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Editors' note: Please note that clarinetist Sharon Kam replaces the previously announced soloist Martin Fröst.

"This is one of the most precise, cutting-edge virtuoso string ensembles to be found anywhere in the world." - Chicago Tribune

## THE AUSTRALIAN CHAMBER ORCHESTRA COMES TO THE BROWARD CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

Features this season's premiere of Jonny Greenwood's "Water" and clarinetist Sharon Kam joining the ACO in Mozart's Clarinet Concerto in A Major, K. 622

**FORT LAUDERDALE – The Australian Chamber Orchestra**, under the direction of Artistic Director and lead violin Richard Tognetti, performs in the Au-Rene Theater at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts on **April 22 at 8 p.m.** as part of a nine-city tour of the United States that culminates in a concert at Carnegie's Zankel Hall. Clarinetist Sharon Kam joins the ACO in performances of Mozart's Clarinet Concerto in A Major, K. 622. As one of the world's leading clarinet soloists, Ms. Kam has worked with renowned orchestras in the United States, Europe and Japan for more than 20 years.

In this finale to the 2014-15 Broward Center Classical Series, the performance includes this season's United States premiere of Jonny Greenwood's "Water." The ACO's program also features Rudolf Barshai's orchestral arrangement of Prokofiev's Visions fugitives, originally written as a collection of piano miniatures. Rounding out the concert is Mozart's Symphony No. 40 in G minor, K. 55.

Previous U.S. tours have brought the group significant acclaim, with *The New York Times* praising their "intensity and virtuosity" and the *Wall Street Journal* raving, "The Australians are a remarkably talented group, and they perform with rare, often stunning, virtuosity."

The centerpiece of the ACO's touring programs, "Water," was written especially for the ensemble by Radiohead's Jonny Greenwood during his residency with the orchestra in 2013. The *Telegraph* wrote of the UK premiere last April, "Greenwood is developing a cunning sense of form, to go with the sharp ear for harmony and texture he's always had." In addition to his work with Radiohead, Greenwood is known for his award-winning film score for *There Will Be Blood* and was the BBC Concert Orchestra's Composer-in-Residence in 2004. Watch Tognetti and Greenwood speak about the new piece in this video: <u>http://youtu.be/FliEVk6AAeM</u>.

## About the Australian Chamber Orchestra

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the Australian Chamber Orchestra. From its first concert in November 1975 to its first concert of 2015, the Orchestra has travelled a remarkable road. Inspiring programming, unrivalled virtuosity, energy and individuality, the Australian Chamber Orchestra's

performances span popular masterworks, adventurous cross artform projects and pieces specially commissioned for the ensemble.

Founded by John Painter, the ACO originally comprised just 13 players, who came together for concerts as they were invited. Today, the ACO has grown to 20 players (three part-time), giving more than 100 performances in Australia each year, as well as touring internationally from red-dust regional centers of Australia to New York night clubs, from Australian capital cities to the world's most prestigious concert halls, including Amsterdam's Concertgebouw, London's Wigmore Hall, Vienna's Musikverein, New York's Carnegie Hall, Birmingham's Symphony Hall and Frankfurt's Alte Oper.

The ACO's dedication and musicianship has created warm relationships with celebrated musicians and artists around the world. The ACO has recorded for the world's top labels. Recent recordings have won three consecutive ARIA Awards and documentaries featuring the ACO have been shown on television worldwide and won awards at film festivals on four continents. For more, visit <u>aco.com.au</u>.

## **About Richard Tognetti**

2015 marks the 25th year of Richard Tognetti's artistic directorship of the Australian Chamber Orchestra. Born and raised in Wollongong New South Wales, Tognetti has established an international reputation for his compelling performances and artistic individualism. He began his studies in his home town with William Primrose, then with Alice Waten at the Sydney Conservatorium, and Igor Ozim at the Bern Conservatory, where he was awarded the Tschumi Prize as the top graduate soloist in 1989. Later that year he led several performances of the Australian Chamber Orchestra, and that November was appointed as the Orchestra's lead violin and, subsequently, Artistic Director. He is also Artistic Director of the Festival Maribor in Slovenia.

Tognetti performs on period, modern and electric instruments and his numerous arrangements, compositions and transcriptions have expanded the chamber orchestra repertoire and been performed throughout the world. As director or soloist, Tognetti has appeared with many of the world's leading orchestras, including most recently the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment and the Academy of Ancient Music.

