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Season 2024

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# ADELAIDE CHAMBER *SINGERS*



# Higher calling

## Welcome to Season 2024



Join us for a season of alchemy, celebrating change, magical transformation, creation and collaboration, where chamber singing is our highest calling.

We begin with an inspiring new cycle composed by Anne Cawrse, working with a voice new to ACS, Australian writer Kate Llewellyn. *All Flesh is Fire* is staged using the singers as a work of art in the spaces of the Art Gallery of South Australia, part of the 18th Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art.

Then, in the superb surrounds of the Adelaide Town Hall, we sing of water, sunken treasure and the magic of inland greening, greeting the sky, inspired by the intricacy of birds in song and in flight.

It's a joy to welcome Carl Crossin back to conduct *Elemental* in October, with expressive and passionate repertoire, encouraging us all to live now – in the moment.

We end the year of alchemic transformation with *Resound!* performed by Rising Voices (previously known as ACS<sup>2</sup>). Join us for joyous singing, and be ready to vote for your favourite sing-along audience carols!

Our collaborations with VOCES8 through the UKARIA A Cappella Academy, and the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra in Handel's *Messiah*, round out an exciting 2024, as we prepare to celebrate the 40th anniversary of ACS in 2025.

Be transformed by  
the magic...

Christie Anderson  
Artistic Director and Conductor  
Adelaide Chamber Singers



# All Flesh Is Fire

Thursday 29 February

Saturday 2 March

All performances at the

6.00pm & 7.30pm

12.30pm & 2.00pm

Art Gallery of South Australia

Contemplating a life's journey with themes of faith, refuge and sanctuary, *All Flesh Is Fire* fills the gallery with song, turning the gaze inward, reflecting the impact and transience of the temporal landscape.

Sixteen singers appear in shifting combinations throughout this staged exhibition, combining the alchemy of voice and solitude in the splendour of small moments.

Poem by: Kate Llewellyn

Composed by: Anne Cawrse

Performed by: Adelaide Chamber Singers

Artistic Director and Conductor: Christie Anderson

Wardrobe Designer: Jason van Hamburg

Producer: Jude Gun

Commissioned by Adelaide Chamber Singers and the Art Gallery of South Australia for the 2024 Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art: *Inner Sanctum*



Government of South Australia

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# There Will Come Soft Rain

Wednesday 13 March

One night only at

Conducted by

7.30pm

Adelaide Town Hall

Christie Anderson

Music that echoes birdsong and the sounds of the natural world is at the core of this special new program.

Moving from Renaissance France through to Hungary, Latvia, Italy, England and contemporary Australia, the music is inspired by the life-giving power of water in all its forms. It speaks of waterfalls, sunken vessels, tears of heartbreak and the waters of Kati Thanda (Lake Eyre) where rain brings thousands of birds to the desert. These are works that capture the sound of soft rain on fields, gentle winds and joyous birdsong.

The program includes works by composers Clément Janequin, Orlando Gibbons, Eric Whitacre and Ēriks Ešņvalds, alongside celebrated Australians Anne Cawrse, Carl Crossin, Stephen Leek and Luke Byrne.

With Guest Musicians:  
Ryan Grunwald, percussion  
Thomas Marlin, cello

ADELAIDE  
FESTIVAL **AF**

Presented in partnership with Adelaide Festival 2024



# Elemental

Saturday 5 October

7.30pm

Pilgrim Church

Sunday 6 October

2.30pm

UKARIA Cultural Centre

Conducted by Carl Crossin

ACS Founder and

Conductor Emeritus

**/ ɛlɪˈmentl /** ...adjective  
...embodying the powers of nature  
...of an emotion; powerful and primitive  
...fundamental

Elemental – a curious but powerful word! It invokes the forces of nature, or the so-called ‘classical elements’ of fire, earth, water and air; it characterises our emotional states; and it defines the fundamental things and beliefs we value in our lives.

