

# Rest of the World

Cross-cultural encounters:  
the Australian Festival of  
Chamber Music features  
Natsuko Yoshimoto and  
William Barton



## Abu Dhabi Festival

*United Arab Emirates, year-long*

**Web:** [www.abudhabifestival.ae](http://www.abudhabifestival.ae)

After last year's bold declaration that 'The Future Starts Here', the Festival is in pursuit of 'Creation, Innovation and Joy' as it unpacks 'Crafting the Emirates' State of Mind'. It's nothing if not outward-looking. 'Discover Arab Music Days' in Berlin vie with Verdi from Spain's Teatro Real and a collaboration with the Festival d'Aix-en-Provence.

## Whakatipu Music Festival

*Queenstown, New Zealand, 15-18 April*

**Tel:** +64 (0)21 434432

**Web:** [michaelhillviolincompetition.co.nz](http://michaelhillviolincompetition.co.nz)

Fringed by mountains and washed by the sparkling waters of lake Whakatipu, the festival nurtures emerging talent

alongside seasoned professionals and grassroots initiatives. The result is both hands-on and eclectic. Amid the chamber music, a Taonga pūora seminar spotlights traditional Māori instruments, while featured artists include soprano Madeleine Pierard, pianist Stephen De Pledge and composer Lucy Mulgan (whose festival commission receives its first performance).

## Canberra International Music Festival

*Canberra, ACT,*

*Australia, 29 April – 8 May*

**Tel:** +61 (0)2 6230 5880

**Web:** [www.cimf.org.au](http://www.cimf.org.au)

Anyone for an 'Ears Up' concert specially conceived for dogs and owners blessed with hypersensitive hearing? It's one of

artistic director Roland Peelman's more left-field fancies in a festival journeying from 'Pole to Pole'. Navigating trails through the natural world, Peelman puns deftly on his chosen theme, showcasing Polish musicians as well as Jackson Pollock's *Blue Poles* painting. Across 41 events, early music from Spain rubs shoulders with new Australian works; and Haydn looms large – from *The Creation* to the 'Sun' quartets by way of breakfast summons.

## 4MBS Festival of Classics

*Brisbane, Queensland,*

*Australia, 8-29 May*

**Tel:** +61 (0)7 3847 1717

**Web:** [www.4mbs.com.au](http://www.4mbs.com.au)

Come October, 4MBS's festival focus will be turning to Shakespeare and *Romeo and Juliet*, but first up is May's musical extravaganza – a south-east Queensland fixture and Australia's most extensive celebration of classical music. For 2022, celebrating its 150th anniversary, the Queensland Choir squares up alongside Ensemble Q and the Gold Coast Piano Quartet to a theme that cunningly pre-empt's October's brush with the Bard: 'The Great Romantics'.

## Coriole Music Festival

*McLaren Vale,*

*South Australia, 21-22 May*

**Tel:** +61 (0)8 8236 7499

**Web:** [www.coriolemusicfestival.com](http://www.coriolemusicfestival.com)

South of Adelaide in the McLaren Vale wine region is a winery that for over 20 years has been perfecting the art of blending good food and music. 'The Sense of an Ending' hangs over this year's offering, which explores late works by Liszt, Shostakovich, Lili Boulanger and Richard Strauss among others. The Seraphim Trio gives the Australian premiere of Brett Dean's *Imaginary Ballet* and there's the world premiere of Andrew Ford's *The Blessing*.

## Stellenbosch

**Chamber Music Festival**

*Stellenbosch, South Africa, 1-10 July*

**Tel:** +27 72 531 3235

**Web:** [www.sicmf.co.za](http://www.sicmf.co.za)

2022 marks a return to live music making at the Stellenbosch Konservatorium,



Eastern pleasures:  
violinist Kyung-Wha Chung  
at PyeongChang; (below)  
Lahav Shani conducts at the  
Pacific Music Festival

where for 16 years until the pandemic intervened some 300 young musicians from South Africa and further afield convened under the nurturing gaze of an international faculty drawing on musicians from the US, Europe and South Africa. Public masterclasses as well as chamber and orchestral concerts are on offer. South African-born, New York-based Kathleen Tagg is composer-in-residence.

**Music in PyeongChang**  
**Gangwon, South Korea, 2-23 July**

Web: [www.mpyc.kr/en](http://www.mpyc.kr/en)

Violinist Kyung-Wha Chung and cellist Myung-Wha Chung are among past directors of a festival which celebrates its 20th anniversary next year. Spread across Gangwon Province, its main home is the Alpensia Concert Hall and Music Tent; and as well as some 30 masterclasses, over 20 concerts run the gamut from solo recitals and song to orchestral music from the PyeongChang Festival Orchestra. Pianist Yeol Eum Son is the current artistic director, which might account for this summer's particularly fine keyboard line-up including Simon Trpčeski and Alexander Melnikov.



