

*South
of the
River
Community Band*

10 YEARS ON

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF SRCB

2pm Saturday 29th November 2025

Star Theatre

**Wynnum State High School
Peel St, Manly**



South of the River Community Band

10 Years On

Conductor

Jacob Cavanough

Guest Conductor

Desmond Ng

Piccolo/Flute

Jesse Hall

Mary-Ann Wichgers

Flute

Leela Arthur

Simone Gloag

Elliot Gregory

Neve Malloch

Bassoon

Andy Dai

B♭ Clarinet

Veronica Anderson

Bridget Backhaus

Tricia Balshaw

Sally Berthelsen

Melanie Cavanough

Trusha Darji

Sarah Hawkins

Kat Lewis

Alto Clarinet/Bass Clarinet

David Hall

Bass Clarinet

Megan Dennis

Lisa Squires

Alto Saxophone

Sharyn Cooper

Joshua Kong

Toni Morris

Dante Ursino

Tenor Saxophone

Brett Allen

Adrian Leech

Baritone Saxophone

Ken Chow

Trumpet

Bradley Andersen

Nancy Cramond

Lauren Folster

Tim Hills

Liam Rathjen

Daisy Tutt

French Horn

Laura Guiton

Trestan McMillan

Karly Unwin

Trombone

Nick Cao

Phil Davis

Paul Meneely

Ben Touwen

Euphonium

Ben Webb

Fletcher Mitchell

Tuba

Tony Buckley

Amelia Lane

Cello

Erin Hardy

Double Bass

Vic Hardy

Piano/Trumpet

Ben Tubb-Hearne

Percussion

Jay Arthur

Jacqueline Atherton

Jo Curlis

Bianca Dwyer

Piper Malloch

Alanna Ritchie

Melissa van Schyndel

President's Note

Welcome to the South of the River Community Band's 10th anniversary concert. We are very excited to have you here to share in some of our favourite songs from the last decade, along with a few new pieces that reflect where we are now. Thank you for joining us to celebrate this milestone and the music that brings our community together.

As we reached ten years, I found myself reflecting on the incredible journey we've shared. From humble beginnings to many performances, partnerships and special projects, SRCB has grown into something much bigger than its individual parts. Through challenges and triumphs we've stuck together, adapted, and kept making music, and in doing so we've built a strong, welcoming community where people can come each week to play, connect, and set the rest of life aside for a while.

I'm deeply grateful to every member and every committee past and present whose quiet, tireless work has kept the band thriving. A special thanks to Jake for bringing this vision to life and for the endless creativity and commitment he brings to our music. Thank you for being here to celebrate this milestone - I can't wait to see what the next ten years will bring.

Warmly,

Ben Webb

President, South of the River Community Band

SRCB Conductor - Jacob Cavanough

Jacob is an experienced musical director, percussionist and teacher, and a highly sought-after musician and conductor. He has performed in the orchestra for over 50 musical theatre productions with companies across Brisbane, enjoying roles on percussion, keyboard, trumpet, bass and as Musical Director.



He is the founding conductor and musical director of *South of the River Community Band* and is a founding member and co-director of contemporary percussion ensemble *Percussimo*.

Jake finds great joy in directing the unique *Drum For Life* program with *Here's to Life Redlands* and freelances regularly, conducting and playing with orchestras and ensembles around South-East Queensland.

Jake believes in the positive power of music and is a strong advocate in its use as a tool to bring people together.

Guest Conductor - Dr Desmond Ng

Desmond Ng is a leading figure in Singapore's wind band scene, with over 30 years of contribution as conductor, educator, and arranger. Guided by mentors like Lim Chee Peng, Luk Hoi Yui, and Philip James Davis, he has shaped the Sembawang Wind Orchestra since



1993, guiding it to major accolades including the PAYM Excellence Award and multiple Gold and Overall Champion titles at the Australian International Music Festival.

As an educator, he has guided ensembles such as Dunman High and Yio Chu Kang Symphonic Bands to repeated SYF Gold and Top Band Awards, and he extends this commitment to excellence through transcriptions of orchestral masterworks that broaden the regional repertoire. His international collaborations with Jacob Cavanough and the South of the River Community Band in Australia further demonstrate his dedication to cross-cultural music-making. He maintains a steadfast presence in Singapore's wind music scene, advancing its artistic standards and educational aims.

