



**JULY
10-20,
2024**

**SECURE YOUR PLACE
AND REGISTER NOW!**



WCG2024.COM



Guest Conductor & Stream Leaders

Dr Rollo Dilworth Guest Conductor



Dr Rollo Dilworth is Professor of Choral Music Education and Vice Dean at Temple University's Center for the Performing and Cinematic Arts in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Over 200 of Dr Dilworth's choral compositions have been published and he has also authored three

choral pedagogy books. His research activities focus on African American choral music, social emotional learning, community engagement, and diversity, equity, access and inclusion. He is in frequent demand as a clinician and guest conductor across the US and around the world, most recently in Australia, Canada, Taiwan, Ireland, and China. Rollo Dilworth is a current board member and former National Board Chair for Chorus America, and is an active life member of the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA).

Dr Karen Grylls CNZM Stream Leader



Dr Karen Grylls has recently retired as Associate Professor in Choral Conducting at the University of Auckland. She conducted the New Zealand Youth Choir from 1989 to 2011, founded Voices NZ in 1998, and is currently Artistic Director of Choirs Aotearoa.

Under her directorship, the New Zealand Youth Choir enjoyed notable international successes, including the Silver Rosebowl in the "Let the Peoples Sing" radio competition (1992), "Choir of the World" at the International Eisteddfod in Llangollen (1999) and the "Grand Prix Slovakia" (1999). With equal success Voices New Zealand won first and second placings at the Tolosa International Choral Competition (1998). In 2023 Karen was made a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit (CMNZ) for her services to choral music.

Dr Igelese Ete Stream Leader



Dr Igelese Ete is Associate Professor and Associate Dean: Pacific at Massey University's College of Creative Arts in Wellington. Igelese's formative choral experiences include singing in his church choir and performing with the New Zealand Youth Choir from 1986 - 1992. Following a BMus

in Performance and a Master's in Composition, Igelese was the first Creative Fellow of Pacific Music at Auckland University's School of Creative and Performing Arts. From 2011-2020 he was Head of Performing Arts at the University of the South Pacific in Fiji. With extensive conducting, composition, and teaching experience, Igelese was the NZ Choirmaster for *The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring*, and choirmaster & music/choral consultant for Disney's *Moana*.

Timothy Wayne-Wright Stream Leader



Timothy Wayne-Wright was a countertenor in The King's Singers for 10 years, singing over 1500 concerts in some of the world's greatest venues. Tim studied music at Goldsmith's College, University of London, and at Trinity College of Music. He was a Choral Scholar at

The Royal Naval College Chapel in Greenwich, and in 2006 Tim became Alto Lay Clerk at St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle. Two years later, Tim was invited to audition for The King's Singers. During Tim's tenure, The King's Singers were honoured with a Grammy Award®, a further Grammy nomination and induction into the Gramophone Hall of Fame. Tim has taught over 500 masterclasses, workshops and summer schools as a member of The King's Singers, imparting ensemble skills and techniques to choirs all over the world.

Evening Concerts

Choral Connect & Sing Aotearoa Gala Concert

8:00pm Friday 29 September 2023

Te Wehi Haka

Te Wehi Haka is a fresh new-look Māori performing arts troupe directed and managed by successful Kapa Haka leaders, Tāpeta and Annette Wehi. The members of Te Wehi Haka are drawn from Aotearoa's premier pan-tribal Kapa Haka troupe, Te Waka Huia.

New Zealand Youth Choir

The New Zealand Youth Choir has achieved considerable success since its formation in 1979. Performances in New Zealand and twelve international tours have firmly established its reputation for consistency, energy and excellence. The choir is directed by David Squire.

Gondwana Chorale

Australia's national youth choir, Gondwana Chorale, was established in 2008 and is conducted by Paul Holley and Carl Crossin. Its members are from across Australia and are aged from 17-26. International tours have included New Zealand, the UK, France and the USA.

New Zealand Children's Choral Academy

Led by Elise Bradley MNZM and Amelia Giles, the New Zealand Children's Choral Academy harnesses the wellbeing and educational powers of singing and develops the next generation of choral leaders and outstanding young choral singers.

