

ACO 2019

ANNUAL REPORT

PRINCIPAL PARTNER

 virgin australia

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COVER:
LIISA PALLANDI
Violin

01

Mission Statement

OUR PURPOSE

To inspire and challenge audiences everywhere through the music we play.

OUR VISION

To be considered one of the greatest chamber orchestras in the world, renowned for the integrity and excellence of our musicianship, the boldness, vitality and distinctive character of our programs, as well as our commitment to our audiences, present and future. We will be fuelled by the loyalty and growth of our audiences and supporters.

OUR PRINCIPLES

- 01 **People:** From the stage to behind the scenes our team is a passionate, dedicated and diverse family. We never stop looking for ways to bring something new to what we do. Every day we inspire audiences and each other with our ambition, enthusiasm and openness.
- 02 **Performance:** With a fearless and explosive style, our performances push the boundaries of music in unexpected and inventive ways.
- 03 **Program:** Our programs weave together the familiar and the adventurous, encouraging audiences to discover and experience something new.
- 04 **Initiatives:** Our initiatives embrace audiences, communities and collaborators from all corners of the globe. We encourage access to our musicians and their instruments to share knowledge, imagination and inspiration – helping shape the musicians of tomorrow.

02

2019 Overview

“This chamber string ensemble has the scope of a symphony orchestra many times its size.”

– THE TIMES UK, 7 OCTOBER 2019

“It’s not easy getting a bead on the particular strengths of the Australian Chamber Orchestra. That’s because this terrific string ensemble seems to shine at anything it undertakes.”

– SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE, 1 APRIL 2019

“The ACO plays with supple poise and meticulous attention to style over a span of nearly three centuries of music. The seamless blend of themed programs continues to delight and excite, even after decades of Richard Tognetti’s stimulating programming and the stellar artistic standards he requires of his performers and associates. These he consistently delivers in spades.”

– THE AUSTRALIAN, 5 JANUARY 2019

2 international tours

110,063 concertgoers

141 concerts across Australia and abroad

7 world premieres and 7 Australian premieres

Over 11,000 contact hours of music education activities

129 music education events reaching over 7,000 young people

Over 1.7 million minutes of video views received across the ACO’s social channels

ACO on stage

Indies & Idols, June 2019,
City Recital Hall.

Photo: Christie Brewster.

ILYA ISAKOVICH
Violin

03

ACO Players

Richard Tognetti Artistic Director and Lead Violin

Richard plays the 1743 'Carrodus' Giuseppe Guarneri del Gesù violin kindly on loan from an anonymous Australian private benefactor. His Chair is sponsored by Wendy Edwards, Peter & Ruth McMullin, Louise Myer & Martyn Myer AO, Andrew & Andrea Roberts. Richard is dressed by Ermenegildo Zegna.

Helena Rathbone Principal Violin

Helena plays a 1759 Giovanni Battista Guadagnini violin kindly on loan from the Commonwealth Bank Group. Her Chair is sponsored by Kate & Daryl Dixon.

Satu Vänskä Principal Violin

Satu plays the 1726 'Belgiorno' Stradivarius violin kindly on loan from Guido Belgiorno-Nettis AM & Michelle Belgiorno-Nettis. Her Chair is sponsored by Kay Bryan.

Glenn Christensen Violin

Glenn plays a 1728/29 Stradivarius violin kindly on loan from the ACO Instrument Fund. His chair is sponsored by Terry Campbell AO & Christine Campbell.

Aiko Goto Violin

Aiko plays her own French violin by Jean-Baptiste Vuillaume. Her Chair is sponsored by Anthony & Sharon Lee Foundation.

Mark Ingwersen Violin

Mark plays a contemporary violin made by the American violin maker David Gusset in 1989. His Chair is sponsored by Prof Judyth Sachs & Julie Steiner AM.

Ilya Isakovich Violin

Ilya plays his own 1600 Marcin Groblicz violin made in Poland. His Chair is sponsored by Meg Meldrum.

Liisa Pallandi Violin

Liisa plays Helena Rathbone's violin which is a c.1760 Giovanni Battista Gabrielli. Her Chair is sponsored by the Melbourne Medical Syndicate.

Maja Savnik Violin

Maja plays the 1714 'ex-Isolde Menges' Giuseppe Guarneri filius Andreæ violin kindly on loan from the ACO Instrument Fund. Her Chair is sponsored by Alenka Tindale.

Ike See Violin

Ike plays a 1590 Brothers Amati violin kindly on loan from the ACO Instrument Fund. His Chair is sponsored by Di Jameson.

Nicole Divall Viola

Nikki plays a 2012 Bronek Cison viola. Her Chair is sponsored by Ian Lansdown.

Elizabeth Woolnough Viola

Elizabeth plays her own 1968 Parisian viola by Pierre M. Audinot. Her Chair is sponsored by Philip Bacon AM.

Timo-Veikko Valve Principal Cello

Tipi plays a 1616 Brothers Amati cello kindly on loan from the ACO Instrument Fund. His Chair is sponsored by Peter Weiss AO.

Melissa Barnard Cello

Melissa plays a cello by Jean-Baptiste Vuillaume made in 1846. Her Chair is sponsored by Dr & Mrs J Wenderoth.

Julian Thompson Cello

Julian plays a 1729 Giuseppe Guarneri filius Andreæ cello with elements of the instrument crafted by his son, Giuseppe Guarneri del Gesù, kindly donated to the ACO by Peter Weiss AO. His Chair is sponsored by the Grist & Stewart Families.

Maxime Bibeau Principal Bass

Max plays a late-16th-century Gasparo da Salò bass kindly on loan from an anonymous Australian private benefactor. His Chair is sponsored by Darin Cooper Foundation.

04

Artistic Director Report

RICHARD TOGNETTI
Artistic Director & Lead Violin

I have always been fascinated with mixing and melding music, both between genres and with other disciplines, be it visual art, film, dance or theatre.

I have always been fascinated with mixing and melding music, both between genres and with other disciplines, be it visual art, film, dance or theatre. This was reflected in our programming throughout 2019, a year where we performed in concert halls from Wollongong Town Hall to New York's Lincoln Center, reaching over 110,000 people in-person and millions more online through digital streaming.

2019 saw the revival of *Luminous*, our multimedia collaboration with one of the world's great artists, photographer Bill Henson. This marked our third iteration of *Luminous*, and the production featured new photography and filming from Bill, captured with his characteristically forensic attention to detail, as well as the ACO debut of Israeli-Australian singer Lior on vocals.

Our *Indies & Idols* concert saw the ACO delve into the orchestral music of artists more commonly associated with the world of indie-rock – Jonny Greenwood, Bryce Dessner and Sufjan Stevens – which we paired with the music of their compositional idols: Polish nationals Karol Szymanowski, Witold Lutosławski and Krzysztof Penderecki. While Jonny, Bryce and Sufjan don't hail from backgrounds that you'd typically expect of so-called 'classical' composers, I've found them to be some of the most innovative and exciting voices in orchestral music – and, going from the full concert halls we encountered across this tour, I'm not alone in this opinion.

We reunited with exceptional musicians from around the globe, from the Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir for a celebration of the music of JS Bach and Arvo Pärt, to pianist Dejan Lazić, violist Brett Dean and violinist Lorenza Borrani, while in March, we welcomed US saxophonist Branford Marsalis, who made his ACO debut in a fiery Latin-infused program directed by Principal Violin Satu Vänkä. We also welcomed back Finnish violinist Pekka Kuusisto, who in addition to leading ACO Collective on a tour of regional Victoria and South Australia, gave the world premiere of Nico Muhly's violin concerto, *Shrink*, commissioned for him by the ACO.

Of the 141 concerts we gave in 2019, 11 of them were performed overseas. In April we returned to North America in what marked our nineteenth tour to the continent, where we travelled from the West to East Coasts to give performances in concert halls including New York's Lincoln Center, Stanford University's Bing Concert Hall and Princeton University's Richardson Auditorium. This was followed by our return to London in October for our

second season in residence at the Barbican Centre, where we performed programs that spanned from the UK premiere of *Luminous* to Bernard Labadie's string orchestra arrangement of Bach's Goldberg Variations, as well as a concert that saw us joined onstage by the extraordinary students of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

I extend thanks to my ACO colleagues, who continue to inspire and invigorate me each year. In particular, I thank Principal Violin Satu Vänскä and Principal Cello Timo-Veikko Valve, who gave outstanding solo performances in 2019, as well as Principal Violin Helena Rathbone, who led the young guns of ACO Collective through a tour of regional NSW and Queensland in October. I also welcome our new Ripieno Viola, Elizabeth Woolnough, who passed her probation in July, as well as Stefanie Farrands, who following an extensive international search, commenced her probation as the ACO's Principal Viola in November.

Finally, I thank our audiences across Australia and abroad. Thank you for the enthusiasm, trust and support with which you greet us each year – it is a privilege to join you all in the concert hall.

I extend thanks to my ACO colleagues, who continue to inspire and invigorate me each year.

05

Chairman & Managing Director Report



2019 was a year that the ACO dived headfirst into exploring illuminating new music and energising collaborations.

In reflecting upon 2019, one of our more successful years to date, it is impossible not to note that through the lens of our prior year of operation, this report is being written in inconceivable circumstances. COVID-19 is having a catastrophic impact on the arts industry. Fortunately, the ACO has been able to act swiftly and deftly. Our support base has responded with their usual generosity to assist in ameliorating a year without our much needed commercial and box office revenues. We remain hopeful that a safe performing environment will be returned in the final quarter of 2020 so that we can once again cautiously get our musicians and staff back to their regular hours of work, returning to audiences on our national stages.

Remembering happier and more predictable times, 2019 was a year that the ACO dived headfirst into exploring illuminating new music and energising collaborations. Under the inimitable leadership of Artistic Director Richard Tognetti, the Orchestra continued to present great music of the past alongside ground-breaking music of today, with each program in 2019 containing music from one or more living composers. This included seven world premieres and seven Australian premieres of new works by pioneering composers such as Nico Muhly and Missy Mazzoli and including Australia's own Brett Dean, Paul Stanhope and Heather Shannon.

In an artistic highlight of 2019, Richard Tognetti reunited with iconic Australian artist Bill Henson for a reimagination of *Luminous*, the ACO's multi-sensory musical and visual feast, while in June the Orchestra continued its exploration of innovative and experimental programming through its critically acclaimed *Indies & Idols* tour.

The sublime voices of the Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir re-joined the ACO onstage for the first time in 20 years for a performance of JS Bach and Arvo Pärt, while legendary saxophonist Branford Marsalis made his ACO debut in a vivid program inspired by Latin American jazz directed by Principal Violin Satu Vänскä. The season also saw the return of favourite ACO collaborators including pianist Dejan Lazić, violist Brett Dean, and keyboardist Erin Helyard, as well as Finnish violinist Pekka Kuusisto, who led ACO Collective through a regional tour, three concerts at our Vasse Felix festival and a special one-night-only performance at the Melbourne Recital Centre.

