

ACO 2024

ACO Australian Chamber Orchestra

RICHARD TOGNETTI • ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

NATIONAL
CONCERT SEASON



HOW DO
WE CONJURE
EXPERIENCES
THAT DEFINE US
AND INSPIRE
YOU?

WE SET
OUR HORIZONS
WIDER
THAN EVER
BEFORE.

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit ... A little test to see if you are reading this and to reassure you that this welcome has not been auto generated by ChatGPT.

The dramatic rise of AI is impacting our creative industries. We live in a time of verisimilitude – where much that appears to be real, in fact is not.

I feel incredibly fortunate to be working in possibly one of the last unscathed bastions of human endeavour. From centuries-old wooden instruments and gut strings, to the callouses we develop on our fingertips from hours of practising, the beauty and power of live music cannot be usurped by machines just yet.

So, we continue to celebrate *you*, our wonderful audiences, turning up to see real humans, performing real music, on real instruments, with real human emotions.

Richard Tognetti - Artistic Director



Our 2024 Season champions the ACO as an orchestra without limits. From trailblazing productions of grit and ambition to collaborations with great artists from across the globe and across the pier, 2024 sees the ACO forging its own path and taking you with us. And the spark at the heart of it all: Richard Tognetti and our band of elite musicians performing the most extraordinary music, on the most extraordinary instruments, as only they can.

Each time the Orchestra walks on stage, you've been there to greet us with renewed vigor and support. Long may it continue.

Welcome to ACO 2024.

Richard Evans - Managing Director

2024 S

Our 2024 Season embodies the very essence of the ACO: vibrant collaborations, old friends, new friends, and the Orchestra showcased in music from the celebrated classics to the sounds of tomorrow.

River

1-16 FEB

A cinematic odyssey exploring the waterways that have shaped our world, in all their majesty and fragility.

06



Beethoven's Emperor

9-24 MAR

Step into the concert hall of Beethoven's time in this joyful celebration directed by pianist Kristian Bezuidenhout.

08

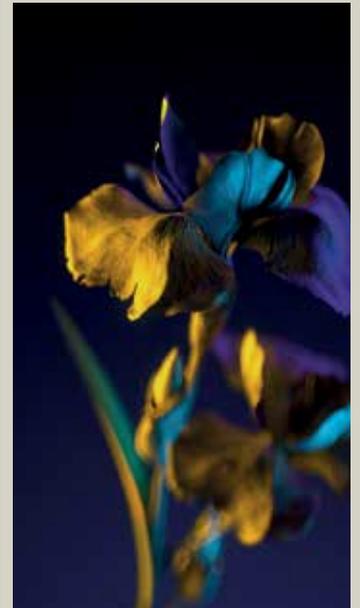


Mahler's Song of the Earth

12-26 MAY

Stuart Skelton and Catherine Carby star in this extraordinary encounter with Mahler's monumental song cycle.

10



BOOK YOUR 2024 SEASON

Online at aco.com.au

Phone 1800 444 444

EASON

Altstaedt Plays Haydn & Tchaikovsky

14–30 JUN

The world-renowned cellist and master storyteller makes his ACO debut as soloist and guest director.

12

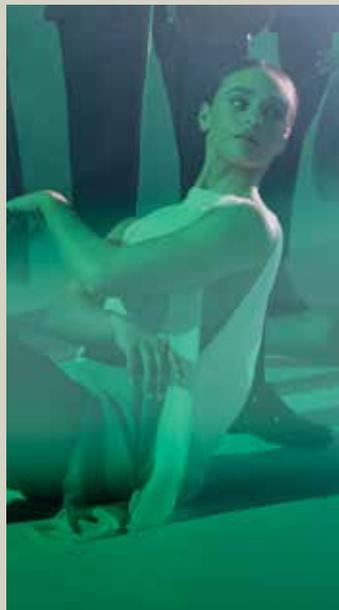


Silence & Rapture

2–19 AUG

An immersive collaboration with Sydney Dance Company featuring countertenor Iestyn Davies and the music of JS Bach and Arvo Pärt.

14



Tognetti. Mendelssohn. Bach.

5–23 SEP

Sparks fly and melodies soar when Richard Tognetti directs music close to the ACO's heart.

16



Scotland Unbound

7–20 NOV

Guitarist Sean Shibe makes his Australian debut in this inspired and thrilling season closer.

18



RIVER



A cinematic odyssey exploring the waterways that have shaped our world, in all their majesty and fragility.

For millions of years, rivers shaped landscapes and sustained communities. In flow, flood and drought, rivers gave life and carried it away. In two short centuries, humans have begun to re-shape rivers. We build dams upstream to sustain our cities. We alter flood plains and vary flows. Downstream, the changes can be catastrophic.

ACO Artistic Director Richard Tognetti and Director Jennifer Peedom follow their acclaimed *Mountain* with this cinematic exploration of the waterways that have shaped our world. On screen, the rivers flow in rhythm and harmony with music from outstanding composers. The result is an awe-inspiring combination of timeless music, captivating cinematography, and distinctive narration from Academy Award™ winner Willem Dafoe.

The score features iconic works by composers including Bach and Ravel, music by Jonny Greenwood and Radiohead, and new original music by Richard Tognetti and peerless Indigenous composer William Barton. The soundtrack won ARIA & AACTA awards. Performed live by Richard Tognetti and the ACO, alongside Jennifer Peedom's astonishing visuals, the effect is even more powerful.

River is a visceral experience that is both dream-like and urgent. At its one-off premiere performance in 2022, reviewers said – “*River does not request your attention. It demands your surrender.*” – SMH ★★★★★

PROGRAM

River: film live in concert, featuring music by Bach, Vivaldi, Mahler, Sibelius, Ravel, Thomas Adès, Pēteris Vasks, Richard Tognetti, Radiohead, Jonny Greenwood and William Barton.



ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti · Musical Director, Composer & Violin

William Barton · Composer, Vocals & Didgeridoo

Satu Vänskä · Vocals & Violin

Australian Chamber Orchestra

Jennifer Peedom · Writer & Director

Robert Macfarlane · Writer

Jo-anne McGowan, Jennifer Peedom,

John Smithson · Producers

Joseph Nizeti · Co-Writer & Co-Director

Yann Arthus-Bertrand, Ben Knight, Sherpas Cinema,

Renan Ozturk and Pete McBride · Principal Cinematography

Willem Dafoe · Narrator

Nigel Jamieson · Staging Director

Damien Cooper · Lighting Design

DATES

Newcastle City Hall

Thu 1 Feb 7.30pm

Melbourne Recital Centre

Sat 3 Feb 7.30pm

Mon 5 Feb 7.30pm

Melbourne · Arts Centre Melbourne

Sun 4 Feb 2.30pm

Canberra Theatre Centre

Wed 7 Feb 8pm

Sydney · City Recital Hall

Sat 10 Feb 7pm

Tue 13 Feb 8pm

Wed 14 Feb 7pm

Sydney Opera House

Sun 11 Feb 2pm

Brisbane · QPAC Concert Hall

Mon 12 Feb 7pm

Perth Concert Hall*

Fri 16 Feb 7.30pm

*Presented in association with Perth Festival.
Opposite: Still from *River*.

