



# FIVE YEARS OF MUSIC



MELBOURNE  
RECITAL  
CENTRE

**Annual Report** 2013-14  
Part One



Balanescu Quartet



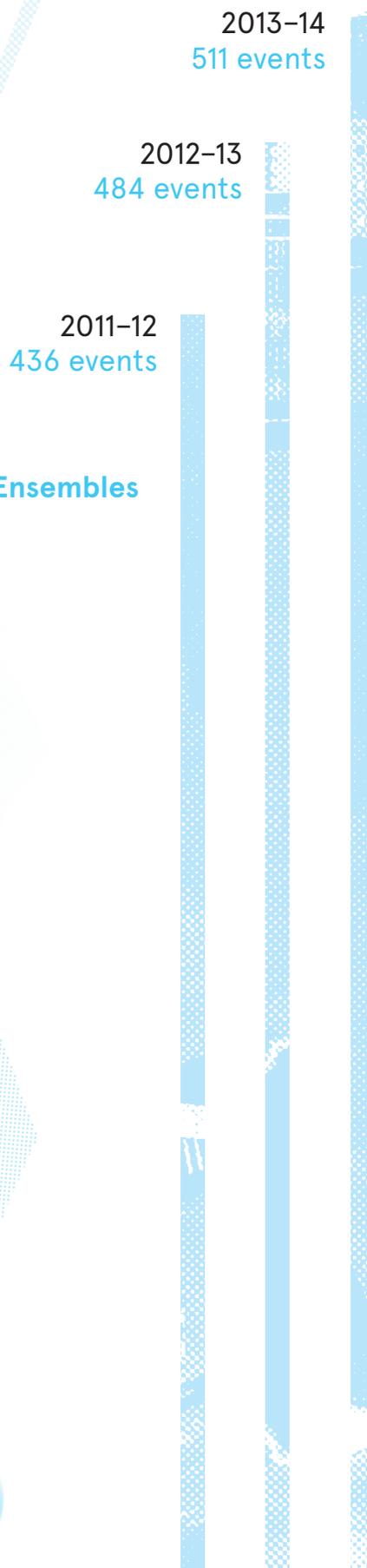
## Contents

- 04 Key Achievements
- 05 Five Years of Music
- 07 Chair's Message
- 09 Report from the Chief Executive Officer
- 10 Highlights of Our Program
- 12 Our Presenting Partners and Associates
- 13 Australian and World Premieres, Commissions
- 16 Our Fifth Birthday
- 18 Support Services and Operations
- 20 Development
- 21 Our Partners
- 22 Our Donors
- 24 Our People
- 27 Environmental Performance
- 29 Financial Summary
- 30 Statement of Corporate Governance

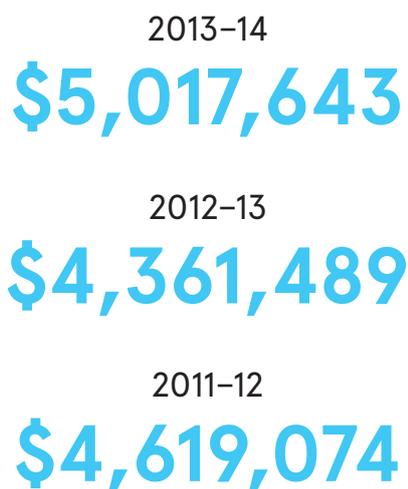
Melbourne Recital Centre



# Building on Strong Foundations



## Value of tickets sold



## Number of Australian Ensembles



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## Online visitors to website



# Key Achievements

Melbourne Recital Centre holds in trust one of the world's best spaces for the enjoyment of live music, and celebrates that role with a distinctive program of concerts, events and activities in many forms and genres. We envisage a future where music is at the heart of an inspired global community of musicians and audiences. Melbourne Recital Centre inspires creativity, self-expression, learning and enrichment through music for people of all walks of life.

	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Number of events	436	484	511
Access - visitors/users <sup>1</sup>	158,339	160,258	184,243
Number of ticketed attendances <sup>2</sup>	118,085	141,490	138,635
Value of tickets sold <sup>3</sup>	\$4,619,074	\$4,361,489	\$5,017,643
Access - online visitors to website	259,132	342,685	511,934
Members and subscribers <sup>4</sup>	816	1837	2375
Volunteer hours	89	435	819
Education and outreach program participation	11,890	13,274	12,029 <sup>5</sup>
Visitor satisfaction	98%	95%	96%

1. Comprises Melbourne Recital Centre presents and presenting partners both free and paid events.

2. Comprises Melbourne Recital Centre presents and presenting partners.

3. Tickets sold through Melbourne Recital Centre's Box Office.

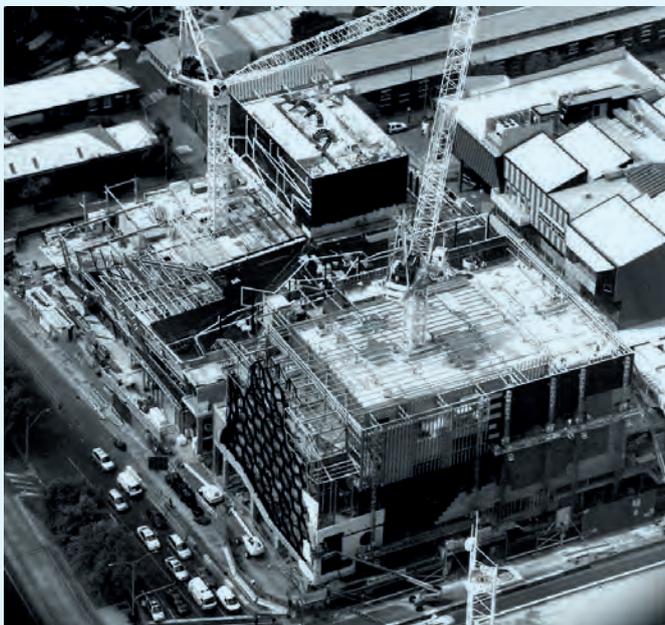
4. Includes 2013-14 subscribers for Great Performers, Mostly Mozart and Local Heroes series, and current Melbourne Recital Centre members.

5. Fewer school hire events in FY2013-14

# Five Years of Music

Since Melbourne Recital Centre opened in 2009 it has hosted 1572 events to a total audience of 648,075. The inaugural concert in Elisabeth Murdoch Hall on 8 February 2009 included the world premiere of the late Peter Sculthorpe's *Song of the Yarra* and the music of Franz Schubert. This blend of old and new, Australia and international, is a Melbourne Recital Centre hallmark. In the last five years of music, a dynamic roster of performers have moved and delighted audiences in the superb acoustics of the Centre's spaces. In 2014, the Centre celebrated with a Fifth Birthday open day and the Helpmann-award-winning Jordi Savall's *Jerusalem*, ushering in the next five years of music and beyond at the *Best Place to Hear*.

Melbourne Recital Centre in construction, 2008



Birthday Bells on the Grand Staircase, Fifth Birthday Celebration

Victorian Welsh Choir perform at the Fifth Birthday Celebration





The Big Sing, Melbourne Recital Centre's Fifth Birthday Celebration

A young visitor plays a piano at the Fifth Birthday Celebration



# Chair's Message

In February 2014, Melbourne Recital Centre turned five. It was an occasion to celebrate the Centre's growth into a vital part of Australia's arts landscape.

The Centre opened its doors for a day-long party to thank the people of Melbourne and Victoria for their support, and showcase the musicians who have made such an enormous contribution to our success. Our Fifth Birthday Celebration was a moving demonstration of the place that Melbourne Recital Centre now occupies in the city's cultural life.



Kathryn Fagg

The range of Melbourne Recital Centre's activities is broad. This year the Centre presented concerts of national and regional significance such as Jordi Savall's *Jerusalem* and nine Great Performers recitals. These signature events secure the Centre's position as a presenter of distinction, and are important dates in the arts calendar. The Centre's contemporary programming streams also attract acclaim from other sectors of the industry, and of course from the large audience for pop, rock and jazz. The Centre is becoming increasingly acclaimed for its iconoclastic, genre-defying approach to programming.

The 2013-2014 attendance figures confirm that there is a growing audience for the kind of unique experiences that the Centre presents. In total, there were over 180,000 attendances at Melbourne Recital Centre - our best result yet - and millions more enjoyed broadcasts of concerts from here on ABC Classic FM. The Centre hosted 511 public events this year, involving hundreds of performers from Australia and all over the world, working in a diversity of styles. Special thanks to our Principal Government Partner, Arts Victoria and the Government of Victoria, who provide the significant ongoing support that underpins our activities and help us promote the venue and its programs to all Victorians. The company is honoured to be custodian of this wonderful facility, both in maintaining its physical fabric in optimal condition and in sustaining an artistic program that celebrates and showcases its superb spaces.

