

ADELAIDE  
CHAMBER  
*SINGERS*

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Rising Voices

# Aura

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Saturday 24 October, 7.30pm

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Baptist Church,  
Tynte Street, North Adelaide

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**Emma Borgas** - Conductor

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***In partnership with the National Trust***

# From the conductor

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ADELAIDE  
CHAMBER  
SINGERS

It has been a joy to work with Rising Voices bringing *Aura* to life — a program that is the epitome of its name. An aura is often described as a luminous energy field or invisible emanation that surrounds a person, and throughout this program we explore music that creates its own sense of atmosphere, energy, light and transcendence.

Many of you will know Gabriel Fauré's beautiful *Requiem*, a work quite unlike the more dramatic requiems of Brahms, Berlioz and Verdi. Fauré described his *Requiem* as having been written "for pleasure", portraying not death as a distressing transition, but rather "a happy deliverance" and a "yearning for the happiness of the beyond". In our performance, we will strive to capture this sense of serenity and release — music that is peaceful, tender and elevating, offering a vision of eternal rest and comfort rather than fear or despair.

Connected to this is the music of Maurice Duruflé. His *Quatre Motets sur des thèmes grégoriens* draw upon Gregorian chant and Renaissance-inspired contrapuntal techniques, woven into the rich harmonic language for which Duruflé is known. Written in 1960, the motets share a deep connection with his earlier *Requiem*, creating music that feels both ancient and contemporary, and offering a beautiful continuation of the musical world established by Fauré.

In contrast to these two much-loved choral classics, we will also explore two settings of *Locus Iste*, meaning "this place" — a text traditionally associated with the dedication of a sacred space. Our very own Rachel Bruerville's setting was commissioned for the St Peter's Cathedral Choir, creating a wonderful connection with our local musical community. In contrast, Austrian Romantic composer Anton Bruckner offers another interpretation, creating an atmosphere of reverence, and contemplation.

Together, these works invite us to explore the many shades of *Aura* — light and darkness, stillness and movement, the ancient and the contemporary, and ultimately the sense of something beyond ourselves that can be felt, even when it cannot be seen.

**Emma Borgas, Conductor**

## Singers

### Soprano

Alethia Burney  
Robyn Cornish-Hall  
Michaela Eaton  
Cassy Humble  
Ella Moeck  
Laura Mohan-Ram  
Verity Collyer

### Alto

Riana Chakravarti  
Sanne Baltussen  
Ali Hansen  
Carrie Lam  
Olivia Wienert

### Tenor

Ash Sharma  
Graham Yuile  
Rhys Williams

### Bass

Max Junge  
Edward Vaught  
Matt Winefield  
Andrew Bettison  
Chris Gann  
Brendan O'Donnell

We acknowledge that we are meeting and making music on Kurna Country, and we pay our respects to Elders past and present. We recognise and respect First Nations' cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land. We acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to Kurna people living today. We also extend that respect to other Aboriginal Language Groups and other First Nations people.

# Program

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## **Four Motets on Gregorian Themes - Maurice Duruflé**

- I. Ubi caritas et amor - soloist Riana Chakravarti
- II. Tota pulcra es - soloist Cassy Humble
- III. Tu es Petrus - soloist Chris Gann
- IV. Tantum Ergo - soloist Graham Yuile

## **Locus Iste - Anton Bruckner**

## **Locus Iste - Rachel Bruerville**

## **Requiem - Gabriel Fauré**

- I. Introit & Kyrie
- II. Offertory
- III. Sanctus
- IV. Pie Jesu - Soprano soloist Brooke Window
- V. Agnus Dei
- VI. Libera me - Baritone soloist Pelham Andrews
- VII. In paradisum

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*Please note there will be no interval*

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# Notes on the program

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## Four Motets on Gregorian Themes - Maurice Duruflé, composer

Composed in 1960, Maurice Duruflé's *Four Motets on Gregorian Themes* draw inspiration from the ancient tradition of Gregorian chant, blending these sacred melodies with rich harmonies and intricate vocal textures. Each motet is built around a traditional chant melody, which weaves through the voices with a natural, flowing rhythm. The result is music that bridges centuries of musical tradition, creating an atmosphere of stillness, reverence and spiritual beauty.

The opening motet, *Ubi caritas* ("Where charity and love are, there is God"), is perhaps Duruflé's best-known choral work. Its gentle, flowing lines and luminous harmonies create a beautiful sense of peace and unity.

