

MEDIA RELEASE: 24 NOVEMBER 2014

SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE presents

Utzon Music Series

Utzon Room, Sydney Opera House

**Marshall McGuire & Friends • Harry Christophers & Members of The Sixteen
Gabriela Montero • Florian Boesch & Malcolm Martineau • Australian World Orchestra's
Berlin Trio • Pinchas Zukerman Trio • London Haydn Quartet • Benjamin Grosvenor
Cameron Carpenter**

Sydney Opera House today announced the line-up for the 2015 **Utzon Music Series**, a year-long chamber music and recital program from renowned artists presented in the intimate setting of the Utzon Room.

Utzon Music Series curator Yarmila Alfonzetti said, "I am thrilled to be able to share this program of exceptional artists in the Utzon Music Series with you. These are names you know and musicians whom I adore; join me to revel in good friends and fine music as we welcome some of the best instrumentalists to our little corner of the world, delight in masterful interpretations and experience some of the great beauty of the classical music canon."

Sydney Opera House CEO Louise Herron AM said, "Yarmila Alfonzetti has once again assembled an inspired line-up of brilliant international musicians along with some of our homegrown heroes. Their exciting programs of old favourites and plenty of surprises show that 2015 promises to be another great year of music-making in this beautifully intimate setting"

The 2015 season features 12 concerts, including an Australian premiere, with artists from Venezuela, Austria, UK, USA and Australia. All patrons will receive a complimentary drink and program with specially commissioned articles, while enjoying the recitals against sparkling harbour views.

The season will open on February 15 with a birthday celebration for one of Australia's most versatile and most charming musicians, **Marshall McGuire and Friends**. Marshall will play a few of his favourite pieces old and new, joined by Christina Leonard, Emma Sholl, Frank Celata, Riley Lee, The Finders Quartet and Teddy Tahu Rhodes.

In what promises to be the ideal companion to renowned vocal ensemble The Sixteen's Concert Hall performance on 10 March, the scholarly and entertaining Harry Christophers, joined by five members The Sixteen, will explore one of the most famous works of sacred art, with a listener's guide to **Gregorio Allegri's Miserere**.

Venezuelan pianist **Gabriela Montero** is a rarity in the classical world – an accomplished improviser. Montero will present a program featuring Schumann's Fantasy in C, Mendelssohn's Songs without Words and the restless spontaneity of Schubert's Four Impromptus.

Over three concerts in the heart of Sydney's winter, acclaimed Austrian bass-baritone Florian Boesch will be joined by the doyen of lieder pianists Malcolm Martineau to lead audiences on **The Schubert**

Journey exploring Schubert's three song cycles *Die schöne Müllerin*, *Winterreise* and *Schwanengesang*.

In July, three friends and colleagues from the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra reunite in Sydney to form a very special trio. Performing alone and in combination, **Stanley Dodds** (violin) **Brett Dean** (viola) and **Matt McDonald** (double bass) play some of their favourite pieces including Michael Haydn, Bohuslav Martinu, Erwin Schulhoff. As featured players in the Australian World Orchestra's 2015 program, this chamber concert provides a unique opportunity to hear some of our best ex-pats in an intimate setting.

Pinchas Zuckerman is the very image of a violin soloist – charming, brilliant and suave. With 50 years of experience to his credit, including performances with the likes of like Leonard Bernstein, Antal Doráti and Isaac Stern, this concert, with frequent recital partners Canadian cellist Amanda Forsyth and pianist Angela Chang, is not to be missed.

Making their Australian premiere the award-winning, globe-trotting **London Haydn Quartet**, who play in the style and on the instruments of their namesake's day, are one of the world's leading period instrument string quartets. On a spring afternoon the recital will include two famed Haydn quartets, the E flat Major and C Major, and one by his student, Beethoven's Quartet in G Major.

Utzon Music Series regulars will remember the young piano virtuoso **Benjamin Grosvenor** from his impressive 2012 Australian debut. At just 22 years of age, returns to the Opera House for the second time with a program of Mendelssohn, Chopin, Ravel and Liszt.

Closing the already impressive 2015 season is a musician who smashes all pre-conceptions of the organ, **Cameron Carpenter**. Thursday November 12 will be rare opportunity to see the Concert Hall organ in full flight and the hands and feet of the formidably virtuosic showman projected on two screens for superior viewing. Following the concert Utzon Music Series subscribers will be invited to an exclusive *In Conversation* with Cameron about his life and music.

UTZON MUSIC SERIES 2015:

Marshall McGuire & Friends

Sunday 15 Feb, 3pm & 7pm

Harry Christophers & Members of The Sixteen

Monday 9 March, 7pm

Gabriela Montero Piano

Sunday 3 May, 3pm

Florian Boesch & Malcolm Martineau

Sunday 28 June, 3pm & 7pm; Monday 29 June, 7pm

Australian World Orchestra's Berlin Trio

Stanley Dodds, Brett Dean, Matthew McDonald

Saturday 25 July, 3pm

Pinchas Zukerman Trio

Pinchas Zukerman, Amanda Forsyth, Angela Chang

Sunday 16 August, 3pm

London Haydn Quartet

Catherine Manson, Michael Gurvich, James Boyd, Jonathan Manson
Sunday 4 October, 3pm

Benjamin Grosvenor Piano

Sunday 1 November, 3pm

Cameron Carpenter Organ

Thursday 12 November, 8pm (Concert Hall)

Tickets can be purchased by calling 02 9250 7777 or online at

http://www.sydneyoperahouse.com/About/program_Utzon_Music_Series.aspx

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