Joshua Kaleb Kong

Saxophone Soloist

Mr. Joshua Kaleb Kong is an esteemed Singaporean conductor and saxophonist with extensive experience in music performance and education. His passion for music began in high school, where he first took up the saxophone. Under the mentorship of Mr. Desmond Ng, Mr. Kong quickly distinguished himself, taking on the roles of Concert Master and Principal Musician in his high school symphonic band. He was instrumental in the band's success, playing a critical solo in the SYF band festival that led to the ensemble winning a Gold award.



Continuing his musical journey, Mr. Kong served as Concert Master of the Republic Polytechnic Wind Symphony during his tertiary education, under the guidance of Mr. Muhd Yusri. His involvement in these formative experiences laid the foundation for his career as a conductor and musician. In 2004, he joined the Sembawang Wind Orchestra (SWO), marking the start of a long-standing association with the ensemble. His dedication and leadership led to his appointment as SWO's Resident Conductor in 2016, where he made his conducting debut in *Konzert XXVI*.

As Resident Conductor, Mr. Kong has played a pivotal role in enhancing the artistic standard of the SWO. His leadership has been characterized by a commitment to musical excellence and community outreach, as he continues to develop the ensemble's repertoire and foster collaboration within the orchestra.

In addition to his work with the SWO, Mr. Kong is the Founder and Music Director of the ME Saxophone Ensemble, established in 2022 in collaboration with Music Elements. This ensemble serves as a platform for saxophonists of all levels to explore a wide range of musical genres, from classical to contemporary. Mr. Kong's vision is to create a space where saxophonists can develop their skills and share their passion for music with the broader community.

Mr. Kong's musical expertise extends beyond saxophone performance and conducting. He is also actively involved with Gamelan Asmaradana, a non-profit organization promoting gamelan music. His international experience includes representing Singapore at the International Gamelan & Caklempong Festivals in Kuala Lumpur in 2013 and 2015, reflecting his dedication to cultural exchange and musical diversity.

As a soloist, Mr. Kong has performed significant works, including the Singapore premieres of "Concerto de Simun" by Ferrer Ferran and "Sapphire Concerto for Alto Saxophone" by Catherine McMichael. His performances have been highly regarded for their technical mastery and emotional depth, showcasing his versatility as a musician.

Mr. Joshua Kaleb Kong's contributions to the SWO and the wider music community reflect his commitment to advancing music education and performance. Through his leadership, he continues to inspire and nurture the next generation of musicians, enriching Singapore's musical landscape.

Kathryn Kent

Vocal Soloist

From the moment Kathryn arrived — allegedly hitting a high note before she even opened her eyes — she's been destined for musical mayhem.

A lyric soprano with a flair for the dramatic, she has competed in Eisteddfods since infancy (well, 11), dazzling audiences, judges, and any poor soul who thought they were attending a quiet event. The spotlight didn't just find her; it set up permanent residency.

Now globally (read: domestically) renowned as the Prima Donna of the domestic Ensuite, she transforms bathroom acoustics into full-scale opera productions. Shampoo bottles serve as her loyal audience, the mirror is her greatest admirer, and the shower steam is basically fog machine staging. If there's a surface that can echo, she has performed a five-act opera against it.

For Kathryn, singing is truly a family affair: she even met her husband in a musical theatre company, proving that nothing says romance like shared stage makeup and chaotic warm-ups. She adores performing with her besties in the SRCB, who enable (and sometimes encourage) her diva tendencies, and of course with her sister Stephanie; her lifelong duet partner and fellow perpetrator of spontaneous musical numbers.

