

MEDIA RELEASE

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Local talent will be warm-up act at Queensland Symphony Orchestra free concert

Gladstone residents will be able to show support for local performers when they feature in the leadup to this year's free Queensland Symphony Orchestra concert at the GPC Marina Parklands.

The concert, on Friday July 27, will have pre-show entertainment from 5.30pm including the Meraki Circus Performers, the Paganini String Quartet, Life Art Drawing, Veils of Arabia, Irish Dancing and more.

Gladstone Region Mayor Matt Burnett said *Symphony Under the Stars - Dance Around the World* was a free community event presented by the Gladstone Regional Council in partnership with the Queensland Symphony Orchestra and Australia Pacific LNG.

"Queensland Symphony Orchestra is one of the state's largest performing arts companies and plays a key role in bringing quality musical entertainment and education to regional centres like Gladstone.

"Previous events have attracted strong, diverse crowds and I'm sure that response will be repeated this year," Councillor Burnett said.

A highlight will be the performance on-stage of a group of Gladstone teachers and students who will be joining with the Orchestra to perform *Danzón No.2* by Arturo Marquez.

Music by composers such as Johann Strauss Jr., Igor Stravinsky, Astor Piazzolla and Antonín Dvořák will be played reflecting the theme 'Dance Around the World'.

The concert will be under the baton of Music Director Alondra de la Parra and will feature an oboe solo from Huw Jones who joined the Orchestra as Principal Oboe in 2013.

De la Parra's visit to Gladstone will be her first visit to a regional Queensland centre.

It is sure to be a memorable night at the Marina's main stage where people will be encouraged to bring chairs or a blanket and enjoy food and drinks from on-site vendors.