

JOHN WILLIAMSON

in symphony



WITH THE
Sydney Symphony





'This music comes from an Aussie heart and it seems to be in the hearts of so many Aussies,' says John Williamson in typically casual form.

Really, there's nothing casual about a man who quite clearly is the master of his craft and has the uncanny knack to speak what's on our collective minds.

In John Williamson at the Sydney Opera House, you'll see an artist in full flight. Join him in the front row for a concert which will make you laugh, take in a serious moment and perhaps even shed a tear.

Recorded on one of the two night concert series at the Sydney Opera House accompanied by the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, the concert shows off an unexpected side to 'Willo' and at the same time recalls everything you've come to love about the iconic singer, songwriter, guitarist and storyteller.

With the Sydney Symphony Orchestra behind him, John's music jumps and edges into every corner of the room, nudging like a playful puppy wanting some attention. Sometimes it feels like the roof is just an illusion and the audience really are sitting under a blanket of stars in the bush.

With the ever-present campfire at his feet and long-time musical companion Col Watson by his side, the set list features typical songs like 'Galleries of Pink Galahs', 'Boogie with m' Baby', 'Salisbury Street', 'Mallee Boy', 'Cootamundra Wattle' and of course 'Old Man Emu' and 'True Blue'.

Forty years is a good time to celebrate, especially when it's celebrating four decades as a singer-songwriter in one of the world's toughest businesses. What's exciting is that John has never veered from his vision. He's held course and continued to sing, write and talk about his deep love for the landscape, the urgency to preserve it and the things which make us quintessentially Australian.

The songs are everything from love notes and paeans to the bush to protest songs reminding us we need to tread carefully. No matter how he does it though, there's always warmth, sincerity and a touch of humour in his words and delivery. John considers it's a victory for all Aussies to see this kind of music orchestrated and the trophy is music.

'Doing the show was an unbelievable experience which went better than I could ever have hoped for,' says John, 'I was initially very nervous but once I settled in, I had a really great time. Like the audience, in places I found myself getting pretty emotional too. It was like getting emotional after winning the footy, you get a bit sentimental.'

This concert series was a first for John and the October 2010 recording came hot on the heels of John's long-awaited induction into the ARIA Hall of Fame.

'I love the fact that there are kids who grew up in this country driving around it with their parents and listening to these songs. They've all invited me in some small way to be part of their family. I don't consider myself a star, I consider myself part of the family.'

Three cheers for a True Blue national treasure.

Ana Jansen



Sydney Symphony Orchestra: Orchestra Management: Aernout Kerbert / **Sydney Symphony Orchestra**
Production: Ian Spence / **Orchestra Conductor:** Guy Noble / **Sydney Symphony Players:** First Violins: Kirsten
Williams, Sun Yi, Nicole Masters, Emily Qin, Julie Batty, Nicola Lewis / **Second Violins:** Kirsty Hilton,
Jennifer Hoy, Emma Hayes, Emily Long, Philippa Paige, Benjamin Li / **Violas:** Caroline Henbest, Leonid
Volovelsky, Graham Hennings, Jennifer Curl / **Violoncellos:** Leah Lynn, Elizabeth Neville, Timothy Nankervis,
David Wickham / **Double Basses:** David Campbell, Benjamin Ward / **Flute:** Janet Webb, **Oboe:** Shefali Pryor /

Clarinet: Lawrence Dobell / **Bassoon:** Matthew Wilkie / **Horns:** Ben Jacks, Lee Bracegirdle, Euan Harvey /
Percussion: Colin Piper, Joshua Hill / **Harp:** Louise Johnson / **Sydney Opera House:** **Orchestra Management:** Aernout
Kerbert / **Production:** Ian Spence / **Artist Liaison:** Mark Sutcliffe / **Stage Manager:** Peter Gahan / **Staging:** Justin Hamilton /
Lighting: Peter Lockwood, James Mayne / **Sound/Audio Visual:** Richard Fenton, Annika Unsen, Carlos Arango / **Production**
Manager: Derrin Brown / **Account Manager:** Narelle Lewis / **Venue Manager:** Alessandro Nocentini





CD

Executive Producer: John Williamson / Recorded live at the Sydney Opera House Friday 29th October 2010 with the Sydney Symphony / Produced in association with EMI Music Australia / Front of House Sound: Steve Newton and Michael Chandler / Project Co-ordinator: Rod McCormack / Audio Recorded by Jason Blackwell & Tony David Cray
Sydney Symphony Orchestra: Orchestra Management: Aernout Kerbert / Sydney Symphony Orchestra Production: Ian Spence / Orchestra Conductor: Guy Noble / Sydney Opera House: Sound/Audio Visual: Richard Fenton, Annika Unsen & Carlos Arango / Production Manager: Derrin Brown

DVD

Executive Producer: John Williamson - 2011 © Strinesong Pty Limited / Filmed live at the Sydney Opera House Friday 29th October 2010 with the Sydney Symphony / Produced in association with: EMI Music Australia / Director: Randall Churchill / Project Co-ordinator: Rod McCormack / Orchestra Conductor: Guy Noble / Didgeridoo: Mitch Firth
Orchestral Arrangements: Guy Noble, Graeme Brown, Russell Tainton & Justin Kearin / Lighting Designer: Paul Collison / Audio Re-Mix: Jeff McCormack @ The Music Cellar / Post-Production: David Cleverly @ Digicrew
Project Account Manager: JK Power / Front of House Sound: Steve Newton and Michael Chandler
Filmed By: Big Picture / Marketing and Event Co-ordinator: Alex Sinclair Sydney Symphony Orchestra Liaison: Baz Archer / Big Picture: Dennis Murphy, Nick Bojduk, David Horscroft, David Sliwinski, Peter Mazzaferro, Steve Forest, Mark Fielder-Gill, Melissa Clarke, Michael Raso / Audio Recorded by: Jason Blackwell & Tony David Cray



Thanks to: Mark Poston, Chris May, Dave Parker and all the team at EMI Music. Marius Els and Artist Network Australia, Danny Domroe and all at Bluehawk Presents, Rod McCormack, Guy Noble, Michael Chandler, Steve Newton, Shannon Noll, Paul Collison, JK Power, Meg Doyle, David Woodward, the Sydney Symphony, the Sydney Opera House and all the team in John Williamson's office.

Shannon Noll appears courtesy of Universal Music Australia and Revolutions Per Minute Management

Cover photography by: Angelo Kehagias
Live concert stills imagery by: Anna Warr

All songs written by John Williamson except track 17
Patterson/Cowan PD Arr: John Williamson.
All songs published by Emusic/Matthews except track 1 & 13
Strinesong/Matthews; and track 19 July/Universal Music.

All audio and audio-visual recordings
© & © 2011 Strinesong Pty. Limited.
Artwork © 2011 Strinesong Pty. Limited.
Manufactured and marketed in Australia by EMI Music
Australia Pty Limited under exclusive licence.

John Williamson is dressed by: RM Williams
The Sydney Symphony Blue Shirts provided by: Gloster
Costuming co-ordinated by: Blowes Menswear

John Williamson Management:
David Woodward
management@johnwilliamson.com.au

Agency Representation:
Artist Network Australia
www.artistnetwork.com.au

Markon

RM Williams

Blowes
TROUSERS

GLOSTER sydney *symphony*

