



MEDIA RELEASE

Monday 28 November, 2016

SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE PRESENTS

UTZON MUSIC SERIES 2017

10th Anniversary Season takes you inside the masterpieces

“There’s no such thing as a bad seat in the Utzon Room when the acoustics are so good and the furthest you can be from the performer is maybe 15 metres.” **Limelight**

The Opera House will celebrate the **10th Anniversary of the Utzon Music Series** with a stellar 2017 season that takes you up-close-and-personal as some of the world’s greatest artists perform music from every period in the intimate surrounds of the famed **Utzon Room**.

Since 2007, this incredible series has given audiences the chance to hear some of the world’s finest musicians in the only Opera House performance venue entirely designed by **Jørn Utzon**.

The 2017 season promises more inspired music-making, from renowned English soprano and early-music specialist **Dame Emma Kirkby** to New York’s **Calder Quartet**, France’s **Debussy String Quartet**, Uzbek piano prodigy **Behzod Abduraimov** and Australia’s own **John Bell and Simon Tedeschi** in a rare spoken-word-and-piano performance of **Richard Strauss’** adaptation of Alfred Tennyson’s *Enoch Arden*.

Spanning mediaeval songs, the classical cannon and works by living composers, the Utzon Music Series takes audiences inside the masterworks, from **Beethoven, Liszt, Ravel** and **Shostakovich**, to the room itself, framed by Sydney Harbour on one side and Utzon’s own tapestry inspired by the music of **Bach** on the other.

Sydney Opera House, Chief Executive Officer, **Louise Herron AM** says “The Utzon Music series is a jewel in our year-round classical music program, showcasing what the Opera House does best – celebrating emerging talent and presenting established stars in a venue like no other.”

Utzon Music Series Curator **Yarmila Alfonzetti** says “I have heard the best concerts of my life in the Utzon Room, and I have been transformed by the opportunity to hear artists like **Ian Bostridge, Christian Tetzlaff, Cameron Carpenter, Daniel Hope, the Brodsky Quartet** and countless others in this precious space. I have the privilege of curating this dynamic and intimate Series and this significant milestone is a celebration in which all lovers of fine music can share.”

Caroline Haski is a long-time Utzon Music Series patron and has seen performances every year of the series. Ms Haski says “I’ve been exposed to a variety of excellent performances in a very special room with an ever changing view that feels intimate and informal. The audience is almost in the musician’s private space and I feel so connected to the artists. It’s a real treat and creates a sense of awe that appeals to all my senses.”

All patrons attending the Utzon Music Series receive a complimentary drink and program.

Utzon Music Series 2017 – Complete Program	
Artist	Date and time
Calder Quartet	3pm, Sunday 26th February

Leslie Howard	3pm, Sunday 26th March
Mahan Esfahani	3pm, Sunday 30th April
Behzod Abduraimov	3pm, Sunday 2nd July
John Bell & Simon Tedeschi	3pm, Sunday 9th July
Karen Gomyo	3pm, Sunday 6 August (Playhouse)
Debussy String Quartet	3pm, Sunday 17th September
Natalie Clein	3pm, Sunday 15th October
Dame Emma Kirkby and Jakob Lindberg	3pm, Sunday 26th November

KEY INFORMATION

WHAT: Utzon Music Series
WHEN: Throughout 2017
WHERE: Utzon Room, Sydney Opera House
TICKETS: Multi-packs on sale December 9, 2016
Single tickets on sale January 13, 2017
MORE INFO: http://www.sydneyoperahouse.com/about/program/Utzon_Music_Series.aspx
IMAGES & BROCHURE: [Download here](#)

MEDIA ENQUIRIES

Shelley Watters, Communications Manager, Performing Arts (Mon-Wed)
swatters@sydneyoperahouse.com
(02) 9250 7286 / 0415 901 440