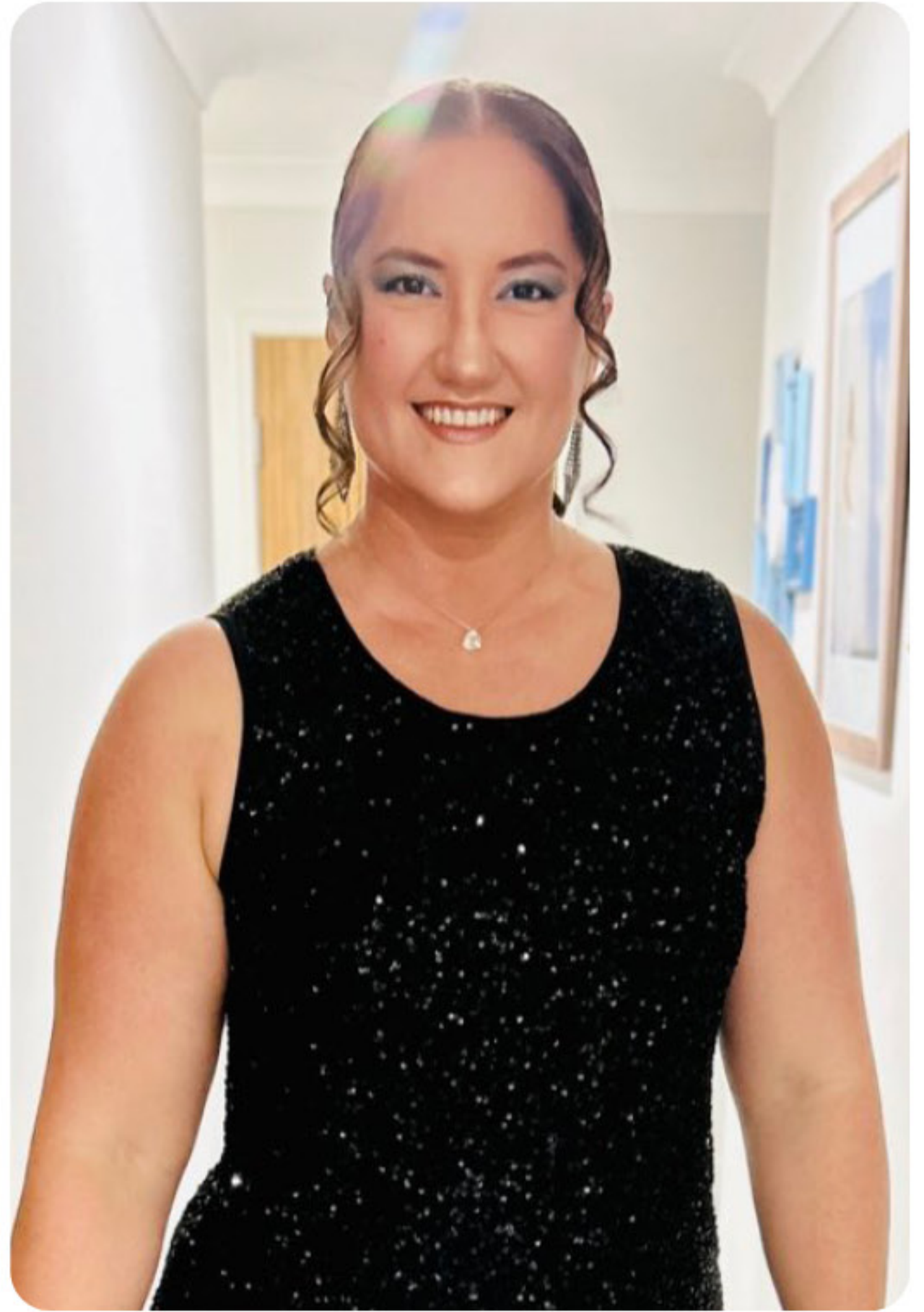
Between the jokes, the high notes, and the sheer theatrical nonsense, her life makes one thing clear: everything is better, and definitely louder, when sung.



Stephanie McFadyen
Vocal Solist

Fearless (well...almost!) and full of music.

Stephanie McFadyen started singing in Eisteddfods as a kid, where she learned two things: she loves music, and stage fright is real! Rather than letting fear hold her back, Stephanie embraced the challenge, proving that courage and passion can overcome obstacles.



