

# ***GORDON KALTON WILLIAMS***

(Librettist, Editor, Writer on Music)

Email: [stewartwilliams7@bigpond.com](mailto:stewartwilliams7@bigpond.com)

Born: Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

## **EMPLOYMENT**

2010	Special Projects, Symphony Services Australia Ltd (Symphony Australia), Sydney  Tutor, 'Words About Music, Australian Youth Orchestra National Music Camp, Canberra, Australia
2009	Tutor, 'Words About Music', Australian Youth Orchestra National Music Camp, Adelaide, Australia
2008	Editor, <i>New Classical Music</i> (Gordon Kerry), University of New South Wales Press
2006–2010	Program Notes Coordinator, Symphony Services Australia Ltd (Symphony Australia), Sydney
1999–2005	Publications Editor, Symphony Australia Holdings Pty Ltd, Sydney
1999	Senior Writer, Symphony Australia
1996-1999	Program annotator <i>Music is our Culture</i> Project Manager, ABC Concerts/Symphony Australia
1996	Acting Artist Development Manager, ABC Concerts, Australian Broadcasting Corporation, Sydney
1994-1996	A/Senior Programming and Planning Officer, ABC Concerts
1992-present	Pre-Concert Speaker, ABC Concerts/Symphony Australia
1992-1994	Research Officer, ABC Concerts
1989-1992	Assistant, Performing Arts Bookshop, Sydney
1987-1988	Actor/Writer/Project Co-ordinator, Darwin Theatre Group, Darwin NT

- 1987 Writer/Director-in-Residence, Northern Territory Arts Council, Tennant Creek (NT)
- 1983-1987 Teacher/Course writer, Correspondence High School, Victorian Ministry of Education, Melbourne
- 1982 – 1983 Piano teacher/Instrumental instructor/Bandleader, Alice Springs NT
- 1982 Storeman, Red Tulip Chocolates, Prahran (Victoria)
- 1981 Piano teacher/Instrumental instructor/Bandleader, Alice Springs
- 1978-87 Occasional Music Critic, *The Sun* (Melbourne)
- 1978 Storeman, ‘Peter’s Place’ Supermarket, Tennant Creek NT
- 1977 Occasional Music Critic, *The Australian Jewish News* (Melbourne)

## **POSITIONS HELD**

- 2002-2004 Staff-elected Director, board of Symphony Australia Holdings Pty Ltd

## **SCRIPTS/PUBLICATIONS**

- 2009 *The Soldier’s Tale – suite*, new version of narration for National Music Camp, Adelaide
- 2008 ‘The Little Blueprint? An amplification of the meaning of “libretto”’, *Music, Words and Voice: A Reader*, ed. Clayton, M.; Manchester University Press, published in association with The Open University, UK
- Ingkata*, libretto co-written with Ros Horin (music: Gordon Kerry, David Bridie, Warren H. Williams, Nokturnl and Gordon Williams), workshopped by Racing Pulse Production and State Opera of South Australia at Adelaide Festival, 2 & 3 March
- 2007 *Don John of Austria*, new book and dialogue, for Sydney Symphony revival of the original 1842 opera (‘first Australian opera’), Angel Place Recital Hall, Sydney, October
- 2005 Utulura inkantjaku (Let’s get together and sing): Australian Aboriginal music and the classical music strand, *‘Encounters’: meetings in Australian music: essays, images, interviews*, Plush, V; Schippers H; Wolfe, J; Queensland Conservatorium Research Centre, South Brisbane

- 2004 'Journey to Horseshoe Bend – a cantata?', with Andrew Schultz, *Traditions in the midst of change: Communities, cultures and the Strehlow legacy in Central Australia (Proceedings of the Strehlow Conference)*, Alice Springs, September 2002
- 2003 'Aboriginal influences: Classical Music', *Currency Companion to Music and Dance in Australia*, Currency Press, NSW
- 2003 *Journey to Horseshoe Bend*, libretto based on the novel of T.G.H. Strehlow, music: Andrew Schultz, premiered Sydney Symphony Orchestra at Sydney Opera House, 28 May 2003
- 2003 'A Musical Passion for Central Australia', *Australian Financial Review*, 23 May 2003
- 'Back to Bach', *24 Hours*, May issue
- 2000 'Pushing West', American music, *Australian Financial Review*, 17 March 2000
- 1999 'Meetings Centrestage' published *Spirit of the Land Journal* No.3, Byron Bay, NSW
- 1999 'Meetings on the Concert Hall Stage', *Musical Visions: Selected Conference Proceedings from 6th National Australian/New Zealand IASPM and Inaugural Arnhem Land Performance Conference*, Wakefield Press, Adelaide
- 1998 'Music is our culture', *Sounds Australian: Journal of the Australian Music Centre*, Number 52 (1998), Australian Music Centre, The Rocks, Sydney
- 1997 'The CASM/ASO Project', *Sounds Australian: Journal of the Australian Music Centre*, Volume 15 (1997), Number 50
- 1996 *The Three-Cornered Hat*, narration for Queensland Symphony Orchestra presentation of Manuel de Falla's ballet music, Queensland Performing Arts Centre, Brisbane  
Celia Mylne - singer/narrator, Yan Pascal Tortelier - conductor
- 1993 *Egmont*, narration based on Goethe and Grillparzer for Sydney Symphony presentation of Beethoven's incidental music, Sydney Opera House, Hugo Weaving – narrator, Franz-Paul Decker – conductor
- 1989 *Stranded: an Actors' Event*, Dramaturg, The Actors' Centre, Sydney

