



SAINT JOHN'S FINCH STREET

**SCHOLARS'**

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**SOIRÉE**

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**2025**

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FRIDAY 9 MAY, 7PM





# OUR SCHOLARS



**MAYA CHARLES SEDERGREEN - SOPRANO**  
Maya Charles Sedergreen is a soprano from Melbourne, studying under acclaimed Australian mezzo-soprano Ms Suzanne Johnston. Having been awarded the Faculty of Fine Arts and Music 2022 Bachelor of Music Entrance Grant for excellence, Maya is completing their honours year, specialising in classical voice at the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music. Maya is also the grateful recipient of the 2022 Mona McCaughey Scholarship - Elise Weiderman.

Maya's love for music and communicating through performance is drawn from a rich heritage of musicianship. As a third generation Sedergreen, Maya is from a family of accomplished musicians and music educators. Her stage performance credits include: BK Opera's production of Don Giovanni (Zerlina), and Victorian Opera productions of Il Mago di Oz (Chorus member and Leader of the Field Mice) and Melbourne, Cheryomushki (Chorus). Maya's concert engagements include: as soloist with Consortium Viols in the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music's Lyrebird Concert Series, and the Melbourne Bach Choir performance of J.S Bach's St Matthew Passion (Ripieno). With a passion and affinity for Early Music, Maya aspires to a career in opera performance.

## JASPER KIRKWOOD - BARITONE

Jasper Kirkwood is a classical baritone from Melbourne and a first-year student at the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, where he is studying a Bachelor of Music in vocal performance. With a strong foundation in choral music, Jasper has sung with a number of prominent Melbourne ensembles, including Young Voices of Melbourne, Exaudi Youth Choir, and Choral Edge. In 2025, he commenced his first year as a Choral Scholar at Saint John's Finch Street.

Jasper is passionate about ensemble singing and aspires to pursue a career in professional choral performance.





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## SASKIA MASCITTI -MEZZO-SOPRANO

Saskia is of Dutch and Italian heritage based in Melbourne/Naarm. They have recently completed The University of Melbourne's Master of Music (Opera Performance) directed by Jane Davidson, under the tutelage of Roxane Hislop.



They first discovered their love of music performance as a member of the children's chorus in Opera Australia's Turandot (2012), which led them to perform in every Victorian Opera Youth Production from 2014 to 2022. Over the last ten years, they have performed with the Young Voices of Melbourne, Victorian Opera Youth Choir Ensemble, the Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School, Opera Scholars Australia, the Melbourne Bach Choir, Victoria Chorale and the Australian Contemporary Opera Company. As an early music soloist, they have performed in Haydn's The Creation (2023), Durufle's Requiem (2023), Handel's Messiah (2024) and Charpentier's Messe di Minuit (2024). They are honoured to be a choral scholar (and expert thurifer) here at Saint John's Finch Street.

## HARPER JOBSON -TENOR



# OUR SCHOLARS



## NERIDA EVANS - ORGAN SCHOLAR

Nerida began her musical journey as a child playing on dusty old pianos in church halls, loving the richness of their sound. During her adolescent and university years, she studied AMEB classical piano to Grade 8. After spending a decade abroad in the UK and Vietnam with her young family, she returned to classical piano — first through teaching and then performance.

While living in Vietnam, she discovered the powerful role music plays in bridging cultural divides, creating shared experiences within both local and expatriate communities. In 2020, Nerida joined the St John's Choir as an alto. Two years later, she was appointed Organ Scholar at Saint Agnes', Glen Huntly, and continues her music education with Yi-Shuen Chan. The Organ Scholarship provides Nerida with many performance and learning opportunities.

# DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

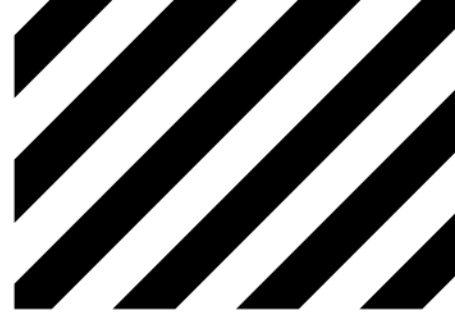


## ROWAN SWARBRICK - DIR. OF MUSIC

Rowan is a Melbourne-based baritone, conductor and double bassist. Under the tutelage of Andrew Sinclair, Rowan completed his Bachelor of Arts majoring in music performance (double bass) in 2019, at the University of Western Australia. He is currently studying his Masters of Orchestral music at the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music with Steve Reeves.