Her journey continued on the stage with local community theatre companies, where she explored the joy of storytelling through song and strengthened her connection to performance. Despite the nerves that come with being in the spotlight, Stephanie keeps going because of her deep love for music and her belief that anyone can do hard things.

After starting a family, Stephanie shifted her focus but never lost her musical roots. Fast forward to today, she lends her voice to South of the River Community Band concerts where she brings fun, heart, and a whole lot of courage to each performance.

Lucy Cavanough

Vocal Solist

Lucy Cavanough is a young dancer, actor and singer who has grown up around the stage and performed in many musicals around Brisbane. Her musical theatre debut was *Oliver!* with Savoyards, 2022, when she took on the role of Charley Bates.



Since then she has performed in a multitude of productions, favourite roles including Young Elsa (*Frozen Jr.*, Bayside Dance 2023), Amaryllis (*The Music Man*, Savoyards 2023), Narrator (*Into the Woods*, Bayside Dance 2024), and most recently Les in *Newsies* (Bayside Dance 2025).

Lucy has also gained experience as emcee for previous SRCB concerts, singing in *Here's to Life Showcase*, as well as performing in ensemble roles in a number of other musicals.

Lucy is very excited to be performing in SRCB's 10th anniversary concert alongside her family and friends. She hopes everyone enjoys the concert as much as she has enjoyed participating in it.

Ben Webb

Euphonium Solist

Ben's love of music began early, first taking shape when he joined his school band in grade five.

Though he arrived determined to play the alto saxophone, he was gently steered toward the euphonium - an instrument he has cherished ever since. Throughout his school years he continued to expand his musical horizons, adding trombone and several other instruments to his repertoire.

After graduating, Ben explored the world of musical theatre, performing in numerous productions. Yet his heart has always belonged to band music. Ben has been a dedicated member of SRCB since its very first rehearsal in 2015, and in the ten years since, he has missed only a handful of rehearsals. He has proudly served as the band's President since 2019, helping guide SRCB through a decade of growth, music-making and community.



Dante Ursino
Saxophone Solist

Dante Ursino has been a member of SRCB for three and a half years and in that time has enjoyed playing a variety of solos for the band, including in The Divine Comedy.



He is a multi-instrumentalist, having played piano and flute for several years before being asked to learn saxophone in a month for a band competition, eight years ago. Suffice to say, he has never looked back.

September will be his first solo piece on saxophone, and he is excited to share it with you!

Program

Armenian Dances *Part 1*

Alfred Reed

Alfred Reed's *Armenian Dances, Part I* (1972) is a dynamic symphonic rhapsody based on five authentic Armenian folk songs meticulously collected and arranged by composer and musicologist Gomidas Vartabed. Reed takes these melodies, originally for voice and piano, and transforms them into a thrilling, full-color work for the wind ensemble, showcasing both the lyrical beauty and the rhythmic vitality of Armenian musical culture through the successive presentation of the tunes: "Tzirani Tzar" (The Apricot Tree), "Gakavi Yerk" (Partridge's Song), "Hoy, Nazan Eem" (Hoy, My Nazan), "Alagyaz," and "Gna, Gna" (Go, Go!).



Photo by [Joep Buijjs Photograph](#)

Do-Enka Express

Kunihiro Sugiura

Saxophone soloist: Joshua Kaleb Kong

Do-Enka Express is a vibrant musical journey through the heart of Japan's enka tradition. This selection features well-known songs that paint scenes of friendship, longing, travel, and nostalgia - all iconic themes of the genre. Listeners are taken across dramatic landscapes such as the Amagi Mountains, through bustling port towns like Hakodate, and into the emotional stories of people separated by distance, memory, and fate. From beloved classics like *Yosaku* and *Apple Song* to deeply expressive works such as *Winter Scenery of the Tsugaru Strait* and *Snow-Falling Town*, the program highlights the lyrical richness and melodic sensitivity that define enka.

This medley brings together some of enka's most iconic songs, shaped through Sugiura's distinctive arranging voice, offering audiences a nostalgic yet powerful musical ride on the Do-Enka Express.

