



*Gavin Lockley*<sup>®</sup>

Vocalist, pianist, composer, vocal and piano coach, conductor, lecturer.  
Languages: English, Italian, French, German.

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## Biography

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Gavin Lockley is a multi-talented musician and vocalist who studied in Australia, Germany and the United Kingdom before returning to Australia to focus on creating and performing songs and music celebrating Australian history and Australian culture. Studies included:

- 1996 to 1999** Sydney Conservatorium of Music, Bachelor of Music
- 2000 to 2002** Hochschule fur Musik, Detmold, Germany
- 2002 to 2003** Sydney Conservatorium of Music, Master of Music (Research)
- 2006 to 2008** Magdalen College Oxford (D Phil).

The first public performance of his song “*My Country Australia*” based on Dorothea McKellar’s iconic poem “*My Country*”, was in 2005 at a football match in Brisbane, Australia. It has since been performed in England at Buckingham Palace, Windsor Castle, Lords Cricket Ground, Manchester Stadium and at Australia House, London.

Following the composition of “*My Country Australia*”, Gavin expanded on it to create a six-movement orchestral symphony, “*Symphony of Australia*”.

In 2007, “*Symphony of Australia*” was recorded with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra and released by ABC Classics. The first musical history of Australia ever written, its premier public performance was staged at the Sydney Opera House in October 2007 in a concert to celebrate the eightieth birthday of The Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia.

The Symphony was performed in the city of Canberra in 2014 to celebrate the Centenary of Canberra and in the Bathurst region in 2015 to an audience of more than 3,000 to celebrate the Centenary of the Proclamation of the City of Bathurst.

By 2009 Gavin had composed, performed and recorded “*Ballads of the Bush*” — musical renditions of celebrated Australian poems — which were presented in concert at the City Recital Hall in Sydney in October 2009, with a recording under the same title released by ABC Classics later that year.

Between 2006 and 2010 Gavin collaborated with the internationally-acclaimed Australian author Colleen McCullough to create a stage musical titled “*Morgan’s Run – The Musical*”. It dramatises the epic sailing voyage in 1787-1788 of the British “First Fleet” to Australia and the founding of the Australian nation, based on Colleen’s best-selling novel for the year 2000, “*Morgan’s Run*”.

Subsequently Gavin's "*Orchestral Songs of Australia*" was released by ABC Classics. It includes orchestral settings of popular Australian ballads by Paterson, Lawson and Mackellar.

In 2015, Gavin performed as soloist with the Macquarie Philharmonia's presentation of his "*Symphony of Australia*" to an audience of more than 3,000 at Mayfield Garden at Oberon in central New South Wales.

In 2016 Gavin was appointed Inaugural Artistic Director of the Mayfield Garden Music Festival, held at the iconic Mayfield Gardens in Oberon, NSW.

## Vocalist

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- 2015** Tenor soloist with Macquarie Philharmonia Bathurst Bicentenary Tour (performing at Mayfield Gardens in Central NSW, and in the cities of Young, Dubbo and Bathurst)
- 2014** Emcee and soloist Sydney Royal Easter Show Arena Spectacular "*Australiana: In All Its Glory*" performing over 14 successive nights to a total audience of more than 300,000 people
- 2014** ABC Classic FM broadcast 'British Waterside' with Julian Day, May 24 (British Folk Music Settings)
- 2014** Marie Bashir Farewell Concert, Sydney Opera House, August 23 (composer and tenor soloist, "*There is a Lady Sweet and Kind*" with Renae Martin and Anthony Legge)
- 2014** G20 Leaders Summit Dinner, Brisbane, November 15 (soloist: "*Helmut Klein*", in "*Tenors Under Cover*")
- 2013 to 2015** Soloist, Australian Tenors: "*From-The-Heart*" Tour
- 2004 to 2014** Three Waiters 'Alfredo'; Tenors Undercover "*Helmut Klein*" (for Mark Bradley International in Australia, UK and more than 15 countries)
- 2009** Opera Australia, New Zealand Tour of "*My Fair Lady*" — Second Cockney/Butler
- 2006** Support Artist for Russell Watson "*Amore Musical*" tour, Australia and New Zealand
- 2005** Support artist for Anthony Warlow and Lesley Garrett "*Magic of the Music*" tour, Sydney and Melbourne
- 2005** "*In Performance*" with Damian Beaumont, ABC Classic FM recital — baritone and conductor
- 2004** Baritone soloist for Musicaviva's "*Sounds Baroque*" NSW tour
- 1997 to 2003** Opera Australia chorus including performances in "*Il Barbiere di Siviglia*", "*Der Freischutz*", "*Die Meistersinger von Nurnberg*", "*La Boheme*", "*Dido and Aeneas*".

