

LEICHHARDT WIND ORCHESTRA PRESENTS

WE'RE TURNING

15

CELEBRATE
WITH US!

LEICHHARDT TOWN HALL
SUNDAY JUNE 29, 2025 3:00 PM

info@lwo.org.au

www.lwo.org.au

Programme

Procession of the Nobles	Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov
Shadow Dances	Les Farnell
Encanto	Robert W Smith
Forløp	Shaun Ji-Thompson
Armenian Folk Song and Dance	Aram Khachaturian

Interval

A Night on Bald Mountain	Modest Mussorgsky
Huntingtower	Ottorino Respighi

Procession of the Nobles

Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov (1844–1908) was a nationalist Russian composer and master orchestrator famous for symphonic works like *Scheherazade* and *Capriccio Espagnol*. He was born into a family with a history of military service in which he eventually followed. He started piano lessons at age 6 and composition at 10.

Procession of the Nobles (*Cortège*) was written in 1889 as part of the opera-ballet *Mlada*. Although it was originally begun in 1872 as a collaborative effort with three other composers, the initial project fell through. Rimsky-Korsakov completed it himself nearly 20 years later. The piece uses an opening brass fanfare to signal the entry of nobles, kings and sultans.
<https://windliterature.org/2013/03/26/procession-of-the-nobles-by-nikolai-rimsky-korsakov/>

Shadow Dances

Start with an image, the backdrop is a rock face – sandstone? – the foreground is a bonfire, otherwise it is dark. Maybe it's night, maybe it's inside a cave. Behind the fire some people are dancing, casting shadows on the rock. This was the original concept for the Fire movement, which started as a stand-alone piece. But one night I walked outside just as a full moon was rising, behind a small tree, whose leaves and branches were waving in the breeze. The twinkling visual effect inspired the Moon movement. At this point it occurred to me that one more movement was needed to create a proper little suite, and Sun was the obvious title for it. I didn't have a picture this time, but I did have some musical fragments that had been hanging around for twenty years, because I'd never found a satisfactory way of developing them. In the new context I was inspired to use them to complete the suite. – *Les Farnell*

Encanto

Robert William Smith was born in Daleville, Alabama, on October 24, 1958. He attended Troy State University, where he played lead trumpet in the Sound of the South Marching Band. While at Troy, he studied composition with Paul Yoder. In 1997, Smith became the Director of Bands at Troy State University, where he remained for four years. In 2001, he was hired by Warner Brothers Publications. His position with Warner took him all over the world, acting as guest conductor and clinician with many ensembles. Smith's career with Warner Bros. continued until 2005, when it was bought out by Alfred Music Publishing. His album *Don Quixote* was nominated for the 8th Annual Independent Music Awards for Contemporary Classical Album. Smith was the coordinator of the Music Industry program at Troy University as well as the Vice-President of Product Development for the C. L. Barnhouse Company and Walking Frog Records. Robert W. Smith died due to complications following heart surgery in Montgomery, Alabama, on September 21, 2023. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_W._Smith_\(musician\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_W._Smith_(musician))

Forløp

Forløp — meaning “course” or “pathway” in Norwegian — traces the emotional journey of a farewell. This piece is a tribute to the bittersweet experience of saying goodbye, inspired by the rich tradition of Norwegian romanticism. It is also dedicated to a close friend who is returning to Norway for good. I wrote this to honour the friendships that shape us and to celebrate the new chapters our loved ones embark upon, each farewell marking the beginning of a new path. – *Shaun Ji-Thompson*

Armenian Folk Song and Dance

Aram Khachaturian was born in Tbilisi, Georgia, to an Armenian family. He was a self-taught pianist and played tuba in school. At the age of 18 he moved to Moscow, where he simultaneously studied cello and composition at the Gnessin Institute, and biology at the Moscow University. He entered the Moscow Conservatory in 1929. Khachaturian wrote Armenian Folk Song and Dance during his university years. He featured Armenian folk themes, orchestrated in his distinctive style, in many works throughout his career. Despite his communist allegiance, he was blacklisted in 1948 by the soviet regime, along with Dmitri Shostakovich and Sergei Prokofiev. However, he regained favour and joined the faculty at the Moscow Conservatory and the Gnessin Academy in 1950. His later compositions include film scores and the 1955 ballet ‘Spartacus’.

