



PRESENTER PACK

# *A Night with Opera Queensland*





PRESENTER PACK

# A Night with Opera Queensland

## CONTENTS

COMPANY PROFILE	3
ABOUT THE SHOW	3
PERFORMANCE SPECIFICS	5
MARKETING	5
PRODUCTION DETAILS	6
CONTACTS	6

## COMPANY PROFILE

As one of Australia's major performing arts companies, Opera Queensland serves Metropolitan Brisbane and regional/remote Queensland through the development and presentation of a range of performance, education and engagement activities for all ages that embrace our core values of Excellence, Community and Adventure.

*Our Vision: A boundless landscape of opera experiences that reflect the richness, expanse and diversity of both the operatic art form and Queensland itself.*

*Our Mission: To reflect, celebrate and enrich life in our communities – articulates the important role the company seeks to play in contemporary Queensland life.*

## ABOUT THE SHOW

Four of Queensland's favourite artists – soprano Emily Burke, mezzo soprano Hayley Sugars, tenor Bradley Daley, baritone Shaun Brown – will take audiences on an adventure through some of opera's most memorable scenes and solos.

Conceived for smaller venues across Queensland, the performance will mix shining moments of operatic splendour with edgy cabaret-style performance at close range. The artists greet and mingle with the audience on arrival, before they gradually draw them in to a "rehearsal", sharing the stories of the scenes they will perform. Steadily the stage is transformed by opera performers in magnificent costumes and a splash of theatre magic. Come prepared to enjoy a grand "opera house" environment and favourite characters from operas including *Carmen*, *Madama Butterfly*, *Rigoletto* and *Don Giovanni*. These characters will appear in unexpected places, singing to a full bodied accompaniment of live piano enhanced by digital and pre-recorded orchestral backing. Featuring popular, lighter pieces to provide plenty of laughter throughout, contrasted with breathtaking and timeless elements of sheer "swoon" and vocal beauty, it will be a musical evening to remember. For the finale of the show the ensemble in glamorous evening dress will perform a selection of popular melodies including one song exclusive to each community pre-selected via a local campaign in each location.

## KEY PERSONNEL

**Director:** Lindy Hume

**Musical Director:** Narelle French

**Costumes realised by:** Karen Cochet

**Artists:** Emily Burke, Hayley Sugars, Bradley Daley and Shaun Brown



## CAST AND CREATIVES



### LINDY HUME

Lindy Hume, OperaQ's Artistic Director, is one of Australia's leading directors, acknowledged internationally for fresh interpretations of a wide variety of repertoire, and for progressive artistic leadership of a number of Australian arts organisations. She was Artistic Director of West Australian Opera (1992-96), Victoria State Opera and OzOpera (1996-2001) and is currently the Artistic Director of Opera Queensland.

She has won a Helpmann Award for her production of Richard Mills' *Batavia* for Best Director of an Opera, and in 2010 her Sydney Festival won 5 Helpmann Awards from nominations including Best New Australian Work. She has directed numerous productions for companies including Opera Australia, New Zealand Opera, Houston Grand Opera, Staatsoper Unter den Linden (Berlin), Opera St Gallen, Leipzig Opera, Guildhall School of Music and Drama and Aldeburgh Festival. This year she makes her Seattle Opera and San Diego Opera debuts. Lindy is recognised as a champion of new Australian work across a range of genres and excellence in regional arts. She was awarded an honorary doctorate from UWA in 2007 for her contribution to the arts in WA.

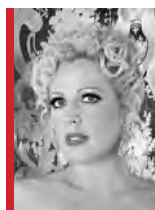


### NARELLE FRENCH

Opera Queensland's Head of Music and Chorus Master, Narelle French is one of Australia's most respected and versatile pianists and musicians, specialising in the preparation and accompaniment of vocal and operatic repertoire. She studied at the State Conservatorium of Music, NSW, was awarded the Dame Roma Mitchell Churchill Fellowship (2002) and the Centenary Medal (for Service to Australian Society and the Advancement of Music). Narelle joined Opera Queensland in 1999 following a long-term position on Opera Australia's senior music staff, where she fulfilled many roles and worked closely with well-known international and Australian soloists, ensemble singers and young artists.



HAYLEY SUGARS & BRADLEY DALEY IN A MORNING WITH EMILY & HAYLEY



### EMILY BURKE

Vivacious and commanding on the operatic stage, silver toned Emily Burke is a singer from Hobart. In 2002 she continued her language studies in Italy followed by success on the international competition circuit. In 2006 she made her operatic debut singing the role of Gilda in *Rigoletto* for Opera Australia followed closely by roles with Victorian Opera and Opera Queensland. Emily made her international debut in Tokyo for IFAC as Anna in *Nabucco*. In 2016, Emily plays the roles of Cio-Cio-San in *Madama Butterfly* and Berta in *The Barber of Seville* for Opera Queensland.



