

MEDIA RELEASE

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Opera Australia appoints first Head of Young Artist Program

Opera Australia (OA) is delighted to announce the appointment of Dr Francis Greep to the newly created position of Head of Young Artist Program, after an extensive search.

Commencing in September, Dr Greep will be working closely with OA Artistic Director Jo Davies and Young Artist Program Producer Jane Hennessy, to guide OA's commitment to developing and nurturing new generations of Australian talent alongside the very best international talent and overseeing employment and professional development opportunities for young artists.

Ms Davies welcomed Dr Greep saying: "We're so pleased that Francis, who has decades of proven leadership experience working with young artists, will be heading up this important program supporting and developing home-grown talent.

"Together with Francis, OA is ensuring we not only invest in the very best talent for the future, but that we allow ourselves to also be enriched by the host of young and diverse artists that are currently shaping Australian communities," Ms Davies said.

OA has developed a comprehensive new Young Artist Program, aligned with the Company's [artistic vision](#) that Dr Greep will play a pivotal role in implementing.

Dr Greep, who has held key positions at Opera Australia previously, said: "I'm excited to be returning to Opera Australia in this new role. Discovering and nurturing emerging talent has always been important to me, and I'm looking forward to developing a strong and impactful new Young Artist Program at Australia's national opera company."

With its commitment to new generations of Australian talent OA is deepening partnerships with higher education institutions and conservatoriums of music to ensure graduates and the next generation of artists are supported with clearer gateways to the sector. The Company is also working towards training opportunities for First Nations artists to build professional operatic career pathways.

Biography

Dr Francis Greep was most recently the Executive Director of The Song Company, Australia's national vocal ensemble, where he leads with a reputation for organisational renewal and artistic innovation across the performing arts sector. A sought-after recitalist, music director, vocal coach, and chorus master, Francis has previously worked extensively with Opera Australia and held key positions at West Australian Opera and Houston Grand Opera.

Internationally recognised for his expertise in preparing singers across classical styles, Francis combines a deep knowledge of vocal production, languages, repertoire, and performance psychology. He holds postgraduate degrees in collaborative piano and opera from the University of Cincinnati, and a PhD from the University of Melbourne, where his groundbreaking research focused on the role of the vocal coach and their work with emerging singers.

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