The Centre is playing an increasingly active role in the Melbourne Arts Precinct, leading initiatives such as the SummerSalt Festival in 2015, with significant funding from the Government of Victoria. The innovative multi-artform outdoor festival presents a unique opportunity for collaboration between the organisations that call the Arts Precinct home, forges links between the arts and sport and builds capacity in the cultural sector over summer. SummerSalt has the potential to make a major contribution to the social, economic and artistic wellbeing of Victoria.

Local Heroes is Melbourne Recital Centre's catalyst for creativity, a partnership between us and the hundreds of Australian chamber musicians who perform in the Centre's outstanding spaces, especially in the Salon. The rapport that these musicians have developed with concert-goers is wonderful, and the Centre enjoys deeper engagement with our audiences as a result.

The evidence of this is that the Centre's philanthropy program saw a huge increase in the number of donors from 600 to 3000. The upsurge of support, especially at the 'grass-roots' level of smaller online donations from our online ticket buyers, is a powerful proof of the value that our audiences place on the Centre, its programs and the artists who perform here. Thank you, on behalf of the Centre, to all philanthropists. No matter how large or small your gift, it contributes to the Centre's vibrancy and our

ability to bring the best music to Victorians. Your continued support is essential and greatly appreciated.

Education and outreach are important aspects of the Centre's work. Our capacity to deliver life-changing experiences to the most disadvantaged members of our community, young and old, has been vastly increased by a visionary grant from the William Buckland Foundation. The grant has enabled us to employ a full-time coordinator to develop learning materials and build a network of community groups in our new Share More Music program.

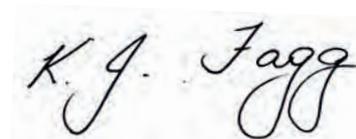
Our corporate partnerships continue to provide benefits to Melbourne's music community. Our invaluable five year Principal Partnership with Audi Australia finished in December 2013, but we continue to enjoy an ongoing partnership with the Audi Centre Melbourne. We worked closely with Etihad Airways to provide an Australian first: Etihad Guest frequent flyer members can earn and redeem points on Melbourne Recital Centre tickets, providing customers with additional value, showcasing the partnership and benefiting both the Centre's and Etihad's loyalty programs. We are grateful for the support of all our corporate partners for allowing us to enhance and extend our activities and reach.

I extend sincere thanks to my colleagues on the Board of Directors who generously lend their time and talents to the Centre. I would like to acknowledge in particular retiring director, Tom Bonvino who has provided great support and enthusiasm for the company during his time on the Board.

I offer my personal thanks to the management team of Melbourne Recital Centre led by CEO Mary Vallentine. Whether it is providing a day of free family entertainment or presenting an ensemble of master musicians, this energetic team is flexible, creative and adept, and relish working in a venue of a calibre that inspires envy in others.

Importantly the Centre and I extend our gratitude to the musicians and performing arts companies whose artistry and dedication delights and inspires many times each week. And finally, my heartfelt thanks to our concert-goers whose engagement with the Centre and its musicians is a source of inspiration for us and the performers.

Melbourne Recital Centre is indeed at the heart of an inspired community of music-makers and music lovers.



**Kathryn Fagg**

Chair, Melbourne Recital Centre



Great Performer, pianist Murray Perahia



Melbourne Chamber Orchestra perform at the Fifth Birthday Celebration



# Report from the Chief Executive Officer

Melbourne Recital Centre has grown and evolved since its opening in 2009. Its remit has expanded from a focus on acoustic classical chamber music to a vibrant diversity of musical cultures. Now, as the Centre turns five years old, you can regularly hear rock, jazz, cabaret, world and electronica performed by the world's best musicians, complementing the superb classical ensembles and soloists presented by Melbourne Recital Centre and our Presenting Partners. This expansive program has broadened the Centre's audience and attracted a record number of attendees this year. Melbourne Recital Centre is unique in Australia for the quantity and quality of the live music performed in its two spaces.



Mary Vallentine AO

A few significant highlights of the Centre's classical music programming stream included the pianist Murray Perahia's Great Performers recital and the profoundly moving *Jerusalem* directed by Jordi Savall. The Centre was one of the hubs activities surrounding the Melbourne Ring Cycle, in collaboration with Opera Australia. Other important collaborations include the annual Metropolis New Music Festival with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, and our Local Heroes series of chamber concerts, which enabled over 27 groups to present more than 70 concerts this year at the Centre.

Our contemporary music program was particularly successful in 2013-2014, cementing the Centre's position as an ideal place to hear the spectrum of popular music from avant-garde jazz to indie rock. We launched a new jazz brand, Mood Indigo, to increase the focus on this genre, and again presented the American Songbook Festival.

In all, nearly 70,000 people attended events presented by Melbourne Recital Centre, and a further 110,000 attended events of our presenting partners and hirers. This vital audience base contributes so much to the Centre's vibrancy and is drawn by the wonderful companies that regularly perform here. We are proud of the relationships we enjoy with the Australian Brandenburg Orchestra, Australian Chamber Orchestra, Australian National Academy of Music, Australian String Quartet, Melbourne Chamber Orchestra, Melbourne Festival, Melbourne International Jazz Festival, Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, Musica Viva Australia and Orchestra Victoria. On behalf of the Centre, I thank these companies for their role in positioning Victoria as Australia's cultural capital and the Centre as Melbourne's best place to hear them.

The Centre invested in a new website to enhance our customers' experience when buying tickets and to act as a resource for learning about the Centre's activities and about music. Customers can now print their own tickets at home, and easily donate online when purchasing tickets. This has seen a 50% increase in the number of visitors to the website. We also launched an iPhone app - the Visitour - which allows visitors to the Centre to take a self-guided tour of the building, discovering its architecture and acoustic design and how they contribute to the superb musical experience you can enjoy here. The result of these activities, and those such as our Fifth Birthday Celebration, coupled with an active and accessible program of concerts has brought the Centre to more people than ever before and raised awareness of the venue in Melbourne and further afield.

It is encouraging that in the often volatile market for ticket sales for the performing arts that Melbourne Recital Centre has produced a modest surplus and built its reserves to \$5 million.

Securing the Centre's future, developing innovative performance and outreach programs, and being at the heart of Melbourne's cultural life are paramount to our

aspirations. In 2013-2014, initiatives such our Fifth Birthday Gala Dinner and the receipt of a significant bequest from the Estate of Beverly Shelton and Martin Schönthal enabled us to open the Centre to the Melbourne community on our fifth birthday. We are immensely grateful for this support. The William Buckland Foundation has given us the opportunity to transform our outreach programs with a three-year grant while strong box sales and revenue contributed significantly the Centre's financial position. Thank you to our donors, ticket buyers, philanthropic and corporate partners for investing in a vibrant future for live music in Melbourne.

The Government of Victoria is the largest of these investors, and on behalf of the musicians and music-lovers of Victoria, I acknowledge this support with gratitude and thank The Hon. Heidi Victoria MP Minister for the Arts for her personal support and for being an enthusiastic champion of this world-class venue.

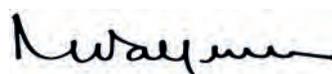
Thank you to the Melbourne Recital Centre staff and management team for a fantastic outcome both artistically and financially in 2013-2014. It has been thrilling to welcome so many musicians from around the globe to perform for our diverse and passionate audience to the Centre this year, and the staff of the Centre make everyone feel welcome, both Front and Back of House. Thank you.

My personal thanks go to the Board of Directors for their time, expertise and commitment to the Centre, and particularly to our Chair, Kathryn Fagg. Thanks also to the specialist Committees which provide invaluable advice and support.

As the Centre turns five, it is inspiring to reflect that it wasn't so long ago that this venue was just a vacant lot. For it to become a reality and indeed a venue which is loved by so many musicians and music lovers is testament to the dedication of the hundreds of people to the goal of creating a special place for music in Melbourne.

The next five years are sure to be even more exciting, beginning with the announcement in May 2014 of \$1.1 million in funding from the Victoria Government for the inaugural SummerSalt Festival in January and February 2015. The initiative, led by Melbourne Recital Centre, will see the Melbourne Arts Precinct transformed by vibrant activities to engage and enthral Victorians and visitors, affirming Melbourne's reputation as Australia's most artistically vibrant city.

I am delighted to present the 2013-2014 Annual Report, celebrating five years of music at Melbourne Recital Centre.



**Mary Vallentine AO**  
Chief Executive Officer



Melbourne Ukelele Kollektive

# Highlights of Our Program

Melbourne Recital Centre's distinctive program has evolved over five years into one of Australia's most diverse and vibrant, engaging a broad audience of music-lovers, young and old, with an increasingly expansive range of concerts, talks, master classes, workshops and competitions.

Music-making of the highest calibre is at the heart of what we do, and this year's concerts demonstrated that passion for excellence. Our Great Performers series showcased nine of the world's best musicians in solo recital. In the latter part of 2013, soprano Susan Bullock, piano duo Katia and Marielle Labeque performed for ecstatic audiences and in November the Centre presented the Melbourne debut of legendary pianist Murray Perahia during his first (but certainly not last) visit to Australia. In 2014 we've experienced the artistry of violinist Daniel Hope and soprano Julia Lezhneva (in her Australian debut), violinist Karen Gomyo with Australian guitarist Slava Grigoryan among many other highlights.

