

**The Andalus Arabic Choir** (AAC) reflects the vibrant, creative, multicultural and tolerant era of Andalusia. We aim through our artistic and creative vision, to connect with the Australian society by introducing fascinating music, rhythms and songs put to life in enchanting performances, and by interacting with people in the same way music interacts with our soul. We also look forward to enrich and collaborate with other types of world music and explore new territories while keeping true to our heritage music and promoting it.

**Conductor:** Ghada Daher-Elmowy

**Choristers:** Amal Obeid, Aya Raad, Amedea Khoury, Antony Khoury, Carine Khoury, Danielle Dona, Dhiya Mehdi, Dr Fethi Rabhi, Ghassan Zakkour, Jack Bettar, Karima Mezoughem, Lilian Khoury, Lina Mehdi, Maia Khoury, Mary Hanoun-Khilla, Mireille Azizi, Nauha Dabboussy, Paul Marsh, Samira Ghebar, Saad Barazi, Sarkis Elcheik, Shahla Al Alwan, Tariq Mustafa, Wafa Khoury, Yaçine Rabhi, Yvette Wassaf, Yolla Eassey, Zorana Milesovic.

**Musical Director:** Dr. Noel Elmowy

**Musicians:** Catherine Azzi (cello); Charbel Azzi (oud); Christopher Soulos (bass); James Tawadros (req); Mohamed Lelo (qanun); Mustafa Al Tayar (violin); Phillip Elmowy (drums); Samir Ghossoub (percussion); Stuart Vandegraaf (wind).

**Stage Manager:** Leila El Khoury; **Sound:** Seymour Centre

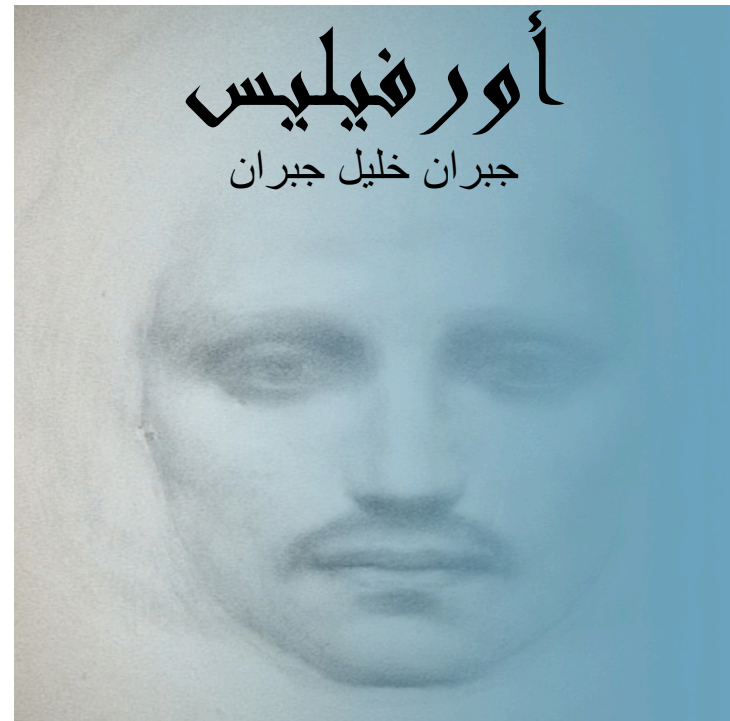
**Video:** Gervais Koffi; **Photography:** Chris Poulos, Dr Faiq Issa

**Artwork:** Kahlil Gibran (original), Ghada Daher-Elmowy

**Thank you for your support:**

**The Discipline of Arabic Language & Cultures, The University of Sydney; Murex Media; El Telegraph Newspaper; Anoujoum Magazine; SBS Arabic, and all our volunteers**

**f:** facebook.com/andalusarabicchoir **w:** andalusarabicchoir.com



The Andalus Arabic Choir  
concert

# Orphalese

## Kahlil Gibran

Centenary of "The Prophet"

Friday 8 December 2023  
Seymour Centre, Everest Theatre  
Supported by

Arabic Language & Cultures Discipline



# Programme

Song title, Composers: lyrics, music; Year

## Set 1

**Ya bani Oummi** – Kahlil Gibran 1933; Zaki Nassif 1981  
(Instrumental excerpt – Tribute to Kahlil Gibran)

**N.B.:** There will be readings from *The Prophet* in between songs

**Edna elta'ayna** – Andalusian; Elias Rahbani, 1996;  
*We met again our long-loved friends, we remember old times music.*

**Is'al marra alayya** – Ali Sawahji; Sayyed Makawi; 1969  
*I gave you my heart. Ask about me, even once in while.*

**Jari Hamouda** – Ali Wardah; 1940  
*Hamouda my neighbour, tell me what to do, you're a source of light and comfort.*

**'Al nadda** – Assi & Mansour Rahbani; 1969  
*Ô Nadda with rosy cheeks, if they don't let you marry me  
I will shake the highest mountains.*

**Nashid el hub** – Kahlil Gibran 1933; Joseph Khalifeh 1980  
*Let me tell you, I lived for love! I came for all, God is for all!*

**Beddi Shufak** – Shafik El Moghrabi; Mohamed Jamal; 1993  
*I'd love to see you daily my darling, please greet me day and night!*

**Al Mahabba** – Kahlil Gibran 1923; Assi & Mansour Rahbani 1972.  
*Almustafa, the chosen and the beloved, who was a dawn unto his own day, was waiting for his ship in Orphalese to take him back to the isle of his birth.  
Before embarking, he was asked to share his wisdom on big questions of life: love, marriage, children, beauty, giving, death ...*

## Set 2

**Ahla be hattaleh** – Zaki Nassif; 1972  
*You are welcome my beloved, seeing your beautiful eyes freshened my day.*

**Helwa ya baladi** – Marwan Saadeh; Jeff barnel, Bernard Liamis & Gilbert Sinoué; 1979  
*A word or two on my beautiful homeland! Fond memories on loved ones and picturesque places.*

**Sakana al layl** – Kahlil Gibran 1927; M. Abde el Wahab; 1961  
*A peaceful night where our dreams are hidden, the full moon is a witness of our lovely times together, my beloved!*

**Jadaka al ghaythu** – Andalusian; Lisan el Din ibn el Khatib 1313-1374; Assi & Mansour Rahbani 1960  
*May God shower you with His blessings. I remember our time together in Andalusia. Our love was like a dream in a delicious slumber.*

**Aatini al nay** – Kahlil Gibran 1918; Najib Hankash 1966  
*Bring the Nay (flute) and sing for me, singing is forevermore!  
And the nay's whine will echo, even after we are gone!*

**Diggu el mahabij** – Assi & Mansour Rahbani 1972  
*Hit the percussion, turn the wind South and call for my beloved.*

Accurate rather than literal translation to English was followed.