

Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra

KEY MUSICIANS' BIOGRAPHIES for 2020



Jakob Lehmann | Guest Director

Jakob Lehmann is a young musician for whom stylistic awareness and historically informed performance are the pillars of emotionally sincere and energetic interpretations. His dual aims of fidelity to the composer's intentions with their direct conveyance to his modern audiences guide his diverse activities as both as violinist and conductor. Jakob regards the collaborative convergence of historically informed performance styles with more traditional approaches as one of his main objectives.

Born in 1991 in Berlin, Jakob was educated at its Universität der Künste with Prof. Michael Erxleben. Already prior to and during his studies he gained further valuable insights from musicians such as Andrew Manze, Natalia Prishchenko, Elizabeth Wallfisch, Stephan Mai and Raphael Alpermann. As an avid chamber musician, he pursued concert invitations throughout Europe, as well as China, Turkey, Armenia and Georgia.

During the last years Jakob has been widely active as concertmaster. Amongst the orchestras he works with are Anima Eterna Brugge, Le Concert des Nations, Capella Augustina, Camerata Nordica, the Australian Romantic and Classical Orchestras and the Junge Norddeutsche Philharmonie. From 2015 till 2019 he worked closely with Anima Eterna Brugge as concertmaster, chamber musician and guest conductor. His debut in 2016 as the first ever guest conductor of this orchestra's 30 year history was widely acclaimed by audiences and critics alike.

Jakob is Artistic Director and conductor of Eroica Berlin, a chamber orchestra he founded in 2015. The group consists of young musicians from Berlin who aim to find solutions to the problem of ageing classical music audiences, and focuses on translating the impulses and inspirations from period performance to modern instruments. Eroica Berlin is proud to call the Ehemaliges Stummfilmkino Delphi its artistic home.

Jakob has recorded for numerous national and international radio and broadcasting stations. As concertmaster of Anima Eterna Brugge he is featured thus far on two releases by Alpha Classics: one disc devoted to works by Janacek and Dvorak; and one to works by Gershwin. With Eroica Berlin and bass baritone Thomas Stimmel he appears on «Roots», a production of music by composers with African roots, on Ars-Vobiscum. In 2018 three further CDs will be released: Schubert symphonies with Eroica Berlin (Ars-Vobiscum), a disc with cello concertos by Hindemith, Toch, Martinu and Ibert with Eroica Berlin and soloist Christoph Heesch (GENUIN) as well as a release by Alpha Classics with Mendelssohn's violin concerto and octet with soloist Chouchane Siranossian and Anima Eterna Brugge - with Jakob both conducting and playing. The last two albums won the prestigious International Classical Music Award (ICMA) in January 2019.

In 2017/2018, Jakob lead numerous concerts as concertmaster of Anima Eterna Brugge, amongst them orchestral music by Beethoven. He returned to Australia as guest concertmaster with the Australian Romantic and Classical Orchestra and lead the Leipziger Festivalorchester and Capella Augustina. Jakob was invited by Will Crutchfield to join the newly founded Teatro Nuovo Bel Canto Festival in New York . As conductor, he produced further recordings with Eroica Berlin and works regularly as assistant conductor to Riccardo Minasi with Mozarteumorchester Salzburg.

2018/2019 includes a tour and CD recording for Alpha Classics with the Octet by Schubert and the Septet by Berwald with members of Anima Eterna Brugge; further concerts as concertmaster of this ensemble with music by Mozart, Beethoven, Brahms and Mahler and the start of the Academy Beethoven 250 directed by Jordi Savall, with Jakob leading the orchestra as concertmaster and coach. As conductor, In early 2019 Jakob worked for the first time as concertmaster with Camerata Salzburg.

Jakob recently conducted Eroica Berlin and Lioba Braun with music by Wagner and Beethoven and Anima Eterna Brugge and Chouchane Siranossian with music by Mendelssohn at Musikfestival Heidelberger Frühling. May 2019 sees a new CD recording with Eroica Berlin and in summer 2019 Jakob will return to New York for a new season of the Teatro Nuovo Bel Canto Festival and continue his collaboration with the Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra.

www.jakob-lehmann.com



Rachael Beesley

Co-Artistic Director of the Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra, Violin

Rachael Beesley is an internationally renowned Australian violinist, director, concertmaster and educator specialising in the field of historically informed performance. As guest concertmaster with Europe's most distinguished HIP ensembles and orchestras including Anima Eterna Brugge, La Petite Bande and the New Dutch Academy, and as guest director of Les Muffatti in Brussels and NZBarok in Auckland, Rachael has performed in festivals and concert halls worldwide.

