

Australian Chamber Orchestra Announce 2019 Emerging Artists

Eight talented young musicians selected for the ACO's prestigious mentoring program

“We are delighted to announce our eight Emerging Artists for 2019 – the largest ever cohort in the program’s 12-year history”

– ACO MANAGING DIRECTOR
RICHARD EVANS



The Australian Chamber Orchestra has today announced the eight talented young musicians who have been selected to participate in its acclaimed Emerging Artist program in 2019.

Following a competitive audition process, these exceptional string players will spend the year working closely with the professional musicians of the ACO and rehearsing and performing as members of ACO Collective, the ACO's education and regional touring ensemble.

The 2019 Emerging Artists are:

- William Huxtable**, 22, Violin, WA
- Gemma Lee**, 23, Violin, NSW
- Mana Ohashi**, 21, Violin, VIC
- Harry Ward**, 22, Violin, NSW
- Molly Collier-O'Boyle**, 25, Viola, QLD
- Mariette Reefman**, 25, Viola, NSW
- James Morley**, 22, Cello, NSW
- Jaan Pallandi**, 23, Double Bass, NSW

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“We are delighted to announce our eight Emerging Artists for 2019 – the largest ever cohort in the program’s 12-year history,” said ACO Managing Director **Richard Evans**. *“We are immensely proud of the ongoing success of this program, which has seen Emerging Artist alumni go on to work with professional orchestras around the world, including six graduating to become members of the ACO.”*

The ACO established the Emerging Artist program in 2007, with the aim of connecting upcoming generations of talented Australian string players with the professional members of the ACO. Each Emerging Artist is paired up with an ACO mentor, who will provide them with private lessons and guidance throughout the year. The Emerging Artists also receive opportunities to rehearse and perform with the ACO, as well as embark on national tours with ACO Collective, directed by internationally renowned Finnish violinist **Pekka Kuusisto**.

For 2019 Emerging Artist **William Huxtable**, participation in the program represents an invaluable opportunity to learn from some of the world’s greatest chamber musicians.

“One of the most riveting and joyous experiences I’ve had was participating on a side by side tour with the ACO in early 2018, as an Australian National Academy of Music student,” said Huxtable. *“So to have the opportunity to perform and rehearse with ACO musicians throughout 2019 is incredibly exciting. They are insightful, innovative and inspiring people who are very fun to work and perform with and I also have the wonderful opportunity to be mentored by ACO violinist Glenn Christensen.*

“One of my passions in music is chamber music and I can’t wait to spend the year surrounded by some of the best in the world at it.”

Testament to the program’s success, Emerging Artist alumni can be found performing with professional orchestras and ensembles around the world, including four current members of the Australian Chamber Orchestra: ACO violinists **Glenn Christensen**, **Liisa Pallandi**, and **Thibaud Pavlovic-Hobba**, and ACO violist **Elizabeth Woolnough**.



‘The Australian Chamber Orchestra is uniformly high-octane, arresting and never ordinary.’

– THE AUSTRALIAN

ABOUT THE AUSTRALIAN CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

The Australian Chamber Orchestra lives and breathes music, making waves around the world for their explosive performances and brave interpretations. Steeped in history but always looking to the future, ACO programs embrace celebrated classics alongside new commissions, and adventurous cross-artform collaborations.





Led by Artistic Director Richard Tognetti since 1990, the ACO performs more than 100 concerts each year. Whether performing in Manhattan, New York, or Wollongong, NSW, the ACO is unwavering in their commitment to creating transformative musical experiences.

The Orchestra regularly collaborates with artists and musicians who share their ideology: from Emmanuel Pahud, Steven Isserlis, Dawn Upshaw, Olli Mustonen, Brett Dean and Ivry Gitlis, to Neil Finn, Jonny Greenwood, Barry Humphries and Meow Meow; to visual artists and film makers such as Michael Leunig, Bill Henson, Shaun Tan, Jon Frank, and Jennifer Peedom, who have co-created unique, hybrid productions for which the ACO has become renowned.

Testament to their international reputation, the ACO were invited to commence a three-year residency as International Associate Ensemble at Milton Court in partnership with London’s Barbican Centre from the 2018/19 season. This residency at one of Europe’s most prestigious concert venues follows on from the success of ACO Artistic Director Richard Tognetti’s time as the Barbican’s first ever Artist-in-Residence at Milton Court Concert Hall.

In addition to their national and international touring schedule, the Orchestra has an active recording program across CD, vinyl and digital formats. Recent releases include *Water / Night Music*, the first Australian-produced classical vinyl for two decades, *Heroines*, recorded with Australian soprano Nicole Car, and the soundtrack to the acclaimed cinematic collaboration, *Mountain*.

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