

Bel Canto

Edition 3
January, 2013



Rodelinda at the City Recital Hall Angel Place, Sydney - 20th October, 2012

1000 people attended the Australian professional premiere performance of *RODELINDA* at the City Recital Hall Angel Place in October. Conducted by Maestro Richard Bonynge and starring Valda Wilson, Fiona Janes, John Longmuir, Liane Keegan, Lorina Gore, Michael Lewis and the Sydney Lyric Orchestra, the concert was an extraordinary achievement for the Foundation. Maestro Bonynge received a standing ovation at the start of the evening, something rarely seen these days, with the entire cast and orchestra receiving one at the conclusion of this historic evening.

Dignitaries and special guests included: Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce, Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, foundation patron Her Excellency Prof. Marie Bashir, Governor of New South Wales, The Hon Barry O'Farrell, Premier of NSW and his wife, Adam and Helen Bonynge with their daughter Natasha and her fiancé David Wouters. Lady Potter

flew from Melbourne with Alastair Jackson, Cyrus Meher-Homji, Bronwyn Bishop MP, John Sidoti MP, Moffatt Oxenbould, Graeme Ewer, Doug Cremer, Arthur Haddad, Ian and Carolyn Cameron, Glenn Winslade, Isla Baring and John Amos from the Tait Memorial Trust in London, Lauris Elms, Joan Carden, Diana Heath, Barbara Leser and many other foundation supporters were in attendance. Staff believe it was the first time the Governor-General, Governor and Premier had all attended a concert together at Angel Place.



A Family Affair

Above L to R: David Wouters and Natasha Bonynge (bearing a striking resemblance to her grandmother Joan Sutherland) with Adam Bonynge and Helen Bonynge, were among the many guests present to celebrate Richard Bonynge's 50 Anniversary of conducting and to pay tribute to the memory of the late Dame Joan Sutherland.



Richard Bonynge with Professor Marie Bashir and Ms Quentin Bryce

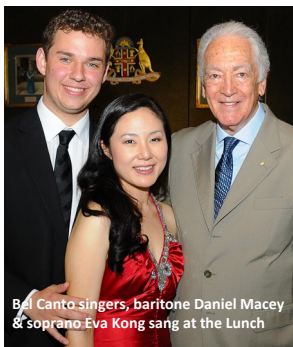


Below - An appreciative audience cheers the Maestro and cast on what was an emotional night for all.

A Message from the General Manager

Welcome to the third edition of our *Bel Canto* Newsletter.

THE FOUNDATION



2012 was another defining year in our history thanks to all our donors, patrons and the hard work and vision of those individuals who have given their time and expertise. *RODELINDA* received overwhelming praise and was a fitting celebration of Richard Bonyng's 50 years as a conductor. 140 guests also enjoyed our lunch at Parliament House in honour of Maestro

Bonyng which raised much needed funds for the Bel Canto Award.

2012 BEL CANTO AWARD

An enthusiastic audience attended this year's Bel Canto Award to hear 24 year old Samoan tenor **Darren Pene Pati** take first prize singing arias from *Rigoletto* and *Carmen*. Second was Sydney soprano **Emma Moore** winning the Australian Opera Auditions Committee prize of \$6,000 with former WA resident, soprano **Naomi Johns** winning the \$3,000 Deborah Riedel prize for the second time. All three remaining finalists, **Stacey Alleaume**, **Tabatha McFadyen** and **Roberto Abate** each received \$1000 thanks to Duncan and Annamaria Kinnon's generous support of these finalists. We wish both Darren and John Longmuir (our 2011 winner) great success at the 2013 Solti Accademia in Italy.

Bel Canto Final Broadcast, 16 March, 2013 at 8pm on FM 102.5

SPONSOR A BEL CANTO PRIZE TODAY

What many people don't realise is that once each of these young singers has completed their tertiary education in Australia, they need to find anywhere between \$30,000-\$100,000 to ensure they receive the very best additional training overseas. That's why



**2012 Bel Canto Winner
Darren Pene Pati**

Developing great opera singers for the future!

organisations like ours exist, to ensure our young musicians go on to develop their craft. To secure the **2013 Bel Canto Award** we need



**L to R: Stacey Alleaume, Naomi Johns, Roberto Abate,
Darren Pene Pati, Emma Moore, Tabatha McFadyen**

sponsors for all our prizes. Sponsorship can be for either a full prize or part of a prize and is fully tax deductible.

ELIZABETH CONNELL PRIZE

I am delighted to announce the formation of the Elizabeth Connell Scholarship Trust. Liza has most generously left in trust \$1 Million to be used for a new prize in her name for dramatic sopranos of the world. This will be the only competition in Australia open to singers worldwide and one we are extremely proud to be associated with.

In the coming months, as one of Liza's trustees, I will be discussing plans for the Elizabeth Connell Prize with the other trustees in London, culminating in a memorial concert for Liza at St John's Smith's Square, London on 27th April.