Step into the concert hall of Beethoven's time in this joyful celebration directed by pianist Kristian Bezuidenhout.

How do you find your way into the masterpieces of old? In this program, you'll travel through the forebears and heirs, and the influencers and influenced, so that you can stand alongside the lucky few who had their hair blown back by the magic of Beethoven's Emperor the very first time it was played.

Pianist Kristian Bezuidenhout returns to the ACO to direct this celebratory concert from the fortepiano, with Beethoven's most beloved work at its heart. A longtime friend of the ACO, Bezuidenhout has a special affinity for historical instruments. He relishes the challenge of their foibles and fickleness, coaxing out a sound the composer would have recognised. For a modern audience, it's an enlightening experience. Beethoven untamed.

Joining the ACO are wind and brass players from the world's leading period-instrument orchestras, handpicked by Bezuidenhout to recreate Beethoven's soundworld.

This is a joyful celebration of a great composer and the people he inspired. Hear music from Mozart – whom Beethoven revered; Schubert – the grieved admirer who carried his coffin; and, bringing Beethoven's legacy into the 21st century, Britta Byström – who composed her way through the silence of lockdown in a beautiful response to Beethoven.

Choose this program because you love Beethoven, but don't be surprised to find yourself hearing his music as though for the first time.

PROGRAM

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN Piano Concerto No.5 "Emperor"

LOUISE FARRENC Symphony No.3: I. Adagio – Allegro

FRANZ SCHUBERT Impromptu in B-flat major

FRANZ SCHUBERT Rosamunde: Entr'acte No.3

BRITTA BYSTRÖM A Walk to Beethoven's First Symphony (Australian Premiere)

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN (arr. Franz Liszt)

Symphony No.1 (excerpt)

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART Piano Concerto No.20:

III. Allegro assai (Cadenza by Beethoven)



ARTISTS

Kristian Bezuidenhout • Director & Fortepiano
Australian Chamber Orchestra

DATES

Wollongong Town Hall
Sat 9 Mar 7.30pm

Adelaide Town Hall
Tue 12 Mar 7.30pm

Perth Concert Hall
Wed 13 Mar 7.30pm

Melbourne Recital Centre
Sat 16 Mar 7.30pm
Mon 18 Mar 7.30pm

Melbourne • Arts Centre Melbourne
Sun 17 Mar 2.30pm

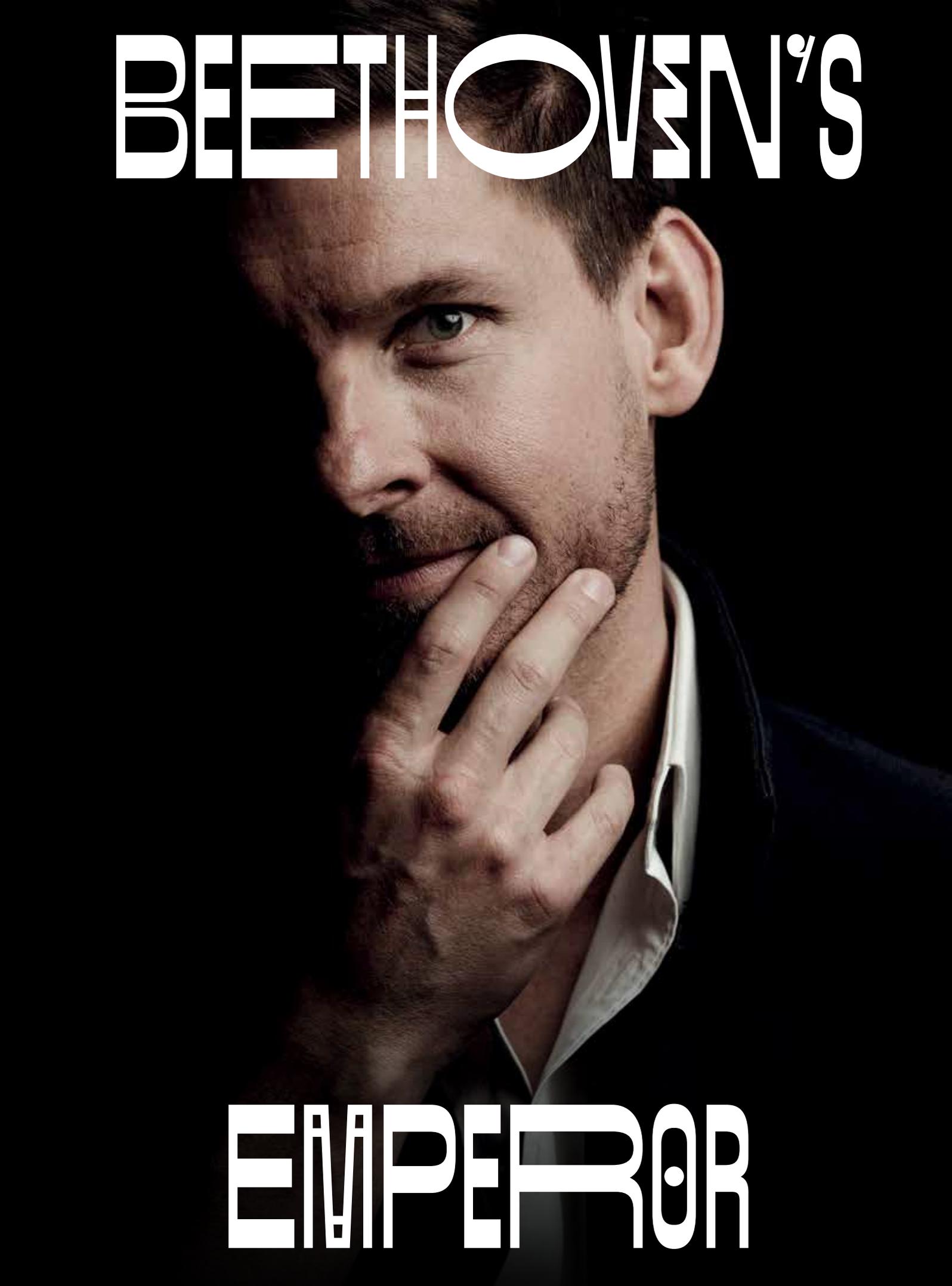
Sydney • City Recital Hall
Tue 19 Mar 8pm
Wed 20 Mar 7pm
Fri 22 Mar 7pm
Sat 23 Mar 7pm

Sydney Opera House
Sun 24 Mar 2pm

National Tour Partner



Wesfarmers Arts



BEETHOVEN'S

EMPEROR



MAHLER'S

SONG OF
THE EARTH

Stuart Skelton and Catherine Carby star in this extraordinary encounter with Mahler's monumental song cycle.

