

ACO

ACO Australian Chamber Orchestra

2021





A HYBRID SEASON

LIVE AND DIGITAL IN 2021

We've always seen ourselves as musical adventurers. An orchestra that pushes the limits of performance into new and exciting realms. In 2021 we're presenting an ambitious season with more music than ever before: a radiant series of live performances alongside a digital subscription of cinematic and immersive concert films – ACO StudioCasts.

Please enjoy exploring our 2021 Season. We hope you'll join us for what promises to be our most exhilarating adventure yet.

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THANK YOU

WELCOME TO ACO 2021

“New day tomorrow. Humankind won’t be the same”. These lyrics are from a piece I penned in 2012 called *Beyond*. Little did I know back then, just how much those words would resonate in the harsh reality of 2020. However, despite the challenges we have all faced, and will continue to face next year, I’m proud to announce one of our most ambitious and ground-breaking seasons to date.

For the first time in the ACO’s history we’re announcing a paid digital subscription: ACO StudioCasts. After almost a decade of film-making, a season of concert films feels like a natural evolution for us.

The classical concert format has remained static for centuries. While we can’t replicate the energy and atmosphere of live performances, we haven’t let go of our ambition to create new and transformative musical experiences. We hope our films will transform your expectations of what a concert can be.

To our Managing Director Richard Evans, my colleagues in the Orchestra, and the wider ACO administrative team: thanks a million. We’ve done a lot of things differently this year, and your support has been second to none.

And to you, our ACO family: thank you. We’re only in a position to share this season with you because of your support, generosity and faith in us.



Richard Tognetti – Artistic Director



JOIN OUR BRAVE NEW SEASON

You, our ACO family, have absolutely delighted us. In 2020, you have shown us how much you care about the ACO and carried us through this crisis. We could not have launched this season without your support and your loyalty means the world to us.

In 2020 we celebrated 30 years of being led, on and off the stage, by Richard Tognetti. Whilst it wasn't the anniversary year we had planned, in some ways it marked the culmination of 30 years of experimentation and innovation perfectly. Richard's unlimited energy and relentless bravery have enabled us to come out of the crisis with even more vitality and creativity than before.

This year we are announcing our very first digital subscription, ACO StudioCasts – a season of intimate, cinematic and immersive concert films that will bring you a new and musically invigorating experience in true ACO style. Alongside each film will be a host of premium content to enrich your understanding and appreciation of the music, and the ACO.

Whilst we are saddened by the necessary reduction in our touring footprint in 2021, we are delighted to be able to announce performances in all our national venues. I hope you will join us for this bold and brave new season.



Richard Evans – Managing Director



ACO LIVE PERFORMANCES

● LIVE PERFORMANCES

We're presenting seven programs of live music in 2021 and each of our national venues will enjoy at least two of these programs. Whether you're attending two, or all seven, we encourage you to complement your live subscription with a digital subscription to ACO StudioCasts. You'll see the Orchestra and experience the music in a completely new and immersive way.

On sale now

Book Full-season Subscriptions, Flexi-subscriptions and single tickets at aco.com.au/2021

Add an ACO StudioCasts subscription to your live concert subscription and pay only \$149.

Visit aco.com.au/studiocasts



8 – 14 FEB

Tabula Rasa

– SYDNEY, WOLLONGONG

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18 – 28 MAR

Beethoven & Bridgetower

– NEWCASTLE, SYDNEY

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6 – 17 MAY

Schubert's Quintet

– CANBERRA, MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, WOLLONGONG

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19 – 30 JUN

Baroque Revelry

– MELBOURNE, SYDNEY

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NATIONAL CONCERTS IN 2021

You may notice a reduction in the number of tours and performances as we recover from the past year and brace ourselves for the future. Despite this necessary reduction in 2021, we are thrilled to be visiting all our national venues. Our live season opens with performances in Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong. Then, from May onward, we will present five programs in Melbourne, three in Canberra and two in Adelaide, Brisbane and Perth.



29 JUL – 10 AUG

River

—
BRISBANE, CANBERRA,
MELBOURNE, NEWCASTLE, SYDNEY

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26 AUG – 8 SEP

Music for Healing

—
ADELAIDE, MELBOURNE, NEWCASTLE,
PERTH, SYDNEY, WOLLONGONG

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13 – 24 NOV

The Four Seasons

—
ADELAIDE, BRISBANE, CANBERRA,
MELBOURNE, PERTH, SYDNEY

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ACO STUDIOCASTS

► STUDIOCASTS

Our inaugural digital subscription, ACO StudioCasts, features eight 50-minute concert films released on our new video streaming platform. The films premiere on the dates below and will be available to view on-demand on your smart TV, desktop, tablet or mobile device. Each film will be accompanied by premium content featuring Richard Tognetti, the Orchestra and special guests to enhance your understanding and appreciation of the music and the ACO.

On sale now

ACO StudioCasts subscriptions are on sale now. Enjoy all eight films and premium content for \$199.

Or add an ACO StudioCasts subscription to your live concert subscription and pay only \$149.

Visit aco.com.au/studiocasts



17 FEB PREMIERE

Rapture & Revolution

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31 MAR PREMIERE

Bach and the Beyond

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19 MAY PREMIERE

Love & Transfiguration

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7 JUL PREMIERE

Tchaikovsky's
Serenade

P.36

A NEW EXPERIENCE

ACO StudioCasts is a season of high quality, online concert films. Working with leading directors and cinematographers, we have created these films to enhance our live performance offering and to provide a moving and musically rewarding experience for those who can't get to our concerts. ACO StudioCasts are intimate, immersive and cinematic. These films don't seek to replace or replicate a live performance. They are a pioneering digital music experience. Visit acostudiocasts.com



18 AUG PREMIERE

Tabula Rasa

P.12



15 SEP PREMIERE

Schubert's Quintet

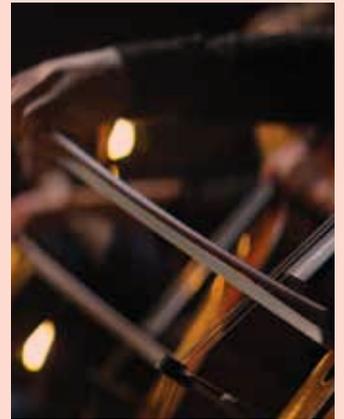
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3 NOV PREMIERE

Beethoven &
Bridgetower

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1 DEC PREMIERE

Baroque Revelry

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“Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your warm and generous support during this difficult year. From lockdown and our HomeCasts through to our very emotional first steps back onstage, you have been with us the whole way and given us the energy and the means to keep on playing. We can’t wait to share so much more music with you in 2021.”

