

NEXT CONCERT

BEETHOVEN EMPEROR CONCERTO



Schubert: Rosamunde Overture
Beethoven: Piano Concerto No. 5
Sibelius: Symphony No. 2

Soloist: Phillip Shovk
Conductor: Gary Stavrou

Sunday December 7th 2008, 2.30pm
Macquarie University Theatre

FREE PARKING FOR CONCERT-GOERS IN CARPARKS W4 AND X3 ONLY

FEATURED ARTIST **Phillip Shovk**

Phillip Shovk is considered to be one of Australia's foremost concert pianists. He is also a highly regarded chamber musician, accompanist and teacher.

He has performed to great acclaim in Russia, Georgia, Portugal, France, Germany, Switzerland, Belgium, Singapore, New Zealand and China.

Phillip has appeared with Balmain Sinfonia on two previous occasions, playing the Saint-Saens Piano Concerto No. 5 and Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue.

He is currently teaching at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music and The Australian Institute of Music.

FROM THE PODIUM

Gary Stavrou

As you know, every two years we hold a concerto competition for gifted young string players. Balmain Sinfonia devotes ten per cent of ticket sales towards prizemoney for this competition, currently being \$2000.

We wish to increase the profile of this already high-quality competition, and one way of doing so would be to greatly increase the prizemoney.

We are therefore looking for a sponsor (corporate or private) to donate a first prize of \$10,000 to the winner. This prize would be awarded every two years, is tax deductible and would include naming rights.

If you know of any person or company who would be prepared to invest in Australia's artistic youth in this manner please call Gary on 9810 5080.

OUR NEXT CONCERT

The Music

Schubert: Rosamunde Overture

Schubert's overture was composed as part of the incidental music for Ernst von Hofmann's play 'Die Zauberharfe', performed on August 19, 1820. However, the overture is now associated with Helmina von Chezy's play 'Rosamunde' that premiered three years after 'Die Zauberharfe'.

The best-known part of the Rosamunde music is the overture, which opens the music, but which was not originally performed with the play.

The Overture to Rosamunde is one of Schubert's finest orchestral compositions and displays humour with masterful instrumentation.

Beethoven: Piano Concerto No. 5

Beethoven's Piano Concerto is popularly known as the Emperor Concerto and was his last piano concerto, written between 1809 and 1811.

The concerto is composed in three movements - an allegro, an adagio and a rondo. Like Beethoven's other concertos (including his violin concerto), the first movement is longer than other classical composers' first movements. It is composed in the traditional sonata form - made up of three expositions. At the end of the movement a lengthy coda is played, which rearticulates the first theme.



Jean Sibelius

Sibelius: Symphony No. 2

In 1902, after two years composing, Jean Sibelius completed his Symphony no. 2 in D major, Opus 43. The symphony was dubbed the 'Symphony of Independence' as it was completed at a time when Russia had placed sanctions on Finnish culture and language.

Some musicologists question whether Sibelius had intended the symphony to send a patriotic message and political commentary on Finland's relationship with Russia at the time, while other commentary identifies Sibelius as a nationalist composer who wrote the symphony calling for an independent Finland.