*Tota pulchra es* ("You are all-beautiful") is written for soprano and alto voices alone. Celebrating the Virgin Mary, its lighter, more animated character provides a lovely contrast to the stillness of the opening movement.

The brief but powerful *Tu es Petrus* ("You are Peter") draws on the biblical words of Jesus to Peter: "Upon this rock I will build my church". With its energetic rhythms and triumphant climax, it forms the dramatic high point of the collection.

Finally, *Tantum ergo*, a hymn of adoration, returns us to a world of quiet reflection. Its gentle interweaving melodies and peaceful conclusion bring the cycle full circle.

Together, these four miniature masterpieces reveal Duruflé's extraordinary ability to transform ancient melodies into something deeply expressive, inviting listeners into moments of stillness, beauty and spiritual reflection.

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## Locus Iste - Anton Bruckner, composer

Austrian composer Anton Bruckner spent much of his early life immersed in church music, first as a chorister and later as an organist at St Florian Monastery and Linz Cathedral. Composed in 1869 for the dedication of a chapel in Linz's New Cathedral, *Locus iste* celebrates the sacredness of a place of worship. Written for unaccompanied choir, its beautifully balanced phrases and rich, warm harmonies gradually unfold before returning to a gentle, reverent close. Its simplicity and serenity have made it one of Bruckner's most beloved choral works.

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**Locus Iste - Rachel Bruerville. composer**

Locus Iste was commissioned by Leonie Hempton for the St Peter's Cathedral Choir, North Adelaide, for their 2019 tour to the UK. I got to know the Cathedral Choir very well when I worked in the Cathedral Office as Administration Assistant for three years (2018-2021), and Leonie also taught me music at Marryatville High School - great Adelaide connections!

This setting of the well-known Locus Iste text aims to capture a sense of comfort for a familiar place - either physical or spiritual - along with excitement and awe. I think the 'place' of being inside an ensemble of beautiful singers is certainly priceless.

– Text by Rachel Bruerville

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**Requiem - Gabriel Fauré, composer**

Fauré's *Requiem* is often associated with the deaths of his father in 1885 and mother in 1887, however the composer himself offered a different explanation for its creation. Conceived originally for church services rather than the concert stage, the work reflects Fauré's many years as a church organist accompanying funeral services. In a 1902 interview, he expressed a desire to depart from tradition, stating, "I wanted to do something different". Rather than emphasising the drama and judgement of death, Fauré focuses on the true meaning of the word *Requiem* - "rest". His interpretation is one of peaceful acceptance and release, expressed through music that is serene, uplifting and comforting.

Fauré's distinctive approach is also reflected in his selection of texts, which draw freely from the Requiem Mass and other liturgical traditions. He omits the dramatic *Dies irae* (Day of Wrath) and the Benedictus, instead incorporating the *Libera me* and *In paradisum*, prayers traditionally associated with the Rite of Burial. These choices reinforce his vision of death not as something to be feared, but as a gentle passage towards eternal peace and rest.

– All program notes except those otherwise acknowledged, by Emma Borgas.

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**Four Motets on Gregorian Themes - Maurice Duruflé**  
**Ubi caritas et amor**

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.  
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.  
Exsulemus, et in ipso jucundemur.  
Timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum.  
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.  
Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.  
Simul ergo cum in unum congregamur:  
Ne nos mente dividamur, caveamus.  
Cessent iurgia maligna, cessent lites.  
Et in medio nostri sit Christus Deus.  
Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.  
Simul quoque cum beatis videamus,  
Glorianter vultum tuum, Christe Deus:  
Gaudium quod est immensum, atque probum,  
Saecula per infinita saeculorum. Amen.

Where charity and love are, God is there.  
Love of Christ has gathered us into one.  
Let us rejoice in Him and be glad.  
Let us fear, and let us love the living God.  
And from a sincere heart let us love one.  
Where charity and love are, God is there.  
At the same time, therefore, are gathered into one:  
Lest we be divided in mind, let us beware.  
Let evil impulses stop, let controversy cease.  
And in the midst of us be Christ our God.  
Where charity and love are, God is there.  
At the same time we see that with the saints also,  
Thy face in glory, O Christ our God:  
The joy that is immense and good, Unto the  
World without end. Amen.

