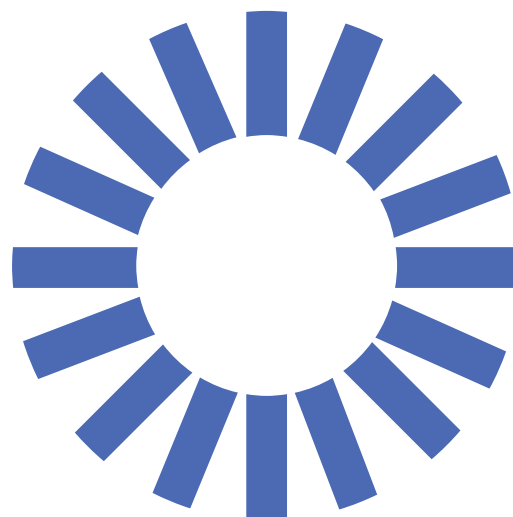
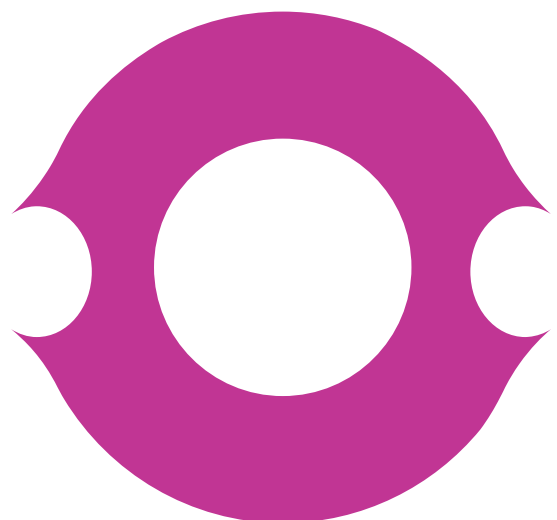


MOST[®]

MUSIC & OPERA SINGERS TRUST LTD
2018 ANNUAL REPORT



VISION & MISSION

VISION

Music & Opera Singers Trust Limited (MOST®) aims to support career development strategies for operatic and classical musicians by providing performance opportunities, embracing cutting-edge technologies, while continuing to provide professional management and consultancy services for competitions, events, scholarships, prizes, awards and grants.

MISSION

Music & Opera Singers Trust Limited (MOST®) promotes excellence in music, the performing arts and related education sectors through the creation and management of programmes and activities which recognise creative talent and provide career development opportunities.

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Georgia Melville performing at the Australian Singing Competition Semi-Finals Concert

CEO's REPORT

MOST[®]

I am delighted to present our year in review. We

- administered our inaugural ABC Young Performers Awards concurrently with presenting our 36th edition of the Australian Singing Competition.
- supported a new initiative, the Australian Friends of Keshet Eilon, a community group formed to raise funds for string instrumentalists to attend the Keshet Eilon Mastercourse.
- facilitated the donation of a large public artwork to the City of Randwick.

It was exciting, challenging and very gratifying to present the ABC Young Performers Awards.

Dene Olding AM and a huge number of adjudicators all of whom donated their services enabled MOST to conduct a digital entry round, a private adjudication round, a Semi-Final Recital Series and a Finals concert. We salute members of the profession who we proudly acknowledge in this Report.

Congratulations to international violinist Emily Sun on being announced the 2018 Young Performer of the Year.

This year we were fortunate to welcome back Linnhe Robertson as National Adjudicator for the Australian Singing Competition. Linnhe, along with the support of esteemed adjudicators who also donated their services in the United Kingdom, New Zealand and Australia, heard singers in the Heats, Semi-Finals and Finals. Linnhe also led a workshop for the Semi-Finalists and a Masterclass for the Finalists.

Our heartiest congratulations to Zoe Drummond, the recipient of the Marianne Mathy Scholarship.

The Rona Tranby Trust Light Horse Project garnered a lot of media attention, and, in turn, recognition for the brave military service of Indigenous Australians. 13 descendants of Indigenous Light Horse soldiers who served in WWI are continuing their oral history projects with support from the Rona Tranby Trust. The project was also acknowledged by NSW Governor General David Hurley AC, DSC, FTSE at an event at the Government House of NSW, as well as a special Armistice Day event at Tranby National Indigenous Adult Education Training (formerly Tranby College).



Roland Gridiger and Marianne Mathy Scholarship winner, Zoe Drummond

CEO's REPORT

MOST[®]

We facilitated the donation of a large bronze sculpture depicting celebrated cellist Jacqueline Du Pré to the City of Randwick. The sculpture was created by famed artist Drago Marin Cherina, who has a long relationship with MOST as the creator of the statuettes awarded at our music competitions.

We hope that the public artwork situated in Sydney's eastern suburbs will inspire generations of classical musicians to pursue their dreams.

I am grateful for the generous support of our Board of Directors. The MOST Board of Directors has a few new faces. Frank Varapodio, Director of V+A Accountants, has filled the position of Interim Chairman, and international operatic baritone Jeffrey Black has also joined the Board. We thank Catherine Hewgill, Anne ' Brewer and Emma Matthews for their support.

The new Directors along with our long-standing Directors will work in concert to continue to enhance our reputation in providing career, education, and performance opportunities for outstanding musicians.

I am grateful to the MOST staff Amelia Gledhill, Meltem Akyol and David Langley for the dedicated attention to all our initiatives, their meticulous servicing of our stakeholders and enthusiastic support of the vast numbers of volunteers that support our projects.

Our plans next year will see us

- develop a new and exciting project that will see us strengthen our ties with the Italian community both here and abroad.
- present the 2019 Opera Awards, now in its 33rd year
- relaunch a reinvigorated and reconfigured Artist Development Programme in the ASC
- open entries for the 2020 Young Performers Awards
- continue to commit resources to facilitate national and international performance and scholarship opportunities for our emerging gifted instrumentalists and opera singers. Their impact on the community will be measured by generations of people who see the arts as an investment in our cultural future.



Music & Opera Singers Trust's Chief Executive Officer, Roland Gridiger.

