

MEDIA RELEASE
MONDAY 7 NOVEMBER 2016

SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE BY ARRANGEMENT WITH ARTS PROJECTS AUSTRALIA PRESENTS

Ludovico Einaudi

Elements Tour

WEDNESDAY 15 FEBRUARY 2017, 9.00pm
CONCERT HALL, SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE

'Effortlessly poignant and heart-rending.'

THE LINE OF BEST FIT

CROSSOVER CLASSICAL SUPERSTAR RETURNS TO THE SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE

With three sold-out Concert Hall performances to his name, master of 'atmospherica' **Ludovico Einaudi** returns to the Sydney Opera House to perform *Elements* and more, together with an electro-acoustic ensemble and visuals.

The Italian pianist has become the bridge between classical piano and the pop charts. He performed a stimulating medley of Sia's 'Elastic Heart' and Sam Smith's 'Not The Only One' on BBC Radio 1, his music soundtracks tearful *X-Factor* montages to the Oscar-winning *Black Swan* – and he still holds the title of the most streamed classical artist in the world.

The sound he creates draws from palettes as disparate as Philip Glass, Stockhausen and Radiohead. Iggy Pop, Ricky Gervais, Lang Lang and Nicki Minaj all count themselves as fans. His performances, which he calls "collective meditation", have filled the rooms of London's Royal Albert Hall to the legendary Fabric nightclub. In performing *Elements*, Einaudi's solo piano is surrounded by the textures of violin, cello, percussion, synthesizers and marimba, with minimal patterns and shapes in stark colours playing above the stage. "Carrying you like a wave," says *The Upcoming*, "sometimes delicate, often passionately forceful".

"Italian maestro Ludovico Einaudi is nothing short of a phenomenon, selling out the Sydney Opera House Concert Hall 3 times 3 years running starting with his Australian debut here in 2013 as part of GRAPHIC", says **Ben Marshall, Head of Contemporary Music at Sydney Opera House**. "His haunting, surging, emotional compositions struck a deep chord in this country and it's an honour to be welcoming him back into the building for *Elements*, his most ambitious production yet."

In mid-2016 the 60-year old pianist broke hearts with his haunting ode to the natural world 'Elegy for the Arctic', a recital filmed while floating past a crumbling glacier. His latest album *Elements*, "effortlessly poignant and heart-rending" (*The Line of Best Fit*), is the first classical release in 23 years to reach the top 15 of the UK charts and has hit #1 in 42 countries.

Einaudi's previous shows at the Sydney Opera House sold out. One of the most popular and influential composers in the world will once again fill the Concert Hall with an evening of pure, cinematic beauty.



Sydney Opera House Contemporary Music

This performance is part of the contemporary music program presented by Sydney Opera House, which includes **The Stone Roses, Amanda Palmer, Angel Olsen, The Lumineers, Andrew Bird, The Tallest Man on Earth, Brian Wilson, Four Tet, 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.

Sydney Opera House

The Opera House is a masterpiece that belongs to all Australians. It is the country's number one tourist destination and its busiest performing arts centre, welcoming more than 8.2 million visitors a year on site and hosting more than 2000 performances attended by more than 1.5 million people. Deloitte has estimated the total cultural and iconic value of the Sydney Opera House to Australia at \$4.6 billion. On its 40th Anniversary in 2013, the Opera House embarked upon a Decade of Renewal to prepare it for future generations of artists, audiences and visitors.

SHOW DETAILS

- WHAT:** Ludovico Einaudi – *Elements* Tour
WHEN: Wednesday 15 February 2017, 9.00pm
WHERE: Concert Hall, Sydney Opera House
TICKETS: From \$85 + booking fee
BOOKINGS: Tickets on sale to the general public Friday 11 November 9am

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