#### **MEDIA RELEASE - AVI AVITAL MANDOLIN**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 17 March 2014

**SYDNEY** 7, 9, 10, 14 & 16 May at 7pm

Matinee 10 May at 2pm

MELBOURNE 17 May at 7pm & 18 May at 5pm





- "Exquisitely sensitive playing" NEW YORK TIMES, USA
- "Sheer brilliance ★★★★ \* THE TELEGRAPH, UK
- "A cool artist with pop appeal" SPIEGEL, GERMANY
- "Everything you never dreamt a mandolin could do... truly breathtaking in virtuosity and dedication." HAARETZ DAILY, ISRAEL
- "Takes the listener to the brink of wildest expectation and leaps over those boundaries." THE BOSTON MUSICAL INTELLIGENCER, USA

### FRESH FROM CARNEGIE HALL

# **AVI AVITAL**

"When I hold the mandolin, it is so much part of me... my voice. I don't think of it as an instrument, but just an extension of myself."

## ISRAEL'S GRAMMY-NOMINATED MANDOLIN VIRTUOSO PUSHES BOUNDARIES AND CREATES HIS OWN MUSICAL WORLD

"Avi Avital is one of the young superstars of the classical music world and I'm very incredibly excited to be working with him in our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary year," says **Paul Dyer AO**, Artistic Director of the Australian Brandenburg Orchestra. "He pushes boundaries and is creating a new musical world for his instrument that is all-together beautiful, romantic, thrilling and exciting."

At the age of 8 years in Israel, Avi inherited a mandolin from a neighbour who upgraded and there was no looking back. Later studying at the Jerusalem Music Academy and in Padova, Italy, Avi the musician and the entrepreneur has forged new ground for his instrument and opened the world's ears to its potential. "The mandolin is full of depth and full of possibilities," says Avi, the first mandolin player to be nominated for a classical Grammy Award. "My dream is to bring the mandolin and its repertory to the widest possible audience."

Avi has an exclusive recording contact with the prestigious **Deutsche Grammphon** label. At concerts with the Brandenburg in Sydney and Melbourne he'll play two stunning works that feature on his debut album **Bach**, which are his own arrangements of music JS Bach originally conceived to showcase the violin and flute.

"Bach's music captured me from a very early age," says Avi. "Bach's music is full of secrets. No matter how long you've been playing it, there is still something to discover every time. Using a different instrument allows you to hear its timelessness in a new way."

From his new album **Between Worlds** (released in Australia on 11 April), Avi and the Brandenburg will perform an arrangement of Romanian Folk Dances by Hungarian Béla Bartók. Bartók is an early 20<sup>th</sup> century composer who, along with Spain's Manuel De Falla, will make his debut on the Brandenburg stage in this series.

**Between Worlds** is a genre-defying tour of the globe exploring the nexus between classical, popular and traditional music. "With **Between Worlds**, I didn't want it to be folk and I didn't want it to be classical. I wanted the listener to have his or her own associations when they listen to the music," says Avi.

WWW.BRANDENBURG.COM.AU

WHAT'S THE BUZZ ABOUT AVI AVITAL http://bit.ly/MZV0Zq

Media information, interviews, pictures:

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### **AVI AVITAL MANDOLIN**

AVI AVITAL (ISRAEL) mandolin **AUSTRALIAN BRANDENBURG ORCHESTRA** PAUL DYER AO artistic director & conductor



Avi Avital, Australian Brandenburg Orchestra, Paul Dyer

Vivaldi Concerto for 4 violins in b minor Op.3/10. RV 580 Australian Brandenburg Orchestra, Paul Dyer Vivaldi Concerto in D major RV 93 (orig. for lute, arr. for mandolin) Avi Avital, Australian Brandenburg Orchestra, Paul Dyer Canon **Pachelbel** Australian Brandenburg Orchestra, Paul Dyer Concerto in a minor BWV 1041 (orig. for violin, arr. for mandolin) JS Bach Avi Avital, Australian Brandenburg Orchestra, Paul Dyer JS Bach Sonata in e minor BWV 1034 (orig. for flute, arr. for mandolin) Avi Avital, Australian Brandenburg Orchestra, Paul Dyer Sonata Op no 2 à 5 in C Major **Albinoni** Australian Brandenburg Orchestra, Paul Dyer Danse Espagnole (arr. for mandolin, strings, continuo) Falla Avi Avital, Australian Brandenburg Orchestra, Paul Dyer **Bartok** Romanian Folk Dances (arr. for mandolin, strings, continuo)

**SYDNEY** CITY RECITAL HALL, ANGEL PLACE

**EVENINGS** Wed 7, Fri 9, Sat 10, Wed 14, Fri 16 May @ 7pm

Sat 10 May @ 2pm **MATINEE** 

**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 \$68 to \$160 (Concessions/Under 30 available). Booking fees apply.

ELISABETH MURDOCH HALL, MELBOURNE RECITAL CENTRE **MELBOURNE** 

Sat 17 May @ 7pm & Sun 18 May @ 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 \$65 to \$146 (Concessions/Under 30 available). Booking fees apply.







AVI AVITAL ON CD BACH Avi Avital Out now / BETWEEN WORLDS Avi Avital Released: 11 April 2014

For Avi Avital's Brandenburg tour, Deutsche Grammophon / Universal releases on 11 April a special 2CD collection of his BACH and BETWEEN WORLDS recordings.

This **DELUXE AUSTRALIAN TOUR EDITION** is available at all good music retailers and at Brandenburg performances.

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