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AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION OF UKRAINIAN ORGANISATIONS UKRAINE CRISIS APPEAL

COMPOSER
VALERY NIAZOV

PRINCIPAL DANCER
CHRISTIAN LUCK

PRINCIPAL BALLERINA
CLAIRE VOSS

A TREE we GREW

CONCERT FOR UKRAINE

IN THE SOILS OF WAR
LOVE GROWS
LOVE SURVIVES

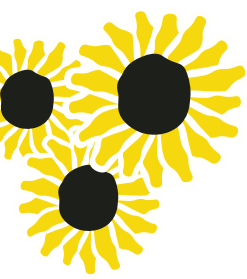
HALE SCHOOL THEATRE

Unwin Ave, Wembley Downs, WA

5TH OCT 7:30PM

Doors Open 7:00PM





A TREE WE GREW

CONCERT FOR UKRAINE

Act I

1. Anastaysia Dudar

"Chervona Ruta" – composer Volodymyr Ivasyuk.

This song became one of the Ukraine's most notable symbols.

2. Yitzhak Yedid - Variation on Ukrainian songs

3. Due Brilliante - Anastaysia Dudar & Irina Buevska-Cowell

"Carpathian Rhapsody for Violin and Piano" – composer Myroslav Skoryk

4. Irina Buevska-Cowell

"Andante Spianato and Grande Polonaise, Op. 22"
Frederic Chopin

5. Roztiazhka – Kubanskiy dance

6. Men of the West Choir – "Mirangula" Georgian song

7. Roztiazhka – Hopak dance

Intermission



VIEW THE FULL
CONCERT PROGRAMME
benefitukraine.org/programme

Download the complete 18 page programme to see full cast and production bios.

Act II

"A Tree We Grew"

Composer - Valery Niazov;

Choreographer - Ivan Tarakanov

Principal Dancers - Ivan Tarakanov and Claire Voss

1940. Our heroes meet at a dance party, their first connection transforms into a tender love. But a hope of building love together is shattered by the WW2. The darkness grows destroying innocence.

Will the love survive?

Our heroes' final embrace forms a shape of a tree as a symbol of life, the power of love and the human spirit that prevail against the darkness of times.



Performers

Anastasya Dudar

Yitzhak Yedid

Irina Buevska-Cowell

Roztiazhka -

Ivan Wityk, Peter Wityk, Andrew Lozyk, Daniel Lozyk, Victoria Holovko, Danielle Seetsen, Tayissa Sweetlove, Hanya Furdas, Jeremy Simon, Stephanie Parin.

Men of the West Choir

A Tree We Grew - Cast

Composer - Valery Niazov

Choreographer & Director - Ivan Tarakanov

Principal Dancers - Ivan Tarakanov & Claire Voss

Assistant Choreographers -

Sarah Hepburn & Mikayla Campton

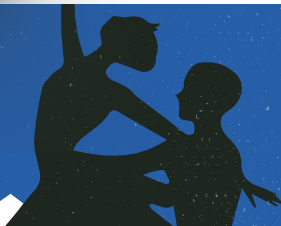
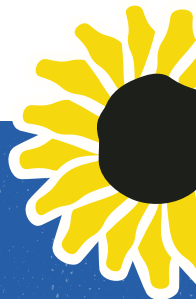
Jack Van Der Geest-Hester, Kaitlin Baskerville, William Buckland, Jada Huang, Nathan Claridge, Lilianna Chambers, Darcy Greenwood, Eloise Allan, Curran Chai, Philippa Hinton, Ivan Wityk, Peter Wityk, Alister Walters, Danielle Seetsen, Tayissa Sweetlove, Hanya Furdas, Victoria Holovko, Daniel Drieberg, Jaden Ngan, Raphael Resnik, Elijah Ramsay

We gratefully acknowledge the support of our generous Sponsors & Contributors:

Special thanks to:

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PERFORMERS



Anastaysia Dudar

Violinist

Australian Ukrainian violinist with education from some of the leading institutions in Europe, the USA and Australia. She holds a Bachelor of Music (honors 1) from the Lviv National Academy of Music, Ukraine and a Master of Music from Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, USA. She has also studied at Sydney Conservatorium of Music at a Doctoral level.

