Arts Centre Melbourne

Arts Centre Melbourne and 3AW present

Morning Melodies



Simply Showstopping

Season 2026

Wominjeka yearmann koondee biik Wurundjeri balluk.

Welcome to the land of the Wurundjeri people.

Arts Centre Melbourne and the Melbourne Arts Precinct sit on a site that has been a gathering place for song, storytelling, community and culture for First Nations people for millennia.

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land on which we gather, the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung.

We also acknowledge the neighbouring Kulin Nation groups, the Boonwurrung and Bunurong people, and pay our respects to elders, past and present.

All information in this publication is correct at the time of printing. Arts Centre Melbourne reserves the right to add, withdraw or substitute artists and vary the program as necessary.

Cover photo: Peter Stoop Photography

Contents

Morning Melodies	CEO Welcome	3
Denis Walter: My All Time Favourites	Monday 23 February	4
Claire Lyon: The Music of Broadway	Monday 23 March	6
The 60 Four: Hits of the '60s and '70s	Monday 27 April	8
Rhys Tolhurst: A Swing Affair featuring Nina Ferro	Monday 11 May	10
En Pointe: The Australian Ballet School	Tuesday 2 June	12
Orchestra Victoria with Caroline O'Connor: Music and Me	Monday 20 July	14
Victorian College of the Arts Music Theatre Showcase: Echoes of Broadway	Monday 17 August	16
Silvie Paladino: A Life On Stage	Monday 14 September	18
I Am Woman: Bold, Brassy and Iconic	Monday 26 October	20
Teddy Tahu Rhodes and Georgia Wilkinson: A Little Glamour and a Lot of Joy	Monday 9 November	22
Christmas Melodies Join the Seasonal Celebration	Monday 7 December	24
Eat & Drink		26
Tickets		27
Getting Here		28
Credits		29

Arts Centre Melbourne presents

A new destination for performing arts stories

AMPA

AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM OF PERFORMING ARTS



Arts Centre Melbourne

VICTORIA State Government | CREATIVE VICTORIA

artscentremelbourne.com.au/ampa

Gown designed by Fleur Thiemeyer, worn by Olivia Newton-John when performing at the Royal Charity Concert at the Sydney Opera House, 1980. Australian Performing Arts Collection, Arts Centre Melbourne

Morning Melodies
Simply Showstopping



I'm so pleased to welcome you to the 2026 season of Morning Melodies.

Now in its 41st year, Morning Melodies continues to bring showstopping musical experiences to Melbourne's beautiful Hamer Hall.

This year's program brings the best of artists to the stage, from well-known performers such as Silvie Paladino, Denis Walter, Teddy Tahu Rhodes and Georgia Wilkinson to the stars of the future in showcase productions by The Australian Ballet School and Victorian College of the Arts.

Our feel-good program of live performance attracts music lovers of all ages, as grandparents bring their grandchildren, and city workers drop in for an energising dose of the arts.

Sit back and let us take you through the year ahead, enjoying the music, dance and performance of Broadway, 60s and 70s pop, joyful swing, opera and contemporary classics - with an abundance of love and laughter along the way.

Karen Quinlan AM
Chief Executive Officer
Arts Centre Melbourne



Photo: Mark Gambino

FEBRUARY

Denis Walter

My All Time Favourites

Beloved entertainer and broadcaster Denis Walter brings his rich baritone to *My All Time Favourites*, a warm and witty show with musical reflections on his extraordinary 55-year career in media and entertainment.

Across gold-selling albums, concert stages, television newsrooms and his long-running role as a trusted radio presenter, Denis has become one of Australia's most recognisable and loved voices. He has shared the stage with international stars, performed for royalty and brought smiles to audiences nationwide.

Expect a rich mix of popular ballads, golden-era crooning, country gems, classical favourites and plenty of laughs along the way with stories spanning stage, screen and the airwaves. This is a nostalgic, joyful journey through unforgettable melodies and treasured memories.