### HAYLEY SUGARS

Toowoomba mezzo soprano Hayley Sugars has had a long and loyal association with Opera Queensland, ever since graduating from USQ and the Queensland Conservatorium of Music, and being part of the Young and Developing Artist Program (2007-2009). Success in national competitions, including the German-Australian Opera Grant, resulted in contracts with Hessisches Staatstheater Wiesbaden and the Landestheater Coburg, where she performed in some 15 major roles. Most recently for OperaQ Hayley has performed as Flora Bervoix (*La traviata*) and Prince Orlovsky (*Die Fledermaus*). In 2016, Hayley will perform the role of Suzuki in OperaQ's *Madama Butterfly*.



### BRADLEY DALEY

Since making his debut with the English National Opera as Rodolfo in *La bohème*, Gold Coast based Bradley Daley has worked with numerous international companies. Most recently, in Australia, Bradley has been performing major principal roles with Opera Australia, Opera Queensland, Victorian Opera and State Opera of South Australia. In 2016, he sings Siegmund in *Der Ring des Nibelungen* for Opera Australia and Pinkerton in *Madama Butterfly* for Opera Queensland.



### SHAUN BROWN

The warm, sonorous tones of favourite local baritone Shaun Brown are well known to many, both in Queensland and internationally. Trained here, in England, Germany and Italy, he has sung several memorable roles for Opera Queensland, most recently Marcello in *La bohème*, Marullo in *Rigoletto* and Dr Falke in *Die Fledermaus*. Shaun has performed in opera, festivals and as a concert soloist from New Zealand to New York. In 2016 Shaun's engagements with OperaQ include the title role in *The Barber of Seville* and one of the naughty, cheeky gangsters in *Kiss Me, Kate*.



## PERFORMANCE SPECIFICS

### DURATION

ACT 1 – 45mins  
INTERVAL – 20mins  
ACT 2 – 40mins

### SUITABLE VENUES

This show is self-contained, and can be accommodated in traditional proscenium arch venues, town halls, school halls, cultural facilities or, with a little negotiation and planning, even outdoors. The show has been developed with smaller venues of regional Queensland very much in mind.

### MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PERFORMANCES PER WEEK

6 performances (depending on travel requirements)

### MINIMUM BREAK BETWEEN PERFORMANCES

120 minutes (if two in one day)

### LICENCING AGREEMENTS

If any commercially recorded backing tracks are used, the relevant licencing and copyright permissions will be sought in advance.

### APRA OBLIGATIONS

A process for managing any rights associated with the locally-chosen piece will also be established.

### TOURING PERSONNEL

The touring party consists of 8 people:

Tour & Stage Manager	TBA
Minibus Driver/Tour Technician	TBA
Truck Driver/Tour Technician	TBA
Artists	Emily Burke Hayley Sugars Bradley Daley Shaun Brown
Pianist	TBA

### PERFORMANCE HISTORY

New Work

## AUDIENCE

### TARGET AUDIENCE FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The target audience for this show is anyone and everyone who wants a good night's entertainment filled with popular operatic hits and musical numbers, and the chance to get up close and personal with some of Queensland's very best singers. Suitable for ages 18-80.

## MARKETING

### MARKETING COPY

**ONE LINER:** OperaQ will take audiences on an adventure through some of opera's most memorable moments.

**SHORT COPY:** Four of Queensland's favourite artists – soprano Emily Burke, mezzo soprano Hayley Sugars, tenor Bradley Daley and baritone Shaun Brown – will take audiences on an adventure through some of opera's most memorable scenes and solos.

The performance will mix shining moments of operatic splendour with edgy cabaret-style performance at close range. Come prepared to enjoy a grand "opera house" environment and favourite characters from operas including *Carmen*, *Madama Butterfly*, *Rigoletto* and *Don Giovanni*. Featuring popular, lighter pieces to provide plenty of laughter throughout, contrasted with breathtaking and timeless elements of sheer "swoon" and vocal beauty, it will be a musical evening to remember.

### MARKETING SUMMARY

The key ingredient for marketing this production will be community engagement. OperaQ will collaborate with presenters wishing to bring *A Night with Opera Queensland* to their community to identify champions in each location committed to ensuring the success of the event. These champions could be passionate individuals, local musical or community groups, schools, local councils and business partners – even the local MPs!

These champions will be identified early and OperaQ, through its Open Stage team, will work together with them and the local presenter to develop community focussed initiatives to maximise audiences and engagement with the event.

These initiatives will be supported by OperaQ via PR, digital advertising, social media and website activity. In addition OperaQ will assist the local presenter's promotional efforts through provision of materials to be used in direct communication, display and print advertising etc.

