GLORIOUS BAROQUE, Sydney

Evening28, 29 Oct & 2, 4 & 5 Nov at 7pmMatinee5 Nov at 2pm

MEDIA RELEASE 6 October 2011





A glittering baroque showcase

With guest director Riccardo Minasi - 'A veritable devil of a fiddler' The Times (UK)

Riccardo Minasi, the man declared by the prestigious Gramophone magazine as "one of the most exciting and engaging Baroque violinists in the business", will take the reins of the Australian Brandenburg Orchestra for **Glorious Baroque**, a showcase of baroque treasures performed on period instruments.

The Italian violin virtuoso and guest director will perform on a 1627 violin, made in Cremona by **Antonius and Hieronymus Amati**. Eduard Reményi, a good friend of Brahms and violin soloist to Queen Victoria, once owned this special instrument.

Glorious Baroque is a program of lesser-known 16th and 17th century works and, unusually for the Brandenburg, a modern work written in baroque style. "There are so many sumptuous yet unknown gems from the baroque period that 21st century audiences deserve to hear," says **Paul Dyer**, the Brandenburg's Artistic Director. "Even Vivaldi, one of the most prolific composers, wrote so much music that we've only really scratched the surface of his vast catalogue."

In Rome earlier this month, Riccardo recorded Vivaldi's dazzling **II favorito** violin concerto, which he will reprise in **Glorious Baroque.** Another Vivaldi work revealed in this glittering showcase is his thrilling Flute Concerto **La Notte** (The Night), with the Brandenburg's own **Melissa Farrow** on baroque flute bringing to life this work's dreamlike musical landscape.

Glorious Baroque will also feature the Australian premiere of selected works from **II Diamante** (The Diamond) written by the great Bohemian composer Zelenka. This will include the sublime Sinfonia and the stunning 'Venus' aria sung by exciting young Australian soprano **Siobhàn Stagg**.

Jamie Hey, the Brandenburg's principal cello is soloist in a recent work by Federico Maria Sardelli, who proves that 'baroque' music isn't exclusive to the baroque period. "Sardelli is the Grammy-nominated founder and leader of Modo Antiquo," says Paul. "He is an amazing musician, painter, satirist and prolific composer with a great ability to write music in the baroque style. I think it is so important that the repertoire for period musicians continues to grow, and Sardelli's Cello Concerto is a welcome addition."

www.brandenburg.com.au

www.riccardominasi.com

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PRINCIPAL PARTNER

Glorious Baroque

Riccardo Minasi (Italy) baroque violin & guest director "Exudes power and brilliance" Stereophile

Siobhàn Stagg soloist, soprano Melissa Farrow soloist, baroque flute Jamie Hey soloist, baroque cello Australian Brandenburg Orchestra Paul Dyer artistic director and harpsichord

Zelenka	Sinfonia to II Diamante ZWV 177	Australian premiere
Zelenka	Aria "Qui piegate, qui posate" from <i>Il Diamante</i> ZWV 177	Australian premiere
Vivaldi	Concerto for flute, La Notte RV 439	
Sardelli	Cello Concerto	Australian premiere
Fasch	Ouverture Grande in D major, FWV K:D8	
Vivaldi	Violin Concerto in E minor, Il Favorito RV 278	

SYDNEY	City Recital Hall, Angel Place
evenings matinee	Fri 28, Sat 29 October, Wed 2, Fri 4, Sat 5 November @ 7pm Sat 5 November @ 2pm
BOOKINGS:	City Recital Hall Box Office (02) 8256 2222 or <u>www.cityrecitalhall.com</u> Brandenburg Box Office (02) 9328 7581 or <u>www.brandenburg.com.au</u> Ticketmaster 136 100 or <u>www.ticketmaster.com.au</u> Tickets range from \$60 to \$140.00 (Concessions available). Booking fees apply.