The ACO maintained its position as Australia's most-travelled orchestra, embarking on two international tours in 2019. The first saw Richard Tognetti lead the Orchestra on a two-week tour of North America, during which the

The ACO's Learning & Engagement program continued to grow from strength to strength in 2019, delivering 129 music education events to over 7,000 young people across Australia.

San Francisco Chronicle declared, "this terrific string ensemble shines at anything it undertakes." In October the ACO returned to London for its second season in residence as International Associate Ensemble at Milton Court at the Barbican Centre. The only Australian orchestra to hold an international residency, these concerts marked the mid-point of the ACO's three-year partnership with the prestigious concert venue.

The ACO is fortunate to have a broad international network of advocates who support these international touring activities, including our ACO US and ACO UK Board of Directors, and the ACO Japan Advisory Committee. We thank these groups for their ongoing advice, advocacy, and support.

The ACO's Learning & Engagement program continued to grow from strength to strength in 2019, delivering 129 music education events to over 7,000 young people across Australia. This included the ACO's first concert season for young children and their families, There's A Sea in My Bedroom, presented in partnership with the Sydney Opera House. Based on the iconic children's book by Margaret Wild and featuring immersive new music by composer Paul Stanhope, There's A Sea in My Bedroom was performed by a quintet of ACO musicians to a wonderfully receptive and engaged young audience, and we greatly look forward to presenting more of these concerts in the future.

Our digital footprint continued to grow throughout 2019, with the live stream of our final national concert of the year, 'Brahms & Dvořák', reaching over 3.9 million people around the world via Facebook. In addition, we released a new recording, Haydn Mozart, under the ABC Classic label, which features Richard Tognetti leading the ACO through a selection of glorious Haydn and Mozart symphonies, performed with the ACO's trademark flair and virtuosity.

The ACO Instrument Fund received seven new investments in 2019 to the value of \$608,797. With four exceptional Golden Age string instruments currently in its collection, the Fund is currently on a search for a fifth rare string instrument that will meet its investment objectives.

From a financial standpoint, we are pleased to report a consolidated overall surplus of \$3,194,648 (before comprehensive income adjustments). This result consists of a surplus of \$936,652 from the ACO New Premises Project, unrealised gains from investments of \$738,506 while underlying Operations delivered a surplus of \$1,519,490 after realised investment returns.

The ACO has a long-held desire to have its own home and in 2019 remained in the final planning stages of securing new premises as part of the revitalised Walsh Bay Arts Precinct Project at Pier 2/3. The ACO estimates that the cost of all fit out, fittings, government payments, design and consultancy and relocation costs to deliver its home on Pier 2/3 will be in excess of \$20 million.

To support its aspirations for a home for the ACO, the ACO continued the 'quiet' phase of a capital campaign for this visionary project. The ACO has been delighted with the generous early support received, \$1,213,750 in cash donations were received during 2019 (life-to-date support as at 31 December 2019 \$9,277,759).

In early 2020 the ACO signed Agreements for Sublease with the NSW Government for its new premises in the Walsh Bay Arts Precinct Project at Pier 2/3. As mentioned above, the ACO has been impacted by the evolving situation surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic and the unprecedented restrictions on mass gatherings for live performances and travel bans. The inability to hold performances presents significant adverse impacts on operations in 2020 and beyond. The final magnitude of the financial impact is not currently known. However, combined with the ACO's commitment towards the new premises project, COVID-19 puts significant pressure on the Group's cash flows. The ACO continues to monitor and adjust operations to reduce the cash flow pressures of the Group.

The breadth of these activities – from our national and international touring activities, to our growing learning and engagement programs, to our expanding digital output – would not be possible without the vital and much-appreciated contributions of our supporters. On behalf of the ACO, we extend our thanks to the Australia Council for the Arts and Create NSW, our corporate partners and our philanthropic patrons for their essential funding and support.

We also thank the ACO's audiences, across Australia and abroad, for their unwavering enthusiasm and love for this wonderful orchestra. And finally, our thanks go to Richard Tognetti and the musicians of the ACO for another year of unforgettable music-making. Long may it continue.

The breadth of these activities... would not be possible without the vital and much-appreciated contributions of our supporters.

06

National Concert Season

81 CONCERTS

92,923 TOTAL ATTENDANCE



MELISSA BARNARD
Cello



Arvo Pärt & JS Bach

Presented by Johnson Winter & Slattery

2-13 FEB

9 CONCERTS | 14,438 TOTAL ATTENDANCE

For its opening tour of the 2019 Season, the ACO was joined by the famed Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir in a celebration of JS Bach and Arvo Pärt.

★★★★½ “Standing on opposite sides of the stage with the ACO seated in between, the Estonian Philharmonic wove these immaculately intricate polyphonic fabrics with unmannered clarity and purity of line.”

– SYDNEY MORNING HERALD, 4 FEBRUARY 2019

★★★★ “The ACO, directed by Richard Tognetti, offered a performance channelling two alternating identities: one of meditative austerity, the other of intricacy and joy.”

– THE AGE, 12 FEBRUARY 2019

“This Australian-Estonian collaboration was a rewarding and stimulating experience.”

– THE AUSTRALIAN, 4 FEBRUARY 2019

“An awe-inspiring start to the ACO’s season”

– THE DAILY TELEGRAPH, 4 FEBRUARY 2019

PROGRAM

ARVO PÄRT Da pacem Domine
BACH Komm, Jesu, komm, BWV229
ARVO PÄRT Summa
BACH Singet dem Herrn ein neues Lied, BWV225
ARVO PÄRT Collage on B-A-C-H: I. Toccata (Preciso)
BACH Lobet den Herrn, alle Heiden, BWV230
BACH Der Geist hilft unser Schwachheit auf, BWV226
GALINA GRIGORJEVA In Paradisum
SCULTHORPE String Quartet No.8: I. Con dolore
SCULTHORPE Djilile
ARVO PÄRT Berliner Messe

ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti Director
Australian Chamber Orchestra

GUEST ARTISTS

Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir



VENUES

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Saturday 2 February 7pm

Sydney Opera House
Sunday 3 February 2pm

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Tuesday 5 February 8pm

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Wednesday 6 February 7pm

Canberra – Llewellyn Hall
Saturday 9 February 8pm

Melbourne – Arts Centre Melbourne
Sunday 10 February 2:30pm

Melbourne – Arts Centre Melbourne
Monday 11 February 7:30pm

Adelaide Town Hall
Tuesday 12 February 7:30pm

Perth Concert Hall*
Wednesday 13 February 7:30pm

* Presented in association with Perth Festival.

NATIONAL TOUR PARTNER

JOHNSON
WINTER &
SLATTERY

Beethoven & Prokofiev

Presented by Maserati

7–19 MAR

10 CONCERTS | 8,881 TOTAL ATTENDANCE

Charismatic Italian violinist Lorenza Borrani returned to lead a program of emotionally charged music.

“Italian violinist Lorenza Borrani delivers a fiery, otherworldly concert with the ACO.”

– LIMELIGHT, 15 MARCH 2019

★★★★½ “Guest director and violinist Lorenza Borrani led the Australian Chamber Orchestra with a style that always turned inwards to the music – its subtlety of phrasing, its expressive range and scope and its seriousness of utterance.”

– SYDNEY MORNING HERALD, 19 MARCH 2019

★★★★ “Two striking arrangements of chamber works completed a program of departures, with music that deconstructed the stylistic status quo to build new, innovative forms from its elements.”

– THE AGE, 20 MARCH 2019

“But with Borrani directing with her focus on crisp articulation and style over swagger, it becomes something quite different. This is Beethoven, nearing death, experiencing his whole life passing before his eyes, from his youthful imitations of Haydn at the opening to the glimpses of eternity in the slow movement. In short, a last will and testament, magnificently rendered.”

– THE AUSTRALIAN, 13 MARCH 2019

“A fantastic performance”

– THE ADVERTISER, 20 MARCH 2019



PROGRAM

PROKOFIEV (arr. Borrani) Violin Sonata No.1 in F minor, Op.80
DOBRINKA TABAKOVA Such Different Paths (Australian premiere)
BEETHOVEN (arr. strings) String Quartet in F major, Op.135
SCHNITTKE (arr. Berta) Suite in the Old Style: V. Pantomime

ARTIST

Australian Chamber Orchestra

GUEST ARTIST

Lorenza Borrani Director & Violin



VENUES

Newcastle City Hall
Thursday 7 March 7:30pm

Canberra – Llewellyn Hall
Saturday 9 March 8pm

Brisbane – QPAC Concert Hall
Monday 11 March 7pm

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Tuesday 12 March 8pm

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Wednesday 13 March 7pm

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Friday 15 March 1:30pm

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Saturday 16 March 7pm

Melbourne – Arts Centre Melbourne
Sunday 17 March 2:30pm

Melbourne – Arts Centre Melbourne
Monday 18 March 7:30pm

Adelaide Town Hall
Tuesday 19 March 7:30pm

NATIONAL TOUR PARTNER



Branford Marsalis

Presented by Virgin Australia

9–22 MAY

10 CONCERTS | 13,761 TOTAL ATTENDANCE

Saxophonist Branford Marsalis made his ACO debut in a vivid program inspired by Latin American jazz, directed by ACO Principal Violin Satu Vänkä.

“A performance of meticulous cohesion in every detail”

– LIMELIGHT, 13 MAY 2019

★★★★ “Violinist Satu Vänkä led with a sultry opening followed by increasingly fiery strutting rhythms.”

– SYDNEY MORNING HERALD, 28 MAY 2019

“The genius emerges as much in interpretation as in delivery, with Marsalis forming meaning inside each musical melange without appearing to force textures, expression or phrasing: a master blender who makes the oddest flavour combinations work. With principal violinist Satu Vänkä as soloist and director, the ACO finds biting tang in the twist and thrust of Argentinian tango, tending away from the sultry languor offered by Piazzolla and Golijov to embrace crunched strings and stomping rhythmical jabs.”

– THE AUSTRALIAN, 14 MAY 2019

PROGRAM

STRAVINSKY Three Pieces for Clarinet: No.3
VILLA-LOBOS Fantasia for Saxophone and Orchestra, A.490
PIAZZOLLA (arr. Desyatnikov) The Four Seasons of Buenos Aires
VILLA-LOBOS Bachianas Brasileiras No.5, A.389
OSVALDO GOLIJOV Last Round: I. Movido, urgente
SALLY BEAMISH Under the Wing of the Rock: Saxophone Concerto No.2 (Australian premiere)
GINASTERA Concerto for Strings, Op.33: Mvts 1 & 4
PIAZZOLLA (arr. Rofe) Libertango

ARTISTS

Satu Vänkä Director & Violin
Australian Chamber Orchestra



GUEST ARTIST

Branford Marsalis Saxophone



VENUES

Wollongong Town Hall
Thursday 9 May 7:30pm

Canberra – Llewellyn Hall
Saturday 11 May 8pm

Melbourne – Arts Centre Melbourne
Sunday 12 May 2:30pm

Brisbane – QPAC Concert Hall
Monday 13 May 7pm

Perth Concert Hall
Wednesday 15 May 7:30pm

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Saturday 18 May 7pm

Sydney Opera House
Sunday 19 May 2pm

Melbourne – Arts Centre Melbourne
Monday 20 May 7:30pm

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Tuesday 21 May 8pm

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Wednesday 22 May 7pm

NATIONAL TOUR PARTNER





Indies & Idols

14–29 JUN

10 CONCERTS | 10,268 TOTAL ATTENDANCE

Richard Tognetti directed the ACO through music by Radiohead's Jonny Greenwood, The National's Bryce Dessner, and American singer-songwriter Sufjan Stevens and the sources of their musical inspiration, Polish nationalists Karol Szymanowski, Krzysztof Penderecki and Witold Lutosławski.

