

TABULA RASA



Premieres Wednesday 18 August, 8pm AEST
Then available on demand | **[acostudiocasts.com](https://www.acostudiocasts.com)**

The Australian Chamber Orchestra will premiere the latest film in its acclaimed ACO StudioCasts season, *Tabula Rasa*, on Wednesday 18 August, 8pm AEST.

Directed by Matisse Ruby and filmed at Sydney's Hordern Pavilion, this spectacular concert film features Artistic Director Richard Tognetti leading the ACO through performances of Arvo Pärt's *Tabula Rasa* and Shostakovich's Chamber Symphony, integrated with imagery and video projections by renowned cinematographer Jon Frank and Beij Studio.

"Tabula Rasa is such a beloved piece of music," said Ruby. "We wanted to create a multi-sensory film which encapsulated the piece's meditative and trance-like moments – even in the turbulence, there is this notion of coming back to stillness and tranquillity – through integrating the music with otherworldly projections created by Beij Studio and Jon Frank."

Estonian Arvo Pärt is one of the most performed living composers, and his extraordinary music is revered by musicians and non-musicians alike around the world. Written while his Estonian homeland was under Soviet control, *Tabula Rasa* strives to break free and start afresh through spirituality and independence. Shostakovich's Chamber Symphony is a lament for victims of fascism and war, but also an act of self-reflection as it moves from elegy to brutal force into haunting acceptance.

Media Contact

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

Caitlin Benetatos

E caitlin.benetatos@aco.com.au

P (02) 8274 3825

M 0422934693

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ACO StudioCasts is a pioneering digital music experience. The 2021 Season features eight immersive and highly cinematic concert films that showcase the musical breadth and daring virtuosity for which the ACO is renowned around the world. From timeless classics such as Vaughan Williams' breathtaking *The Lark Ascending* and Tchaikovsky's *Serenade for Strings* to groundbreaking music by ACO Artistic Director Richard Tognetti and Estonian composer Arvo Pärt, ACO StudioCasts invites audiences to bring the ACO into their homes for a bespoke and utterly compelling music experience.

"After a decade of filmmaking, a season of concert films was a natural evolution for the ACO," said Richard Tognetti. "These aren't simply static recreations of a concert hall experience, but bespoke films that provide a new perspective on how we appreciate and understand music."

TABULA RASA

ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti

Director & Violin

Satu Vänskä

Violin

Australian Chamber Orchestra

CREATIVES

Matisse Ruby

Director

Drew English

Director of Photography

Tyson Perkins

Director of Photography

Phoenix Chisholm

Editor

Beizj Studio, Matthew Adey,
Andre Vanderwert with
Sam Whiteside

Visual Content and Creation

Jon Frank

Additional Footage

Bernard Rofe

Recording Producer and Editor

PROGRAM

ARVO PÄRT

Tabula Rasa

SHOSTAKOVICH (arr. Barshai)

Chamber Symphony in C minor, Op.110a

Special Offer

\$30 for 30-days access

Full ACO StudioCasts season

Valid until 31 August 2021



‘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 its 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 and is unwavering in its 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 filmmakers 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 its 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 its national and international touring schedule, the Orchestra has an active recording program across CD, vinyl and digital formats. Its 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, *Beethoven*, a collection of the ACO's legendary Beethoven recordings, and the soundtrack to the acclaimed cinematic collaboration, *Mountain*.

In 2020 the ACO launched ACO StudioCasts, a season of cinematic and immersive concert films produced with leading filmmakers and released on the ACO's new streaming platform. These films enhance the ACO's live season by transcending the concert hall and taking audiences around the world into the very heart of an ACO performance experience.

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