MONDAY 23 FEB

11AM & 1.30PM

HAMER HALL



MARCH

Claire Lyon

The Music of Broadway

Join Claire Lyon, internationally renowned soprano and celebrated star of *The Phantom of the Opera*, as she brings the magic of Broadway to life. She has transfixed audiences with her soaring voice and captivating stage presence, breathing new energy into the world's most beloved show tunes.

Claire will elevate timeless musical theatre classics, including 'Wishing You Were Somehow Here Again' *(The Phantom of the Opera)*, 'Climb Every Mountain' (*The Sound of Music*), 'Memory' (*Cats*), 'I Feel Pretty' (*West Side Story*), and many more unforgettable favourites.

Be transported straight to the heart of Broadway, to revel in the passion, power and beauty of musical theatre at its finest.

"Claire Lyon absolutely nails the most challenging songs ever written for the stage."

WHAT'S ON – DUBAI

MONDAY 23 MAR

11AM & 1.30PM

HAMER HALL



Photo: Andre Goosen
Design: Ray Cullen

APRIL

The 60 Four

Hits of the ‘60s and ‘70s

Relive a defining era of pop music history when The 60 Four brings the biggest hits of the '60s and '70s to life in a spectacular Vegas-style show.

Backed by a powerhouse live band, The 60 Four effortlessly jump between evocative ballads and high energy classics, the foundational rock and roll of Elvis Presley, the soul genius of Stevie Wonder and the unmistakable harmonies of The Beach Boys.

Featuring classics by The Beatles, Frankie Valli, The Bee Gees, Johnny O'Keefe, Tom Jones, and more, this is your chance to relive the tracks that defined a generation.

"On the brink of belonging to the world."
STAGE WHISPERS

"Vividly versatile and masses of foot-stomping fun."
THE BAREFOOT REVIEW

MONDAY 27 APR

11AM & 1.30PM

HAMER HALL



MAY

Rhys Tolhurst

A Swing Affair featuring Nina Ferro

Swing, style and plenty of laughs will light up your day when acclaimed entertainer Rhys Tolhurst brings his hit show *A Swing Affair*, joined by sensational guest vocalist Nina Ferro.

Both performers are celebrated lead vocalists from *Dancing with the Stars* and the national tour of *Dirty Dancing in Concert*. Rhys and Nina pay tribute to the Great American Songbook with timeless hits from Frank Sinatra and Ella Fitzgerald to Harry Connick Jr. and Michael Bublé.

Backed by a world-class band, you'll enjoy velvet vocals, irresistible rhythms, cheeky banter and modern flair. This is a feel-good celebration of the golden era – an occasion to smile, swing and sing.

MONDAY 11 MAY

11AM & 1.30PM

HAMER HALL



Photo: S. Konstantinov

JUNE

En Pointe

The Australian Ballet School

The Australian Ballet School's annual performance continues to captivate Morning Melodies audiences with a breathtaking new program each year.

Featuring the School's talented full-time students, this vibrant mixed show celebrates the art of ballet, from uplifting contemporary pieces to beautifully classical works.

Highlights of this year's program include a new piece choreographed by Kevin Jackson whose *Echoes in Motion* captivated audiences in 2025; and acclaimed choreographer Lucas Jervies presents a brand new creation developed in partnership with Australian National Academy of Music (ANAM) musicians performing live on stage. If you're drawn to the brilliance of brass and the elegance of ballet, this is a performance not to be missed.

Be thrilled by a repertoire bursting with energy, dedication and the refined skills of The Australian Ballet School's young and pre-professional dancers.

TUESDAY 2 JUN

11AM & 1.30PM

HAMER HALL



JULY

Orchestra Victoria with Caroline O'Connor

Music and Me

Australian theatrical legend Caroline O'Connor AM has delighted audiences across the globe: on London's West End, Broadway in New York and throughout Australia on our stages and on our screens. Her incredible career has featured many of musical theatre's most powerful leading roles, from Broadway classics like *Anything Goes* and *Funny Girl*, via the Australian premiere of *West Side Story*, to gritty biographic roles including Judy Garland and Edith Piaf.