CEO's REPORT

- reach out to individuals and communities to support our projects. Members of the music profession generously donate their services by giving back, providing advice and being part of a network that inspires young musicians to pursue their potential.
- expand the educational value of our activities by crafting opportunities for instrumentalists and singers to meet pre-eminent members of the profession who are able to assist them pursue their careers, philanthropists and friends who are an essential part of this partnership
- adopt a strategic management plan that embraces our vision and mission.

I hope you can join us on this journey to nurture and promote the creative artists of the future.

Roland Gridiger

CEO Music & Opera Singers Trust Ltd.

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Roland Gridiger and Rona Tranby Grant Recipients at Government House with His Excellency Governor Hurley AC DSC (retired).

INITIATIVES (YPA)

MOST[®]

The ABC Young Performers Awards (YPA) have long been regarded as Australia's premier national development programme for young musicians, instrumentalists and performing artists. Successful YPA entrants are instrumentalists who are poised to have an exceptional career in music at the highest level and who, through this competition, will gain significant performing experience as well as exposure and financial help to advance their careers. For more information, please refer to our website: www.youngperformersawards.org

In 2018 we welcomed 109 Australian entrants located in Austria, Germany, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Switzerland and Australia (42 stringed instrumentalists, 44 keyboard instrumentalists, 19 wind instrumentalists, 2 brass instrumentalists, 1 percussion instrumentalist, and 1 guitarist).

Semi-Finalists - Andrey Lebedev (guitar), Benett Tsai (cello), Emily Sun (violin), Kevin Chow (piano), Oliver Shermacher (clarinet), Riley Skevington (violin), Robbin Reza (piano), Shuan Hern Lee (piano), Stefanie Farrands (viola), Tony Lee (piano), Victoria Wong (violin), and Wayne (Woo Seok) Kwon (cello).

The **Semi Finals** were held at the City Recital Hall, Sydney, on 16-17 July in a series of 6 public concerts. Each concert featured 2 Semi-Finalists performing a recital of 45 minutes.

The recitals were compered by Damien Beaumont and Margaret Throsby AM.

Finalists - Kevin Chow (piano), Oliver Shermacher (clarinet), and Emily Sun (violin).

The **Finals** Concert was staged at the Sydney Opera House on 24 July. The Sydney Symphony Orchestra, under the baton of conductor Dr. Nicholas Milton AM, accompanied each of the Finalists as they performed a full concerto. The concert was compered by Damien Beaumont and Margaret Throsby AM.

Our thanks to Classic FM for recording and broadcasting the Semi-Finals recitals and Finals.

At the conclusion of the concert, **Emily Sun** was announced as the **2018 Young Performer of the Year**.



Young Performer of the Year, Emily Sun, with Roland Gridiger, CEO of MOST

INITIATIVES (YPA)

2018 PRIZES & OPPORTUNITIES

As the Young Performer of the Year, **Emily Sun** won:

\$50,000 AETT Scholarship - a scholarship to study overseas presented by the Australian Elizabethan Theatre Trust

\$30,000 Sheila Walker Scholarship - a cash grant to assist with a programme of study or musical activity sponsored by Mr. David Walker

ABC Classical FM Artist in Residence Prize - an opportunity to record an album at the ABC, guided by the expertise of its specialist music production team; and

A limited-edition **Drago Marin Cherina bronze trophy**. Presented by Music & Opera Singers Trust.

Emily also won:

- The **Sydney Symphony Orchestra Prize** - a professional engagement for a performance with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra
- The **Melbourne Symphony Orchestra Prize** - a professional engagement for a performance with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra
- The **Adelaide Symphony Orchestra Prize** - a professional engagement with the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra
- The **UKARIA Recital Prize** - an opportunity to perform a recital in the UKARIA Cultural Centre
- The **Melbourne Recital Centre Prize** - an opportunity for a finalist to appear at the Melbourne Recital Centre in 2019
- The **City Recital Hall Prize** - an opportunity to perform a solo recital at City Recital Hall
- The **YMF Award for Best Recital** - a total of \$25,000 for best recital at the Semi-Finals

MOST[®]



ABC Young Performers Awards Finalists: Kevin Chow, Emily Sun, and Oliver Shermacher

INITIATIVES (YPA)

MOST[®]

2018 PRIZES & OPPORTUNITIES CONTINUED...

Kevin Chow was awarded the **Triffit Bequest** (sponsored by Symphony Services International) for a runner-up as well as the **Australian Festival of Chamber Music Prize**, an opportunity to perform at the 2020 Australian Festival of Chamber Music.

Oliver Shermacher was awarded the **Triffit Bequest** for a runner-up; the **Willoughby Symphony Orchestra Prize**, a professional engagement with the Willoughby Symphony Orchestra; and, the **Kitty Fischer Audience Choice Prize** of \$2,500 for the performer chosen as the audience favourite.

The **AUSTA Bursary** of \$500 (sponsored by the Australian Strings Association) was awarded to two Australian-based non-NSW resident bowed-stringed instrumentalists to assist with expenses incurred in attending the YPA Semi-Finals.



MOST Achievement Award (MAA)

MOST was honoured to award the MAA to Richard Gill AO at the 2018 YPA Finals in recognition of his exceptional contribution to the Arts in Australia as both a conductor and as a music educator.

The **MAA** was presented by Mary Vallentine AO and was accepted on Richard's behalf by his son, Anthony Gill as he was unable to attend.

We join the community in expressing our condolences to members of Richard's family on Richard's passing.



Dr Nicholas Milton AM conducting the Sydney Symphony Orchestra at the 2018 YPA Finals

INITIATIVES (ASC)

MOST[®]

The IFAC Handa Australian Singing Competition (ASC) evolved from the Marianne Mathy Scholarship, established through a bequest made by Marianne Mathy-Frisdane, a coloratura soprano opera singer and distinguished teacher of opera and classical singing. The Competition is now well into its third decade discovering, rewarding and providing career opportunities to emerging opera and classical singers under the age of 26. For more information, please refer to our website: aussing.org

In 2018 we welcomed 63 entrants from Australia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Heats were staged in New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria, Western Australia, London (United Kingdom), and Wellington (New Zealand).