The Centre presented several significant international ensembles in 2013-2014. Revered London-based vocal group The Tallis Scholars performed the music of Renaissance Italy and England with their signature perfection in October 2013. In April of 2014 it was a privilege to present Early Music luminary Jordi Savall and his ensembles Hespèrion XXI and La Capella Reial de Catalunya with superb musicians from the Middle East. Jordi Savall's *Jerusalem* was a highly personal and intensely moving concert, bringing together musicians from nations in conflict in a celebration of their shared musical heritage. Bringing this ambitious concert to Melbourne was an enormous undertaking made possible by the Hugh Williamson Creative Production Fund and the support of donors and ticket-buyers. The concert was awarded the Helpmann for Best Chamber and/or Instrumental performance in August 2014.



Kirsten Siddle

## Highlights of Our Program

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Our major annual artistic collaboration with Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, the Metropolis New Music Festival, this year explored myth and nature in concerts by the MSO featuring Sibelius, Rautavaara, Shchedrin and composer-conductor Olli Mustonen. Great Performer Pianist Joanna MacGregor gave a fascinating recital of Bach and Shostakovich, and Melbourne's most exciting new music ensembles and soloists performed in the Salon. In an artistic coup for new music, the Festival presented eight world premieres and four Australian premieres.

In November and December of 2013, Wagner-mania was all-pervasive as OA's Melbourne Ring Cycle brought opera lovers from all over the world to the city. The Centre hosted talks by Ring Cycle expert Heath Lees and concerts and activities as part of the festival which accompanied the opera's performances.

Opera and music theatre form an exciting part of the Centre's activities and we presented three musicals by Stephen (*Wicked*) Schwartz, in the presence of the composer/lyricist, and hosted Victorian Opera's presentation of Piazzolla's *Maria de Buenos Aires*.

Our Local Heroes program entered its fourth year in 2014. Unique in Australia, Local Heroes this year provided a platform for 27 ensembles in over 70 concerts. Demonstrating the wealth of talent and the diversity of musical perspectives, Local Heroes is attracting an avid following of music-lovers who enjoy fine music in an informal and intimate setting.

Classical music is just one part of the Centre's activities. The American Songbook Festival celebrates the show-tunes, pop-hits and torch songs of Broadway and beyond in cabaret and concert performances by jazz and pop's leading exponents including Bernadette Robinson, Mary Carewe and The Callaway Sisters. We established a new jazz stream, Mood Indigo: Jazz at Melbourne Recital Centre, to highlight the important place that jazz and its allied genres hold in Melbourne. Mood Indigo presented international artists like singers Madeleine Peyroux, Stacey Kent, category-defying 80s sensation Kid Creole & the Coconuts, Cuban pianist Roberto Fonseca and New York's funkier brass band, the Soul Rebels. The vibrant roster of Australians in regular performances in the Salon included Tilman Robinson, Andrea Keller, Luke Howard, Nat Bartsch, Adam Simmons, Gemma Turvey, Imogen Manins and Tony Gould, Gian Slater, Tamara Murphy and Sam Keevers.

Great pop, rock and folk musicians raised the roof in 2013-2014. Irish folk-rocker Glen Hansard led capacity audiences out of the Centre and into Southbank's streets in a joyous parade. Australian legend Paul Kelly performed in several contexts, solo and with the musicians of ANAM, and the incandescent music-making of Joan as Policewoman, KT Tunstall and Suzanne Vega lit up Elisabeth Murdoch Hall.

Enriching the Centre's performance activities are the important education and outreach programs. This year Melbourne Recital Centre inaugurated Share More Music, a meaningful deep engagement music program that is not currently offered within Victoria aimed at lowering the barriers for access to live music among older people. Our established Share the Music program provided enriching experiences for disadvantaged members of the community. Two unique events, ACO Virtual, an immersive technologically-sophisticated audio-visual experience of the Australian Chamber Orchestra and EarFilms' *To Sleep To Dream* were two highlights. The cinematic but entirely aural surround sound performance of *To Sleep To Dream* was ideally suited for vision-impaired children and adults.

The highlight of the year was our Fifth Birthday Celebration on Saturday 8 February. Beginning with a procession of pealing handbells in an original composition developed by community participant performers, the Birthday was a joyous affirmation of the power of music to bring together people of all walks of life. Elisabeth Murdoch Hall came to life with a day of live performances by Melbourne's musicians while the Salon hosted the Centre's Local Heroes chamber ensembles and a Bach Marathon performed by members of the public and professional musicians. In the Foyers, community groups such as La Voce della Luna Italian Womens Choir, the Ukelele Collective and Victoria Welsh Choir entertained visitors and a drop-in jazz jam session invited anyone with an instrument and the inclination to improvise with some of Melbourne's best jazz musicians. Activities for kids, a crowd-sourced composition and panel discussions enlivened the entire venue. The day ended with a 1200-person choir in the Elisabeth Murdoch Hall led by Jonathon Welch AM. Comprised of community choirs and members of the general public, The Big Sing included the performance of a new commission in celebration of the Centre's five years by Joseph Twist, *Harmony of Dreams*, a beautifully fitting end to the day's festivities.

The Centre's Fifth Birthday was a milestone in what has been a very successful year for the Centre, cementing its position in as a lynchpin in a musical ecosystem - a living and dynamic participant in Australia's cultural life as presenter, as collaborator and as home to Victoria's musicians and music-lovers. On behalf of Melbourne Recital Centre, thank you to all our artists and presenting partners, and a special thanks to the audiences whose enthusiasm and passion for great music sustains and inspires us all.



**Kirsten Siddle**

Director, Programming & Presenter Services

# Our Presenting Partners and Associates

Acclaim Awards	Hawk Entertainment Pty Ltd	Orchestra Victoria
Adam Simmons	HVK Productions	Our Lady of Mercy College
Albare Productions	InConcert Music	Outer Urban Projects Ltd
Alexander Boyd	Jane Rutter	Plexus
Alex & Nilusha	Jamchen Buddhist Centre	Quartz
Anatolian Cultural Centre	Johanna Selleck	Quentron Pty Ltd
Anatolian Events Australia	John Cristian Productions	Red Fish Blue
Andrea Keller	Josh Cohen	The Richard Wagner Society Inc
Andrew Byrne	Kay + McLean Productions	Sacré Coeur
Andrew Hagger	Kegelstatt Ensemble	Select Music
Andrew McKinnon Presentations Pty Ltd	Kevin March	Seraphim Trio
Anthony Romaniuk	The King David School	Shanghai International Arts Festival
Aria Co	Kristian Chong and Friends	Six Degrees Ensemble
Australia Quartet	La Compañia	The Song Company
Australian Boys Choral Institute	Latitude 37	Songmakers Australia
Australian Brandenburg Orchestra	Lauriston Girls School	Speak Percussion
Australian Chamber Orchestra	Live Nation	St Catherines School
Australia Northern Europe Liaisons	Loreto Mandeville Hall Toorak	Streeton Trio
Australian Music Events	Ludovico's Band	St Michael's Grammar School
Australian National Academy of Music	Magnormos	The Star Chorale & Orchestra
Australian String Quartet	Manins & Gould	Sutherland Trio
Australian Youth Orchestra	Melbourne Art Song Collective	Szyzygy Ensemble
Benaud Trio	Melbourne Chamber Orchestra	Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra
Ben Opie & Peter de Jager	Melbourne Conservatorium of Music,	TEDx Melbourne
Borrowed Time Trio	University of Melbourne	The Ian Potter Foundation
Brighton Grammar School	Melbourne Girls Grammar School	The Grigoryan Brothers
Can-Do Events	Melbourne Guitar Quartet	The New Palm Court Orchestra
Caroline Moore	Melbourne International Festival of the Arts	Tilman Robinson
City of Melbourne	Melbourne International Jazz Festival	Trio Anima Mundi
The Consort of Melbourne	Melbourne International Singers Festival	TrioKroma
Christ Church Grammar School	Melbourne Music Week	United Times Media Group
Continuo Collective	Melbourne Piano Trio	Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School
Corpus Medicorum	Melbourne Street Choirs	Victorian College of the Arts, University of Melbourne
Cosmo Cosmolino	Melbourne Symphony Orchestra	Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority
Creative Touring Entertainment	Melbourne Winds	Victorian Opera
Chamber Music Australia	Melbourne Youth Music	Victorian Thai Community Association Inc
David Hawkins Presents	Monash Academy of Performing Arts	Victorian Welsh Choir
David Jones	Monique di Mattina	Wesley College
Down-under Concert Direction	More than Opera	Wilma Smith & Friends
Duo Chamber Melange	Murphy's Law	Xin Jin Shan Chinese Language & Culture School
Ensemble Liaison	Musica Viva Australia	Yitzhak Yedid
Festival of Beautiful Sound	Nataraj Cultural Centre Inc	Zenith Ensemble
Firebird Trio	National Boys Choir of Australia	Zionist Council of Victoria
Flinders Quartet	New Music Lighthouse	
Forest Collective	New Music Network	
Frostfall	Opera Australia	

