

# MATTHEW ORLOVICH

## australian composer

profile 2011



Matthew Orlovich (b. Sydney, 1970) studied composition at the University of Sydney with Eric Gross and Peter Sculthorpe, gaining the degree of B.Mus (Hons and University Medal) in 1993 and PhD in 2001. His works include solo instrumental pieces, chamber music, choral scores, orchestral works and combined choral orchestral works, in addition to music for theatre.

Matthew's music has been performed widely in Europe, as well as in Canada, the Middle East, USA, New Zealand and Australia. Performers have included The Australian Voices, The Zurich Ensemble for New Music, The Harvard University Choir, The Choir of London, The Grevillea Ensemble, The Melbourne Chorale, Romp Duo, NSW Combined School Choirs and Public School Symphony Orchestra, St Olaf Cantorei, St Peters Chorale, The Seymour Group, Anhinga PianoSAX Duo, The National Youth Choir of Australia, The Grainger Wind Symphony, The Song Company, Australian Interschool Choral Festival Choirs, Sydney Conservatorium Chorale, Waratah Girl's Choir, The Hunter Singers, San Francisco State University Chamber Singers, Sydney Philharmonia Symphonic and Motet Choirs, Sydney Symphony Orchestra and Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra, plus many more...

Several prizes and awards helped to encourage Matthew in the early stages of his composing career. His academic prizes included the Sarah

Theresa Makinson Prize for Musical Composition, the Busby Musical Scholarship, the Frank Albert Prize and an Australian Postgraduate Research Award. Matthew also received the 1991 2MBS-FM Composer's Competition Highly Commended Award, the 1994 Jean Bogan Memorial Prize for Piano Composition and the 1995 ABC Orchestral Composers' Award.

In 1996, two of his a cappella choral scores – *On Sutherland's Grave* and *The Listening Land* – were performed at the 4th World Symposium on Choral Music, and in 1997 his commissions included *Lo, there is light!* for the 87th Harvard University Carol Service, *Voice of the River* for St Peter's Chorale, and *Unity* and *The Dreaming Land* for massed choir and orchestra, presented by the NSW Performing Arts Unit.

Since 2000, Matthew has completed many commissioned works for large and small groups. *Eternity*, scored for the massed voices of 19 Sydney college choirs, with orchestra and organ, was written for The Millennium Concert, held at St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, in July 2000. Also premiered in 2000 was *Links*, an a cappella setting of poetry by John Kinsella, performed by the 51st Australian Interschool Choral Festival Choir.

Subsequent commissions included: *Aviation* (commissioned for the 2001 Australian Voices Festival in Brisbane), *Araluen* (written for the 2001 St Peter's Chorale international tour), *A dream only just begun* (commissioned by Ars Musica to commemorate Australia's Centenary of Federation), *Waratah* (for the Sydney Philharmonia Choirs and Ensemble), *Child Sightings* (for The Brisbane Chorale), *The Paean* (for Gondwana Voices), *Pukerangi* (for solo mandolinist, Michael Hooper), *Bird of Paradise* (for the Grevillea Ensemble), *Huge Earth* (for St Andrew's Cathedral School massed SATB and SA choirs, motet choir, orchestra, pipe organ and soloists David Helfgott, piano & Laura Bell, recorder), *Timothy's Toys* (for The Melbourne Chamber Choir), *Ezekiel* (for The Hunter Singers Canadian Tour), *She Like the Moon Arises* (for The Grevillea Ensemble, featuring Guest Artist, Diana Doherty), *Night* (a work scored for handbells, SATB choir, clap sticks and didgeridoo in C, commissioned for performance at the 2006 International Handbell Symposium, Brisbane) and two Australian Christmas carols (*If Christ had been born in another time...*, and *Nativity*) commissioned in 2008 by The Oriana Chorale, (ACT).

Matthew's recent commissions include *Butterflies dance* (for The Australian Voices, QLD), *All is one and one is all* (for In Harmony Choir, NSW),

**The Blue Gum Forest** (for the 60th Australian Interschool Choral Festival, TAS), a suite of three new works for junior symphonic wind ensemble (entitled **Arrival of the baby elephant**, **Hippopotamus** and **Big Cats**) published by Reed Music, VIC, an a cappella SATB score entitled **My Nurse and I** (for Concordis Chamber Choir, VIC), **Communion of Reparation (for Our Lady of Sorrows)** for the Sydney Conservatorium Chamber Choir in commemoration of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, a Concerto for alto saxophone and band entitled **Flying Colours** (performed in 2011 by Barry Cockcroft with the US Navy Band), and an a cappella TTBB score entitled **The Song and the Sigh** for premiere performance by the Blokes of Barker at the 2011 Pemulwuy National Male Voice Festival, QLD, Australia.

