MEDIA RELEASE

Australian Chamber Orchestra

Actress and singer Rachael Beck joins the ACO for *Dear Santa*

A new ACO Families show

17–22 December
Pier 2/3, Walsh Bay Arts Precinct
Tickets $35* | Babes in arms free

This festive season beloved Australian actress and singer **Rachael Beck** will bring the spirit of Christmas to the stage as she joins forces with the world-renowned **Australian Chamber Orchestra** for ***Dear Santa***, a joyful production filled with wonder and magic for young children and their families.

Playing from 17–22 December at the ACO's harbourside home in Pier 2/3 in the Walsh Bay Arts Precinct, *Dear Santa* is written and directed by award-winning theatre director **Tim McGarry** and will have the whole family singing along to Christmas favourites including *Santa Claus is Comin' to Town*, *Here Comes Santa Claus* and *Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas* alongside brand-new music, arranged by composer **Jessica Wells**. Rachael Beck stars as Santa's Helper, as she helps Santa prepare his presents for children around the world, with the assistance of a string quartet and percussionist.

Centred around hilarious, moving and uplifting letters to Santa from children everywhere, the show includes a special message from Santa for these young audiences. And following the show, children will be invited to write their own letter to Santa and post it in his special Pier 2/3 mailbox.

Media Contact
For interview requests, images, media tickets or further information, please contact:

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GOVERNMENT PARTNERS

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Australian Chamber Orchestra is supported by the NSW Government through Create NSW.

Rachael Beck

Rachael Beck is a multi-faceted, award winning powerhouse whose talents span both stage and screen as an acclaimed vocal artist and actress.

Rachael recently played the Good Witch in *The Wizard of Oz* Perth for Hama productions. Before this Rachael toured her solo show *This Girl* through South Australia and Victoria, starred alongside Todd McKenney as Charity Barnum in *Barnum*, *The Circus Musical* as well as appearing in Alex Lykos's film *Me and My Left Brain* playing the lead role of Vivian. She starred in the new production *Becoming Bill* which opened in Brisbane and also made her directing debut with *The Producers* in Canberra.

Earlier theatrical highlights include Truly Scrumptious in the national tour of *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*; Sally Bowles in IMG's *Cabaret*, directed by Sam Mendes; Kathy Selden in *Singin' in the Rain* directed by David Atkins, (which earned her a Mo Award nomination) and Maria in The Gordon/ Frost Organization/SEL production of *The Sound of Music*. She is widely remembered for her award-winning role as Belle opposite Hugh Jackman in *Beauty and the Beast*.

Rachael appeared as Lisa Parker in *Home & Away* and other screen credits include *City Homicide*, *Stingers*, *Mercury*, *The Feds*, *This Man This Woman*, *GP* and *Flying Doctors*.

Dear Santa

17–22 Dec
Pier 2/3, Walsh Bay Arts Precinct
Tickets $35* | Babes in arms free

Recommended for children aged 2–8 and their families

Performances are approximately 25–30 minutes, followed by an interactive "meet the musicians" session.

Tour dates

Sat 17 Dec, 10:30am & 12:00pm
Sun 18 Dec, 10.30am & 12.00pm
Mon 19 Dec, 10.30am & 12.00pm
Tue 20 Dec, 10.30am & 12.00pm
Wed 21 Dec, 10.30am & 12.00pm
Thu 22 Dec, 10.30am & 12.00pm

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