Melissa Barnard – Cello



Tabula Rasa

MUSIC PREVAILS WITH ARVO PÄRT AND SHOSTAKOVICH

Joy and creativity can't be held down forever, especially when we can draw from music, art and each other to overcome hardship and start again. It is appropriate then that our 2021 Season begins with a reconnection to the first ACO program cancelled in the sudden 2020 shutdown.

Estonian Arvo Pärt is one of the most performed and influential living composers and his music serves as an antidote to modern times. Written while Estonia was under Soviet-control, his *Tabula Rasa* strives to break free and start afresh from a clean slate, achieving spirituality and independence.

As with *Tabula Rasa*, Wojciech Kilar's *Orawa*, written during Poland's long confinement behind the Iron Curtain, expresses the beauty of freedom and the natural world, while Shostakovich's Chamber Symphony in C minor is a lament for victims of fascism and war, but also an act of self-reflection. Moving through elegy and brutal force into acceptance and farewell, it reminds us once more that creativity, art and music do prevail.

PROGRAM

—
KILAR *Orawa*
ARVO PÄRT *Tabula Rasa*
PROKOFIEV *Sonata for Solo Violin in D major, Op.115* (performed by all the violinists in the ACO)
THOMAS ADÈS *Shanty** (World Premiere)
SHOSTAKOVICH (arr. Barshai) *Chamber Symphony in C minor, Op.110a*

*Commissioned by the Australian Chamber Orchestra, New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, Munich Chamber Orchestra, Amsterdam Sinfonietta, Swedish Chamber Orchestra, Kammerorchester Basel (with Gstaad Menuhin Festival) and Hong Kong Sinfonietta.

ARTISTS

—
Richard Tognetti – Director & Violin
Satu Vänskä – Violin
Australian Chamber Orchestra

DATES

—
Wollongong Town Hall
Mon 8 Feb 7.30pm

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Tue 9 Feb 8pm
Wed 10 Feb 7pm
Fri 12 Feb 1.30pm
Sat 13 Feb 7pm
Sun 14 Feb 2pm



ACO STUDIOCAST

—
ARVO PÄRT *Tabula Rasa*
SHOSTAKOVICH (arr. Barshai) *Chamber Symphony in C minor, Op.110a*

Premiere
Wed 18 Aug 8pm

On Demand
through to 31 Dec 2021

Special subscriber offer
Subscribe to the live season and purchase the full season of eight StudioCast films and associated content for \$149. Regular price \$199.

Visit aco.com.au/studiocasts

TOUR PARTNER





Beethoven & Bridgetower

DRAMA, PASSION AND RECLAIMING A BEETHOVEN MASTERPIECE

It's a passionate and sweepingly epic work, but there's also drama off stage in what is arguably Beethoven's most loved and performed violin sonata.

Known as *The Kreutzer* for its dedication to the violinist Rudolphe Kreutzer, lost in history is its original dedication to George Bridgetower, a far more accomplished violinist of West Indian descent and something of a kindred spirit to Beethoven. Bridgetower performed with the composer at the Sonata's premiere but they fell out spectacularly and his name was removed from the dedication.

But in this corner of the world he is not forgotten. In a dramatic collaboration with Belvoir Street Theatre soloist Richard Tognetti seeks to restore Bridgetower's rightful place in history.

It's no wonder such an intensely romantic piece not only inspired a fevered Tolstoy short story, but stirred Janáček's *Kreutzer Sonata* in response. From such passion, this program can't help but positively pulsate with dramatic feeling.

PROGRAM

JANÁČEK (arr. Tognetti) String Quartet
No.1 "Kreutzer Sonata"
BEETHOVEN (arr. Tognetti) Violin
Sonata in A major, Op.47 "Kreutzer"

ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti – Director & Violin
Australian Chamber Orchestra

DATES

Newcastle City Hall
Thu 18 Mar 7.30pm

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Tue 23 Mar 8pm
Wed 24 Mar 7pm
Fri 26 Mar 1.30pm
Sat 27 Mar 7pm
Sun 28 Mar 2pm



ACO STUDIOCAST

Premiere
Wed 3 Nov 8pm

On Demand
through to 31 Dec 2021

Special subscriber offer
Subscribe to the live season and purchase
the full season of eight StudioCast films
and associated content for \$149.
Regular price \$199.

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Schubert's Quintet

A BRILLIANT CONVERGENCE OF GRANDEUR AND INTIMACY

Awe and wonder. These are not uncommon responses to the works of Schubert and Beethoven, but their string quintets never fail to elicit such a reaction. We find grandeur in both of these monumental works of chamber music. Majesty and intimacy simultaneously.

Schubert's career was marked by admiration for Beethoven and his desire to match the heights achieved by his hero. In his "perfect" Quintet, possibly the best longform piece of chamber music ever written, he achieved that goal.

Composed in the final weeks of his far-too-short life, the writing is symphonic, alluding to far more harmonic colours and textures than had ever been thought possible for an ensemble of this size.

Featuring a star-studded ACO ensemble, this soulful journey through sadness, fear, contemplation and joy is the intimate and the grand brilliantly merged.

