

Brandenburg Season 2010 at
the Melbourne Recital Centre

MEDIA RELEASE

Embargoed until Thursday 24 September 2009, 9.30pm

AUSTRALIAN
BRANDENBURG
ORCHESTRA

Brandenburg's first ever Melbourne subscription season announced

'Coming of age' celebration for Melbourne will include some international party guests

Philippe Jaroussky, Christina Pluhar & L'Arpeggiata

"The Brandenburg turns 21 in 2010," says Paul Dyer, Artistic Director and co-founder, "and what better way to celebrate then by announcing our first ever Melbourne subscription series."

"We are steering clear of the traditional 21st party with yard glasses, a keg and a pav out in the back yard," says Paul at the season launch following the Melbourne performance of Three Faces of Vivaldi on Thursday 24 September.

"Our party celebrations include introducing a four concert season in Melbourne, featuring Australia's finest period players – the Australian Brandenburg Orchestra – with leading international stars and special guest appearances with extraordinary Melbourne musicians."

The international guest list includes some old Brandenburg friends, countertenor **Philippe Jaroussky** and theorbo player **Christina Pluhar**. "Philippe is a certified pop star in Europe and Christina and her band **L'Arpeggiata** have a huge cult following internationally. Both these artists have thrilled packed houses in past years in our Sydney program, so I'm ecstatic that we can now share their brilliance with Melbourne also."

"After we found great success with **The Choir of Trinity College** and the **Melbourne Grammar School Chapel Choir** with two sell-out concerts in May 2009, I've invited them back in 2010 to perform a blockbuster – the best-ever choral party piece, Handel's **Zadok the Priest**."

"The **Baroque Tapas** concert will coincide with a new release on the ABC Classics recording label and will change the way people think of baroque music. It is a veritable feast of delicious musical flavours with driving percussion and the sweet sounds of rare and unusual period instruments."

"The time is right for our expansion into Melbourne as we have now found the perfect acoustic home Melbourne Recital Centre," says Bruce Applebaum, the Orchestra's General Manager, who founded the Brandenburg with Paul in 1989, "and our local supporters have recently started the Melbourne chapter of the Brandenburg Friends organisation."

"In 1990 we had a bold vision and produced our first Sydney Opera House concert out of a spare bedroom, on a borrowed computer," says Bruce. At 21, the Brandenburg is now an established cultural force in Australia, playing to a live audience in excess of 30,000 people each year, and hundreds of thousands more through national broadcasts on ABC Classic FM. The orchestra has produced thirteen recordings with ABC Classics, won three ARIA Awards, toured Europe to great acclaim and featured in the Sydney and Melbourne Festivals and the openings of the Melbourne Recital Centre and Sydney's City Recital Hall.

"After twenty one years, our birthday wish is a simple one – to continue sharing the extraordinary gift of period music. And it gives us enormous pleasure to invite Melbourne to the party."

FOR A BROCHURE OR SUBSCRIPTION ENQUIRIES CALL

Brandenburg Ticketing Services: (02) 9328 7581

www.brandenburg.com.au



MACQUARIE

PRINCIPAL PARTNER

Media information, interviews, review CDS and pictures

STEVEN GODBEE PUBLICITY PHONE: 0408 706 099 EMAIL: sgpublicity@bigpond.com

PAUL DYER talks about the 2010 Melbourne program

VIVALDI OLYMPIA

Monday 15 & Wednesday 17 February

“The world is in love with countertenor **Philippe Jaroussky** – critics and general public alike. He is without doubt one of the hottest young classical recording stars on the planet, producing hit after hit for the Virgin Classics label. He is regularly described using words such as ethereal, virtuosic, stylish, captivating and sensuous. In France, particularly, he is a baroque pop star and has introduced a whole new generation to the joys of Vivaldi and Monteverdi. His Australian debut was with the Brandenburg in 2007 and the box office went ballistic. I feel like this is the beginning of a very long and exciting relationship between Philippe and the Brandenburg.”

BAROQUE TAPAS

Tuesday 23 & Wednesday 23 March

“These concerts feature the finest of the Brandenburg serving up a spicy musical feast from the seventeenth century. Intimate, jazzy, dancey and above all seductive, this concert will feature some of the most unusual of the orchestra – the lirone, the theorbo and baroque guitars, mixed with duelling violins, a fiery soprano and some funky percussion. Recorded by ABC Classics for CD release, this program bends the rules and mixes styles in an exciting way.”

HANDEL CORONATION

Sunday 1 & Monday 2 August

“In Sydney we have the **Brandenburg Choir** and in Melbourne we’ve been fortunately enough to form a special relationship with **The Choir of Trinity College** from the University of Melbourne and the talented boys from the **Melbourne Grammar School Chapel Choir**. They will join us for some powerhouse choral masterpieces. It doesn’t get any better than Handel’s choral jewel, **Zadok the Priest** – it reminds you that you are ALIVE! There’ll also be a work of true choral bliss, Purcell’s **Birthday Ode to Queen Mary**. ”

BAROQUE TARANTELLA

Sunday 12 & Monday 13 September

“Every great party needs a great DJ. **Christina Pluhar** is our ‘Baroque DJ’. She takes very early baroque music and gives us new and fresh ways to hear it. She introduces the unexpected – jazz clarinet, feisty folk singers or modern theatrical dance, for example. When the Brandenburg and Christina’s band **L’Arpeggiata** first joined forces on stage in 2007, it was difficult to get a ticket. We had members of the audience jump in the aisles to dance. I even danced on stage! Who knows what will happen in **Baroque Tarantella!**”

FULL PROGRAMS for these concerts can be found www.brandenburg.com.au



New Brandenburg 2 CD set released AUGUST 2009

Four years in the making, this 2 CD set of Handel’s complete Concerto Grossi Op.6 honours the 250th anniversary of the death of one of history’s greatest composers.

Media information, interviews, review CDs and pictures

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