**Pacific Music Festival**  
**Sapporo, Japan,**  
**16 July – 2 August**

Web: [www.pmf.or.jp/en](http://www.pmf.or.jp/en)

Each summer, young musicians from around the world come together at the festival founded by Leonard Bernstein in 1990. And while a faculty including players from the Vienna and Berlin Philharmonics put them through their paces, outreach work is just as important. Principal conductor this year is the music director of the Israel Philharmonic

Lahav Shani, and he's assisted by the Milwaukee Symphony's Ken-David Masur. Works include Brahms's Symphony No. 2 and Mendelssohn's 'Reformation' Symphony.

**Australian Festival of Chamber Music**

**Townsville, Queensland,**  
**Australia, 29 July – 7 August**

Tel: +61 (0)7 47714144

Web: [www.afcm.com.au](http://www.afcm.com.au)

Australia's pre-eminent chamber music festival has long been fortunate in its artistic directors, and the latest of them, violinist Jack Liebeck, hits the ground running after business-as-usual resumes following a two-year abeyance. The festival musters at least one postponed act of salvage: the premiere of variations on Beethoven's 'Ode to Joy' theme by 25 Australian composers to mark the quarter-century of the Goldner Quartet. Threaded throughout are works by Paul Dean, including a new Concerto for Chamber Orchestra. Science is 'illuminated'; a new festival garden envelops an outdoor stage; and in a trail of 'guilty pleasures', accordionist James Crabb salutes Bon Jovi.



## Rest of the World

### Taipei Music Academy and Festival

Taipei, Taiwan, 31 July – 14 August

Tel: +886 2 2511-5383

Web: [www.taipeimaf.com](http://www.taipeimaf.com)

Taipei has always taken the lofty view – its Festival HQ clings to a mountainside, after all. So, having played to full houses in 2020, after Covid struck it relocated to San Francisco last year. Now it's home again and with a faculty that includes conductor Kent Nagano, the New York Philharmonic String Quartet and violinist-director Cho-Liang Lin. Conducted by Nagano, the concluding orchestral tour pairs Beethoven's Triple Concerto with Mahler's Symphony No. 4.

### Brisbane Festival

Brisbane, Queensland, Australia, 2-24 September

Tel: +61 (0)7 38335400

Web: [www.brisbanefestival.com.au](http://www.brisbanefestival.com.au)

It's promising 'wonder, delight and celebration', but Brisbane 2022 has big boots to fill. Last year's jamboree notched



Taipei beat: Kent Nagano conducts Mahler

up 128 sold-out performances and reached some one-and-a-half-million people. Camerata – Queensland's own chamber orchestra – teams up with singer-songwriter Lior for *Compassion*, his 2013 collaboration with composer

Nigel Westlake. There's a tri-lingual reworking of Shakespeare's *Othello*; Israeli conductor Asher Fisch continues his Brahms symphony cycle with the Queensland Symphony Orchestra; and Poulenc's opera for solo soprano, *La voix humaine*, partners an intriguing new operatic update with a twist.

### Tyalgum Music Festival

Tyalgum, New South Wales, Australia, 16-18 September

Web: [www.tyalgumfestival.com.au](http://www.tyalgumfestival.com.au)

Tyalgum's 30th-anniversary programme last year was unavoidably cancelled, but if at first you don't succeed... let it live to fight another day (especially given such a strong one!). Between opening Debussy and closing Franck, there's a showing of the 1908 film scored by Saint-Saëns, *L'assassinat du Duc de Guise*, and horn-playing director Peter Luff takes part in the work that first brought him to the festival – the Schubert Octet. It's performed alongside Nielsen and a new work by Catherine Likhuta.

GETTY

**OPERA**

Saturday 30 July – Sunday 7 August 2022

Allen Delaney baritone	Alain Lattiere
Yulia Chaplina	Elizabeth Leontakaja
Samantha Ege	Nikolai Lugansky
Ingrid Filmer	Viktor Orlov
Isis Fourie	Marios Papadopoulos
Stephen Kovacevich	Federico Rizzo
Emanuel Kravitsky	Martin Rocco

[coloradofestival.com](http://coloradofestival.com)

**Leamington Music Festival**

28 April – 2 May 2022

Royal Pump Rooms | Leamington Spa

A 5-day Festival celebrating Vaughan Williams at 100 with works by the great composer, his teachers, his pupils, and his inspirations.

[www.leamingtonmusic.org](http://www.leamingtonmusic.org)

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