For this special performance, Caroline will be joined by Orchestra Victoria to present music she has handpicked for the significance they play in her life. Throughout the concert Caroline will share the stories behind these selections: how music has shaped her career and her identity as a performer throughout the seasons of her multi-award-winning life on the stage.

MONDAY 20 JUL

11AM & 1.30PM

HAMER HALL



Photo: Olivia Morison

AUGUST

Victorian College of the Arts Music Theatre Showcase

Echoes of Broadway

Step into the world of velvet overtures and sparkling footlights as the Victorian College of the Arts' (VCA) graduating cohort honours the legacy of Broadway's Golden Age. These rising stars, some of Australia's finest emerging music theatre talent, bring timeless classics to life in a performance brimming with heart, harmony and high-energy ensembles.

With a program featuring your most beloved favourites, this one-hour showcase captures the vibrancy and charm of the era that shaped musical theatre.

Whether it's a soaring solo, a poignant duet, or a rousing ensemble number, these artists channel the joy and sophistication of Broadway's golden years with all the polish, power and passion that VCA is known for.

MONDAY 17 AUG

11AM & 1.30PM

HAMER HALL



Photo: Peter Stoop Photography

SEPTEMBER

Silvie Paladino

A Life On Stage

Australian musical theatre star Silvie Paladino invites you to share a performance filled with music and stories as she reflects on her remarkable journey in the spotlight.

From her breakthrough in *Les Misérables* in Australia and London's West End, to standout roles in *CATS*, *Miss Saigon*, *Mamma Mia!*, *Chess*, *Passion*, *Fun Home*, *Cinderella* and *Sunset Boulevard*, Silvie has established herself as one of the nation's most versatile performers.

With her soaring voice, heartfelt warmth and a lifetime of song, Silvie promises an uplifting and unforgettable celebration in *A Life On Stage*.

MONDAY 14 SEP

11AM & 1.30PM

HAMER HALL



Photo: Thomas McCammon

OCTOBER

I Am Woman

Bold, Brassy and Iconic

Join cabaret powerhouses Amelia Ryan (*Simply BRILL*) and Libby O'Donovan OAM for a rollicking tribute to the women who redefined Australian music in the swinging '60s.

From the anthems of Helen Reddy and Olivia Newton-John to the soulful sounds of Judith Durham, Wendy Saddington and more, this uplifting hour brims with iconic songs and hilarious true stories.

Bold, brassy and bursting with mighty vocal strength, *I Am Woman* shines a spotlight on the trailblazers who sang, stomped and stormed their way into Aussie music history.

★★★★★

GLAM ADELAIDE

MONDAY 26 OCT

11AM & 1.30PM

HAMER HALL



NOVEMBER

Teddy Tahu Rhodes and Georgia Wilkinson

A Little Glamour and a Lot of Joy

Join internationally celebrated opera stars Teddy Tahu Rhodes and Georgia Wilkinson for a morning of music, laughter and charm.

Teddy's commanding baritone, acclaimed for his performances in *South Pacific* and *Carmen*, and Georgia's radiant soprano, known for *The Magic Flute*, *The Phantom of the Opera* and for winning the *Herald Sun Aria*, combine in a display of breathtaking artistry and irresistible stage presence.

Whether you're an opera devotee or simply love a beautiful tune, this is a concert to stir the soul and brighten your morning.

MONDAY 9 NOV

11AM & 1.30PM

HAMER HALL



Photo: Jason Lau

DECEMBER

Christmas Melodies

Join the Seasonal Celebration

Festive season magic arrives with bells on for Morning Melodies' Christmas concert. Enjoy an uplifting program filled with timeless carols and beloved hymns.

Bring your family and friends to join in the spirit with a vibrant big band, choir and special guest artists; all coming together to create an unforgettable festive experience.

Previous Christmas Melodies concerts have featured outstanding performers including Gorgi Coghlan, Claire Lyon, Kane Alexander and Michael Cormick.

Stay tuned for the announcement of our exciting 2026 line-up this spring, it promises to be a truly memorable celebration for all ages.

