



## News for Opera Lovers

### Calendar of events – Book now!

**This weekend is your last chance to book for this!**

**23<sup>rd</sup> August 2014, 3.00pm - The 100 foot journey** with Helen Mirren.

A few tickets left! Our wine and cheese plus movie fund raiser is at the Cygnet Cinema, Preston street, Como at 3.00pm on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup>. Tickets \$20 from a committee member or from Trybooking <http://www.trybooking.com/FMPE>.



TRUFFLE HILL WINES

PEMBERTON, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

**This weekend!**

**23<sup>rd</sup> August 2014, 7.30pm – Schumann's Dichterliebe** with Paull- Anthony Keightley, baritone and David Wickham, Piano, at John XXIII College, \$35 and \$25 More information Despene Keightley; Booking through Trybooking [www.trybooking.com/93310](http://www.trybooking.com/93310)

**21<sup>st</sup> September –Breakfast at Matilda Bay restaurant** with **Sarah Macliver!**

Sara is well known to Perth audiences and is one of Australia's most popular and versatile artists, appearing in opera, concert and recital performances and on numerous recordings. Sara trained in Perth, where she was a Young Artist with the West Australian Opera Company. \$70 guests, \$60 for members. Booking at <http://www.trybooking.com/FKIS> or by credit card.

**25<sup>th</sup> November – Christmas party.** Traditional Christmas dinner with young artists from WA Opera. It's a busy time of the year so put this date in your diary now!

**More news on the Christmas Party and other events in the next newsletter**

### Booking for Opera Lover events

Book through Trybooking or, if you do not use the internet, cheque and credit card booking are still an option. Contact The Treasurer, Society of WA Opera Lovers, PO Box 115 Westminster WA 6061 or phone her 9349 5694.

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# Magic Flute - a great night!

How wonderful to see and hear our young Artists, current and former, in The Magic Flute. This picture is from the Company's website.

Many of us will have enjoyed this production. Three of us enjoyed it with the compliments of WA Opera who invite 3 members of The Society to attend the first night performance and celebrations. This year, Ann Whyntie, Irene Kempa and I had that pleasure. Thank you WA Opera!



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## Recent events

### Young artists' concert

#### [Caitlin's comment](#)

"It was a sad occasion to present our last concert for the Opera Lovers Society on the 21st of June. It hit home, particularly for Sarah Guilmartin and me that it would be our last concert as young artists and our penultimate project as Young Artists at WA Opera before our debut roles as First and Third Lady in the Magic Flute.

The programme for the evening was a mixed bag to say the least! It was our aim to weave together pieces to satisfy a more sophisticated opera-goer with a few well known favourites. A spoonful of Puccini makes the Benjamin Britten go down! I think this concert more than any reflected our personal musical tastes and I hope we managed to tell a more personal story about the artists we are and hope to be, particularly as we all embark on the next chapter of our careers. I think Lochlan Brown's playing was the most sophisticated it has ever been and he tackled some very difficult music with aplomb. It was a pleasure to perform for the Opera Lovers Society for the last time and I hope to again in the not-so-distant future!"



# Congratulations to Young Artists

## Support for young artists

Caitlin Cassidy has been awarded the Provost Scholarship at the Mannes College of Music, New York for 50% of her tuition fees for her course which is the Professional Studies Diploma. In addition, she is the Wesfarmers scholar along with Sarah Guilmartin.

Sarah Guilmartin has also been awarded a part scholarship to complete the Professional Studies Diploma at Mannes – The New School for Music in New York. Maestro Joseph Colaneri is the Artistic Director of Opera at this school.

Your generosity in making donations to 'Opera Lovers' has made it possible for us to make grants to each of the three artists who are travelling to New York to further their studies. The grants will help them fund their study and living expenses in New York. Each is most grateful for the grant. Grants were made to young artists Caitlin Cassidy and Sarah Guilmartin and to emerging artist Isabelle Freeman (see below)

The young artists are still looking for support for New York. Please contact me if you would like to offer further support or for Sarah go to her fund raising page

<https://www.indiegogo.com/projects/opera-artist-sarah-guilmartin-new-york-studies/x/8307422>

**The Society's fundraising supports the Young Artist Program.**

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## Our young artists:

### Featuring in this newsletter, Isabelle Freeman

Isabelle Freeman (soprano) is this year's recipient of the Bendat Scholarship, and Emerging Young Artist at the West Australian Opera. 2014 is Isabelle's first year in the program, and she will make her WAO Chorus debut this year in The Magic Flute. Isabelle currently studies under the tutelage of Patricia Price and has completed a Bachelor of Music and a Graduate Diploma at the Western Australian Academy of Performing arts.

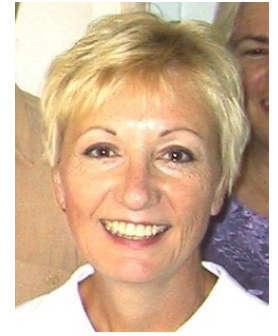
During her time at WAAPA, Isabelle had the privilege of performing the role of Katherine in the Australian premier of "The Taming of the Shrew" by Hermann Goetz, the soprano in Mendelssohn's Elijah, excerpts of Anne Truelove, from Stravinsky's "The Rake's Progress" as well as being selected to represent WAAPA at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting opening ceremony, performing for world leaders, including Her Majesty the Queen Elizabeth II. Isabelle has been accepted into Mannes College in New York City with a partial scholarship to study a Masters of Music under the tutelage of Ruth Falcon.



# Our committee members

## Dee Ducrow, committee member

My name is Dee DuCrow and my first contact with the Opera Lovers Society was at its second event, The Rose Ball in 1985 when I sat next to Robin Wheatley and she introduced me to the Society. Michael and I joined immediately.



This changed my life in many ways and whilst I loved the Opera, being involved expanded my horizons in ways that I would have never imagined possible and with Robin's encouragement and support I began to sing and joined Opera in Chorus then Ensemble Veritas and now sing with the Collegium.

My love and appreciation of Opera grew all the time along with a desire to support the young artists.

I worked almost from the beginning as a support person, reluctant to make it official as I did not feel I had sufficient time. However I finally agreed to become a Committee Member, so here I am almost thirty years after that meeting and continue to be grateful for the opportunity to be part of something which I consider to be so very special.

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## Review

You might be interested in the federal government's announcement of a review into opera, at the national level, and also including opera companies in some of the states, including WA Opera. It will involve public consultation and I expect we may want to make comment. More news as the Terms of Reference become available.

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## Donations

Please remember 100% of our fund-raising efforts support the WA Opera's Young Artists. Donations are tax deductible.

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## Contact details

Opera Lovers Society of WA  
PO Box 115 Westminster WA 6061

Or contact Margaret Stockton, Secretary, by phone or email  
T) 08 93647058  
(M) 0419914023  
(E) [m.stockton@ozemail.com.au](mailto:m.stockton@ozemail.com.au)

If you use email and are happy for us to send you information by email, please send you email address to  
Secretary, Margaret Stockton (details above). Thank you.