Performing Arts; Dean of the Faculty of Arts, and the Ernest Scott Professor of History. Professor Poynter is or has been associated with a number of musical organisations,

Judges

including the Melbourne Chorale, the Melbourne International Festival of Organ and Harpsichord, the Melbourne International Chamber Music Competition, Musica Viva, the Port Fairy Festival, and Les Editions de L'Oiseau Lyre. He is the author of numerous publications and in 2004 MUP published his biography of Alfred Felton and history of the Felton Bequest, *Mr Felton's Bequests*, to great critical acclaim.

Masters

Caroline Almonte

Caroline Almonte studied with renowned Australian pianist Stephen McIntyre while at the Victorian College of the Arts, before post graduate studies at the Juilliard School (New York).

Caroline has performed as a soloist in Australia and internationally, performing concerti ranging from Mozart and Beethoven, to Rachmaninov, Prokofiev, Bartok and Ginastera. As a chamber musician she has worked with many artists including the Fine Arts Quartet, the Flinders Quartet, Pro Arte chamber soloists, Prudence Davis, Alexander Ivashkin, Sue Ellen Paulsen, Liwei Qin, Elise Milman and the Melbourne Symphony Chamber Players.

Caroline has recorded and performed with Yvonne Kenny, and has also performed with American baritone Robert Osbourne in Italy, and soprano Cheryl Marshall in recitals across the United States and the Netherlands. Duo Sol, Caroline's chamber music partnership with Miki Tsunoda, has two CDs released by ABC Classics.

Caroline has taught piano at the University of Melbourne since 2000 and is a regular participant in master classes.

Paola Bastreri-Grey

Born in Piacenza, Italy, and moving to Melbourne where she completed her schooling, Paola originally trained as a clarinettist, gaining her B.Mus. and Dip.Ed. from the University of Melbourne. Paola has broad musical experience including orchestral and band conducting, chamber music, orchestral performance and instrumental and classroom teaching. Since taking up singing, Paola has successfully completed a Dip.Mus. at the Melba Conservatorium of Music and gained her A.Mus.A. in singing from the A.M.E.B. Combining her interest in languages and music, Paola now teaches Italian Language and Diction to young singers at Melbourne University and the Melba Conservatorium.

Graham Pushee

Graham Pushee has sung at many of the world's leading opera houses including La Monnaie, Brussels; La Scala, Milan; Staatsoper Berlin and Munich; Houston Grand Opera; Los Angeles Opera; Paris; Barcelona; Geneva; Lyon; Cologne; Frankfurt and Salzburg.

His 1992 debut with Opera Australia as Ruggiero in *Alcina*, was followed by the title roles in *Julius Caesar* in 1994 and *Rinaldo* in 1999. His recording of Handel arias with the ABO won the Best Australian Recording and Listeners' Choice Awards in 1995, when he also won a Mo Award and the Green Room Award. Recordings include *Julius Caesar* for Opera Australia, a solo Vivaldi CD, *La Calisto* by Cavalli with Rene Jacobs and *Tamerlano*, Handel, with Trevor Pinnock.

Graham is a part-time member of the Sydney Conservatorium Vocal Department and teaches and coaches privately.

Masters

Merlyn Quaife

Well-known Melbourne soprano Merlyn Quaife is a performer of great versatility. Her regular performances include opera, oratorio, chamber music, Lieder and contemporary music. She has appeared with each of the state opera companies, all the major symphony orchestras in Australia, the Singapore Symphony Orchestra, the Voronesz Philharmonie (Russia) and the Berliner Capella. She has premiered many roles, including the 1993 title role in Gordon Kerry's *Medea* with Chamber Made Opera (Melbourne, Sydney and Canberra). It was with this role that she made her American debut at the Kennedy Center, Washington DC in 1994.

Highlights include Britten's *War Requiem* in the Berlin Philharmonie with the Berlina Capella, Woglinde in *Götterdämmerung* for Perth International Festival of the Arts in 2003, and Konstanze in *Seraglio* for West Australian Opera. In 2004 she returned to Germany for performances including Bach's *St John Passion*, and to conduct master classes.

Marilyn Richardson

Acclaimed Australian soprano Marilyn Richardson obtained her Diploma in Singing from the Conservatorium of Music in Sydney. A Churchill Fellowship enabled her to study in Europe from 1971.

In opera, Marilyn Richardson made her international debut in Basel in 1972 singing Lulu and Salome to rave reviews. Roles include: Aida, the four soprano roles in *The Tales of Hoffmann*, Marschallin in *Der Rosenkavalier*, Eva in *Die Meistersinger*, Lisa in *Pique Dame*, Leonora in *Fidelio*, Sieglinde in *Die Walküre*, Katya Kabanova, Donna Anna in *Don Giovanni*, the Countess in *Figaro*, Tosca, Desdemona, Isolde and Laura in Richard Meale's *Voss*, among many others.

Marilyn Richardson has performed all the Chopin songs in Polish, Bartok in Hungarian, and the popular *Gorecki Symphony No 3* for the Adelaide and Melbourne Festivals. Australian composers Richard Mills, Larry Sitsky, Nigel Butterley, Richard Meale and Phillip Brancanin have composed for her. She is a coordinator and voice teacher for the Australian National Academy in Melbourne, and coaches Opera Queensland's Young Artists.

