



The Richard Wagner Society Inc

Richard Mills AM in Conversation with Derek Welton

Victorian Opera's *Parsifal*

12 February 2019

Tuesday 12 February
4:00pm to 6:45pm
(arrive by 3:45pm)

Palais Theatre
Lower Esplanade
St Kilda



\$ 10 members and students, \$15 friends

The Richard Wagner Society (Vic), in association with Victorian Opera, is pleased to present a special function for members to celebrate Victorian Opera's new production of *Parsifal*. After assembling by 3:45 pm in the foyer of the Palais Theatre we will be taken to the theatre to see part of a rehearsal. This will be followed by a conversation between Victoria Opera's Artistic Director Richard Mills AM and baritone Derek Welton (*refer over*). A light supper will follow in the Balcony Lounge.

Members will be able to purchase drinks at the Palais; the Society is not permitted to take drinks into the Palais.

Australian baritone Derek Welton's role of Klingsor is supported by the Society. Derek has had widespread acclaim in Bayreuth in 2018 in his debut as Klingsor.

Booking Options

- 1. Online Bookings** (by Wednesday 6 February 2019): <http://wagnermelb.org.au/bookings>
- 2. ✉RSVP Form** — Complete and send with payment to arrive by **Wednesday 6 February 2019**

I / We will be attending the **Members' Function** on **Tuesday 12 February 2019 by 3:45 pm for 4:00 pm start** and enclose \$..... as payment for members/ students (\$10.00 ea) and guests (\$15.00 each).

The names of those attending are:

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Please send payment by cheque or money order by Wednesday 6 February 2019 to:

The Secretary, The Richard Wagner Society Inc. PO Box 7367, Melbourne, VIC 3004



The Richard Wagner Society Inc.

BIOGRAPHIES



Richard Mills AM

Artistic Director, Victorian Opera

Richard is one of Australia's most prolific and internationally recognised composers. He pursues a diverse career as a composer, conductor and artistic director, and has an extensive discography of orchestral works including his own compositions.

He has held numerous prestigious posts, and received many scholarships, fellowships and awards including an AM, in 1999. He is currently Artistic Director of Victorian Opera, and was Artistic Director of the West Australian Opera 1997 – 2012, Director of the Australian Music Project for the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra 2002 – 2008 and Musica Viva's Composer of the Year in 2008.

Derek Welton

Baritone

Hailed as a major Wagnerian voice of the future, Derek Welton made his first foray into the repertoire as Donner (*Das Rheingold*) under Richard Farnes at Opera North. He subsequently appeared as Klingsor (*Parsifal*) at the Beijing Music Festival and made his debut as der Heerrufer (*Lohengrin*) at Semperoper Dresden conducted by Christian Thielemann. His debut at the 2017 Bayreuther Festspiele as Klingsor under Hartmut Haenchen followed his acclaimed first performances as Wotan (*Das Rheingold*) at Deutsche Oper Berlin conducted by Donald Runnicles.

2018 saw Derek at Lyric Opera of Chicago as Pandolfe (*Cendrillon*) under Sir Andrew Davis, at Bayerische Staatsoper as Klingsor under Kirill Petrenko, and performances as member of the Ensemble of Deutsche Oper Berlin.

