



MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday, October 14 2009

STATE ORCHESTRA LAUNCHES 2010 SEASON

2010 Season highlights

The powerful sounds of Queensland's beloved State Orchestra were enjoyed by hundreds of music enthusiasts today (Wednesday 14 October) at Suncorp Piazza, South Bank, in celebration of the organisation's 2010 Season launch.

The launch event was a true spectacle highlighted by the unveiling of a new name; Queensland Symphony Orchestra and a complementary new look incorporating the reds and oranges of the Queensland sun.

Mr Pickett said 2010 marks a new beginning for the Queensland Symphony Orchestra and a renewed commitment to the organisation's mission, 'to touch the hearts and minds of all Queenslanders through music'.

"We are committed to life-long learning, delivering engaging and inspiring concert experiences, exploring new musical horizons and collaborating with guest artists of the highest international acclaim," said Mr Pickett.

"We have listened to our devoted subscribers, supporters and friends to ensure the role we play in the cultural life of the Queensland community continues to be both positive and progressive," he said.

Mr Pickett also announced the introduction of four new concert series to the Queensland Symphony Orchestra's annual program; *Gala*, a series of celebration and variety; *Splendour of the Baroque*, for enthusiasts of early music; *20/21*, an exploration of music from the 20th and 21st Century, and *Midweek Masterworks*, the perfect daytime escape from the hustle and bustle of the busy working week.

"The 2010 Season is made up of seven unique and dynamic concert series to delight all music tastes; four of which are exciting new concepts we are particularly looking forward to introducing to our audiences," said Mr Pickett.

The flagship series of the Queensland Symphony Orchestra's 2010 Season, the **Maestro** series, is designed to reflect all that is best in the world of classical music.

Showcasing Chief Conductor Johannes Fritzsich, the Maestro series will explore a vast range of repertory, feature world beating soloists and large orchestral forces playing with passion and precision.

The **Great Classics** series is an opportunity for music enthusiasts to get closer to the Queensland Symphony Orchestra as they perform on extended stage in 'intimate mode'.

Tracing the orchestral evolution from the high points of the classical era up to the last of the Romantics, the Great Classics series will feature outstanding international soloists and conductors showcasing the great masterworks from Haydn and Mozart to Elgar and Sibelius.

The new **Gala** series is a celebration of glamour, high entertainment, exquisite music, fun and orchestral spectaculars.



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This series of prestigious concert events features famous names from the entertainment world including James Morrison and Cheryl Barker, and promises the best 'Last Night of the Proms' ever.

The ever-popular **Music on Sundays** series with hilarious guest presenter Guy Noble returns in 2010, with five stunning concert experiences built around short popular pieces.

The Music on Sundays concert experience is a family musical event like no other, ideal for new concert goers, children and the perfect way to start your Sunday.

The glories of the baroque era are normally off-limits to a full symphony orchestra, but not to the core ensemble of experienced early music specialists hidden within the Queensland Symphony Orchestra.

The **Splendour of the Baroque** series is the second new concert series to be introduced in 2010, directed by world renowned musicologist, conductor and keyboard wizard Geoffrey Lancaster.

Maestro Lancaster and Concertmaster of the Queensland Symphony Orchestra, Warwick Adeney will lead audiences through the Baroque period with performances of works from Biber to Bach, Marais to Rameau and Purcell to Vivaldi.

This series presents a wonderful opportunity to find out why the elite core ensemble of the Queensland Symphony Orchestra are often acclaimed as one of the best early music ensembles in Australia.

The third new concert series presented by the Queensland Symphony Orchestra in 2010, is the **20/21** series, where audiences are invited to discover distinctive voices in music from the 20th and 21st Century.

In the 20/21 series, works by leading Australian composers are partnered with some of the most influential international names in contemporary music from the past century, including stunningly beautiful music by Peteris Vasks, Heitor Villa-Lobos, Hans Zender, Carl Vine and Sir Malcolm Williamson.

The final series of the Queensland Symphony Orchestra's 2010 Season, and the fourth new introduction to the annual program, **Midweek Masterworks** is proudly co-produced by the Queensland Performing Arts Centre.

An increasing demand for daytime concerts, has led to the design of this midweek concert series with performances starting mid-morning and finishing in time for audiences to enjoy lunch at Brisbane's stunning South Bank.

Each Midweek Masterworks performance features high-profile guest artists and explores favourite masterworks by key composers.

In 2010, the Queensland Symphony Orchestra will take an assortment of programs to music enthusiasts fans across the State, as part of the Queensland Government's **Coming To A Place Near You** touring strategy.

Performances featuring high-calibre guest artists and exhilarating repertoire are planned for the Gold Coast, Caloundra, Toowoomba, Rockhampton, Mackay, Townsville and Cairns throughout the year.

The Queensland Symphony Orchestra will also deliver a unique **State-wide Education program** in 2010 for over 30,000 Queensland students from pre-school to university level.



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In addition to its own program in 2010, the Queensland Symphony Orchestra will continue to perform for major arts festivals, direct broadcasts and recordings, and support the Queensland Ballet, Opera Queensland and other national opera and ballet companies.

The Queensland Symphony Orchestra's 2010 Season promises to be an unprecedented year of orchestral brilliance delivering concert experiences to delight all Queenslanders.

Under the guiding baton of Chief Conductor Johannes Fritsch, the Queensland Symphony Orchestra is renowned for its high quality, breath-taking performances of both classical and modern compositions that engage audiences of all musical tastes, interests and ages.

For your complimentary copy of the 2010 Season brochure, visit www.qso.com.au or call 07 3833 5000. 2010 Season subscriptions, entitling you to an exciting range of subscriber benefits, are now on sale through QTIX at www.qtix.com.au or on 136 246.

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