

Sam Weller was born in Sydney, NSW and is a current student at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music studying a Bachelor of Performance majoring in Saxophone under Dr Michael Duke. Sam is a member of the Luxum Saxophone Quartet who toured to Italy in 2017 as part of the Estivo scholarship. Sam began conducting in 10th grade at Newtown High School of the Performing Arts and made his debut as a conductor that same year with his school's orchestra upon the stage of the Sydney Opera House Concert Hall in an exchange performance between Sydney and Beijing. Since then, Sam was appointed the inaugural Sydney Youth Orchestra Conducting Fellow and was a participant in the 2018 *Australian Conducting Academy* with the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra. In July 2018, Sam travelled to the Czech Republic to participate in the *Zlin International Conducting Masterclass* with the Martinu Philharmonic Orchestra. In September this year Sam will assist Brett Weymark in Sydney Philharmonia Choirs production of Leonard Bernstein's *Candide*. In 2016 Sam founded Ensemble Apex, an orchestra based at the Sydney Conservatorium hailed as '*one of the most exciting new ensembles on the Sydney scene*' (Limelight Magazine). The ensemble is dedicated to diversifying classical music's audience and all though still young has performed many classical and contemporary concerts including engagements with guest musicians from the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, a ballet in Sydney Town Hall and performing with grammy award winning artist Lorde.