MONDAY 7 DEC

11AM & 1.30PM

HAMER HALL

Eat & Drink

Make your visit even more memorable by exploring our vibrant range of food and drink options. Whether you are after a pre-show coffee, bubbles or a delicious bite afterwards, we've got you covered.



THE BARRE

Located in the iconic Theatres Building, The Barre features a seasonal modern Australian menu highlighting local produce. Enjoy signature cocktails, curated wines and premium alcohol-free options. Pre-book on Mondays for lunch or visit before or after Morning Melodies.

Bookings are encouraged through the link in our website **artscentremelbourne.com.au/thebarre**



PROTAGONIST

Grab a coffee to go or relax at Protagonist, located in the open-air setting of the Arts Centre Melbourne forecourt. Enjoy custom coffee blends, fresh-baked treats, and a lunch menu featuring sandwiches, wraps, salads and savoury pastries.

Find out more **artscentremelbourne.com.au/protagonist**



FOYER BARS

Relax and elevate your Morning Melodies experience at the Foyer Bars. Choose from a curated selection of premium wines, beers, spirits, and cocktails, alongside refreshing alcohol-free options. Treat yourself to sweets, ice cream, or light bites like chips, cookies and sandwiches.

Find out more **artscentremelbourne.com.au/visit/eat-drink/foyer-bars**

Tickets

Morning Melodies tickets can be purchased as subscription packages or as single tickets to individual shows.

PRICES

Full Subscription
Available from Tuesday 21 October 2025, 11am. All 11 shows: $22 per show (save $13 per ticket).

Choose Your Own Subscription 3+
Available from Tuesday 11 November 2025, 11am. 3 – 10 shows: $26 per show (save $9 per ticket).

Single Tickets
Single Tickets Available from Thursday 4 December 2025, 11am. Adult: $35 per show, Child (under 16 years) $22 per show.

A Full Subscription package includes a ticket to all 11 shows in the 2026 Season, with your choice of either all 11am or all 1:30pm performances.

A Choose Your Own Subscription 3+ includes a ticket to three or more shows of your choice in the 2026 Season, including the choice of 11am or 1:30pm performances for each show.

Subscriptions offer discounted ticket prices and early access to the best seats in the house. If you wish to receive your tickets by Regular, Registered or Express post, please book via our Contact Centre or Box Office (fees apply).

MORE INFORMATION

For more information on Morning Melodies and other shows at Arts Centre Melbourne, visit **artscentremelbourne.com.au** or phone **1300 182 183.**

HOW TO BOOK

ONLINE
artscentremelbourne.com.au/morningmelodies

BY PHONE
1300 182 183
Monday to Saturday, 9am – 4.30pm

IN PERSON
Box Office at Hamer Hall
Monday to Saturday 11am – 4pm

All other Box Offices open 1 hour before a performance begins until 15 minutes after the performance starts. Opening hours on public holidays are subject to performance times.

GROUP BOOKINGS

Full Subscription and Choose Your Own 3+
Group bookings are eligible for Full Subscriptions from Tuesday 21 October 2025 and Choose Your Own 3+ Subscriptions from Tuesday 11 November 2025, requiring full payment at time of booking.

Single Performance Group Bookings of 4+
For groups of 4+, book and pay now available from Tuesday 2 December 2025, 11am. A group rate of $26 per ticket will apply.

Invoiced Group Bookings
Groups of 10 or more may opt to pay via invoice at a later date. Invoiced group bookings available from Tuesday 11 November 2025, 11am. A group rate of $26 per ticket will apply.

Getting Here

Car: Undercover parking is available 24 hours, 7 days a week. Enter via Kavanagh Street, Southbank.

Train: Alight at Flinders Street Station and cross Princes Bridge to reach our venues.

Tram: Stop 14 on St Kilda Road is located directly in front of our venue. Accessible via routes 1, 3, 5, 6, 16, 64, 67 and 72. We are located just outside PTV's Free Tram Zone.

