

ACO Australian Chamber Orchestra



Arts & Cultural Exchange

CLUB WELD



ACO X CLUB WELD

7 November 2025

WELCOME

To this remarkable concert celebrating
the unique collaboration between the
ACO and Club Weld.



It is my great pleasure to welcome you to ACO On The Pier for **ACO X Club Weld** – a celebration of creativity, collaboration, and the unifying power of music.

This special performance brings together musicians of the Australian Chamber Orchestra with the extraordinary artists of Club Weld. Over recent months, our ACO musicians have worked in close collaboration with the Club Weld artists to orchestrate and reimagine their compositions for this unique live performance.

What you will hear tonight is the result of a truly inspiring partnership, built on mutual respect, curiosity, and a shared love of music-making. The creativity and individuality of the Club Weld artists, combined with the virtuosity and artistry of the ACO, have produced a performance that is fresh, joyful, and deeply moving.

I would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to our wonderful partners at Arts & Cultural Exchange, whose vision and support have made this collaboration possible. We are thrilled to be working alongside them in championing inclusivity and innovation in Australian music.

Thank you for joining us for this remarkable event. We are immensely proud to share ACO X Club Weld with you, and we hope it inspires you as much as it has inspired all of us involved in its creation.



Richard Evans AM

Managing Director,
Australian Chamber Orchestra

It's a particular pleasure to welcome you to the Australian Chamber Orchestra's beautiful venue on Sydney Harbour, as we bring for your enjoyment, artists from our own creative base in North Parramatta. For those encountering Arts & Cultural Exchange (ACE) for the first time, may tonight mark the beginning of an enduring relationship.

From our home in Western Sydney, ACE collaborates with a number of leading cultural institutions and produces an extraordinary range of creative work.

Club Weld, ACE's program for talented neurodivergent musicians, also has a strong record of collaboration. This new project with the ACO represents an especially exciting creative meeting. For the Club Weld musicians and facilitators involved, the experience has been joyous, thrilling and deeply rewarding. The ACO musicians' skill and artistry has proved a rare and inspiring match for the ingenuity and skill of their Club Weld collaborators.

This exquisite partnership perfectly reflects ACE's vision for a society whose mainstream is enriched by self-determined creative work from historically underrepresented peoples.

On behalf of ACE and Club Weld, I warmly thank everyone at the ACO – particularly Charlie Westhoff, Tara Smith and the Learning & Engagement team, the ACO musicians and our guest artists. Heartfelt thanks also to Vicki Middleton for first championing this project and bringing our two organisations together.



Anne Loxley

Executive Director,
Arts & Cultural Exchange



PROGRAM

ARTIST/COMPOSER	TITLE	MIN
Jonathan Yung	Golden Theatre	4:00
Nina Gotsis & Sam Worrad	Native Rainforest Bronte Ocean	2:00 2:30
Sienna Acquaro & Pasko Schravemade	I'm Your Doctor	4:45
Adoni & June Jones	Please Feel Free to Panic	4:00
Patrick Li	Ghost Dance Harp Sonata	3:30 5:00
Melanie Eden (Moo)	No One to Be	6:00
Charbel Nehme & Pasko Schravemade	This Is My Moment	4:00
Tua Hunt	All I Needed	4:30
Jerrah Patston & Sam Worrad	Ballina Simple Machine (Aussie Bob's)	3:20 2:00

All works have been written by the artists listed. String arrangements by Charlie Westhoff.

CLUB WELD ARTISTS



Adoni

Adoni combines his love of animation and obscure TV and radio monologues to create spoken word collages as synth pop singles. His signature vocal style creates sonic worlds that are at once sinister and playful.



Charbel Nehme

Charbel Nehme writes his emotional experiences into a pop sound inspired by icons like Madonna, Kylie and Tina. In contrast, Nehme's 'star persona' balances dedication to a catchy chorus, with lyrics about grief, personal pride and love for family.



Jerrah Patston

Jerrah Patston writes and sings disarming country and folk songs with anthemic pop choruses. Patston has a deft ability to channel his ordinary-extraordinary world observations into songs packed with harmonies and hooks.



Jonathan Yung

Jonathan Yung effortlessly writes and performs keyboard-based compositions including cinematic piano and synthesizer instrumentals as well as irresistible pop, disco, tango and dancehall tunes with intricate melodies and the occasional charming vocal.



Melanie Eden (Moo)

Melanie Eden (Moo) is an experimental vocalist-songwriter and accordionist. As a dharma practitioner she creates for the ending of greed, hate and delusion. Eden's experience of violence and its impact, as well as neurodiversity, mean advocacy is central to her work.



Nina Gotsis

Nina Gotsis writes expressionistic new folk inspired by the natural world, a lyric vision incorporating the Pacific Ocean, bird life and country. Gotsis' exquisite and succinct songs are mantras for the present and our future.



Patrick Li

Patrick Li writes neo-classical piano works and charming baroque pop at a pace. Armed with impressive compositional skills, Li's idiosyncratic, often cheeky compositions are fuelled by excellent technique, photographic memory and synaesthesia.



Sienna Acquaro

Sienna Acquaro writes and sings emotional piano compositions infused with pop, jazz and classical influences. Acquaro's work bravely presents darker aspects of the human condition where beauty and pain are experienced in the same moment.