PROGRAM

BEETHOVEN String Quintet in C minor, Op.104
SCHUBERT String Quintet in C major, D.956

ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti – Violin
Helena Rathbone – Violin
Stefanie Farrands – Viola
Elizabeth Woolnough – Viola
Timo-Veikko Valve – Cello
Melissa Barnard – Cello

DATES

Wollongong Town Hall
Thu 6 May 7.30pm

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Sat 8 May 7pm
Sun 9 May 2pm
Tue 11 May 8pm
Wed 12 May 7pm

Canberra – Llewellyn Hall
Sat 15 May 8pm

Melbourne – Arts Centre Melbourne
Sun 16 May 2.30pm

Melbourne Recital Centre
Mon 17 May 7.30pm



ACO STUDIOCAST

SCHUBERT String Quintet in C major, D.956

Premiere
Wed 15 Sep 8pm

On Demand
through to 31 Dec 2021

Special subscriber offer
Subscribe to the live season and purchase the full season of eight StudioCast films and associated content for \$149. Regular price \$199.

Visit aco.com.au/studiocasts

TOUR PARTNER

JOHNSON
WINTER &
SLATTERY





Baroque Revelry

A SORDID MUSICAL ROMP THROUGH EUROPE

Nothing was modest or anodyne about Baroque Europe. This wasn't a neat and pretty world; it was ultra-vibrant. Its paintings and plays ribald and florid, its music pulsing with lives that could be sordid as much as sacred. In this exciting collaboration with Belvoir St Theatre we explore the music and the musicians who created this vibrant sound world.

Richard Tognetti directs an orchestra of ACO soloists, featuring music by Heinrich Biber, whom some have called the musical equivalent of Hieronymus Bosch, the trailblazer Barbara Strozzi and storyteller Francesca Caccini, and of course the devilish Tartini.

To fully appreciate this today requires a multi-sensory experience, an immersion that all but recreates the spirit of the Baroque. But be careful: the vividness of Baroque life may come as a shock to our 21st-century sensibilities!

PROGRAM

To include:
CACCINI Ciaccona
STROZZI Arie, Op.8 No.6 "Che si può fare"
CPE BACH Cello Concerto in A major, Wq.172
TARTINI (arr. Kreisler) Violin Sonata in G minor "The Devil's Trill"
GEMINIANI Concerto Grosso in D minor, H.143 "La folia"
BIBER Sonata rappresentativa

ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti – Director
Helena Rathbone – Violin
Satu Vänskä – Violin
Stefanie Farrands – Viola
Timo-Veikko Valve – Cello
Erin Helyard – Harpsichord
Australian Chamber Orchestra

DATES

Melbourne Recital Centre
Sat 19 Jun 7.30pm

Melbourne – Arts Centre Melbourne
Sun 20 Jun 2.30pm

Melbourne Recital Centre
Mon 21 Jun 7.30pm

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Sat 26 Jun 7pm
Sun 27 Jun 2pm
Tue 29 Jun 8pm
Wed 30 Jun 7pm



ACO STUDIOCAST

Premiere
Wed 1 Dec 8pm

On Demand
through to 31 Dec 2021

Special subscriber offer
Subscribe to the live season and purchase the full season of eight StudioCast films and associated content for \$149. Regular price \$199.

Visit aco.com.au/studiocasts



River

A MUSICAL AND CINEMATIC ODYSSEY FROM THE CREATIVE TEAM BEHIND MOUNTAIN

From director Jennifer Peedom comes this powerful collaboration created as a companion film to our record-breaking production, *Mountain*. *River* is another extraordinary tale of nature and humans as partners and adversaries. It will take audiences on an astonishing journey spanning six continents and drawing on extraordinary contemporary cinematography to show rivers on a scale, and from perspectives, never seen before.

With a musical score performed live and directed by Richard Tognetti, featuring his original music alongside Bach, Vivaldi, Ravel, Jonny Greenwood and a new collaboration with William Barton.

River is a reminder that it is never too late to ask ourselves: “are we being good ancestors?” The film examines pleasure, loss and the consequences of our actions, while all the while immersing us in the experience of body and water, of music and life.



PROGRAM

Featuring music by Bach, Vivaldi, Ravel, Jonny Greenwood, Richard Tognetti, and a collaboration with William Barton.

ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti – Musical Director & Lead Violin
William Barton – Vocalist
Nigel Jamieson – Staging Director
Australian Chamber Orchestra

Jo-anne McGowan, Jennifer Peedom, John Smithson – Producers
Jennifer Peedom – Director
Joseph Nizeti – Co-director
Lorelle Adamson – Co-producer
Robert Macfarlane – Writer

DATES

Newcastle City Hall
Thu 29 Jul 7.30pm

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Sat 31 Jul 7pm
Sun 1 Aug 2pm

Brisbane – QPAC Concert Hall
Mon 2 Aug 7pm

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Tue 3 Aug 8pm
Wed 4 Aug 7pm
Fri 6 Aug 1.30pm

Melbourne Recital Centre
Sat 7 Aug 7.30pm

Melbourne – Arts Centre Melbourne
Sun 8 Aug 2.30pm

Melbourne Recital Centre
Mon 9 Aug 7.30pm

Canberra – Llewellyn Hall
Tue 10 Aug 8pm

“Thank you, our dear audience, for supporting us during the most difficult time in our orchestra’s history. There were some dark times but we are all looking forward to welcoming you back to our concerts and can’t wait to perform this amazing season of music for you!”

Ilya Isakovich – Violin





Music for Healing

A MEDITATION ON WELLBEING

The meditative nature of music helps us repair and renew by heightening our awareness, invigorating our senses and revealing the truth of our feelings. That is at the heart of Pēteris Vasks' *Vox amoris* which is a journey through love and the full range of human expression.

Just as *Vox amoris* explores the depth of human experience, this concert examines our emotions and the fragility of mental health. Drawing from the experience of two friends dealing with difficult personal periods, Iain Grandage's *Black Dogs* confronts uncertainty and darkness, before building into an almost funk-like affirmation of survival. *Black Dogs* features guitarist Slava Grigoryan who will also perform Albéniz's famous *Asturias* in a special arrangement for guitar and string orchestra, while Pink Floyd's *Shine On You Crazy Diamond* returns us to the delicate balance between inner and outer health, and the trust in light emerging from darkness.