Standing face to face with death, Gustav Mahler did not cower from the abyss. He reached deep into his soul and conjured his final song cycle, *Das Lied von der Erde* (The Song of the Earth) – described by Leonard Bernstein as the greatest “symphony” of this master symphonist. It tells it all. The sweet bitterness of our brief lives. Darkness, light, cruelty, love, beauty and at last, catharsis.

Richard Tognetti directs this unusually intimate encounter with Mahler. Arnold Schoenberg, another titan composer of the 20th century, took Mahler's signature mighty sound and arranged it for chamber ensemble, carefully preserving the texture and impact of the original. The arrangement gives two soloists room to shine.

Joining Richard and the ACO is Stuart Skelton, one of the great tenors of our time. Commanding a voice of incredible power and passion, he sings the most demanding music ever written for the human voice. This is a rare chance to hear him on his home stage, alongside celebrated Australian mezzo-soprano Catherine Carby.

It is love that makes us grieve death, so balancing Mahler's powerful exploration of the human condition is the tender warmth of Wagner's *Siegfried Idyll* – a musical gift to his wife, and the songs of Alma Mahler-Werfel sung by Catherine Carby – exquisite expressions of love and beauty.

The ACO will be joined on stage by guest artists on percussion, mandolin, harmonium and an array of wind and brass instruments for a thrilling spectacle. When this program debuted at the Edinburgh Festival it received rave reviews and audiences were in raptures. “It was phenomenal... incredibly stimulating.” – *Herald Scotland*.

Give yourself over to this extraordinary music, as Mahler captures the very human struggle that unites us and, ultimately, the quiet ecstasy of acceptance that brings us inner peace.

PROGRAM

RICHARD WAGNER *Siegfried Idyll*

ALMA MAHLER-WERFEL (arr. David Matthews)

Laue Sommernacht; Die stille Stadt; Bei dir ist es traut
(World Premiere of new arrangements)*

GUSTAV MAHLER (arr. Arnold Schoenberg & Rainer Riehn)
Das Lied von der Erde

*Arrangements commissioned by the Australian Chamber Orchestra.



ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti · Director & Violin

Catherine Carby · Mezzo-Soprano

Stuart Skelton · Tenor

Australian Chamber Orchestra

DATES

Sydney Opera House

Sun 12 May 2pm

Melbourne Recital Centre

Mon 13 May 7.30pm

Wed 22 May 7.30pm

Sydney · City Recital Hall

Wed 15 May 7pm

Fri 17 May 8pm

Sat 18 May 7pm

Brisbane · QPAC Concert Hall

Mon 20 May 7pm

Canberra · Llewellyn Hall

Fri 24 May 8pm

Melbourne · Arts Centre Melbourne

Sun 26 May 2.30pm

The world-renowned cellist and master storyteller makes his ACO debut as soloist and guest director.



ARTISTS

Nicolas Altstaedt · Director & Cello
Australian Chamber Orchestra

DATES

Canberra · Llewellyn Hall
Fri 14 Jun 8pm

Brisbane · QPAC Concert Hall
Mon 17 Jun 7pm

Sydney · City Recital Hall
Tue 18 Jun 8pm
Thu 20 Jun 7pm
Sat 29 Jun 7pm

Newcastle City Hall
Fri 21 Jun 7.30pm

Melbourne · Arts Centre Melbourne
Sun 23 Jun 2.30pm
Mon 24 Jun 7.30pm

Adelaide Town Hall
Tue 25 Jun 7.30pm

Perth Concert Hall
Wed 26 Jun 7.30pm

Sydney Opera House
Sun 30 Jun 2pm

Opposite: Nicolas Altstaedt. Photography: Marco Borggreve.

When the cello sings, we hear something akin to the human voice: sensuous, rich, profound. When Nicolas Altstaedt holds the bow, the cello is all that and more, becoming a master storyteller.

It's been more than a decade since the young cellist burst onto the world stage as a BBC New Generation Artist, with his unruly curls, unorthodox concert attire and pure talent. Since then, he's piled up musical accolades from the stages of New York, London and beyond. Now is your chance to see his ACO debut as both director and soloist.

Haydn's Cello Concerto in C major is such an audience favourite, it's hard to believe it was nearly lost to history. Found in a Prague library just 60 years ago, the score reveals Haydn's gift for invention. For all his form and symmetry, Haydn was a visionary, breaking musical boundaries with each new work. Two centuries later, his influence is still felt in the music of 20th-century masters Xenakis and Kurtág.

Tchaikovsky's *Rococo Variations* hark back to the classical style of Haydn from a completely different musical world. These enchanting variations for cello and orchestra are by turns virtuosic and lyrical, and will be performed in a new arrangement for cello and strings.

The spirit and jubilation of Haydn is matched by the thrilling energy and wistful defiance of *Four Transylvanian Dances* by the Hungarian-born Sándor Veress. Written as an ode to a home he could never return to, they remind us that, for all its Classical elegance, Haydn's music was steeped in the same folk-infused Hungarian rhythms.

Altstaedt's debut will showcase the many voices of his cello along with the vitality and dynamism of the ACO. This promises to be a very special collaboration.

PROGRAM

JOSEPH HAYDN (arr. strings) Seven Last Words of Christ (selections)

GYÖRGY KURTÁG (arr. strings) Officium breve in memoriam Andrae Szervánszky (selections)

PYOTR ILYICH TCHAIKOVSKY (arr. strings) Rococo Variations

SÁNDOR VERESS Four Transylvanian Dances

IANNIS XENAKIS Aroua

JOSEPH HAYDN (arr. strings) Cello Concerto in C major

National Tour Partner



CUNARD



ALTSTAEDT
PLAYS

HAYDN &
TCHAIKOVSKY

SILENCE



& RAPTURS

A mesmerising collaboration with Sydney Dance Company featuring countertenor Iestyn Davies and the music of Johann Sebastian Bach and Arvo Pärt.

Composing three centuries apart, Johann Sebastian Bach and Arvo Pärt's timeless music speaks to the human soul. From rockstars and writers to artists and filmmakers, these composers are revered by music lovers across genres and generations. The last time the ACO performed their music together, it was a sell-out.

Richard Tognetti directs this mesmerising collaboration between the ACO and Sydney Dance Company that brings together music, movement and evocative lighting to create something truly extraordinary.

Expressing the luminous longing at the heart of this music is choreography from Rafael Bonachela, Artistic Director Sydney Dance Company, while Gramophone Award-winning countertenor Iestyn Davies, whose performances have been described as "a pleasure that verges on the sublime" (*The Guardian*) makes his Australian debut, bringing these stirring melodies to life.