Semi-Finalists - 25 year-old soprano, Zoe Drummond (VIC); 22 year-old soprano, Josi Ann Ellem (NSW); 24 year-old baritone, Tristan Entwistle (NSW); 23 year-old soprano, Cleo Lee-McGowan (VIC); 24 year-old soprano, Katherine McIndoe (NZ); 21 year-old mezzo soprano, Nicole Mealey (WA); 22 year-old soprano, Georgia Melville (NSW); 21 year-old soprano, Pasquale Orchard (NZ); 21 year-old mezzo soprano, Xenia Puskarz-Thomas (QLD); 25 year-old soprano, Sophie Sparrow (NZ); and 24 year-old mezzo soprano, Shakira Tsindos (VIC).

The ASC **Semi-Finals** Concert was staged at the Eugene Goossens Hall on 8 September. Collaborative pianist David Harper accompanied all the Semi-Finalists.

Finalists - 25 year-old soprano, Zoe Drummond (VIC); 24 year-old baritone, Tristan Entwistle (NSW); 23 year-old soprano, Cleo Lee-McGowan (VIC); 24 year-old soprano, Katherine McIndoe (NZ); and 21 year-old soprano, Pasquale Orchard (NZ).

The **Finals** Concert was staged at the Verbrugghen Hall on 8 September. The Opera Australia Orchestra, under the baton of conductor Dr Nicholas Milton AM, accompanied each of the Finalists as they performed two arias each.

Winner of the Marianne Mathy Scholarship - 25 year-old soprano, **Zoe Drummond** (VIC).



Marianne Mathy Scholarship Winner, Zoe Drummond, and Opera Australia Artistic Director, Comm. Lyndon Terracini AM

INITIATIVES (ASC)

MOST[®]

Patron - Dr. Haruhisa Handa and the International Foundation for Arts and Culture

2018 IFAC Handa Australian Singing Competition Highlights

The ASC **Semi Finals** Concert was staged at the ABC's Eugene Goossens Hall in Ultimo and was compèred by Camille Merčep. Globally-renowned collaborative pianist David Harper accompanied all the Semi-Finalists. The Adjudication panel was comprised of Linnhe Robertson (National Adjudicator), Michael Halliwell, Anthony Hunt, and Noëmi Nadelmann. The Guest Artist was rising star, cellist Benett Tsai accompanied by Joshua Tsai.

ABC Classic FM recorded the concert for broadcast.

The IFAC Handa Australian Singing Competition **Finals** concert was staged in the Verbrugghen Hall, Sydney Conservatorium of Music. The Finalist's performances were of a very high standard, and the Opera Australia Orchestra, under the baton of Dr. Nicholas Milton AM, supported the competitors wonderfully. The guest artist, bass-baritone Adrian Tamburini, performed a rousing rendition of Mozart's "Catalogue Aria" and the inclusion of a surprise orchestral finale to close the show was happily received by the audience.

In attendance was Opera Australia Artistic Director and Chairman of the IFAC Board, Comm. Lyndon Terracini AM who presented the Marianne Mathy statuette, 'the Mathy', to the winner Zoe Drummond.

Over \$200,00 in prizes and opportunities were awarded at the 2018 Semi-Finals and Finals concerts. We are very thankful to our sponsor, the International Foundation for Arts and Culture, led by Dr. Haruhisa Handa, for their generous contribution.

The **MOST Achievement Award (MAA)** - The MAA was presented at the 2018 Finals Concert to Erin Helyard for his exceptional contribution to the Arts in Australia as a conductor, performer, and artistic director. The MAA was presented by Jeffrey Black, the Chair of the ASC Music Advisory Committee.



ASC Finalist, soprano Cleo Lee-McGowan

INITIATIVES (ASC)

Workshop - One of the innovative education initiatives pioneered by MOST® is the Workshop held exclusively for the Semi-Finalists in the ASC.

This year, National Adjudicator, Linnhe Robertson, internationally celebrated vocal coach, répétiteur, accompanist and harpsichordist, presented an engaging workshop that focused on all aspects of giving a good audition. Linnhe covered topics such as how to prepare for an audition: the application process, presentation, résumé tailoring, repertoire selection, physical preparation, vocal coaches, researching companies one might audition for, and many other insider gems!

MasterClass - Now in its ninth year, our MasterClass is an opportunity for 5 Finalists to receive one-on-one expert tutelage from a seasoned performer. Each Finalist performs a piece of their choice and is mentored on text, technical and emotional aspects of their performance, technique and lyrical interpretation. The audience and fellow Finalists watch and listen as the Master works with one person at a time. This year's 'Master' was Linnhe Robertson and she focused on singing in different languages, translation and interpretation. David Harper accompanies each of the singers during the MasterClass.

MOST®



ASC Finalist, baritone Tristan Entwistle, at the MasterClass



INITIATIVES (OA)

MOST[®]

Opera Awards - The Opera Awards (Australia) feature some of the most respected and longest-running awards and opportunities available to professional Australian opera singers. It is open to professional Australian opera singers wishing to further their studies or careers overseas. There is no age limit. For more information, please refer to our website: operawards.org

The Opera Awards is presented every 2 years. The previous iteration of the Opera Awards was in 2017 and the next Opera Awards will be staged in Melbourne in 2019.

The winner of the Opera Awards is awarded with the **YMF Australia Award** of \$30,000 and the **Armstrong-Martin Scholarship** of \$4,500.

The other awards and opportunities available to entrants are the **Britten-Pears Prize**, an opportunity to participate in the Strauss Lieder & Arias course in the UK, as well as a scholarship to cover course fees, accommodations, day-to-day expenses, and a contribution to airfares; the **4MBS Classic FM Award**, an opportunity to perform in the annual 4MBS Festival of Classics, Australia's largest classical music festival; and the **Glyndebourne Festival Prize**, and opportunity to audition for the Glyndebourne Festival Opera as well as attend staged rehearsals.

History - The inaugural Armstrong-Martin Scholarship was awarded in 1977. Originally administered by the New South Wales Friends of Australia Opera (now Opera Australia) and the Australian Elizabethan Theatre Trust, it was established to award major cash prizes to professional opera singers to study grand opera overseas.