Tua Hunt

Tua Hunt is a singer-songwriter, arranger and classically trained pianist who grew up listening to jazz, classical, gospel, Motown, and funk music. A specialist in three and four-part harmonies, Hunt sets philosophical lyrics within an irresistible soul-jazz sound.

MUSICIANS ON STAGE

STRINGS

CHARLIE WESTHOFF

Project Lead / Violin

TIM YU

Violin

CAROLINE HOPSON

Violin

BETH CONDON

Viola

JACK WARD

Cello

WIND & BRASS

OLIVER BAKER

Flute

BILLY WARD

Saxophone

ARKIE MOORE

Trumpet

RHYTHM SECTION

AETHER TABRIS

Piano (Ballina, Simple Machine)

JONATHAN YUNG

Keyboard (This Is My Moment)

PASKO SCHRAVEMADE

Piano (All I Needed)

Keyboard (I'm Your Doctor,
This Is My Moment)

Backing Vocals (Ghost Dance)

RICHIE LEWIS

Vocals, Guitar (Native

Rainforest, Bronte Ocean)

SAM WORRAD

Vocals, Guitar (Native

Rainforest, Bronte Ocean)

Bass Guitar (All I Needed)

DECLAN KELLY

Drum Kit / Percussion

VOCALISTS

ANNAIS GALLO

Backing Vocals (This Is My Moment)

BROCK FANNING

Backing Vocals

ELLA STOODLEY

Backing Vocals

ROSITA VAI GIBBONS

Backing Vocals

BEHIND THE SCENES

ACO

CHARLIE WESTHOFF

ACO Project Lead & Facilitator

TARA SMITH

Director of Learning & Engagement

RACHAEL ADAMSON

Associate Producer, Learning
& Engagement

BRIANNA MANNIX MORRIS

Learning & Engagement Coordinator

ACE

VICTORIA HARBUTT

ACE Producer, Special Projects
Club Weld Producer

SAM WORRAD

Club Weld Lead Facilitator & Mentor

PASKO SCHRAVEMADE

Club Weld Facilitator & Mentor

LYNDAL IRONS

Club Weld Photography and
Video Documentation





ABOUT ARTS & CULTURAL EXCHANGE + CLUB WELD

“I feel privileged to have spent
some time at Club Weld.”

— HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE
MS SAM MOSTYN AC, GOVERNOR-GENERAL
OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

Arts & Cultural Exchange (ACE) is a cultural organisation on Dharug Country in Western Sydney which for more than 40 years has employed art, creativity and culture to reverse disadvantage experienced by historically underrepresented communities. Renowned for its commitment to excellence and to social justice, ACE works across five program areas: First Nations, Youth Engagement, Multicultural Women, Screen, and Artists with Disability. Since 2015 the Club Weld program for talented neurodiverse musicians has been the heart of ACE's work with Artists with Disability.

Club Weld's ambition is for the success of neurodiverse musicians as they pursue music, develop careers and are recognised as professionals. The program supports musicians with music making, recording and distribution projects, as well as professional development initiatives including performances, touring and high-profile creative partnerships.

Club Weld artists have undertaken residencies at the Sydney Opera House (2017), the Art Gallery of New South Wales (2018 & 2019) and, currently, Museum of Old and New Art in Tasmania. Between them, the musicians' work has been featured in an impressive range of high-profile contexts, including ABC TV's *Rage*, 'synched' for the television series *'Bump'*, the theme song for ABC TV's animated series *'Fizzy and Suds'*, and a collaboration with Parramatta's philharmonic choir, River City Voices.





ABOUT THE ACO

“The Australian Chamber Orchestra is uniformly high-octane, arresting and never ordinary.”

— THE AUSTRALIAN

The Australian Chamber Orchestra lives and breathes music, making waves around the world for its explosive performances that redefine orchestral music. With its fearless leader of 35 years, Artistic Director Richard Tognetti, in 2025 the Orchestra celebrates 50 years of invention, disruption and unforgettable music-making.

The ACO performs more than 100 concerts each year, with programs that

embrace celebrated classics alongside new commissions and ground-breaking collaborations, working with artists and musicians who share the Orchestra’s ideology: from Emmanuel Pahud, Steven Isserlis, Patricia Kopatchinskaja, Pekka Kuusisto, Nicolas Altstaedt and William Barton, to Jonny Greenwood, Neil Finn and Meow Meow; to visual artists and film makers such as Bill Henson, Shaun Tan, Jane Campion, and Jennifer Peedom, who co-create unique, hybrid productions for which the ACO has become renowned.

The ACO has its own streaming platform, ACO On Demand, which hosts the Orchestra’s award-winning cinematic concert films, *ACO StudioCasts*, alongside live concert streams. The Orchestra also has an active recording program, with Richard Tognetti and the Orchestra winning eight ARIA Awards. Recent releases include *Water / Night Music*, the first Australian-produced classical vinyl for two decades, *Tchaikovsky / Shostakovich* and ARIA award-winning albums *River* and *Indies & Idols*.

In 2022 the ACO opened a new, world-class venue, ACO On The Pier, continuing the Orchestra’s dedication to creating and presenting transformative experiences for all music lovers.



Thank You

The ACO & ACE would like to thank our government partners for their ongoing support.



ACO Partners

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ACO Australian
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CLUB WELD