

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 20 June 2011

AUSTRALIAN
BRANDENBURG
ORCHESTRA

MOZART TEMPEST

SYDNEY 29, 30 July, 3, 5, 6 August @ 7pm & 30 July @ 2pm
MELBOURNE 7 August @ 5pm & 8 August @ 7pm

‘Mozart reincarnated’ talks music & martinis

“At only 31, star fortepianist **Kristian Bezuidenhout** has well and truly arrived on the international music scene,” says **Paul Dyer**, Artistic Director of the Australian Brandenburg Orchestra. “He is a profoundly gifted musician and charismatic showman who is in such demand for touring and recording that he generally only manages to sneak in four days a month at home!”

His 2011 schedule includes debuts with the **Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment** and the **English Concert**, performances at the **Salzburg, Lucerne and Boston Early Music Festivals**, the Konzerthaus in Vienna and at Wigmore Hall with cellist **Peter Wispelway**, a solo tour of Japan and Beethoven Concertos with the **Chicago Symphony**.

How does someone so busy get down time?

“I’m very strict about martini time,” says Kristian. “Unfortunately there are some people on the continent who will give you a tumbler of half gin and half sweet vermouth when you ask for a dry martini, so I’ve become a passionate martini maker. When I get home from a big tour, I like to chill out with a martini at the Connaught Bar in London.”

The South African-born musician now calls London home after 11 years in the States, but he spent his formative years in Brisbane: “Australia was really the place where all the most important life-events happened. It was where I started playing the piano and where it became clear to me that a life in music was definitely what I wanted.”

Australia was also where he began his life-long love of the music of Mozart: “My parents belonged to a record club and played a lot of classical music at home. I became conscious of Mozart’s music when I was about 9 years old and became crazily obsessed soon after.”

It wasn’t until he was studying at the prestigious Eastman School in the US at the age of 17 that Kristian first experienced playing the music of Mozart on an instrument like that which the composer himself played – a fortepiano.

He recently told the **Boston Globe** newspaper: “I could suddenly connect with Mozart on a very human and visceral level – on that instrument (fortepiano). And I could never feel that way at a Steinway, up to that point.”

Mozart Tempest will also provide a happy reunion for Kristian with Canadian baroque violinist **Marc Destrubé** and guest director for the series. They previously performed together under very similar circumstances in Beijing in 2008, when Marc led Kristian in a Mozart concerto performance with the **Orchestra of the 18th Century**.



“Mozart reincarnated”

De Telegraaf, Holland

“Inventive and illuminating”

New York Times, USA

“One of the best albums of 2010”

Time Out New York, USA

“Extraordinary new ideas about old music”

Boston Globe, USA

“Elegant and eloquent”

The Guardian, UK

“A prince of the fortepiano”

The Times, UK

www.brandenburg.com.au

www.kristianbezuidenhout.com

www.marcdestrube.com

Media information, interviews and pictures:

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Mozart Tempest

Australian Brandenburg Orchestra

Kristian Bezuidenhout

fortepiano UK, via USA, AUSTRALIA & SOUTH AFRICA
"A musician of lavish gifts" *New York Concert Review*

Marc Destrubé

guest director & baroque violin CANADA
"Destrube finds the right balance of elegant lyricism
and virtuosic brilliance." *The Australian*



Mozart Symphony No. 25 in G minor K183
Mozart Rondo for Fortepiano K382
Mozart Overture to *La Betulia Liberata* K118
Mozart Piano Concerto No. 22 K482

Kristian will perform in Sydney on the Brandenburg Fortepiano, made by Detmar Hungerberg after the design of the piano Mozart acquired in 1782. The original piano was built by the Viennese maker Anton Walter and is now displayed in Salzburg in the house of Mozart's birth.

In Melbourne he will play the Melbourne Recital Centre's stunning fortepiano, made in Prague by Paul McNulty after Walter and Sohn c.1805. It is constructed from French polished Walnut and decorated with Pyramid Mahogany.



MACQUARIE

PRINCIPAL PARTNER

SYDNEY City Recital Hall, Angel Place

EVENINGS Fri 29, Sat 30 July, Wed 3, Fri 5, Sat 6 August @ 7pm

MATINEE Sat 30 July @ 2pm

BOOKINGS: Brandenburg Box Office (02) 9328 7581 or www.brandenburg.com.au

City Recital Hall Box Office (02) 8256 2222 or www.cityrecitalhall.com

Ticketmaster 136 100 or www.ticketmaster.com.au

Tickets range from \$60 to \$140.00 (Concessions available). Booking fees apply.

MELBOURNE Melbourne Recital Centre

Sun 7 August @ 5pm & Mon 8 August @ 7pm

BOOKINGS: Melbourne Recital Centre (03) 9699 3333 or melbournerecital.com.au

Ticketmaster 136 100 or www.ticketmaster.com.au

Tickets range from \$55 to \$125.00 (Concessions available). Booking fees apply.

Prior to Kristian Bezuidenhout's Brandenburg concerts, he'll be performing alongside Jane Gower & Darryl Poulsen in the Barossa Klassik series, Torbreck Vintners, South Australia. 23 & 24 July. More information at www.torbreck.com/events

Media information, interviews and pictures:

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