



MEDIA RELEASE
 TUESDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2015

THE SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE, BY ARRANGEMENT WITH ARTS PROJECTS AUSTRALIA PRESENTS

GORAN BREGOVIĆ and his Wedding and Funeral Band ‘Balkan Party’

TUESDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2016, 9.00PM
 CONCERT HALL, SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE

****½ “A wild, magic night...among the best concerts I've heard.”

SYDNEY MORNING HERALD

Balkan rock star **Goran Bregović and his Wedding and Funeral Band** will bring the Gypsy-fuelled brilliance of their ‘Balkan Party’ to the Sydney Opera House Concert Hall on Tuesday 16 February 2016.

Ben Marshall, Head of Contemporary Music at Sydney Opera House, said: “*Goran Bregović is a fundamental force of nature whose previous appearances at Sydney Opera House are still seared into the Concert Hall woodwork. I have to quote John Shand’s Sydney Morning Herald review of Goran’s last appearance here as it completely nails my feelings about this magnificent artist and performer: ‘a heady mix of earthiness, charisma, fun and high art... tossed between emotional and entertainment extremes, constantly, and at high velocity’. He’s one of the world’s absolute greats, he brings the house down every time and I am thrilled he’s coming back to the Opera House.*”

Once the leader of **Bijelo Dugme**, former Yugoslavia's biggest band, Bregović fuses Corsican and Georgian traditions with electric guitar that flows, to quote *The Age*, “*from sweeping majesty to riotous ecstasy*”. He has worked with the legendary voices of **Iggy Pop**, **Scott Walker** and Polish star **Kayah** to fellow party-starters the **Gipsy Kings**, who feature on his latest album *Champagne for Gypsies*. The 65-year-old is perhaps best known, however, for the heart-wrenching scores written for Palme d'Or-winning filmmaker **Emir Kusturica**, beginning with *Time of the Gypsies* (1989) and culminating in the classic *Underground* (1995).

Honoured earlier this year with the **Chevalier des Arts** by the French Ministry of Culture, Bregović will prove that it takes more than a medal to slow a good man down, setting the Concert Hall alight with the string-swept balladry and raucous brass workouts of *Champagne for Gypsies*, his love song to the Roma.

This performance is part of the contemporary music program presented by Sydney Opera House, which includes **Tame Impala**, **Chet Faker**, **Florence + The Machine** and the annual **Vivid LIVE** festival, which has featured **Morrissey**, **Sufjan Stevens**, **Bill Callahan**, **TV on the Radio** and more. Visit sydneyoperahouse.com/music for further information.

EVENT DETAILS

WHAT: Goran Bregović and his Wedding and Funeral Band – ‘Balkan Party’
WHEN: Tuesday 16 February 2016, 9.00pm
WHERE: Concert Hall, Sydney Opera House
TICKETS: From \$79 + booking fee
BOOKINGS: Tickets on sale to the general public 9am, Thursday 17 September
sydneyoperahouse.com/music or 02 9250 7777

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