Matthew is in demand as a Visiting Composer at numerous Sydney high schools. He is a Full Writer / Member of APRA and a Represented Composer of the Australian Music Centre.

## selected works

### A CAPPELLA CHOIR

**The Song and the Sigh** (2011) for a cappella TTBB choir • **Communion of Reparation (for Our Lady of Sorrows)** (2010) for SATB choir, soprano and baritone soloists • **My Nurse and I** (2010) for SATB choir • **The Blue Gum Forest** (2009) for SATB choir & bass baritone soloist • **Butterflies Dance** (2009) for SATB choir • **All is one and one is all** (2008) for SATB choir • **Nativity** (2008) for SATB choir • **If Christ Had Been Born In Another Time...** (2008) for SATB choir • **Timothy's Toys** (2004) for SATB choir • **Gum Tree Country** (2003) for SA choir • **Child Sightings** (2002) for SATB choir • **Araluen** (2000) for SATB choir • **Aviation** (2000) for SATB choir • **Links** (2000) for SATB choir • **Tides of Ocean** (1998) for SATB choir • **Voice of the River** (1997) for SATB choir • **Lo, there is light!** (1996) for SATB choir • **The Listening Land** (1996) for SATB choir • **On Sutherland's Grave** (1991) for SATB choir

### CHOIR + INSTRUMENTS

• **Midnight Mass** (2007) for SATB choir, soprano and bass baritone soloist, treble voice soloist, organ and orchestra • **Night** (2005) for 5 octave handbells (optional handchimes), SATB choir, clap sticks and didgeridoo in C. (Also arranged in 2008 for SATB choir, percussion, piano and didgeridoo) • **Ezekiel** (2004) for SSABar choir,

piano and percussion • **Huge Earth** (2003) for massed SATB choirs, motet choir, orchestra, pipe organ, piano and recorder soloist • **Psalm 62** (2002) for SATB choir and string orchestra • **The Paeon** (2001) for SATB choir, strings quartet and piano • **Waratah** (2001, rev. 2008) for SATB choir, brass and percussion • **A Dream Only Just Begun** (2000) for bass voice, SATB choir and orchestra • **Eternity** (2000) for SATB choir, organ and orchestra • **The Twenty-Third Psalm** (1999) for SATB choir & organ

### ORCHESTRA / BAND

• **Arrival of the baby elephant** (2009) for symphonic wind ensemble • **Hippopotamus** (2009) for symphonic wind ensemble • **Big Cats** (2009) for symphonic wind ensemble • **White Horses** (2009) for symphonic wind ensemble • **Deep Sea** (2001) for orchestra • **The Monkeys' Bridge** (1995) for orchestra • **Outpost** (1993) for string orchestra • **Holy Ground Forever, Stranger!** (1992) for orchestra

### CHAMBER MUSIC

• **Flight of Fancy** (2006) for alto saxophone and piano; also arranged for Bb clarinet, flute, or oboe • **Crazy Logic** (2006) for alto saxophone and piano • **She Like the Moon Arises** (2004) for soprano, oboe and piano • **Serenade for a Summer Wedding** (2003) for string quartet • **Saturday** (2003) for cello and piano • **Bird of Paradise** (2002) for soprano, violin and piano • **Savage Coast** (2000) for flute, oboe, percussion and piano; (also arr. for fl., cl., vln, vlc, pno and perc, 2001) • **String Quartet No 2** (1995) • **Mountain Spirits** (1993) for flute, bassoon and piano • **Cathedral Cave** (arr. 1993) for 'cello and piano • **Dialogue** (1992) for baroque flute and viola da gamba • **Ancestral Cave** (1992) for oboe and piano • **June Twilight** (1991) for soprano, tenor, flute, bassoon and piano

### SOLO INSTRUMENTAL / CONCERTO

**Flying Colours** (2011) for alto sax and band • **Roundabout** (2002) for solo violin [also arranged for solo mandolin] • **Pukerangi** (2002) for solo mandolin • **Air Traffic Control** (2002) for solo alto saxophone • **Fragment of Gratification** (2000) for solo piano • **Watercolours** (1995) for solo piano • **Sea Spirits** (1994) for solo piano

### THEATRE MUSIC

• **The Wasps** (2003) electronic / dance music

Matthew welcomes your correspondence

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