In voice studies, he has been a pupil of Andrew O'Connor and Carly Power, and first took conducting lessons with Kate McNamara. As a singer and conductor, Rowan worked extensively throughout the choirs of Perth, notably with the Giovanni consort from 2020 onwards, becoming their assistant director in 2022. Since relocating to Melbourne, Rowan has been employed as a freelance artist by groups and institutions such as Polyphonic Voices, the Australian National Academy of Music and Melbourne Opera, both as a singer and a bassist. Since being appointed as Director of Music at St. John's, East Malvern and St. Agnes', Glen Huntly, Rowan has begun increasing his compositional and pedagogical vocations, with plans to expand our music program here at Saint John's Finch Street.

# PROGRAMME



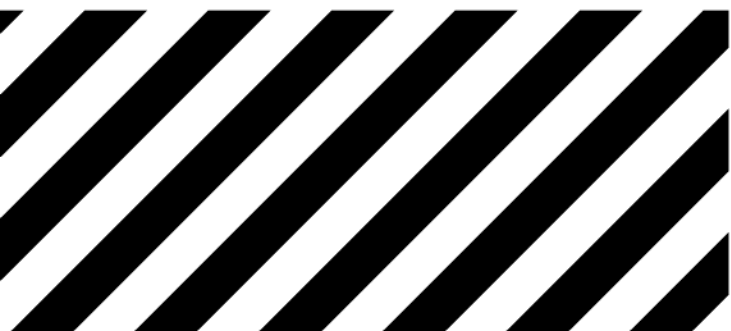
Welcome

Nerida Evans - 'Toccata in G Major' by Theodore  
Dubois

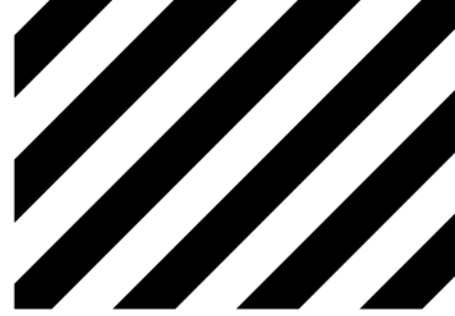
Nerida Evans - 'Thine be the Glory' variation on  
Handel's 'Judas Maccabaeus' by Robert Hughes

All Scholars - 'The Springtime of the Year' and  
'Just as the Tide was Flowing' from Five English  
Folk Songs by Ralph Vaughan Williams

Interval



# PROGRAMME



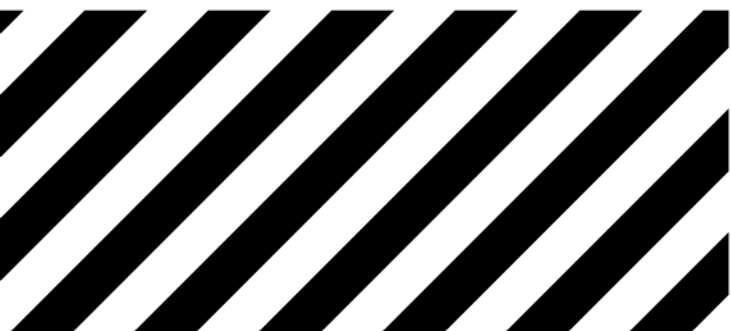
Saskia Mascitti accompanied by Nerida Evans  
and Rowan Swarbrick - 'Pie Jesu' from Requiem  
by Maurice Duruflé

Jasper Kirkwood accompanied by Zac Hamilton-  
Russell - 'Dolente immagine De Fille mia' by  
Vincenzo Bellini

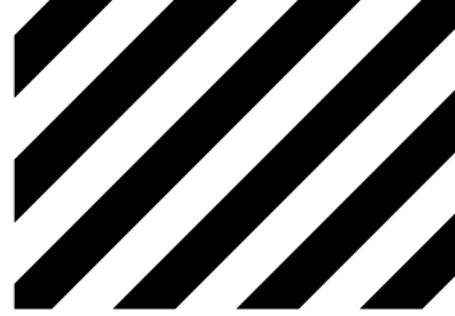
Rowan Swarbrick - 'Suite im Alten Stil V.  
Gavotte' by Hans Fryba

Maya Charles Sedergrreen accompanied by Zac  
Hamilton-Russell - 'Giunse alfin is momento / Deh  
Vieni non Tardar' by W. A. Mozart

All Scholars - Two Dutch Folk Songs: 'Als ick ü  
vinde' and 'O Jesu vol Genaden'



# PROGRAMME



Harper Jobson, Maya Charles Sedergrreen and  
Rowan Swarbrick - 'Bye Bye Blackbird'

Jasper Kirkwood, Harper Jobson and Rowan  
Swarbrick - 'Corcovado' by João Gilberto

Harper Jobson - 'Grind' by Harper Jobson and  
'Drown' by Polyphia

Rowan Swarbrick accompanied by Zac  
Hamilton-Russell - 'Reverie' by Giovanni Bottesini

All Scholars - 'The Lover's Ghost' from Five  
English Folk Songs by Ralph Vaughan Williams

Final Announcements