In Australia, Rachael is co-artistic director and concertmaster of the Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra, which she co-founded in 2013, and has performed as guest concertmaster with the Australian Brandenburg Orchestra, Pinchgut Opera, Opera Australia and Victorian Opera. Rachael is regularly invited to guest direct modern orchestras from the violin, including the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra, Melbourne Chamber Orchestra and Adelaide Chamber Players. Rachael features on over 50 album recordings and broadcasts for radio and television and is much in demand as a chamber musician and soloist, regularly collaborating with contemporary Australian composers as well as exploring repertoire from the 17th to the 20th centuries on period instruments. As a highly regarded educator and mentor, Rachael teaches and lectures at the Melbourne and Sydney Conservatoriums of Music, the Royal Conservatoire in Den Haag, The Netherlands, and at the Sir Zelman Cowen School of Music, Monash University. Rachael has been awarded an Ian Potter Cultural Trust grant and is listed in the Who's Who of Australian Women.

www.rachaelbeesley.com



Nicole van Bruggen

Co-Artistic Director of the Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra, Clarinet

Originally from Sydney, Nicole performs throughout the world as a highly respected exponent in historical clarinet, basset horn, basset clarinet and chalumeau. Nicole is principal clarinetist, co-artistic director, co-founder and general manager for the Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra. She has performed as principal clarinet in many of Europe and Australia's finest historical instrument orchestras such as Concerto Copenhagen, Barokksolistene in Norway, New

Dutch Academy and the Polish Arte dei Suonatori, Netherlands Bach Society and the Australian Brandenburg Orchestra. She has also performed with Tafelmusik from Canada and Les Musiciens du Louvre, and has appeared on many occasions at the acclaimed Utrecht Early Music Festival.

In addition to her performing career, Nicole is committed to music education, particularly associated with historically informed performance (HIP). She regularly facilitates education projects in schools and tertiary institutions and participates in seminars and roundtable events as a specialist in HIP and arts management. Together with Rachael Beesley, Nicole co-presents the Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra's education series Voyage of Musical Discovery and co-directs the Young Mannheim Symphonists youth orchestra training program in Sydney and Melbourne. She recently tutored at the Australian Youth Orchestra's National Music Camp and Melbourne Youth Orchestras' Summer School.

Nicole studied modern clarinet at the Sydney Conservatorium and was awarded a Queen's Trust Scholarship to continue her studies abroad. She moved to The Netherlands where she gained a postgraduate degree in historical clarinet and historically informed performance at the Royal Conservatorium in The Hague in 1997. Nicole has won awards from the International Van Wassenaer Concours and the prestigious Flanders Festival Competition in Bruges.

www.arco.org.au/nicole-van-bruggen



Anneke Scott

Horn Soloist

Anneke Scott is a leading exponent of historical horn playing. Her work takes her throughout the globe and throughout the centuries of music with a repertoire incorporating music and instruments from the late seventeenth century through to the present day.

Anneke is principal horn of a number of internationally renowned period instrument ensembles including Sir John Eliot Gardiner's Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique and The English Baroque Soloists, ensemble Pygmalion, The Orchestra of the Sixteen, the Irish Baroque Orchestra, and the Dunedin Consort and Players and many others. She is similarly in great demand as a guest principal horn regularly appearing with

orchestras and ensembles worldwide.

Anneke enjoys an international solo career and discography embracing three centuries of virtuosic horn works. Her expertise in baroque horn repertoire ensures that she is frequently to be heard performing the famous obligato arias of composers such as Bach and Handel as well as solo concertos from this period. Her critically acclaimed solo recordings also include three discs focussing on the music of the leading Parisian horn player of the nineteenth century; Jaques-François Gallay.

Anneke enjoys collaborating with a wide group of musicians and is a key member of a number of chamber music ensembles including nineteenth century period brass ensemble The Prince Regent's Band, the harmoniemusik ensemble Boxwood & Brass, historic wind ensemble Syrinx and ensembleF2. She regularly works with leading period keyboardists including Steven Devine, Neal Peres da Costa, Geoffrey Govier and Kathryn Cok and period harpist Frances Kelly.

www.annekescott.com