

AUSTRALIAN BRANDENBURG ORCHESTRA MEDIA RELEASE

8 FEBRUARY 2007

The Showman and The Bear in **CLASSIC MOZART**

SYDNEY 23 February to 3 March, 2007

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The dazzling brilliance and showmanship of fortepianist **Kristian Bezuidenhout** will help the Brandenburg launch its 2007 program in excellent style," says Artistic Director **Paul Dyer**, "when he showcases the staggering genius of Mozart's keyboard music."

"Kris will be the first guest soloist to perform on the Brandenburg's brand new reproduction of Mozart's own piano," says Paul, "and appropriately he will treat us to the most famous of all Mozart piano concertos - the No. 21."

"At the young age of 21 Kris won first prize in the competition that is the Holy Grail for early music keyboard players," says Paul. "Without knowing his background, I was fortunate to hear him in action a few years later in Boston. When I introduced myself, praising his performances, he said, 'Why, I know you Paul. I've been following the Orchestra since I was a young boy living on the Gold Coast.'"

"Bezuidenhout played with vigour, variety and colour: extraordinary...and immensely expressive." Boston Globe

"Kris wowed our audience in his 2005 Brandenburg debut with exceptional musicianship, a captivating performance style and a youthful sense of humour," adds Paul. "I'm so excited that he accepted my offer to come back to 'road test' our luxurious new instrument."

As well as the concerto and Mozart's glorious Rondo, **Classic Mozart** features the **Symphony No. 82** by a man known as 'Papa Haydn'- 'the father of the symphony'. "Known as '**The Bear**', this symphony offers a cheeky, virtuosic half hour of intense playing," says Paul, "which is as much fun for the audience as it is for the Orchestra."

Overtures by two of Mozart's contemporaries round out the program and are both Australian premieres.

"Always keen to unearth forgotten gems for our audience, I decided to include some music written by the gifted and famous composers of Mozart's time but whose music is now rarely heard."

Simon Mayr's overture to the oratorio **Sisara** opens the concert. "Mayr was one of the most famous opera composers at the beginning of the nineteenth century and was famously the teacher and mentor of Donizetti," says Paul.

"By 1792 Joseph Schuster was recognized throughout Germany as 'one of our most popular composers' and he influenced the writing of Mozart. We'll play the overture to his opera **Rübezahl** to welcome the audience back from interval."

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CLASSIC MOZART

KRISTIAN BEZUIDENHOUT Guest soloist, fortepiano (USA)
“A musician of lavish gifts” New York Concert Review

AUSTRALIAN BRANDENBURG ORCHESTRA
PAUL DYER Director

PROGRAM

MAYR	Overture to the oratorio <i>Sisara</i>	
MOZART	Rondo in A major, K386	Bezuidenhout
HAYDN	Symphony No. 82 in C major	
SCHUSTER	Overture to the opera <i>Rübezahl</i>	
MOZART	Piano Concerto No. 21 in C major, K467	Bezuidenhout

SYDNEY CONCERTS

Dates/Time EVENINGS - **Fri 23, Sat 24, Wed 28 FEB, Fri 2 & Sat 3 MAR @ 7pm**
MATINEE - **Saturday 3 March @ 2pm**

Venue **City Recital Hall, Angel Place, SYDNEY**

Tickets **Tickets range from \$24 (Under 30) to \$103** Booking fees apply.
Special Seniors discount available for matinee performance.

Bookings **City Recital Hall Box Office 02 8256 2222**
www.cityrecitalhall.com.au
Brandenburg Box Office 02 9328 7581
Ticketmaster 136 100

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