

MEDIA RELEASE



CHATSWOOD CULTURAL PROGRAM and LEGS ON THE WALL present

NEXT CHAPTERS: UPLIFTING ORCHESTRAL MANOEUVRES

Virtuoso musicianship and astonishing physical theatre combine in a
captivating collaborative concert

As part of the Chatswood Cultural Program, concert goers will be uplifted by the rhythmic richness of the **Willoughby Symphony Orchestra** when - for the first time - it joins forces with powerhouse aerialists from physical theatre makers **Legs On The Wall** for the thrilling **Next Chapters** concert on **Saturday 22 & Sunday 23 May** at the North Shore's leading cultural hub, The Concourse, Chatswood.

This inspiring program, presented by Willoughby City Council, features three Australian composers, one moody Russian, a world premiere, a symphony orchestra, a choir, a saxophone quartet and Australia's leading physical theatre troupe.

The breathtaking feats of **Legs On The Wall** will transfix the audience at the beginning of the concert while listening to the evocative, dancelike *Holy Dreaming* by the orchestra's composer-in-residence **Alice Chance** and finishing with **Dmitri Shostakovich's** darkly satirical, acrobatic, courageous and exuberant *Symphony No.9* – a serious tour-de-force for the wind section.

When announcing the collaboration **Legs On The Wall** Artistic Director, **Joshua Thomson** said *"How exciting it is to bring Legs On The Wall's aerials back to the North Shore. I recently had the pleasure of experiencing the incredible sounds of Willoughby Symphony Orchestra wash over me at the magnificent Concert Hall at The Concourse, and as I closed my eyes the music swept me away and I saw images of aerialists floating in the sea of sounds."*

Next Chapters also comprises **Elena Kats-Chernin's** highly personal score of pulsing, driving rhythm and soulful lyricism, *Five Chapters*, a shimmering mosaic of musical colour. It will be performed by the orchestra under the baton of **Dr Sarah Penicka-Smith**, alongside Australia's foremost saxophone ensemble **Nexas Quartet**.

Rounding of the packed concert is the world premiere of *The Phoenix*, a tone poem about renewal by one of Australia's rising stars **Joseph Newton**, the winner of the **Willoughby Symphony Orchestra's Young Composer's Award**. The orchestra gratefully acknowledges benefactor Mark Wakeley's generous support of the award in memory of Steven Alward.

Venue: Concert Hall, The Concourse, Chatswood

Date & Time: Saturday 22 May at 7pm & Sunday 23 May at 2pm

Prices: Adults \$59; Concession/ Seniors/Students \$54; Junior/Child under 18 \$29
Groups (10+) \$54

Bookings: ticketek.com.au

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