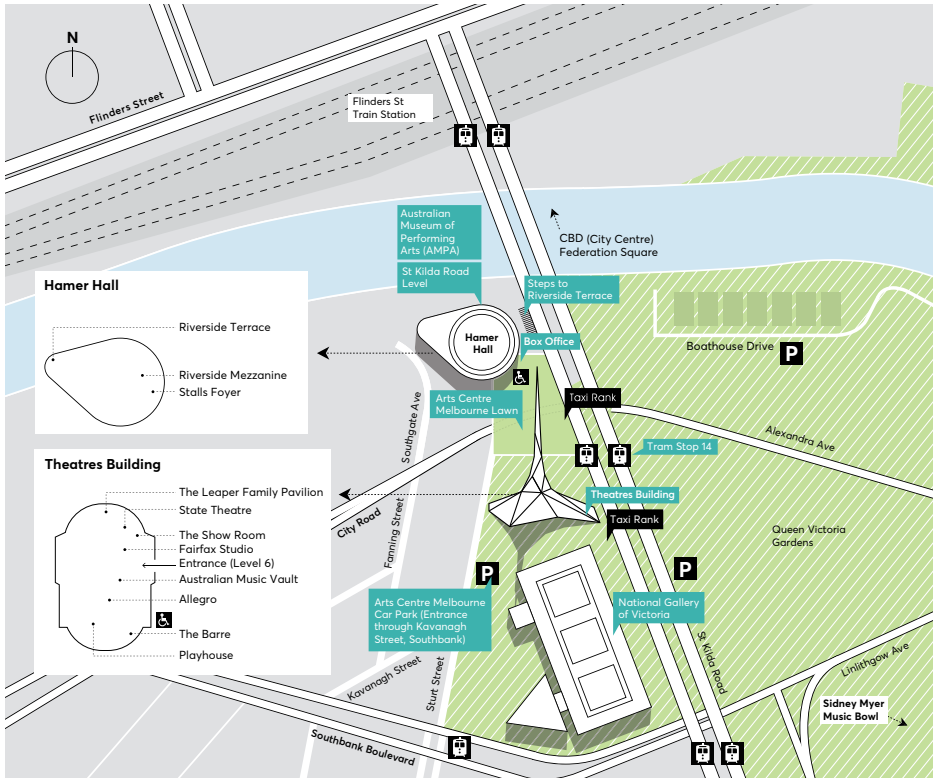
Taxi: Designated taxi zones are located in front of the Theatres Building on St Kilda Road and directly in front of the Arts Centre Melbourne Lawn.

EXCLUSIVE PARKING OFFER FOR MORNING MELODIES

The early bird rate will be extended to all Morning Melodies customers who enter the car park by the start time of either performance.

This is approximately a 50% saving off the normal day-time rate!

For all other rates phone **1300 182 183** or visit **artscentremelbourne.com.au/parking**



Credits

ARTS CENTRE MELBOURNE

100 St Kilda Road Melbourne
artscentremelbourne.com.au

VICTORIAN ARTS CENTRE TRUST

Ian Carson AM (President)
Paul Barker
Greta Bradman AM
Leigh Johns OAM
Paul Bonnici
Caroline Bowditch
Dr Janine Mohamed
Nhung Mason
Simon Phemister PSM

EXECUTIVE TEAM

Karen Quinlan AM,
Chief Executive Officer

Tammy Willenberg,
Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Melanie Smith,
Executive Director, Performing Arts

Kim Berkers,
Executive Director, Destination and Audience

Alisia Romanin,
Executive Director, Development

Arts Centre Melbourne extends heartfelt thanks to our Arts Angels, whose generosity, loyalty and commitment ensure as many Victorians as possible can experience the joy of the performing arts here in Melbourne.

Thank You!

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

Arts Centre Melbourne welcomes everyone to visit our spaces and experience the performing arts. Conditions of Entry are available on our website **artscentremelbourne.com.au**


Arts
Centre
Melbourne
VICTORIA
State
Government
CREATIVE
VICTORIA
3AW
MELBOURNE