

**2023 LADY CROSS OPEN PIANOFORTE CONCERTO COMPETITION
ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF HOBART EISTEDDFOD SOCIETY INC**

REMARKS BY

**HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA**

GOVERNMENT HOUSE, 6.00 PM MONDAY 29 MAY 2023

[VICE-REGAL SALUTE IS PLAYED]

Good evening everyone, please be seated.

I pay my respects to the traditional and original owners of this land: the palawa people. I acknowledge the contemporary Tasmanian Aboriginal community and recognise their enduring culture and connection to land, sea and waters.

May I acknowledge among us here tonight:

- Francis Cronin, President of the Hobart Eisteddfod Society,
- Frances Underwood, Vice Patron
- Helen Cronin, Secretary, and
- the very accomplished Alexy Yemtsov, tonight's Adjudicator

May I also warmly welcome all the competition participants, and their families and friends.

I shall be brief, as we have a full program awaiting us with four sessions and a diverse range of participants. May I congratulate all performers from the outset and we all look forward to your performances.

This is the 73rd year of the Hobart Eisteddfod. This is an established community event that has provided the opportunity for participants to perform publicly in a nurturing environment since 1950. ¹

The value of competing in an Eisteddfod such as this is the confidence, competence, poise, self-esteem and artistic skills gained by the performers through both practice and feedback. This Eisteddfod also gives performers

¹ <https://www.hobarteisteddfod.com/about-us>

opportunities to receive critiques of their skills by accomplished and highly qualified Adjudicators.²

May I note that tonight's Adjudicator, Mr Alexy Yemstov, is highly qualified with performances with the Sydney, Melbourne, Queensland, Western Australian, and Tasmanian Symphony Orchestras. Alexy has also performed internationally to high acclaim in Ukraine, Italy, New Zealand, and Canada.³ I am sure that all tonight's participants are certainly in good hands!

It is also the case that these Eisteddfods would not be possible if it were not for the dedicated volunteers. They all work very hard for many hours organising, planning, and scheduling to ensure that these events are held each year. Your efforts are acknowledged. I speak for us all in saying we are all very grateful.

May I take this opportunity to acknowledge the parents and teachers who support all our young performers in their efforts to learn and grow as pianists.

Finally, may I wish every one of the participants performing here tonight my very best.

Thank you. David ...

² <https://www.eisteddfod.org.au/about-us>

³ <https://www.hobarteisteddfod.com/2023-adjudicators>