She is a winner of Multiple international awards, scholarships, and fellowships and with performances at the prestigious music festivals and masterclasses including Yale University Summer School of Music (USA) and Music Academy of the West in Santa Barbara (USA). Throughout the years she played studied with James Ehnes, Joshua Bell, Stanley Ritchie, Gabor Takacs-Nagy and Andres Fejer (Takacs String Quartet), Ani Kavafian, Zvi Zeitlin, Jorja Fleezanis, Kathleen Winkler, Jerome Lowenthal, Henryk Kowalski, Oleh Krysa, Mischa Lefkowitz and Goetz Richter.

Anastasiya is regularly performing as a soloist, chamber music and orchestra player.



Irina Buevska-Cowell

Pianist

Australian Concert Pianist of Ukrainian descent, Irina is Internationally acclaimed recitalist, soloist, and chamber musician, is also the Music Director of Cappuccino Concerts Australia. Irina has participated in various festivals, international masterclasses and chamber music projects. She is highly involved in the education and outreach of classical music.





Yitzhak Yedid

Pianist

Australian Israeli composer with PhD - Monash University, Melbourne, Australia BMus, piano (Hons) - Rubin Academy of Music, Jerusalem, Israel and Studies for Masters - New England Conservatory, Boston, USA . He is an adjunct Professor of Music at WAPA . Yitzhak multiple international award winner with his compositions ranging from piano solo, piano concertos, piano quintets, string quartets and many other works performed by the famous international symphony and chamber orchestras, quartets and soloists.



Roztiashka

Ukrainian Cossack Dancers

Roztiashka Ukrainian Cossack Dancers are an independent adult dance company formed in Perth, Western Australia in 1991. We constitute a non-profit, amateur Australian dance company. Membership is granted through audition and upon acceptance of our company values. The company is currently comprised of over 25 dancers. Although, membership fluctuates from season to season. Our non-performing Alumni is in excess of 50 people. Roztiashka strives to keep the tradition of Ukrainian Dancing alive in Perth and share their passion for Ukrainian Dance and culture with the Australian public.

Our dancers: Ivan Wityk, Peter Wityk, Andrew Lozyk, Daniel Lozyk, Alister Walters, Victoria Holovko, Danielle Seetsen, Tayissa Sweetlove, Hanya Furdas, Jeremy Simon, Stephanie Parin.



Men of the West Choir

Rich voices and harmonies in the traditional Georgian style. Laugh, weep, sing, clap, dance. Member of the choir play civilians in the ballet.

Special thanks to Colin Beasley, Kenn Martin, Haydn Hadlow, John Waller, Nick Wilson and John Higgins

CAST



Ivan Tarakanov

Director, Choreographer & Principal dancer as John

Winner of the First Prize of Italian Ballet competition in Rieti, Italy. Special Grand Prix (Best male dancer of the competition) He worked around the worlds with the world famous choreographers and ballet companies as a principal dancer and performed as a quest star Quarry Amphitheater on the invitation from Perth City Ballet. His international touring including Australia, Japan, USA (including at the Kennedy Centre), Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Japan, Italy and Israel etc. at sold out shows.



Claire Voss

Principal dancer as Fiona

Claire studied ballet at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et de Danse de Paris, and graduated with a Bachelors of Arts with First Class Honours in Dance. Her career in the highest circles of professional ballet took off in 2006 when she was invited to join Dortmund Ballet in Germany and she worked as a Demi-Soloist at other esteemed ballet institutions such as Zurich Ballet in Switzerland, Finnish National Ballet and finished her incredible career on stage in 2022 at West Australian Ballet. She has performed work by world-renowned choreographers such as William Forsyth, George Balanchine, and Marius Petipa, while also lending her grace to interpret principal roles in masterpieces like the Sugar Plum Fairy in The Nutcracker and Myrtha in Giselle. Her experience extended to choreography when she also had the opportunity to choreograph multiple pieces on the dancers of West Australian Ballet and for TV commercials.



