

Journey to Italy with the ACO and instruments of the Italian Golden Age

POSTCARDS FROM ITALY

14–26 September

Wollongong, Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Canberra



From its food and wine to its art, architecture and, of course, music, Italy has long been a destination for inspiration, indulgence and pure enjoyment.

The **Australian Chamber Orchestra** will present a musical love letter to Italy, a country that has cultivated and inspired generations of musicians and artists, in ***Postcards from Italy***, touring nationally from 14–26 September.

An intimate ensemble of six ACO musicians will perform music inspired by Italy, from **JS Bach**'s popular *Italian Concerto*, which reveals the composer's lasting fascination with the country's musical innovations, to the great Tuscan cello virtuoso and composer **Boccherini**, whose String Quintet in C minor embodies the country's elegance and grace. Also on the program is **Tchaikovsky**'s beloved *Souvenir de Florence*, written while the composer was on holiday in Florence, while *Viaggio in Italia*, by the great Italian cellist and composer **Giovanni Sollima**, is a musical embodiment of the great luminaires in Italian art, music and literature.

Media Contact

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

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GOVERNMENT PARTNERS



In a fitting touch to the program, the ACO musicians will perform on precious Italian Golden Age string instruments crafted by famed luthiers including **Antonio Stradivari, Giuseppe Guarneri filius Andreæ** and **the Brothers Amati**. A period lasting from the 17th century to the middle 18th century in Cremona, the Golden Age is regarded as the pinnacle of fine string instrument making, with instruments from this period prized around the world for their tonal excellence, design, and beauty. In the hands of the ACO musicians, these extraordinary instruments become living pieces of history, bringing to life music from across the centuries.

These Golden Age instruments played by the ACO include the 'ex-Dollfus' violin made in 1732 by Antonio Stradivari (played by ACO Principal Violin **Helena Rathbone**), a cello made in 1729 by Giuseppe Guarneri (played by ACO Cello **Julian Thompson**) and a cello made in 1616 by the Brothers Amati (played by ACO Principal Cello **Timo-Veikko Valve**).

Concert Details

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THOMAS ADÉS Arcadiana: I. Venezia Notturmo

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH (arr. Timo-Veikko Valve) Italian Concerto, BWV971

GIOVANNI SOLLIMA Viaggio in Italia: Selections

LUIGI BOCCHERINI String Quintet in C minor, Op.45, No.1

PYOTR ILYICH TCHAIKOVSKY Souvenir de Florence, Op.70

Helena Rathbone Violin

Ike See Violin

Stefanie Farrands Viola

Elizabeth Woolnough Viola

Timo-Veikko Valve Cello

Julian Thompson Cello

Wollongong Town Hall

Thu 14 Sep, 7.30pm

Melbourne Recital Centre

Sat 16 Sep, 7.30pm

Mon 18 Sep, 7.30pm

Melbourne • Arts Centre Melbourne

Sun 17 Sep, 2.30pm

Sydney • City Recital Hall

Tue 19 Sep, 8pm

Wed 20 Sep, 7pm

Fri 22 Sep, 1.30pm

Sat 23 Sep, 7pm

Sydney Opera House

Sun 24 Sep, 2pm

Brisbane • QPAC Concert Hall

Mon 25 Sep, 7pm

Canberra • Llewellyn Hall

Tue 26 Sep, 8pm

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