Bach and Pärt's music is rooted in human experience while reaching towards the divine. This program traces a profound journey through three Gardens at the heart of the Biblical narrative they both hold so close: from the hope and temptation of the Garden of Eden to the tragedy and passion of the Garden of Gethsemane, ascending into the Garden of Heaven and, at last, the meditation of silence. Featuring Pärt's *Fratres* and selections from Bach's most loved cantatas, orchestral and solo music, this promises to be a season highlight and a deeply affirming experience.

PROGRAM

Prelude

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH Kanon zu acht Stimmen, BWV1072
ARVO PÄRT Collage über B-A-C-H: I. Toccata

Garden of Eden

BACH Cantata "Wiederstehe doch des Sunde", BWV54: Aria
"Wer Sünde tut, der ist vom Teufel"
BACH Sonata for Violin and Keyboard in A major: I. Dolce
BACH Cantata "Ich bin ein guter Hirt", BWV85: Aria
"Jesus ist ein guter Hirt"
PÄRT Fratres

Garden of Gethsemane

BACH Sonata for Solo Violin No.2 in A minor: III. Andante
BACH St Matthew Passion: "Erbarme Dich"
PÄRT Für Lennart in memoriam
PÄRT My Heart's in the Highlands

Garden of Heaven

BACH Cantata "Der Herr denket an uns", BWV196: Sinfonia
PÄRT Vater unser
BACH Cello Suite No.3 in C major: I. Prelude
BACH Magnificat: "Et exultavit"

Into Silence

PÄRT Pari intervallo
BACH The Art of Fugue: Fuga a 3 Soggetti (unfinished)
PAUL HINDEMITH Trauermusik: IV. Sehr langsam



ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti · Director & Violin
Iestyn Davies · Countertenor
Rafael Bonachela · Choreographer &
Artistic Director, Sydney Dance Company
Stefanie Farrands · Viola
Timo-Veikko Valve · Cello
Chad Kelly · Organ & Harpsichord
Artists from Sydney Dance Company
Australian Chamber Orchestra

DATES

Sydney · City Recital Hall
Fri 2 Aug 7pm
Sat 3 Aug 7pm
Tue 6 Aug 8pm
Wed 7 Aug 7pm

Melbourne Recital Centre
Sat 10 Aug 7.30pm
Mon 12 Aug 7.30pm

Melbourne · Arts Centre Melbourne
Sun 11 Aug 2.30pm

Adelaide Town Hall
Tue 13 Aug 7.30pm

Perth Concert Hall
Wed 14 Aug 7.30pm

Canberra · Llewellyn Hall
Sat 17 Aug 8pm

Sydney Opera House
Sun 18 Aug 2pm

Brisbane · QPAC Concert Hall
Mon 19 Aug 7pm

Sparks fly and melodies soar when Richard Tognetti directs music close to the ACO's heart.



ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti • Director & Violin
Australian Chamber Orchestra

DATES

Newcastle City Hall
Thu 5 Sep 7.30pm

Melbourne Recital Centre
Sat 7 Sep 7.30pm
Mon 9 Sep 7.30pm

Melbourne • Arts Centre Melbourne
Sun 8 Sep 2.30pm

Adelaide Town Hall
Tue 10 Sep 7.30pm

Canberra • Llewellyn Hall
Sat 14 Sep 8pm

Brisbane • QPAC Concert Hall
Mon 16 Sep 7pm

Sydney • City Recital Hall
Tue 17 Sep 8pm
Wed 18 Sep 7pm
Fri 20 Sep 7pm
Sat 21 Sep 7pm

Sydney Opera House
Sun 22 Sep 2pm

Wollongong Town Hall
Mon 23 Sep 7.30pm

Mendelssohn's music is pure pleasure. One of the great prodigies, he wrote his sunny Octet at just 16 years of age. It's one of the most loved pieces of chamber music ever written and a favourite of the ACO. In their hands, its youthful exuberance just about leaps off the stage.

Moving from one young genius to another: the ACO presents a new commission from trailblazing young composer Jakub Jankowski in his first work for string orchestra. Hailing from Adelaide, he's a fresh voice in classical music. Opening the program, Anna Thorvaldsdottir's pulsating octet *Illumine* makes a striking contrast with the Mendelssohn.

If Mendelssohn is pleasure, then Bach is worship.

Bach sought God in his music and became like a god for musicians, a touchstone to which all other music is compared. His music is filled with drama, joy and remarkable discipline. Hearing it, playing it, is an act of worship.

That is an altar to which Richard Tognetti will return to again and again. His recordings of Bach's violin music won three successive ARIA Awards. Live, his interpretation of the great Violin Concerto in A minor is a powerful experience: intimate and electrifying.

Like all the best performances, this concert will remind you of why you love music.

PROGRAM

ANNA THORVALDSDOTTIR *Illumine*
JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH Violin Concerto in A minor
JAKUB JANKOWSKI New Commission (World Premiere)*
FELIX MENDELSSOHN Octet

*Commissioned by the Australian Chamber Orchestra.

National Tour Partner



MUTUAL TRUST

TOGNETT. MENDELSSOHN. BACH.



SCOTLAND



UNBOUND

Guitarist Sean Shibe makes his Australian debut in this inspired and thrilling season closer.

Sean Shibe plays guitar without limits. He is a chameleon of the new generation: he's met with acclaim in the great recital halls of the world (and his recent Bach album was described by Gramophone Magazine as "*the best-ever Bach recording on guitar*"), but he also forges new horizons by ranging fearlessly beyond classical music. You can't help but get carried away with his magic.

For his Australian debut, Shibe celebrates his Scottish heritage in a thrilling ride through the Highlands and beyond.

With Shibe on classical guitar and Tognetti directing the strings of the ACO, the concert opens with a Scotland steeped in lore. Lady Margaret Wemyss died in 1648 at the untimely age of 18, but her legacy lives on in the haunting solo music she collected in her family's Fife castle. These tunes are interspersed with the irresistible rhythms of Scottish folk songs, while a new commission from Cassandra Miller, one of the most soul-stirring composers writing today, brings this rich history right up to date.

Then tradition is thrown to the wind as Shibe takes up his electric guitar and the ACO steps into a technicolor world of musical invention. Martyn Bennett's *Bothy Culture* takes inspiration from the 90s rave scene in Edinburgh while being rooted in the traditions of the Highlands and ancient cultures. *Lad*, by Julia Wolfe, originally composed for nine bagpipes and arranged here for electric guitar and strings, has been described by the composer as a "*dive into a psychedelic landscape, at once multilayered, fractured, ecstatic, silent, driving, cacophonous, and direct.*"

At just 32, Shibe is one of the most exhilarating young stars performing today, and a perfect match for the electric energy and musical curiosity for which the ACO is famous. This is the concert you'll reflect on in years to come: "*I saw him when...*"

PROGRAM

TRADITIONAL SCOTTISH Solo lute manuscripts
compiled by Lady Margaret Wemyss

JAMES MACMILLAN (arr. George Duthie) From Galloway

TRADITIONAL SCOTTISH Suite of folk songs

CASSANDRA MILLER New Commission for solo guitar
and strings (Australian Premiere)*

JULIA WOLFE (arr. electric guitar and strings) *Lad*
(Australian Premiere)

DAVID FENNESSY Hirta Rounds (Australian Premiere)

MARTYN BENNETT (arr. electric guitar and strings)

Bothy Culture: Selections

*Co-commissioned by the Dunedin Consort (supported by John Ellerman Foundation),
Barbican Centre, Saffron Hall, Australian Chamber Orchestra, and Cheltenham Music Festival.



ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti - Director & Violin
Sean Shibe - Classical & Electric Guitars
Australian Chamber Orchestra

DATES

Wollongong Town Hall
Thu 7 Nov 7.30pm

Sydney - City Recital Hall
Sat 9 Nov 7pm
Tue 12 Nov 8pm
Wed 13 Nov 7pm

Sydney Opera House
Sun 10 Nov 2pm

Brisbane - QPAC Concert Hall
Mon 11 Nov 7pm

Canberra - Llewellyn Hall
Sat 16 Nov 8pm

Melbourne - Arts Centre Melbourne
Sun 17 Nov 2.30pm
Mon 18 Nov 7.30pm

Adelaide Town Hall
Tue 19 Nov 7.30pm

Perth - Winthrop Hall
Wed 20 Nov 7.30pm

River

NEWCASTLE
City Hall

Thu 1 Feb 7.30pm

MELBOURNE
Recital Centre

Sat 3 Feb 7.30pm
Mon 5 Feb 7.30pm

MELBOURNE
Arts Centre Melbourne

Sun 4 Feb 2.30pm

CANBERRA
Theatre Centre

Wed 7 Feb 8pm

SYDNEY
City Recital Hall

Sat 10 Feb 7pm
Tue 13 Feb 8pm
Wed 14 Feb 7pm

SYDNEY
Sydney Opera House

Sun 11 Feb 2pm

BRISBANE
QPAC Concert Hall

Mon 12 Feb 7pm

PERTH
Concert Hall

Fri 16 Feb 7.30pm

Beethoven's Emperor

WOLLONGONG
Town Hall

Sat 9 Mar 7.30pm

ADELAIDE
Town Hall

Tue 12 Mar 7.30pm

PERTH
Concert Hall

Wed 13 Mar 7.30pm

MELBOURNE
Recital Centre

Sat 16 Mar 7.30pm
Mon 18 Mar 7.30pm

MELBOURNE
Arts Centre Melbourne

Sun 17 Mar 2.30pm

SYDNEY
City Recital Hall

Tue 19 Mar 8pm
Wed 20 Mar 7pm
Fri 22 Mar 7pm
Sat 23 Mar 7pm

SYDNEY
Sydney Opera House

Sun 24 Mar 2pm

Mahler's Song of the Earth

SYDNEY
Sydney Opera House

Sun 12 May 2pm

MELBOURNE
Recital Centre

Mon 13 May 7.30pm
Wed 22 May 7.30pm

SYDNEY
City Recital Hall

Wed 15 May 7pm
Fri 17 May 8pm
Sat 18 May 7pm

BRISBANE
QPAC Concert Hall

Mon 20 May 7pm

CANBERRA
Llewellyn Hall

Fri 24 May 8pm

MELBOURNE
Arts Centre Melbourne

Sun 26 May 2.30pm

SEASON
OVERVIEW

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PERFORMANCES

Altstaedt Plays Haydn & Tchaikovsky

CANBERRA
Llewellyn Hall
Fri 14 Jun 8pm

BRISBANE
QPAC Concert Hall
Mon 17 Jun 7pm

SYDNEY
City Recital Hall
Tue 18 Jun 8pm
Thu 20 Jun 7pm
Sat 29 Jun 7pm

NEWCASTLE
City Hall
Fri 21 Jun 7.30pm

MELBOURNE
Arts Centre Melbourne
Sun 23 Jun 2.30pm
Mon 24 Jun 7.30pm

ADELAIDE
Town Hall
Tue 25 Jun 7.30pm

PERTH
Concert Hall
Wed 26 Jun 7.30pm

SYDNEY
Sydney Opera House
Sun 30 Jun 2pm

Silence & Rapture

SYDNEY
City Recital Hall
Fri 2 Aug 7pm
Sat 3 Aug 7pm
Tue 6 Aug 8pm
Wed 7 Aug 7pm

MELBOURNE
Recital Centre
Sat 10 Aug 7.30pm
Mon 12 Aug 7.30pm

MELBOURNE
Arts Centre Melbourne
Sun 11 Aug 2.30pm

ADELAIDE
Town Hall
Tue 13 Aug 7.30pm

PERTH
Concert Hall
Wed 14 Aug 7.30pm

CANBERRA
Llewellyn Hall
Sat 17 Aug 8pm

SYDNEY
Sydney Opera House
Sun 18 Aug 2pm

BRISBANE
QPAC Concert Hall
Mon 19 Aug 7pm

Tognetti. Mendelssohn. Bach.

NEWCASTLE
City Hall
Thu 5 Sep 7.30pm

MELBOURNE
Recital Centre
Sat 7 Sep 7.30pm
Mon 9 Sep 7.30pm

MELBOURNE
Arts Centre Melbourne
Sun 8 Sep 2.30pm

ADELAIDE
Town Hall
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CANBERRA
Llewellyn Hall
Sat 14 Sep 8pm

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QPAC Concert Hall
Mon 16 Sep 7pm

SYDNEY
City Recital Hall
Tue 17 Sep 8pm
Wed 18 Sep 7pm
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Sat 21 Sep 7pm

SYDNEY
Sydney Opera House
Sun 22 Sep 2pm

WOLLONGONG
Town Hall
Mon 23 Sep 7.30pm

Scotland Unbound

WOLLONGONG
Town Hall
Thu 7 Nov 7.30pm

SYDNEY
City Recital Hall
Sat 9 Nov 7pm
Tue 12 Nov 8pm
Wed 13 Nov 7pm

SYDNEY
Sydney Opera House
Sun 10 Nov 2pm

BRISBANE
QPAC Concert Hall
Mon 11 Nov 7pm

CANBERRA
Llewellyn Hall
Sat 16 Nov 8pm

MELBOURNE
Arts Centre Melbourne
Sun 17 Nov 2.30pm
Mon 18 Nov 7.30pm

ADELAIDE
Town Hall
Tue 19 Nov 7.30pm

PERTH
Winthrop Hall
Wed 20 Nov 7.30pm

ADELAIDE

Spend Tuesday nights with the ACO in these five concerts at Adelaide's landmark Town Hall.