We Are Aotearoa

7:30pm Saturday 30 September 2023

Rob Thorne (Ōgāti Tumutumu, Tainui)

Māori composer, performer and anthropologist Rob Thorne is a diverse and original explorer in the evolving journey of Taonga Pūoro (traditional Māori instruments). He has toured and collaborated with a wide range of artists both in Aotearoa and abroad.

Benjamin Makisi tenor

Lyric Tenor Benjamin Makisi has a Masters in Performance from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music. He has won many prestigious awards, including the Lockwood Aria (NZ) and the McDonalds Aria (Australia), and has performed in opera houses around the world.

Lin Zheng 陆 Zheng

Lin started learning the guzheng at the age of five and is a composer, guzheng performer and member of the China Nationalities Orchestra Society. She has a Masters degree in Composition from the Xinghai Conservatory of Music in China.

The University of Auckland Symphony Orchestra

This flagship instrumental ensemble of the School of Music comprises a mix of performance Music majors, students from other faculties, and some exceptional high school students. Their concertmaster is Hazuki Katsukawa and they are directed by Jono Palmer.

Music Association of Auckland

The Music Association of Auckland is a Chinese choir and was established to use music as a bridge to facilitate communication among members and promote friendship with people of other ethnic origins. The choir is directed by Dr Marie Lin.

Rewaken Polycation Choir

Rewaken Polycation is a mixed voice choir from Manurewa High School, led by Lea'aesola Vuna. This year, the choir won a Silver Award at The Big Sing National Finale in the Auckland Town Hall. Their motto is ONE BAND, ONE SOUND, ONE WHANAU, ONE LOVE.

Auckland Gospel Choir

Directed by Seumanu Simon Matāfai JP, the Auckland Gospel Choir evolved from the 2011 Rugby World Cup Opening Ceremony massed choir. Renowned for its strong Polynesian sound, the choir represents a range of Christian denominations.



NEW ZEALAND'S PREMIER CHORAL FESTIVAL

Artistic Directors Dr Igelese Ete & Jono Palmer
Friday 29 September (evening) - Sunday 1 October 2023
DUE DROP EVENTS CENTRE · MANUKAU

From the Artistic Directors



Kia ora, talofa lava, and a warm welcome to Sing Aotearoa! It is 33 years since the first Sing Aotearoa festival was held in Ōhakune in 1990 to mark the 150th anniversary of the Treaty of Waitangi. This year we are delighted to be hosting the eighth Sing Aotearoa, and the first of its kind in Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland. SA '23 celebrates the diverse cultures of Aotearoa New Zealand and we look forward to joining with you in singing, workshops and performances that underscore the overarching theme *We Are One Voice*.

Thanks to Our Funders:



EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



Workshops 1

African American Gospel Music – Rollo Dilworth

In this workshop, participants will explore the cultural and historical elements that typify the African American gospel choral experience. Vocal technique, pedagogical strategies, and repertoire will be provided.

Introduction to Pop A Cappella – Julian Hay

Artistic Director of Voices Co. Pop A Cappella Academy, Julian will share tips and tricks on how to approach Pop A Cappella, how to utilise body percussion and beatboxing, and how to inspire your vocalists to connect with this exciting vocal style.

Exploring Vocal Technique – Catrin Johnsson

Swedish mezzo-soprano, voice teacher, and choral expert Catrin Johnsson will delve into the art of vocal technique, expression, and stage presence, empowering participants to elevate their performances to new heights.

Pacific Choral Music that Inspires and Empowers – Tuilaʻafi Dr Igelese Ete

Igelese Ete showcases his original Pacific choral compositions from the musical productions Malaga - The Journey and Naatapuitea - The Sacred Star. Experience the captivating, inspiring and empowering fusion of Western and Pacific traditional styles.

Waiata and the power behind it – Melissa Absolum & Kriss Rapana

He oranga ngākau, he hikinga wairua. When it touches your heart, it lifts your spirit. Like other forms of music, waiata is a way to communicate. It serves a purpose, such as storytelling, to support, to teach, to warn, to urge others, or to mourn. Be embraced by the power of waiata.

