MEDIA RELEASE



ACO Academy 2019

FREE PUBLIC CONCERT

12 July, 6.30pm City Recital Hall

"It's an honour to be able to work closely with such talented and experienced professional musicians, who I had admired from afar at ACO concerts"

- EMILY SU, ACO ACADEMY SOLOIST



Twenty-three talented school students from across Australia have been selected via a competitive audition process to participate in the Australian Chamber Orchestra's (ACO) acclaimed ACO Academy program for 2019.

Led by ACO violinist **Aiko Goto**, ACO Academy will see these young string players, aged between 12-18 years, travel to Sydney to participate in a week of intensive rehearsals, lessons and workshops with the professional musicians of the ACO. The week will culminate in a free public concert on Friday 12 July at the City Recital Hall.

One of Australia's most exciting emerging musicians, 16-year old violinist **Emily Su**, has been invited by the ACO to perform as soloist in the program. The young violinist, who has participated in ACO Academy each year since 2015, will take centre stage in Vivaldi's evocative 'La Tempesta' Violin Concerto.

Emily describes ACO Academy as an immensely rewarding musical experience and a highlight of her year.

"It's an honour to be able to work closely with such talented and experienced professional musicians, who I had admired from afar at ACO concerts," said Emily. "I have learnt so much about cohesive chamber rehearsal and performance from my participation in ACO Academy, and this year I am really looking forward to working with the amazing ACO musicians and fellow Academy students in a different capacity, as soloist."

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ACO Academy is open to school aged students advanced in violin, viola, cello or double bass. Following a competitive online audition process, participants spend an inspirational week in intensive rehearsals where they will develop skills in technical accuracy, ensemble playing and performance technique, as well as gain insight into the life of a professional ACO musician.

The program forms part of the ACO's national Learning & Engagement program, which aims to support, inspire and provide enrichment opportunities for the next generation of Australian musicians. Since its beginnings in 2012, ACO Academy has grown from strength to strength, with six Academy alumni being selected to participate in the ACO's renowned Emerging Artist program.

ACO Academy is supported by BNP Paribas.

ACO Academy concert

FRIDAY 12 JUNE, 6.30PM

PROGRAM

VIVALDI Violin Concerto in E-flat major, "La tempesta di mare" TCHAIKOVSKY Serenade for Strings in C major

ARTISTS

Aiko Goto Director & Violin Emily Su Violin ACO Academy Orchestra



About Emily Su

Emily, age 16, currently holds a full music scholarship at Kambala Girls School. She started learning violin at age 3 and is studying with Dr Robin Wilson and Ms Caron Chan at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music Rising Stars program also under a scholarship.

In 2018 Emily was awarded the Overall Winner prize at the NSW Secondary Schools Concerto Competition. She was also a semi-finalist of the 2018 Kendall National Violin Competition. She has won several sections at the Sydney Eisteddfod, including the "Violin 19 and under" category in 2017. Recently, Emily was selected for an assistant position at the National Music Camp and performed as a soloist throughout Europe with her school orchestra. In 2015 she appeared as soloist with the Melbourne Art of Sound Orchestra and was selected to participate in the ACO Academy in 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018. She was awarded her AMusA (distinction) in 2014 and LMusA (distinction) in 2016.

This year she appeared as soloist with the Penrith Symphony Orchestra playing the Sibelius Violin Concerto and she will perform Sarasate's Carmen Fantasy and Thais Meditation with the Ku-ring-gai Philharmonic Orchestra at the Chatswood Concourse in November.

Also an accomplished pianist, Emily was awarded her AMusA (distinction) in 2017. She has performed as soloist under the baton of Dr Nicholas Milton at the Chatswood Concourse.



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

- THE AUSTRALIAN

#ACO19

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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 crossartform 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. Their recordings of Bach's violin works won three consecutive ARIA Awards. Recent releases include *Water / Night Music*, the first Australian-produced classical vinyl for two decades, *Mozart's Last Symphonies, Bach Beethoven: Fugue* and the soundtrack to the acclaimed cinematic collaboration, *Mountain*.



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