Adelaide Town Hall

BEETHOVEN'S EMPEROR
Tue 12 Mar 7.30pm

**ALTSTAEDT PLAYS
HAYDN & TCHAIKOVSKY**
Tue 25 Jun 7.30pm

SILENCE & RAPTURE
Tue 13 Aug 7.30pm

**TOGNETTI. MENDELSSOHN.
BACH.**
Tue 10 Sep 7.30pm

SCOTLAND UNBOUND
Tue 19 Nov 7.30pm



BRISBANE

For the perfect start to your week, enjoy these six Monday evenings on the Brisbane river at QPAC.

QPAC Concert Hall

RIVER
Mon 12 Feb 7pm

**MAHLER'S SONG OF
THE EARTH**
Mon 20 May 7pm

**ALTSTAEDT PLAYS
HAYDN & TCHAIKOVSKY**
Mon 17 Jun 7pm

SILENCE & RAPTURE
Mon 19 Aug 7pm

**TOGNETTI. MENDELSSOHN.
BACH.**
Mon 16 Sep 7pm

SCOTLAND UNBOUND
Mon 11 Nov 7pm



CANBERRA

We'll be opening our Canberra season with *River* at the Canberra Theatre Centre before returning to our Canberra home at Llewellyn Hall for our five remaining concerts.

Canberra Theatre Centre

RIVER
Wed 7 Feb 8pm

**MAHLER'S SONG OF
THE EARTH**
Fri 24 May 8pm

**ALTSTAEDT PLAYS
HAYDN & TCHAIKOVSKY**
Fri 14 Jun 8pm

SILENCE & RAPTURE
Sat 17 Aug 8pm

**TOGNETTI. MENDELSSOHN.
BACH.**
Sat 14 Sep 7pm

SCOTLAND UNBOUND
Sat 16 Nov 8pm



MELBOURNE

Melbourne is our home away from home. From Sunday matinees at Arts Centre Melbourne to Saturday nights and weekday concerts at Melbourne Recital Centre, there's a package to suit all schedules.

Arts Centre Melbourne

RIVER
Sun 4 Feb 2.30pm

BEETHOVEN'S EMPEROR
Sun 17 Mar 2.30pm

**MAHLER'S SONG OF
THE EARTH**
Sun 26 May 2.30pm

**ALTSTAEDT PLAYS
HAYDN & TCHAIKOVSKY**
Sun 23 Jun 2.30pm
Mon 24 Jun 7.30pm

SILENCE & RAPTURE
Sun 11 Aug 2.30pm

**TOGNETTI. MENDELSSOHN.
BACH.**
Sun 8 Sep 2.30pm

SCOTLAND UNBOUND
Sun 17 Nov 2.30pm
Mon 18 Nov 7.30pm



Melbourne Recital Centre

RIVER
Sat 3 Feb 7.30pm
Mon 5 Feb 7.30pm

BEETHOVEN'S EMPEROR
Sat 16 Mar 7.30pm
Mon 18 Mar 7.30pm

**MAHLER'S SONG OF
THE EARTH**
Mon 13 May 7.30pm
Wed 22 May 7.30pm

SILENCE & RAPTURE
Sat 10 Aug 7.30pm
Mon 12 Aug 7.30pm

**TOGNETTI. MENDELSSOHN.
BACH.**
Sat 7 Sep 7.30pm
Mon 9 Sep 7.30pm

W E E T M E L B O U R N E

PERTH

NEWCASTLE

The bus makes for a nice change when we drive up to Newcastle for three concerts at the heritage-listed Newcastle City Hall.

Newcastle City Hall

RIVER
Thu 1 Feb 7.30pm

ALTSTAEDT PLAYS HAYDN & TCHAIKOVSKY
Fri 21 Jun 7.30pm

TOGNETTI. MENDELSSOHN. BACH.
Thu 5 Sep 7.30pm



PERTH

We're thrilled to be back to our pre-covid season of five concerts in Perth. With Perth Concert Hall closing for renovations at the end of 2024, our final concert will take place at Winthrop Hall.

Perth Concert Hall Winthrop Hall

RIVER
Fri 16 Feb 7.30pm

SCOTLAND UNBOUND
Wed 20 Nov 7.30pm

BEETHOVEN'S EMPEROR
Wed 13 Mar 7.30pm

ALTSTAEDT PLAYS HAYDN & TCHAIKOVSKY
Wed 26 Jun 7.30pm

SILENCE & RAPTURE
Wed 14 Aug 7.30pm



SYDNEY

Join us for Sunday afternoons at Sydney Opera House or evening concerts in the CBD at City Recital Hall. Whether you prefer weekend nights out or something to look forward to mid-week, we've got you covered.

City Recital Hall Sydney Opera House

RIVER
Sat 10 Feb 7pm
Tue 13 Feb 8pm
Wed 14 Feb 7pm

RIVER
Sun 11 Feb 2pm

BEETHOVEN'S EMPEROR
Tue 19 Mar 8pm
Wed 20 Mar 7pm
Fri 22 Mar 7pm
Sat 23 Mar 7pm

BEETHOVEN'S EMPEROR
Sun 24 Mar 2pm

MAHLER'S SONG OF THE EARTH
Wed 15 May 7pm
Fri 17 May 8pm
Sat 18 May 7pm

MAHLER'S SONG OF THE EARTH
Sun 12 May 2pm

ALTSTAEDT PLAYS HAYDN & TCHAIKOVSKY
Tue 18 Jun 8pm
Thu 20 Jun 7pm
Sat 29 Jun 7pm

ALTSTAEDT PLAYS HAYDN & TCHAIKOVSKY
Sun 30 Jun 2pm

SILENCE & RAPTURE
Fri 2 Aug 7pm
Sat 3 Aug 7pm
Tue 6 Aug 8pm
Wed 7 Aug 7pm

SILENCE & RAPTURE
Sun 18 Aug 2pm

TOGNETTI. MENDELSSOHN. BACH.
Tue 17 Sep 8pm
Wed 18 Sep 7pm
Fri 20 Sep 7pm
Sat 21 Sep 7pm

TOGNETTI. MENDELSSOHN. BACH.
Sun 22 Sep 2pm

SCOTLAND UNBOUND
Sat 9 Nov 7pm
Tue 12 Nov 8pm
Wed 13 Nov 7pm

SCOTLAND UNBOUND
Sun 10 Nov 2pm

WOLLONGONG

It wouldn't be an ACO Season without concerts in Richard Tognetti's hometown. Join us for three nights at Wollongong Town Hall.

Wollongong Town Hall

BEETHOVEN'S EMPEROR
Sat 9 Mar 7.30pm

TOGNETTI. MENDELSSOHN. BACH.
Mon 23 Sep 7.30pm

SCOTLAND UNBOUND
Thu 7 Nov 7.30pm



A photograph of a large concert hall filled with an audience, with the text "MUSIC TO EXPERIENCE LIVE :||" overlaid in white. The hall has a distinctive curved, wood-paneled ceiling and walls. The audience is seated in rows, and the stage area is visible in the distance. The lighting is warm and focused on the stage.

