

It's not new, it's upcycled! The process of creating twenty-first century band repertoire from the legacy of Australian heritage women composers.

Presenter:

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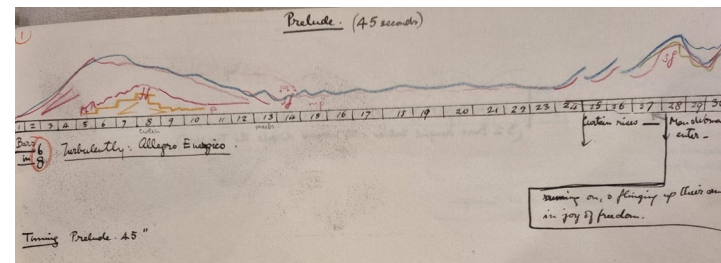
Website: <https://tracyvideonconductor.au/>

Wednesday 17 December 2025, 10:30 am – 11:30 am, room W179.

Clinic Synopsis:

Composer diversity always existed in wind band music, yet many groups are under-represented in today's programs. This clinic digs into the musical legacy of Australia's women composers and how it can be included in today's band programs; exploring how previously unrecognized composers are identified, and their works made accessible for today's performance. If your interest is in women composers, Australian band music, or in reclaiming heritage music from your own community, join the discussion!

Nature of repertoire to be explored



- Works written between 1825 and 1980 by composers who were Australian¹ women, either for wind band, or were performed by wind bands, or have been identified as suitable for performance by wind bands.
- Wind ensemble combinations ranging from Military Octet (Harmonie) and chamber wind ensembles to full Wind Symphony.

¹ i.e. were born in Australia, emigrated to Australia, or self-identified as Australian

REPERTOIRE AND REFERENCE LISTS

Works developed for the project

<i>Year</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Composer</i>	<i>Arranger</i>	<i>Links</i>
1825	Currency Lasses – an Australian Quadrille (Dances of Old Sydney, mmt. III)	Tempest Margaret Paul	Hayden Taylor	Score: https://tracyvideonconductor.au/ Performance: https://youtu.be/jz_MHmVTE6M (starts 6:45)
1861	Australian Volunteer Galop (Dances of Old Sydney, mmt. I)	Miss E. C. Wilson	Will Hartley-Keane	Score: https://tracyvideonconductor.au/ Performance: https://youtu.be/jz_MHmVTE6M
1864	The Twofold Bay Waltzes (Dances of Old Sydney, mmt. II)	Georgina Isabella Keon	Meike Florisson	Score: https://tracyvideonconductor.au/ Performance: https://youtu.be/jz_MHmVTE6M (starts 3:05)
1907	Northern Ballad	Mona McBurney	Jacob Evarts	Score: https://tracyvideonconductor.au/ Performance: https://youtu.be/wdRuEtISE9k
1936	Arc-en-Ciel	Katharine Parker	Tracy Videon	Score: https://tracyvideonconductor.au/ Performance: https://youtu.be/RGjp0_W5QAw
1940	Sea Legend (Ballet Suite)	Esther Rofe	Tracy Videon	Score: https://tracyvideonconductor.au/ Performance: NEED TO UPLOAD
1966	Stanmore Road March	Dulcie Holland	Tracy Videon	Score: https://tracyvideonconductor.au/ Performance: https://youtu.be/xTzd3W-RIOY
1969	An Australian Christmas Stocking	Miriam Hyde	Tracy Videon	Score: https://tracyvideonconductor.au/ Performance: TBC – 12 Dec 2025
1971	Fanfare ²	Mirrie Hill	Rowan Taylor	Score: https://tracyvideonconductor.au/ Not yet performed
1971	Abinu Malkenu ³	Mirrie Hill	Daniel Dinh	Score: https://tracyvideonconductor.au/ Performance: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QNsCPtSdQzM

² For brass & percussion

³ Arranged for double Wind Quintet

Previously published arrangements by Australian heritage women composers performed as part of this project