# Australian and World Premieres

COMPOSER	TITLE			Date
James Ledger	<i>Sextet</i>	World premiere		23/07/2013
Dermot Tutty	<i>Raven Glass</i> <i>Pourquoi Chanter?</i> <i>Nascita di Venere Credo</i>	World premiere		30/10/2013
Joseph Twist	<i>Harmony of Dreams</i>	World premiere	Melbourne Recital Centre Fifth Birthday Commission	8/02/2014
Community Composition	Birthday Bells to open the Fifth Birthday Celebration	World premiere		8/02/2014
Community Composition lab as part of the Fifth Birthday Celebration	<i>Carcophonia Birthday</i>			8/02/2014
Dermot Tutty	<i>Spring Snowflake</i> <i>Falsely Wed</i>	World premiere		17/03/2014
Paul Grabowsky	<i>Djuwalparra</i>	World premiere		2/04/2014
Ian Grandage	<i>The Keep</i>	World premiere		2/04/2014
Richard Mills	<i>Ganymede and Leda</i>	World premiere		2/04/2014
Gordon Kerry	<i>The end of many worlds</i>	World premiere		2/04/2014
Michael Harvey	<i>Deus est Fabula</i>	World premiere		2/04/2014
Lars Ekström	<i>Garden of Ice</i>	Australian premiere		4/04/2014
Evan Lawson	<i>Dithyramb</i>	World premiere		4/04/2014
Lisa Illean	<i>And a Black Sea, Breaks</i>	World premiere	Melbourne Symphony Orchestra/ Cybec 21st Century Australian Composers Program commissions	4/04/2014
Kaija Saariaho	<i>Ariel's Hall</i>	World premiere		4/04/2014
Olli Mustonen	<i>Symphony No.1 Tuuri</i>	Australian premiere		5/04/2014
Andrew Aronowicz	<i>Strange Alchemy</i>	World premiere	Melbourne Symphony Orchestra/ Cybec 21st Century Australian Composers Program commissions	5/04/2014
Olli Mustonen	<i>Sonata for violin &amp; orchestra</i>	World premiere		9/04/2014
Toshio Hosokawa	<i>Stunden Blumen</i>	Australian premiere		10/04/2014
Elliott Hughes	<i>Arcs and Sevens</i>	World premiere	Commissioned by Melbourne Recital Centre for Syzygy Ensemble	10/04/2014

## Commissions

**Joseph Twist** *Harmony of Dreams*, Melbourne Recital Centre Fifth Birthday Commission, premiered at The Big Sing, 8 February 2014

Birthday Bells Community Composition to open the Fifth Birthday Celebration, 8 February 2014

*Carcophonia Birthday*, Community Composition lab as part of the Fifth Birthday Celebration, 8 February 2014

**Elliott Hughes** *Arcs and Sevens*, commissioned by Melbourne Recital Centre for Syzygy Ensemble, premiered 10 April, 2014

Jordi Savall, early musician





KT Tunstall, singer/songwriter



Julia Lezhneva, soprano

Roberto Fonseca, pianist





# FIFTH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

On Saturday 8 February, the Centre celebrated its fifth birthday with a day of free performances, musical activities and fun. Over 5000 music-lovers visited the Centre to hear some of Melbourne's favourite ensembles inside the Centre and beyond: musicians delighted passengers on the No.1 Tram and listeners tuned in to the Centre's all-day digital radio broadcast.

Amateur musicians jammed with a jazz combo and performed Bach in the Salon. The party culminated with The Big Sing, a community choir of over 1200 voices led by Jonathon Welch AM, which was webcast to an international audience. The joy radiating from the singers in Elisabeth Murdoch Hall was palpable, a reminder of why music-lovers of all tastes come to places like Melbourne Recital Centre - for the sheer pleasure of making and hearing music in an exquisite space. It was a delight to welcome all visitors and musicians to the birthday. Melbourne Recital Centre extends its heartfelt gratitude to the support of audiences, musicians, donors and business partners over the last five years, and into the future.

La Voce della Luna, Italian Women's Choir



Open Jazz Jam at Melbourne Recital Centre's Fifth Birthday Celebration



# Support Services and Operations

	Objective	Achievement
<b>Marketing</b>	Provide tactical and strategic support to the Centre's programming to achieve target revenue and attendance for MRC Presents, in 2013/14 this was a 3% increase in attendance and 6% increase in ticketing revenue.	Marketing supported the Centre's programming activity and contributing to the strong performance of MRC Presents in 2013/14. Targets were exceeded and MRC Presents ticketing revenue increased by 6%.
	Continue implementation of the Centre's online, digital and social media strategies and grow audience engagement via these channels, including growing online subscribers and online ticket sales.	New Website successfully launched in September 2013, including select your own seat, print at home ticketing and flexible package sales. The success of the Website has contributed to an increase in online visits of 50%. The addition of the top up your ticket donations option has resulted in an increase in individual giving from 600 to over 3000 donations. A renewed social media and digital strategy has resulted in Facebook and Twitter followers growing to 10,644.
	Continue to promote Melbourne Recital Centre activities through a range of media, growing audiences to support the Centre's programming.	Melbourne Recital Centre leveraged a range of bought, owned and free media including trams and street posters, newspapers, magazines, online, social media, radio, direct marketing, hand-to-hand distribution, editorial and network marketing to achieve a total audience of 180,713 and \$5M in ticket revenue which represents increases of 13% and 16% respectively.
	Consolidate and grow Melbourne Recital Centre's customer database and enews subscribers.	Melbourne Recital Centre has 2375 subscribers and members, an increase of 538 since the previous year.
	Work closely with Development to deliver value to corporate partners and innovative ways to bring partnerships to life.	Marketing and Development have implemented successful activations for partners including Etihad and Audi throughout the year via direct marketing and onsite, and for Matilda Bay Brewing Company and City of Melbourne at The Garden Party. In partnership with Etihad we have enabled Etihad Guest members to earn and use points on Melbourne Recital Centre tickets and conducted the large-scale 'Be Our Guest' promotion on Facebook.
	New website to provide best customer experience including select your own seat and flexible package sales.	An innovative new website developed to allow easier ticket and package sales, deliver richer content, improved philanthropy and donation areas and showcase the Centre's brand and events in an exciting and appealing way. It also enables more effective use of Online Team's resources and streamlines the tasks associated with managing our online presence.

## Support Services and Operations

<b>Arts and Corporate Venue Hiring</b>	Continue to nurture relationships with venue hirers and support their presentations	Venue hiring activity increased with Hire income representing \$1.9m - an increase of 30.6% on the previous year.
	Maintain hiring activity in corporate and private areas.	Corporate and private hiring activity increased during 2013/14, with the fostering of new and existing commercial relationships.
	Develop relationships with filming companies for hire of venue as location.	Successfully established relationship with filming companies resulting in the Centre being used as a filming location for Channel Ten's Offspring, House Husband's and the ABC's Q&A.
<b>Building and Technical</b>	Finalise asset strategy and maintenance plan with Arts Victoria	Draft asset strategy completed and in finale stages with Arts Victoria, expected to be completed in early 2014/15.
	Continue to advocate to Art Victoria for support for necessary sound system upgrades for Elisabeth Murdoch Hall.	Case for funding resubmitted and major equipment specified. Funding application made previously in 2013-14.
	Activate vacant lot adjacent to Melbourne Recital Centre to support the Centre's Fifth Birthday Celebration.	The vacant lot was activated to support the delivery of the Fifth Birthday Celebration day of activities and was accessed as an outdoor venue by the public and for staging musicians and activities.
<b>Corporate Services</b>	Explore and cost an electronic rostering system that integrates with payroll.	Analysis of rostering and integrated payroll system completed and implementation scheduled for early 2014/15.
<b>Organisational Development</b>	Continue staff training and professional development.	Training and professional development continued in accordance with performance plans and organisational needs. A program of core training has been developed for implementation in 2014/15
	Develop and implement the Share More Music project to develop learning and curriculum resources that support Melbourne Recital Centre's children's, lifelong learning and engagement programs.	Project staff recruited to begin work on the dedicated education and access programs including EarFilms: To Sleep To Dream, ACO Virtual, masterclasses with leading artists and ensembles and participating in Education Week for the first time, resulting in a total of 842 engaged participants (250 adults and 592 children).
	Continue to implement our Environmental Resource Plan.	Continued throughout the year.
	Continue effective staff communications, including developing and implementing channels to enhance communication.	Continued throughout the year, with company meetings held quarterly to provide updates on Centre performance, activities and strategies.
	Finalise 2012-2015 Enterprise Agreement.	Staff and company enterprise agreement negotiations completed, approved and implemented.
	Implement changes to staff exit interview process.	Departing staff exit interview process implemented and summary report received and utilised to inform management practices and policies.

