

# VENICE SECRETS - MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 24 January 2012

**SYDNEY** 22, 24, 29 Feb, 2, 3 Mar at 7pm / Matinee 3 Mar at 2pm  
**MELBOURNE** 25 Feb at 7pm, 26 Feb at 5pm

With guest director **Federico Guglielmo** (ITALY)  
*"The new star of the ancient music landscape" The Boston Globe*

AUSTRALIAN  
BRANDENBURG  
ORCHESTRA

## The secret life of Europe's greatest girl band

Elite orphan musicians captivate  
while playing behind 'modesty' screens



"Centuries before legendary bands like The Beatles, ABBA and U2 existed, the hottest band in Europe didn't play in arenas," says Paul Dyer, Brandenburg Artistic Director, "they played behind 'modesty' screens, veiled in secrecy."

At an institution in Venice for orphaned and illegitimate girls, the great Vivaldi transformed his disadvantaged students into elite musicians. They were the toast of the 18<sup>th</sup> century music circuit, but because it wasn't considered appropriate for women to perform in public, these revered virtuosos played their concerts hidden away from their spellbound audience.

The Australian Brandenburg Orchestra's first series for 2012 is **Venice Secrets**, a tribute to Vivaldi and his gifted students. The concert will showcase the virtuosos of the Brandenburg, the home of Australia's finest baroque musicians, as they bring to life the music played by these young women, now iconic performers in music history.

"The girls must have been extraordinarily talented musicians to play these technically demanding concertos," says Paul. "Vivaldi wrote a massive amount of music and so much of it is rarely heard today. It's not surprising to discover that this great composer wrote over 500 concertos."

Paul Dyer has invited modern-day violin master **Federico Guglielmo** to be guest director and soloist for **Venice Secrets**. Federico's first Brandenburg series in Sydney in 2010 was a massive standing room-only success. He delighted audiences and critics alike and now returns to bring this exquisite tribute to Vivaldi to life.

"The audience and the orchestra absolutely love his powerful, vibrant and passionate music-making," says Paul of Federico who has been a winner of the **Antonio Vivaldi International Recording Prize**, the prestigious French **Diapson d'Or** for his exceptional performances of Vivaldi and was nominated for an **International Classical Music Award** in 2011 for his recording of Vivaldi's **Ottone**.

**PLEASE NOTE CHANGE FOR 2012: The Australian Brandenburg Orchestra's concert cycles have changed. The Sydney season now opens on a Wednesday evening and the Melbourne season now opens on a Saturday evening.**

Discover more at: [www.brandenburg.com.au](http://www.brandenburg.com.au)

Media information, interviews and pictures :

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# Venice Secrets

AUSTRALIAN  
BRANDENBURG  
ORCHESTRA

## Federico Guglielmo

guest director & baroque violin soloist

ITALY

## Australian Brandenburg Orchestra

**Paul Dyer** artistic director & harpsichord

NSW

with soloists from the orchestra

**Brendan Joyce**

baroque violin

QLD

**Jamie Hey**

baroque cello

VIC

**Anthea Cottee**

baroque cello

NSW

**Kirsten Barry & Adam Masters**

baroque oboe

VIC

**Melissa Farrow & Mikaela Oberg**

baroque flute & recorder

NSW

**Darryl Poulsen**

natural horn

NSW

**Dorée Dixon**

natural horn

WA

**Peter Moore**

baroque bassoon

WA

**Brian Nixon**

timpani

NSW



## An all-Vivaldi program

*Ciaccona* from Concerto for Strings in C major, RV 114

Concerto for violin, recorders, oboes & bassoon in G minor, RV 576

Concerto for 2 flutes, 2 oboes, violin, cello & harpsichord in F major, RV 572 *Il Proteo*

Concerto for violin, 2 oboes, 2 horns & timpani in D major, RV 562a

Concerto for several instruments in F major, RV 574 (1<sup>st</sup>) / RV 571 (2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>)

Concerto for 2 violins & 2 cellos, RV 564

Concerto for 2 violins, 2 oboes, 2 recorders & bassoon in G minor, RV 577

## SYDNEY

City Recital Hall Angel Place

Evenings

Wed 22, Fri 24 & Wed 29 Feb, Fri 2 & Sat 3 Mar @ 7pm

Matinee

Sat 3 Mar @ 2pm

## BOOKINGS:

City Recital Hall Angel Place (02) 8256 2222 or [www.cityrecitalhall.com](http://www.cityrecitalhall.com)

Brandenburg (02) 9328 7581 or [www.brandenburg.com.au](http://www.brandenburg.com.au)

Tickets range from \$61 to \$148.00 (Concessions/Under 30 available). Booking fees apply.

## MELBOURNE

Elisabeth Murdoch Hall, Melbourne Recital Centre

Sat 25 Feb @ 7pm & Sun 26 Feb @ 5pm

## BOOKINGS:

Melbourne Recital Centre (03) 9699 3333 or [www.melbournerecital.com.au](http://www.melbournerecital.com.au)

Brandenburg 1300 782 856 or [www.brandenburg.com.au](http://www.brandenburg.com.au)

Tickets range from \$56 to \$135.00 (Concessions/Under 30 available). Booking fees apply.

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