“Stimulating, challenging and brilliantly performed, Indies & Idols was a mind-bending, ear-twisting, richly rewarding musical experience like few others.”

– THE AUSTRALIAN, 19 JUNE 2019

“A concert of showstoppers”

– LIMELIGHT, 16 JUNE 2019

“This was a fascinating and unusual journey which proved to be a hit with the audience.”

– THE DAILY TELEGRAPH, 27 JUNE 2019

PROGRAM

LUTOSŁAWSKI Overture for Strings
BRYCE DESSNER Réponse Lutosławski
(Australian premiere)
SUFJAN STEVENS (arr. Atkinson) Suite from Run Rabbit Run
PENDERECKI Three Pieces in Baroque Style: I. Aria
PENDERECKI String Quartet No.1
JONNY GREENWOOD There Will Be Blood: Suite
SZYMANOWSKI (arr. Tognetti) String Quartet No.2, Op.56
RADIOHEAD (arr. Tognetti) How to disappear completely

ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti Director
Australian Chamber Orchestra



VENUES

Newcastle City Hall
Friday 14 June 7:30pm

Sydney Opera House
Sunday 16 June 2pm

Brisbane – QPAC Concert Hall
Monday 17 June 7pm

Perth Concert Hall
Wednesday 19 June 7:30pm

Melbourne – Arts Centre Melbourne
Sunday 23 June 2:30pm

Melbourne – Arts Centre Melbourne
Monday 24 June 7:30pm

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Tuesday 25 June 8pm

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Wednesday 26 June 7pm

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Friday 28 June 1:30pm

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Saturday 29 June 7pm

TIMO-VEIKKO VALVE
Principal Cello



Luminous

10–23 AUG

11 CONCERTS | 13,652 TOTAL ATTENDANCE

The ACO's groundbreaking collaboration with photographer Bill Henson returned to concert halls around the country, revived and refreshed, and featuring Israeli-Australian singer-songwriter Lior.

“I left the ACO performance feeling like something had shifted in me. I had seen something that moved me and was beautiful – and somehow the world was not the same place it had been before I went into Hamer Hall... The work had given me a new way of seeing.”

– THE GUARDIAN, 14 AUGUST 2019

★★★★★ “A brave and moving piece of art”

– LIMELIGHT, 13 AUGUST 2019

★★★★★ “Much of this Luminous program channels a multifarious identity, the polystylism of Schnittke melding neo-classicism with modernist angst; Pēteris Vasks’ violin concerto *Distant Light* delivered with jaw dropping zeal by Tognetti, fluctuating between cinematic romanticism and a more avant-garde sound-world.”

– THE AGE, 13 AUGUST 2019



PROGRAM

SCHNITTKE (arr. Bashmet) Trio Sonata
BRITTEN (arr. Tognetti) Corpus Christi Carol
GABRIEL YARED (arr. Tognetti) The Talented Mr Ripley: Lullaby for Cain
R.E.M. (arr. Tognetti) I've Been High
PURCELL King Arthur, Z.628: What power art thou?
PĒTERIS VASKS Concerto for Violin and Strings “Distant Light”
JANÁČEK (arr. Burghauser) On an overgrown path: Good night!
PAUL HEALY Sound Sculptures

ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti Director & Violin
Australian Chamber Orchestra

GUEST ARTISTS

Bill Henson Photography, Cinematography, Editing
Lior Vocals



VENUES

Canberra – Llewellyn Hall
Saturday 10 August 8pm

Melbourne – Arts Centre Melbourne
Sunday 11 August 2:30pm

Melbourne – Arts Centre Melbourne
Monday 12 August 7:30pm

Adelaide Town Hall
Tuesday 13 August 7:30pm

Perth Concert Hall
Wednesday 14 August 7:30pm

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Saturday 17 August 7pm

Sydney Opera House
Sunday 18 August 2pm

Brisbane – QPAC Concert Hall
Monday 19 August 7pm

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Tuesday 20 August 8pm

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Wednesday 21 August 7pm

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Friday 23 August 1:30pm

Celebrating Mozart

5–17 SEP

8 CONCERTS | 8,649 TOTAL ATTENDANCE

Croatian-born pianist Dejan Lazić reunited with the ACO for a celebration of Mozart's sparkling symphonies and concertos.

★★★★★ “Lazić played with textural lightness, pearly finger articulation and graceful individuality in musical phrasing. After interval, Tognetti approached the Violin Concerto with welcome imaginative freedom, tapering the opening theme with finesse and drawing on a widely contrasting palette of tone and dynamic to maintain inventive freshness.”

– SYDNEY MORNING HERALD, 16 SEPTEMBER 2019

“This well-conceived and executed program speaks eloquently of the ACO's core strengths.”

– LIMELIGHT, 10 SEPTEMBER 2019

“Lazić offered a glittering account of both Sonata movement and Concerto, his touch crisp and exuberant. In performance and orchestration, he reveals an intimate knowledge of Mozartean idioms, the twinkling *Allegretto grazioso* masterfully transformed into concerto form.”

– THE AUSTRALIAN, 11 SEPTEMBER 2019

“Lazić is a remarkable talent, building on his reputation here with an interpretation that matched skill with sustained emotional insight.”

– THE AGE, 10 SEPTEMBER 2019

“It was vintage ACO – marvellous collective virtuosity, exhilarating to hear and watch.”

– THE ADVERTISER, 16 SEPTEMBER 2019



PROGRAM

HAYDN Symphony No.39 in G minor “Tempesta di mare”
MOZART (arr. Lazić) Rondo Concertante (Australian premiere)
MOZART Piano Concerto No.14 in E-flat major, K.449
MOZART Violin Concerto No.3 in G major, K.216
MOZART Symphony No.25 in G minor, K.183

ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti Director & Violin
Australian Chamber Orchestra

GUEST ARTIST

Dejan Lazić Piano



VENUES

Wollongong Town Hall
Thursday 5 September 7:30pm

Canberra – Llewellyn Hall
Saturday 7 September 8pm

Melbourne – Arts Centre Melbourne
Sunday 8 September 2:30pm

Melbourne – Arts Centre Melbourne
Monday 9 September 7:30pm

Adelaide Town Hall
Tuesday 10 September 7:30pm

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Thursday 12 September 7pm

Sydney Opera House
Sunday 15 September 3pm

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Tuesday 17 September 8pm



MARK INGWERSEN
Violin

Intimate Bach

19–30 OCT

10 CONCERTS | 9,774 TOTAL ATTENDANCE

The ACO explored the genius of JS Bach with an impressive line-up featuring Richard Tognetti, Erin Helyard, Brett Dean and Timo-Veikko Valve.

“Brisk tempos kept proceedings flowing smoothly without forcing the pace, tightknit ensemble and textural clarity illuminated the passages of dense counterpoint”

– THE AUSTRALIAN, 22 OCTOBER 2019

“Bravo, ACO. More, please.”

– THE ADVERTISER, 31 OCTOBER 2019



PROGRAM

BACH Sonata No.2 in A minor for solo violin, BWV1003: III. Andante

BACH Sonata for Violin and Harpsichord No.2 in A major, BWV1015

GYÖRGY KURTÁG Signs, Games and Messages: Selections

BACH (arr. string trio) Three-Part Inventions: Selections

MARAIS Sonnerie de Sainte-Geneviève du Mont de Paris

BACH Chorale Prelude: “Ich ruf zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ”, BWV639

BRETT DEAN Approach (Prelude to a Canon) (Australian premiere)*

BACH Brandenburg Concerto No.6 in B-flat major, BWV1051

ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti Director & Violin
Timo-Veikko Valve Cello

GUEST ARTISTS

Brett Dean Viola
Atte Kilpeläinen Viola
Erin Helyard Harpsichord



VENUES

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Saturday 19 October 7pm

Brisbane – QPAC Concert Hall
Monday 21 October 7pm

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Tuesday 22 October 8pm

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Wednesday 23 October 7pm

Wollongong Town Hall
Thursday 24 October 7:30pm

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Friday 25 October 1:30pm

Sydney Opera House
Sunday 27 October 2pm

Melbourne Recital Centre
Monday 28 October 7:30pm

Adelaide Town Hall
Tuesday 29 October 7:30pm

Perth Concert Hall
Wednesday 30 October 7:30pm

* Commissioned by the
Australian Chamber Orchestra and
the Swedish Chamber Orchestra.



Brahms & Dvořák

9–22 NOV

11 CONCERTS | 12,019 ATTENDANCE

The final concert in the ACO's National Tour Season was a big, exuberant celebration, featuring two of the most important names in the romantic era.

“The highlight, however, was a ravishing account of Dvořák’s richly textured penultimate symphony. Abandoning his violin for the baton, Tognetti was a thoughtful interpreter, shaping fine balances between the bucolic and primal forces tugging away in the outer movements and tapping the work’s pervasive threads of melancholy, naivety and splendour.”

– THE AUSTRALIAN, 12 NOVEMBER 2019

★★★★½ “Valve’s playing was warmly coloured, while Tognetti’s had astringent sweetness and clarity.”

– SYDNEY MORNING HERALD, 18 NOVEMBER 2019

“Dvořák’s piece, from beginning to end, was exciting as it was charming. The beginning of the second movement, *Adagio*, was beauty personified in its expression and the breadth and depth of the sound from the strings.”

– LIMELIGHT, 10 NOVEMBER 2019

PROGRAM

ANDREW FORD Fanfare for Neverland (World premiere)
ANDREW NORMAN Gran Turismo (Australian premiere)
BRAHMS Concerto for Violin and Cello in A minor Op.102 “Double Concerto”
DVOŘÁK Symphony No.8 in G major, Op.88

ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti Director & Violin
Timo-Veikko Valve Cello
Visa Haarala Trumpet
Australian Chamber Orchestra

VENUES

Canberra – Llewellyn Hall
Saturday 9 November 8pm

Melbourne – Arts Centre Melbourne
Sunday 10 November 2:30pm

Melbourne – Arts Centre Melbourne
Monday 11 November 7:30pm

Adelaide Town Hall
Tuesday 12 November 7:30pm

Newcastle City Hall
Thursday 14 November 7:30pm

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Saturday 16 November 7pm

Sydney Opera House
Sunday 17 November 2pm

Brisbane – QPAC Concert Hall
Monday 18 November 7pm

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Tuesday 19 November 8pm

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Wednesday 20 November 7pm

Sydney – City Recital Hall
Friday 22 November 1:30pm

Respighi, Britten & Vasks

4 JUN

1 CONCERT | 654 TOTAL ATTENDANCE

In a Melbourne Recital Centre exclusive, the ACO explored the beauty of strings in a program ranging from lively dances to ethereal reveries.