## Pianist

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- 2011 to 2015** Australian Institute of Music, répétiteur
- 2010** Sydney Symphony, introduction to "*Symphony of Australia*"
- 2007** "*Dead Man Walking*", répétiteur, State Theatre, Sydney
- 2000 to 2001** Hochschule fur Musik, Detmold, Germany, répétiteur

## Composer

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- Currently** Composer and Artistic Director, The Symphony of Australia Pty Ltd
- 2014** "*King of the Air: The Musical*" for orchestra, choir and soloists
- 2014** "*King of the Air*" Piano Concerto, composed for and played by Simon Tedeschi
- 2012** "*Orchestral Songs of Australia*" – settings of iconic Australian poems for singer/s and orchestra
- 2010** "*Morgan's Run: The Musical*" for orchestra, choir and soloists, co-authored with Colleen McCullough
- 2008** "*Ballads of the Bush*" – musical settings of iconic Australian poetry
- 2006** "*Symphony of Australia*" for symphony orchestra, choir and soloists
- 2005** Cavalcade: "*Reins of Fire*" arena spectacular, orchestral score
- 2005** "*Midsummer Dream*", Sydney Conservatorium of Music

## Conductor

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- 2015** Conductor of Australian Institute of Music Orchestra
- 2015** Regional Concerts "*Symphony of Australia*" Tour, Coffs Harbour and Port Macquarie with Australian Institute of Music Orchestra
- 2014** Music Director/Music Preparation for Australian Institute of Music Donizetti *L'elisir D'amore*.
- 2014** "*Eloise 2*" recording session, Barry Ryan and Barry Ryan
- 2010** Michael Bubl  Australian Tour, chorus preparation
- 2009** "*Dead Man Walking*", State Theatre, Sydney: Assistant Conductor and Assistant Chorus Master
- 2006** Concert for the Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia, City Recital Hall, Sydney
- 2006** Concert for the Friends of the Royal Flying Doctor Service, Australia House, London

## Producer

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- 2014** Producer, premiere performance of *“King of the Air – The Charles Kingsford Smith Musical”*, City Recital Hall, Sydney
- 2014** Orchestral arranger, conductor and producer for *“Eloise 2”* written and performed by Barry Ryan - iTunes single
- 2013** *“Symphony of Australia”*, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
- 2012** *“My Country Australia”*, Sydney Opera House Concert Hall for 85th Birthday of the Royal Flying Doctor Service
- 2010** *“Celebrate Australia”* Concert, Sydney Domain
- 2008** *“Ballads of the Bush”*, City Recital Hall, Sydney
- 2007** *“Symphony of Australia”* with Sydney Symphony, Sydney Opera House
- 2006** Concert for the Friends of the Royal Flying Doctor Service, Australia House, London
- 2006** Royal Flying Doctor Concert, City Recital Hall, Sydney

## Recordings

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- 2016** *“The Enchanted Hour”*, Opera Arias, Sydney Lyric Orchestra
- 2014** *“King of the Air”* and *“King of the Air Piano Concerto”*, featuring Simon Tedeschi, soloist
- 2012** Australian Music Centre, *“Works by Gavin Lockley and Percy Grainger”*, CD 2429
- 2012** *“Symphony of Australia: The Music, The Story”*, book and CD package
- 2011** ABC Classics digital *“Orchestral Songs of Australia”*
- 2011** Wirripang. *A Poet’s Composer: Songs by Horace Keats*, baritone soloist (Wirr040)
- 2010** ABC Classics digital *“Morgan’s Run: The Musical”*
- 2009** ABC Classics *“Symphony of Australia”* and *“Ballads of the Bush”*  
Sydney Symphony Orchestra conducted by Brett Weymark (Catalogue: 311654)
- 2004** *“Hanns Eisler and the Overpoliticising of music: the concept of the ‘barbaric’ in Eisler’s political songs, 1925-33”*, Master of Music Dissertation, Sydney Conservatorium of Music

## Corporate Event Producer

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- 2014** CLIA Awards for Carnival Cruises Australia
- 2014** Duke of Edinburgh Award Royal Visit (HRH Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex), Art Gallery of New South Wales

## Broadcasts, Radio/Television

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- 2014** ABC Classic FM broadcast "*British Waterside*" with Julian Day (Grainger: British Folk Music settings, baritone soloist)
- 2014** 2MBS FM in conversation with Peter Kurti
- 2014** 2MBS FM feature broadcast "*Symphony of Australia*" with Patrick Thomas
- 2013** ABC Classic FM broadcast Saturday Evening Concert with Julian Day (Grainger: British Folk Music settings, baritone soloist)
- 2013** 4BC The Lounge with Walter Williams
- 2013** Aurora TV Channel, "*Symphony of Australia*" at the National Gallery, Canberra (broadcast feature)
- 2013** Aurora TV Channel, "*My Country Australia*" at Sydney Opera House Concert Hall (broadcast feature)
- 2005** "*In Performance*" with Damian Beaumont, ABC Classic FM recital (baritone and conductor)

## Personal Life

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Gavin Lockley is married to Australian operatic soprano Renae Martin. They have one son and one daughter and live in Sydney, Australia.

## References

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1. "For as long as he can remember, composer Gavin Lockley wanted to use music to illustrate the beauty of Australia." Interview by Jane Fraser, *The Australian*, November 24, 2007.
2. "From page to stage, a celebration of the bush." Interview by Adam Fulton, *The Sydney Morning Herald*, October 13, 2009.
3. "Ballads of the Bush". Review of concert at City Recital Hall, Sydney, posted by Don Grieve, *Alt Media* ([www.altmedia.net.au](http://www.altmedia.net.au)) October 15, 2009.
4. "Now it's Botany Bay the musical". Interview by Paul Cleary about "Morgan's Run, the Musical", *The Australian*, February 28, 2011.
5. "Exhilarating patriotism". Review of concert at the Australian National Gallery on April 20, Canberra City News, posted 22 April, 2013.

## External Links

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Gavin Lockley website: [www.gavinlockley.com.au](http://www.gavinlockley.com.au)

The Symphony of Australia Pty Ltd website: [www.symphonyofaustralia.com](http://www.symphonyofaustralia.com)