In 1986 Music & Opera Singers Trust (MOST) was appointed to manage the Armstrong-Martin Scholarship; the Armstrong-Martin became a major prize awarded at the Australian Singing Competition (ASC). In 1987 the Opera Awards was separated within the ASC, so that the Armstrong-Martin Scholarship was presented as the major prize to a professional opera singer while the Mathy Scholarship was awarded to a young opera or classical singer under the age of 26.

Since 2007 the YMF Australia Award is the major prize of the Opera Awards. The YMF Australia Award is made possible by the generosity of Dr. Di Bresciani OAM and the Board of the YMF Australia.



2017 Opera Awards Winner, Adrian Tamburini

INITIATIVES (RTT)

MOST[®]

Rona Tranby Trust (RTT)

The Rona Tranby Trust supports the recording and preservation of Indigenous Australian oral history. The Trust has established The Rona Tranby Award and Collection.

To date, the Trust has given 25 Rona Tranby Awards to support a range of projects across Australia. Each award plants a seed that continues to grow over the years and helps to preserve stories important to all Australians, strengthening identity & community.

The Rona Tranby Collection is an ongoing work in progress consisting of all the works that have been funded by the Trust. It is a repository of stories and experiences, managed with the approval and in collaboration with the Indigenous award recipient and their communities. The collection will be a resource for Australians and also those from other parts of the world who would seek to understand our ancient land and broad cultural traditions. For more information, visit the website: ronatranby.org

History

The Rona Tranby Trust arose out of a bequest in the Will of Thomas Paul Rona who died tragically with his wife Eva in a car accident in September 1987. The Ronas, who were Holocaust survivors, took a keen interest in promoting inter-ethnic harmony. In keeping with these values, the Trustees of the Estate engaged with Tranby National Indigenous Adult Education and Training to develop the Rona Tranby Award and Collection. On 2 September 1991 the Rona Tranby Trust was launched. The Trustees are Belinda Russon (Chair), Roland Gridiger, and Jenny Symonds.

Current Project: Rona Tranby Light Horse Project

RTT located 13 descendants of Indigenous Australian Light Horse soldiers who served in World War One at the Sinai-Palestine conflicts, and issued grants to support them with travel to Israel to participate in the Centenary Commemoration Ceremonies of the Charge on Beersheba. Following the Centenary of the Charge on Beersheba, the recipients of the grants have been working on their oral history projects.



Elsie Amamoo and Lance Waters laying a wreath at Semakh Rail Station

INITIATIVES (RTT)

MOST[®]

RONA TRANBY TRUST 2018 HIGHLIGHTS

Government House Reception for the Indigenous Descendants of the Battle of Beersheba Veterans

On 27 April 2018, the Governor of New South Wales, His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd), and Mrs. Hurley hosted an afternoon tea at the Government House to acknowledge the Rona Tranby Trust, the Indigenous descendants who travelled to Beersheba for the centenary commemorations, and for the RTT Australian Light Horse Project sponsors and supporters.

Truth Be Told Lest We Forget

SBS/NITV decided to follow 4 of the RTT Australian Light Horse Project participants to bring to light the stories of their ancestors who served in the Sinai-Palestine conflict during WWI. The Documentary, "Truth Be Told Lest We Forget", aired on NITV on the 11th and 12th November. This very moving and important documentary can be watched at the SBS/NITV On Demand website. Through an agreement the producer put in place, schools will be able to license the documentary for educational purposes.

Armistice Day

The commemoration of Armistice Day on 11 November at Tranby College presented an opportunity for the recipients of the most recent grants to show the progress of their individual projects in recording the stories of their ancestors.



His Excellency General The Honourable Governor David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd) welcomes Rona Tranby Trust Beersheba Grant Recipients

NEWS & EVENTS

MOST[®]

Australian Friends of Keshet Eilon

Under the administration of MOST, the **Australian Friends of Keshet Eilon** presented a concert at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music as their inaugural event. The concert featured the 2018 ABC Young Performer of the Year, violinist Emily Sun, accompanied by pianist Phillip Shovk.

The compere for the event was Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) presenter, interviewer, and researcher Michaela Kalowski.

Emily and Phillip began the concert playing Fauré's *Violin Sonata No. 1 in A major Op. 13* and then Poulenc's *Violin Sonata FP 119*. Without doubt, the popular hit on the night was the *Concert Fantasy on Themes from Gershwin's Porgy and Bess Op. 19* by Russian composer Igor Frolov. This piece, which Emily had played in her Semi-Final recital at the ABC Young Performers Awards, she had first heard at Keshet Eilon. As a further treat for the enthusiastic audience, Emily was joined by her former teacher Robin Wilson and they performed *Prelude* by Shostakovich.

Respected philanthropist, businessman and lawyer Michael Gonski also conducted an interview with Emily about her experiences participating in the Keshet Eilon Mastercourse.

A video screening was also presented at the concert giving insight to the Keshet Eilon facilities and Mastercourse that was collaboratively produced by Keshet Eilon, Simon Ritch (Content Theory), and MOST. The concert concluded with Jack Ritch calling to raise funds for scholarships to send exceptionally gifted string instrumentalists to the Keshet Eilon Mastercourse.

The full video of the recital is available to watch on our YouTube Channel: <https://youtu.be/BXum15-w214>

The next Australian Friends of Keshet Eilon event will take place in July 2019 with international violinist and Keshet Eilon alumnus, Vadim Gluzman.



Emily Sun and Robin Wilson

NEWS & EVENTS

MOST[®]

Public Artwork Donation

We were delighted to donate, on 23 September 2018, sculpture depicting famed cellist Jacqueline du Pré, created by renowned Croatian-Australian artist Drago Marin Cherina.

In attendance at the unveiling ceremony were Randwick City Council Mayor Lindsay Shurley, Randwick community members, MOST representatives, and MOST affiliated musicians including 2014 Australian Cello Awards Finalist, Ruben Palma, who performed a selection of the Bach *Cello Suites* to entertain attendees.



