



KENDALL NATIONAL VIOLIN COMPETITION

Winner's Repertoire

J S Bach
Adagio and Presto from Sonata No 1 in g minor

P Sculthorpe
Irkanda

C Debussy
Violin and Piano Sonata
Allegro Vivo
Intermède, Fantasque et léger
Finale: Très animé

M Ravel
"Tzigane" Rapsodie de Concert

2006 Finalists



JENNEN NGIAU-KENG (Winner)

Jennen Ngiau-Keng is an entrepreneur who performs regularly with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra and Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra as a casual violinist. A year after winning the Kendall National Violin Competition in 2006, he started an online shoe business called JENNEN shoes, which has since expanded into an international online business with boutiques in Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane.

Since 2011, Jennen has directed String Musicians Australia, a string quartet booking agency, that has now performed for over one thousand wedding and corporate functions across Australia.

This year Jennen is performing with the Tasmanian Symphony and Melbourne Chamber Orchestra.

I have two children now, so spending a lot of time with them and working a lot less.

AUGUST 2019



SONJA SCHEBECK

sonjaschebeck.com

Sonja was born in Sydney, Australia and is of Russian/Polish/Austrian heritage. She became entranced by the violin at age 3 after attending a baby prom by the Sydney Symphony Orchestra and began studying the Suzuki method with Barbara Hayward. She completed her Bachelor of Music (Performance) with first-class Honours from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, studying with Christopher Kimber and was the recipient of the George & Margaret Henderson Postgraduate Scholarship and University Postgraduate Award. She is currently undertaking the Masters program at the Konservatorium Wien, studying with Professor Florian Zwiauer (1st Konzertmeister, Wiener Symphoniker).

Sonja has been fortunate to work in a variety of genres with artists including composer Chloé Charody, classical/theatre collective Ilythian, Extra Sounds Ensemble (Krakow), Wiener Symphoniker, Concertino Wien, Max Steiner Orchestra Vienna, guest musician with Jazz Orchestra Tirol, the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, Sydney Symphony Sinfonia, English Session Orchestra, Sydney Scoring Orchestra, Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, Palace Gate Orchestra (concertmaster), Sydney Camerata, film director Jane Campion and composer Mark Bradshaw (soundtrack for 'Bright Star'), pop/rock band Saving Grace, The Eastern Bloc folk string quartet, experimental band

Kendall National Violin Competition

PO Box 86 Kendall NSW 2439

www.kendallviolin.org.au

Wicked Miranda, Australian hip-hop group Mind Over Matter, balkan ensemble The Yellow Quinces and musical circus-stunt group Strings on Fire. Coming from a diverse musical background including folk and jazz, Sonja has also performed with various groups on guitar, double bass, piano and percussion. She has a special interest in new music, twentieth-century Russian music (particularly that of Sergei Prokofiev) and in the circus arts of fire performance, acrobatics and more recently stilt walking, pole and aerial arts.

Sonja is privileged to be a founding member of Nigel Kennedy's 'Orchestra of Life', touring for projects across UK/Europe and Australia since 2010. She has performed as co-soloist with Mr Kennedy in Double Violin Concertos by J. S. Bach and A. Vivaldi, selections from B. Bartok's 44 Duos as well as at festivals and concerts with the Nigel Kennedy Jazz Quintet.

Other performance highlights include the Adelaide Fringe Festival, Beijing Musicathlon pre-Olympics cultural festival (representing the Sydney Conservatorium), the Melbourne Fringe Festival, performances with Nigel Kennedy and the Orchestra of Life at Royal Albert Hall, Henley Festival, Latitude Festival and BBC Proms (UK), Berlin Philharmonie (Germany) and with the Nigel Kennedy Band at Schleswig-Holstein Musik Festival (Germany), Przystanek Woodstock (Poland), St Prex Classics (Switzerland – mentor to the 'St Prex Young Artists') and Porgy & Bess Jazz Club, Vienna.

Sonja has been a prize-winner at the Gisborne International Music Competition, International Space Time Concerto Competition, Balmain Sinfonia Concerto Competition, Kendall National Violin Competition, Marcus Edwards Violin Prize, and Ku-ring-gai Philharmonic Orchestra Concerto Competition, a finalist in the Musica Viva Chamber Music Awards and Nelson Meers

Outstanding Instrumentalist Awards and a finalist in the 2010 and 2015 Symphony Australia ABC Young Performer of the Year awards. She has participated in masterclass lessons with Perry Hart, Jiří Zigmund, Charmian Gadd, Goetz Richter, Simon Fischer and David Takeno.

Since 2007 Sonja has worked closely with Australian composer [Chloé Charody](#) on many projects including 'Ilythian' contemporary classical/theatre collective, 'MusiqueArt' street-press magazine for the Fine Arts and 'ReachOut', a touring music education program designed to bring the classical music of today to the youth of Australia, particularly those living in regional and remote areas. They co-founded [Charody Productions](#) in 2010. Schebeck has premiered many of Charody's compositions, including as guest solo violinist with the Dutch National Ballet for the opera-ballet 'Magdalene' in 2011 and the premiere of 'The Phoenix' caprice for solo violin (excerpt from the Violin & Fire Concerto of the same name) in May 2012 at the Musikverein, Vienna. This work was also presented by the Dutch National ballet as a piece for solo violinist/dancer (choreographed by Remi Wortmeyer) at the New Moves festival, Amsterdam 2016.