- 1988 *Dust-off Vietnam*, Part III: ‘The veteran who couldn’t forget’, Darwin Theatre Group
- 1988 *The Night Shadow and Part of the Course*  
Playwrights Studio, National Institute of Dramatic Art (NIDA), Sydney
- 1987 ‘Where the Support Is’, *Australian Short Stories* No.19,  
Pascoe Publishing Co., Fairfield, Victoria
- 1986 ‘Straight from Down South’, *Arafura: 16 of the best stories from the N.T. Literary Awards*, Darwin Institute of Technology (DIT), Darwin
- 1985 ‘Straight from Down South’, *Northern Perspectives*, DIT, Darwin

**Other writing includes pieces for Symphony Australia/ABC Concerts programs including articles such as *Leonard Bernstein – A Star and his Stripes; Igor in Oz: Stravinsky Downunder; That Night in Vienna, December 1808; Adams’ Good Name*, and *Wagner the Smith*; interviews with Lorin Maazel and Edo de Waart, plus several hundred program notes; as well as program notes for Sydney Opera House presentations of the Vienna, Israel and London Philharmonic Orchestras.**

## **RECORDINGS/BROADCASTS**

- 2008 *The Three-Cornered Hat*, Auckland Philharmonia, New Zealand Broadcasting Corporation
- 2004 *Journey to Horseshoe Bend* (Schultz/Williams), recording of the world premiere cast: John Stanton, Aaron Pedersen, Rodney Macann, David Bruce, The Ntaria Ladies Choir, Sydney Philharmonia Motet Choir, Sydney Symphony conducted by David Porcelijn, Sydney Opera House, 30 May, ABC Classics
- 1999 *The US of Opera*: modern US history as a source for modern US opera plots, ABC Classic FM, 4 July Special (Writer/presenter)
- Music is our Culture*, ABC-TV, 14 March (Project Director)
- 1998 *Bridging the Gulf*: the influence of American, African and Australian indigenous music on the concert hall, ABC Classic FM, NAIDOC Week special (Co-producer/presenter)
- 1996 *Black meets White*: the influence of Australian indigenous music on the concert hall, ABC Classic FM, NAIDOC Week special (Co-producer/presenter)

## **PROJECTS**

1998                      Producer, *Orchestra Dreaming* concert,  
Symphony Australia/Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, Adelaide Festival of  
Arts

***incorporating:***

1996-1998                Project Manager, *Music is our Culture* (first work for symphony  
orchestra by indigenous Australians), Adelaide

1988                      Project Co-ordinator/Writer/Actor, *Dust-off Vietnam* (locally-devised  
plays), Darwin Theatre Group

1982                      Co-developer of scheme, 'Composer in the Community',  
Alice Springs

**TERTIARY EDUCATION/COURSES**

1978                      Bachelor of Music (Education), University of Melbourne

1988                      Playwrights Studio, National Institute of Dramatic Art (NIDA), Sydney

1994                      Basic Management Skills, Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC)

1997                      Basic Broadcasting Skills, ABC

1999                      'Six-Figure Income' (Developing a Screen Role),  
The Actors Centre, Sydney

2004                      'Introduction to Directing', NIDA

**General research: on-camera drop in classes (The Actors Centre), Arrernte/Pitjantjatjara (Central Australian), Vietnamese, Ancient Greek and Native American languages, Western Desert (Central Australia) song language, US presidential history, financial structure of the Victorian Football League (VFL), Northern Territory pastoral industry and land conservation issues, Wagnerian music drama**

**HOBBIES**

Native bush regeneration  
Swimming