A Night on Bald Mountain

An orchestral work by the Russian composer Modest Mussorgsky, completed in June 1867. The work had not been performed in public at the time of the composer’s death in 1881; it was revised by his colleagues and still later by other generations of composers and conductors. Not until it was used in the penultimate scene of the Walt Disney movie *Fantasia* (1940) did it garner a wider audience. For a Western public, it remains largely associated with that movie and with the celebration of Halloween. Mussorgsky’s contemporaries and friends included the composers Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky and Nikolay Rimsky-Korsakov. Of those three, Mussorgsky alone resisted the establishment and struck out on his own. But he was troubled and began to show signs of alcoholism, to the degree that drinking eventually caused his death just days after his 42nd birthday. At the time of his death, many of his works, including *Night on Bald Mountain*, were both unpublished and unrevised. www.britannica.com/topic/Night-on-Bald-Mountain-by-Mussorgsky

Huntingtower

Respighi wrote *Huntingtower* in 1932. It is dedicated to Edwin Franko Goldman and the American Bandmaster’s Association. They commissioned the piece for a special concert in memory of John Philip Sousa, who had passed away on March 6 of that year. *Huntingtower* thus received its premiere at that concert on April 17, 1932 (incidentally, so did Holst’s *Hammersmith*), by the United States Army Band under Captain Taylor Branson. Given the time between Sousa’s death and the concert, Respighi could have had no more than 6 weeks to write the piece. His inspiration for the piece came from a visit to Huntingtower Castle in Scotland, which must have happened years before he began work on the composition. It is a remarkably unified and varied portrait, beginning and ending with a slow, gloomy dotted figure and exploring mysterious, heroic, and romantic themes (perhaps in a nod to the Lady Greensleeves legend associated with the castle) in its interior, all of which reflect Respighi’s impressions of Scotland and its music. <https://windliterature.org/2010/12/15/huntingtower-ballad-for-band-by-ottorino-respighi/>

LEICHHARDT WIND ORCHESTRA

Conductor and Musical Director – Andrew Blenkinsopp

Concertmaster – Georgina Leong

Flute

Jan Junor
Gabriella Tarte
Torianne Brown
Andrew Wu
Fiona Maconnachie

Bassoon

Alex Thorburn
Shaun Ji-Thompson

Trombone

Jon Lam
Sarah Judge
Nicole Taylor
Morgan Taylor

Oboe

Dianne Harrell

Euphonium

Les Farnell

Clarinet

Georgina Leong
Rowena Salmon
Bridget Carter
Evan Guy
Georgia Bonora
Jarvan Luo

English Horn/Oboe

Alice Wheelwright

Trumpet

Bob Clucas
Kelvin Bakewell
Daniel Blenkinsopp

Alto Saxophone

Katie Spenceley
Patrick Flynn

Tenor Saxophone

Kieran Hanrahan

Tuba

Joe Rede

Bass Clarinet

Richard Price

Baritone Saxophone

Carrie Foster

Percussion

Nico Bachner
Andrea Leong

French Horn

Don Shearman
Nicole Lehmann

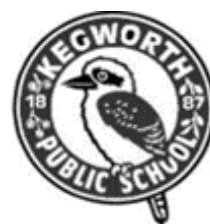
Thank you for joining Leichhardt Wind Orchestra for this afternoon of music. We appreciate your support and hope to see you at future concerts.

For more information, visit www.lwo.org.au or contact us on info@lwo.org.au

Like us on Facebook at Leichhardt Wind Orchestra



Leichhardt Wind Orchestra
appreciates the support of
Kegworth Public School
and Inner West Council



*We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the
land upon which we rehearse and perform, the
Gadigal people of the Eora nation*



*Join our
Mailing List!*