

## John Keene – Biography

John Keene is the founder and Music Director of The Orchestra Collective, a training orchestra that provides aspiring student musicians the opportunity to perform alongside professional musicians. He is also the Associate Principal Double Bass of the West Australian Symphony Orchestra, a position he has held since 2019.

John has received tutelage under conductors such as Eduardo Diazmuñoz, Richard Gill, John Lynch, Marcelo Lehninger, Giordano Bellencampi, Johannes Fritzsich, and Luke Dollman. In 2016-2017, John managed and was Music Director of ensemble nouveau, an orchestral project bringing together students and semi-professional performers and composers. He was also selected to be a part of the Symphony Services International Conducting Course in 2016, and as a result participated in conducting masterclasses with several Australian and New Zealand Symphony Orchestras. He conducted the Fremantle Chamber Orchestra and directed a program with the Scholars of St. Georges College at the University of Western Australia in 2021.

As a double bass player, John became the youngest player ever to be awarded the Sydney Symphony Orchestra Fellowship in 2015 and was awarded the Fellowship again in 2016. In the following year, he became an Emerging Artist with the Australian Chamber Orchestra, touring regionally with the ACO Collective as Principal Double Bass. John won the Sydney Conservatorium of Music String Concerto Competition in 2015 whilst studying there under Alex Henery and was a finalist in the 2016 and 2017 Great Romantics Competition in Melbourne. In 2018, he played as Associate Principal Double Bass with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra and on contract with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra as Tutti Double Bass. John debuted as a double bass soloist with Cygnus Arioso in 2020 and the Fremantle Chamber Orchestra in 2021, and frequently performs double bass recitals in Perth.