

AUSTRALIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION



Head Office

28 June, 1989

Mr. Tim Matthies,
Secretary,
39th Intersivity Choral Festival,
P.O. Box 32
Holme Building,
University of Sydney 2006

To Whom it May Concern

In 1986 I had discussions with members of the Intersivity Choral Festival Committee inviting the Intersivity Choirs to become, along with members of the Sydney Philharmonia Choirs, a combined chorus which would perform in Symphony No. 8 of Gustav Mahler. The boys from the Choir of St. Mary's Cathedral and Newington College also took part; over five hundred choristers were involved. The two performances were scheduled for August 1988 with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra conducted by Maestro Charles Dutoit. The ABC Concert Music Division saw these performances in the spirit of an ABC cultural contribution to the Bi-centennial year which involved University choristers Australia wide.

John Grundy, the Musical Director of the Sydney Philharmonia Choirs took preliminary rehearsals with the combined choirs resulting in a large ensemble which was well-prepared for the final rehearsals with Maestro Dutoit. Both of the performances with the SSO were unforgettable, a choral sound which will be remembered for many years to come.

A continued association between the ABC orchestras and the Intersivity Choirs is to be encouraged, especially in projects which require large choral forces.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Neil McEwan'.

Neil McEwan
Program and Planning Officer 1988
A/Special Projects Officer