# Our Business Partners and Key Donors

Philanthropy underpinned the Centre's growth in 2013-14 as more donors than ever were inspired by the Centre's positive impact. By creating opportunities to share experiences in the Centre's superb spaces, music can change lives.

New ways to give online, an invigorated Leadership Circles support scheme and the Fifth Birthday Gala Dinner saw the number of supporters giving at all levels increase fivefold to over 3000 individuals and businesses. Their support of the Centre's diverse program helped us attract 180,000 visitors in this milestone year.

I would particularly like to thank the Benefactors of the Leadership Circles - Betty Amsden AO, Colin Golvan QC and Dr Deborah Golvan, Cathy Lowy and The Late John Price, Naomi Milgrom AO, Lady Marigold Southey AC and Majlis Pty Ltd, whose exceptional philanthropic leadership inspires so many and ensures the Centre's capacity to pursue its mission.

Development revenue continued to grow with income reaching \$1,154,892. With this growth came innovation in our Business Partnerships. This year, the Centre became the first Australian arts venue to participate in an airline loyalty program. With the support of our international airline partner Etihad Airways, the Centre's customers can now accrue and redeem Etihad Guest miles at the Centre's box office. This unique partnership earned the Centre its second consecutive Victorian Partnering Award from Creative Partnerships Australia.

While we farewelled Audi Australia, the Centre's Principal Partner of five years, it was pleasing to secure the support of Audi Centre Melbourne/Audi Centre Brighton to continue the relationship. Other new Business Partnerships established this year included Audrey Page & Associates, ERD Design, Outware Mobile and Avant Card.

New partnerships with The William Buckland Foundation and The Hugh Williamson Foundation presented the Centre with significant opportunities to present unique events and achieve greater social impact. The Hugh Williamson Foundation provided a two-year grant to develop large-scale music events for the benefit of Victorian audiences, artists and technical staff. This year, their support enabled over 70 visually-impaired children

and adults to experience the EarFilm *To Sleep To Dream* and ensured Jordi Savall's wondrous *Jerusalem* was seen in Melbourne.

Inspired by the possibilities associated with music and social change, The William Buckland Foundation's three-year grant for Share More Music extends the Centre's popular Share the Music ticket and transport subsidy scheme with the development of learning materials to enhance Centre visits and a network of community groups using music in their programs for the disadvantaged.

The most significant gifts of 2013-14 ensured that the Centre was able to present its Fifth Birthday open day celebration as a free event for all Victorians. A generous bequest from The Estate of Beverley Shelton and Martin Schönthal and the gifts of donors to the Elisabeth Murdoch Creative Development Fund made this a day freely accessible to over 5000 Victorians of all ages, who came together for a joyous celebration of music in all its forms - from computer compositions to ukulele and accordion orchestras to the transporting power of 1200 community choir voices from throughout Victoria.

As the Centre looks ahead, bequests that build its Public Fund will be increasingly fundamental to sustaining its vibrant, ambitious artistic program that stimulates creativity, self-expression, learning and enrichment through music for people from all walks of life.

We are grateful for our outstanding community of supporters that enables the Centre and its music to reach further and impact more strongly on the lives of all Victorians.



**Margaret Farren-Price**

Chair, Development Advisory Committee

# Our Partners

## Founding Patron

The Late Dame Elisabeth Murdoch AC DBE

## Board Members

Kathryn Fagg, Chair  
Peter Bartlett  
Stephen Carpenter

Des Clark  
Joseph Corponi  
Margaret Farren-Price

John Higgs AM  
Julie Kantor

## Founding Benefactors

The Kantor Family  
The Calvert-Jones Family  
Lyn Williams AM

Helen Macpherson Smith Trust  
Robert Salzer Foundation  
The Hugh Williamson Foundation

## Principal Government Partner

**ARTS  
VICTORIA**



## Business Partners

International Airline Partner



## Supporting Partners



## Program Partners



## Foundations



## Melbourne Recital Centre Fifth Birthday Gala Dinner

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all those who supported this evening so generously

Caroline Almonte  
Australian String Quartet  
Delatite Wines  
Allan Myers AO and Maria Myers AO  
Mossgreen  
The Big Bunch, Armadale  
Universal Music Australia  
Wigmore Hall

Audi Centre Melbourne/Audi Centre Brighton  
Bay Leaf Catering  
Etihad Airways  
Montblanc  
Royal Mail Hotel, Dunkeld  
The Langham London  
Royal Opera House Covent Garden

# Our Donors

We thank the following patrons whose generosity ensures the Centre can make a real difference in the lives of young artists and reach the broadest possible audience.

## Artist Development

### Leadership Circle

Colin Golvan QC & Dr Deborah Golvan  
The Vizard Foundation

## Great Performers

### Leadership Circle

Geoff & Jan Phillips  
Lady Primrose Potter AC

## Life-long Learning

### Leadership Circle

Betty Amsden AO  
Kathryn Fagg

## Master Class Leadership Circle

Cathy Lowy & The Late John Price  
George & Laila Embelton

## New Music Leadership Circle

Naomi Milgrom AO  
Peter Jopling AM QC

## Local Heroes Leadership Circle

Lady Marigold Southey AC  
Brian & Esther Benjamin  
Warwick & Paulette Bisley  
Andrew & Theresa Dyer  
Dr Garry Joslin & Prof Dimity Reed AM  
Majlis Pty Ltd  
Jean Hedges  
Skipp Williamson

## Encore Bequest Program

Anonymous (2)  
Betty Amsden AO  
Jenny Anderson  
Ken Bullen  
Jim Cousins AO & Libby Cousins  
Dr Garry Joslin  
The Estate of Beverley Shelton & Martin Schönthal  
Mary Vallentine AO

## Music Circle Patrons Program

Magnum Opus Circle (\$20,000+)  
Betty Amsden AO\*  
Colin Golvan QC & Dr Deborah Golvan\*  
Cathy Lowy & The Late John Price \*  
Naomi Milgrom AO\*  
Lady Marigold Southey AC\*  
Annamila Pty Ltd\*  
Majlis Pty Ltd\*  
The Playking Foundation  
**Virtuoso Circle** (\$10,000+)  
Jean Hedges  
Mrs Margaret S Ross AM & Dr Ian C Ross\*  
J.A Westacott and T.M Shannon  
Melbourne Recital Centre Board of Directors  
Kathryn Fagg\*  
Peter & Cally Bartlett\*  
Stephen Carpenter & Leigh Ellwood

Des & Irene Clark  
Joseph Corponi  
Margaret & Ronald Farren-Price  
Mr John Higgs AM & Mrs Betty Higgs  
Julie Kantor\*  
Skipp Williamson\*

## Composers Circle (\$4000+)

Anonymous (2)  
Brian & Esther Benjamin  
Warwick & Paulette Bisley  
The Late Harold Campbell-Pretty & Krystyna Campbell-Pretty\*  
Andrew & Theresa Dyer  
George & Laila Embelton  
Dr Helen Ferguson\*  
Andrea Goldsmith  
Richard Gubbins\*  
Yvonne Von Hartel AM & Robert Peck AM\*  
Dr Alastair Jackson\*  
Peter Jopling AM QC\*  
Dr Garry Joslin & Prof Dimity Reed AM\*  
Alison & David Lansley  
Geoff & Jan Phillips  
Lady Primrose Potter AC\*  
Craig Reeves  
Maria Sola in memory of Malcolm Douglas  
Janet Whiting\*  
Lyn Williams AM\*  
Melbourne Recital Centre Senior Management  
Message Consultants Australia Pty Ltd  
The Vizard Foundation\*  
Youth Music Foundation Australia\*

## Musicians Circle (\$2500+)

Eva Besen AO & Marc Besen AO  
Jim Cousins AO & Libby Cousins\*  
Robert & Jan Green\*  
Jenny & Peter Hordern  
Sarah & Baillieu Myer AC  
James Ostroburski  
Christine Sather  
Dr Cheryl Tillman & Mr Tam Vu\*  
Drs Victor & Karen Wayne  
Global Leadership Foundation\*

## Prelude Circle (\$1000+)

Anonymous (5)  
Adrienne Bassier  
Helen Brack  
Bill & Sandra Burdett  
Barbara Burge\*  
John & Thelma Castles\*  
Mary Draper  
Lord Francis Ebury & Lady Suzanne Ebury  
Maggie Edmond  
The Late Lorraine Elliott AM  
Penny & Grant Fowler\*  
The Leo & Mina Fink Fund  
Susan Fallaw\*

