

# NIGHT OF THE SOUL



Sydney  
Festival  
2022

Sydney Philharmonia Choirs

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The Cutaway

20-22 Jan, 85 mins

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## CAST AND CREDITS

Brett Weymark OAM Conductor

Sydney Philharmonia Chamber Singers

Fiona Ziegler Violin

Léone Ziegler Violin

Nicole Forsyth Viola

Paul Stender Cello

Claire Howard Race Piano

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

### PART ONE | ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Deborah Cheetham & Matthew Doyle

Tarimi Nulay - Long time living here

### PART TWO | INTO DARKNESS

Ubi Caritas et Amor

Maurice DURUFLÉ Quatre Motets sur des thèmes grégoriens: I. Ubi Caritas

Eric WHITACRE Nox Arumque (Golden Night)

Arvo PÄRT Summa (for String Quartet)

Stephen PAULUS The Road Home

Ola GJEILO Dark Night of the Soul

### PART THREE | THE TRIAL

Samuel BARBER Agnus Dei,

from the Adagio for Strings, Op.11

### PART FOUR | THE JOURNEY TOWARDS THE LIGHT

Tantum Ergo

Maurice DURUFLÉ Quatre Motets sur des thèmes grégoriens: IV. Tantum Ergo

Eric WHITACRE Lux Arumque (Golden Light)

Arvo PÄRT Spiegel im Spiegel (for Violin & Piano)

Ērik EŠENVALDS Long Road

Ola GJEILO Luminous Night of the Soul

## ABOUT THE SHOW

Lie on your yoga mats, cushions and blankets and stare up at the towering columns of raw sandstone. This space has all the lush acoustics and awesome majesty of any cathedral, where you would usually expect to hear much of this music. But here, tonight, you are in for a unique treat from Sydney Philharmonia Choirs' Chamber Singers. The concert opens with a choral Acknowledgement of Country, *Tarimi Nulay - Long time living here*, with music by Deborah Cheetham and words translated from Gadigal by Matthew Doyle, a profound cultural and spiritual reflection of the land on which we sing. The journey from darkness to light then begins with the Gregorian chant, *Ubi Caritas et Amor*. Listen for Norwegian Ola Gjeilo's *Dark Night of the Soul* and *Luminous Night of the Soul* alternating between moments of peaceful stillness and rhythmic brightness, American Eric Whitacre's translucent *Nox Arumque* and *Lux Arumque* and Arvo Pärt's mesmerising *Spiegel im Spiegel*, all centred around Samuel Barber's immortal *Agnus Dei*.

## A NOTE FROM THE CREATORS

"We want to create a different concert experience where the audience is invited into that space between meditation, active listening and the power of music and the human voice to heal. Instead of sitting in chairs, we invite the audience to lie down and let the music wash over you in waves of sound. The journey musically is one from darkness to light, book-ended by some of the oldest music we have, medieval Gregorian chant. As the natural light of the day dissipates, we enter that magical world of dusk and early evening and leave with a sense of being wholeheartedly and collectively connected to this wonderful music."

– Brett Weymark