PROGRAM

HAAS (arr. Tognetti) String Quartet No.2, Op.7
 "From the Monkey Mountains": IV. A Wild Night
 FELDMAN Rothko Chapel: 5th Movement
 PINK FLOYD (arr. Tognetti) Shine On
 You Crazy Diamond
 ALBÉNIZ (arr. guitar & strings) Asturias (Leyenda)
 HAAS (arr. Tognetti) String Quartet No.2, Op.7
 "From the Monkey Mountains": III. The Moon and I
 ANNA THORVALDSDOTTIR Illumine
 IAIN GRANDAGE Black Dogs
 PĒTERIS VASKS Vox amoris

ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti – Director & Violin
 Slava Grigoryan – Guitar
 Australian Chamber Orchestra

DATES

Wollongong Town Hall
 Thu 26 Aug 7.30pm

Sydney – City Recital Hall
 Sat 28 Aug 7pm
 Sun 29 Aug 2pm
 Tue 31 Aug 8pm
 Wed 1 Sep 7pm

Newcastle City Hall
 Thu 2 Sep 7.30pm

Melbourne Recital Centre
 Sat 4 Sep 7.30pm

Melbourne – Arts Centre Melbourne
 Sun 5 Sep 2.30pm

Melbourne Recital Centre
 Mon 6 Sep 7.30pm

Adelaide Town Hall
 Tue 7 Sep 7.30pm

Perth Concert Hall
 Wed 8 Sep 7.30pm

TOUR PARTNER



MASERATI



The Four Seasons

A SENSORY EXPLORATION OF VIVALDI AND THE MIDDLE EAST

Each day that Vivaldi walked the streets or traversed the canals of Venice, a key port and global trade centre, it brought him into contact with a flurry of sounds, smells, languages and thoughts that were like no other in Europe.

From the Ottoman Empire and the vast depths of Arabic intellectual and cultural life, through to North Africa and what would become India, Venice was a community where design, food, religion and the arts didn't just mingle, they absorbed and integrated.

Vivaldi's much-loved bastion of western music, *The Four Seasons*, could only have emerged from this melting pot.

Interspersing Vivaldi's masterpiece with music from the masters of the oud and riq, Joseph and James Tawadros, will provide a living bridge of composition and performance that promises to excite and illuminate.

PROGRAM

VIVALDI The Four Seasons
Interspersed with music by Joseph Tawadros and Vivaldi's contemporaries.

ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti – Director & Violin
Joseph Tawadros – Oud
James Tawadros – Riq
Australian Chamber Orchestra

DATES

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Sat 13 Nov 7pm
Sun 14 Nov 2pm

Brisbane – QPAC Concert Hall
Mon 15 Nov 7pm

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Tue 16 Nov 8pm
Wed 17 Nov 7pm

Canberra – Llewellyn Hall
Sat 20 Nov 8pm

Melbourne – Arts Centre Melbourne
Sun 21 Nov 2.30pm
Mon 22 Nov 7.30pm

Adelaide Town Hall
Tue 23 Nov 7.30pm

Perth Concert Hall
Wed 24 Nov 7.30pm

TOUR PARTNER







Rapture & Revolution

BEAUTY AND EMOTIONAL TRANSCENDENCE WITH BEETHOVEN AND VAUGHAN WILLIAMS

Beauty can be revolutionary too, as this debut release in our inaugural season of concert films, ACO StudioCasts, will prove.

Filmed in the grand and expansive Centennial Hall at Sydney Town Hall, the film opens with Vaughan Williams's *The Lark Ascending*. Universally loved, it has long been a calling card for Richard Tognetti and a place for rapture in a pure sense.

There is a similar emotional impact in Beethoven's *Cavatina*, which may be one of the most moving pieces ever written. Indeed, so moved was Beethoven that it's said he finished it with tears falling onto his manuscript.

Emotions transcend time and so does Beethoven's *Grosse Fuge* which was perhaps too revolutionary for an early-19th-century audience. Now though, inspired by the intellectual drive within it, we celebrate the *Grosse Fuge* as another moment of beauty and rapture.

PROGRAM

—
VAUGHAN WILLIAMS (arr. Johnson)
The Lark Ascending
SCHUBERT (arr. Tognetti) Quartettsatz
in C minor, D.703
BEETHOVEN (arr. Tognetti) String Quartet
in B-flat major, Op.130: V. Cavatina
BEETHOVEN (arr. Tognetti) Grosse Fuge,
Op.133

ARTISTS

—
Richard Tognetti – Director & Violin
Australian Chamber Orchestra



ACO STUDIOCAST

—
Premiere
Wed 17 Feb 8pm

On Demand
through to 31 Dec 2021

Special subscriber offer
Subscribe to the live season and purchase the full season of eight StudioCast films and associated content for \$149. Regular price \$199.

Visit aco.com.au/studiocasts

“Throughout this year of unprecedented weirdness the love and support that we have received from the wider ACO family, our unflagging patrons, subscribers, donors and supporters, has been nothing short of jaw-dropping. How wonderful it is to know that the ACO has such a special place in so many hearts and lives.”

Julian Thompson – Cello

Julian Thompson – Cello + **Elizabeth Woolnough** – Viola



Bach and the Beyond

FINDING HOPE AND ACCEPTANCE IN A TROUBLED WORLD

At a time when we are all grappling with finding trust in this new world and hope for the future, it is astonishing how relevant Bach remains. This evocative and impassioned concert film pitches Bach's timeless search for redemption alongside compositions by Richard Tognetti, finding common ground.

Bach's *Ricercar* from *The Musical Offering*, with guest flautist Emmanuel Pahud, is a tumultuous six-part fugue tinged with personal anguish, while his *Erbarme dich* from the *St Matthew Passion*, yearns for comfort in a heart-rending cello solo by ACO Principal Timo-Veikko Valve.

There is a natural connection with excerpts from our 2012 film, *The Reef*, in particular *Beyond*, which was inspired by Tognetti seeing images of underwater swimmers seemingly caught in the "troubled peace" between life and death.

Lest the afterlife feel placid and safe, *Deviance*, Tognetti's re-imagining of Paganini's *Caprice No.24*, suggests the world beyond could be happily devilish too.