Images from the Randwick City Council sculpture unveiling ceremony

NEWS & EVENTS

MOST[®]

YouTube

We love connecting with our audiences and showcasing the very talented individuals that with whom we work. In that spirit, we have engaged professional video and audio recording teams for all our initiatives and share that documentation on our YouTube pages, where our videos have been viewed over 1.5 million times.

Views as of 23/11/18

Australian Singing Competition - 1,156,220

<https://www.youtube.com/user/MOSTgivesmore>

MasterClass in Opera & Classical Music - 145,759

<https://www.youtube.com/user/MOSTgivesmore2>

Australian Cello Awards - 87,769

<https://www.youtube.com/user/MOSTgivesmore6>

Music & Opera Singers Trust Ltd - 64,782

<https://www.youtube.com/user/MOSTgivesmore0>

Contemporary Section of the Australian Singing Competition - 21,270

<https://www.youtube.com/user/MOSTgivesmore3>

Opera Awards - 21,039

<https://www.youtube.com/user/MOSTgivesmore1>

Young Performers Awards - 7,698

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmnUI7W33PDtKIV__5mu-_g

Rona Tranby Trust - 1,355

<https://www.youtube.com/user/MOSTgivesmore5>

Total = 1,505,892



Lloyd Van't Hoff performing at the ABC Young Performers Awards Finals Concert

OUR ALUMNI

MOST[®]

MOST alumni taking their careers to new heights

Jessica Pratt

2003 Marianne Mathy Scholarship Winner, Jessica Pratt, is Australia's premiere operatic soprano. Directly after winning the Australian Singing Competition, Jessica moved to Europe and is considered a superstar in her adopted home of Italy. Jessica has performed the enormously technical and emotional title role in Donizetti's *Lucia di Lammermoor* more than 100 times, including her professional debut as Lucia in 2007 at Lake Como's Teatro Sociale and again most recently at the Sydney Opera House in June/July 2018.

Jessica is "frequently routinely compared to Dame Joan Sutherland and even with the greatest of all, Maria Callas." (Nick Galvin, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 27 June 2018). Pratt also performed as Giulietta in Bellini's *I Capuleti e I Montecchi* with Victorian Opera in September 2018. The world-renowned singer is a regular performer at the Teatro Alla Scala and will again be performing there in May 2019 singing pieces composed by Mozart, Rossini, Donizetti, Arditi, and Strauss.

"Pratt has become the Australian jewel of European opera houses". (Bridgit Davies, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 16 September 2018).



Hoang Pham

Australian piano star Hoang Pham caught the public eye when he won the ABC Young Performers Awards in 2013. Hoang was only a few months old when he and his parents left Vietnam on a small boat and were adrift at sea before ending up in a refugee camp in Indonesia and then eventually coming to Australia.

Hoang used his musical skills and the vast exposure gained from winning the ABC Young Performers Awards and quickly built a reputation as "one of our country's finest professional concert pianists." (Trinh Nguyen, *Special Broadcasting Services (SBS)*, 31 December 2015). In 2017 - 2018 Hoang performed many times at the Melbourne Recital Centre as a soloist, as part of Hoang's Grand Trio, and with the Zelman Symphony. In November 2017 and November 2018, Hoang accompanied legendary pianist David Helfgott (6-time State Finalist in the ABC Young Performers Awards) in a series of concerts in several cities around Turkey. Hoang has also regularly been featured in *Limelight Magazine's* 30 Brilliant Musicians under 30.



Soprano Jessica Pratt, and pianist Hoang Pham

TESTIMONIALS

MOST[®]

We take great pride in ensuring that our colleagues, peers, associates and contestants have a positive and beneficial experience. Here are a few of their statements on their experience working with MOST.

"The smooth organisation and care that has gone on behind the scenes has translated into an atmosphere where I've felt able to focus on nothing but trying my best and performing. I've always shied away from large competitions, daunted by feeling that I'm not quite ready yet. However, the ASC has given me a great amount of confidence and has really assured me that I'm on the right path to pursue my dreams."

- 2016 Marianne Mathy Scholarship Winner, Nicholas Tolputt

"Thank you for the most wonderful few months being a part of the Australian Singing Competition. The competition has provided me with the opportunity to collaborate with amazing artists, forge new friendships, and build upon my professional career. The level of hard work and organisation at MOST took away any stress in the process, allowing all the singers to simply enjoy what was undoubtedly for me, a highlight of my singing life. I am very excited for the next year; the awards I received have opened up so many doors which I only dreamed of prior to this competition."

- 2018 Australian Singing Competition Finalists, Cleo Lee-McGowan

"Thank you for the tireless work and efforts to bring the events of MOST into fruition. It is so exciting and enriching to work with such an organisation and assured team. Thank you for making the competition a wonderful one!"

- 2018 Marianne Mathy Scholarship Winner, Zoe Drummond

"I applaud all that the Opera Awards (Australia) administrator, Music & Opera Singers Trust Limited are achieving to encourage and expand opportunities for the growth of young Australian musicians who have the potential for stellar professional careers."

- Founder and Honorary Managing Director of Youth Music Foundation of Australia, Dr. Di Bresciani OAM

"We know MOST[®] will do a great job in ensuring that the ABC Young Performers Awards continue to flourish and grow as well as playing a vital role in supporting the career development of the Finalists."

- ABC Arts Manager, Richard Buckham.

"I wholeheartedly support the Australian Singing Competition, a wonderful launching pad for young classical singers."

- World-wide acclaimed conductor and pianist, Richard Bonyngé AC AO CBE



2016 Marianne Mathy Scholarship Winner
countertenor Nicholas Tolputt

THANK YOU

We would like to acknowledge and thank many people and organisations who have joined us in supporting the various levels of activity that has enabled us to have an impacting role on Australia's cultural landscape. The altruism of our patrons, prize sponsors, event sponsors, partners, musicians, musical institutions, volunteers, adjudicators, board members, collaborators, and benefactors who give their time, skill, knowledge and philanthropy keep MOST going.

MOST is a not-for-profit organisation and we are proud of our track record in making sure that we maximise the opportunities for the artists and contestants. We rely on our community to understand that this is a worthwhile cause to participate in and support to ensure its continuity.



