



**FOUR WINDS FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES NEW ARTISTIC LEADERSHIP TEAM FOR 2016**

Paul Dean and Yarmila Alfonzetti have been appointed as the new Artistic Leadership Team behind the 2016 Festival. With outstanding joint reputations in the classical music industry and music education, Paul and Yarmila bring extensive programming and event experience to what will be a festival dedicated to the presentation of the very best in classic music.

*Following from our successful 2014 Festival, previous Artistic Director, Paul Kildea, remains based in London and is therefore leaving Four Winds. We wish him well in the future. Our new team, with Paul Dean's strengths as a musician and Artistic Director along with Yarmila as Executive Producer, bring creativity and innovation to our 18th Festival in 2016 celebrating Australian artists and new music. Sheena Boughen, Chair Four Winds*

**Paul Dean** is a highly accomplished and internationally recognised solo, chamber and orchestral clarinettist and Artistic Director for the Australian National Academy of Music. *Being appointed as Artistic Director of the Four Winds Festival is both an exhilarating and humbling experience. I envisage being a part of a rich and wonderful tradition driving it in exciting new directions as well. Four Winds has the opportunity to transform lives and showcases how to thrill and create great music from Bermagui to the world! I am thrilled to be joining this amazing journey. Paul Dean*

**Yarmila Alfonzetti** is currently Head of External Relations for the Sydney Conservatorium of Music and prior to this was Head of Classical Music at Sydney Opera House. *It is an exceptional and wondrous opportunity to be able to develop an artistic program for an environment like no other; fluid and fanciful, vast and intimate all at the same time. By sharing what Paul and I know and love about classical music, this major event will influence the lives of local school children and educators, composers and musicians, as well as the festival-goers who never fail to be entranced by the unique experiences they have at Four Winds. Yarmila Alfonzetti*

Reframing the festival for Easter 2016, with continued links in education and the community, the festival will be showcased at Nature's Concert Hall: The Sound Shell and The Windsong Pavilion at Bermagui on the south coast of New South Wales. Community links will continue to be a significant component of the festival with Liena Lacey the local Creative Producer, integrating festival artists into the broader program of events throughout the year.

**[www.fourwinds.com.au](http://www.fourwinds.com.au)**

The Four Winds conducts a festival biennially and hosts a diverse range of concerts, workshops and community engagement projects throughout the year. Keep up to date with current events and receive advance notice of festival information by joining our mailing list.

**Four Winds Festival Thursday March 24th - Sunday March 27<sup>th</sup> 2016 Tickets released in September 2015**

**FOR MEDIA INFORMATION, images or to arrange interviews please contact Jacqui Bonner [jb@jacquibonnermarketing.com](mailto:jb@jacquibonnermarketing.com) or 0411 473 198**



### BIOGRAPHIES



**Paul Dean** is a highly accomplished and internationally recognised solo, chamber and orchestral clarinettist, artistic director, educator, composer and arranger. He has been the Artistic Director at the Australian National Academy of Music (ANAM) for five years. He is known for his world-class clarinet performances and compositions throughout Australia and overseas, his Artistic Directorship and his passion for the development of music education throughout Queensland and Australia at both school and tertiary levels.

Throughout the years, Paul has performed with the Australian Chamber Orchestra, the Melbourne Chamber Orchestra, the Australian String Quartet, the Goldner Quartet, the Flinders Quartet, the Tin Alley Quartet, the Seraphim Trio and many of the major orchestras in Australia and New Zealand. In 2012, Paul toured Messiaen's Quartet for the End of Time with the Australian Chamber Orchestra and also performed with the Australian String Quartet on their national tour in September of the same year.

Paul's recording of the Mozart clarinet works for the Melba label and the clarinet music of English composer Benjamin Frankel for German label CPO have won high praise from critics around the world.

Paul is the founder and Artistic Laureate of the chamber ensemble Southern Cross Soloists, the Bangalow Music Festival, the SunWater and Stanwell Winter Music School in Rockhampton, the Tutti International World Youth Music Festival in Beijing and has commissioned and premiered over 100 works, including his brother Brett's clarinet concerto Ariel's Music and Andrew Schultz's Clarinet Quintet.

Performances and recordings of his brother Brett Dean's clarinet concerto Ariel's Music have also gained international acclaim for both performer and composer. Ariel's Music with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra conducted by Markus Stenz was released on ABC Classics. A recording of Paul performing this work was a finalist in the ARIA awards in 1999, and the piece was the selected work at the 1999 Paris Rostrum of Composers. Paul has composed works for the Melbourne Piano Trio, the Seraphim Trio, the Brisbane Chamber Choir, Michael Kieran Harvey, cellist Patrick Murphy and the Southern Cross Soloists.



**Yarmila Alfonzetti** is currently Head of External Relations for the Sydney Conservatorium of Music and prior to this was Head of Classical Music at Sydney Opera House specialising in the presentation of international orchestras, chamber music and new music.

At Sydney Opera House, Yarmila achieved unparalleled success in the establishment and ongoing presentation of the World Orchestras Program, delivering to Australian audiences the Berlin, London and Vienna Philharmonic Orchestras, and the Mahler Chamber Orchestra amongst others. Her creation of the annual The Composers major event saw the first Steve Reich residency in Sydney, a festival of music by Arvo Pärt, and a centennial festival in 2012 honouring John Cage.

Yarmila continues to curate the annual Utzon Music Series, is a member of the Helpmann Classical & Opera Panel, and sits on the Artistic Advisory Committee of Sydney Youth Orchestra. Yarmila has previously worked in public programs at the Historic Houses Trust of NSW, project management at the NSW Premier's Department, and philanthropy at the Powerhouse Museum. She holds a Bachelor of Music (Hons) from the Sydney Conservatorium, and a Masters of Project Management from the University of Sydney. In 2014, Yarmila launched the inaugural Estivo: European Chamber Music Summer School in Verona, Italy, and currently oversees the Centenary Celebrations for the Sydney Con.

Friday, March 27, 2015

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