William J Forrest AM  
Dr Jane Gilmour OAM\*  
Angela Glover  
Nance Grant AM MBE & Ian Harris  
Sue Hamilton & Stuart Hamilton AO  
Kristin & Martin Haskett  
Judith Hoy  
Prof Andrea Hull AO\*  
Darvell M Hutchinson AM  
Stuart Jennings  
Michael & Silvia Kantor\*  
Dorothy Karpin  
Alan Kozica & Wendy Kozica  
Diana Lempriere\*  
Robert MacFarlane  
Sally MacIndoe\*  
David Marr & Sebastian Tesoriero  
Norene Leslie McCormac  
Maria Mercurio  
Dr Richard Mills AM\*  
Stephen Newton AO  
Elizabeth O'Keeffe  
Prof David Penington AC & Mrs Sonay Penington\*  
Helen L Perlen  
Dr Robert Piaggio  
Kerryn Pratchett  
Peter Rose & Christopher Menz  
Rae Rothfield  
Samara, Countess of Beekman  
Meredith Schilling  
Kate & Stephen Shelmerdine Family Foundation  
Barbara & Duncan Sutherland  
Elisabeth & Peter Turner  
Sally Webster  
Peter Weiss AO  
Igor Zambelli

## Supporters (\$500+)

Anonymous (1)  
The Hon Mary Delahunty\*  
Vivien and Jacob Fajgenbaum  
Margaret & Baden Hagger  
Hans & Petra Henkell  
Dr Robert Hetzel\*  
David & Rosemary Houseman  
Penelope Hughes  
George & Grace Kass  
The Hon Sen Rod Kemp MP & Ms Daniele Kemp\*  
Ann Lahore  
Travis Pemberton\*  
Margarita & Paul Schneider  
Greg Shalit & Miriam Faine  
Barry & Barbara Shying  
John & Myriam Wylie

*\*Donations directed to the Elisabeth Murdoch Creative Development Fund*

Local artists perform at the Fifth Birthday Celebration



# Our People



Kathryn Fagg



Peter Bartlett



Tom Bonvino



Stephen Carpenter



Des Clark



Joe Corponi



Margaret Farren-Price



John Higgs



Julie Kantor

## Board of Directors

### **Kathryn Fagg, Chair** *Reappointed 22 April 2013*

Member of the Board, Reserve Bank of Australia; Non-Executive Director of Incitec Pivot Limited; Non-Executive Director Djerriwarrh Investments Limited; Non-Executive Director of the Breast Cancer Network of Australia; Member of the Council of Chief Executive Women; Former President FMCG Asia Pacific, Linfox; Former President, Asia, BlueScope Steel; Former Managing Director, Banking Products, ANZ; Former Chairman, Parks Victoria.

### **Peter Bartlett** *Appointed 3 March 2012*

Partner Minter Ellison ; Member Management Board International Bar Association and Liaison to its Asia Pacific Forum ; Chair Advisory Board, Centre for Advancing Journalism ,Melbourne University ; Former Chairman Minter Ellison ; Immediate Past President Barwon Heads Golf Club ; Life Member Melbourne Press Club ; Former Chair World Services Group ; Former Member State Sports Centres Trust and State Sports & Aquatic Centre Trust.

### **Stephen Carpenter** *Appointed 3 March 2012*

Partner, KPMG; Fellow, Taxation Institute of Australia; Member, Institute of Chartered Accountants; Foundation Board Member, Museum of Australian Democracy at Eureka (M.A.D.E); President, School Council, Port Phillip Specialist School.

### **Des Clark** *Appointed 3 March 2012*

Board Member, Australian Centre for the Moving Image and Docklands Studios Melbourne; Former Director, Office of Film and Literature Classification; Former Deputy Chairman, Australian Film Commission; Former Chairman, Melbourne International Film Festival; Former Lord Mayor, City of Melbourne; Former Chairman of Commissioners, City of Port Phillip.

### **Joseph Corponi** *Appointed 3 March 2012*

Former Director, Asylum Seekers Resources Centre; Former Director, Gould Group; Former Director, International Council of Museums (Australia).

### **Margaret Farren-Price** *Appointed 3 March 2012*

Founder and Artistic Director, Impresaria Piano Series (1990-2011); Board Member, Piano Landmarks; Private piano studio.

### **John Higgs AM** *Reappointed 2 March 2012*

Trustee, Bendigo Art Gallery Foundation; Chairman, Advisory Board, La Trobe Visual Arts Centre; Co-Founder and Founding Chair, Girton Grammar School; Former President, Bendigo Art Gallery; Former Member, Council of Bendigo College of Education; Former Member, Academic Staff, La Trobe University.

### **Julie Kantor** *Reappointed 2 March 2013*

Director, Annamila Pty Ltd; Director, Dara Foundation; Director, McClelland Gallery & Sculpture Park; Board Member, State Library of Victoria Foundation.

## Retiring Directors

### **Tom Bonvino** *(March 2014)*

## Board Committees

### **Governance, Audit and Risk Committee**

John Higgs AM, Chair (from March 2011)  
Stephen Carpenter (from 23 April 2012)  
Joseph Corponi (from 23 April 2012)  
Kathryn Fagg (from September 2010)

### **Remuneration Committee**

Kathryn Fagg, Chair (from April 2011)  
Stephen Carpenter (from June 2012)  
Tom Bonvino (from April 2011)  
Peter Bartlett (from June 2014)

### **Executive Committee of Management**

Kathryn Fagg, Chair (from 20 September 2010)  
Peter Bartlett (from 3 March 2012)  
Stephen Carpenter (from 3 March 2012)  
Des Clark (from 3 March 2012)  
Joseph Corponi (from 3 March 2012)  
Margaret Farren-Price (from 3 March 2012)  
John Higgs AM (from 18 September 2009)  
Julie Kantor (from 13 April 2006)

### **Development Advisory Committee**

John Higgs AM, Chair (from 2009- 2014)  
Margaret Farren-Price (from October 2012), Chair (from 2014)  
Peter Armstrong (from June 2013) - external member  
Peter Bartlett (from June 2012)  
Des Clark (from June 2012)  
Julie Kantor (from 2009)  
Christine Sather (from August 2013) - external member  
Peter Wyles (from August 2012) - external member

### **Works of Art Committee**

John Higgs AM (from July 2013)  
Julie Kantor (from July 2013)  
Des Clark (from July 2013)



# Environmental Performance

Melbourne Recital Centre continues to demonstrate its commitment to environmental sustainability by minimising its environmental impacts and promoting a green future for our community.

## Achievements to Date

Melbourne Recital Centre worked towards reducing our environmental impact in many ways during 2013-2014:

Adhering to our Environment & Sustainability Policy, we continue to set key objectives and pursue our Action Plan to achieve our goals. Our Sustainability Committee champions sustainability issues and awareness through the organisation and oversees the implementation of the Action Plan.

Melbourne Recital Centre has targets for improving environmental performance in terms of waste, energy and water reduction, with established recycling streams for co-mingled, cardboard, office paper, fluorescent tubes, lamps, batteries and used printer cartridges.

Melbourne Recital Centre has worked closely with Melbourne Theatre Company, Script Bar & Bistro as well as café tenant Blondie, to reduce environmental impacts through sharing waste removal. Services and equipment are obtained from environmentally conscious suppliers such as Veolia Environmental and Ikon Environmental Services. Together we continue to divert 68% of our collective waste to recycling centres (an increase of 4% on the previous year).

LED replacement of dichroic fixtures fit out project has reached completion in our foyers and bathrooms, corridors and Loading Dock. HVAC (Heating, Ventilation & Air Conditioning) settings are also regularly reviewed throughout the venue in response to seasonal changes in order to provide optimal power consumption whilst ensuring comfort levels are maintained.

In collaboration with MTC Southbank Theatre, an extreme weather strategy has been trialled in order to increase the performance of building comfort and minimise equipment failure. This involves enacting pre-emptive temperature management and the employment of ancillary cooling methods of the primary chiller units.

We continue to prioritise sustainability practices into our purchasing needs, including the use of recycled paper in marketing collateral and in the office. In addition, the use of electronic marketing has substantially increased, reducing the amount of paper that traditional marketing collateral produced.

Melbourne Recital Centre continues to offset carbon generated by flights taken by staff and performers where possible.

## Energy

The data represented below was collected through energy retailer billing information, Optergy energy management software and the Future Climate emissions calculator (gas only). The energy values represent usage by Melbourne Recital Centre and the café tenancy space Blondie.

Indicator	Electricity kWh (Building)		Electricity (HVAC Chilled Water)		Natural Gas MJ (Building)		Natural Gas MJ (Heating Hot Water)	
	2012-13	2013-14	2012-13	2013-14	2012-13	2013-14	2012-13	2013-14
Total energy usage	710,389	818,288.45	544,766	465,601 est.	1,267,537	957,015	1,320,292	1,268,263 est.
Greenhouse gas emissions (t CO <sub>2</sub> e)	930.5	958.45	786	695 Est.	491	371	772	741 est
Percentage of electricity purchased as Green Power	25%	25%	25%	25%	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
Greenhouse gas emissions per capita (t CO <sub>2</sub> e/visitor) for electricity and gas	0.0058	0.0053	0.0051	0.0038	0.0030	0.0021	0.0050	0.0041

## Paper

Melbourne Recital Centre made the transition and continues to utilise Fuji Xerox Australia's Performer Carbon Neutral multipurpose office paper, a chlorine and acid free alternative. The pulp is sourced from certified farmed plantations as opposed to those impacting old growth forests. Fuji Xerox Australia has undertaken a rigorous verification and assessment process to provide a carbon neutral product for office use.