Christian Luck

Principal dancer as German General

Born in Sydney, Christian commenced his training at the Mc Donald College of performing arts before being accepted into the Australian Ballet School where he completed a 3 year course, graduating with a diploma in dance. In 2004, Christian joined the West Australian Ballet where he danced professionally for 18 years, making him the company's longest serving member in their 70-year history. Christian danced numerous roles in his time with the company including several principal roles during that time. Having now retired from ballet, Christian is very excited to pass on his knowledge of dance to the future generations of ballet stars.



Sarah Hepburn

Assistant Choreographer & Dancer

Sarah trained as a dancer at Stevens Dance Academy under the tutelage of June Stevens and went on to complete 3 years at WAAPA. In her final year at WAAPA, Sarah was accepted to the West Australian Ballet where she danced all the principal roles from Juliet to Giselle to Lise and many others. She also worked and performed with many well-known international and Australian choreographers. Sarah guested frequently with Perth City Ballet as a principal. She left WA Ballet at the end of 2018 to spend more time with her young family and now is a Perth based freelance dancer often performing with Australian Baroque in the Candlelight shows.

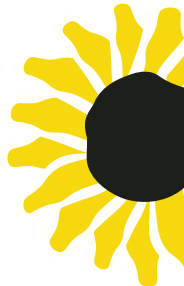


Mikayla Campton

Assistant Choreographer & Dancer

Born in Waikiki, Perth, Mikayla Compton is a multidisciplinary performer with a lifelong passion for the arts. Mikayla's dance training commenced at the Beverly Margaret School of Dance in Rockingham and the Jennifer Back School of Ballet in Mandurah. In 2008, Mikayla was invited to perform in a troupe at the Disneyland and Water World theme parks in Hong Kong. She was personally selected by Disneyland choreographer and Dancing with the Stars judge, Josh Horner, for a private lesson to hone her performance skills.

Mikayla graced stages at Disneyland, Universal Studios and NASA in Florida. In 2014, she earned an invitation to attend the renowned Joffrey Ballet School in New York, participating in an intensive program sponsored by the United States of America consulate and Rockingham city council. Mikayla's passion for the performing arts is complemented by her unwavering commitment to scientific studies. She recently completed her first-class Honours degree in Neuroscience and holds a Bachelor's degree in Pharmacology and Neuroscience.





Jack Van Der Geest-Hester

Dancer

Born in Alice Springs in 2002, Jack began his dancing career at the age of six. Progressing through Cecchetti level 3-7 and elementary, Jack joined the Northern Territory's Duprada Dance Company, performing in repertoire like *The Nutcracker*, *Giselle* and *Fireflies at Dusk*. Following Year 12, Jack completed a full-time placement with Duprada Dance Company, earning a certificate in classical ballet in 2021. As an aspiring dancer, Jack auditioned for a place in the Bachelor of Fine Arts (Dance) at The University of Melbourne.

After completing his first year in contemporary dance in 2022, Jack decided to follow his passion for classical ballet and auditioned for a place in the Diploma of Professional Dance (Elite Performance) at the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA). Surrounded by the creative vibrancy of WAAPA, Jack actively engages in dance classes and academic studies to improve his technical skill and expertise. With his ultimate dream to secure employment in a dance company, Jack takes every opportunity for performance experience and was thrilled to be invited to be involved in the ballet charity event for Ukraine.



Nathan Claridge

Dancer

Nathan was born in Adelaide Australia where he first found his passion for dance. He moved to Perth at 15 to start his full time ballet training. In 2019 he joined the West Australian Ballet as a young artist before being accepted into the Australian Ballet School. He graduated the Australian Ballet School in 2021 and joined Singapore Ballet for 2022/23.



Jada Huang

Dancer

Born in Perth, Western Australia where she began dancing at the age of 5. In 2018, she moved to Brisbane where she trained under renown teachers Wim Broeckx, Karen Donovan and Jane Devine. In 2019, Jada was accepted by the Rambert School of Ballet and Contemporary Dance in London where she completed her formal training and received her Bachelor of Arts (Honours). Jada has worked with choreographers such as Christopher Bruce, Akram Khan, Darshan Singh Bhuller, Mthuthuzeli November and Cree Barnett-Williams.