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**Tota pulcra es**

Tota pulchra es, Maria.  
Et macula originalis non est in te.  
Tu gloria Jerusalem.  
Tu laetitia Israel  
Tu honorificentia populi nostri.  
Tu advocata peccatorum, O Maria.  
Virgo prudentissima.  
Mater clementissima.  
Ora pro nobis.  
Intercede pro nobis ad Dominum Iesum Christum.  
In conceptione tua, Immaculata fuisti.  
Ora pro nobis Patrem cuius Filium peperisti.  
Domina, protege orationem meam.  
Et clamor meus ad te veniat.

You are fair, O Mary.  
And the original stain is not in you.  
You are the glory of Jerusalem.  
You, the joy of Israel.  
You are the honour of our people.  
You are the advocate of sinners, O Mary.  
Virgin most prudent.  
Mother most tender.  
Pray for us,  
Intercede for us with Jesus Christ our Lord.  
In your conception, Holy Virgin, you were immaculate.  
Pray for us to the Father, Whose Son you brought forth.  
O Lady! Aid my prayer,  
And let my cry come unto you.

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**Tu es Petrus**

Tu es Petrus et super hanc  
petram aedificabo Ecclesiam meam.

You are Peter and upon this  
rock I will build my church.

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**Tantum Ergo**

Tantum ergo Sacramentum  
Veneremur cernui:  
Et antiquum documentum  
Novo cedat ritui:  
Praestet fides supplementum  
Sensuum defectui.

Genitori, Genitoque  
Laus et iubilatio,  
Salus, honor, virtus quoque  
Sit et benedictio:  
Procedenti ab utroque  
Compar sit laudatio. Amen.

Let us, then, bow low and venerate so great a Sacrament;  
let the ancient rite give way to the new;  
let faith supply  
what the senses fail to perceive.

To the Begetter and the Begotten  
be praise and jubilation,  
salvation, honor, power, and blessing;  
and to the One proceeding from both  
be equal praise. Amen.

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**Locus Iste - Anton Bruckner & Rachel Bruerville**

Locus iste a Deo factus est,  
Inaestimabile sacramentum,  
irreprehensibilis est.

This place was made by God,  
a priceless sacrament;  
it is without reproach.

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**Requiem - Gabriel Fauré**

Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine,  
et lux perpetua luceat eis.

Te decet hymnus, Deus, in Sion,  
et tibi reddetur votum in Jerusalem.

Exaudi orationem meam: ad te omnis caro veniet.

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.

Give them eternal rest, Lord,  
and may light perpetual shine upon them.

A hymn becomes you, God, in Zion,  
and a vow shall be paid to you in Jerusalem.

Hear my prayer: to you all flesh shall come.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

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**Offertory**

O Domine Jesu Christe, rex gloriae,  
libera animas defunctorum  
de poenis inferni et de profundo lacu.

O Domine Jesu Christe, rex gloriae,  
libera animas defunctorum de ore leonis,  
ne absorbeat Tartarus, ne cadant in obscurum.

Hostias et preces tibi, Domine, laudis offerimus:  
tu suscipe pro animabus illis  
quarum hodie memoriam facimus.  
Fac eas, Domine, de morte transire ad vitam  
quam olim Abrahae promisisti et semini eius. Amen.

O Lord Jesus Christ, king of glory,  
deliver the souls of the departed  
from the punishments of hell and from the deep lake.

O Lord Jesus Christ, king of glory,  
deliver the souls of the departed from the mouth of the lion,  
lest Tartarus swallow them up, lest they fall into darkness.

We offer prayers and sacrifices of praise to you, Lord:  
you receive them on behalf of those souls  
whose memory we recall today.  
Cause them, Lord, to pass from death to the life  
which you once promised to Abraham and his seed. Amen.

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**Sanctus**

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth:  
pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.  
Hosanna in excelsis.

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts:  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.

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**Pie Jesu**

Pie Jesu, Domine, dona eis requiem.  
Pie Jesu, Domine, dona eis sempiternam requiem.

Blessed Jesus, Lord, give them rest.  
Blessed Jesus, Lord, give them eternal rest.

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**Agnus Dei**

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,  
dona eis requiem.  
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,  
dona eis sempiternam requiem.  
Lux aeterna luceat eis, Domine,  
cum sanctis tuis in aeternum, quia pius es.  
Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine,  
et lux perpetua luceat eis.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,  
give them rest.  
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,  
give them eternal rest.  
May eternal light shine on them, Lord,  
with your saints for ever, for you are good.  
Give them eternal rest, Lord,  
and may light perpetual shine upon them.

