

THE STAGE SHOW →

FULL EPISODE

'I didn't know any better' — How David Lang redefined opera

Broadcast Mon 21 Aug 2023 at 8:00pm



David Lang's *The Little Match Girl Passion* will soon be performed by Sydney Philharmonia Choirs. (Supplied: Peter Serling)

To break the mould of traditional opera, composer [David Lang](#) takes us to unexpected places. He has written [an opera that is too quiet to hear](#), [an opera for 1000 singers performed over a one-mile stretch](#) and in *The Little Match Girl Passion* he substitutes the suffering of Jesus with the suffering of the young girl dying in the cold in Hans Christian Andersen's famous fairy tale. [The Little Match Girl Passion](#) will soon be performed by [Sydney Philharmonia Choirs](#).

This story was originally broadcast on October 13, 2020.

Choreographer Stephanie Lake gets dancers to perform with a kind of joy and discipline which would hold the attention — and the wonder — of anyone. Since forming [Stephanie Lake Company](#), she has become one of Australia's most exciting and popular choreographers. Her acclaimed work [Manifesto](#), which features nine dancers performing alongside nine drummers, will soon have [a return season at Arts Centre Melbourne](#).

This story was originally broadcast on October 25, 2022.

Credits

- [Michael Cathcart, Presenter](#)
- [Kim Jirik, Producer](#)
- [Carey Dell, Sound Engineer](#)
- [Rhiannon Brown, Executive Producer](#)

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