

MELBOURNE YOUTH MUSIC LAUNCHES A NEW-LOOK 2011 PROGRAM

Melbourne Youth Music has today launched full details of its 2011 program, with Artistic Director Fabian Russell inviting you to *Come and play your part!* Melbourne Youth Music, a Strategic Partnership of the Victorian Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, is now entering its 44th year of operation, and momentum has been building towards the launch of the new-look 2011 program.

"Melbourne Youth Music brings together more than 1000 young musicians each year who are auditioned from right across Victoria and are passionate about music. Members have the opportunity to take part in one of our programs that not only challenges them as a musician, but also builds their confidence as future leaders in our community."

Fabian Russell – Artistic Director

MYM's flagship ensemble, the Melbourne Youth Orchestra continues to be recognised as one of Australia's finest orchestral training programs. Highlights of the 2011 season include Mahler's Symphony No.5, Holst's The Planets and a special performance of the complete ballet score to Ravel's Daphnis and Chloe. The Melbourne Youth Orchestra is also welcoming esteemed soloists Stefan Cassomenos, piano; Paul Dean, clarinet and Kristian Winther, violin, while making his debut as concert soloist will be MYO's Principal Trumpet, Josh Rogan.

Melbourne Youth Orchestra is also excited to be collaborating with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra in a project entitled *Share the Chair*, as part of MSO's Education Week. Members will rehearse and perform side by side with MSO musicians in a week long project that culminates in a free public performance at the Melbourne Town Hall.

The Percy Grainger Youth Orchestra continues from strength to strength. In 2011 the orchestra will present a series of concerts at Iwaki Auditorium conducted by Stefan Cassomenos. Cassomenos will also perform Shostakovich's Piano Concerto No. 2 with the orchestra directing from the keyboard and premiere one of his new works composed for the ensemble.

MYM is also proud to announce the expansion of its string program, with three ensembles on offer that cater to a full range of musical standards. Lead by a team of specialist conductors and tutors, the program is designed to accelerate the progress of students in an energetic and supportive learning environment.

Throughout 2011, Melbourne Youth Music ensembles will be given the opportunity to demonstrate their achievements at a range of performances. The Melbourne Youth Wind Symphony will take part in the MYM Bands Festival held at Federation Square. As part of the Bands Festival, we welcome as our special guest ensemble, the WA Youth Jazz Orchestra, who will make the journey across from Perth to take part.

The Melbourne Youth Jazz Orchestra will come together for two special projects exploring a range of substantial Big Band repertoire. Working with Co-Directors Ross Irwin and Nick Mulder, the Jazz Orchestra will headline the MYM Bands Festival in Federation Square and perform as part of The Arts Centre's Morning Melodies series at the State Theatre, joined by special guest John Foreman.

For those who possess aspirations in the field of music, or for anyone looking for a fulfilling and rewarding musical experience, auditioning for Melbourne Youth Music in 2011 is a must. Online applications are now open with auditions being held mid-November.

Full details of MYM's 2011 program are available by downloading the online brochure at www.mym.org.au. You can also view MYM's promotional video by visiting our website.