

Superstar pianist Alexander Gavrylyuk makes ACO debut



GERSHWIN & SHOSTAKOVICH

1-18 August

National Tour

ACO Artistic Director **Richard Tognetti** will direct the **Australian Chamber Orchestra** in a national tour that celebrates the unifying power of music, featuring superstar Ukrainian-Australian pianist **Alexander Gavrylyuk** in his long-awaited ACO debut.

Born in Kharkiv, Ukraine, Gavrylyuk began learning the piano at the age of seven before giving his first concerto performance at nine. After moving to Australia at 13, he rose to international fame upon winning First Prize and Gold Medal at the Horowitz International Piano Competition while still a teenager. He went on to win multiple prestigious piano competitions around the globe including First Prize at the Hamamatsu International Piano Competition and Gold Medal at the Arthur Rubinstein International Piano Masters Competition and regularly performs as soloist with the likes of the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra and the New York Philharmonic.

Gavrylyuk will join the ACO to perform music including **Shostakovich's** fiendishly virtuosic and jazz-infused **Piano Concerto No.1** and **Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue***, a life-affirming and exultant celebration of difference and dynamism. It stands in stark contrast to Shostakovich's intense and emotional **Chamber Symphony**, an arrangement of his Eighth String

Media Contact

For interview requests,
images, media tickets
or further information,
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Quartet that the ACO has performed internationally to critical acclaim, most recently at London's Barbican Centre with *The Guardian UK* describing the performance as 'revelatory' in a 5-star review. Written during his stay in post-war Dresden, Shostakovich dedicated the work to "the victims of fascism and war". The music tells a story of fear and melancholy but never loses hope.

The ACO will also perform the **world premiere** of *A Moment of Memory*, a new commission from **Valentin Silvestrov**, Ukraine's most celebrated living composer. Written by the composer in Berlin after fleeing his home in Kyiv, Silvestrov's music is revered for its bittersweet, introspective lyricism, with the composer describing it as "a response to and an echo of what already exists."

Gavrylyuk says: "Not many things in this world can unite people, but I think that music comes the furthest in revealing that perhaps on a deeper level we are all quite similar. When the audience reacts in one wave of emotion that to me is the most incredible and inspiring thing."

GERSHWIN & SHOSTAKOVICH

1-18 AUGUST

Artists

Richard Tognetti Director & Violin
Alexander Gavrylyuk Piano
David Elton Trumpet
Australian Chamber Orchestra

Program

CLAUDE VIVIER Zipangu
VALENTIN SILVESTROV A Moment of Memory (World Premiere)*
DMITRI SHOSTAKOVICH Piano Concerto No.1 in C minor, Op.35
GEORGE GERSHWIN (arr. trumpet, piano and strings) Rhapsody in Blue
DMITRI SHOSTAKOVICH (arr. Rudolf Barshai) Chamber Symphony in C minor, Op.110a
"Dedicated to the memory of the victims of fascism and war"

*Commissioned by the Australian Chamber Orchestra.

Sydney – City Recital Hall

Fri 1 Aug, 7pm
Sat 2 Aug, 7pm
Tue 5 Aug, 8pm
Wed 6 Aug, 7pm

Sydney Opera House

Sun 3 Aug, 2pm

Newcastle City Hall

Thu 7 Aug, 7.30pm

Canberra – Llewellyn Hall

Sat 9 Aug, 7.30pm

Arts Centre Melbourne

Sun 10 Aug, 2.30pm
Mon 11 Aug, 7.30pm

Adelaide Town Hall

Tue 12 Aug, 7.30pm

Perth – Winthrop Hall

Wed 13 Aug, 7.30pm

Wollongong Town Hall

Sat 16 Aug, 7.30pm

Brisbane – QPAC Concert Hall

Mon 18 Aug, 7pm

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