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**Libera me**

Libera me, Domine, de morte aeterna,  
in die illa tremenda:  
quando caeli movendi sunt et terra;  
dum veneris iudicare saeculum per ignem.  
Tremens factus sum ego, et timeo,  
dum discussio venerit, atque ventura ira.

Dies illa, dies irae, calamitatis et miseriae,  
Dies illa, dies magna et amara valde.  
Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine,  
et lux perpetua luceat eis.

Deliver me, Lord, from eternal death,  
on that terrible day:  
when the heavens and earth will be shaken;  
when you will come to judge the age with fire.  
I am made to tremble, and I am afraid,  
since trial and anger are coming.

That day, a day of anger, disaster and sorrow,  
That day, a mighty day, and one exceedingly bitter.  
Give them eternal rest, Lord,  
and may light perpetual shine upon them

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**In paradisum**

In paradisum deducant angeli:  
in tuo adventu suscipiant te martyres,  
et perducant te in civitatem sanctam Jerusalem.  
Chorus angelorum te suscipiat,  
et cum Lazaro quondam paupere,  
aeternam habeas requiem.

May the angels lead you into paradise:  
may the martyrs receive you as you arrive,  
and bring you into the holy city of Jerusalem.  
May the choir of angels receive you,  
and with Lazarus, once a beggar,  
may you have eternal rest.



## Adelaide Chamber Singers

Adelaide Chamber Singers (ACS) is widely respected as one of Australia's finest chamber choirs. ACS was founded in 1985 by Dr Carl Crossin OAM (Artistic Director and Conductor 1985–2021 and ACS Honorary Conductor Emeritus) and it has been a passionate and innovative contributor to music-making for over 40 years.

From the beginning, ACS has existed to showcase the highest order of musical interpretation, to inspire audiences, and to challenge the boundaries of what choral music can be. Adelaide Chamber Singers believes strongly in the power and the passion of vocal chamber music and the profound impact it can have in our lives.

## Rising Voices

Rising Voices is Adelaide Chamber Singers' choir for young adult musicians. Launched in 2022, it brings together some of Adelaide's finest emerging vocalists, all committed to excellence in choral singing. Members are trained and mentored by ACS core singers, building the skills and experience that a career in chamber choral music demands. Rising Voices also offers a platform and support for emerging composers and conductors. Tonight's performance showcases the talent and passion of the artform's next generation.



## Emma Borgas

*Conductor*

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Emma Borgas is a soprano, music educator and choral practitioner, currently working at Concordia College, where she enjoys inspiring young musicians through singing, ensemble music and creative collaboration. Her rich experience includes working in Special Interest Music Centres and conducting choirs such as Young Adelaide Voices, Australian Youth Choir and Gondwana Voices. She is passionate about creating meaningful musical experiences that inspire young people and bring communities together.

Emma studied at Adelaide University's Elder Conservatorium with Keith Hempton and Patrick Power, and in Germany with Jacqueline Forster. As a soloist, Emma has performed with ensembles including the Cantabile Singers, Corinthian Singers, Adelaide Philharmonia Chorus and Norwood Symphony Orchestra.

Emma was a core member of the Adelaide Chamber Singers (2008–2025), including their 2013 *Choir of the World* win at the International Musical Eisteddfod in Llangollen, Wales. Through ACS, she toured internationally and performed alongside world-class ensembles including the Tallis Scholars, I Fagiolini, The Gesualdo Six and VOCES8.

Her practice also extends into interdisciplinary collaboration, most notably with visual artist Amber Cronin on *Dawn Chorus* for Nature Festival SA at the Adelaide Botanic Gardens, *Hiraeth* for SALA at Saubier House, Port Noarlunga, and *A Weight to Entice Buoyancy*, commissioned for the Manchester Arts Festival in 2025.



## Brooke Window

*Soprano*

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'Radiant', 'Vibrant' and 'Sublime' Soprano, Brooke Window graduated with a Bachelor of Music (Honours First Class) from the Elder Conservatorium of Music, University of Adelaide.

She was awarded the George Boland Scholarship and the Rae Cocking Memorial Prize upon completion of her studies, enabling her to undertake further vocal tuition in Baroque repertoire in Europe with Dame Emma Kirkby and Andreas Scholl among others.

Brooke has a passion for ensemble singing and is a long-standing member of the award-winning Adelaide Chamber Singers, with whom she has toured and competed internationally, recorded and performed with a number of internationally renowned artists, and performed in numerous Adelaide Festival programs, including the award-winning *Watershed* (2022), the 'transcendent' *All Flesh is Fire* (2024), and *Innocence* (2025).

