

MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday 24 March

Sydney Opera House presents
Australia Piano Quartet

Daniel de Borah (piano), Thomas Rann (cello), Rebecca Chan (violin), James Wannan (viola)

“A sell-out recital that delivers some fearless and impeccably balanced playing.” Limelight Magazine

Sydney – Tuesday 24 March 2015 – Establishing a reputation as one of Sydney's premier chamber music ambassadors, and destined to join the ranks of the world's great chamber ensembles, **Australia Piano Quartet** (APQ) will perform a series of eight concerts in the Utzon Room at the Sydney Opera House on 10 May, 8 August, 3 October and 13 December 2015.

APQ illuminates intimate chamber music with youthful mastery, insightful musical conversation and flawless balance. The players' passion for the piano quartet stems from their love of the extraordinary repertoire and the unique qualities of the ensemble itself: a synthesis of the soloistic sonority of a string quartet with the orchestral power of the piano.

Sydney Opera House Director of Programming, Jonathan Bielski said: “We are thrilled to welcome Australia Piano Quartet back to the Opera House. For a relatively young ensemble they are fast forging a reputation as one of the country's most exciting chamber groups.”

APQ is proud to be a champion of new Australian music, having previously commissioned and given world premiere performances of works by Elena Kats-Chernin, Nicholas Vines, Jack Symonds, Lyle Chan, Alex Pozniak and Felicity Wilcox. In 2015 the Quartet will be commissioning and premiering works by seven Australian composers: William Barton, Andrew Batt-Rawden, Huw Belling, Elliott Gyger, Nicholas Ng, Jack Symonds and Marcus Whale.

Following a highly successful 2014 season, Thomas Rann, James Wannan and Rebecca Chan are delighted to welcome internationally acclaimed pianist Daniel de Borah as a member of the ensemble.

Cellist Thomas Rann said, “This year we are presenting chamber music masterworks by Bach, Beethoven, Brahms and Mozart, alongside rarities including Fredrick Septimus Kelly's String Trio, written in Double Bay in 1911 before the Australian Olympic gold medallist and Gallipoli hero was tragically killed. Every program contains a new Australian work commissioned by the Quartet, making the series a unique representation of chamber music old and new.”

In 2015, APQ will embark on its first international tour including concerts at the Barbican Centre, New Zealand Festival of Literature and Arts (London) and the Australian Embassy in Paris.

SEASON DETAILS

WHAT: Australia Piano Quartet (APQ)
WHERE: Utzon Room, Sydney Opera House
WHEN: Sun 10 May - 2pm & 6pm, Sat 8 August - 3pm & 7pm, Sat 3 October - 3pm & 7pm,
Sun 13 December - 2pm & 6pm
TICKETS: \$45 - \$60

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