

MEDIA RELEASE – FEARLESS BAROQUE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 5 August 2013

SYDNEY 4, 6, 7, 11 13 September at 7pm
Matinee 8 September at 2pm
MELBOURNE 14 September at 7pm, 15 September at 5pm

AUSTRALIAN
BRANDENBURG
ORCHESTRA

“I can’t think of another performer who has so captured my imagination, nor one who has lured me further outside my usual comfort zones of listening... I was swept away by her ability to speak directly to the heart.” New York Times



“I am the Lady Gaga of classical music” SIMONE KERMES in FEARLESS BAROQUE

“The Queen of Baroque.” Opera Now

“A flamboyant star in her native Germany, Simone Kermes is a dangerous, no-holds-barred singer.” Gramophone

“I’m preparing myself for the arrival of the classical Gaga,” says **Paul Dyer**, Artistic Director of the Australian Brandenburg Orchestra. “Soprano **Simone Kermes** has declared herself in the German press as the “the Lady Gaga of classical music” and I agree with her. There is no one like her on the classical music scene. She’s larger than life, unpredictable, pushes the boundaries in style and performance, and is utterly fearless.

“This is all very well, but can she sing? You bet. Like Lady Gaga, she combines a rare and breathtaking vocal virtuosity with a performance style that is confronting, unique and utterly irresistible.” With a smile he adds, “And I know - I’ve been to a Lady Gaga concert!”

The German powerhouse diva Simone Kermes makes her Australian debut in Sydney and Melbourne in the Brandenburg’s **Fearless Baroque** concerts in September. Simone will be singing six arias from her international Sony CD release called **Dramma**. These glittering arias are by Porpora, Pergolesi and Leo, and many will be heard for the first time in Australia in this series.

“Almost all the arias on the CD were written for castrati, mainly for Farinelli or Caffarelli who were superstars in their time,” says Simone. “The title **Dramma** derives from ‘*dramma per la musica*’, which is what opera was called in those days. Drama means a great deal for me: expression, depth, fire and passion.”

Simone Kermes is a highly original baroque ‘rock chick’ with her famous red hair and matching lips. If you see her listening to her iPod, it would be likely she’ll be enjoying heavy rock, like the German band Rammstein. But she has a grand plan to reveal baroque music to a new generation and present it in a relevant way: “We have to get the message across to people that opera is great music, otherwise it will die out because some people think its too elite.”

See and hear Simone Kermes in action at <http://bit.ly/15xtcl7>

FEARLESS BAROQUE also features
MATT BRUCE soloist on baroque violin

The Brandenburg’s Resident Concertmaster steps out as a soloist to perform a spectacular Vivaldi violin concerto brimming with the passion of Southern Italy.



Discover more at: www.brandenburg.com.au & www.simone-kermes.de

Media information, interviews, pictures & review CDs :

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FEARLESS BAROQUE

Simone Kermes (Germany) soprano soloist
Matt Bruce (Australia) baroque violin soloist
Australian Brandenburg Orchestra
Paul Dyer AO artistic director & harpsichord

Porpora	Overture to <i>Agrippina</i>
Porpora	Aria "Vedrà turbato il mare" from <i>Mitridate</i>
Vivaldi	Violin Concerto in C Major RV 190
Porpora	Aria "Alto Giove" from <i>Polifemo</i>
Porpora	Aria "Empi, se mai disciolgo" from <i>Germanico in Germania</i>
Leo	Aria "Son qual nave" from <i>Zenobia in Palmira</i>
Albinoni	Sinfonia in g minor
Pergolesi	Aria "Sul mio cor" from <i>Adriano in Siria</i>
Pergolesi	Overture to <i>Adriano in Siria</i>
Porpora	Aria "Se doppo ria procella" from <i>Germanico in Germania</i>



SYDNEY	City Recital Hall Angel Place
EVENINGS	Wed 4, Fri 6, Sat 7, Wed 11 & Fri 13 Sept @ 7pm
MATINEE	Sun 8 Sept @ 2pm
BOOKINGS	City Recital Hall Angel Place (02) 8256 2222 or www.cityrecitalhall.com Brandenburg (02) 9328 7581 or www.brandenburg.com.au Tickets range from \$65 to \$154 (Concessions/Under 30 available). Booking fees apply.

MELBOURNE	Elisabeth Murdoch Hall, Melbourne Recital Centre
	Sat 14 Sept @ 7pm & Sun 15 Sept @ 5pm
BOOKINGS	Melbourne Recital Centre (03) 9699 3333 or www.melbournerecital.com.au Brandenburg 1300 782 856 or www.brandenburg.com.au Tickets range from \$60 to \$140 (Concessions/Under 30 available). Booking fees apply.

Simone Kermes latest album **DRAMMA** is out now. Sony Classical
 iTunes link <http://smarturl.it/dramma>



Discover more at: www.brandenburg.com.au & www.simone-kermes.de

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