Brooke is also a member of the State Opera South Australia Chorus, with engagements to date including *Carmen*, *La Boheme*, *Madama Butterfly*, *Macbeth*, *Candide*, and *Lucia Di Lammermoor*. Recently, Brooke covered the role of First Sprite in *The Magic Flute*.

Recent highlights also include soprano soloist for Sydney Chamber Choir's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary gala, singing Paul Stanhope's *Requiem*, and soprano soloist for flamenco legend, Paco Pena's *Requiem for the Earth* in the 2024 Adelaide Guitar Festival.

A highly regarded and confident concert soloist, Brooke regularly performs as a guest artist and soloist, performing with many of Adelaide's leading ensembles and enjoys occasional work as a recording session musician across a variety of genres.



## Pelham Andrews

*Baritone*

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Pelham Andrews is an acclaimed classical Bass and Bass-baritone singer, known for his vocal warmth and versatile characterisation. He has performed for major opera companies, orchestras and chamber ensembles in Australia, New Zealand and the UK in repertoire spanning from early music to contemporary compositions.

Some of Pelham's performing highlights include: Laurent (*Romeo et Juliette*), Raimondo (*Lucia di Lammermoor*), Banco (*Macbeth*), Bartolo (*Marriage of Figaro*), Judd/Bonner (Voss), Nourabad (*Pearl Fishers*), Padre Guardiano (*Forza del Destino*), Colline (*Boheme*), Mikado (*Mikado*), and Bhaer (*Little Women*) all for State Opera South Australia.

Snug (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*) and Bass soloist in *Watershed - The Death of Dr Duncan*, Verdi's *Requiem* (Staged by Zurich Ballet) and Tippett's *A Child of Our Time* for the Adelaide Festival of Arts.

Timur (*Turandot*), Sparafucile (*Rigoletto*), Lodovico (*Otello*) and Farfarello (*Love for Three Oranges*) for Opera Australia.

Commendatore (*Don Giovanni*), King (*Aida*), Douphol (*Traviata*) and Geronte (*Manon Lescaut*) for Auckland Philharmonia.

Don Fernando (*Fidelio*) for Sydney Symphony Orchestra, Faure's *Requiem* for Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, Handel's *Messiah* for Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, Mozart's *Requiem* for Queensland Symphony Orchestra and the works of J. S. Bach for the Adelaide Cantata Band.

Pelham recently premiered and recorded *As the Universe Expands* by Glyn Lehmann and presented a recital with pianist Penelope Cashman showcasing musical settings of lyrics by Christina Rossetti and James Joyce. In 2026 he performs Alidoro (*La Cenerentola*) for State Opera South Australia, the Bonze (*Madama Butterfly*) for the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra, Brahms' *Liebeslieder* with Magpie Artsong and reprises for Opera Australia the roles he originated with the Adelaide Chamber Singers in the premiere of *Watershed - The Death of Dr Duncan*.



## Josh van Konkelenberg

### *Organ*

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Josh van Konkelenberg studied piano at The University of Adelaide and the Australian National Academy of Music, and then organ and improvisation with David Graham and Sophie-Véronique Cauchefer-Choplin at the Royal College of Music. He received the degree of Master of Music with distinction in 2012, and completed the Ph.D. in Composition (at The University of Adelaide) in the same year.

Josh was awarded the Walford. E. Davies Prize for Dux of the Organ Faculty at the Royal College of Music, and has been the recipient of grants from the Australia Council for the Arts and the Ian Potter Cultural Trust, an University of Adelaide Medal for Outstanding Academic Achievement, and an Australian Postgraduate Award.

He was the Artistic and Musical Director of Co-Opera from 2017-2021, and has toured with Opera Australia as a pianist for their school's production and regional chorus master for their touring productions. In 2022, he was the conductor for State Opera South Australia's national tour of Love Burns and received first-class honours in conducting from The University of Adelaide in 2023.