PROGRAM

HANDEL Alcina, HWV34: Overture & Dances
MEALE Cantilena Pacifica
RESPIGHI Ancient Airs and Dances: Suite III
PĒTERIS VASKS Viatore for 11 solo strings (Australian premiere)

ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti Director & Violin
Australian Chamber Orchestra

VENUE

Melbourne Recital Centre
Tuesday 4 June 7:30pm



Nico Muhly and the New

Presented by Wesfarmers Arts

4 DEC

1 CONCERT | 827 TOTAL ATTENDANCE

Finnish violinist Pekka Kuusisto returned to direct ACO Collective in an exciting program of contemporary music, including the world premiere of American composer Nico Muhly’s Concerto for Violin and Strings.

PROGRAM

ACO COLLECTIVE Drone Meditation
STEVE REICH Duet
MISSY MAZZOLI (arr. strings) You Know Me From Here (Australian premiere)
ANDREA TARRODI Birds of Paradise
ALEX MILLS One is Fun (World premiere)
NICO MUHLY Shrink: Concerto for Violin and Strings (World premiere)*

ARTISTS

Pekka Kuusisto Director & Violin
ACO Collective



VENUE

Melbourne Recital Centre
Wednesday 4 December 7:30pm

* Commissioned by the Australian Chamber Orchestra and Melbourne Recital Centre.

PRINCIPAL PARTNER: ACO COLLECTIVE



07

Festivals & Special Events

7 CONCERTS

1,125 TOTAL ATTENDANCE

JULIAN THOMPSON
Cello



TarraWarra Festival

23 & 24 FEB

3 CONCERTS | 525 TOTAL ATTENDANCE

CONCERT 1

BACH The Art of Fugue, BWV1080: Contrapunctus I-IV
HANDEL Concerto Grosso in A major, Op.6, No.11
BACH (arr. Labadie) Goldberg Variations, BWV988: Selections

ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti Director & Violin
Australian Chamber Orchestra

CONCERT 2

CAROLINE SHAW Entr'acte
PĒTERIS VASKS Concerto for Violin and String Orchestra
"Distant Light"
SCHOENBERG Verklärte Nacht, Op.4

ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti Director & Violin
Australian Chamber Orchestra

CONCERT 3

BRAHMS String Sextet No.1 in B-flat major, Op.18: I. Allegro ma non troppo*
FRANK PROTO (arr. Bibeau) Sonata 1963
SZYMANOWSKI (arr. Tognetti) String Quartet No.2, Op.56

ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti Director & Violin
Maxime Bibeau Double Bass
Australian Chamber Orchestra
*With musicians from the Australian National Academy of Music

VENUE

TarraWarra Museum of Modern Art, VIC
Saturday 23 February 12:30pm
Saturday 23 February 6:00pm
Sunday 24 February 2:30pm

SUPPORTED BY



EVENT PARTNER



Satu Vänskä in Recital

14 MAR

1 CONCERT | 186 TOTAL ATTENDANCE

PROGRAM

LUTOSŁAWSKI Subito
BACH Adagio and Fuga from Violin Sonata No.1 in G minor, BWV1001
BEETHOVEN Violin Sonata in A major, Op.30, No.1
RAVEL Violin Sonata No.2 in G major: II. Blues & III. Perpetuum mobile
RAVEL Tzigane

ARTISTS

Satu Vänskä Violin
Kristian Chong Piano

VENUE

Cell Block Theatre, NSW
Thursday 14 March 7:00pm

UKARIA

2 JUN

1 CONCERT | 222 TOTAL ATTENDANCE

PROGRAM

HANDEL Alcina, HWV34: Overture & Dances
MEALE Cantilena Pacifica
RESPIGHI Ancient Airs and Dances: Suite III
PĒTERIS VASKS Viatore for 11 solo strings
BRITTEN Variations on a Theme of Frank Bridge, Op.10

ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti Director & Violin
Australian Chamber Orchestra

VENUE

UKARIA Cultural Centre, SA
Sunday 2 June 2:30pm

PRESENTING PARTNER



UKARIA

Breaking Ground

27 NOV & 4 DEC

2 CONCERTS | 192* TOTAL ATTENDANCE

PROGRAM
NICO MUHLY Drones & Violin
PHILIP GLASS The Screens: The Orchard
TRADITIONAL Folk fiddle set
NICO MUHLY A Hudson Cycle
BACH Partita for Solo Violin No.2 in D minor, BWV1004:
III. Sarabanda
PHILIP GLASS Piano Etude No.12
ARVO PÄRT Fratres, for violin and piano

ARTISTS
Pekka Kuusisto Violin
Nico Muhly Piano

VENUES
Giant Dwarf, NSW
Wednesday 27 November 7:30pm

Melbourne Recital Centre, VIC
Wednesday 4 December 9:50pm

*This figure only includes attendance at the concert on 27 November at Giant Dwarf. The concert on 4 December at Melbourne Recital Centre was an add-on event following ACO Collective's *Nico Muhly & the New* concert that same evening, and so attendance has been allocated for on page 23 to avoid double-counting attendance.

PRESENTING PARTNER



08

International Touring

11 CONCERTS
6,785 TOTAL ATTENDANCE



NICOLE DIVALL
Viola

North America

31 MAR – 14 APR

8 CONCERTS | 5,282 TOTAL ATTENDANCE

The ACO embarked on a two-week tour of North America in April 2019, during which the Orchestra travelled from the west to east coasts to perform eight critically acclaimed concerts over 15 days.

“It’s not easy getting a bead on the particular strengths of the Australian Chamber Orchestra. That’s because this terrific string ensemble seems to shine at anything it undertakes.”

– SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE, 1 APRIL 2019

“Audiences here in the US should count themselves lucky if they are able to grab a couple of hours with Australia’s greatest musical export.”

– LIMELIGHT, 11 APRIL 2019

“In its first Boston appearance since 2007, the Australian Chamber Orchestra enchanted.”

– THE BOSTON MUSICAL INTELLIGENCER, 14 APRIL 2019



CONCERT 1 PROGRAM

SAMUEL ADAMS Movements (for us and them) (USA premiere)
MOZART Piano Concerto No.12 in A major, K.414
BRAHMS (arr. strings) String Sextet No.2 in G major, Op.36

ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti Director & Violin
Paul Lewis Piano
Satu Vänскä Violin
Hanna Lee Viola
Timo-Veikko Valve Cello
Australian Chamber Orchestra

VENUE

Bing Concert Hall, Stanford, CA
Sunday 31 March 2:30pm

CONCERT 2 PROGRAM

BACH The Art of Fugue, BWV1080: Contrapunctus I-IV
MOZART Violin Concerto No.3 in G major, K.216
BEETHOVEN (arr. strings) String Quartet in B-flat major, Op.130: Mvts I-V
BEETHOVEN (arr. strings) Grosse Fuge, Op.133

ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti Director & Violin
Australian Chamber Orchestra

VENUE

Harris Center for the Arts, Folsom, CA
Monday 1 April 7:30pm

CONCERT 3 PROGRAM

SAMUEL ADAMS Movements (for us and them)
MOZART Piano Concerto No.12 in A major, K.414
BRAHMS (arr. strings) String Sextet No.2 in G major, Op.36

ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti Director & Violin
Paul Lewis Piano
Satu Vänскä Violin
Hanna Lee Viola
Timo-Veikko Valve Cello
Australian Chamber Orchestra

VENUE

Segerstrom Center for the Arts, Costa Mesa, CA
Thursday 4 April 8pm



CONCERT 4 PROGRAM

SAMUEL ADAMS Movements (for us and them)
MOZART Piano Concerto No.12 in A major, K.414
BRAHMS (arr. strings) String Sextet No.2 in G major, Op.36

ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti Director & Violin
Paul Lewis Piano
Satu Vänскä Violin
Hanna Lee Viola
Timo-Veikko Valve Cello
Australian Chamber Orchestra

VENUE

Moss Arts Center, Blacksburg, VA
Sunday 7 April 4pm

CONCERT 5 PROGRAM

BACH The Art of Fugue, BWV1080: Contrapunctus I-IV
MOZART Piano Concerto No.12 in A major, K.414
BEETHOVEN (arr. strings) String Quartet in B-flat major, Op.130: Mvts I-V
BEETHOVEN (arr. strings) Grosse Fuge, Op.133

ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti Director & Violin
Inon Barnatan Piano
Australian Chamber Orchestra

VENUE

Lincoln Center, New York, NY
Tuesday 9 April 7:30pm

CONCERT 6 PROGRAM

SAMUEL ADAMS Movements (for us and them)
MOZART Piano Concerto No.12 in A major, K.414
BRAHMS (arr. strings) String Sextet No.2 in G major, Op.36

ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti Director & Violin
Paul Lewis Piano
Satu Vänскä Violin
Hanna Lee Viola
Timo-Veikko Valve Cello
Australian Chamber Orchestra

VENUE

Richardson Auditorium, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ
Thursday 11 April 8pm

CONCERT 7 PROGRAM

BACH The Art of Fugue, BWV1080: Contrapunctus I-IV
MOZART Piano Concerto No.12 in A major, K.414
BEETHOVEN (arr. strings) String Quartet in B-flat major, Op.130: Mvts I-V
BEETHOVEN (arr. strings) Grosse Fuge, Op.133

ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti Director & Violin
Paul Lewis Piano
Australian Chamber Orchestra

VENUE

Jordan Hall, Boston, MA
Saturday 13 April 8pm

CONCERT 8 PROGRAM

BACH The Art of Fugue, BWV1080: Contrapunctus I-IV
MOZART Piano Concerto No.12 in A major, K.414
BEETHOVEN (arr. strings) String Quartet in B-flat major, Op.130: Mvts I-V
BEETHOVEN (arr. strings) Grosse Fuge, Op.133

ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti Director & Violin
Inon Barnatan Piano
Australian Chamber Orchestra

VENUE

The Palladium, Carmel, IN
Sunday 14 April 7.00pm

Barbican Residency

3, 4 & 5 OCTOBER

3 CONCERTS | 1,503 TOTAL ATTENDANCE

The ACO returned to London in October 2019 for its second season in-residence at the Barbican Centre. The only Australian orchestra to hold an international residency, the season marked the mid-point of the ACO’s three-year partnership with the prestigious concert venue.

“This chamber string ensemble has the scope of a symphony orchestra many times its size. The players revelled in the joy of the *Goldbergs*, finding exhilaration in brisk tempos and daring virtuosity.”

– THE TIMES, 7 OCTOBER 2019

“Tognetti’s playing was vigorous and nuanced, with an appropriately clean and transparent tone. But more importantly, he gave all players equal voices, bringing phrases to the surface with a rise and fall and emphasising the different combinations of instruments. All this variety was played with 21st-century style and panache by Tognetti and the ACO, but at its heart this remained pure Bach.”

