



MURRAY RIVER INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL

A Slow River Event

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MRIMF Newsletter. Volume 2

July 2005

Stories from the River... **COHUNA**

The 2006 Murray River International Music Festival program is currently in production with over sixty events planned from Waikerie in South Australia across to Wentworth in New South Wales along the river to Wodonga in Victoria. One of the concerts planned is in Cohuna and the community are working together to present something really special.

"Cohuna is thrilled to take part in the prestigious Murray River International Music Festival. Under the auspice of the Cohuna and District Progress Association, two events are planned.

On Saturday February 4th, a special dinner featuring local produce will be held at the Cohuna Hotel, followed by accordionist **Mirko Satto** and Tango Dancers, **Adrienne & Andrew Gill** of Southern Cross Tango performing in the Memorial Hall. In the lead up the Cohuna Learning Centre is holding Tango Dancing lessons, the local patchwork group will have an exhibition of quilts and many more activities are planned.

The following evening on Sunday the 5th February, at the site known as Tree Tops,

situated on the banks of the picturesque Gunbower Creek, Vardos, a Gypsy flavoured group will serenade the audience while enjoying a dinner especially incorporating local produce and wine.



VARDOS. Alana Hunt, violin, Sofia Chapman, accordion, Indra Buraczewska, double bass

One of the fantastic features of this festival is the chance for local musicians to showcase their talents. Both events will see locals artists showing us what they've got.

Our major sponsor is **Mawsons** who are a large concreting and quarrying company operating along the Murray Valley but are based in Cohuna. We thank them for their support. We hope to see you all in Cohuna in February!

Artistic Director
Sergio de Pieri

Festival Director
Helen Healy

Chair
Stefano de Pieri

The Murray River International Music Festival:

Delivers world class performers to regional areas.
Nurtures local artistic talent through support acts, workshops and masterclasses.
Showcases the food and wine our of unique regions
Inspires and uplifts local and national audiences.
Draws attention to the future of the Murray River.
Increases tourism to the Murray regions.

Artistic Director, Sergio de Pieri, has over 40 years experience in organising arts Festivals including the hugely successful Ballarat Festival. He has planned a stunning program of artists from Australia and the world. They perform alongside musicians from Murray River regions in a showcase of local talent and conduct master classes and workshops in each region.

*A message from our
Artistic Director,
Sergio de Pieri*

"We dedicate all this music and these events to the Murray River to encourage people to think about and have respect for the water, because the Murray River is the soul of our community."

FUNDING UPDATE

Tourism Victoria and Tourism Murray River have committed to \$45,000 to market the Murray River International Music Festival to Australian and International audiences.

Tourism New South Wales will also assist with developing and implementing a marketing strategy.

This is very exciting news for locations along the Murray planning concerts as it ensures tourism visitation to build audience numbers at concerts. Our sponsors will also benefit

from this tourism support as they are assured of major exposure throughout Australia during the marketing campaign and the Festival.

We are committed to the Murray River International Music Festival becoming one of Australia's great festivals with patrons attending from around the world to experience excellent performances in river locations, accompanied by the food, wine and talent of the Murray River regions.

SPONSORSHIP



MRIMF extends a warm welcome to all sponsors.



Sponsorship and Festival Enquiries
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TANGO ACROSS THREE STATES

The Murray River International Music Festival directors are excited to announce that world renowned Tango dancers, Adrienne and Andrew Gill will perform at various towns along the Murray during the 2006 Festival.



Adrienne Gill is the Director of Southern Cross Tango, the tango dance school and performance company she established in South Australia in February 1999. In South Australia, Adrienne & Andrew Gill, teach and perform the tango. They have taught countless numbers of urban and rural South Australians how to dance tango in regular weekly classes.

The pair also travels overseas to study extensively with world-class dancers Milena Plebs & Ezequiel Farfaro, Corina de la Rosa, just to name a few.

Adrienne & Andrew together have travelled to Buenos Aires most recently in February

2005, attending the Various Milongas, studying with master teachers and performers, and monitoring recent developments in tango. Adrienne & Andrew also travelled to New York, attending various milongas, and studied with Guillermina Quiroga.

Adrienne & Andrew have appeared on Television & in Film for their work as Argentine Tango performers & teachers at the top of their field. Adrienne has also personally been featured for her work as a practising visual artist, as well as her professional dance practice. The couple have featured on programs such as "The Great Outdoors", "Postcards" and various documentaries.



You can catch Adrienne and Andrew at 12 venues during the Murray River International Music Festival including Waikerie, Mildura, Echuca,

The 2006 planned program includes:

GUEST ARTISTS

International

- Elisabetta Ghebbioni *Italy* (Harp)
- Andrea Danese *Italy* (Flute)
- Massimo Scattolin *Italy* (Guitar)
- Mirko Satto *Italy* (Accordion)
- Saxofourte *Germany* (Saxophones)
- Mario Duella *Italy* (Organ)
- Davide Furlan *Italy* (Electronic Music)
- Ryoko Mori *Japan* (Organ)

Australian

- Genevieve Lacey (Recorder)
- Louisa Hunter-Bradley (Vocals)
- Samantha Cohen (Viola da Gamba)
- David Mc Farlane (organ)
- Elisabeth Anderson (Harpsichord)
- Anthony Halliday (Piano)
- John O'Donnell (Harpsichord)
- Andrew and Adrienne Jarvis (Tango)
- Jean Penny (Flute)
- Andrew Blackburn (Organ)
- Douglas Lawrence (Harpsichord)
- Jacob Lawrence (tenor)
- Peter Lynch (Guitar)
- Prudence Davis (Flute)
- Jeffrey Crellin (Oboe)
- Karin Schaupp (Guitar)
- Vardos (Gypsy Band)
- La Compania (Renaissance Band)
- Ballarat Festival Orchestra
- Murray Conservatorium Stage Band
- Jacqueline Ogeil (Harpsichord)
- Victorian Chorale (Choir)
- Gordon Kerry and Kim Chalmers (Composers)
- Sally Hederics (Dancer)

TRAVELLING THE MURRAY

During November, Festival Director, Helen Healy and Artistic Director, Sergio de Pieri plan to travel the length of the Murray to touch base and make sure all is in place for the 2007 Festival.

Their journey will begin on Monday 21st, with a day tour of the Riverland. Making stop offs along the way at Waikerie, Loxton, Berri and Renmark. While in the Riverland, Sergio hopes to sample some of the regions fine local produce especially their famous regional wines.

The pair's travels will continue in the

Sunraysia district, taking in Wentworth, Mildura, Merbein, Irymple, Red Cliffs, Ouyen and Swan Hill.

The week beginning November 28 will see Helen and Sergio continuing South East to the Central Murray townships of Cohuna and Echuca.

Continuing along the Murray to Cobram, Shepparton, Corowa, Yarrowonga, before finishing up in Albury Wodonga.



Helen and Sergio look forward very much to meeting up with all MRIMF organisers and supporters again.



Echuca will be hosting a series of concerts during the MRIMF, one of which will be held at their award winning restaurant Oscar W's.

Elisabetta Ghebbioni



Elisabetta has played the Harp in the leading concert halls of Italy and Europe and will join the MRIMF at 10 locations from the Riverland to Albury Wodonga.