MEDIA RELEASE 9 MAR 2006



BRANDENBURG ENSEMBLE TICKET TO LONDON'S WEST END

THEATRICAL BAROQUE

Sat 1 April @ 7pm & Sun 2 April @ 3pm, Verbrugghen Hall, Sydney Conservatorium of Music

"Imagine the musical riches of London's famous theatre district about two centuries before the rule of **Les Mis** and **Phantom of the Opera**," says Artistic Director **Paul Dyer**, "when audiences returned to the theatres with great excitement following the lift of the Puritan ban on stage plays."

"This coincided with the heyday of **Henry Purcell**, the most original composer of his day and one of the greatest of all English composers," he says.

Although Purcell was one of the country's finest church musicians he worked within the European tradition that encouraged the musical elite to provide music for theatre. So providing incidental theatre music was certainly never regarded beneath the dignity of Purcell, who also held the esteemed post of Organist of Westminster Abbey.

"Between 1690 and his death in 1695 he supplied incidental music for over 40 plays," says Paul Dyer "including some of his most melodious inspirations."

A selection from this unique body of work forms the centrepiece of the first **Brandenburg Ensemble** series for 2006 – **Theatrical Baroque**.

The program also includes Matthew Locke's famous 'storm' music from **The Tempest**, as well as some rarely heard chamber music by Baroque composers active in London's theatre scene.

It will feature music by Handel's rival, the famous opera composer **Giovanni Battista Bononcini**, in a more intimate mode, as well as **Gottfried Finger**, an exact contemporary of Purcell who was influential in introducing to England the ensemble sonata for usual combinations of instruments.

The ticket price for Ensemble concerts includes entertaining on-stage commentary and insight from resident musicologist **Alan Maddox**, as well as a complimentary drink during the interval.

STEVEN GODBEE PUBLICITY Media information, interviews and pictures PHONE: 0408 706 099 EMAIL: sgpublicity@bigpond.com





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THEATRICAL BAROQUE

PROGRAM

PURCELL	Overture & Curtain Tune from Timon of Athens Aire in D minor, Symphony & Trumpet Tunes from King Arthur Aire in G Minor from Abdelazer Aire and Jigg in G Major from The Gordion Knot Unty'd Trumpet Tunes from The Indian Queen Fantasias VII and IX Overture from Bonduca Slow Aire & Aire from The Virtuous Wife Chacone from The Fairy Queen
BONONCINI	Sinfonia, Op. 5, No. 1 in C Major from Sinfonie da chiesa a quattro Op. 5 No. 1
FINGER	Sonata in C for trumpet, oboe and violin
ROSENMÜLLER	Sonata in E Minor
LOCKE	Curtain Tune from The Tempest

PLAYERS

LUCINDA MOON, BEN DOLLMAN baroque violins, SHELLEY JAMISON baroque viola JAMIE HEY baroque cello, ANTHEA COTTEE viola da gamba, KIRSTY McCAHON baroque bass, LEANNE SULLIVAN baroque trumpet, KIRSTEN BARRY baroque oboe, TOMMIE ANDERSSON theorbo/baroque guitar, PAUL DYER harpsichord

CONCERTS

Dates/Time	Saturday 1 April @ 7pm & Sunday 2 April @ 3pm
Venue	Verbrugghen Hall, Sydney Conservatorium of Music, Macquarie St, Sydney
Tickets	full \$69/\$59, concession \$49/\$39 – ticket price includes complimentary interval drink
Bookings	Brandenburg Box Office (02) 9328 7581 <i>or</i> www.brandenburg.com.au

LATER IN 2006 for the BRANDENBURG ENSEMBLE CLASSICAL CHAMBER NIGHTS – 6 & 7 October Boccherini – Mozart – Rossini Two concert packages are available, offering a 20% discount on single ticket prices.

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