2018 IFAC Handa Australian Singing Competition

Patron

Dr. Haruhisa Handa

International Foundation for Arts and Culture (IFAC)

Prizes and Prize Sponsors

Adler Buchmann International Program Scholarship; sponsored by Buchmann-Mehta School of Music Tel Aviv University

Audition Prize from Lyric Opera of Chicago's Ryan Opera Centre; sponsored by Lyric Opera of Chicago

Canadian Vocal Arts Institute (CVAI) Montréal; sponsored by CVAI, Montréal

Canberra Symphony Orchestra Prize; sponsored by the Canberra Symphony Orchestra

David Harper Award; sponsored by David Harper

Goethe Institut Prize; sponsored by the Goethe Institut Australien

Guildhall School of Music & Drama Award; Sponsored by the Guildhall School of Music & Drama, London

MOST[®]



MOST Board member Jeffrey Black and Pinchgut Opera Director Erin Helyard

THANK YOU

Event Sponsor

Huntington Estate Wines

Venue Partner and Broadcast Partner

ABC Classic FM

Compère

Camille Merčep (Semi-Finals), Genevieve Lang (Finals)

Event Support

Don Bate, Matthew Dewey, Andrew Edgson, Brooke Green, Christian Huff, Gabby Klika, Samanta Lestavel, Ellen McNeil, Madeleine O'Dea, Alexander Young, Crestone Wealth Management, Gridiger Lawyers

Adjudication Panels

National Adjudicator: Linnhe Robertson

NZ Heats: James Clayton, Jenny Wollerman

UK Heats: David Harper, Kate Pearson

NSW Heats: Anke Höppner-Ryan, Anthony Hunt

VIC Heats: Phoebe Briggs, Stephen Grant

QLD Heats: Jan Black, Shelli Hulcombe, Natalie Peluso

WA Heats: Fiona McAndrew, Ian Westrip

Semi-Finals: Michael Halliwell, Anthony Hunt, Noëmi Nadelmann

Finals: Michael Halliwell, Anthony Hunt, Noëmi Nadelmann, Raff Wilson

MOST[®]



Jae Kwon Jim with his Running Bare Prize and gift from Huntington Estate Wines

THANK YOU

MOST[®]

Haas Award; sponsored by the Haas Family Trust

Istituto Di Cultura Award; sponsored by the Istituto Di Cultura, Sydney

Lili Ussher Prize; sponsored by Lili Ussher

Marinanne Mathy Scholarship; sponsored by Marianne Mathy Estate

Mariannne Mathy Statuette ('the Mathy'); sponsored by MOST

Melbourne International Festival of Lieder and Art Song (MIFLAS) Prize; sponsored by MIFLAS

Merenda Legacy prize; sponsored by the Merenda Foundation

MOST Audience Prize; sponsored by MOST

Nelly Apt Scholarship; sponsored by the Israeli Opera and the Nelly Apt Estate

Opera Australia Prize; sponsored by Opera Australia

Oral History Award; sponsored by Di Ritch

Pasqualina Lipari Prize; sponsored by V&A Accountants and Business Advisors, Adelaide

Radzyninski Family Prize; sponsored by Lucienne Radzyninski

Royal Northern College of Music Award; sponsored by the Royal Northern College of Music, UK

Running Bare Prize; sponsored by Running Bare

Saarbrücken Opera House Prize; sponsored by Mr. Bodo Busse, Generalintendant, Saarländisches Staatstheater

Sydney Philharmonia Choirs Prize; sponsored by the Sydney Philharmonia Choirs

Sydney Symphony Orchestra Prize; sponsored by the Sydney Symphony Orchestra

Tinkler Encouragement Award; sponsored by the Tinkler Trust

The Song Company Prize; sponsored by The Song Company



ASC Adjudicator Noëmi Nadelmann and
National Adjudicator Linnhe Robertson

THANK YOU

MOST[®]

2018 ABC Young Performers Awards

Broadcast and Media Partner

ABC Classic FM

MOST would like to acknowledge the support of ABC Classic FM who not only broadcast all our live events in 2018 but also assisted throughout all the stages of the Young Performers Awards providing venues, adjudicators and an entire team of production and technical staff for the live events. Classic FM has an unparalleled role in the creation and dissemination of fine music in Australia and their commitment to the YPA and the ASC reflects how seriously they take this responsibility.

Presenting Partner

Sydney Symphony Orchestra

Venue Partner

City Recital Hall (Semi-Finals), Sydney Opera House (Finals)

Prizes and Prize Sponsors

AETT Scholarship (Principal Prize Sponsor); sponsored by the Australian Elizabethan Theatre Trust

Sheila Walker Scholarship; sponsored by David Richard Walker

ABC Classic FM Artist in Residence; sponsored by ABC Classic FM

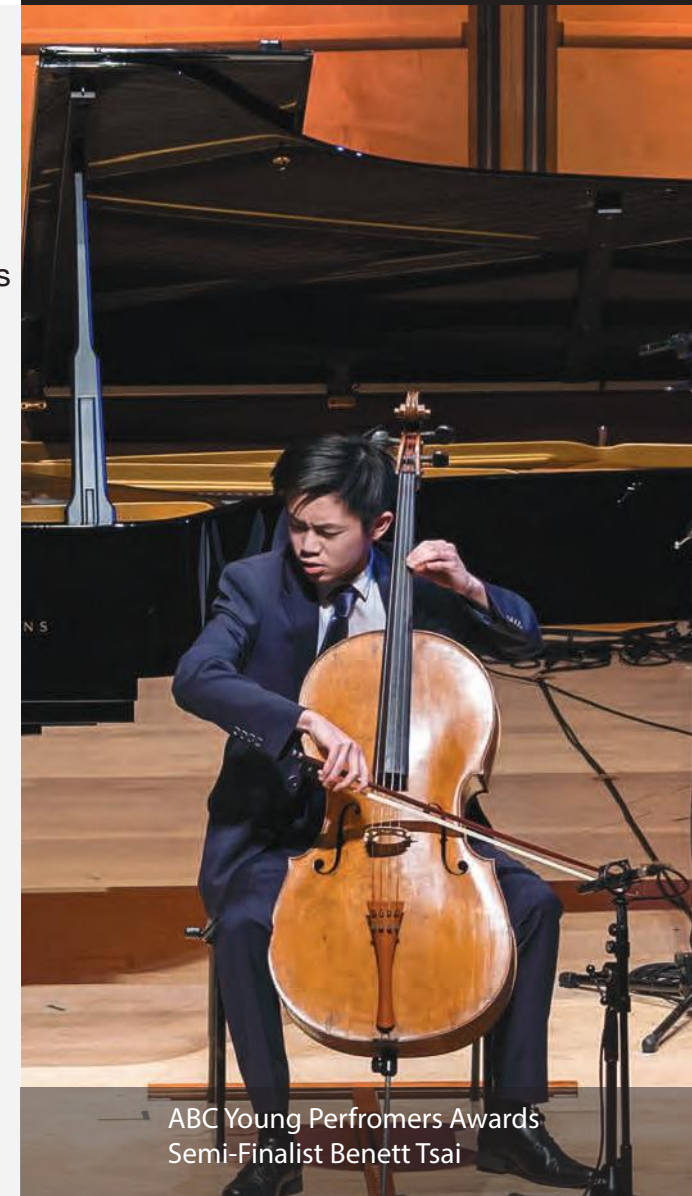
Young Performer of the Year Statuette; sponsored by MOST

