



MEDIA RELEASE
Monday October 24

**MELBOURNE RECITAL CENTRE, SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE and
QUEENSLAND PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE PRESENT**

The Academy of St Martin in the Fields
Australian tour

“brooding power, poetic sparkle, dramatic attack” **The Times, UK**

Led by virtuoso violinist **Joshua Bell**, **Academy of St Martin in the Fields**, will tour Australia in April 2017, **their first national visit in 29 years**, performing at **Melbourne Recital Centre**, the **Sydney Opera House** and **Queensland Performing Arts Centre (QPAC)**, Brisbane.

Established in 1958 by the late **Sir Neville Marriner**, the orchestra takes its name from the church of **St Martin-in-the-Fields**, where the Academy gave its first performance.

In the decades since, the Academy has become one of the world’s most revered and recorded chamber orchestras – familiar to music-lovers everywhere for their classic recordings of Vivaldi’s *Four Seasons* and the soundtrack of Miloš Forman’s *Amadeus*.

Joshua Bell, one of the most celebrated violinists of his era, became the Academy’s Music Director in 2011, leading the orchestra from the first violin and performing as a soloist.

A native of Bloomington Indiana, Bell made his orchestral debut aged 14 with Riccardo Muti and the Philadelphia Orchestra. It was an incognito performance in a Washington DC subway station in 2007, however, that transformed his reputation from musician’s musician to household name.

Bell will lead the Academy players in two dynamic and spellbinding concerts in each city with two separate programs, catering to both aficionados and those newly awakened to the beauty of classical music.

Program One in Sydney and Melbourne features **Tchaikovsky’s Violin Concerto**, where audiences will be immersed in Bell’s iconic performance of this pinnacle of the Romantic repertoire. The slow movement of **Schumann’s Violin Concerto** then provides a lyrical showcase for Bell and the Academy’s strings.

Audiences at the Queensland Performing Arts Centre (QPAC) have a different Program One titled **The Mighty Bruch** on 26 April, when Bell performs **Bruch's Violin Concerto No. 1 in G minor**, a much-loved masterwork demonstrating his stunning vivacity and power.

Program Two (all states) opens with **Mozart's** darkly stormy and operatic **Symphony No.25** heard in the opening moments of *Amadeus*, while the violinist is the star of Mozart's dramatic Fourth Violin Concerto – a bravura display of swagger and elegance for soloist Joshua Bell. The highlight of this program is **Beethoven's Third Symphony**. A revolution in sound, it is an explosion of heroic determination without equal.

WHAT: The Academy of St Martin in the Fields
WHERE:

[Melbourne Recital Centre](#)
[Sydney Opera House](#)
[Queensland Performing Arts Centre](#)

Program 1 19 April Program 2 20 April
Program 1 22 April Program 2 23 April
Program 1 26 April Program 2 27 April

MORE INFO: asmf.org

WATCH: [Joshua Bell with The Academy of St Martin in the Fields](#)

MEDIA IMAGES: [Download here](#)

Media Contacts

Emma Collison National and Sydney Publicist
0418 584 795 emma@emmacollison.com

Adam Valentine Melbourne Publicist
Hot House Media & Events: 0411 302 769 adam@hhme.com.au

Cindy Ullrich Publicity Manager, Queensland Performing Arts Centre (QPAC)
(07) 3840 7589 0434 366 038 cindy.ullrich@qpac.com.au

National Presenting Partners:



Sydney Opera House:

