



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

20 February, 2009

### **Tutti Ensemble presents “*The Shouting Fence*” at the 2009 Adelaide Fringe Festival In collaboration with State Opera**

The Australian Premiere of ***The Shouting Fence*** is a cantata for youth and community choirs and professional singers. Written by Richard Chew and Orlando Gough, this work was first presented at the South Bank in London in 1998 and has since been performed many times throughout the UK and the Netherlands.

***The Shouting Fence*** is about real events in the village of Majdal Shams on the Israeli-Syrian border, which was divided by a fence after the 1967 war, and where the separated occupants shouted news to each other across the divide. Every Friday evening they were allowed to gather on either side of the fence to converse. To hear each other they communicated across fifty metres of no-man’s land.

The themes of separation and loss provide a creative focus for communities to explore the issues from the point of view of the villagers themselves. The score devised for a libretto was constructed from letters, messages and poems written by the people involved in the conflict.

Two large groups of youth and community singers, led by small groups of professional singers and accompanied by oil drums swap stories of sorrow, persecution and hope. By turns raucous and lyrical, energetic and poignant, ***The Shouting Fence*** compels its audience to become a part of the musical community of the performers.

Now a key producer with the Australia Council for the Arts and one of Australia’s leading community arts organisations, Tutti has staged sell-out concerts and original musical theatre works both in Australia and overseas. Its performances have featured in both the Adelaide Festival of Arts and the Adelaide Fringe Festival.

The organisation’s artistic success recently saw Tutti win top honours in the Australian Music in Communities Awards. As the judges said:

*“Tutti is a kind of under-the-radar national treasure, using music making and performance opportunities to break down barriers. It is radical social inclusion and artistic excellence combined – a truly tremendous mix!”*

Available for interview: Richard Chew, Composer/Music Director; Pat Rix, Tutti Artistic Director, individual singers/performers

## **MEDIA CONTACT**

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### ***The Shouting Fence***

The Opera Studios

216 Marion Rd Netley 5037

March 19 ,20, 26, 27 at 7pm

March 21 and 28 at 2pm and 6pm

March 22 at 2pm

Tickets from Fringetix 1300 374 643 or [www.adelaidefringe.com.au](http://www.adelaidefringe.com.au)