PROGRAM

BACH (arr. Tognetti) *The Musical Offering*, BWV1079: *Ricercar a 6*
BACH *St Matthew Passion*, BWV244: "Erbarme dich"
BACH (arr. Tognetti) *Partita for Solo Violin No.3 in E major*, BWV1006: I. *Preludio No.1 in G minor*, BWV1001: II. *Fuga*
DRAKE (arr. Tognetti) *River Man*
TOGNETTI *Beyond*
TOGNETTI *Bathymetry*
TOGNETTI *Transfiguration*
TOGNETTI *Heston*
TOGNETTI *Deviance* (on Paganini's *Caprice No.24*)

ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti – Director & Violin
Emmanuel Pahud – Flute
Satu Vänskä – Vocals
Timo-Veikko Valve – Cello
Jim Moginie – Guitar
Australian Chamber Orchestra



ACO STUDIOCAST

Matisse Ruby – Director
Tyson Perkins – Director of Photography

Premiere
Wed 31 Mar 8pm

On Demand
through to 31 Dec 2021

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Visit aco.com.au/studiocasts





Love & Transfiguration

WALKING TOWARDS THE LIGHT WITH PĒTERIS VASKS AND SCHOENBERG

How do light and joy come from what feels like our darkest moments? Maybe it is that love can transform, as this concert film does, from sombre hues and shadows to the warmth and radiance of new light and new day.

Vox amoris, written for Richard Tognetti in 2009, is an exquisitely beautiful and moving cinematic journey. Each time the force of feeling sweeps low, the violin's song to the glory of love emerges from the gentle murmur of the strings.

Such balancing of melancholy and light underpins the moral complexity in Schoenberg's *Verklärte Nacht*, but the resolution finds love as a redeemer. Even Bach's "Ich ruf zu dir", performed by Richard Tognetti and ACO Principals Stefanie Farrands, Timo-Veikko Valve and Maxime Bibeau, is a cry of yearning to be freed from earthly suffering that takes on a joyous aspect.

This is a film that will lift you out of daily life and into the light.

PROGRAM

BACH Chorale Prelude "Ich ruf zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ", BWV639
PĒTERIS VASKS *Vox amoris*
SIBELIUS *Kuolema*, Op.44: Scene VI
SCHOENBERG *Verklärte Nacht*, Op.4

ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti – Director & Violin
Stefanie Farrands – Viola
Timo-Veikko Valve – Cello
Maxime Bibeau – Double Bass
Australian Chamber Orchestra



ACO STUDIOCAST

Matisse Ruby – Director
Tyson Perkins – Director of Photography

Premiere
Wed 19 May 8pm

On Demand
through to 31 Dec 2021

Special subscriber offer
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Visit aco.com.au/studiocasts

Tchaikovsky's Serenade

AND MUSIC FROM THE HEART BY RAVEL, CRAWFORD SEEGER AND WALKER

Majestic and nation-defying music is no small feat, demanding spirit, nationalism and honour. However, music coming from one's core can ask something special too. Maybe at times even ask more, in the way George Walker's *Lyric for Strings* blends lamentation and lushness direct from the Pulitzer Prize-winning composer's emotional core.

It was a question of emotional core which played on the mind of Tchaikovsky when he wrote his *Serenade for Strings*, one of the most loved pieces for string orchestra. We hear Tchaikovsky reaching into his innermost feelings, his nostalgic adoration for Mozart, and the energy and influence of Russian folk music. Many said it was the best thing he had yet written.

This magical film celebrates composers who ask something special of themselves and write from the heart. The result is music that gives something truly special back to the world.

PROGRAM

CRAWFORD SEEGER Andante for Strings
WALKER Lyric for Strings
RAVEL (arr. Tognetti) Deux mélodies hébraïques
TCHAIKOVSKY Andante Cantabile for cello and strings
TCHAIKOVSKY Serenade for Strings, Op.48

ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti – Director & Violin
Timo-Veikko Valve – Cello
Australian Chamber Orchestra



ACO STUDIOCAST

Premiere
Wed 7 Jul 8pm

On Demand
through to 31 Dec 2021

Special subscriber offer
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Visit aco.com.au/studiocasts



THE MUSICIANS

Richard Tognetti

Artistic Director & Lead Violin

Richard plays the 1743 'Carrodus' Giuseppe Guarneri del Gesù violin kindly on loan from an anonymous Australian private benefactor. His Chair is sponsored by Wendy Edwards, Peter & Ruth McMullin, Louise Myer & Martyn Myer AO, Andrew & Andrea Roberts.

–

Helena Rathbone

Principal Violin

Helena plays a 1759 Giovanni Battista Guadagnini violin kindly on loan from the Commonwealth Bank Group. Her Chair is sponsored by Rod Cameron & Margaret Gibbs.

–

Satu Vänskä

Principal Violin

Satu plays the 1726 'Belgiorno' Stradivarius violin kindly on loan from Guido Belgiorno-Nettis AM & Michelle Belgiorno-Nettis. Her Chair is sponsored by David Thomas AM.

–

Aiko Goto

Violin

Aiko plays her own French violin by Jean-Baptiste Vuillaume. Her Chair is sponsored by Anthony & Sharon Lee Foundation.

–

Mark Ingwersen

Violin

Mark plays his own contemporary violin made by the American violin maker David Gusset in 1989. His Chair is sponsored by Prof Judyth Sachs & Julie Steiner.

–

Ilya Isakovich

Violin

Ilya plays his own 1600 Marcin Groblicz violin made in Poland. His Chair is sponsored by Meg Meldrum.

–

Liisa Pallandi

Violin

Liisa plays her own Elina Kaljunen violin made in 2019. Her Chair is sponsored by The Melbourne Medical Syndicate.

–

Maja Savnik

Violin

Maja plays the 1714 'ex-Isolde Menges' Giuseppe Guarneri filius Andreae violin kindly on loan from the ACO Instrument Fund. Her Chair is sponsored by Alenka Tindale.

–

Ike See

Violin

Ike plays a 1590 Brothers Amati violin kindly on loan from the ACO Instrument Fund. His Chair is sponsored by Ian Lansdown & Tricia Bell.

–

Stefanie Farrands

Principal Viola

Stefanie plays her own 2016 viola made by Ragnar Hayn in Berlin. Her Chair is sponsored by peckvonhartel architects.