Kaitlin Baskerville

Dancer

Kaitlin started learning ballet at the age of four and subsequently she studied Classical Ballet with Beth James at the Western Australian Conservatoire from 1997 to 2007. From 2008 to 2010, Kaitlin continued her ballet studies at WAAPA and worked with incredible choreographers performing in different production including with Melbourne City Ballet.



Eloise Allan

Dancer

Eloise has been dancing in classical ballet since she was 5 and had competed in rhythmic and artistic gymnastics for ten plus years. After finishing school, Eloise completed a certificate IV in fitness to grow her knowledge of dance and movement. Eloise shared this knowledge with her young students whilst teaching RAD ballet for the past two years.



William Buckland

Dancer

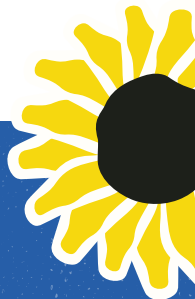
William started dancing at the age of 13 at Pevnev Ballet Academy and is currently studying at the West Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA).



Lilianna Chambers

Dancer

Lilianna has studied dance since 2008 at Dancin' Mates in the Central Coast, NSW. She particularly enjoys classical ballet and contemporary and thrives off challenging herself to perform other styles. She has a well-rounded training background and aspires to further this training professionally. Her passion for classical ballet has brought her to train full-time at Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA).





Darcy Greenwood

Dancer

He has been training in ballet and contemporary dance since 2017 at Kim Baker Ballet Academy in the Perth Hills where he had attained a Certificate II and III in Dance. Darcy is enjoying his full-time ballet studies at the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA).



Curran Chai

Dancer

Curran Chai is an Argentine Tango Dancer with eight years of dance experience. He is currently working on combining the principals of Tango Apilado and Nuevo, as well as experimenting with the inclusion of elements and philosophies outside Argentine Tango. He aims to do this by drawing on other forms of dancing he was previously trained in, including Classical Ballet, Contemporary Dance and a variety of Latin and Folk dances.



Philippa Hinton

Dancer

Philippa is a registered Nurse with a Master's in business, a post graduate certificate in Business Leadership, an HNLP Master Practitioner and qualified Yoga teacher. She is the CEO for Maurice Zeffert which is the only Jewish aged care organization in Western Australia. Her passion is ballet after trying an adult ballet class five years ago at Dance Workshop in North Perth where she fell in love with the art especially after performing in a couple of their concerts. She now takes regular classes at WAB.



Elijah Ramsay

Dancer

Elijah dances with Youth Ballet WA and has been dancing ballet since he was three years old. He loves performing and enjoys learning singing and trumpet.





Daniel Driberg

Violinist

In 2019, Daniel was awarded the Royal Overseas League Entrance Scholarship to continue his musical journey studying jazz violin at WAAPA. He is a highly sought-after musician, performing often as a multi-instrumental soloist, and in ensembles ranging from symphony orchestras, rock groups, country and bluegrass bands, jazz bands, Indian classical ensembles, Brazilian groups, and more. Since graduating WAAPA with the Jazz Recital Award in 2022, Daniel has been enjoying a vibrant schedule performing, recording and touring.



Jaden Ngan

Violinist

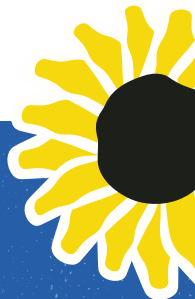
Year 11 Music Scholar currently attending Hale School. He has been playing violin since the age of 5. Jaden loves playing in orchestras and was part of the Western Australian Youth Orchestra for 4 years. He is also the concertmaster for the Hale Chamber Orchestra and participates in the Hale Choir and Senior String Quartet. Outside of music, he is an avid soccer player, plays tennis and loves good food.



Raphael Resnick

Singer

Raphael Resnick is a year 8 student at Carmel High School. From an early age, he developed a passion for singing and participated in school musicals productions with his recent success in *The Wedding Singer* and community events.