Indicator	2012-13	2013-14
Total units of copy paper used (reams)	430	515
Percentage of 50% recycled content copy paper purchased (%)	0%	0%
Percentage of 100% recycled content copy paper purchased (%)	10%	0%
Percentage of carbon neutral copy paper purchased	90%	100%

## Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The emissions disclosed in the section below are taken from the previous sections and brought together here to show Melbourne Recital Centre's greenhouse footprint.

Indicator	2012-13	2013-14
Total greenhouse gas emissions associated with energy use (t CO <sub>2</sub> e)	3347	2766
Total greenhouse gas emissions associated with air travel (t CO <sub>2</sub> e)	Zero. Air travel 100% offset at time of purchase.	Zero. Air travel 100% offset at time of purchase.
Total greenhouse gas emissions associated with waste production (t CO <sub>2</sub> e)	33	26 est.

## Waste

Melbourne Recital Centre shares waste management services with Melbourne Theatre Company, Script Bar & Bistro and the Centre's café tenancy space to minimise environmental impacts and costs. The following units represent the collective waste generated. Options are being explored to further minimise landfill waste to reach a target of 90% recycling. Expressions are being sought to achieve this target.

Indicator	General		Co-mingled		Cardboard and Paper	
	2012-13	2013-14	2012-13	2013-14	2012-13	2013-14
Total units of waste by waste stream (metres cubed)	244	244	69	69	206	206
Cubic metres per capita*	0.0015	0.0013	0.0004	0.00038	0.0012	0.0011

## Water and Sewerage

Indicator	Water		Sewerage	
	2012-13	2013-14	2012-13	2013-14
Total units of metered water consumed by usage types (kilolitres)	2157	2207	1941	1967
KL per capita*	0.013	0.0122	0.012	0.0108

\*Calculated on annual attendance figures excluding artists and staff

# Financial Summary

## Five-Year Financial Summary

	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12	2010-11	2009-10
<b>Income from Government</b>	3,859,000	3,859,000	3,859,000	4,121,800	3,847,000
<b>Total Income from transactions</b>	11,104,531	10,496,132	9,840,678	9,195,755	6,548,400
<b>Total expenses from transactions</b>	10,977,531	10,478,168	9,699,289	8,780,553	6,844,335
<b>Net result from transactions</b>	127,000	17,946	141,389	415,202	(295,935)
<b>Net result for the period</b>	30,405	13,510	96,728	423,859	(350,617)
<b>Net result before depreciation</b>	578,439	465,792	591,113	921,439	140,160
<b>Net cash flow from operating activities</b>	1,089,771	599,976	378,580	1,523,283	341,340
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>11,599,744</b>	<b>10,893,742</b>	<b>10,512,253</b>	<b>10,596,219</b>	<b>9,630,094</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>2,909,250</b>	<b>2,256,655</b>	<b>1,888,676</b>	<b>2,069,370</b>	<b>1,527,104</b>

## Current Year Financial Review

### Overview

Melbourne Recital Centre's diverse program of presentations and venue hire activities resulted in increased commercial and philanthropic revenue in 2013-2014. The financial result was a surplus of \$30,405, an increase of \$16,895 on the previous year. The result before depreciation is a surplus of \$578,439 highlighting improved commercial and philanthropic revenues.

### Financial Performance and Business Review

The net result for the period is \$30,405 which is \$16,895 more than the \$13,510 in 2012-13. This result reflects the improved sales and increased Centre activity throughout the period, supported by increased philanthropic revenue. The percentage of non-government income to total revenue continued to increase from 63% to 65%.

### Financial Position Balance Sheet

The company's net asset position is \$8,690,494, an improvement of \$53,407 on 2012-13. Assets increased by \$706,002 due to increased cash and cash equivalent assets and receivables but were offset by increased liabilities of \$652,595 due to the level of venue hire deposits and advance ticket sales held at year end.

### Cash Flows

The net cash flow from operating activities was \$1,089,771, which is an increase of \$489,795 than the previous year. This was primarily due to increases in commercial and philanthropic revenues as stated above.

# Statement of Corporate Governance

## Manner of Establishment

Melbourne Recital Centre was registered on 2 March 2006 with the sole member being the State of Victoria, represented by the Minister for the Arts. Melbourne Recital Centre is a company limited by guarantee and a public entity under the *Public Administration Act 2004*.

Melbourne Recital Centre has its own constitution and has compliance and reporting requirements under both the *Financial Management Act 1994* (Victoria) and the *Corporations Act 2001* (Commonwealth). Melbourne Recital Centre is registered with the Australian Securities and Investment Commission. The Directors of Melbourne Recital Centre are committed to the highest standard of corporate governance and acknowledge the need for continued maintenance of governance practice and ethical conduct by all Directors and employees.

Accordingly, they have ensured that systems and procedures are in place to provide appropriate assurance that the Company undertakes its activities and functions in accordance with:

- › all legal requirements;
- › the best interests of members;
- › an environment that meets relevant standards; and
- › a manner that is responsible to all stakeholders and the wider community.

## Objectives of the Company

### Melbourne Recital Centre Constitution, Clause 2:

The objectives of Melbourne Recital Centre include the promotion of music, by, without limitation:

- › undertaking preparations for - and assisting in the funding of - the construction of Melbourne Recital Centre;
- › commissioning musical performances and programming for Melbourne Recital Centre;
- › promoting Melbourne Recital Centre; and
- › planning and managing the operations of Melbourne Recital Centre.

## Powers and Duties of Directors

### Melbourne Recital Centre Constitution, Clause 13.6:

The Directors are responsible for managing the Company's business and affairs and may exercise to the exclusion of the Company in general meeting all the Company's powers which are not required, by the *Corporations Act 2001* (Commonwealth) or by Melbourne Recital Centre's constitution, to be exercised by the Company in general meeting.

The Directors may decide how cheques, promissory notes, bankers drafts, bills of exchange or other negotiable instruments must be signed, drawn, accepted, endorsed or otherwise executed (as applicable) by or on behalf of the Company.

The Directors may pay out of the Company's funds all expenses of promotion, formation and registration of the Company and the vesting in it of the assets acquired by it.

The Directors may:

- › appoint or employ a person to be an officer, agent or attorney of the Company for the purposes, with the powers, discretions and duties (including powers, discretions and duties vested in or exercisable by the Directors), for the period and on the conditions they think fit;
- › authorise an officer, agent or attorney to delegate all or any of the powers, discretions and duties vested in the officer, agent or attorney; and
- › subject to any contract between the Company and the relevant officer, agent or attorney, remove or dismiss any officer, agent or attorney at any time, with or without cause.

A power of attorney may contain any provisions for the protection and convenience of the attorney or persons dealing with the attorney that the Directors think fit.

## Board Committees

The Board has established a number of standing committees whose decisions become recommendations for consideration by the Board:

- › Governance, Audit and Risk Committee
- › Remuneration Committee
- › Committee of Management
- › Development Advisory Committee

Other established standing committees include an Occupational Health and Safety Committee, an Environmental Sustainability Committee and a Staff Consultative Committee.

## Committee of Management - Melbourne Recital Centre Land and Building

On 23 October 2008, Melbourne Recital Centre land at Southbank (Crown Allotment 2180, City of South Melbourne, Parish of Melbourne South) was reserved for public purposes (arts and recital centre). The Minister for the Environment and Climate Change appointed Melbourne Recital Centre as the Committee of Management for that reserve with effect from that date. The Melbourne Recital Centre Committee of Management is the Board of Directors of Melbourne Recital Centre.

## Financial and Other Information Retained by the Accountable Officer

Relevant information detailed in Financial Reporting Direction (FRD) 22E Standard Disclosures in the Report of Operations under the *Financial Management Act 1994* Section 3 is retained by the Company's Accountable Officer. The items listed below are available to the relevant ministers, Members of Parliament and the public on request (subject to the freedom of information requirements, if applicable):

- a. a statement that declarations of pecuniary interests have been duly completed by all relevant officers;
- b. details of shares held by a senior officer as nominee or held beneficially in a statutory authority or subsidiary;
- c. details of publications produced by Melbourne Recital Centre about the activities of Melbourne Recital Centre and where they can be obtained;
- d. details of changes in prices, fees, charges, rates and levies charged by Melbourne Recital Centre for its services, including services that are administered;
- e. details of any major external reviews carried out in respect of the operation of Melbourne Recital Centre;
- f. details of any other research and development activities undertaken by Melbourne Recital Centre that are not otherwise covered either in the report of operations or in a document which contains the financial statement and report of operations;

- g. details of overseas visits undertaken including a summary of the objectives and outcomes of each visit;
- h. details of major promotional, public relations and marketing activities undertaken by Melbourne Recital Centre to develop community awareness of the services provided;
- i. details of assessments and measures undertaken to improve the occupational health and safety of employees, not otherwise detailed in the report of operations;
- j. a general statement on industrial relations within Melbourne Recital Centre and details of time lost through industrial accidents and disputes, which are not otherwise detailed in the report of operations;
- k. a list of major committees sponsored by Melbourne Recital Centre, the purposes of each committee and the extent to which the purposes have been achieved; and
- l. details of all consultancies and contractors including: consultants/contractors engaged; services provided; and expenditure committed to for each engagement.

