



476 156-2

TSO | AUSTRALIAN  
COMPOSER SERIES

# Alchemy



TASMANIAN  
SYMPHONY  
ORCHESTRA

This collection is both a manifesto, a statement of intent and possibility, and a concise survey of orchestral music which heralds the numerous forthcoming recordings in the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra's Australian Composer Series.

This first disc is intended to whet your appetite and create an interest in the wide variety of orchestral music created by Australians. The composers represented here span four generations of heritage. Percy Grainger and Peggy Glanville-Hicks, both fantastic and colourful pioneers who realised the necessity of operating on the global stage were proudly and, in some instances, stridently Australian. At the other end of the spectrum is Nigel Westlake, whose sincere Australian accent has found expression in his concert music and his highly successful film scores.

The provenance of the music stems unselfconsciously from the richness of our cultural environment, yet the musical languages are not in any way provincial in techniques or aesthetic. Sculthorpe, Westlake and Glanville-Hicks take inspiration from the experiences of landscape and memory, just as Koehne does from the Lutheran traditions so much a part of South Australia's past. Williamson and Vine speak with glittering accomplishment but still, in Williamson's own words, with 'music that is Australian ... without trying to be so.' Mills and Broadstock have their own individual relationships to European tradition

which have been forged by their own creative personalities and the desire and need to communicate to Australian audiences. Quite apart from everyone else, Grainger's music has a unique vitality and brashness, which offended some contemporary cognoscenti – notably Beecham – with its uncompromising idiosyncratic gestures.

Music as an art exists only in performance: it cannot be held as a collectable asset or kept conveniently on a shelf for access by the general public, except in the form of a recording. That is the reason this series is so important to Australian musical culture. The TSO Australian Composer Series will manifest the richness of our musical creation, both past and present. These recordings will become an expression of possibility for present and future generations of composers and performers enabling the unique voices of our composers to be heard across the world via broadcast and, hopefully, television and DVD. The Australian composer will no longer be a silent phenomenon, but a living presence, accessible and recognisable as an important part of our cultural profile, nationally and internationally.

That is our intent – this is our beginning.

**Richard Mills**

Artistic Director

TSO Australian Composer Series

1	PETER SCULTHORPE b.1929 <b>From High Hills</b> from Quamby	4'59
2	NIGEL WESTLAKE b.1958 <b>Penguin Ballet</b> from Antarctica Timothy Kain <i>guitar</i> , Vanessa Souter <i>harp</i> , Alison Lazaroff-Somssich <i>violin</i>	3'10
3	GRAEME KOEHNE b.1956 <b>To his servant Bach, God Grants a Final Glimpse: The Morning Star</b>	4'12
4	MALCOLM WILLIAMSON 1931-2003 <b>Lento</b> from Concerto for Two Pianos and String Orchestra Malcolm Williamson, Simon Campion <i>piano</i>	7'57
5	RICHARD MILLS b.1949 <b>Presto</b> from Cello Concerto Sue-Ellen Paulsen <i>cello</i>	12'16

6	PERCY GRAINGER 1882-1961 <b>Dreamery</b>	2'11
7	CARL VINE b.1954 <b>Smith's Alchemy</b>	18'38
8	BRENTON BROADSTOCK b.1952 <b>Timeless</b>	10'48
9	PEGGY GLANVILLE-HICKS 1912-1990 <b>Allegro giocoso</b> from Sinfonia da Pacifica	2'28
Total Playing Time		67'29

Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra  
Richard Mills 1, 5, 9; David Porcelijn 2; David Stanhope 3, 6;  
Barry Tuckwell 4; Ola Rudner 7, 8 *conductor*

## Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra

The Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra is acclaimed as one of the world's finest small orchestras. German-born Sebastian Lang-Lessing is the orchestra's Chief Conductor and Artistic Director.

The TSO presents an exciting and diverse annual concert series in Hobart and Launceston, as well as concerts in regional centres. With a full-time playing strength of 47 musicians, its core repertoire is that of the Classical and early Romantic periods. It is, however, a versatile orchestra, performing repertoire from Baroque to jazz, popular music, opera and ballet, and is recognised for championing contemporary music.

The TSO records regularly for radio broadcasts, compact discs and soundtracks for television and film. It was the first Australian orchestra to record the complete Beethoven symphonies, and its recent recordings on international and Australian labels have been received with critical acclaim. In 2003, the orchestra launched its Australian Music Program, a major project of which is this series of recordings of Australian orchestral music that will make a significant contribution to library collections around the world.

Encouragement of young talent is of paramount importance to the TSO. It provides an education program and collaborates in a range of programs with the Australian Youth Orchestra, Symphony Australia and the Australian Music Centre through the Australian Composers Orchestral Forum.

The TSO has performed in most major Australian festivals and travels to mainland Australia, touring both capital cities and regional centres. It has performed in Greece, Israel, Indonesia, South Korea, China, Argentina, Canada and the USA.



Sponsor of the TSO Australian Music Program

Powering Australian music into the future

## TSO | AUSTRALIAN COMPOSER SERIES

## FUTURE RELEASES IN THE TSO AUSTRALIAN COMPOSER SERIES...

### PETER SCULTHORPE

Conducted by Richard Mills

- Nourlangie (guitar concerto featuring Karin Schaupp)
- Music for Bali
- Quamby
- Cello Dreaming (featuring Sue Ellen Paulsen)

### ROSS EDWARDS

Conducted by Richard Mills

- White Ghost Dancing
- Mountain Village in a Clearing Mist
- Guitar Concerto (featuring Karin Schaupp)
- Veni Creator Spiritus
- Enyato I

### CARL VINE

Conducted by Ola Rudner

- Smith's Alchemy
- Suite from The Tempest
- Canzona
- Oboe Concerto (featuring Diana Doherty)

### BRENTON BROADSTOCK

Conducted by Ola Rudner

- The Mountain
- Symphony No.4 (Born from good angel's tears)
- Timeless
- Federation Square
- Festive Overture

### For ABC Classics

**Executive Producers** Robert Patterson, Lyle Chan

**Compilation Producer** Virginia Read

**Editorial and Production Manager** Hilary Shrubbs

**Cover and Booklet Design** Imagecorp Pty Ltd

**Photography** Horseshoe Falls, Mount Field National Park, Tasmania. © Australian Picture Library

### For Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra

**Managing Director** Nicholas Heyward

**Artistic Administrator** Anthony Peluso

**Orchestra Manager** Peter Kilpatrick

**Australian Music Program Director** Richard Mills

Sculthorpe, Vine and Broadstock released on CD for the first time

**Recording Producer** Brooke Green

**Recording Engineer** Andrew Dixon

Recorded December 2002 (Sculthorpe),  
February/March 2003 (Vine), October 2003 (Broadstock)

This compilation © 2004 Australian Broadcasting Corporation. © 2004 Australian Broadcasting Corporation. Made in Australia. All rights of the owner of copyright reserved. Any copying, renting, lending, diffusion, public performance or broadcast of this record without the authority of the copyright owner is prohibited.