Vivaldi Olympia series **MEDIA RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 11 January 2010





Philippe Jaroussky

'This is how the great castrati of the 18th century sounded'

SYDNEY 19, 20, 24, 26, 27 Feb 2010 **MELBOURNE** 1, 2 Mar 2010

ON SALE TODAY 11 January
ON SALE 18 January

YouTube hit Philippe brings to life the great castrati superstars of the baroque

"The great castrati of the baroque era like **Farinelli** and **Senesino** were superstars like **Madonna** and **Bono**" says **Paul Dyer**, the Brandenburg's Artistic Director. "They were celebrities with mass appeal whose voices and personalities entertained and fascinated their generation."

"In the last twenty years, two men – singing as countertenors rather than castrati - have become huge stars whilst bringing the hits of the castrati back into the spotlight," says Paul,

"One is the great **Andreas Scholl**. The other is one of the biggest stars of the new generation of classical artists, French singer **Philippe Jaroussky**. Philippe has been famously described as having "the tone of an angel and the virtuosity of the devil".

Charismatic, virtuosic and handsome, Philippe has attained the stature of a pop star in his native France where his recordings have gone gold.

As a relative newcomer, he was named **French Opera Singer of the Year**, beating out some of opera's biggest stars and a **YouTube** clip of his performance at those awards is fast approaching a million views. (www.youtube.com/watch?y=9zQX2XqAE8c)

"Philippe's Australian debut was made with the Brandenburg in Sydney in 2007 and was a sell out season. I'm thrilled that he returns in 2010 for **Vivaldi Olympia**, which opens our 21st anniversary season."

Before he arrives in Australia for these concerts, Philippe will fulfill one of his dreams by sharing the stage with two of his great role models – **Cecelia Bartoli** and **Andreas Scholl**. They will perform together in concert performances of Handel's **Julius Caeasar** with **Les Arts Florrisants** in Paris.

Philippe Jaroussky's latest CD is **La dolce fiamma: Forgotten castrato arias** Released in November 2009. Virgin Classics 5099969456404





PRINCIPAL PARTNER





Vivaldi Olympia

Philippe Jaroussky countertenor, guest soloist (FRANCE)

Australian Brandenburg Orchestra Paul Dyer artistic director / harpsichord

Torelli Sinfonia a 4 in C Major for 4 trumpets, G 33

Vivaldi Aria *Mentre dormi amor fomenti* from *L'Olimpiade*, RV 725 **Vivaldi** Aria *Gemo in un punto e fremo* from *L'Olimpiade*, RV 725

Handel Concerto Grosso Op 6 No. 7, HWV 325

Handel Recit & Aria Dove sei? from Rodelinda, HWV 19

Handel Aria Vivi tiranno from Rodelinda, HWV 19

INTERVAL

Veracini First movement from Concerto à otto in D Major (1712) **Handel** Recit & Aria *Scherza Infida* from *Ariodante*, HWV 33

Vivaldi Concerto ripieno in A Major, RV 158

Vivaldi Aria *Vedro con mio diletto* from *II Giustino*, RV 717

Handel Battaglia from Rinaldo, HWV 7

Handel Aria Or la tromba from Rinaldo, HWV 7

SYDNEY City Recital Hall, Angel Place

ON SALE 11 January

Fri 19, Sat 20, Wed 24, Fri 26, Sat 27 February @ 7pm

Tickets range from \$25 (under 30) to \$130.00. Booking fees apply. BOOKINGS:

City Recital Hall Box Office (02) 8256 2222 or www.cityrecitalhall.com.au Brandenburg Box Office (02) 9328 7581 or www.brandenburg.com.au

MELBOURNE Melbourne Recital Centre

ON SALE 18 January

Mon 1, Tues 2 March @ 7.30pm

Tickets range from \$45 (under 30) to \$120.00. Booking fees apply. BOOKINGS:

Melbourne Recital Centre (03) 9699 3333 or <u>melbournerecital.com.au</u> Brandenburg Box Office 1300 782 856 or <u>www.brandenburg.com.au</u>

Media information, interviews and pictures

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