Official Accompanist

Claire Cooper

Melbourne-based pianist, Claire Cooper, is a versatile and much sought-after associate artist. Claire studied piano at the Canberra School of Music, and later at the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts. She was repetiteur and accompanist at the Victorian College of the Arts for five years and is currently a staff pianist at the Faculty of Music, University of Melbourne. As a freelance pianist, Claire works as a soloist, associate artist, orchestral pianist, vocal coach and repetiteur.

Claire has twice won the Musical Partnership Prize in the City of Melbourne Song Recital Award, in 1998 with Blake Fischer, and in 1999 with Melanie Duncan. Numerous radio broadcasts include Young Australia Programme for ABC FM, and ABC LIVE. Claire released a CD of music for flute and piano featuring female Australian composers in 2005.

In 2003 she collaborated again with Melanie Duncan in the highly acclaimed *Clarified*, a multi-media recital which explores the life and music of Clara Schumann. *Clarified* also featured at the Castlemaine Festival in 2005.

Programme *Finals May 7*

The finalists and the order in which they will perform will be announced.

Amanda Cole *Mezzo Soprano*

David McNicol *Pianist*

Brahms

Vergebliches Ständchen
Meine Liebe ist grün

Wolf

Klinge, klinge mein Pandero
Liebe mir im Busen
In dem Schatten meiner
Locken
from the *Spanisches
Liederbuch*

Debussy

La flûte de Pan
Le tombeau des naïades
from *Trois Chansons de Bilitis*

Montsalvatge

Cuba dentro de un piano
Chevere
Cancion de cuna para
dormir a un negro
Canto negro
from *Cinco Canciones
Negras*

Judith Dodsworth *Soprano*

Calvin Bowman *Pianist*

Berg

Nacht
Schilffied
Die Nachtigall
Traumgekrönt
from *Sieben Frühe Lieder*

Duparc

L'invitation au voyage
Chanson triste

Bowman

Structure of song
Lily in autumn
Now touch the air softly
Tulip
Words by the water
The arrow
from *Now Touch the Air Softly*

David Greco *Baritone*

Paul Myers *Pianist*

Brahms

Der Gang zum Liebchen
Meine Liebe ist grün
Wie bist du, meine Königin
Salamander

Duparc

Phidylé
Le manoir de Rosemonde

Wolf

Gesegnet sei
Und willst du deinen Liebsten
sterben sehen
from *Italienisches Liederbuch*

Vaughan Williams

Silent noon
from *The House of Life*

Stuart Haycock *Tenor*

Paul Myers *Pianist*

Fauré

Après un rêve Op 7 No 1

Hahn

L'heure exquise
from *Chansons Grises No 5*
A Chloris

Rachmaninov

V Molchan'ji noch Tainoi Op
4 No 3

Britten

On this island Op. 11
Let the florid music praise!
Now the leaves are falling fast
Seascape
Nocturne
As it is, plenty

Benjamin Martin *Tenor*

Amanda Hodder *Pianist*

Berlioz

Villanelle
Sur les lagunes
L'île inconnue
from *Les Nuits d'Été*

Rachmaninov

Vesennije vody Op 14 No 11
Son Op 38 no 5

Strauss

Morgen!
Allerseelen

Vine

Love me sweet

Bridge

Love went a riding

Alexandra Sherman

Mezzo Soprano

Amir Farid *Pianist*

Dargomyzhsky

The night sky sends a gentle
breeze
I love him still

Berlioz

Villanelle
Absence
L'île inconnue
from *Les Nuits d'Été*

Britten

O waly, waly

Hughes

I know where I'm going

Britten

The Salley Gardens

de Falla

Jota
Nana
Polo
from *Siete canciones
populares españolas*

Leon Warnock *Baritone*

Jodie Lockyer *Pianist*

Maddox

Moreton Bay
from *Five Australian Songs*

Britten

The Tyger
from *Songs and Proverbs by
William Blake*

Mahler

Lieder eines fahrenden
Gesellen
Wenn mein Schatz Hochzeit
macht
Ging heut Morgen über's Feld

Ravel

Don Quichotte à Dulcinée
Chanson romanesque
Chanson épique
Chanson à boire

Barber

Black pianos
Wolf
Abschied

Derek Welton *Baritone*

Calvin Bowman *Pianist*

Beethoven

Adelaide Op 46

Bowman

Fresh fields

Butterworth

Loveliest of trees
The lads in their hundreds
Is my team ploughing?

Bowman

Words by the water

Strauss

Die Nacht Op 10 No 3
Allerseelen Op 10 No 8

Schubert

Litanei auf das Fest Allerseelen

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Lois Chartres

Lawton Cooke

Dur-é Dara

Natasha Davies

Maggie Edmond
and Peter Corrigan

Avril Everingham

Dr Helen Ferguson

William J Forrest

Helen and John Fuller

Gaye Gaylard

Nance Grant MBE

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Margaret Haggart

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Dr Alastair Jackson

Sandi Keane

Prof DJ Markwell

Winsome McCaughey

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Song Recital Award Past Winners

1995 *Louise Page*

1996 *John Heuzenroeder*

1997 *Adele Johnston*

1998 *Blake Fischer*

1999 *Melanie Duncan*

2000 *Melinda Parsons*

2003 *Leah Thomas*

2004 *Sharon (Hui Juan) Zhai*

The next *Mietta Song Recital Award* is planned
for April 2008.

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