

# ANIMALIA

## Animalia 2008 - a night of surprises, glorious music and animal treats aplenty

**T**he Great Hall was transformed and guests were spellbound when Simon Tedeschi filled the room with glorious music. The internationally renowned pianist headlined the entertainment at Animalia on the 14th November. Simon was supported by young soprano, Simone Easthope.

**T**he more than 200 guests could have been excused for thinking they were in a Harry Potter movie when Soren, the wedge tail eagle soared overhead. Soren, with a wing span of two metres, made several passes around the Great Hall drawing gasps from the diners.

**W**ith auction items ranging from incredible luxury and travel, big boys toys, pampering for pets and people, to art and literature, there was something for everybody and every budget.

**A**nimalia 2008 provided a feast for the senses as well as fine food and wine, in one of Sydney's most unique settings.

**W**e'd like to say thank you for your support. For those of you who were not able to join us this year - watch out for the date for 2009 as tickets are sure to go quickly!

### A Record Result

Thanks to the support of our Event Sponsors, Auction Donors and dinner guests, Animalia 2008 has raised more than \$100,000 for the first time!

Bidding was brisk in both the live and silent auctions for the fabulous array of items including a glorious 5.7 carat Emerald Ring and Qantas A380 international business class return tickets. Auctioneer Steve Austin achieved a great result, with \$39,000 raised on these two items alone!

The funds raised at Animalia support the health and welfare of animals of all kinds, and the Faculty's work in science, research and education.

#### Our Event Sponsors



#### Our Major Prize Sponsors

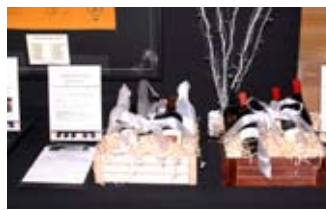
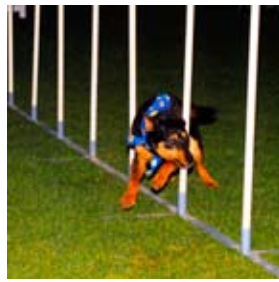


It was great fun, it had style, and some unusual treats for the 200 guests at Animalia 2008.

The event was held in the beautiful Great Hall at Sydney University on Friday 14 November, 2008.

On arrival, along with champagne and canapés, guests were greeted with an exhilarating display of canine agility on the Quadrangle lawns. The KraMar team, led by Steve Austin, provided a fast moving spectacle that was made even more enjoyable by the sheer fun obviously being had by the canine participants.

VSF Treasurer James Balfour (pictured left) had his arm 'twisted' to assist Steve in a demonstration with his attack trained Rottweiler – and James in turn twisted the arms of guests to support the fundraising efforts for the evening.



An emerald, Qantas A380 business class and red hot Ferrari experiences, helicopter rides and a dinner party for 12 - with culinary creations prepared by the Veterinary Science Faculty's own Emeritus Chef, Gareth Evans - were knocked down to the highest bidders in the live auction by Auctioneer Steve Austin.

Mc Richard Wilkins promoted the Silent Auction throughout the evening resulting in spirited bidding.

A holiday at Vatulele Island Resort in Fiji worth US\$ 7,500 was purchased as a Christmas gift for a lucky guest.

Luxury accommodation in New York and London at the Mandarin Oriental, a week long Port Douglas indulgence, lunch for 6 at Rockpool, dinner with the Dean and Pro Dean at Beppi's, Moschino from Posh Boutique, Payot Skincare, goodies to pamper pets, treasured reds from private cellars, and sporting memorabilia were just some of the fabulous items on sale.

## Magical Musical Moments

Animalia kept up its tradition of providing fine music, with feature artist Simon Tedeschi casting his spell over the room in a magical display on the Grand Piano.



Guests were also entertained by a young soprano with a glorious voice. Simone Easthope, accompanied by Ben van Tienen opened the show with a selection of animal themed songs.



Vice Chancellor Dr Michael Spence, VSF President Deborah McMurtrie, Dean of the Faculty Professor Leo Jeffcott, Simon Tedeschi, Ben Van Tienen and Simone Easthope

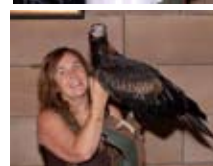
We are grateful to our many supporters. Very special thanks go to Steve Austin in conjunction with KraMar and Pet Resorts Australia; Cascade; Coca Cola Amatil; European Catering; Fine Wine Partners; Rose at Ralph's Cafe at the Vet; Roma Gaster; Podium; and our fabulous staff and student volunteers. Thanks also to Bayer, Provet and KraMar.

### Prize Sponsors

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Toot

## Some of Soren's New Friends



1. Richard Wilkins 2. Professor Ken Johnson & Jaynie Symon 3. Dr Jennie Churchill & Steve Austin 4. VET Committee Chair Chrissie Jephcott 5. VSF Student Volunteer



Chrissie Jephcott (Chair)  
Cathryn Borghetti (Treasurer)  
Jennifer Ahearne  
Susan Hamilton  
Deborah Lee  
Georgina Trout