–

Elizabeth Woolnough

Viola

Elizabeth plays her own 1968 Parisian viola by Pierre M. Audinot. Her Chair is sponsored by Philip Bacon AM.

–

Timo-Veikko Valve

Principal Cello

Tipi plays a 1616 Brothers Amati cello kindly on loan from the ACO Instrument Fund.

–

Melissa Barnard

Cello

Melissa plays a cello by Jean-Baptiste Vuillaume made in 1846. Her Chair is sponsored by Dr & Mrs J Wenderoth.

–

Julian Thompson

Cello

Julian plays a 1729 Giuseppe Guarneri filius Andreae cello with elements of the instrument crafted by his son, Giuseppe Guarneri del Gesù, kindly donated to the ACO by the late Peter Weiss AO. His Chair is sponsored by the Grist & Stewart families.

–

Maxime Bibeau

Principal Bass

Max plays a late-16th-century Gasparo da Salò bass kindly on loan from a private Australian benefactor. His Chair is sponsored by Darin Cooper Foundation.

–

Guest Timpani Chair

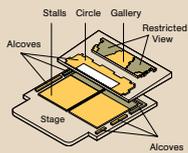
Brian Nixon

Sponsored by Robert Albert AO & Libby Albert.

–



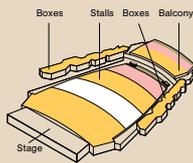
● LIVE PERFORMANCE



**Adelaide
Town Hall**

Music for Healing
TUE 7 Sep 7.30pm
—

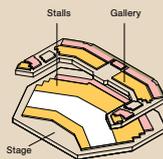
The Four Seasons
TUE 23 Nov 7.30pm
—



**Brisbane
QPAC Concert
Hall**

River
MON 2 Aug 7pm
—

The Four Seasons
MON 15 Nov 7pm
—

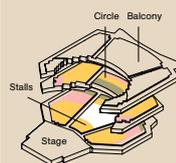


**Canberra
Llewellyn Hall**

Schubert's Quintet
SAT 15 May 8pm
—

River
TUE 10 Aug 8pm
—

The Four Seasons
SAT 20 Nov 8pm
—



**Melbourne
Arts Centre
Melbourne**

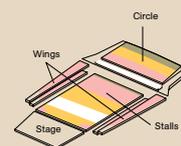
Schubert's Quintet
SUN 16 May 2.30pm
—

Baroque Revelry
SUN 20 Jun 2.30pm
—

River
SUN 8 Aug 2.30pm
—

Music for Healing
SUN 5 Sep 2.30pm
—

The Four Seasons
SUN 21 Nov 2.30pm
MON 22 Nov 7.30pm
—



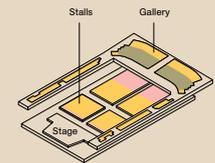
**Melbourne
Recital Centre**

Schubert's Quintet
MON 17 May 7.30pm
—

Baroque Revelry
SAT 19 Jun 7.30pm
MON 21 Jun 7.30pm
—

River
SAT 7 Aug 7.30pm
MON 9 Aug 7.30pm
—

Music for Healing
SAT 4 Sep 7.30pm
MON 6 Sep 7.30pm
—



**Newcastle
City Hall**

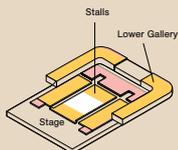
Beethoven &
Bridgetower
THU 18 Mar 7.30pm
—

River
THU 29 Jul 7.30pm
—

Music for Healing
THU 2 Sep 7.30pm
—

- Premium
- A Reserve
- B Reserve
- C Reserve

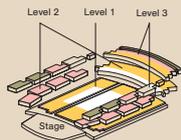
Note: These venue maps indicate 2021 subscription season reserves and are subject to change for single ticket sales.



Perth
Concert Hall

Music for Healing
WED 8 Sep 7.30pm
—

The Four Seasons
WED 24 Nov 7.30pm
—



Sydney
City Recital Hall

Tabula Rasa
TUE 9 Feb 8pm
WED 10 Feb 7pm
FRI 12 Feb 1.30pm
SAT 13 Feb 7pm
SUN 14 Feb 2pm
—

Beethoven & Bridgetower
TUE 23 Mar 8pm
WED 24 Mar 7pm
FRI 26 Mar 1.30pm
SAT 27 Mar 7pm
SUN 28 Mar 2pm
—

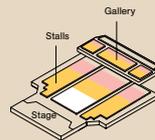
Schubert's Quintet
SAT 8 May 7pm
SUN 9 May 2pm
TUE 11 May 8pm
WED 12 May 7pm
—

Baroque Revelry
SAT 26 Jun 7pm
SUN 27 Jun 2pm
TUE 29 Jun 8pm
WED 30 Jun 7pm
—

River
SAT 31 Jul 7pm
SUN 1 Aug 2pm
TUE 3 Aug 8pm
WED 4 Aug 7pm
FRI 6 Aug 1.30pm
—

Music for Healing
SAT 28 Aug 7pm
SUN 29 Aug 2pm
TUE 31 Aug 8pm
WED 1 Sep 7pm
—

The Four Seasons
SAT 13 Nov 7pm
SUN 14 Nov 2pm
TUE 16 Nov 8pm
WED 17 Nov 7pm
—



Wollongong
Town Hall

Tabula Rasa
MON 8 Feb 7.30pm
—

Schubert's Quintet
THU 6 May 7.30pm
—

Music for Healing
THU 26 Aug 7.30pm
—

► **STUDIOCAST**

StudioCast
Premieres

Rapture & Revolution
WED 17 Feb 8pm
—

Bach and the Beyond
WED 31 Mar 8pm
—

Love & Transfiguration
WED 19 May 8pm
—

Tchaikovsky's Serenade
WED 7 Jul 8pm
—

Tabula Rasa
WED 18 Aug 8pm
—

Schubert's Quintet
WED 15 Sep 8pm
—

Beethoven & Bridgetower
WED 3 Nov 8.00pm
—

Baroque Revelry
WED 1 Dec 8pm
—

TICKETS & BOOKING INFORMATION



BOOK YOUR 2021 SEASON

Online →

at aco.com.au/2021

By phone →

on 1800 444 444 (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm AEST)

Mail →

to PO Box R21 Royal Exchange NSW 1225

In person →

at Opera Quays, 2 East Circular Quay Sydney 2000

Live Season:

Full-season Subscriptions, Flexi-subscriptions and single tickets are now on sale.