Tognetti is an acclaimed composer and has also worked on numerous film soundtracks, including *The Water Diviner* (2015), Russell Crowe's directorial debut. He was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia in 2010. He holds honorary doctorates from three Australian universities and was made a National Living Treasure in 1999. He performs on a 1743 Guarneri del Gesù violin, lent to him by an anonymous Australian private benefactor. Tognetti has given more than 2500 performances with the Australian Chamber Orchestra.

## If You Go

Concertgoers are invited to join Broward Center's Arts Ambassador Lyn Farmer one hour prior to the performance in which the music historian and James Beard Award-winning wine and food writer incorporates an art discussion, musical examples and a wine tasting into an entertaining pre-concert presentation complimentary to ticket holders.

Tickets are \$35 to \$75 with Club Level tickets available for \$115. Ticketmaster is the only official ticketing service of the Broward Center, Parker Playhouse and affiliated venues. Buy tickets online at <u>BrowardCenter.org</u> or, <u>Ticketmaster.com</u>; by phone at 954.462.0222 or TTD/TTY at 800.359.2525; in person at Ticketmaster outlets or the Broward Center's AutoNation Box Office. Know who you are buying from when you purchase tickets. We CANNOT PROVIDE REFUNDS OR CUSTOMER SERVICE for tickets purchased from unauthorized sites, brokers or secondary ticket sellers.

The Broward Center for the Performing Arts is located in the Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District at 201 SW Fifth Avenue in Fort Lauderdale.

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All dates, programs and artists are subject to change

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Selected Critical Acclaim for the Australian Chamber Orchestra in North America "The Australians are a remarkably talented group, and they performed with rare, often stunning, virtuosity."– Wall Street Journal

"The youthful ACO is clearly a fiery precision instrument...the tonal refinement and high-wire intensity demonstrated by Tognetti and his 16 colleagues revealed the ACO as one of today's finest chamber orchestras." – *Chicago Classical Review* 

"Lean, propulsive playing and the flexibility that comes with jettisoning a conductor." – *Richmond Times-Dispatch* 

"Intensity and virtuosity are hallmarks of this orchestra...There were plenty of fireworks and soulful moments...enhanced by the musician's vivid attention to color and dynamics." – The New York Times

"An ensemble that can easily rival our own Orpheus Chamber Orchestra...a program of extraordinary imagination." – ConcertoNet.com

"The versatile group has built a reputation for a chameleon-like ability to present sizzling, highly energized performances of interesting repertoire." – Arts ATL

**CALENDAR BRIEF**: **The Australian Chamber Orchestra**, under the direction of Artistic Director and lead violin Richard Tognetti, performs in the Au-Rene Theater at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts on **April 22 at 8 p.m.** as part of a nine-city tour of the United States that culminates in a concert at Carnegie's Zankel Hall. In this finale to the 2014-15 Broward Center Classical Series, the performance includes this season's United States premiere of Jonny Greenwood's "Water." Clarinetist Sharon Kam joins the ACO in performances of Mozart's Clarinet Concerto in A Major, K. 622 Tickets are \$35 to \$75 with Club Level tickets available for \$115. Ticketmaster is the only official ticketing service of the Broward Center, Parker Playhouse and affiliated venues. Buy tickets online at BrowardCenter.org or Ticketmaster.com; by phone at 954.462.0222 or TTD/TTY at 800.359.2525; in person at Ticketmaster outlets or the Broward Center's AutoNation Box Office. The Broward Center for the Performing Arts is located in the Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District at 201 SW Fifth Avenue in Fort Lauderdale. The Broward Center for the Performing Arts is located in the Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District at 201 SW Fifth Avenue in Fort Lauderdale.

The Broward Center for the Performing Arts is one of America's premier performing arts venues. Presenting more than 700 performances each year to more than 600,000 patrons, the Center showcases a wide range of exciting cultural programming and

About The Broward Center for the Performing Arts

events, and offers one of the largest arts-in-education programs in the United States, serving more than 150,000 students annually. The Broward Performing Arts Foundation, Inc. receives and maintains funds to sustain, develop and secure the future of the Broward Center. The Broward Center for the Performing Arts is located in the Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District at 201 SW Fifth Ave. in Fort Lauderdale. For more information, visit <u>BrowardCenter.org</u>.

The Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment Consortium is a cultural partnership between the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Bonnet House Museum & Gardens, Museum of Art | Fort Lauderdale, Florida Grand Opera, Fort Lauderdale History Center and the Historic Stranahan House Museum. It is supported by the Broward County Board of County Commissioners as recommended by the Broward Cultural Council and the Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau. Programs are sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Council on Arts and Culture.