– BACHTRACK, 4 OCTOBER 2019

GOLDBERG VARIATIONS
PROGRAM

STRAVINSKY (arr. strings) Three Pieces for String Quartet
THOMAS ADÈS (arr. strings) The Four Quarters, Op.28: I. Nightfalls
BACH (arr. Tognetti) Canons on a Goldberg Ground, BWV1087
BACH (arr. Labadie) Goldberg Variations, BWV988

ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti Director & Violin
Erin Helyard Keyboards
Australian Chamber Orchestra

VENUE

Milton Court Concert Hall
Thursday 3 October 7:30pm

LUMINOUS
PROGRAM

SCHNITTKE (arr. Bashmet) Trio Sonata
BRITTEN (arr. Tognetti) Corpus Christi Carol
GABRIEL YARED (arr. Tognetti) The Talented Mr Ripley: Lullaby for Cain
R.E.M. (arr. Tognetti) I've Been High
PURCELL King Arthur, Z.628: What power art thou?
PĒTERIS VASKS Concerto for Violin and Strings “Distant Light”
JANÁČEK (arr. Burghauser) On an overgrown path: Good night!
PAUL HEALY Sound Sculptures

ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti Director & Violin
Bill Henson Photography, Cinematography & Editing
Lior Attar Voice
Australian Chamber Orchestra

VENUE

Milton Court Concert Hall
Friday 4 October 7:30pm

THE LARK ASCENDING
PROGRAM

PĒTERIS VASKS Viatore, for 11 solo strings
BRITTEN Variations on a Theme of Frank Bridge, Op.10
VAUGHAN WILLIAMS The Lark Ascending*
SCHOENBERG Verklärte Nacht, Op.4*

ARTISTS

Richard Tognetti Director & Violin
Australian Chamber Orchestra
*With additional musicians from the Guildhall School of Music & Drama

VENUE

Milton Court Concert Hall
Saturday 5 October 7:30pm



09

ACO Collective

Presented by Wesfarmers Arts

17 CONCERTS

3,912 TOTAL ATTENDANCE

HELENA RATHBONE
Principal Violin

ACO Collective is the Australian Chamber Orchestra's critically acclaimed regional touring and education ensemble. Under the artistic direction of brilliant Finnish violinist Pekka Kuusisto, ACO Collective combines Australia's most talented emerging string players, including the ACO Emerging Artists, with the professional musicians of the ACO to create a high-energy 17-piece string orchestra that tours music and education activities to regional locations all over Australia.

PRINCIPAL PARTNER: ACO COLLECTIVE



Mozart, Haydn & More

2-9 MAR

5 CONCERTS | 1,360 TOTAL ATTENDANCE

Charismatic Finnish violinist Pekka Kuusisto led ACO Collective through a tour of Victoria and South Australia.

PROGRAM

OLIVEROS The Tuning Meditation
HAYDN Symphony No.47 in G major 'Palindrome': I. Allegro, II. Un poco adagio, cantabile
HEATHER SHANNON Ricochet (World premiere)*
MOZART 6 Contredances: Nos.1, 2 & 3
HINDEMITH (arr. Rofe) Ludus Tonalis: Praeludium
HINDEMITH (arr. Rofe) Ludus Tonalis: Postludium
MOZART 6 Contredances: Nos.4, 5 & 6
HEATHER SHANNON Ricochet from a Distance (World premiere)*
HAYDN Symphony No.47 in G major 'Palindrome': III. Menuet & Trio al roverso, IV. Finale. Allegro
OLIVEROS The Tuning Meditation

*Commissioned by the Australian Chamber Orchestra.

ARTISTS

Pekka Kuusisto Director & Violin
ACO Collective

GUEST ARTISTS

Wind players from the
Australian National Academy of Music (ANAM)



VENUES

Mount Gambier –
Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre
Saturday 2 March

Hamilton Performing Arts Centre
Sunday 3 March

Melbourne Recital Centre
Tuesday 5 March

Bendigo – The Capital Theatre
Thursday 7 March

Wangaratta Performing Arts Centre
Saturday 9 March

1 SCHOOLS CONCERT | 40 TOTAL ATTENDANCE

PROGRAM

Based on Mozart, Haydn & More program

ARTISTS

Pekka Kuusisto Director & Violin
ACO Collective

VENUE

The Capital, Bendigo
Friday 8 March



Serenades for Strings

19–29 OCT

6 CONCERTS | 1,599 TOTAL ATTENDANCE
ACO Principal Violin Helena Rathbone led ACO Collective through a tour of regional New South Wales and Queensland.

PROGRAM
PAUL STANHOPE Dancing on Clouds
BEETHOVEN (arr. Rofe) Romance for Violin and Orchestra No.1 in G major, Op.40
MENDELSSOHN Sinfonia No.7 in D minor
ELGAR Serenade for Strings in E minor, Op.20
BEETHOVEN (arr. strings) String Quartet in F minor, Op.95 "Serioso"

ARTISTS
Helena Rathbone Director & Violin
ACO Collective
*Gondwana Indigenous Children's Choir

VENUES
Cairns Performing Arts Centre*
Saturday 19 October

Rockhampton – Pilbeam Theatre
Tuesday 22 October

Bundaberg – Moncrieff Entertainment Centre
Wednesday 23 October

Lismore City Hall
Friday 25 October

Bellingen Memorial Hall
Sunday 27 October

Armidale Town Hall
Tuesday 29 October

2 SCHOOLS / FAMILIES CONCERTS | 358 TOTAL ATTENDANCE

PROGRAM
Based on Serenades for Strings program

ARTISTS
Helena Rathbone Director & Violin
ACO Collective
*Gondwana Indigenous Children's Choir

VENUES
Cairns Performing Arts Centre*
Saturday 19 October

Lismore City Hall
Friday 25 October

Vasse Felix Sound And Sense Festival

6–8 DEC

3 CONCERTS | 555 TOTAL ATTENDANCE

CONCERT 1
NICO MUHLY Drones & Violin: Part I. Material in E-flat
STEVE REICH Duet
AULIS SALLINEN String Quartet No.3, Op.19
"Some Aspects of Peltoniemi Hintrik's Funeral March"
ERKKI-SVEN TÛÜR Symbiosis
SHOSTAKOVICH String Quartet No.8 in C minor, Op.110
ANDREA TARRODI Birds of Paradise

CONCERT 2
NICO MUHLY Shrink (excerpt)
BACH Trio Sonata in G major, BWV1027
HINDEMITH (arr. Rofe) Ludus Tonalis: Praeludium & Postludium
DVOŘÁK Terzetto in C major, Op.74
BRYCE DESSNER Aheym for string orchestra

CONCERT 3
ALEX MILLS One is Fun
CAROLINE SHAW Entr'acte for string orchestra
NICO MUHLY Diacritical Marks
MISSY MAZZOLI (arr. strings) You Know Me From Here
TRADITIONAL (arr. Danish String Quartet) Wood Works: Selections

ARTISTS
Pekka Kuusisto Director & Violin
ACO Collective

VENUE
Vasse Felix Winery, WA
Friday 8 December 5:30pm
Saturday 9 December 5:30pm
Sunday 10 December 11am



10

Premieres & Commissions



GLENN CHRISTENSEN
Violin

In keeping with its commitment to present new music that pushes the boundaries, the ACO gave seven world premieres and seven Australian premieres in its 2019 Season.

World Premieres

HEATHER SHANNON

Ricochet

Ricochet from a Distance

World premiere at *Mozart, Haydn & More* by Pekka Kuusisto and ACO Collective, 2 March 2019.

Both works commissioned by the Australian Chamber Orchestra.

“Composer Heather Shannon of indie band The Jezabels served as a conduit between the historical polarities of the music. Her companion pieces, *Ricochet* and *Ricochet from a Distance*, seemed to draw their power equally from the classical aesthetic and the rich, complex textures of the avant-garde.”

– THE AGE, 7 MARCH 2019

PAUL STANHOPE

There's a Sea in My Bedroom

There's a Sea in My Bedroom received its world premiere by a quintet of ACO Collective musicians on 9 May 2019. It was commissioned by the Australian Chamber Orchestra and presented in partnership with the Sydney Opera House.

Based on the beloved children's book by Margaret Wild, *There's a Sea in My Bedroom* is an immersive introduction to live music and storytelling for children aged 2-7 and their families.

DAN WALKER

Buda: Dja (Carpet Snake)

World premiere at *Serenades for Strings* by ACO Collective and the Gondwana Indigenous Children's Choir, 19 October 2019.

ANDREW FORD

Fanfare for Neverland

World premiere at *Brahms & Dvořák* by Visa Haarala and the Australian Chamber Orchestra, 9 November 2019.

“With the hall in darkness, guest principal trumpet, Visa Haarala, from Finland's Tapiola Sinfonietta, stood in the balcony, his bright and happy trumpet true to every note of Australian composer, Andrew Ford's *Fanfare for Neverland* Solo Trumpet... Haarala produced extraordinary clarity in his playing, delivering a crisp sound that filled the expansive room effortlessly.”

– LIMELIGHT, 10 NOVEMBER 2019

ALEX MILLS

One is Fun

World premiere at *Nico Muhly & the New* by Pekka Kuusisto and ACO Collective, 4 December 2019.

“The tangential textures threaded through Welsh composer Alex Mills's violin duet, *One is Fun*, added flashes of complexity to the evening's pervasively minimalist canvas.”

– THE AUSTRALIAN, 6 DECEMBER 2019

NICO MUHLY

Shrink: Concerto for Violin and Strings

World premiere at *Nico Muhly & the New* by Pekka Kuusisto and ACO Collective, 4 December. Commissioned by the Australian Chamber Orchestra and Melbourne Recital Centre.

“*Shrink* was Muhly's third world premiere in Australia this year, following two smaller commissions. The prolific composer... has had a long collaboration and friendship with Kuusisto, who met the concerto's ferocious demands with relish.”

– THE AGE, 6 DECEMBER 2019

PREMIERES & COMMISSIONS

Australian Premieres

DOBRINKA TABAKOVA

Such Different Paths

Australian premiere at *Beethoven & Prokofiev* by Lorenza Borrani and the Australian Chamber Orchestra, 7 March 2019.

SALLY BEAMISH

Under the Wing of the Rock: Saxophone Concerto No.2

Australian premiere at *Branford Marsalis* by Branford Marsalis and the Australian Chamber Orchestra, 9 May 2019.

PĚTERIS VASKS

Viatore for 11 Solo Strings

Australian premiere at *Respighi, Britten & Vasks* by the Australia Chamber Orchestra, 4 June 2019.

MOZART, ARRANGED BY DEJAN LAZIĆ

Rondo Concertante

Australian premiere at *Celebrating Mozart*, by Dejan Lazić and the Australian Chamber Orchestra, 5 September 2019.

BRETT DEAN

Approach (Prelude to a Canon)

Australian premiere at *Intimate Bach* by the Australian Chamber Orchestra, 19 October 2019. Commissioned by the Australian Chamber Orchestra and the Swedish Chamber Orchestra.

ANDREW NORMAN

Gran Turismo

Australian premiere at *Brahms & Dvořák* by the Australian Chamber Orchestra, 9 November 2019.