Year	Title	Composer/Arranger	Publisher	Links
1928	Down Longford Way	Katharine Parker <i>arr.</i> Leroy Osmon	RBC	www.windrep.org/Down_Longford_Way_%26_Shenandoah Performance: https://youtu.be/mE1coKZPJqw
1950	Haunted Hills	Margaret Sutherland <i>arr.</i> John Ivor Holland	ArrangeMe	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=30P1mDzyTw4 Performance (part 1): https://youtu.be/K926YMRRQjc
1953	Outdoor Overture	Margaret Sutherland <i>arr.</i> John Ivor Holland ⁴	ArrangeMe	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SEG0sdX6cj8 Performance: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dhvYP8Q_G00

Examples of works published for Wind Band by heritage women composers (non-Australian)

Year	Title	Composer/arranger
1914	On Parade	Amanda Aldridge <i>ed.</i> Kaitlin Bove
1932	“Juba Dance” from <i>Symphony no. 1 in E minor</i>	Florence Price <i>arr.</i> Jay Bocook
1933	The Old Boatman	Florence Price <i>arr.</i> Dana Paul Perna

Band Music PDF Library - <https://bandmusicpdf.org/>

Heritage band music arrangements (public domain)

Composers include: Alice Bartell, Mabel Wayne, Mabel Metzger-Wright, Lillian Rosedale Goodman, Gertrude Martin Rohrer, May Brahe, Teresa del Riego, Amanda Aldridge (under the pseudonym Montague Ring), Charlotte Blake, Cecile Chaminade, Helen Rhodes (nee Guy, under the pseudonym Guy D’Hardelot), Countess Ada de Lachau (Ada Louise Metz), Grace LeBoy.

Examples of “missing” works by Australian heritage women composers: listed in Australia Music Centre band music catalogues from 1977 and 1985.

May Summerbelle: *Blue Pacific March* – performed 1911 by the Sousa Band; and *Empire March* – performed in England 1924 by Newcastle Steelworks Band.

Mary Mageau: *Celebration Music* – commissioned 1971 by the University of Minnesota (Duluth) – in their catalogue but not on their shelves.

⁴ See also other works by women composers arranged by Holland on the Hal Leonard self-publishing platform *ArrangeMe* (<https://www.arrangeme.com/>)

Some music collections in Australia

Australian (nationwide)

Repository	Online access	Loans and other details
Australian Music Centre (Sydney, NSW)	https://www.australianmusiccentre.com.au/ Access online database by clicking on “Find music.” N.B. Check carefully, as the sub-categories within “band music” are not very well researched.	Provides scores and recordings for purchase, also library loans of scores to members digitally, and loans by post of other items within Australia.
Australian War Memorial sheet music collection (Canberra, ACT)	https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/C2094733 Easy to access online copies of sheet music for patriotic and popular wartime songs, with recordings provided.	As the collection is based around the users rather than the creators, the catalogue doesn’t specify country of origin or composer nationality, however Australian women composers are included.
National Library of Australia (Canberra, ACT)	https://www.library.gov.au/discover/explore-by-format/sheet-music?page=1 The sheet music collection is the largest in Australian, and part of it is available online, providing a very useful resource. https://trove.nla.gov.au/search/category/music	The collection has many components, some including other archival material. I have accessed materials from the Symphony Australia collection (including manuscript scores from ABC Orchestras) which can be viewed onsite, also “Bob’s Cards,” an index on microfiche of all works and composers performed by all ABC orchestras.

Australian (by state):

New South Wales

Repository	Online access	Loans and other details
State Library of New South Wales (Mitchell Library)	https://collection.sl.nsw.gov.au/search – sechr for music in the catalogue, including items available digitally.	Archival material including sheet music (published and manuscript) relating to Australian heritage women composers, especially those with celebrity connections.

New South Wales Museum of History – Caroline Simpson	https://archive.org/details/slm-sheet-music-and-manuscripts Items can be viewed digitally.	Domestic music collections, including the Dowling Songbook (source for <i>Currency Lasses</i>), not all of Australian origin.
University of Technology, Sydney	Phyllis Campbell archive – unavailable online, though a collection listing can be obtained.	Includes music manuscripts, other writing and biographical information.
Band Association of New South Wales library of sheet music	Full library catalogue available online - https://bandnsw.com/library-sheet-music/	Loans available to member bands only.