AMANDA THANE OAM (1953 - 2012)

The operatic community was deeply saddened to hear of the death of the Sydney soprano Amanda Thane in September. Amanda had an extremely distinguished career singing all the leading lyric soprano roles in Australia and Europe. She was the founder of Art Song NSW and recently awarded an OAM for her services to music. Her funeral was a fitting tribute to this remarkably talented and generous artist. She will be greatly missed by her family and many within the arts community.



THE QUIZ CORNER

Congratulations to Robert Van Mackelenberg from Victoria on winning the *Rodelinda* quiz. Joan Sutherland made ONE studio recording of *Rodelinda*. However there are two pirate recordings of live performances also available.

Wishing all our supporters a happy holiday season and music filled 2013.....Fiona Janes

2013 Events - Dates for the Diary



Lunch with

Robert Allman AM OBE & Malcolm Donnelly AM

Sunday, 10th February at 12.00pm - North Ryde Golf Club

In honour of these two icons of the Australian operatic stage. Enjoy a delicious two course luncheon, wines and a concert overlooking the beautiful North Ryde Golf Club. Starring fellow baritone John Bolton-Wood, Megan Evans and Paul Ferris. Only 160 places for this historic occasion. Book Now. **Cost: \$70 per person**



Wagner to Vienna Concert

Sunday, 10th March at 2.30pm - Mosman Art Gallery

Sunday, 7th April at 2.30pm - St Judes Church, Bowral

Starring: BERNADETTE CULLEN, ADELE JOHNSTON AND GLENN WINSLADE
Three mighty voices will sing up a storm with excerpts from opera, lieder and operetta, accompanied by that master of song and piano GLENN AMER.

Including a light afternoon tea. **Tickets \$35 - \$45**



Concert in Memory of Rev John Kohler

Sunday, 19th May at 2.00pm - St Paul's Church, Burwood

We return to St Paul's Church Burwood to pay tribute to this remarkable man and his 10 year contribution to the Joan Sutherland Society.

Accompanied by: GLENN AMER. Including a light afternoon tea.

Tickets: \$40 - \$45



Bel Canto Award Semi Final and Final

Semi Final - Sunday, 4th August at 2.00pm - Sydney Conservatorium

Final - Sunday, 8th September at 3.00pm - Sydney Conservatorium

Richard Bonynges will again judge this prestigious competition.

Will it be another tenor or will one of the ladies take out first prize this year!

Accompanied by: DAVID HARPER **Tickets: \$30 - \$45**



Joan Sutherland Birthday Concert

November - details TBA

We pay tribute to Dame Joan Sutherland on what would have been her 87th birthday with a concert full of old favourites.

BOOKINGS: Contact Annemarie Kinnon on (02) 9817 4919 or Fiona Janes on 040 202 4118 or see website for details: www.joansutherlandsociety.com (a \$2.00 p&h fee applies for concerts)



2013 Fundraising Appeal

We're seeking **1000** people to donate **\$100** each to help our 2013 fundraising appeal.

Invite your friends to join in and become part of the Sutherland/Bonynges legacy by making a tax deductible donation today.

Assistance required in the area of Sponsorship and Philanthropy

We are looking for an enthusiastic person to take charge of philanthropy and sponsorship. If you have some spare time and think you possess the necessary skills and initiative to help us in this department please contact Fiona Janes on: 040 202 4118.

RODELINDA



The cast of Rodelinda with Ms Quentin Bryce and Professor Marie Bashir



Flautist Jane Rutter, Richard Bonyng, Liane Keegan and Isla Baring



Liane Keegan



Ms Quentin Bryce, Mrs Bronwyn Bishop MP & Professor Marie Bashir



John Sidoti MP & Barry O'Farrell MP



John Longmuir



Fiona Janes



Doug Cremer and Joan Carden



Margaret Johns & Glenn Winslade



Bernadette Cullen & Paul Ferris



Richard Bonyng being presented with Roses on stage



Valda Wilson



Michael Lewis



Prof. Marie Bashir and Lady Potter



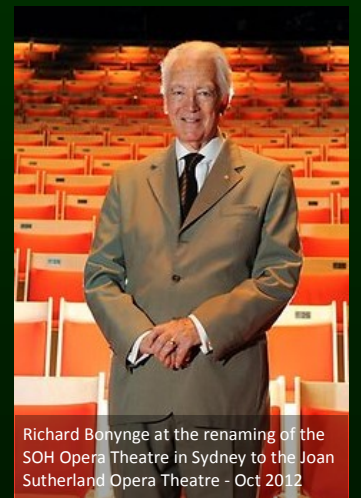
Lorina Gore



Annamaria & Duncan Kinnon



Ian & Carolyn Cameron with Fiona Janes



Richard Bonyng at the renaming of the SOH Opera Theatre in Sydney to the Joan Sutherland Opera Theatre - Oct 2012

DONATIONS OF \$2 OR MORE ARE FULLY TAX DEDUCTIBLE
 Cheques should be made payable to: JS & RB Opera Foundation
 P.O. Box 880, Leichhardt N.S.W. 2040 Australia
 Tel/Fax: (02) 4861 2440 | Mobile: 0402 024 118
 Email: foundation@joansutherlandandsociety.com
 Tix: accounts@joansutherlandandsociety.com | www.joansutherlandandsociety.com