Charody and Schebeck have a special interest in creating new art fusing new classical music with circus arts. Their creation '[The Carnival](#)' circus-opera (for which Schebeck is co-director, solo violinist, aerial and fire performer) has appeared multiple times in Sydney, at the Melbourne Fringe Festival and on London's West End in 2011 and the Fliegende Bauten, Hamburg in 2013. Their current project is Charody's 'Phoenix' Concerto for Violin, Fire and Orchestra.

Sonja is currently based between Europe/UK and Australia as a freelance performer whilst creating her own interdisciplinary projects including [The Freestyle Orchestra](#) (recipients of the Audience Choice awards in the 2016 Tarisio Trust Young Artist Grants), [Spiegel Duo](#) (with pianist Lisa Chou), 'PyroViolinist' fire show and The Harlequin Court Orchestra street performance collective. She appears as violinist/fire artist for Zirkus Pikard (Austria) and for Igudesman & Joo's '[The League of X-traordinary Musicians](#)' with recent performances at the Vienna Konzerthaus New Year's Eve Gala and the Lucerne Festival. Highlights of 2017/18 season include Ross Edwards' 'Maninyas' Concerto (soloist with Houston Ballet) and performances with The Freestyle Orchestra for the Venice Biennale and 'Les Jardins Musicaux' (Switzerland).

AUGUST 2019



LILLIAN SO

Classical Violinist /Freelancer

- TV appearance - The Bachelor Season 3 (2015)
- Sydney Scoring Orchestra (2015)
- Australian Youth Orchestra (2014 – 2015)
- AYO Camerata (2014 – 2015)
- Artes Christi, Carols Tour (2014)
- Tasmanian Symphony and AYO in Concert (2014)
- Sydney Symphony Orchestra Sinfonia (2012 – 2013)
- String Source (2014)
- The Metropolitan Orchestra (2012 – 2013)
- Corporate Events, Weddings, Charity Events

Awardee – BBM Music Scholarship for Travel to the UK / Big Brother Youth Support - June 2013 – June 2014 (1 year 1 month)

Recipient of a travel scholarship awarded in recognition of musical achievements and commitment to furthering knowledge of the Violin. This funded a two month trip to London, Manchester, Munich, Heidelberg and Salzburg where I met and studied under internationally renowned artists and pedagogues: Pierre Amoyal (French violinist), Ulf Hoelscher (German violinist), Stephanie Gonley (British Soloist and Leader of the English Chamber Orchestra), Catherine Yates (Principal 2nd Violin of Halle Orchestra), Steven Wilkie (Royal Northern College of Music) and Leland Chen (British Soloist).

Emerging Artist – SSO Sinfonia

Sydney Symphony Orchestra January 2012 – December 2013 (2 years)

Selected to perform alongside full-time members of Australia's leading symphony orchestra

- Presented the Discovery Series at City Recital Hall, Angel Place under the baton of Richard Gill, and regular Educational Concert Programs for Schools.
- Mentored by world-class professional musicians, gaining insight into orchestral techniques and philosophies.

Lillian has been accepted into a Master of Commerce (Finance) degree at the University of Sydney under a Business Leader Postgraduate Scholarship. She is transitioning into a business career. She is still performing on a freelance basis, and has been engaged in more commercial "gigs" such as soundtrack recordings with the Sydney Scoring Orchestra, and a TV Shoot where she serenaded a date for The Bachelor Season 3.

August 2015



BING XIANG

Bing was born 1987 in China, and relocated to Melbourne at the age of 4. He commenced violin lessons at the age of 8 with Sook Yoon, attending Camberwell Boys Grammar under a full music scholarship for 3 years. He then attended the Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School from year 9 onwards, continuing his violin lessons with Miwako Abe.

Bing has been awarded numerous prizes including the Paul McDermott Scholarship for Violinists, the Austral Salon scholarship and the Preston Symphony Orchestra Concerto Competition. In 2004 he was one of the three national finalists in the National Youth Concerto Competition held in Brisbane, QLD, where he performed the Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto with the Queensland Youth Orchestra under John Curro. He won the 2011 RNCM Concerto Competition.

Bing is very involved in travel and studies as he pursues his musical career. He has just completed his BMUS (HONOURS) at the RNCM. "I will continue in to my masters of music next year with my current teacher Pr. Yair Kless. whom I have been studying with now for 8 months".

Bing was the recipient of the Worshipful Company of Musicians Allcard Award for 2013. He has performed at the Huddersfield Town Hall in West Yorkshire UK on a number of occasions.

Bing completed his BMUS (Honours) at the Royal Northern College Music in 2014.

Since 2015 he has held a position in the 1st violin section of the Shanghai Symphony Orchestra.

August 2014

Kendall National Violin Competition

PO Box 86 Kendall NSW 2439

www.kendallviolin.org.au