

## **Kevin Cameron**

Kevin Cameron is an acclaimed Australian conductor and music educator. He is in demand as an adjudicator and guest conductor throughout Australia.

He received his initial musical training at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, and has studied music in London, Perth, the United States, and finally Newcastle, where he was the first recipient of the award of Doctor of Philosophy in Music at the University of Newcastle.

Dr Cameron has studied conducting with the eminent American composer/conductor Edward Applebaum, the Italian maestro Gian Luigi Gelmetti, and the world-renowned conducting teacher Gustav Meier. Dr Cameron has appeared with the Sydney, Tasmanian, West Australian, and Darwin Symphony Orchestras, the State Orchestra of Victoria, the Auckland Philharmonia, the National Orchestra of Ukraine, and many youth and community orchestras across Australia. In 1994, he was the inaugural winner of the ABC's *Young Conductor of the Year* competition, and has subsequently held numerous musical posts, including Assistant Conductor of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, ABC Conductor in Residence, and Music Director positions at Murdoch University, Newcastle University Choir, the Band of the South Australia Police, and the University of Newcastle Symphony Orchestra. During his time in Newcastle, Dr Cameron served as the founding Artistic Director of the Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music.

As an educator, Dr Cameron has held teaching posts in a variety of primary, secondary, and tertiary institutions. He has recently concluded his term as Director of Music at Pembroke School, where he also served as Music Director of the Pembroke Chamber Singers and the Pembroke Symphony Orchestra. He continues to pursue active research and performing interests, and currently serves as President of the National Band Council of Australia and the South Australian Band Association.

Constantly in demand as an adjudicator, Dr Cameron has officiated at contests and competitions in all Australian states and territories. In recent years he has adjudicated at Royal South Street, the Australian National Eisteddfod, State Band Championships in NSW, South Australia and Western Australia, the Tanunda Contest, and many country eisteddfodau. In 2010, Dr Cameron served on the jury for the Thailand International Wind Ensemble Competition, and this year will adjudicate sections at the Australian National Band Championships and the Sydney International Music Festival.

Dr Cameron has received acknowledgement for his work in community music and music education. In 1998, he was named the City of Newcastle's *Young Citizen of the Year* in recognition of his contribution to the artistic and cultural life of the Hunter region. In South Australia, he was named the SA Band Association's *Music Director of the Year* in 2003, and in 2006 was the recipient of the prestigious SABA Award of Merit. More recently, he was selected by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade to participate in the Australian-Malaysia Institute's *Young Leaders Exchange Program* from a national field of nominees. In 2008, Dr Cameron received the National Band Council's *25 Year Service Medal* for his distinguished involvement in community banding.

Dr Cameron is currently Head of Music at Unity College, Murray Bridge. He is also Music Director of the Unley Concert Band, South Australia's most successful community concert band. Dr Cameron maintains a passion for music and education, and continues to assist the development of musicians through his involvement in professional and community music ensembles as a conductor, coach, adjudicator, advisor, artistic administrator, and teacher.

## PRESS OPINIONS

*“But the conductor who appealed as the one most likely to stamp his personality on the music he directed was Kevin Cameron, who gave an assured, expansive account of the Brahms symphony”*  
Melbourne Age

*“authoritatively conducted”*  
Arizona Republic

*“an exquisite performance of the Mother Goose Suite by Ravel, with Kevin Cameron conducting, which far excelled the one which the orchestra gave under a famous overseas conductor a few months ago.”*

Hobart Mercury

*“excellently played by the TSO under Cameron’s sensitive and detailed direction.”*  
The Australian

*“The first section (Walton’s Henry V Suite) was particularly meaningful, with Cameron coaxing from his forces emphatic martial rhythms and loud brassy fanfares which set the pulse racing.”*  
The West Australian

*“Mr Cameron is a striking and commanding figure on the podium. He leads with authority and is clearly in tune with the composer’s intentions and the player’s and singer’s capacity to rise to those demands.”*

The Newcastle Herald

*“a most memorable and inspiring concert.”*  
The Newcastle Herald

*“The conductor Kevin Cameron gained the respect of the players in the rehearsals and as a result, produced a scintillating showcase of orchestral colour and dynamics in the performance.”*  
Charles Darwin University News