Triffitt Bequest; sponsored by Symphony Services International and the Triffitt Estate

YMF Award for Best Recital; sponsored by Youth Music Foundation Australia

Kitty Fischer Audience Choice Prize; sponsored by MOST

The AUSTA Bursary; sponsored by the Australian Strings Association



ABC Young Performers Awards
Semi-Finalist Bennett Tsai

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Allen-Evans Scholarship*; sponsored by Allen Evans Estate

Edward Ritch Prize*; sponsored by Jack Ritch

Keshet Eilon Scholarship*; sponsored by the Keshet Eilon Music Center

Adelaide Symphony Orchestra Prize; sponsored by the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra

Australian Festival of Chamber Music Prize; sponsored by the Australian Festival of Chamber Music

City Recital Hall Prize; sponsored by the City Recital Hall

Melbourne Recital Centre Prize; sponsored by the Melbourne Recital Centre

Melbourne Symphony Orchestra Prize; sponsored by the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra

Sydney Symphony Orchestra Prize; sponsored by the Sydney Symphony Orchestra

UKARIA Recital Prize; Sponsored by the UKARIA Cultural Centre

Willoughby Symphony Prize; sponsored by the Willoughby Symphony Orchestra

Artistic Advisor and Chair of the Adjudication Panel

Dene Olding AM

Adjudication Panels

Round 1 Stage 1: Andrew Haveron, Claire Edwardes, David Elton, Diana Doherty, Don Bate, Ian Munro, Karin Schaupp, Keith Crellin, Nathan Waks, Rebecca Lagos, Robert Johnson, Stephen McIntyre, Tamara Anna Cislowska, Virginia Taylor, and Alan Vivian

Round 1 Stage 2: Andrew Barnes, Don Bate, Susan Blake, Ole Bøhn, Di Bresciani OAM, Dene Olding AM, Stephanie McCallum, Natalia Ricci, and Warwick Ross

Semi-Finals: Charmian Gadd, Dene Olding AM, Di Bresciani OAM, Catherine McCorkill, Greg Pikler, Stephanie McCallum, Warwick Ross, Alan Vivian, Nathan Waks, and Raff Wilson,

Finals: Bernadette Harvey, Charmian Gadd, Catherine McCorkill, Dene Olding AM, and Warwick Ross, Alan Vivian, Nathan Waks, Gerard Willems AM, and Raff Wilson

*not awarded in 2018



ABC Young Performers Awards
Finalist Oliver Shermacher

THANK YOU

MOST[®]

Rona Tranby Trust

Rona Tranby Trust Australian Light Horse Project Participants

Judith Ahmat, Elsie Amamoo, Mischa Fisher, Peta Flynn, Adrian Hepi, Terry Hutchinson
Pastor Ray Minniecon, Ricky Morris, Dr. Doris Paton, John Patten, Emily Roberts, Lance Waters,
Angela Stanley

Rona Tranby Trust Australian Light Horse Project Supporters and Sponsors

His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd) Governor of New South Wales,
Mrs. Hurley, The Honourable Linda Burney MP, The Honourable Dan Tehan MP, Julian Leaser MP,
Malcolm Turnbull (former Prime Minister of Australia), Kristy Masella, Aunty Ann Weldon, Gideon Pozniak,
Natalie Abraham, Professor Mick Dodson, Professor John Maynard, Roy Mundine OAM MID,
Charleene Mundine, Dr. Brendan Nelson, John Pearson, Dr. Chris Clark, Michael Bell, Peter & Gloria Allen,
Australian Department of Veterans' Affairs, Australian Light Horse Association, Australian War Memorial,
Centenary of Anzac Jewish Program, Executive Council of Australian Jewry, Jewish National Fund Australia,
New South Wales Ambulance Band, New South Wales Jewish Board of Deputies,
New South Wales Jewish War Memorial, Pratt Foundation, Schoulal Family, Serving Our Country Project,
National Indigenous Television (NITV), Special Broadcasting Service (SBS), Since 1788 Productions,
Mary-Ellen Mullane, Tanith Glynn-Malone, Tranby National Indigenous Adult Education & Training,
Deidre Bear, Judith Kaye, John Roth, Roland Gridiger, Sylvia Leaser, Jillian Segal



Rona Tranby Trust Australian Light Horse participant, Terry Hutchinson



THANK YOU

MOST[®]

Australian Friends of Keshet Eilon

Friends Group Founders

Roland Gridiger, Ilana Gridiger, Jack Ritch, Greg Zeltzer, Vivian Zeltzer, Louise Morris

Performers

Emily Sun (violin), Phillip Shovk (piano), Robin Wilson (violin), Tony Gault (page-turner)

Event Support

Michael Gonski, Chad Jankz, Micheala Kalowski, Richard Lewis, Guy McEwan, Anna Reid, Jack Ritch, Simon Ritch, Gilad Sheba, Keshet Eilon Music Center, Sydney Conservatorium of Music, Content Theory, Dashing Print, Crestone Wealth management, Cupcakes & Canapés, Ussher Direction



Emily Sun and Phillip Shovk performing at the Australian Friends of Keshet Eilon concert

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE & ADVISORY COMMITTEES

MOST[®]

2018 saw some changes to the MOST Board: we would like to graciously thank Ann Brewer, Catherine Hewgill, and Emma Matthews, who, as Board Members, helped guide MOST through significant changes and exciting developments including the appropriation of the ABC Young Performers Awards, the launch and presentation of the Australian Cello Awards, the establishment of the Artist Development Programme, and the creation of our new websites. Emma, Catherine, and Ann were generous with their time, skills, and knowledge and made a lasting contribution to MOST.

