



**MEDIA RELEASE
MONDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2016**

SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE PRESENTS

THE LUMINEERS

MONDAY 17 AND TUESDAY 18 APRIL 2017

CONCERT HALL, SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE

'The crowd hang on every word they sing and every note they strum...' - **The AU Review**

**DENVER NATIVES TO MAKE OPERA HOUSE DEBUT
OVER TWO NIGHTS IN THE CONCERT HALL**

ANDREW BIRD

SATURDAY 15 APRIL 2017

CONCERT HALL, SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE

***** 'Musical and lyrical ingenuity'*
The Guardian

**SINGER/SONGWRITER/VIOLINIST ANNOUNCES OPERA
HOUSE RETURN FOR RARE PERFORMANCE**

Two of folk-rock's true originals bring their very particular take on contemporary performance to the Opera House next April, when the globe-conquering **The Lumineers** and violin-driven pop virtuoso **Andrew Bird** make the Concert Hall their playground.

Sydney Opera House Head of Contemporary Music Ben Marshall said: *"It's a great pleasure to welcome two such distinctive voices to the Sydney Opera House: The Lumineers; whose impressive live performances are filled with vigour and confidence; and Andrew Bird; an artist with a compelling combination of wordplay, pure lyrical fantasy and multi-instrumental layered performances."*

On 17 and 18 April, stomping folk trio **The Lumineers** guarantee joyous, timeless acoustic songwriting and hands-in-the-air pop for their Sydney Opera House debut, after sold-out gigs across Europe and the USA. With an expanded five-piece live band, the Grammy-nominated outfit will perform songs from their much-emulated, self-titled 2012 debut and this year's *Cleopatra*, which debuted at number one on the Billboard 200.

"Just two albums have propelled The Lumineers to the top of festival bills," Ben Marshall says. *"They have performed in the most prestigious concert venues all around the world and Cleopatra, produced by alt-country royalty Simone Felice of the Felice Brothers, has given a whole new resonance to their songs of wanderlust, longing and mortality that will translate triumphantly to the Concert Hall."*

Meanwhile, six years on from his sold-out Concert Hall debut, the classically trained, critically acclaimed **Andrew Bird** returns with his four-piece band to the Sydney Opera House for a rare show on Saturday 15 April, veering between raw confessionals and whimsical favourites, including songs from his critically acclaimed 2016 album, *Are You Serious*. The AU Review wrote of his 2010 sold-out Opera House show: *"a true talent... you couldn't take your eyes off the stage, even for a moment. Except, perhaps, when you were closing them, allowing his violin to take you into a dreamlike state..."*

"Andrew Bird's kaleidoscopic imagery, penchant for whistling and baroque flourishes have carved out a unique place for his singular voice in the current musical landscape," says Marshall. *"We've been looking for a moment to welcome back the strange and inventive beauty of his work since he last graced our stage in 2010 and we're honoured to host him once again."*



This performance is part of the contemporary music program presented by Sydney Opera House, which includes **The Stone Roses, Ben Folds & yMusic, Disclosure, Brian Wilson, Father John Misty, Four Tet, José González, D'Angelo, Tame Impala, Hot Chip** and the annual **Vivid LIVE** festival, which has featured **Bon Iver presents 'Cercle', New Order + ACO, Anohni, Max Richter's 'Sleep'** and more. Visit sydneyoperahouse.com/music for further information.

WHAT: The Lumineers
WHEN: Monday 17 and Tuesday 18 April 2017, 8pm
WHERE: Sydney Opera House
TICKETS: From \$69 + booking fee
BOOKINGS: Tickets on sale to the general public Thursday 22 September 2016
sydneyoperahouse.com/music or +61 2 9250 7777

WHAT: Andrew Bird
WHEN: Saturday 15 April 2017, 8pm
WHERE: Sydney Opera House
TICKETS: From \$49 + booking fee
BOOKINGS: Tickets on sale to the general public Thursday 22 September 2016
sydneyoperahouse.com/music or +61 2 9250 7777

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