MISSY MAZZOLI

You Know Me From Here

Australian premiere at *Nico Muhly & the New* by Pekka Kuusisto and ACO Collective, 4 December 2019.

11

ACO
Instruments

ELIZABETH WOOLNOUGH
Viola

ACO Instrument Fund

The Instrument Fund welcomed seven new and reinvesting unitholders in 2019, representing \$608,797.60 worth of units.

2019 was a year of consolidation and new beginnings for the ACO Instrument Fund. The Fund currently holds four noteworthy Golden Age instruments in its collection: a 1728/29 Stradivari violin, a 1714 Guarneri violin, a 1616 Brothers Amati cello and a 1590 Brothers Amati violin. These four instruments reflected a total value of \$9.4m as at the end of the 2019 financial year. The Fund did not acquire any new assets during the calendar year however it continued the search for a fifth rare instrument that will meet its investment objectives.

The ACO has held units throughout the life of the Instrument Fund, and significantly most of these units were donated to the ACO by the Fund's Founding Patron Peter Weiss AO, Fund Director John Leece AM and the late Amina Belgiorno-Nettis. In 2017, the ACO received permission from the donors and their families to sell down these units to new investors so that it could take the Fund to the next phase of its existence. The units sold to investors in 2018 and 2019 predominantly consisted of these donated units, and by the end of 2019, the ACO unitholding was nil and will remain as such until the next instrument acquisition. The ACO is grateful to these donors and their families for their vision and generosity which has paved a genuine foundation for the Fund.

On that note, the Instrument Fund welcomed seven new and reinvesting unitholders in 2019, representing \$608,797.60 worth of units. The total number of entities holding units in the Fund at year end came to 49. These include individuals, trusts and foundations, PAFs, SMSFs as well as institutional investor Media Super Limited which has a unitholding of 29.5%.

On 4 July 2019, the Instrument Fund Board undertook an Informal Valuation and, in consideration of recent market valuations of the Fund's assets, the relevant exchange rate movements, provisions for liquidity, and deferred tax liability, resolved to increase the unit price to \$1.45 effective 30 June 2019. The unit price of \$1.45 compares with a unit price of \$1.40 at the end of the 2018 financial year and \$1.00 at the Fund's launch in 2011.

The Instrument Fund held four events for current and prospective investors in 2019. They were held on 27 May at the Melbourne office of the Impact Investment Group, on 30 May and 18 September at the ACO's Sydney office,



and on 1 December at the home of Gaby Kennard in Byron Bay. The Directors of the Instrument Fund would like to thank all those who volunteered their time and effort to making the events possible, in particular Impact Investment Group and Gaby Kennard for so generously hosting the ACO and the Fund's assets at their beautiful venues.

The ACO would like to acknowledge the contribution of the Instrument Fund's Australian Financial Services Licence holder, JBWere Ltd and the Board of Directors of the Fund; Bill Best (Chair), Jessica Block, Edward Gilmartin, John Leece, Julie Steiner AM and John Taberner. Finally we wish to acknowledge and thank the unitholders and their investments in the Instrument Fund, for the incalculable emotional and cultural value they bring to the ACO and the wider ACO community at large.

Above: The ACO Instrument Fund's 1616 Brothers Amati Cello

The ACO's Instrument Collection

The ACO has one of the finest collections of instruments of any orchestra, large or small, in the world.

**1743 ‘Carrodus’
Giuseppe violin**

Played by Artistic Director
Richard Tognetti

Kindly on loan from an anonymous
Australian private benefactor

**1759 Giovanna Battista
Guadagnini violin**

Played by Principal Violin
Helena Rathbone

Kindly on loan from the
Commonwealth Bank of Australia

**1726 ‘Belgiorno’
Stradivarius violin**

Played by Principal
Violin Satu Vänskä

Kindly on loan from Guido Belgiorno-
Nettis AM & Michelle Belgiorno-Nettis

1728/29 Stradivarius violin

Played by violinist Glenn
Christensen and Mark Ingwersen

Kindly on loan from the
ACO Instrument Fund

**1714 ‘ex-Isolde Menges’
Giuseppe Guarneri filius
Andreae violin**

Played by violinist Maja Savnik

Kindly on loan from
the ACO Instrument Fund

1590 Brothers Amati violin

Played by violinist Ike See

Kindly on loan from
the ACO Instrument Fund

1616 Brothers Amati cello

Played by Principal Cello
Timo-Veikko Valve

Kindly on loan from
the ACO Instrument Fund

**1729 Giuseppe Guarneri
filius Andreae cello**

Played by cellist Julian Thompson

Kindly donated to the ACO
by Peter Weiss AO

**A late-16th century Gasparo
da Salò bass**

Played by Principal Bass
Maxime Bibeau

Kindly on loan from an anonymous
Australian private benefactor

SATU VÄNSKÄ
Principal Violin



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ACO Digital & Recordings

MAXIME BIBEAU
Double Bass

Australian Chamber Orchestra

RECORDINGS

Haydn Mozart

A recording of Haydn and Mozart symphonies, led by Richard Tognetti and performed with the ACO's trademark energy and virtuosity.

Richard Tognetti Director & Violin
Australian Chamber Orchestra

HAYDN Symphony No. 49 in F minor 'La passione'

- I. Adagio
- II. Allegro di molto
- III. Menuet and Trio
- IV. Finale: Presto

MOZART Symphony No. 25 in G minor

- I. Allegro con brio
- II. Andante
- III. Menuetto and Trio
- IV. Allegro

HAYDN Symphony No. 104 in D major 'London'

- I. Adagio – Allegro
- II. Andante
- III. Menuet and Trio: Allegro
- IV. Finale: Spiritoso

RELEASED BY



ACO RECORDING PROJECTS SUPPORTED
BY THE THOMAS FOUNDATION





Brahms & Dvořák Live Stream

In November 2019 the Australian Chamber Orchestra broadcast the *Brahms & Dvořák* concert live from the Sydney Opera House to audiences around the world via Facebook.

The stream reached over 3.9 million people and was viewed over 1.35 million times.

Digital Engagement

638,980
Total visits to website

34,512
Followers on Facebook

8,611
Followers on Instagram

INCREASE OF 45%*

139,915
video views on YouTube

1,999,329
video views on Facebook

*COMPARED WITH 2018 FIGURES.

Video Highlights

The ACO cumulated over 1.7 million minutes of video views in 2019 (an increase of 221% from 2018). Some key videos included:

ACO Up Close: Timo-Veikko Valve

OVER 145,000 FACEBOOK VIEWS
OVER 1,300 YOUTUBE VIEWS

The ACO partnered with filmmaker Mitchell Loveday to film an intimate performance from Principal Cello Timo-Veikko Valve performing the stunning Prelude from Bach's Cello Suite No.1 at St James' Church.

Indies & Idols Season Trailer

OVER 81,000 FACEBOOK VIEWS
OVER 2,400 YOUTUBE VIEWS

Ahead of its critically acclaimed *Indies & Idols* national tour, the ACO partnered with VERSUS to explore the music of some of indie-rock's most influential figures, alongside the Polish composers who inspire them.

Luminous Live in the Studio

OVER 34,000 FACEBOOK VIEWS
OVER 1,300 YOUTUBE VIEWS

The Australian Chamber orchestra partnered with director Matisse Ruby to film a spectacular rendition of Benjamin Britten's 'Corpus Christi Carol', performed in rehearsal by Lior, Richard Tognetti and the ACO, ahead of the ACO's revival of *Lumionous*.



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Learning & Engagement



AIKO GOTO
Violin

TALENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

The ACO is committed to supporting and providing opportunities for young Australian string players. Our Talent Development programs:

- foster emerging young talent by providing the highest quality training and mentoring;
- provide critical pathways into the ACO and other professional music careers, and;
- are highly impactful, potentially changing the trajectory of these young musicians' lives.

ACO Academy

Presented by BNP Paribas

Twenty-four talented string players, aged 11-18, were selected to participate in our annual ACO Academy program during the July school holidays. Led by ACO violinist Aiko Goto, students participated in a week of intensive learning, rehearsals, chamber music and ensemble performances alongside ACO musicians. The week culminated in a professional performance at City Recital Hall with an audience of over 750 people.

“The ACO Academy orchestra was by far the best ensemble I have ever played in, and it made me feel happy and emotional inside. I could really feel my own playing improve during the Academy from what I was learning and rehearsing each day. Even now when I play at home, I can still hear the difference in my playing. I am so grateful for this experience that will stay with me for my entire life, and the friends I have made.”

– ACO ACADEMY PARTICIPANT

PRESENTING PARTNER



BNP PARIBAS

The bank for a changing world



TALENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

Emerging Artist Program

The ACO's Emerging Artist program connects the next generation of talented young Australian string players with the professional members of the ACO.

EACH EMERGING ARTIST RECEIVES:

- Paid, intensive chamber music rehearsals and chamber orchestra performances with members of the ACO;
- The opportunity to tour with ACO Collective, working alongside Artistic Director Pekka Kuusisto, guest directors and ACO musicians in a professional setting;
- Private lessons with an ACO mentor;
- Audition preparation; and
- Access to ACO rehearsals and concerts.

THE 2019 EMERGING ARTISTS WERE:

- William Huxtable violin
- Gemma Lee violin
- Mana Ohashi violin
- Harry Ward violin
- Molly Collier-O'Boyle viola
- Mariette Reefman viola
- James Morley cello
- Jaan Pallandi double bass

“My year spent as an ACO Emerging Artist was such an incredible and influential experience for me as a young musician. I gained invaluable skills in chamber musicianship, received outstanding individual mentoring and doorways have opened for me where otherwise I did not know they existed. I would recommend to any colleague pursuing this pathway to fight to be a part of this world-class training program.”

- MOLLY COLLIER-O'BOYLE, 2019 VIOLA EMERGING ARTIST



EDUCATION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Early Experiences

Early experiences have a critical impact on a person's life. Our flagship early years programs:

- ignite a love of music from an early age;
- make arts and cultural experiences accessible to all children and families; and
- open doors and increase aspirations for the future.

Early Years Concerts

In 2019 the ACO launched a new initiative: a series of concerts designed for young children and their families. The aim was to commission and create a sophisticated theatrical work which blends story and newly composed classical music in an accessible format for young people.

Weaving together captivating storytelling with a newly composed score performed by a quintet of ACO Collective musicians, *There's a Sea in My Bedroom* was an immersive introduction to live music, capturing the magic of a child's fantasy world. *There's a Sea in My Bedroom* was performed 24 times over a two-week season in the Utzon Room at Sydney Opera House to over 4,000 young people and their families.

“As soon as I read ACO and children's book in the same sentence I couldn't book fast enough. My four-year old grandson was completely enchanted by his first visit to the Sydney Opera House and first experience of a live performance. Archie was completely fascinated by the creation of the world of the story and especially by the musicians and their instruments. A magical first experience of theatre for one small boy.”