Board of Directors

Frank Varapodio - Interim Chairman; Director of V&A Accountants and Business Advisors

David Bainbridge CA, MBA - Board Member; Director of Wealthy & Wise

Jeffrey Black - Board Member; International operatic baritone

David Full BA Bus, MCom - Board Member; Partner Crestone Wealth Management

Ilana Gridiger BA, DipEd MA - Board Member; Registered psychologist

Roland Gridiger LLB, MDR, TEP - Board Member; MOST CEO; Principle of Gridiger Lawyers;
Trustee of Rona Tranby Trust

Executive Team

Roland Gridiger - CEO

Amelia Gledhill Ph.D (English) BA Hons. Eng/His - Manager

Meltem Akyol BA (Economics) Dip HR - Events & Communications Coordinator

David Langley MA (Cross-Disciplinary Art & Design) BA Eng/Art - Events & Communications Coordinator

Adrian Slater CA, BBus - CFO*

Kym Yeomans BAcc - Bookkeeper



Dene Olding AM and Roland Gridiger

*until November 2018

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE & ADVISORY COMMITTEES

MOST[®]

Auditor: Perks Accountants

Accountants: V&A Accountants and Business Advisors

Financial Advisors: Crestone Wealth Management

Legal Representative: Gridiger Lawyers

Advisory Committees

IFAC Handa Australian Singing Competition:

Jeffrey Black, Janice Black, Lisa Gasteen AO, Emma Matthews, Patricia Price, Linnhe Robertson

ABC Young Performers Awards:

Nick Bailey, Tim Calnin, Colin Cornish, Matthew Dewey, Catherine Hewgill, Kate Lidbetter, Dene Olding AM, Rodney Phillips, Mary Vallentine AO, Raff Wilson

Trustees of the Rona Tranby Trust

Dr. Belinda Russon (Chair) - CEO of Tranby National Indigenous Adult Education & Training

Jennifer Symonds - Representative of the New South Wales Jewish Board of Deputies

Roland Gridiger - Representative of the Estate of Thomas Rona



Rona Tranby Trustees Jennifer Symonds
and Dr. Belinda Russon

CONTRIBUTOR STORIES

MOST®

Few experiences are more gratifying than assisting talented artists achieve their goals. In 2018, MOST® contributed many awards, scholarships, grants and prizes and staged 7 live public events. These were only made possible through to the loyal and valued support of our sponsors and supporters. These are some of their stories.

GREG BLOOM

Having been a long-standing supporter of MOST® by regularly attending our live events, Greg decided to make a financial contribution in 2018. Through his donation, Greg became part of a community of like-minded individuals whose donations cumulatively support the next generation of fine Australian musicians as they begin their journey to the world stage.

DAVID WALKER

David's wife Sheila was a great lover of classical music in general, and of the piano in particular. When Sheila passed away, David wished to honour her in perpetuity by establishing the Sheila Walker Scholarship in the Young Performers Awards. The inaugural Scholarship was awarded to violinist Emily Sun when she was named "2018 Young Performer of the Year". David's generous gift in memory of his wife will enable Emily to further her training and development as an elite musical artist.

PETER WEISS FOUNDATION

Peter Weiss has had a long relationship with MOST® since sponsoring the Australian Cello Awards in 2014. This year, after viewing MOST's popular new promotional piece on YouTube, Mr. Weiss was inspired to support the Young Performers Awards and made a donation through his Foundation. That contribution enabled us to engage a digital-marketing professional who spread the word and the talented young people who entered this year, across the digital sphere.

RUNNING BARE ACTIVEWEAR

The modern opera singer needs to be an athlete, fit and ready to tackle the very physical challenges of a life on the stage. Running Bare Activewear recognised that by partnering with MOST and offering gift-vouchers to Semi Finalists in the Australian Singing Competition, they were aligning their brand with a new and untapped market while helping young singers achieve their fitness goals in style.



Sheila Walker, honoured by her husband through the Sheila Walker Scholarship

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

MOST®

Music & Opera Singers Trust Ltd (MOST®) has the vision, practical knowledge and skills to make a lasting and invaluable cultural legacy for all Australians. To achieve this requires significant resources. In short, we need you! Whether you are an individual, business or company, we would be happy to discuss sponsorship. As a sponsor you can invest in an existing project, or we can help create an activity tailored to a specific area of interest.

What better way to honour your own or the wishes of a loved one than to establish a fund during your lifetime or an ongoing legacy through your Will that targets a specific area of creative or musical interest? MOST is experienced in managing the personal and legal issues involved in the establishment of such programs and bequests and has a strong proven record in the successful implementation of such initiatives.

If you wish to discuss the establishment of a Bequest or Legacy Programme, contact Roland Gridiger at: +61 2 9231 4293 roland@mostlyopera.org or arrange an appointment to meet at Level 4, Culwulla Chambers 67 Castlereagh Street Sydney NSW 2000.

Tax deductibility & charitable status -

Music & Opera Singers Trust Limited (MOST®) is endorsed as a Deductible Gift Recipient by the Australian Tax Office (Subdivision 20-BA of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997, Item 1 Section 30-15; in Subdivision 30-B; Item 12.1.1 public fund on the register of cultural organisations). Endorsement date: 1 July 2000.



The Marianne Mathy Statuette,
know as 'the Mathy'