This program explores ‘the elemental’ in music: through the emotional turmoil of Lauridsen’s *Fire Madrigals* and original models by Monteverdi and Gesualdo; the calm reassurance of Ticheli’s *Earth Song*; and the comfort of eternal peace in Stanhope’s *Agnus Dei*, we remind ourselves of the real reason we still give, and attend, ‘live’ concerts – to engage and to feel, in the moment and in the room where it happens!

# Resound!

Saturday 14 December

One night only at

Conducted by Christie Anderson

6.30pm

St Peter's Cathedral

with David Heah, organ

Nothing says Christmas like carolling, cathedrals, community and cheer! Join Rising Voices (previously known as ACS<sup>2</sup>), members of ACS, and Cathedral Organist David Heah, to let the spaces of St Peter's Cathedral ring and resound with the joy of the season.

Rising Voices sings inspired music from around the world that moves us to rejoice, and the space will resound with harmony. Featuring chorales from JS Bach's *Christmas Oratorio*, the double choir splendour of Bob Chilcott's *Advent Antiphons*, and beautiful interpretations of favourite texts by Sarah Quartel, Eleanor Daley and Elizabeth Poston, plus the audience pick of carols and descants to be sung together.



# ACS

Adelaide Chamber Singers (ACS) is widely respected as Australia's finest chamber choir – the embodiment of the art of choral chamber singing. Founded in 1985 by Dr Carl Crossin OAM, ACS has been a passionate and innovative contributor to music-making for almost 40 years. In 2022, Carl passed the role of Artistic Director and Conductor to long-time ACS singer and Associate Conductor, Christie Anderson. The ensemble's membership is drawn from amongst Adelaide's best and most experienced ensemble singers, many of whom are also conductors, soloists, teachers and independent artists.

Since the beginning, ACS has existed to showcase the highest order of musical interpretation, to transport our audiences to new heights, and to challenge the very boundaries of what choral music can be. Our combined voices echo the majesty of the great cathedrals and concert halls of the world, but our sound and our soul is proudly grounded in the intimacy and warmth of our home city of Adelaide.

Honoured with an Arts South Australia Ruby Award in 2011 for "sustained contribution by an organisation", and a 2022 Ruby Award for the world premiere season of *Watershed: The Death of Dr Duncan* at the Adelaide Festival, ACS' eight international tours have also garnered international accolades including "Choir of the World at Llangollen 2013" at the Welsh International Musical Eisteddfod. ACS is frequently invited to support and collaborate with a wide range of artists including The Rolling Stones, VOCES8, The Tallis Scholars, Kronos Quartet, Hilltop Hoods, Greta Bradman, and Katie Noonan. A strong and consistent advocate for Australian music, ACS has proudly commissioned over 30 new works from established and emerging composers.

Recent achievements include the 2022 launch of Rising Voices (previously known as ACS<sup>2</sup>) – a high-level training ensemble conducted by both Christie and Carl, with mentors from the core ensemble. 2023 saw ACS work with the incredible British ensemble, The Gesualdo Six, as part of the UKARIA A Cappella Academy, as well as their critically-acclaimed performances of *Celestial* at the Adelaide Festival, and *Behold the Wonder* at Dark Mofo in Hobart. In October 2023, ACS hosted the inaugural Adelaide Chamber Choir Festival to tremendous success, cementing Adelaide's place as "the choral capital of Australia" (*InReview*).

## Planner 2024

### FEBRUARY/MARCH

#### All Flesh Is Fire

Art Gallery of South Australia  
Thursday 29 February, 6.00pm & 7.30pm  
Saturday 2 March, 12.30pm & 2.00pm

#### There Will Come Soft Rain

Adelaide Town Hall  
Wednesday 13 March, 7.30pm

### JUNE

#### \*VOCES8 with Adelaide Chamber Singers

Presented by UKARIA  
Friday 14 June, 7.30pm  
\*SOLD OUT in October 2023

### OCTOBER

#### Elemental

Pilgrim Church  
Saturday 5 October, 7.30pm  
UKARIA Cultural Centre  
Sunday 6 October, 2.30pm

