

Graeme Koehne's Biography

Graeme Koehne
(b. 1956, Adelaide, South Australia)

For anyone who believes that the great tradition of classical music must re-connect with a sense of contemporary vitality, the music of Graeme Koehne attracts avid interest and attention. In his best works, Koehne achieves that elusive synthesis of sophisticated compositional technique, informed by a deep understanding of musical history, and a popular touch that invests his music with emotional eloquence, visceral appeal and aural pleasure.

Through the advocacy of some of today's most exciting international musicians such as the conductors Vladimir Jurowski and Kristjan Järvi, Koehne's music is becoming a regular presence on the international stage. His compositions have long been among the most popular by any Australian composer, and find a regular presence in the established repertoire of Australian music.

Graeme Koehne has served on several occasions on the Australia Council, the Australian Government's arts funding advisory body, and from 2002 to 2009 was Chair of the Australia Council Music Board and a member of the Australia Council. He has served in various advisory capacities for the South Australian Government, and in 1998-99 was South Australia's Composer-in-Residence. He was awarded a Doctorate of Music from the University of Adelaide in 2002 and in 2004 received the Sir Bernard Heinze Award from the University of Melbourne.

James Koehne
2010

