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Dear AMPAG,

Valentine's Day may have passed, but the love lingers on. Bell Shakespeare's *Antony and Cleopatra* scorches with the searing tale of a love that was too great for the world. Black Swan Theatre Company celebrates love with Julia Hales's deeply personal account of her experiences as daughter, actor, dreamer and person with Down syndrome in *You Know We Belong Together*. Queensland Ballet's *La Bayadère* transfixes us with the story of a love that transcends life itself, while Opera Australia sets the stage for a spectacular *La Bohème* — the original Bohemian love story — performed under the stars against the glittering backdrop of Sydney harbour.

March will erupt with music of staggering power performed by musicians of towering talent. Violinist, Veronika Eberle, will electrify audiences in Tasmania and Western Australia as she makes her debut with both the TSO and WASO, performing Beethoven's magnificent violin concerto. The WASO will also perform one of the most grandiose and extravagant of all orchestral works, Strauss's *Alpine Symphony*. In Melbourne, the MSO presents Elgar's *The Dream of Gerontius* — considered by Chief Conductor Sir Andrew Davis to be one of the greatest pieces ever written. Speaking of greats, Adelaide Symphony Orchestra's *Bernstein on Stage!* pays tribute to Leonard Bernstein's peerless gift for matching the passion of opera with the power of music theatre.

As we welcome Victorian Opera to our group, in their transition to becoming an MPA in 2019, look out for their witty interpretation of one of Australia's best loved classics *The Magic Pudding*. And don't miss Bryony Kimmings as she applies one of her unique takes on taboo topics in Malthouse Theatre's funny and moving *A Pacifist's Guide to the War on Cancer*.

Get ready for an unforgettable month!

Kind regards,

Bethwyn Serow
Executive Director
Australian Major Performing Arts Group

Image Credits:

Bell Shakespeare / *Antony and Cleopatra* / Catherine McClements

Upcoming Performances

Black Swan State Theatre Company **Perth**

You Know We Belong Together

2018-03-01

We fall into it, out of it and find it everywhere. It's a battlefield, an open door and it's even in the air. But what does finding love really mean to you?



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Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra **Launceston**

Beethoven Violin Concerto

2018-03-02

Veronika Eberle, here making her debut with the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra, brings her energy, expertise and insights to this great work.

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Melbourne Symphony Orchestra **Melbourne**

The Dream of Gerontius

2018-03-08

A soul's journey. Angels and demons. Death and eternal peace. This is the story of Gerontius.

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Bell Shakespeare **Sydney**

Antony and Cleopatra

2018-03-08

The most famous couple that ever lived. Antony and Cleopatra. In the ruthless, ever-expanding empire of Rome, Shakespeare creates an astonishing portrait of a love too great for the world.

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West Australian Symphony Orchestra **Perth**

Strauss' Alpine Symphony & Beethoven's Violin Concerto

2018-03-09

The majestic glory of the Alps and the virtuosity of Veronika Eberle.

Principal Conductor Asher Fisch leads WASO through one of the most grandiose and extravagant of all orchestral works, Strauss' An Alpine Symphony.



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Malthouse Theatre **Melbourne**

A Pacifist's Guide to the War on Cancer

2018-03-07

Bryony Kimmings wants to talk about cancer but she's not getting very far. Instead, she keeps hearing about battles, survivors, fun runs and new leases of life. What's everyone so scared of?



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Victorian Opera **Melbourne**

The Magic Pudding

2018-03-15

Take one true-blue Australian classic, add deliciously playful costumes with a measure of musical magic, mix in a generous helping of young talent and discover the perfect recipe for a delightful family opera.



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Queensland Ballet **Brisbane**

La Bayadère

2018-03-16

A love so great, it transcends life.

Solor, son of the Maharajah of Koch Bihar, has pledged his undying love to the beautiful Nikiya, a bayadère (temple dancer). When he is forced by his father to marry the Governor-General's daughter, a string of tragic consequences is unleashed.

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Adelaide Symphony Orchestra **Adelaide**

Bernstein on Stage!

2018-03-16

Leonard Bernstein – composer, conductor, educator – wanted to embrace everything: life in all its richness, music in all its diversity. And from the street gangs of West Side Story to the middle-class suburbia of Trouble in Tahiti, it all came together most remarkably in his works for the stage, where the passion of opera meets the directness of music theatre.

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Opera Australia **Sydney**

Handa Opera on Sydney Harbour – La Bohème

2018-03-23

Experience the romance of the original Bohemian love story and the best of Sydney in this magical night out.

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Current Members