- Save up to 60% with a Full-season Subscription
- Save up to 40% with a Flexi-subscription in Sydney and Melbourne
- Single tickets start from just \$49.

ACO StudioCasts:

Digital subscriptions are now on sale.

- Subscribe to our live season and pay \$149 for your ACO StudioCasts subscription
- Or book our special early-bird subscription rate of \$199. Offer ends 17 Feb 2021
- The Season opens on 17 February 2021. As a subscriber you can access all eight films and associated content on-demand from the premiere date of each film through to 31 December 2021.

Seating and Subscriptions

- Depending on which state you reside in, the venue we perform in may not be operating at 100% capacity due to social distancing requirements. If that is the case, we will not be able to renew your current subscription seats. Bookings will be taken by reserve only and the ACO will allocate seats within each reserve in line with social distancing requirements.
- Tickets will be issued and posted out to you in early 2021, well before the first concert in your package.
- Subscribers will continue to enjoy priority seating and be seated first by ACO staff.
- Payment instalments are also available to Full-season Subscribers.

Students and Under 30s

We offer discounted tickets to full-time students and those under 30 to help keep our performances accessible to the next generation of musicians and music lovers.

- Live performance tickets start from just \$20.
- Save 50% with an ACO StudioCasts subscription for \$99.

Email through proof of your full-time student status/age to boxoffice@aco.com.au after you book online so your order can be processed. See aco.com.au for full details.

Refunds and Exchanges

To ensure the health and safety of audiences, musicians and staff, we have updated our refund and exchange policy. If you are unable to attend your performance due to illness or contact with a suspected or confirmed COVID-19 case or hotspot, ticket exchange options or credits are available. Please visit our website for more details.

Our 2021 Season is different from previous years. If you have any questions about the season, your seats, how to book or anything at all, please do not hesitate to give our Box Office a call. Our friendly staff are here to help you.

WHY SUBSCRIBE?



01 The Best Seats

Subscribers enjoy priority seating. If possible, subscribers will retain their favourite seats when they renew. If the venue needs to adhere to socially distanced seating, then the ACO will seat subscribers first in the best available seats within each reserve.

02 The Best Price

Subscribers save up to 60% off the cost of single tickets and receive a 10% discount off additional tickets. Live season subscribers can also purchase an ACO StudioCasts subscription at the special rate of \$149.

03 Flexibility

Now more than ever we understand that life can be unpredictable. We offer free exchanges so you can swap your tickets for another concert in the season. Or if you're unwell and cannot attend another performance, we will issue you with a credit.

04 Be in the Know

When you subscribe we'll keep you up to date on all things ACO. Our subscriber eNewsletter includes exclusive content, advance notice of new concerts, updates on subscriber benefits and more.

05 Exclusive Offers

Subscribers have access to a host of special offers:

- Discounts with our arts and entertainment partners.
- Dining and accommodation offers.

A full list of benefits can be found at aco.com.au/benefits

06 Payment Plans

Full-season Subscribers have the option of paying by instalments – pay 50% to secure your seats and the remaining balance in January 2021.

07 Share Your Passion

Share your love of the ACO by purchasing a gift subscription. Introduce family and friends to a whole new world of music. A subscription to ACO StudioCasts also makes the perfect gift for loved ones overseas or those who can't get to our live concerts.

08 Support the ACO

Last but not least, by subscribing to the ACO you're investing in our future. We couldn't be more grateful for your support. Your faith motivates us to continue creating enriching and transformative musical experiences.

2021 SEASON FAQs

● LIVE PERFORMANCE



Q. Can I still buy a subscription?

A. Yes. There may be fewer concerts in your package but you can still purchase a subscription.

Q. Can I choose my own seats?

A. In some cities, yes, but not in all. Depending on the current COVID-19 health policies of your state, seating within venues may, or may not, be socially distanced. If it is socially distanced, then the ACO will allocate your seats. If seating is not socially distanced, and the venue is operating at 100% capacity, then you will be able to choose your own seat. Check our website for the latest information.

Q. Can I renew my subscription seats?

A. If your venue is operating at 100% capacity then yes. If your venue is operating with socially distanced seating then you won't be able to renew your subscription seats. We will reseat you for 2021 and freeze your current seats so you can go back to them in 2022.

Q. When will I receive my tickets?

A. If you renewed your existing seats then your tickets will be mailed out in December-January. If you were seated by the ACO due to social distancing requirements then your tickets will be mailed out in early 2021, well before the first concert in your package.

Q. Do I have to wear a mask to concerts?

A. Although not mandatory, face masks are highly recommended in line with health advice from state governments. Please check our website for information before each performance where we will update our recommendation according to the latest health advice.

Q. Do subscribers get priority seating?

A. Yes. Full-season Subscribers will be allocated their seats first, followed by Flexi-subscribers.

Q. Am I eligible for a concession?

A. Concession-priced tickets are available to current holders of means-tested Australian pensions (Aged, Disability, Veteran's Affairs, Supporting Parent).

Q. I have a credit on my account. How can I use it?

A. You can use your existing credit towards any ACO purchase, including live performances and StudioCasts subscriptions. Credits can only be redeemed by emailing boxoffice@aco.com.au or by calling our Box Office on 1800 444 444.

Q. Will my credit expire?

A. Credit amounts generated from cancelled performances do not expire. We will continue to hold onto your credit until you decide what you would like to do.

Q. Can I purchase accessible seating?

A. If you would like to book wheelchair or accessible seating spaces, please call the Box Office on 1800 444 444.

Q. Can I pay for my tickets in instalments?

A. Yes. Full-season Subscribers have the option to pay in instalments – pay 50% to secure your booking and pay the remaining balance in late January 2021.