### DECEMBER

#### \*\*Messiah

Adelaide Town Hall  
Friday 6 December, 7.30pm  
Saturday 7 December, 7.30pm  
Sunday 8 December, 3.00pm

\*\*Bookings through  
Adelaide Symphony Orchestra

#### Resound!

St Peter's Cathedral  
Saturday 14 December, 6.30pm



# Ticketing Information

Book your tickets at [adelaidechambersingers.com](http://adelaidechambersingers.com)

If you need assistance, please phone us on **0450 900 583**

or email [admin@adelaidechambersingers.com](mailto:admin@adelaidechambersingers.com)

**Note:** ACS offers a complimentary ticket exchange service to all patrons.

## TICKET PRICES

Advertised ticket prices are exclusive of the credit card Merchant Service Fee (2% of transaction value).

### All Flesh is Fire

Free event, no bookings required

### There Will Come Soft Rain

Adult \$59

Adelaide Festival Friends \$50

Concession \$49

Under 30 years old \$30

Full-time student \$25

### Elemental and Resound!

Adult \$51

Concession \$43

Pensioners, Health Care cardholders, Seniors, and

Full-time students are eligible for concession.

### Companion Card and Accessibility

ACS is pleased to be an affiliate of the Companion Card program.

To organise companion tickets, please contact ACS direct.

All venues are wheelchair accessible.

# Acknowledgements

Christie Anderson – Artistic Director and Conductor

Dr Carl Crossin OAM – Founder and Conductor Emeritus

Anne Rundle - General Manager

Dani Raymond – Administration Manager and Front-of-House

Matthew Madden – Operations and Staging Manager

Aidan Foyel – Singer Liaison Coordinator

Jo Pike – Bookkeeper

### Adelaide Chamber Singers Board

Dr Julia Szuster – Chair

Dr Cheryl Pickering – Deputy Chair

Martin Penhale – Singer Representative

Brooke Window – Singer Representative

Christie Anderson

Anthony Burt

Robyn Pearson OAM

Richard Ryan AO

Brochure Design by Karen De Nardi – De Nardi Creative Design

Brochure Production coordinated by Rachel Bruerville

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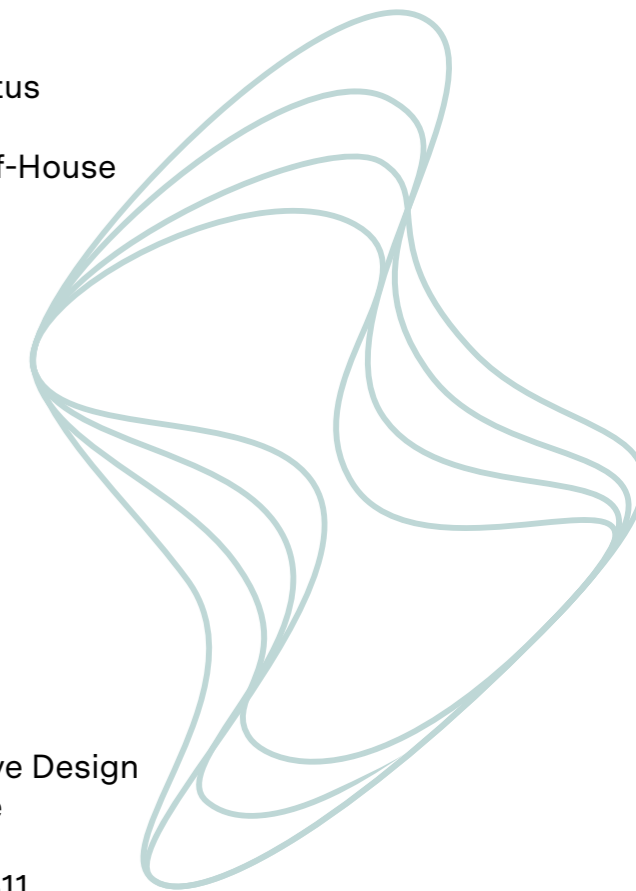
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