



# OzBrass 3

## Australian Music for Brass

- Graeme Denniss**      Mixed Business III: Fanfare (2014)  
Wa Wa Waltz (2000, rev. 2012)  
Mixed Business III: Hornby Dublo - Class 14XX (2013)
- Ryan Walsh**            Perpetual Moment (2013, rev. 2014)
- David Montgomery**    BBQ4 – A bit of Celtic Fanfare (2014)
- Graeme Denniss**      inner tube (2014)  
i. tuba  
ii. horn  
iii. trombone
- Julian Yu**                The Art of Fudge (2013/2014)  
1. The Tragedian  
2. J.S. The Great  
3. A Phone Call to Mozart  
4. What for Elise?  
5. Finished Symphony  
6. Stepping Up Birthday  
7. Harmonic Phrases at an Exhibition  
8. Caterpoint  
9. Enjoy Hanon  
10. To Comrade Schostakovich
- Bob Schultz**            Conditioning (2014)

**Sunday July 27. 2014, 2:30pm**

**St Andrews South Brisbane  
160 Vulture Street**

## Program Notes



### Graeme Wright Denniss

Graeme Wright Denniss was the Principal Third Horn in the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra for 14 years, and has played in many brass groups including the Melbourne Brass Trio, the Melbourne Brass Ensemble (quintet) and Buzz (quartet). He has written a

number of pieces for each of these groups, and has a performer's knowledge of the sound potentials of brass instruments in various combinations.

Graeme has a PhD in composition from the University of Queensland and was recently awarded an Honorary Fellowship of the National Academy of Music, Colorado U.S.A., for his success in the International Music Prizes competition. His works have been performed and recorded by the Melbourne and Tasmanian Symphony Orchestras, the Queensland Philharmonic and Youth Orchestras, as well as many smaller ensembles. Graeme's compositions appear on AMEB and ANZCA syllabuses for French horn, bass clarinet and piano duet. Graeme is a Represented Composer with the Australian Music Centre and has recently been appointed Artistic Director and Conductor of the Redland Sinfonia.

For more information, visit [www.dcomposition.com](http://www.dcomposition.com)

#### ***Mixed Business III: Fanfare (2014)***

Fanfares have been used throughout history to announce the arrival of an important person or to start the show. This one uses strong rhythms and a mixture of harmonies including chords based on 4ths.

#### ***Wa Wa Waltz (2000, rev. 2012)***

The *Wa Wa Waltz* had its beginnings when the composer was the French horn player in "Buzz, a brass quartet which toured for Musica Viva In Schools in the early 2000's. Originally the piece was quite short, but BoB – Best of Brass gave an opportunity to expand and extend the piece to include solos for all the instruments, each with its own characteristic effects. The new extended play version of the *Wa Wa Waltz* for quintet has elements of burlesque and vaudeville, as well as maintaining the cartoon feel of the original. Special effects include: Harmon mutes with the plunger in, (aka the Wa Wa mute), a variety of other mutes, hand-stopping on the French horn, flutter-tonguing for the upper brass, and glissando for the two trombones.

#### ***Mixed Business III: Hornby Dublo Class 14XX (2013)***

Hornby Dublo Class 14XX depicts an imaginary train journey

of the model train the composer played with as a boy. Various sound effects are used to imitate the sound of a steam train.

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### Ryan Walsh

Ryan Walsh (b.1980) is a Brisbane-based composer and producer. After graduating in 2002 from the Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University (QCGU), Ryan went on to further study in Europe and spent a number of years working in Venezuela and Brazil. He returned to

Australia in 2009 to complete a Masters in Composition & Musicology culminating in him being awarded the 2011 Harris Peck Prize for composition.

Outside the concert hall he works regularly as a screen composer and is also the founder of production studio SST Workshop whose multidiscipline work has been commissioned by clients as diverse as NEC Japan & Sao Paulo Fashion Week.

Other current projects include music for the upcoming Australian feature film *The Turning*, as well as an orchestral work for the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra.

For more information, visit [www.ryanwalshmusic.com](http://www.ryanwalshmusic.com)

#### ***Perpetual Moment (2013, rev. 2014)***

What happened before us humans were around? History didn't just start with us. For millions of years there were cataclysmic, spectacular forces at play.

This piece is a small attempt to represent things that might have happened in the distant past that went unwitnessed. Astronomical, geological, biological... all of these seemingly unrelated events made up the "perpetual moment" before we started writing things down.

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### David Montgomery

David is a composer, performer and music educator. He is the Principal Percussionist of the Queensland Symphony Orchestra and a member of the Australian World Orchestra. David is also the Artistic Director of Isorhythmos percussion ensemble and editor of Isorhythmos

Publications.

As a composer, he has had works commissioned by *Opera Queensland*, *Queensland Symphony Orchestra*, *Isorhythmos* and *ABC Radio National*. David has also worked as a sound designer and composer for the *Queensland Theatre Company* and *La Boite Theatre*. His children's opera *The*

*Sound Garden* has been performed by West Australian Opera, Opera Queensland and Opera Australia with 2000+ performances to some 30,000 Australian school students between 2000 and 2011.

In 2013 David completed a consultancy for the *Australian Music Examinations Board* to create a new percussion syllabus spanning 12 levels, from Preliminary to Licentiate of Music. He is an active and passionate educator and works regularly within the school environment conducting workshops and participating in performance programs. His teaching experience spans primary through to graduate tertiary level and he will be a guest teacher at the Australian National Academy of Music toward the end of 2014.

David is currently completing a Doctorate in Musical Arts at Griffith University.