Q. Can I purchase an ACO StudioCasts Subscription and a live performance Subscription?

A. Yes, you can purchase both a StudioCasts and live performance subscription, either online or over the phone.

04. Special Requirements

If you use a wheelchair or have any access seating requirements, please tell us here:

I have included photocopied proof to qualify for a discounted price:

- Under 30 proof of age
- Full-time Student card, Centrelink Pension card, Veterans' Affairs Pensioner card, Health Care card or Commonwealth Seniors Health Care card

05. Payment

Subscription package(s) total					\$
Booking fee*					\$ 7.50
I would like to make a tax-deductible donation to support the ACO	<input type="radio"/> No, thank you	<input type="radio"/> \$50	<input type="radio"/> Other		\$
TOTAL PAYMENT					\$

* Mandatory booking fee of \$7.50 applies.

06. How to Pay

- Cheque or money order payable to 'Australian Chamber Orchestra Pty Ltd'
- Charge my credit card for the full amount
- Charge my credit card for 50% now with the remaining balance automatically deducted from the same credit card in late Jan 2021*
- American Express Mastercard Visa Diners

Cardholder's name

Card number

Expiry date

/

Signature

Date

* Please ensure card is valid through to January 2021.

07. Submit Your Subscription

Website aco.com.au

Post ACO Subscriptions, PO Box R21, Royal Exchange, NSW 1225

Phone 1800 444 444 (Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm)

2021 SEASON FAQs

► STUDIOCASTS

Q. What is included in an ACO StudioCasts Subscription?

- 1) Eight brand-new, 50-min ACO StudioCast concert films released from February to December 2021.
- 2) A library of exclusive premium content including interviews with Richard Tognetti and special guests, featurettes profiling our musicians and their instruments, short performances, behind the scenes insights and much more.

Q. How often can I watch an ACO StudioCast film?

- A. Full-season subscribers are entitled to watch all ACO StudioCast concert films and accompanying content as many times as they wish from the premiere date through to 31 Dec 2021.

Q. Can I purchase just one StudioCast?

- A. Yes. Single films will become available to purchase on Wed 13 Jan 2021. You will have access to the film and all associated content for seven days from the premiere date. You can watch the film and content extras as many times as you wish during this access period.

Q. How much is an ACO StudioCasts subscription?

- Special ACO live season subscriber rate: \$149
- Early-bird rate for a 2021 subscription: \$199 (valid only on purchases made before 17 Feb 2021)
- Standard subscription: \$229

- Student and Under 30s subscription: \$99
- Single StudioCast film: \$35 per film (available from Wed 13 Jan 2021)

Q. How do I purchase a subscription to ACO StudioCasts?

- A. ACO StudioCasts Subscriptions are available to purchase online. Visit acostudiocasts.com and follow the prompts to purchase using your credit card or PayPal account. You will receive an email after completing your purchase with simple next steps to set up your account and access your subscription.

- A. Subscriptions may also be purchased over the phone by calling the ACO Box Office on 1800 444 444.

Q. Can I redeem my existing ACO account credits, or an existing ACO giftcard, to purchase an ACO StudioCasts subscription?

- A. Yes. To do so, call the ACO Box Office on 1800 444 444.

Q. What are the benefits of subscribing early to ACO StudioCasts?

- A. Add an ACO StudioCasts subscription when you purchase your live season subscription and pay \$149. Or subscribe before Wed 17 Feb 2021 and access a special early-bird rate of \$199 per subscription. This price increases to \$229 for subscriptions purchased from Wed 17 Feb 2021.

Q. What proof of eligibility is required for students and under-30s ACO StudioCasts pricing?

- A. Please email through your proof of age or full-time student status to boxoffice@aco.com.au after you book online so your order can be processed and your ACO StudioCasts access enabled. Please allow up to two business days for this.

Q. When are ACO StudioCasts broadcast?

- A. ACO StudioCasts will broadcast from February to December, 2021. Premiere dates are listed on the Season Overview on page 40. Once a concert has premiered, Full-season subscribers may enjoy the film alongside an accompanying library of content on demand as many times as they wish through to 31 Dec 2021.

Q. Can I watch ACO StudioCasts on my television via airplay, mirroring or Chromecast?

- A. Yes. It is possible to airplay, mirror and Chromecast ACO StudioCasts to most models of television that are WIFI enabled, or that have an HDMI port. Instructions are available at acostudiocasts.com under the 'Streaming' menu.

Q. Can I purchase an ACO StudioCasts Subscription as a gift for someone else?

- A. Yes. You may purchase ACO StudioCasts gift subscriptions by calling the ACO Box Office on 1800 444 444.



YOUR SUPPORT

DONATE TO THE ACO

We have been overwhelmed by the generosity and commitment you have shown us during this very difficult year. It is thanks to you that we are in a position to announce a national season in 2021. Close to five thousand of you donated the value of your cancelled tickets back to the Orchestra or made donations this year. Two thousand of you donated to the Orchestra for the first time.

You have supported us through what we hope was the worst of it, but 2021 remains a major challenge. Please consider adding a donation to your subscription this year and help the ACO keep doing what we do best – making thrilling music for you to enjoy, whether it is live in concert or through our ACO StudioCasts and free ACO HomeCasts which you can enjoy from the comfort of your own home.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Online

aco.com.au/donate

Phone

02 8274 3803



ACO PARTNERS

We thank our Partners for their generous support.

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UNIVERSITY PARTNER



GOVERNMENT PARTNERS



NATIONAL TOUR PARTNER



MAJOR PARTNERS



SUPPORTING PARTNERS



peckvonthartel uyd



MEDIA PARTNER



TRUSTS AND FOUNDATIONS

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Holmes à Court Family Foundation
The Ross Trust
Patricia H Reid Endowment Pty Ltd



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Email. aco@aco.com.au

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 **Facebook** /AustralianChamberOrchestra

 **Instagram** @AustralianChamberOrchestra

 **Youtube** youtube.com/AustralianChamberOrchestra

 **Spotify** Australian Chamber Orchestra

CREDITS

ART DIRECTION AND DESIGN

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PHOTOGRAPHY

Stephen Ward

MUSICIANS WEAR

Country Road

ACO

2021