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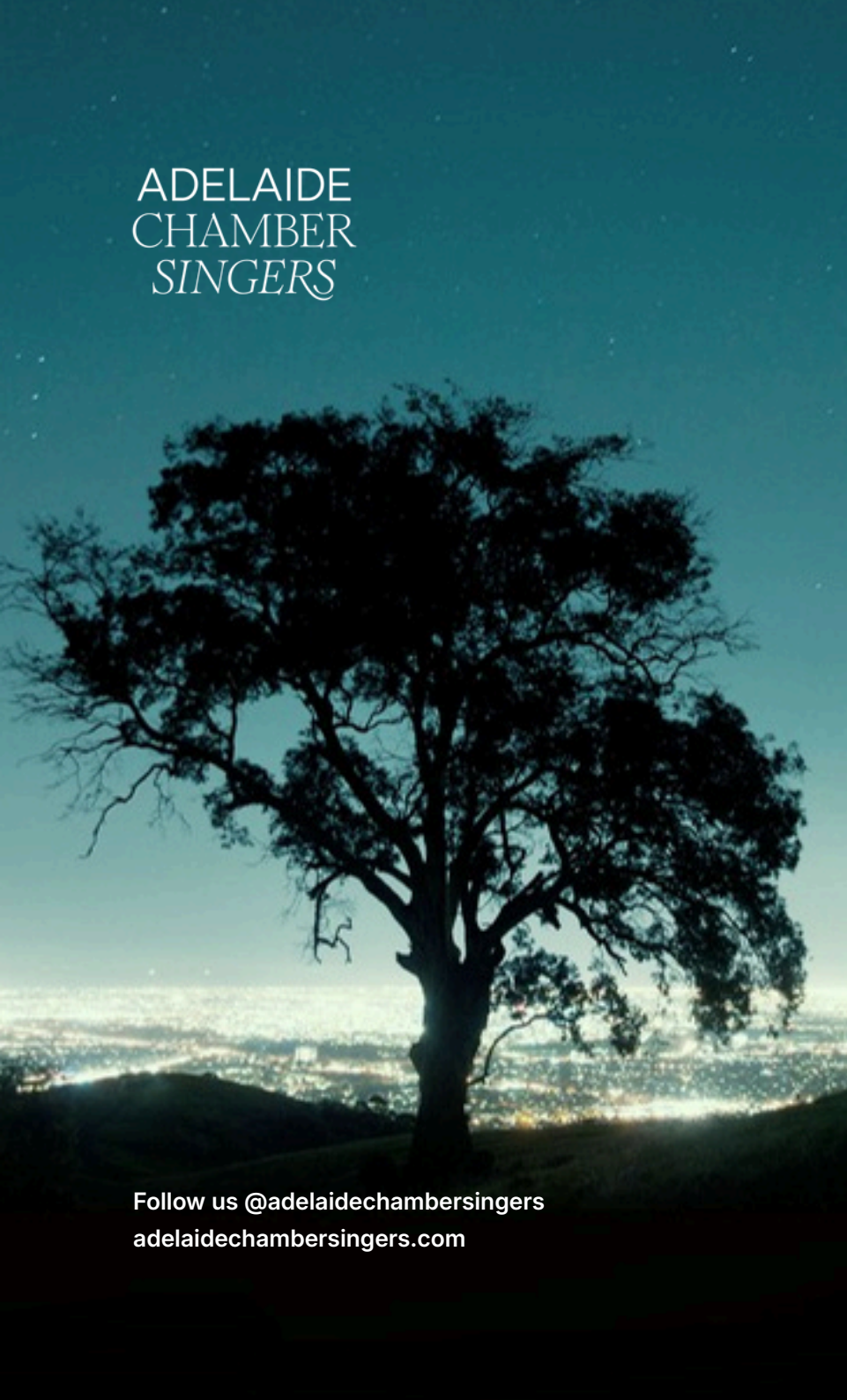
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## Upcoming Adelaide Chambers Singers' Performances

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### Grace

Adelaide Chamber Singers with ACS Conductor Emeritus Carl Crossin OAM  
Sunday 6 December 2.30pm, St Peter's Cathedral

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#### *Begin your Christmas with Grace*

Kick off the Christmas season with an afternoon for families and friends, telling the Christmas story through ten texts, both devotional and secular. Under the baton of ACS Conductor Emeritus Carl Crossin, Adelaide Chamber Singers performs music spanning the centuries, from medieval chant to the 21st century, with works by Rachmaninov, Gabrieli, Bruckner, Gibbons, Sigurbjörnsson, Beamish, Lauridsen and more.

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#### About Carl Crossin OAM

Carl Crossin OAM is one of Australia's most respected choral conductors, known for his long leadership of Adelaide Chamber Singers and his influence on choral music in South Australia and beyond. We are delighted to welcome him back to lead GRACE.

*Come and listen. Stay and sing.*

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