## National Competition Policy

The Company is committed to the implementation of requirements of the competitive neutrality principles and is satisfied that its activities comply with the Victorian Government's Competitive Neutrality Policy.

## Implementation of the Victorian Industry Participation Policy

In October 2003, the Victorian Parliament passed the *Victorian Industry Participation Policy Act 2003*, which required public bodies and departments to report on the implementation of the Victorian Industry Participation Policy (VIPP). The Company is required to apply the VIPP in all tenders over \$3 million in metropolitan Melbourne and \$1 million in Victoria. The Company did not commence or complete any contracts during 2013-14 to which the VIPP applies.

## Compliance with the Protected Disclosure Act 2012 (formerly the Whistleblowers Protection Act 2001)

On 10 February 2013, the *Whistleblowers Protection Act 2001* was repealed and replaced with the *Protected Disclosure Act 2012* (the Act). The Act establishes a new scheme for protecting people who make disclosures about improper conduct in the public sector.

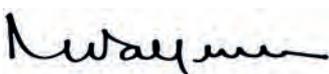
Melbourne Recital Centre is not a public body to which disclosures may be made. Disclosures of improper conduct or detrimental action relating to Melbourne Recital Centre should generally be made to the Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission (IBAC). Further information about making disclosures to the IBAC can be found at [www.ibac.vic.gov.au](http://www.ibac.vic.gov.au).

Melbourne Recital Centre is committed to the aims and objectives of the Act. In particular, Melbourne Recital Centre does not tolerate improper conduct by its staff or the taking of reprisals against those who come forward to disclose such conduct.

As required by s.58(5) of the Act, Melbourne Recital Centre has made the Protected Disclosure Policy available on its website [melbournerecital.com.au](http://melbournerecital.com.au), which provides procedures for protecting people who make protected disclosures from detrimental action by Melbourne Recital Centre or its staff.

### **Attestation on Compliance with the Australian/New Zealand Risk Management Standard**

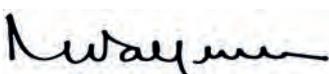
I, Mary Vallentine, certify that Melbourne Recital Centre has risk management processes in place consistent with the *Australian/New Zealand Risk Management Standard* (or equivalent designated standard) and an internal control system in place that enables the Executive to understand, manage and satisfactorily control risk exposures. The Governance Audit Risk Committee verifies this assurance and that the risk profile of Melbourne Recital Centre has been critically reviewed within the last 12 months.



**Mary Vallentine AO**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Melbourne Recital Centre  
28 August 2014

### **Attestation on Compliance with the Ministerial Standing Direction 4.5.5.1 - Insurance**

I, Mary Vallentine, certify that Melbourne Recital Centre has complied with Ministerial Direction 4.5.5.1 - Insurance.



**Mary Vallentine AO**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Melbourne Recital Centre  
28 August 2014

### **Internal Audit**

Melbourne Recital Centre appointed Pitcher Partners as its internal auditors in 2011. They have subsequently developed an audit plan, having due regard for the Company's risk management program.

In 2014, Melbourne Recital Centre's internal auditors completed one audit of Melbourne Recital Centre risk management and insurance renewal procedures.

### **Employment and Conduct Principles**

Staff are appointed under ongoing, fixed-term or casual contracts as per Melbourne Recital Centre Enterprise Agreement 2012 and the Government Sector Executive Remuneration Panel and are bound by the Code of Conduct for Victorian Public Sector Employees. The Melbourne Recital Centre complies with the values (Section 7) and employment principles (Section 8) of the *Public Administration Act 2004*.

### **Occupational Health and Safety Policy**

Melbourne Recital Centre has an Occupational Health and Safety Committee, which has created occupational health and safety policies and procedures. During the period, the Centre has not lost any working days.

### **Disability Action Plan**

Melbourne Recital Centre regularly consults with Arts Access regarding accessibility at the Centre. Melbourne Recital Centre's Disability Action Plan has been completed and submitted to the Human Rights Commission for registration in accordance with the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*. Melbourne Recital Centre is committed to making its performances, services and facilities accessible to the community.

### **Compliance with the *Building Act 1993***

At 30 June 2014, Melbourne Recital Centre was responsible for one government-owned building. Pursuant to its role as Committee of Management, Melbourne Recital Centre complies with building and maintenance provisions of the *Building Act 1993*. Melbourne Recital Centre also complies with the *Building Code of Australia* and with the relevant Australian standards for building and maintenance works.

**Major Works (more than \$50,000):** There have been no major works completed in the last financial year.

## Workforce - Staffing Trends

July 2013 - June 2014	Ongoing Employees			Fixed-Term & Casual Employees	
	Employees (Headcount)	Full Time (Headcount)	Part Time & Variable Time	FTE	FTE
June 2014	37	28	9	33	11
June 2013	32	26	6	29	19

	2014			2013		
	Ongoing Employees		Fixed-Term & Casual Employees	Ongoing Employees		Fixed-Term & Casual Employees
	Employees (headcount)	Full-Time Equivalents (FTE)	FTE	Employees (headcount)	FTE	-
<b>Gender</b>						
Male	16	15	7	15	14	13
Female	21	18	4	17	15	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Age</b>						
Under 25	0	0	1	3	3	3
25-34	20	18	7	14	13	8
35-44	10	9	2	7	7	6
45-54	4	3	1	3	2	2
55-64	2	2	0	4	3	0
Over 64	1	1	0	1	1	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Classification</b>						
VPS 1	0	0	2	0	0	4
VPS 2	10	7	9	9	6	14
VPS 3	11	10	0	9	9	0
VPS 4	7	7	0	6	6	0
VPS 5	4	4	0	3	3	1
VPS 6	0	0	0	0	0	0
STS	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	5	5	0	5	5	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>19</b>

## **Cultural Diversity, Women, Young People and Indigenous Affairs**

The objectives and actions of Melbourne Recital Centre's Cultural Diversity Plan informs our operations and ensure that the varied cultures of the world, and particularly the Cultural and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) groups in Victoria, are celebrated through the Centre's programming and associated activities. Many of our staff speak languages other than English and a stable gender balance is achieved through our 22 male and 22 female full-time equivalent staff. Where appropriate, Melbourne Recital Centre provides communications, program notes and other announcements in languages other than English.

Music for people from all walks of life is central to Melbourne Recital Centre's mission and the Centre's program reflects diversity of music from around the globe. The Centre's belief and interest in music in all its forms and socio-cultural contexts have resulted in a rich and varied program that celebrates and showcases various cultures' musical traditions. Notable programs have included Malian husband and wife duo Amadou & Mariam performing as part of the 2013 Melbourne Festival, the Anatolian Cultural

Centre's presentation of Turkish star Orhan Olmez as well as our ongoing collaboration with the Nataraj Cultural Centre including the presentation of Meeta Pandit.

Melbourne Recital Centre was also privileged to co-present *Til the Black Lady Sings* by Deborah Cheetam, in February 2014. This event was part of Melbourne's Indigenous Arts Festival; a festival dedicated to highlighting and celebrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts and Culture.

Through its culturally diverse programming, Melbourne Recital Centre has increased the engagement and participation of CALD community groups, including asylum seekers and migrants. The Centre's Fifth Birthday celebration on 8 February 2014 provided an eclectic free program of music for over 5,000 visitors, culminating in The Big Sing for 1200 voices from Melbourne's community choirs. Visitors from Adult Multicultural Education Services (AMES), the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre, and senior residents from Multicultural Aged Care Services (MACS) in Geelong, were able to participate in the Centre's programs this year.

## **Details of government advertising expenditure (campaigns with a media spend of \$150,000 or greater)**

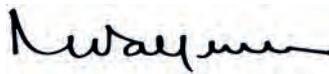
No single campaign's media spend was \$150,000 or greater.

### Consultants

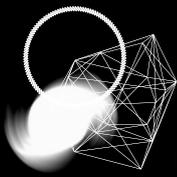
In 2013-14, Melbourne Recital Centre engaged three consultancies where the total fees payable to the consultant were less than \$10,000. The total expenditure on all consultancies was \$10,264.

### Accountable Officer's Declaration

In accordance with the *Financial Management Act 1994*, I am pleased to present Melbourne Recital Centre's Annual Report for the year ending 30 June 2014.



**Mary Vallentine AO**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Melbourne Recital Centre  
28 August 2014



MELBOURNE  
RECITAL  
CENTRE

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**ARTS  
VICTORIA**