MUSIC TO EXPERIENCE LIVE :||

Australian Chamber Orchestra with Joseph Tawadros and James Tawadros.
The Four Seasons, Sydney Opera House 2023. Photography: Daniel Boud.



ACO COLLECTIVE



THE LARK ASCENDING

A concert that will set your heart aflight with music full of beauty and spirit.

With its soaring melodies and joyful trills, Ralph Vaughan Williams creates a radiant portrait of a lark in flight, trailing a silver chain of sound as it rises. Bound to the ground, we can only bask in its beauty. ACO Collective plays this eternal favourite as the centrepiece of an uplifting program directed by ACO Principal Violin Helena Rathbone.

Rathbone has guided ACO Collective since its founding in 2007, offering audiences across the country the opportunity to hear Australia's brightest young musicians performing alongside members of the ACO.

The program spans five centuries from Henry Purcell's *Fantazia upon One Note* to Max Richter's cinematic *On the Nature of Daylight*. Continuing its commitment to fostering Australian voices, ACO Collective will premiere a new commission by award-winning Australian composer Anne Cawrse, sought after for her captivating lyricism and her ability to express the inexpressible.

The concert closes with Suk's glowing *Serenade for Strings*. Inspired by Dvořák and Brahms, it is the sound of pure happiness. Chosen for their beauty and spirit, these six works will set your heart aflight.

PROGRAM

ANNE CAWRSE New Commission for strings (World Premiere)*
HUGO WOLF Italian Serenade
MAX RICHTER On the Nature of Daylight
HENRY PURCELL Fantazia upon One Note
RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS (arr. Adam Johnson)
The Lark Ascending
JOSEF SUK Serenade for Strings

*Commissioned by the Australian Chamber Orchestra.

“FOR ALL TO HEAR AND ALL TO KNOW
THAT HE IS JOY, AWAKE, AGLOW”

— GEORGE MEREDITH, THE LARK ASCENDING

ARTISTS

Helena Rathbone · Director & Violin
ACO Collective

DATES

Bendigo · The Capital
Thu 9 May 7pm

Healesville · The Memo
Sat 11 May 7.30pm

Cowes Cultural and Community Centre
Sun 12 May 2pm

Nowra · Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre
Wed 15 May 8pm

Sydney · The Neilson, ACO Pier 2/3
Fri 17 May 7pm

Sutherland · The Pavilion Performing Arts Centre
Sat 18 May 7.30pm

Principal Partner:
ACO Collective



Wesfarmers Arts

ACO ON DEMAND



Experience the magic
of Richard Tognetti and the
ACO wherever you are.

Our new streaming platform features our award-winning ACO StudioCast films, live concert streams, ACO audio recordings, Pier 2/3 Sessions and so much more.

Download the ACO On Demand Apple TV and Android mobile apps, Chromecast to your Smart TV or view via your browser on desktop, tablet or mobile devices.

There is a wealth of free content for you to enjoy including performance videos, interviews, features and audio recordings. Or you can rent and purchase ACO StudioCast films and full-length concerts from just \$9.99. Our highly anticipated ACO StudioCast film *The Four Seasons* will be released in November 2023.

Stills from our upcoming ACO StudioCast release, *The Four Seasons*, featuring Joseph Tawadros and James Tawadros. For release in November 2023.

— REGISTER AND STREAM AT [ACOONDEMAND.COM](https://acoondemand.com)



SPECIAL EVENTS



In 2024 we return to two of Australia's most stunning wine regions for exclusive weekend festivals, and embark on international tours to North America and Hong Kong.

TarraWarra Festival

4-5 May

Our annual festival at the TarraWarra Museum of Art in Victoria will feature performances from the ACO set amongst some of the most breathtaking views in the Yarra Valley. Book early for this intimate and exclusive cultural weekend.

Vasse Felix

6-8 Dec

ACO Principal Violin Helena Rathbone and ACO Collective end the year on a high at the Sound and Sense Festival at Vasse Felix in Western Australia's Margaret River. Places are limited for this celebration of music, wine and culinary art.

International

As an international orchestra and one of Australia's biggest cultural exports, we're thrilled to be touring to North America and Hong Kong in 2024. We'll be returning to some of our favourite stages and forging partnerships with exciting new venues. Look out for further announcements over the coming months.

Opposite: Principal Viola Stefanie Farrands in Berlin. Photography: Nic Walker.
Below (clockwise from top left): Vasse Felix, Margaret River; Principal Double Bass Maxime Bibeau in Berlin. Photography: Nic Walker; TarraWarra Museum of Art.



⚡ RICHARD TOGNETTI  ARTISTIC
RATHBONE  PRINCIPAL VIOLIN. S
AIKO GOTO  VIOLIN. ILYA ISAKOV
VIOLIN. MAJA SAVNIK  VIOLIN
FARRANDS  PRINCIPAL VIOLA. ELIZ
VEIKKO VALVE  PRINCIPAL CELLO. I
THOMPSON  CELLO. MAXIME BIBE

THE MUS

DIRECTOR & LEAD VIOLIN. HELENA
SATU VÄNSKÄ  PRINCIPAL VIOLIN.
RICH  VIOLIN. LIISA PALLANDI 
V. IKE SEE  VIOLIN. STEFANIE
ELIZABETH WOOLNOUGH  VIOLA. TIMO-
MELISSA BARNARD  CELLO. JULIAN
AU  PRINCIPAL DOUBLE BASS :||

SICRANS

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Do your 2024 self a favour
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Enjoy priority access to the best seats at the best price. Full-season Subscribers save up to 35% off single ticket prices and have the option of paying in four instalments. You can access free ticket exchanges throughout the year and when it comes time to renew for 2025, we'll hold your seats for you.

Flexi-subscriptions

Build your own season and choose three or more concerts at the venues and on the performance dates that suit you. Flexi-subscribers save up to 20% off single ticket prices and enjoy free ticket exchanges throughout the year.

Thank You

ACO Subscribers are the foundation of the Orchestra. Whether you've been with us since day one or are subscribing for the first time, thank you for your support. We can't wait to share our 2024 Season with you.

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— ONLINE AT [ACO.COM.AU](https://aco.com.au) OR PHONE 1800 444 444

HOW TO SUBSCRIBE

BOOK YOUR 2024 SEASON

Online at aco.com.au

Phone 1800 444 444 (Mon–Fri 9am–5pm AEST)

Mail to PO Box R21 Royal Exchange NSW 1225

In Person Pier 2/3, Suite 3, 13A Hickson Road, Dawes Point 2000

WED 16 AUG 2023

Full-season and Flexi-subscriptions on sale.

WED 20 SEP 2023

Full-season Subscription renewal deadline.

2023 Subscribers will need to renew their subscription by this date to retain their seats for the 2024 Season.

WED 18 OCT 2023

Single ticket presale opens.

Sign up to the ACO e-news to access tickets.