CREATIVE TEAM



Valery Niazov

Composer

Valery Niazov was born in Uzbekistan where he graduated with a master's degree from the Tashkent State Conservatorium of Music, Valery worked as a lecturer and music teacher, composer, conductor, and a full-time producer and writer of Classical Music and the Arts programs at the State Television Company. After immigrating to Australia in 1990, Valery taught music and composed music in a range of genres for television, international arts festivals, theatre, charity projects and multimedia productions.

"*A Tree We Grew*" is the second ballet composed by Valery. His first ballet, "*Rain of Life*," successfully premiered at the Banbury Arts Festival. However, Valery's passion is working with communities for which he was nominated for WA Premier Multicultural Community Award and received the WA Governor's Award.

John Beaton

Editor

John Beaton worked for the ABC and was one of three directors of West Coast Pictures - a film production company. Director of International filmmakers' conference WA. In 2003, John Beaton received the top gong for *OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO WA SCREEN INDUSTRY*, at the 16th WA Screen Awards. He was CEO of what is now Screenwest and a lecturer in Film and Television in Film and TV screenwriting at Curtin University. One of three Trustees of the Mundaring Arts Centre, WA representative on the National Constitution Review Committee, and long-term member of the Australian Writers Guild and he also was a Councillor and a President of the Shire of Mundaring and a Chair of the Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council.

Mykola Mowczan

Past President of the Ukrainian Association of WA

Mykola Mowczan was the Immediate Past President for over 18 years of the Ukrainian Association of WA. He was born & bred in Perth. Both Mykola's parents were Ukrainian, father from Poltava and mother from Cherkasy and from them he inherited his passion about Ukrainian history, culture, religion, traditional music, and poetry. Mykola is highly regarded for his work with general community, and he was an outstanding champion of this concert.





Alistair Walters

Dancer & Marketing Director

Alistair first discovered the joy of dance and its vibrant communities in Victoria, joining Łowicz Polish Vocal-Dance Ensemble Melbourne in 2005 and furthering his balletic training joining Verchovyna Ukrainian Dance Ensemble in 2010. He has dedicated almost 20 years to classical folk dance.

Upon arriving in Western Australia in 2019, Alistair joined Kukułeczka Polish Dance Ensemble, and is thrilled to now also join the Roztiazhka Ukrainian Cossack Dancers in 2023. Dance and song have given Alistair the opportunity to tour much of Australia, performing *Krakowiak* at Hamer Hall Melbourne, *Hopak* at Sidney Myer Music Bowl, *Mazurek* across the heights of Mount Kosciuszko NSW, singing with *Folk Yeah!* at ICC Sydney and *Lublin* at Perth Concert Hall.

An agile creative industry veteran, Alistair also brings over two decades of experience in design, marketing and performing arts to the production. Consulting to the Marketing Committee of PolArt 2015 Melbourne, Alistair helped engage over a million Australians in promoting the city-wide festival and Polish Arts to Victoria. Previously serving on the board of Gilbert & Sullivan Opera Victoria (GSOV), Alistair developed their marketing for Seasons 2016 - 2019, while also finding his baritone voice in operettas *The Gondoliers*, *The G&S Spectacular Concert*, *Pirates of Penzance* and *Victor Herbert's Eileen*. Relocating to sunny Perth in 2019, Alistair continues to work as lead designer at a local agency as well as within the performing arts industry, joining Gilbert & Sullivan Western Australia as Marketing Consultant from Season 2021, and continuing to help develop audience growth as well as performing in *The Grand Duke* in 2022.

Matthew Beaton

Graphic Designer

Matt is a skilled Graphic Designer with over 20 years of industry experience creating engaging branding, visual communication, and digital design. As well as working as a freelance designer, Matt has honed his creative expertise while working for several local agencies from boutique design studios to marketing powerhouses. Currently furthering his skills as an Art Director and Senior Web Designer at c4 Digital Agency (c4digitalagency.com.au). With a thirst for new challenges, Matt has tried his hand at all things creative from music production, songwriting, fashion, film, copywriting and of course art & design!

