

DAVID GRIFFITHS, CLARINET

David Griffiths is a member of two of Australia's leading chamber music ensembles, the Australia Ensemble@UNSW and Ensemble Liaison. He also holds the position of Associate Professor of Music (Clarinet) at the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, the University of Melbourne. A passionate educator and performer, he has presented masterclasses and performances in Asia, Europe, United States, the Middle East, New Zealand and Australia including a critically acclaimed debut in Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall. As a soloist he has appeared with the Melbourne Chamber Orchestra, Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra, Sydney Symphony Orchestra, Orchestra Victoria, Australia Ensemble@UNSW, Shanghai Radio Orchestra, Macau Orchestra and the Real Filharmonía de Galicia. As a member of Ensemble Liaison, he curates and performs an annual three-concert series at the Elisabeth Murdoch Hall at the Melbourne Recital Centre which is currently in its 18th season. He has also performed with the New Zealand, Goldner, Tinalley, Arcacia, Flinders and Australian String Quartets, the New York Wind Soloists, and the Southern Cross Soloists. He has collaborated with many leading artists including Nemanja Radulović, Ray Chen, Anthony Marwood, Henning Kraggerud and Emma Matthews, and has appeared at the Australian Festival of Chamber Music in Townsville, Port Fairy Festival, Lucerne Festival, Switzerland and the Pacific Music Festival in Sapporo, Japan.

He has held positions as Associate Principal Clarinet with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, Principal Clarinet of the Macau Orchestra and Principal Clarinet of the Shanghai Radio Orchestra. He has appeared as Guest Principal clarinet with all of Australia's major symphony and opera ballet orchestras along with the Australian Chamber Orchestra. He was acting Principal of the Singapore Symphony Orchestra, the Malaysian Philharmonic and has performed with the New World Symphony, the Hong Kong Philharmonic, the China Philharmonic, the Pacific Music Festival Orchestra and the Paragon Ragtime Orchestra.

Some recent highlights include a performance of John Adams' Gnarly Buttons Clarinet Concerto with the Australia Ensemble@UNSW, the Weiland Concerto with the Melbourne Chamber Orchestra, a collaboration with accordion virtuoso James Crabb, Mozart's Clarinet Quintet and Concerto at the 3MBS Mozart Marathon and the complete chamber works of Brahms in one day at UKARIA in collaboration with Timothy Young, Svetlana Bogosavljevic and the Australian String Quartet.

David's recordings with Ensemble Liaison of Messiaen's Quartet for the End of Time for the Melba Recordings label and Trios of Brahms, Beethoven and Bruch for the Tall Poppies label have won high praise from critics around the world. He is a Backun Clarinet performing artist.

"an impassioned and committed performance ... not just technically superb but spiritually intense too." **The Classical Review** (UK)

“a refined, cogent reading, intimate and beautifully weighted...the clarinettist David Griffiths impressively controlled in his unaccompanied number, the demanding Abîme des oiseaux.” **Sunday Times (UK)**

“David Griffiths was a superb soloist, his dynamic range including some sublime pianissimo and his facility demonstrated in the recurring cadenzas.” **The Age**

“Particularly impressive was an emotive, fluent performance of Bernstein's Sonata for clarinet and piano, Griffith's silky tone and easy execution of the work's sparkling virtuosity quite exceptional.” **The Australian**

“This display was stunning and will linger long in the memory” **Hobart Mercury**

“A sterling performance of the Three Pieces for Solo Clarinet by Stravinsky began the night. Griffiths span out his long notes in the first of these testing pieces with a sustaining power little short of spellbinding.” **The Age, Melbourne**