The Queen Symphony

Movement 2

Guest Conductor: Dr Desmond Ng

Tolga Kashif

Edited by Erik Somers

The second movement of Kashif's masterpiece includes themes from "Love of My Life," "Another One Bites The Dust," and "Killer Queen." It begins with a lyrical, almost pastoral treatment reminiscent of a classical piano concerto. The music then becomes a playful, yet somewhat menacing, scherzo that contrasts the sweet lyricism with a "tongue-in-cheek portrayal of a menacing duo" conjuring up a storm.



Photo by [Joep Buijjs Photography](#)

Naughty

from Matilda

Vocal soloist: Lucy Cavanough

Tim Minchin

Orchestrated by Jacob Cavanough

"Naughty," with music and lyrics by Tim Minchin, is the defining, upbeat solo number for the title character of Matilda The Musical (based on the novel by Roald Dahl). This song is a declaration of independence and a powerful statement on personal agency.

Tired of the injustices she faces at home and school, the highly intelligent five-year-old Matilda realizes that waiting for a "fairy to fix it" (like Cinderella) is pointless. Through clever, swinging melodies and witty lyrics, the central message of the piece is that to break free from a predetermined or unhappy story, one must actively rebel - that is, sometimes you have to be "a little bit naughty."

The Lord of the Rings (excerpts from)

Johan de Meij
Arranged by Paul Lavender

Paul Lavender's arrangement condenses Johan de Meij's monumental, award-winning Symphony No. 1 (inspired by J.R.R. Tolkien's trilogy) into a delicious concert suite. Working closely with the composer, Lavender masterfully weaves together the most vivid musical portraits, including "Gandalf," "Lothlórien," and "Hobbits." The result is a dramatic work that captures the epic scope and varied moods of Middle-earth.

~ INTERVAL ~

Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves

Michael Kamen
Arranged by Paul Lavender

Paul Lavender's symphonic suite masterfully captures the dramatic scope of Michael Kamen's iconic film score. Featuring the heroic fanfares of the "Main Title" with the stirring, lyrical ballad, "Everything I Do, I Do It for You," and "Maid Marian." The suite culminates in the intense action music of "The Abduction and The Final Battle at The Gallows," delivering a concise yet powerful musical narrative of adventure and romance.



Photo by [Joep Buijjs Photography](#)

Jack Sparrow

Hans Zimmer

Euphonium soloist: Ben Webb

Arranged by Jacob Cavanaugh

Hans Zimmer's theme for the iconic pirate Captain Jack Sparrow masterfully captures his eccentric, charismatic, and often inebriated personality. The music features a distinctively angular and slightly unsteady main motif reflecting the character's drunken stagger and unpredictable nature. It provides a thrilling, high-seas adventure soundscape that balances both humor and swashbuckling excitement.



Photo by [Joep Buijjs Photography](#)

Incantation and Dance

John Barnes Chance

This cornerstone of the wind repertoire is structured in two distinct, highly contrasted sections. The opening Incantation is mysterious and non-tonal, featuring a mournful, wandering melody often introduced by the low flutes, which gradually builds in texture and intensity. The work then explodes into a furious Dance, characterized by complex, asymmetrical rhythms driven by a virtuosic and innovative percussion score, escalating in a frenzy to a brilliant and driving climax.

September

Maurice White, Al McKay

Saxophone solo: Dante Ursino

& Allee Willis

Arranged by Nakamura Hideaki

Originally composed by Maurice White, Al McKay, & Allee Willis and immortalized by Earth, Wind & Fire, "September" is one of the most beloved and irresistibly joyful funk/disco anthems of all time. Released in 1978, the song's signature infectious groove, soaring horn lines, and joyous, life-affirming lyrics embody a carefree philosophy of remembering the good times.

Popular and Defying Gravity

Stephen Schwartz

Vocal soloists: Kathryn Kent
and Stephanie McFadyen

Orchestrated by Jacob Cavanaugh

These two monumental songs from the musical *Wicked* (2003) by Stephen Schwartz trace the dramatic evolution of the friendship between Glinda (the Good Witch) and Elphaba (the future Wicked Witch of the West).