Carmelo Musca

Film Director

Carmelo Musca is an award-winning WA director and cinematographer with the Australian and international experiences in documentary and feature filmmaking industry. Carmelo will film the performance for promotional purposes.

Mark Whitehouse

Video/Audio Engineer

Mark Whitehouse is the owner of Procopy company with expertise in Audio and video productions over last 35 years. Mark has an extensive experience in audio and video productions. His experiences included a 20-year membership of AES (Audio Engineering Society - San Francisco Chapter).

Paul Nigel

Prop Designer

Paul Nigel is an artist, sculptor and painter, studied extensively in Sydney and in Perth, gaining vast experience working in film, television and theatre as a props maker, painter and designer. Paul is also an experienced scenic artist, set stylist and set finisher, who has worked on many big budget movies at Sydney's Fox Studios, where he was employed for 10 years. He is currently head of the props, sets and scenery department of a local Perth company and exhibits his own art several times a year.

Agnieszka Arto

Special thanks to our Wardrobe Coordinator



SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS

To our remarkable supporters without whom our concert would not become a reality.



WA Classical Ballet Teacher's Association

With special thanks to Robyn Cooper & Tanya Shillington

The WACBTA are a professional association for classical ballet teachers, dedicated to enhancing the quality of classical ballet teaching in Western Australia through the sharing of knowledge. To facilitate, foster, and encourage connections, educational events, engagement opportunities, and networks for classical ballet teachers in Western Australia.



Marloo Theatre

Special thanks to Marloo Theatre and Marjorie DeCaux for providing us with costumes

Rafaela & Tamar Basini

Special thanks for providing additional costumes

Artisan Music

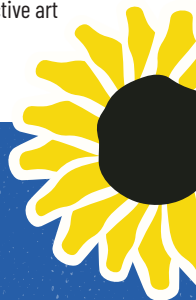
High-quality professional recording studio with a friendly and enjoyable service

Patrick Carre is the owner and senior engineer/producer of Artisan Music Studios where he records, produces, and mixes music for local and national artists and been working in the music industry for over 30 years. He worked alongside the likes of Nuno Bettencourt (Extreme), Dave Leslie (Baby Animals), Adam Brand and UK EDM music producer Trixta. He was invited to tour South America with Richard Walley, an internationally renowned Noongar didgeridoo player, as part of his band alongside original artists Optamus (Downsyde).

Kingsley Matheson

Manager, John Inverarity Music and Drama Centre

Kingsley Matheson first started in theatre as an AV Technician in 2008 with the opening of the newly refurbished Goatcher auditorium at Wesley College. After 13 years of learning the art of theatre and stagecraft, he then joined Hale School as a Venue Manager lured once again by the promise of a newly constructed 'Theater Precinct' which will include a modern black box theatre and revitalized Memorial Hall. His interests outside of work include a love of miniature Dachshunds and creating interactive art installations for music and light festivals.





Screwloose IT

Special Thanks to Alex Niazov

Screwloose IT works a little differently to most companies. Our service and success is attributed to the simplicity of our systems and processes. No politics, no sales reps, just high-quality IT support when you need it most. A real understanding of complex software and applications. Up to date next generation business grade technologies. A leading national IT service provider, Screwloose IT specialises in a wide range of technical support. From cloud management to cyber security and managed services, a team of certified professionals support hundreds of clients across Australia. Build your operations with a robust IT infrastructure supported by reliable and streamlined technology solutions.

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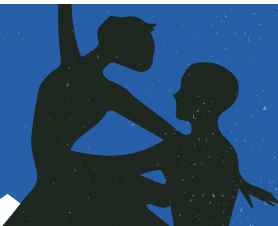
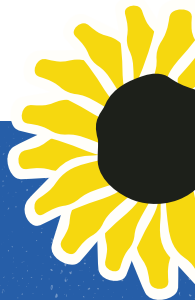


The Gilbert & Sullivan Society of WA

'Ruddigore' ~ 5th - 14th October at Dolphin Theatre.

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