Brisbane City Hall

Lord Mayor's City Hall Concerts

featuring the Henry Willis organ



CHRISTOPHER WRENCH, organ

Queensland Conservatorium Brass Band
HOWARD TAYLOR, conductor

Tuesday 18 May, 2021 12pm

Programme

Festmusik der Stadt Wien

Richard STRAUSS

(Festival Music for the City of Vienna) 1864-1949

Pomp & Circumstance No.1 in D, op.39/1 Edward ELGAR

1857-1934

Alleluya, Sing to Jesus Rowland PRITCHARD

1811-1887

Toccata & Fugue in d, BWV 565 Johann Sebastian BACH

1685-1750

Bohemian Rhapsody (Queen) Freddie MERCURY

1946-1991

Capriccio in C (1911) John IRELAND

1879-1962

Southern Harmony

March The Liberty Bell John Philip SOUSA

1854-1932

1812 Overture, op.49 Pyotr Ilyich TCHAIKOVSKY

1840-1893

Next Willis Organ Recital

ANDREJ KOUZNETSOV (Brisbane) Tuesday 15 June, 1.15pm (45') free admission

Artist Biographies

CHRISTOPHER WRENCH is a graduate of the Queensland and Vienna Conservatories, and the Vienna University of Music. International recognition followed performances at the Vienna Concert Hall, St Stephen's Cathedral, Austrian Radio, and prize-winning performances at competitions in Melbourne, Dublin, St Alban's UK and Odense in Denmark.

Upon returning to Australia in 1991, he lectured at the Queensland Conservatorium and was Organist at St Mary's Anglican Church, Kangaroo Point for 18 years prior to becoming Director of Music at Christ Church St Lucia in 2013. Christopher is also Senior Tutor at the ACT Organ School in Canberra.

A regular performer at festivals throughout Australia; Christopher has also appeared as soloist with the Australian Chamber Orchestra, Canberra & Queensland Symphony Orchestras, the Camerata of St John's and the Queensland Youth Symphony. International tours have seen Christopher perform in Austria, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, England, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, New Zealand, Norway and Sweden.





HOWARD TAYLOR'S musical career began as a cornet player in the Salvation Army in the South West of England. Howard was appointed Musical Director of *The Brishane Excelsior Band* in 2002 after five years in Auckland, leading the *Waitakere Band* to NZ National Champions in 1999. He has since led XLCR to remarkable contest successes unequalled in Australasian band

history including eight State Championship wins, eight Australian National A Grade Championships and three New Zealand Championship titles.

He held the position of Musical Director of the *National Band of New Zealand* for 3 years, until leaving for the UK in 2010 to work as conductor with the world famous *Fairey Band*. Howard returned to Brisbane Excelsion as Musical Director in 2013.

His ground-breaking work with bands includes regular trips to Tonga to work with school bands and conductors (starting the very first *National Youth Band of Tonga* in 2016) and mentoring and adjudicating opportunities throughout Australasia.

He holds a Master of Music from the Queensland Conservatorium, Griffith University and has just been appointed the Director of the Conservatorium Brass Band. Howard runs his own company, Taylormade Music Australia.

CONSERVATORIUM BRASS BAND

In 2006 the Queensland Conservatorium launched "Brass Band" as a major study element of the Bachelor of Music program. This initiative has finally allowed for Brass Band instrumentalists to study music at tertiary level, a first in Australia. The *Conservatorium Brass Band* is comprised of students from all areas of the brass and percussion departments who wish to enjoy the experience of "Brass Banding".

The ensemble has been a regular feature of the QCGU concert calendar since 2006, and after a short hiatus is back, ready to light up the stage under the baton of internationally renowned conductor Howard Taylor.