

Australian Chamber Orchestra Announces **ACO TOTAL IMMERSION FESTIVAL**

27-29 OCTOBER

ACO Pier 2/3, Walsh Bay Arts Precinct



This October the Australian Chamber Orchestra invites audiences to sit amongst the musicians and experience live music like never before.

ACO Total Immersion is an intimate and exclusive performance event that allows audiences to experience the visceral connection between musicians on stage and feel the music as they do.

Created in collaboration with leading international festival producer **Nigel Jamieson** (*The Crowd & I, Gallipoli*), *ACO Total Immersion* will see an exclusive group of just 50 audience members per show weave their way through the ACO's award-winning home at Pier 2/3. Here they will explore three different and immersive performance experiences featuring the musicians of the ACO and vocalists from **The Song Company** as they perform evocative and transcendent music from across the centuries.

Audience members will be guided through the ACO's three state-of-the-art spaces – **The Neilson, The Studio** and the **Belgiorno Room** – and seated on cushions amongst the musicians during three 20-minute performance experiences, allowing them to hear and feel this visceral music up close. Seated amongst the musicians, they will hear the intake of breath as a performer begins a new phrase, see the eye contact between the principal players, and feel the palpable connection between the group, all the while surrounded by music from all sides in the spectacular setting of ACO Pier 2/3.

Eight 70-minute *ACO Total Immersion* events will run over two days at ACO Pier 2/3, with just fifty tickets available per event.

Media Contact

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

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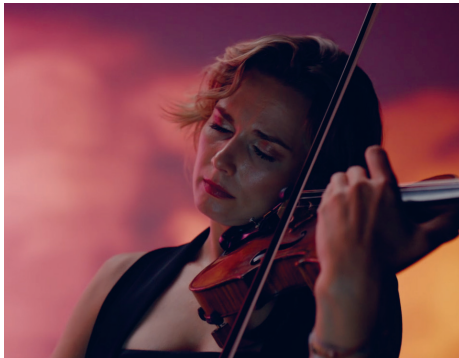
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“Ever since we moved into our new home at ACO Pier 2/3 last year, our minds have been racing with the new possibilities for experiencing music in these beautiful new spaces,” said ACO Director of Artistic Planning **Toby Chadd**.

“Total Immersion brings to life the ACO’s three spaces by reimagining what a “performance” can be, challenging the traditional concert format by collapsing the division between the musicians and audience. The Festival will reconceive how we hear and see live music, and it’s also a chance to see backstage areas usually off-limits.”

The weekend-long festival continues with **Sounds of Australia**, a collaboration with didgeridoo virtuoso **William Barton** that invites audiences of all ages to share in the unique sounds and stories of the country we call home. Directed by ACO Principal Violin **Helena Rathbone**, this interactive concert is suitable for younger audiences and their families, who, following the performance, are invited to enjoy a range of hands-on musical activities held throughout ACO Pier 2/3.

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ACO TOTAL IMMERSION

Friday 27 October

7pm, 7.45pm, 8.30pm

Saturday 28 October

4.15pm, 5pm, 7pm, 7.45pm, 8.30pm

Tickets: \$85

\$35 tickets for under 35s



SOUNDS OF AUSTRALIA

Sunday 29 October

11.15am, 12.15pm, 2pm

Tickets: \$35 for adults and children over 2 years (babes in arms free of charge)

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