Queensland

Repository	Online access	Loans and other details
State Library of Queensland	https://www.slq.qld.gov.au/collections/information-collections/music Some items are digitised for online viewing.	Collection focuses on bands, including historical information, photographs and a comprehensive card index. Sheet music includes full sets from the library of the Brisbane Military Band 1896-1946 including music by (overseas) women composers.

South Australia

Repository	Online access	Loans and other details
State Library of South Australia	https://music.collections.slsa.sa.gov.au/ A small collection of online sheet music and recordings.	Some archival material relating to Ruby Davy here, also some in the Adelaide University library.

Tasmania

Repository	Online access	Loans and other details
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Tasmanian State Library and Archives	https://librariestas.ent.sirsidynix.net.au/client/en_AU/tas/search Detailed listings in the online catalogue.	Some historic sheet music including bound collections, useful references on the history of banding in the state.
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Victoria

Repository	Online access	Loans and other details
State Library of Victoria	https://findingaids.slv.vic.gov.au/repositories/3/archival_objects/ Detailed finding aids for sheet music from the Australian Manuscripts Collection are accessible online.	Sheet music does not include band music sets, but does have full scores to some ensemble works, and an extensive collection of vocal and piano music available for perusal onsite.
Grainger Museum, University of Melbourne ⁵	https://storeroom.its.unimelb.edu.au/umc/granger?page=collection-areas some objects can be viewed online, others can be requested for viewing on site.	Sheet music and other archival material relating to Australian composers including Katharine (Kitty) Parker, Florence Maud Ewart, Elsa Marshall-Hall
Monash University	Archival material is currently being digitized, so some items are available.	Archival materials concerning composers including Esther Rofe

Western Australia

Repository	Online access	Loans and other details
State Library of Western Australia	https://catalogue.slwa.wa.gov.au/search~S2 catalogue can be searched online, e.g. "band music."	Holds a music collection including some band music, but mostly late 20 th and 21 st century. The library holds some accounts of early music-making, but it is difficult to find material about composers as the collection focuses largely on land ownership and family history.

⁵ See Georgina Binns. *Women composers: a guide to resources in the Grainger Museum*, University of Melbourne, 1989.

Further reading

Patricia Hammond. 2020. *She wrote the songs; unsung women of sheet music*. Scarborough: Valley Press.

Rachel Howley. "Pursuing diversity from the podium: Insights from Australia for wind band conductors and educators on achieving gender parity for women composers." *International Journal of Music Education* 2021, Vol. 39(2) 247–259; AND *The changemaker conductor: Exploring the role of the conductor in achieving gender equality for Australian women composers of wind band music*. DMA dissertation, 2023, Griffith University, Queensland. DOI: [10.1177/0255761420928627](https://doi.org/10.1177/0255761420928627)

Stephen Pleskun. *A chronological history of Australian composers and their compositions 1901-2020* Vol.1 1901-1920. 2nd edition. Ebook. 2021. <https://www.scribd.com/book/524436575/A-Chronological-History-of-Australian-Composers-and-Their-Compositions-1901-2020-Volume-1-1901-1920>

(The series covers 20-year periods up to 2020. This is the 2nd edition of volume 1, which has been expanded to include composers of band music, including Alexander Frame Lithgow, Thomas E. Bulch and Charles Trussell, recognizing that they were some of the most prolific and popular composers of their time.)

Graeme Skinner. "A bibliography of Australian colonial music part 1: to 1900," AustralHarmony (an online resource toward the early history of music in colonial Australia):

<http://sydney.edu.au/paradisec/australharmony/bibliography-1900-php> AND

"A chronological register of British military bands and bandsmen in Australia 1788 -1870", Australharmony (an online resource toward the early history of music in colonial Australia):

<https://sydney.edu.au/paradisec/australharmony/register-british-military-bands-in-australia.php>

Diversity resources

...And We Were Heard - hosts recordings of music by underrepresented composers. <https://www.andwewereheard.org/>

ColourFULL Music – includes program examples to suit a range of levels. <https://www.colourfullmusic.com/>

Institute for Composer Diversity, State University of New York at Fredonia. <https://www.composerdiversity.com/>