- ATTENDEE



There's a Sea in My Bedroom

9-20 APR

24 CONCERTS | 4,568 TOTAL ATTENDANCE

Presented by Sydney Opera House and the Australian Chamber Orchestra

TIM MCGARRY Script & Direction
PAUL STANHOPE Music
JACK RICHARDSON Actor
KELSEY LEE Designer
ACO COLLECTIVE

Based on the book by Margaret Wild & Jane Tanner published by Penguin Australia

EDUCATION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT HIGHLIGHTS



ACO Foundations

ACO Foundations aims to improve the academic and developmental outcomes for children through the study of music. The pedagogical model is informed by scientific and social research and introduces string playing into the school curriculum in a co-teaching design between the classroom teacher and an ACO music educator. A critical component of the program is that students practise their instruments every day for 15-minutes during class time, alongside weekly lessons by ACO instrumental teachers.

In 2018 we established a pilot program with one class of 25 students at St Marys North Public School. 2019 saw these students continue into their second year of the program. The benefits have proven to be significant, with noticeable improvements in the students’ physical, cognitive and behavioural development. Participants are showing improved writing, reading and auditory skills, and teachers have seen an increase in their focus and concentration.

“We can build a world inside our gates that is filled with the belief that our students can achieve, they are important, they have options. By improving the equity of access to a rich music education, we open doors. With ACO’s help, our students will have access to improved learning outcomes in their formative years, and more importantly, they too will be able to dream of a future filled with endless possibilities.”

– LISA PARELLO, PRINCIPAL AT ST MARYS NORTH PUBLIC SCHOOL

“Simply put I just wanted to offer my sincere gratitude for the opportunity the ACO has provided my daughter and the new avenues it has opened for her. She is considering music as a study and career path which she would not have done without her involvement in the program.”

– ACO FOUNDATIONS PARENT.

Community Engagement

Our Community Engagement programs target under-serviced communities, including young adults with disability, children experiencing illness, Indigenous students, and music students in regional or remote areas. All projects offer participants a chance to explore their creativity alongside ACO musicians in collaborative arts experiences.

Royal Children’s Hospital Melbourne

The ACO Inspire Quartet visited the hospital in 2019 to deliver workshops and performances for young patients during school holiday periods. The quartet delivered interactive, educational experiences for children in the hospital school and visited the wards for performances which offer light relief to children, families, and staff.

Melbourne Indigenous Transition School (MITS)

In August 2019 the ACO collaborated with MITS and Swinburne University to work with Year 7 students in creative storytelling workshops. Students worked with experts at Swinburne University to create stop-motion animations, telling their own stories in their own languages. Students then worked with ACO Inspire Quartet musicians over five intensive sessions to develop musical soundscapes for their animation. The result is a professionally made short film of their stories and music.

ACO Move

A series of workshops for young adults with disability which integrate movement with live music. In 2019 we again delivered a series of sessions in the ACO Studio in which participants worked alongside ACO musicians in creative and collaborative music making sessions, culminating in an informal performance of their own work.



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Attendance Figures

MAJA SAVNIK
Violin

ATTENDANCE FIGURES

SUBSCRIPTION CONCERTS

TOUR		DATA	ADELAIDE	BRISBANE	CANBERRA	MELBOURNE	NEWCASTLE	PERTH	SYDNEY	WOLLONGONG	TOTAL
1	Arvo Pärt & JS Bach	Concerts	1	--	1	2	--	1	4	--	11
		Attendance	942	--	1,338	4,343	--	1,724	6,091	--	11,484
2	Beethoven & Prokofiev	Concerts	1	1	1	2	1	--	4	--	9
		Attendance	710	950	1,017	2,228	493	--	3,483	--	8,712
3	Branford Marsalis	Concerts	--	1	1	2	--	1	4	1	9
		Attendance	--	1,292	1,314	3,564	--	1,404	5,650	537	10,497
4	Respighi, Britten & Vasks	Concerts	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	9
		Attendance	--	--	--	654	--	--	--	--	11,128
5	Indies & Idols	Concerts	--	1	--	2	1	1	5	--	3
		Attendance	--	964	--	2,782	479	1,177	4,866	--	2623
6	Luminous	Concerts	1	1	1	2	--	1	5	--	12
		Attendance	790	1,109	1,123	3,403	--	1,298	5,929	--	11,916
7	Celebrating Mozart	Concerts	1	--	1	2	--	--	3	1	7
		Attendance	786	--	1,259	2,721	--	--	3,433	450	5,769
8	Intimate Bach	Concerts	1	1	--	1	--	1	5	1	7
		Attendance	794	1,104	--	994	--	1,223	5,207	452	8,508
9	Brahms & Dvořák	Concerts	1	1	1	2	1	--	5	--	11
		Attendance	775	1,020	1,168	3,044	567	--	5,445	--	15,569
10	Nico Muhly & the New	Concerts	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	1
		Attendance	--	--	--	827	--	--	--	--	871
TOTAL CONCERTS			6	6	6	17	3	5	35	3	81
TOTAL ATTENDANCE			4,797	6,439	7,219	24,560	1,539	6,826	40,104	1,439	92,923

ATTENDANCE FIGURES

SPECIAL EVENTS
& TOURING

FESTIVALS & SPECIAL EVENTS	CONCERTS	ATTENDANCE
TarraWarra Festival	3	525
Satu Vänskä in Recital	1	186
UKARIA Festival	1	222
Breaking Ground	2	192
TOTAL	7	1,125

INTERNATIONAL TOURS	CONCERTS	ATTENDANCE
North America Tour	8	5,282
Barbican Residency	3	1,503
TOTAL	11	6,785

ACO COLLECTIVE	CONCERTS	ATTENDANCE
Mozart, Haydn & More	5	1,360
Mozart, Haydn & More Schools Concert	1	40
Serenades for Strings	6	1,599
Serenades for Strings Schools / Families Concerts	2	358
Vasse Felix Sound And Sense Festival	3	555
TOTAL	17	3,912

LEARNING & ENGAGEMENT	CONCERTS	ATTENDANCE
There's a Sea in My Bedroom	24	4,568
ACO Academy Concert	1	750
TOTAL	25	5,318

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Corporate
Governance
Statement



IKE SEE
Violin

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

INTRODUCTION

This statement outlines the Australian Chamber Orchestra’s (ACO) corporate governance practices and addresses the updated Essential Governance Practice Principles published and monitored by the Australia Council for the Arts. These principles are based on the recommendations published by the ASX Corporate Governance Council, 3rd Edition.

The ACO’s Governance Manual was prepared and progressively adopted by the Board during 2007. The implementation of the governance practices embodied in the Manual ensures that the ACO achieves compliance with the Governance Practice Principles and the ACNC Governance Standards.

The Board is committed to further strengthening its governance practices progressively through 2020 to ensure compliance with the updated Principles. Its compliance with each of the Principles with reference to the relevant sections of the ACO’s Governance Manual, is outlined below.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

PRINCIPLE 1:

Lay Solid Foundations for Management and Oversight

The ACO’s Governance Manual incorporates Board and Committee Charters (S.1.1), a Code of Conduct (S.3.1) and Director selection (S.2.2) and induction processes (S.1.2).

The Board Charter sets out the duties and responsibilities of the Board with regard to the Company’s overall operations, performance and compliance.

PRINCIPLE 2:

Structure the Board to Add Value

The ACO is committed to having a Board of effective composition, size and commitment to adequately discharge its responsibilities and duties.

The ACO’s Governance Manual defines the role of the Chairman (S.2.1), the processes for selection, appointment and renewal of directors (S.2.2) and the Board performance review process (S.6).

The Board includes Directors with a range of skills including finance and accounting, business (public companies, small business and not-for-profit) and commercial experience, public affairs, law, human resources, fundraising and philanthropy, orchestral music management and education and outreach. This experience is set out in their biographies published in the Annual Financial Report. All Directors are independent.

The Board is supported by its Nominations and Remuneration Committee in the recruitment of new Directors and the process for evaluating Board performance. The Committee Charter (Governance Manual S.2.3) establishes the primary functions of the Committee.

PRINCIPLE 3:

Act Ethically and Responsibly

The ACO’s Code of Conduct (Governance Manual S.3.1) is the formal expression of the Company’s values and ethics that:

- set the standard of ethical behaviour required of directors and officers;
- ensure compliance with legal and other obligations; and
- promote responsibility and accountability of individuals for reporting and investigating reports of unethical practices.

The ACO’s procedures for handling conflicts of interest, actual or potential, are embodied in the Governance Manual “Conflict of Interest” (S.3.2).

PRINCIPLE 4:

Ensure Diversity

The ACO aims to foster an organisational culture that embraces diversity. During 2019 an ACO Diversity & Inclusion Policy was developed in conjunction with an organisational review of policies. The Diversity & Inclusion Policy incorporates our EEO Principles and outlines our commitment to providing both a diverse and inclusive workplace for potential and existing employees.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

PRINCIPLE 5:

Safeguard Integrity in All Reporting

The ACO has processes in place that independently verify and safeguard the integrity of the organisation's compliance and management reporting.

The Finance, Audit and Risk Management (FARM) Committee Charter (Governance Manual S.4.1.) sets out its composition, functions and responsibilities. This Committee meets prior to every Board meeting and comprises up to three Directors and, by invitation, the Managing Director and the Chief Financial Officer and includes members with appropriate audit, finance and risk management expertise.

This Committee's responsibilities and duties cover review of the Company's management and statutory accounts and accounting policies and the results of the annual audit as well as making recommendations to the Board on the appointment, reappointment or replacement, remuneration and monitoring of the effectiveness of the external auditors.

PRINCIPLE 6:

Engage with Stakeholders

The ACO respects and observes its legal and other obligations, including the rights of all legitimate stakeholders. These principles are enshrined in the Company's Compliance Policy (Governance Manual S.6.1) and Stakeholder Communication Strategies (S.6.2).

The Board has the ultimate responsibility for overseeing the performance and activities of management and for legal and regulatory compliance.

To assist the Board in discharging its responsibility in relation to compliance, the Board has delegated the monitoring and review of compliance to the FARM Committee. An Annual Compliance Calendar is maintained in order to monitor requirements and reporting obligations.

The Board's duties and responsibilities specifically include ensuring effective communication with key stakeholders. The Code of Conduct sets the standard of ethical behaviour required of Directors and Officers, including ensuring that all stakeholders are recognised for the contributions they make and ensuring full, fair and understandable disclosure in reporting and public communications.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

PRINCIPLE 7:

Recognise & Manage Risk

The ACO has established a sound system of risk oversight and management and internal control. This system is designed to identify, assess, monitor and manage risk. The Company's risk management policy (S.5.1), responsibilities (S.5.2) and processes for review of the risk management system (S.5.3) are set out in the Governance Manual. The policies are further delineated in the company's Risk Management Plan.

The Board has the ultimate responsibility for overseeing the risk management framework and monitoring business risks and is assisted in discharging this responsibility by the FARM Committee whose responsibilities in relation to the Company's risk management system are contained in the Committee's charter.

Organisational risk is under continual review. In accordance with the ACO's Risk Management Plan, the FARM Committee considers the Company's risk profile as part of the annual strategy and budget setting process and in turn reports to the Board.

In conjunction with the recent organisational review of policies, the ACO's WHS Management System was reviewed and updated in 2019. This System provides for regular consultation with employees, mechanisms for WHS risk management, reporting of incidents and injuries, a workers' compensation framework and training of employees. WHS reports are prepared for each meeting of the FARM Committee and Board.