FRI 20 OCT 2023

Single tickets go on sale to the public.



Digital Tickets

All 2024 tickets (including subscriptions) will be sent out as digital tickets to the email address registered on your account. Tickets will be emailed one concert at a time throughout the year, 48 hours ahead of each concert.

Students & Under 35s

We offer discounted tickets to full-time students and those under 35 to keep the ACO accessible to the next generation of music lovers.

Full-time Students

- \$20 per ticket in Full-season and Flexi-subscription packages.*
- \$25 single tickets.*

Under 35s

- \$30 per ticket in Full-season and Flexi-subscription packages.*
- \$35 single tickets.*

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

Account Credit

Credit can be redeemed online. You can view your credit amount in the My Account section of the website after logging in. Credit will be automatically applied to your order. If you don't want to redeem your credit you can remove the credit and pay the full amount on your credit card. If you need any assistance please call or email our Box Office.

Concessions

Patrons who hold a Centrelink Pensioner Concession Card, Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Concession Card, Health Care Card or Commonwealth Seniors Health Card can access concession pricing. Please email a scan of your card to boxoffice@aco.com.au after booking so we can process your order.

*A–D reserve only.
Total subscription price varies depending on the number of concerts in your package.

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aco.com.au/subscribe or
complete both sides of this form.

01. Your Details

Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms/Mx/Other	First Name	Surname
Address		
Suburb	State	Postcode
Phone	Email	



2024 Season tickets will be sent out as digital tickets so please ensure you provide an email address. If you wish to update the email address on your account, please contact the ACO Box Office.

By supplying your email address you agree to receive ACO email communications including customer service emails, notifications of artist changes, ACO e-news and invitations to special events. If you do not wish to receive these please tick the circle.

If you are subscribing for more than one person, please attach their details on a separate sheet so they can receive a subscriber card and enjoy all subscriber benefits, including invitations to special events and the ability to manage their own tickets.

02. Choose Your Subscription Package

Indicate the number of packages you require within each price reserve.

	Perf	Premium reserve		A reserve		B reserve		C reserve		U35 Pkg	Stud Pkg	Total
		Full	Conc	Full	Conc	Full	Conc	Full	Conc			
ADELAIDE 7.30pm	5	\$644	\$539	\$589	\$490	\$466	\$376	N/A		\$150	\$100	\$ ____
BRISBANE 7pm	6	\$772	\$647	\$706	\$587	\$560	\$452	\$407	\$318	\$180	\$120	\$ ____
CANBERRA 8pm	6	\$772	\$647	\$706	\$587	\$560	\$452	\$407	\$318	\$180	\$120	\$ ____
MELBOURNE Sun 2.30pm	7	\$963	\$839	\$893	\$762	\$727	\$608	\$549	\$453	\$210	\$140	\$ ____
MELBOURNE Mon 7.30pm	7	\$963	\$839	\$893	\$762	\$727	\$608	\$549	\$453	\$210	\$140	\$ ____
MELBOURNE Sat 7.30pm (includes one Wed 7.30pm)	5	\$688	\$600	\$638	\$545	\$519	\$435	\$392	\$323	\$150	\$100	\$ ____
NEWCASTLE 7.30pm	3	\$363	\$300	\$327	\$261	\$254	\$213	N/A		\$90	\$60	\$ ____
PERTH 7.30pm	5	\$644	\$539	\$589	\$490	\$466	\$376	\$339	\$265	\$150	\$100	\$ ____
SYDNEY CITY RECITAL HALL Tue 8pm (includes one Fri 8pm)	7	\$963	\$839	\$893	\$762	\$727	\$608	\$549	\$453	\$210	\$140	\$ ____
SYDNEY CITY RECITAL HALL Wed 7pm (includes one Thu 7pm)	7	\$963	\$839	\$893	\$762	\$727	\$608	\$549	\$453	\$210	\$140	\$ ____
SYDNEY CITY RECITAL HALL Fri 7pm	3	\$413	\$360	\$383	\$327	\$312	\$261	\$235	\$194	\$90	\$60	\$ ____
SYDNEY CITY RECITAL HALL Sat 7pm	7	\$963	\$839	\$893	\$762	\$727	\$608	\$549	\$453	\$210	\$140	\$ ____
SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE Sun 2pm	7	\$963	\$839	\$893	\$762	\$727	\$608	\$549	\$453	\$210	\$140	\$ ____
WOLLONGONG 7:30pm	3	\$363	\$300	\$327	\$261	\$254	\$213	N/A		\$90	\$60	\$ ____

SUBTOTAL

\$ ____

03. Access Requirements

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

04. Proof of Concession

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

- Under 35 proof of age
- Full-time Student card, Centrelink Pension card, Veterans' Affairs Pensioner card, Health Care card or a Commonwealth Seniors Health Card.

05. Account Credit

If you have a credit on your account you can use it towards your 2024 Season tickets.

- Please use any credit on my account towards my balance
- Please donate any credit on my account to the ACO (fully tax-deductible)

Account credit can also be redeemed on the website if you subscribe online.

06. Payment

Subscription package(s) total					\$
Booking fee*					\$ 8.50
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"/> \$100	<input type="radio"/> Other	\$
Total Payment					\$

* Booking fee of \$8.50 applies.

07. 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 25% now with the remaining balance automatically deducted from the same credit card in three instalments: 1 November 2023, 6 December 2023 and 10 January 2024.*
- American Express Mastercard Visa Diners

Cardholder's name

Card number

Expiry date

/

Signature

Date

* Please ensure card is valid through to 31 January 2024.

08. Submit your form

In Person Pier 2/3, Suite 3, 13A Hickson Road, Dawes Point, NSW 2000

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

You can also purchase online at **aco.com.au**

or by calling our Box Office on **1800 444 444** (Mon–Fri, 9am–5pm AEST).



Australian Chamber Orchestra. Photography: Nic Walker.



Principal Violin Satu Vänskä. Photography: Nic Walker.



ACO Cello Melissa Barnard. Still from ACO StudioCast *The Four Seasons*.



Principal Cello Timo-Veikko Valve. Photography: Nic Walker.

SUPPORT THE ACO



The generosity of
our patrons sustains
and renews us.

Our Future

The generosity of our patrons sustains and renews us. Without it, none of what we do would be possible.

Philanthropic support enables us to bring our creative vision to life and to pursue the artistic brilliance for which the ACO is renowned.

Please consider adding a tax-deductible donation when you purchase your 2024 Season tickets, to help us continue presenting unforgettable ACO experiences.

Donate here

Online at aco.com.au
Phone 1800 444 444



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**IN 2024 EXPERIENCE A SEASON THAT
CELEBRATES THE PURE POWER OF LIVE
MUSIC, AND THE ONE THING THAT MAKES
IT ALL POSSIBLE — YOU, OUR AUDIENCE. :||**

— RICHARD TOGNETTI • ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



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