

MEDIA RELEASE

Monday 3rd August 2009

AUSTRALIAN
BRANDENBURG
ORCHESTRA

It's our 21st birthday...

and there's a year long party at our place

Our 'coming of age' celebration will include some international party guests

Philippe Jaroussky, Christina Pluhar & L'Arpeggiata, Federico Guglielmo, Markus Brutscher

Brandenburg Season 2010

Season launched on 31 July 2009 by Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC, Governor of New South Wales

"It is the Brandenburg's 21st birthday," says Paul Dyer, Artistic Director and co-founder, "and you are all welcome to join the Brandenburg family and friends for a year long party at our place."

"Instead of celebrating with yard glasses, a keg and a pav out in the back yard," says Paul, "the Brandenburg is going to party in the way that we do best: by bringing together Australia's finest period musicians – the Australian Brandenburg Orchestra - and leading international stars to play exceptional music together at the City Recital Hall."

"The guest list includes some old 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 Brandenburg audiences with sell out concerts in past years."

"New friends coming to the party include Italian violinist **Federico Guglielmo**. He is a regular leader and soloist across Europe, Japan and in South America, and he has made over 100 recordings for many major labels. He's a bit of unknown in Australia though, but I think not for long!"

"I'm also excited that a very special tenor named **Markus Brutscher** has RSVPd for the party. This Bavarian-born singer is hot – vocally and... well, let's just say he's hot! He personifies the Mozart heroic tenor and will no doubt be quite a popular addition to the festivities."

"The singers of the **Brandenburg Choir** are always the life of any party, so I've given them a blockbuster to perform – the best-ever choral party piece, Handel's **Zadok the Priest**."

"Of course Paul Dyer and the musicians and our faithful audience are the core Brandenburg family," says Bruce Applebaum, the Orchestra's General Manager, who founded the Brandenburg with Paul in 1989.

"Paul and I often wonder at the incredible speed at which the years have passed since the Orchestra's debut concert in 1990," says Bruce. "It was a bold vision, produced out of a spare bedroom, on a borrowed computer. That first night at the Sydney Opera House, 2600 people heard the Brandenburg recreate the sound of the seventeenth century like never before."

"Twenty one years later, our birthday wish is a simple one – to continue sharing the extraordinary gift of period music. We hope you can join us for the 2010 party."

**FOR A BROCHURE OR SUBSCRIPTION ENQUIRIES CALL
Brandenburg Ticketing Services: (02) 9328 7581**

www.brandenburg.com.au



Media information, interviews and pictures

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PAUL DYER talks about the 2010 program

VIVALDI OLYMPIA Feb 19, 20, 24, 26, 27

“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.”

PALAZZO BAROQUE May 7, 8, 12, 14, 15 plus a matinee May 15

“The Italians know how to do baroque and Italian **Federico Guglielmo** is one of their best. This stirring violinist was encouraged to specialize in baroque and classical music by the legendary Christopher Hogwood and he has since carved out an impressive career internationally and built a massive recording catalogue. I’ve also programmed a unique Handel work in **Palazzo Baroque** in which the Brandenburg musicians will wander around the stage, disappearing from time to time behind a series of 18th century screens. I love a bit of baroque drama!”

HANDEL CORONATION July 30, 31 & Aug 4, 6 & 7 plus a matinee Aug 7

“**Brandenburg Choir** concerts have become unmissable to many Sydney concert-goers and I’ve given the Choir some powerhouse pieces to perform in our special birthday year. 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 Sept 10, 11, 15, 17 & 18 plus a matinee Sept 18

“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!**”

MOZART, LOVE & PARIS Oct 29, 30 & Nov 3, 5 & 6

“We all love Mozart. Paris, yes – we sure love that too. But now Sydney should get ready to fall in love with swoon-making tenor **Markus Brutscher**. Smouldering good looks aside, Markus has a remarkable tenor voice that could charm a snake. He started singing as a choirboy and his gift was recognized at a very young age. His career took off while he was still a student, and now he is in demand with opera companies and festivals across Europe, America and Asia. I’ve asked him to sing some of Mozart’s greatest tenor arias. An orchestral highlight will be the hugely popular ‘*Paris*’ Symphony by Mozart.”



STOP PRESS New Brandenburg 2 CD set ON SALE 7 AUGUST 09

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.



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