

HANDEL: HEAVEN AND HARMONY 2015 OPENING CONCERT EVENT

Mariana Flores (Argentina) soprano Fernando Guimarães (Portugal) tenor Brandenburg Choir Australian Brandenburg Orchestra Paul Dyer AO artistic director/conductor

"Handel is the greatest composer that ever lived.

I would uncover my head and kneel on his grave" Beethoven



PAUL DYER CREATES HANDEL SHOWCASE FOR HIS DREAM VOCAL COMBINATION, MARIANA AND FERNANDO

Arrival of the Queen of Sheba to open 2015 season & herald the arrival of performers on the cusp of stardom from Argentina and Portugal



"Argentine soprano Mariana Flores and Portuguese tenor Fernando Guimarães are two of the hottest young talents working in the early music arena in 2015," says Paul Dyer AO, Artistic Director of the Australian Brandenburg Orchestra.

"Their outstanding vocal purity and on-stage chemistry will totally spellbind Australian audiences, as they have done together around Europe."

"I've had my eye on Mariana and Fernando as their careers have gathered momentum," says Paul, "and have been so keen to work with them that I've programmed a concert that totally capitalizes on their talents, special bond and charisma. They've performed over 100 concerts together throughout Europe since they first met and became friends just six years ago."

"There is something magical about this combination. Mariana has a clear toned authority and sensual edge which melds superbly with Fernando's formidable technique and matinee idol looks. I can't wait to bring this dream pairing to the Brandenburg stage."

They will make their Australian debuts, alongside the **Brandenburg Choir** and **Australian Brandenburg Orchestra**, in an all-Handel concert that pays great tribute to the patron saint of music and musicians, St Cecilia.

Handel: Heaven and Harmony embraces all that is thrilling about music and life, the glorious, the sensual and the romantic. It includes the great choral masterpiece Ode for St Cecilia's Day, the seldom heard, but glorious cantata Look down, harmonious Saint, a singularly perfect love duet, and one of the Handel's 'greatest hits', Arrival of the Queen of Sheba.

CLICK HERE TO SEE MARIANA & FERNANDO PERFORM A STUNNING DUET FROM FALVETTI'S IL DILUVIO UNIVERSALE

WWW.BRANDENBURG.COM.AU

Media information, interviews, pictures:

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HANDEL HEAVEN AND HARMONY

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AN ALL HANDEL PROGRAM

Sinfonia "Arrival of the Queen of Sheba" from *Solomon* HWV 67 Cantata "Look down, harmonious Saint" HWV 124 Ode For St Cecilia's Day HWV 76 Duet "Tra amplessi innocenti" from *Cecilia, volgi un sguardo* HWV 89

SYDNEY	CITY RECITAL HALL,	ANGEL PLACE
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EVENINGS Wed 25, Fri 27, Sat 28 February, Wed 4, Fri 6 March @ 7pm

MATINEE Sat 28 February @ 2pm

BOOKINGS Brandenburg (02) 9328 7581 or <u>www.brandenburg.com.au</u>

City Recital Hall Ángel Place (02) 8256 2222 or www.cityrecitalhall.com

Tickets range from \$71 to \$166 (Concessions/Under 30 available). Booking fees apply.

MELBOURNE ELISABETH MURDOCH HALL, MELBOURNE RECITAL CENTRE

Sat 7 March @ 7pm & Sun 8 March @ 5pm

BOOKINGS Melbourne Recital Centre (03) 9699 3333 or <u>www.melbournerecital.com.au</u>

Brandenburg 1300 782 856 or www.brandenburg.com.au

Tickets range from \$68 to \$152 (Concessions/Under 30 available). Booking fees apply.



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