PRINCIPLE 8:

Remunerate Fairly & Responsibly

The ACO is committed to ensuring that the level and composition of remuneration is sufficient and reasonable and that its relationship to organisational and individual performance is defined.

The Company's Remuneration Policy (S.7.1) and Processes (S.7.2) are set out in the Governance Manual. The Board's Nominations and Remunerations Committee is responsible for reviewing and recommending to the Board the remunerations of the Managing Director and the Artistic Director. Staff and executive salaries are approved by the Board as part of the annual budget approval process. As a not-for-profit charitable institution, payment of any fees or salaries to directors of the Company is prohibited, in accordance with its constitution.

Guido Belgiorno-Nettis AM
Chairman

25 MARCH 2020

ARTISTIC VIBRANCY

ARTISTIC PEER REVIEW PANEL

The Australian Chamber Orchestra's Artistic Peer Review Panel (comprising representatives from the arts and education community across four states) is invited to the ACO's national subscription season and provides the ACO with regular feedback. The Panel assists the ACO by responding to the repertoire, soloist(s), audience engagement and concert experience of each program thereby informing the ACO's artistic self-assessment and programming patterns.

THE 2019 PANEL WAS COMPRISED
OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

Yarmila Alfonzetti
Toby Chadd
Jane Davidson
Alan Dodge
Melissa King
Jim Koehne
Siobhan Lenihan
Marshall McGuire
Katie Noonan
John Painter AM
Anthony Peluso
Mary Vallentine AO
Lyn Williams AM

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Development Report



LIISA PALLANDI
Violin

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

LEARNING & ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM

ACO UNDER THE STARS
Fundraising Event
Home of Simon and Jenny Yeo
Thursday 14 February

NET AMOUNT RAISED: \$71,813

LIBERTANGO
Sydney Fundraising Gala
Carriageworks
Wednesday 13 November

NET AMOUNT RAISED: \$490,824

OTHER EVENTS

MELBOURNE CHAIRMAN'S COUNCIL
AND MAJOR PATRONS' COCKTAIL PARTY
JAHR
Monday 4 February

SYDNEY CHAIRMAN'S COUNCIL
AND MAJOR PATRONS' COCKTAIL PARTY
Home of Judy Crawford
Thursday 7 February

ACO NEXT SYDNEY COCKTAILS
Home of Richard Tognetti & Satu Vänskä
Friday 1 March

MELBOURNE PATRONS' CIRCLE LAUNCH
Office of Martyn Myer ao
Monday 3 June

MELBOURNE CHAIRMAN'S COUNCIL
AND MAJOR PATRONS' DINNER
Alfred Place
Wednesday 28 August

SYDNEY CHAIRMAN'S COUNCIL
AND MAJOR PATRONS' DINNER
Pier 8/9 Walsh Bay
Thursday 29 August

ACO NEXT FAMILY DONOR DAY
ACO Studio
Saturday 14 September

RECITAL FEATURING RICHARD TOGNETTI
AND DEJAN LAZIC
Home of Richard Tognetti & Satu Vänskä
Saturday 14 September

BRISBANE THANK-YOU DINNER
Home of Albert Panizza & Kim Broadfoot
Wednesday 27 November

MEDICI DINNER
Cell Block Theatre
Friday 29 November



CHAIRMAN'S COUNCIL AND MAJOR PATRONS' DINNER, WALSH BAY



SYDNEY FUNDRAISING GALA, CARRIAGEWORKS



CHAIRMAN'S COUNCIL & MAJOR PATRONS' COCKTAIL PARTY, POINT PIPER



SYDNEY FUNDRAISING GALA, CARRIAGEWORKS

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

ACO Medici Program

MEDICI PATRON

The late Amina Belgiorno-Nettis

PRINCIPAL CHAIRS

Richard Tognetti AO

Artistic Director & Lead Violin

Wendy Edwards

Peter & Ruth McMullin

Louise Myer & Martyn Myer AO

Andrew & Andrea Roberts

Helena Rathbone

Principal Violin

Kate & Daryl Dixon

Satu Vänskä

Principal Violin

Kay Bryan

Principal Viola

peckvonhartel architects –

Robert Peck AM,

Yvonne von Hartel AM,

Rachel Peck & Marten Peck

Timo-Veikko Valve

Principal Cello

Peter Weiss AO

Maxime Bibeau

Principal Double Bass

Darin Cooper Foundation

CORE CHAIRS

Violin

Glenn Christensen

Terry Campbell AO & Christine Campbell

Aiko Goto

Anthony & Sharon Lee Foundation

Mark Ingwersen

Prof Judyth Sachs & Julie Steiner AM

Ilya Isakovich

Meg Meldrum

Liisa Pallandi

The Melbourne Medical Syndicate

Maja Savnik

Alenka Tindale

Ike See

Di Jameson

Viola

Nicole Divall

Ian Lansdown

Elizabeth Woolnough

Philip Bacon AM

Cello

Melissa Barnard

Dr & Mrs J Wenderoth

Julian Thompson

The Grist & Stewart Families

ACO COLLECTIVE

Pekka Kuusisto

Artistic Director & Lead Violin

Horsey Jameson Bird

GUEST CHAIRS

Brian Nixon

Principal Timpani

Mr Robert Albert AO & Mrs Libby Albert

peckvonhartel architects
HORSEY JAMESON BIRD

ACO Bequest Patrons

We would like to thank the following people who have remembered the Orchestra in their wills. Please consider supporting the future of the ACO by leaving a gift. For more information on making a bequest, or to join our Continuo Circle by notifying the ACO that you have left a bequest, please contact Lillian Armitage, Capital Campaign & Bequests Manager, on (02) 8274 3827.

CONTINUO CIRCLE

Steven Bardy

Ruth Bell

Dave Beswick

Dr Catherine Brown-Watt PSM &

Mr Derek Watt

Sandra Cassell

Sandra Dent

Dr William F Downey

Peter Evans

Carol Farlow

Suzanne Gleeson

Stan Harvey

Lachie Hill

David & Sue Hobbs

Arthur Hollis & Patricia Hollis

Penelope Hughes

Toni Kilsby & Mark McDonald

Mrs Judy Lee

Daniel Lemesle

John Mitchell

Selwyn M Owen

Michael Ryan & Wendy Mead

Michael Soo

Cheri Stevenson

Jeanne-Claude Strong

Leslie C Thiess

Dr Lesley Treleaven

Ngairé Turner

G C & R Weir

Margaret & Ron Wright

Peter Yates AM

Mark Young

Anonymous (18)

ESTATE GIFTS

The late Charles Ross Adamson

The late Kerstin Lillemor Anderson

The late Mrs Sibilla Baer

The late Prof Janet Carr

The late Mrs Moya Crane

The late Gaynor Dean

The late Colin Enderby

The late Neil Patrick Gillies

The late John Nigel Holman

The late Dr S W Jeffrey AM

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The late Pauline Marie Johnston

The late Mr Geoff Lee AM OAM

The late Shirley Miller

The late Julie Moses

The late Geraldine Nicoll

The late Eva Nissen

The late Josephine Paech

The late Richard Ponder

The late Geoffrey Francis Scharer

The late Scott Spencer

The late Ernest Spinner

The late Genelle Thomson

ACO Life Patrons

IBM

Mr Robert Albert AO & Mrs Libby Albert

Mr Guido Belgiorno-Nettis AM

Mrs Barbara Blackman AO

Mrs Roxane Clayton

Mr David Constable AM

Mr Martin Dickson AM &

Mrs Susie Dickson

Mrs Alexandra Martin

Mrs Faye Parker

Mr John Taberner & Mr Grant Lang

Mr Peter Weiss AO

ACO Special Initiatives

The ACO thanks Dame Margaret Scott AC DBE for establishing the

Dame Margaret Scott AC DBE

Fund for International

Guests and Composition

BRANFORD MARSALIS CIRCLE

Deborah & David Friedlander

David & Sandy Libling

2018 EMANUEL SYNAGOGUE PATRONS

Lead Patron

The Narev Family

Patrons

Leslie & Ginny Green

The Sherman Foundation

Justin Phillips &

Louise Thurgood-Phillips

Corporate Partner

Adina Apartment Hotels

LUMINOUS CIRCLE

Patrons

Leslie & Ginny Green

Supporters

Connie Kimberley &

Craig Kimberley OAM

Naomi Milgrom Foundation

Martyn Myer AO & Louise Myer

Peter & Victoria Shorthouse

Friends

Andrew Clouston

Detached Hobart

Peter Jopling AM QC

Patricia Mason & Paul Walker

ACO Reconciliation Circle

The Reconciliation Circle supports our music education initiatives for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, with the aim to build positive and effective partnerships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the broader Australian community. To find out more please contact Jill Colvin, Director of Philanthropy, on (02) 8274 3835.

Colin & Debbie Golvan

Kerry Landman

Peter & Ruth McMullin

Patterson Pearce Foundation

The Hon Justice Anthe Philippides

Sam Ricketson & Rosie Ayton

Chairman's Council

The Chairman's Council is a limited membership association which supports the ACO's international touring program and enjoys private events in the company of Richard Tognetti and the Orchestra. For more information please call Tom Tansey, Events & Special Projects Manager, on (02) 8274 3828.

Guido Belgiorno-Nettis AM
Chairman, ACO

Philip Bacon AM
Director, Philip Bacon Galleries

David Baffsky AO

Marc Besen AC & Eva Besen AO

Craig & Nerida Caesar

Michael & Helen Carapiet

John Casella
Managing Director, Casella Family Brands
(Peter Lehmann Wines)

Michael Chaney AO
Chairman, Westfarmers

Matt Comyn
Chief Executive Officer,
Commonwealth Bank

Hartley & Sharon Cook

Mark Coppleson

Judy Crawford

Rowena Danziger AM &
Kenneth G. Coles AM

Karine Delvallée

Chief Executive Officer
Australia & New Zealand
BNP Paribas

Doug Elix AO & Robin Elix

Daniel Gauchat

Principal, The Adelante Group

Robert Gavshon & Mark Rohald
Quartet Ventures

John Grill AO & Rosie Williams

Debra Hazelton & Lindsay Anderson

Janet Holmes à Court AC

Simon & Katrina Holmes à Court
Observant

Andrew Low

David Mathlin

Julianne Maxwell

Michael Maxwell

Sam Meers AO

Farrel Meltzer
Group Managing Director
Wingate

Naomi Milgrom AO

Jan Minchin
Director, Tolarno Galleries

Jim & Averill Minto

Alf Moufarrige AO
Chief Executive Officer, Servcorp

John P Mullen
Chairman, Telstra

Martyn Myer AO

Gretel Packer

Robert Peck AM &
Yvonne von Hartel AM
peckvonhartel architects

Andrew Price
Managing Partner, Sydney
EY

Laurent-Emmanuel Saffré
Head of Oceania,
Pierre Fabre Group

Carol Schwartz AM

Paul Scurrah
Chief Executive Officer,
Virgin Australia

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