Workshops 2

African American Gospel Music – Rollo Dilworth

THIS IS A REPEAT OF WORKSHOP 1.

From Buzz to Brilliance: The Barbershop Singing Experience – Henrietta Hunkin

An engaging workshop that takes participants on a melodic journey, starting with the signature barber's buzz and transforming it into a brilliant harmony. Along the way, participants will learn vocal techniques, blend voices, and craft seamless chords.

The embodied voices and connections of ngā taonga pūoro – Rob Thorne

Māori composer, performer, improviser, and anthropologist Rob Thorne (Ngāti Tumutumu, Tainui) will lead you on a journey through the deeply interconnected, living relationships that exist within the rich natural world of Māori. From earth, sky, sea and forest, the voices of taonga pūoro are the sounds of creation, spirituality and life - unique to, and inseparable from, Aotearoa.

The Art of A Cappella – Timothy Wayne-Wright

After ten years in The King's Singers, countertenor Tim Wayne-Wright examines and explains what it truly means to be an ensemble singer. Tim will explore vowel matching and achieving a good blend, and will offer tips on how to truly communicate with your audience.

Siva and Song: Embracing the Essence of Samoan Singing and Dance – Seumanu Simon Matāfai

Join us for an unforgettable celebration of Samoan singing and Siva (dance). Discover the unique interplay between traditional Samoan song lyrics and choreography, and be prepared to embrace the rhythm of the Pacific through both voice and movement.

Festival Programme

	Friday 29th September		Saturday 30th September		Sunday 1st October
		am 9:00	Festival Choir Rehearsal	am 9:00	Festival Choir Rehearsal
		10:00	Choir Stream Rehearsals	10:00	Sacred Chants and Hymns of the Pacific
		10:30	Morning Tea	10:30	Morning Tea
		10:50	Choir Stream Rehearsals	10:50	Choir Stream Rehearsals
		pm 12:00	Lunch	pm 12:00	Lunch
		12:40	Lunchtime Concert White Cloud Choir, All Together Now	12:40	Lunchtime Concert City of Auckland Singers, Aotearoa NZ Academy Choir
		1:30	Workshops 1	1:30	Festival Choir Rehearsal
		2:30	Workshops 2	2:30	Final Concert Sing Aotearoa A celebratory performance featuring each of the Choir Streams and the combined Festival Choir
		3:30	Afternoon Tea		
		3:50	Choir Stream Rehearsals	4:00	End of festival
pm 5:30	Registration	5:30	Dinner		
6:30	Mihi Whakatau & Festival Choir Rehearsal				
7:30	Break	7:30	Evening Concert We Are Aotearoa Rob Thorne, Benjamin Makisi, Lin Zheng, Rewaken Polycation, Auckland Gospel Choir, Music Association of Auckland, University of Auckland Symphony Orchestra		
8:00	Choral Connect / Sing Aotearoa Gala Concert Te Wehi Haka NZCCA Choir NZ Youth Choir Gondwana Chorale	9:30	End of day		
10:00	End of day				

Lunchtime Concerts

Saturday 30 September 12.40pm

The White Cloud Choir of Auckland consists of nearly a hundred choral enthusiasts from China who have a profound love for New Zealand. They say they are honoured to share the chords in their hearts with the delegates at Sing Aotearoa.

All Together Now consists of multiple non-auditioned, all-comers' community choirs in Auckland and Taupō, directed by Kate Bell, Steven Rapana and Megan Flint. The organisation's philosophy is that everyone has a voice and can sing!

Sunday 1 October 12.40pm

The City of Auckland Singers have recently celebrated their 50th anniversary. The choir has participated in international festivals in Hobart, Gorizia and Llangollen, and next year will attend the Alta Pusteria Festival in Italy.

The Aotearoa NZ Academy Choir has evolved from the 'reserves' programme for the NZ Secondary Students' Choir and NZ Youth Choir into a choir in its own right, led by Elise Bradley and Rowan Johnston.