"Popular" is a sparkling, bubblegum-pop anthem delivered by the shallow yet endearing Glinda, who earnestly attempts to give the "depressing creature" Elphaba a makeover, convinced that popularity is the only true key to success and happiness in Oz. Its cheerful, strophic structure embodies Glinda's bright, curated persona.

In stark contrast, "Defying Gravity" serves as the thrilling Act I finale, a powerful, soaring anthem of self-realization and defiance. Having uncovered the true corruption of the Wizard, Elphaba refuses to conform to the rules set by others and vows to fight the oppressive regime, even if it means being forever branded "Wicked." This dynamic piece, marked by its dramatic tempo changes and climactic high notes, captures the moment Elphaba literally and metaphorically takes flight, embracing her extraordinary power and choosing freedom over acceptance.

The Gum-Sucker's March

Percy Grainger

The Gumsuckers March is a spirited and joyous musical postcard from the homeland of Australian composer Percy Aldridge Grainger. The term "Gumsucker" is a humorous nickname for people from the state of Victoria (Grainger's birthplace), said to refer to the local habit of sucking the leaves of Eucalyptus (gum) trees for refreshment during the hot summers.

Originally the final movement of his orchestral suite *In a Nutshell* (1916), Grainger later arranged this march for military band in 1942, where it has become a staple of the repertoire. The work is built around the composer's own original melody, the "Australian Up-Country Tune," which he intended to typify the spirit of Australia. Characteristically Grainger, the march is full of bold, colorful energy and complex textures, perfectly embodying the high-spirited pride of the "Gum-Suckers."

Climbing Over Rocky Mountain

Vocal soloists: Kathryn Kent,
Stephanie McFadyen and Lucy
Cavanough

Sir Arthur Sullivan
& W. S. Gilbert
Orchestrated by
Jacob Cavanough

"Climbing Over Rocky Mountain" is a cheerful, bounding chorus from the celebrated Gilbert and Sullivan operetta, *The Pirates of Penzance* (1879).

Appearing early in Act I, this number is sung by the Chorus of Maidens as they descend a rocky cliff to enjoy a paddle in the sea.

The music, composed by Sir Arthur Sullivan with lyrics by W. S. Gilbert, perfectly captures the ladies' blithe innocence and slightly nervous excitement at encountering the dangerous coastline.

Notably, this chorus is a recycled tune; it was originally used in Gilbert and Sullivan's first collaboration, *Thespis* (1871), and was inserted into *The Pirates of Penzance* as a last-minute addition.



About The Band

South of the River Community Band was founded in September of 2015. We are a not-for-profit community band established to give members of the community an opportunity to enjoy making music together and to provide the wider community with enjoyable concerts at low cost.

We strive to maintain a high level of musical excellence in the context of an amateur community Concert Band, and to give back to and support our community wherever possible.

We are motivated by our community partnerships and perform regularly within Redland and Brisbane Cities. Our annual program includes collaborations with Redland City Choir, Here's To Life Redlands and Brisbane Metropolitan Band Association's Bands in Parks program.

We regularly welcome new members and opportunities to perform. Please contact us or speak to someone from the band today with any enquiries.



Thank you to our wonderful supporters

The following people and organisations have been generous through monetary donations and in-kind support:

Place Estate Agents - Cannon Hill

Wynnum State High School

Just Percussion

Carolyn Anderson

Brett Allen

Joan Pease MP

Cr Alex Givney

Adele Hogg

Matilda - the art of Gelato

Kara Cook MP

Janet Raymond

Kaye Nutley

Ede's Salon

Zen Barista

Donations

Our community band is run by a committee of volunteers who give their time and energy so generously. Band members pay a term-by-term fee and we rely on these fees to fund our existence and cover expenses such as insurance, rehearsal venue, music, promotion, conducting and workshop fees.

All monetary donations are greatly appreciated and help us to make great music and give back to the community.

We are now a registered charity and deductible gift recipient and we are very grateful for any support you can give.

Please get in touch with us if you would like to discuss sponsorship options.



Photos by [Joep Buijis Photography](#)

Thank you

To everyone who contributed and made our concert possible, our performers, conductors, audience and helpers, thank you so much! Your efforts and support are greatly appreciated.

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