### HERO IMAGE

Refer to front cover of this document

### MARKETING MATERIALS

Marketing materials will include final print-ready artwork for poster, flyers and other marketing collateral.

### SPONSOR OR OTHER ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

OperaQ will be seeking sponsorship support for this production and tour. Any sponsor associated with the tour will need to be appropriately acknowledged in marketing and program materials. OperaQ will be seeking tour funding support from Playing Queensland which will require acknowledgement.

### TEACHER'S RESOURCES

OperaQ will be developing teacher's resources to be made available to schools in locations where *A Night with Opera Queensland* is being presented.

## PRODUCTION DETAILS

### TECHNICAL SUMMARY

*A Night with Opera Queensland* will tour all set pieces, costuming, props, a basic lighting rig and sound rig for use in unequipped venues or to supplement venues with limited technical equipment.

### EXAMPLE SCHEDULE

<b>AM</b>	Travel to destination: 3 – 4 hours max Lunch
<b>PM</b>	Bump-in/set-up/tech checks: 3 – 4 hours Check-in to accommodation Dinner Rehearsal: 30 – 60 mins
<b>EVE</b>	Performance: 110 mins Bump-out: 30 – 45 mins (depends on OperaQ technical rig) Return to accommodation

### CREW REQUIRED FROM VENUE

In community venues no technical crew will be required from the Presenter. A local representative who knows the venue would be very helpful to manage venue/equipment access and provide orientation for touring crew as required.

In managed venues: one lighting technician will be required for bump in with a 'duty technician' available for performance and bump out.

If the performance environment necessitates the use of in-house audio equipment, the venue may be required to provide venue crew to operate.

### STAGE

- Cast will work as far downstage as possible, to approximately 6 to 8 metres upstage.
- Performance area width approximately 7 to 9 metres.
- If applicable, pit would be at auditorium floor level as an orchestra pit is not required for this production.

The Presenter or venue is to provide, preferably, a baby grand piano, or an upright piano, where this is not possible, recently tuned to A440 concert pitch. OperaQ will tour a digital keyboard for use in the event a piano cannot be supplied.

### LIGHTING

This production will utilise a venue's standard lighting rig where available. It will need a simple lighting plot – approximately 8 scenes using front and overhead lighting bars:

- 2 colour washes from front and stage bars
- overhead wash colours - pink (warm interior) & blue (cool outdoor)
- more warm than cool if further washes available TBC
- white FOH to see faces
- special (area lighting) on pianist
- possible additional specials as available

In other cases OperaQ will have available a basic lighting rig, including racks and console, for use in unequipped venues or to supplement venues with limited technical equipment. Venue to supply 3-phase power.

### SOUND

Live acoustic or digital piano accompaniment (with amplification and foldback to be determined based on the circumstances of each venue) and with additional pre-recorded backing tracks.

OperaQ will supply a digital piano (if needed), and a basic audio rig including console, speakers, amps, effects, talk-back, for use in unequipped venues or to supplement venues with limited technical equipment.

In managed/equipped venues OperaQ's touring crew will use the in-house FOH audio system where available. The production will use a baby or full size grand piano (recently tuned to A440 concert pitch, if available).

### WARDROBE

The production will have the cast move from casual dress to some of the most elaborate costumes created for OperaQ, to elegant evening wear at the conclusion of the performance. OperaQ will travel with all on stage costume requirements.

Venue to supply

- 2 x dressing rooms (1 x 3 female artists; 1 x 2 male artists) with mirrors, make up lights, costume hanging facility, and preferably access to toilets not shared with audience.
- Access to laundry facilities in or close to the venue is required.

### FREIGHT NOTES

Freight will travel in a 2 – 3 tonne van driven by a touring crew. Access to a loading dock is preferred but, if not available, easy vehicle access to a double door opening with access to the stage environment is essential.

### PERFORMANCE FEE

\$5000 subject to negotiation

## CONTACT US

**Mark Taylor**  
Manager, Open Stage

Contact for programming enquiries:

**E** mtaylor@operaq.com.au  
**T** 07 3735 3044  
**M** 0412 641 339

**Murray Free**  
Production Manager

Contact for technical enquiries:

**E** mfree@operaq.com.au  
**T** 07 3735 3066  
**M** 0407 960 439

**Sue Thomson**  
Marketing Manager

Contact for publicity enquiries:

**E** sthompson@operaq.com.au  
**T** 07 3735 3056

### GENERAL ENQUIRIES

**T** 07 3735 3030  
**E** info@operaq.com.au

**Postal Address:** PO Box 5792, West End QLD 4101  
**Street Address:** 140 Grey Street, South Brisbane QLD 4101





OPERA QUEENSLAND