### ***BBQ4 – A bit of Celtic Fanfare (2014)***

BBQ4 is an arrangement of a horn quintet commissioned by the Queensland Symphony Orchestra Horn Section to perform in a concert they are giving in London as part of their presentation for the 2014 International Horn Convention. The commission brief was to compose some light relief in a program that already had some heavy compositional and playing demands. So, I composed 4 short movements, each depicting a different cliché of style and mood, light-hearted in intention, and with a touch of irony thrown into the mix.

The 4 movements are *Incognito*, *It's a '70s thing*, *Chorale*, and *A bit of Celtic fanfare*. BBQ4 is an arrangement for BoB Brass Quintet of the 4<sup>th</sup> movement, *A bit of Celtic Fanfare!*

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### **Graeme Wright Dennis**

#### ***inner tube (2014)***

***i. tuba***

***ii. horn***

***iii. trombone***

i. The 3 movements in this work explore the essential nature of each instrument. The tuba begins with a playful agile theme within constantly changing metres, accompanied with epigrammatic figures from the two upper instruments, sometimes mutes for a different colour.

ii. The second movement explores the lyrical character of the horn, with slow moving melodies which cover the large range of the instrument.

iii. Finally the trombone, the most physically demanding of all the brass, plays a flamboyant hornpipe mostly in 7/8, with energetic driving rhythms.

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### **Julian Yu**

Born in Beijing in 1957, Julian Yu settled in Australia in 1985. He studied composition at the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing, later joining the teaching staff there, and from 1980 to 1982 studied at the Tokyo College of Music with Joji Yuasa and Schin-ichiro Ikebe. In 1988 he was a

Composition Fellow at Tanglewood where he studied with Hans Werner Henze and Oliver Knussen.

Important commissions include Ensemble Modern, the 2000 BBC Proms, and the Opening Ceremony of the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing. In 2011 he was Theme Composer at the Suntory Hall Summer Festival in Tokyo, where his specially commissioned work *For Our Natural World* was performed along with many other of his works in two dedicated concerts.

Awards for composition include the 1988 Koussevitzky Tanglewood Composition Prize; the inaugural and consecutive Paul Lowin Orchestral Prizes of 1991 and 1994; the 1992 Vienna Modern Masters Composition Award; awards in the International New Music Composers' Competitions of 1987, 1988, 1989 and 1990; the 35th Premio Musicale Citta di Trieste, Italy 1988; the 56th Japan Music Concours 1987; the international Irino Prize Competition, Japan 1989; the International 'Piano 2000' Composition Competition, Japan; the Albert H. Maggs Composition Award 1988; the Jacobena Angliss Music Award 1989; the Adolf Spivakovsky Composition Prize 1993; the Margaret Lee Crofts Fellowship (USA) 1988; and an Australia Council Composer Fellowship in 1995.

His piano album *The Young Person's Guide to Composition: 126 Variations on 'Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star'* was published in Japan in 2010 and China in 2011 where it has already reached its second print run.

His work, mostly for orchestra, is frequently performed in Australia and internationally. He currently teaches Composition at the University of Melbourne.

#### ***The Art of Fudge (2013/2014)***

***1. The Tragedian***

***2. J.S. The Great***

***3. A Phone Call to Mozart***

***4. What for Elise?***

***5. Finished Symphony***

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***7. Harmonic Phrases at an Exhibition***

***8. Caterpoint***

***9. Enjoy Hanon***

***10. To Comrade Schostakovich***

Hopefully, most people seeing this title will first misread it as "The Art of Fugue" and think immediately of J.S. Bach, and this analogy is intended. *The Art of Fudge* is a collection

of famous classical snippets which have been humorously "fudged", that is, twisted and played with, to create new and enjoyable experiences -- the birth of the new out of the old. I hope performers and listeners alike will find something to chuckle over, and am very proud that Best of Brass is giving this piece its world premiere performance.

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### **Bob Schultz**

As one of the leading jazz and crossover trumpet soloists in Australia, Bob has appeared nationally and internationally with groups and artists such as The Temptations, The Four Tops, The Black Sorrows, The Saints, Tom Burlinson, Wilson

“Saoko” Monyama, Jimmy Barnes, Queensland Symphony Orchestra and in festivals including Falls Festival, Bellingen Global Music Carnival, Woodford Folk Festival, QMF and Sydney Salsa Congress. Bob is also a member of Brisbane-based group Chukale and featured on their upcoming debut album featuring the legends of Cuba (members from the Buena Vista Social Club and The Gypsy Kings). Bob is also actively involved in education through the Queensland Young Conservatorium, Sheldon College (affiliated with the Australian School of the Arts), and can regularly be found giving workshops and masterclasses in Queensland and beyond. Bob Schultz is a Bach Artist.

For more information, visit [www.bobschultzmusic.com](http://www.bobschultzmusic.com)

### ***Conditioning (2014)***

My original inspiration for this piece was from the humble air conditioner in my teaching studio. What started as a simple improvisation around the sound of 'G' that was coming from the air conditioning unit, quickly morphed into an exploration of modal harmony. Throughout my studies in jazz, I have always been very interested in the way harmony works, how it can take a melody and shape it into something new simply by changing a few chords.

Contained within this piece is the use of the Lydian, Dorian, mixolydian and Spanish Phrygian modes; but I prefer to think of them as 'sounds'. To go along with the Spanish flavour, I rhythmically introduced the Afro Cuban 6/8 clave. This underpins the middle section of the piece and is passed around the ensemble at various stages. This work contains a number of sections, however you should always be able to hear one familiar melody or pattern that links all of the sections together.

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*OzBrass 3 Guest Artist:*

**Elise Mills – tuba**

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Up next:

**BoB's Afro-Cuban Fantasy**

featuring members of **Chukale**

**Sunday October 19, 2:30pm**

St Andrews South Brisbane

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