



Queensland Music Festival unites Australia and Germany for the ANZAC Centenary

Queensland Music Festival (QMF) has announced free concert spectaculars in Townsville on 16 and 17 July and Brisbane on 19 July 2015 featuring musicians drawn from local communities, Australian Defence Force bands and the Australian debut of a renowned philharmonic orchestral ensemble from Germany.

The world premiere series, *One Hundred and One Years (1914 to 2015)*, is dedicated to courageous Queenslanders who fought in all wars, conflicts and peace operations, and pays tribute to those who gave their lives in service.

One Hundred and One Years is a dramatic musical narrative exploring the excitement and trepidation of going to war, from big bold numbers brimming with patriotism and adventure, to heartbreaking hymns of longing and goodbye.

The concerts celebrate the spirit of reconciliation and respect, symbolically binding people who were once adversaries through music.

To honour the men and women who fought for the country, and reflect on how young they were, the open-air concerts will put the spotlight on young actors and musicians, including a specially formed 30-piece community ensemble and a large group of narrators comprising locals in each city.

The age of enlistment in World War One (WWI) was 21, or 18 with a parent or guardian's permission, but boys aged 14 to 17 were able to enlist as buglers, trumpeters and musicians.

In an Australian first, Germany's acclaimed Saxon Wind Philharmonic will perform under the baton of one of the world's most famous trumpet players, Thomas Clamor.

QMF has worked closely with State Library of Queensland on the development of *One Hundred and One Years* to gather letters, diary entries, pictures and stories from soldiers in Australia and Germany during WWI.

The concerts will be intertwined with archival footage and recordings, popular songs from the era and evocative readings of wartime correspondence from both sides.

Member for Mundingburra, Minister Assisting the Premier on North Queensland, Minister for Disability Services and Minister for Seniors Coralee O'Rourke said the Queensland Government had supported more than 150 Queensland projects and events as part of the Anzac Centenary, with plans to support many more in the future.

"More than 57,000 brave Queenslanders enlisted in the First World War to serve our country and these concerts will no doubt be a fitting tribute and a magical opportunity for us to serve their memory," Mrs O'Rourke said.

"I wish to express our appreciation to QMF for their vision and commitment in playing a role during the Anzac Centenary period."

QMF Artistic Director James Morrison said the research process was overwhelmingly moving and gave the performances a unique international perspective.

"*One Hundred and One Years* is about honouring young Australians who went to war, bringing to life the shared human experience and showing how relevant it still is today," Mr Morrison said.

"When the team began reading letters from the frontline at State Library of Queensland they felt like they had known these people for years – I think this searing connection will be palpable on the night.

“I am very excited about welcoming Saxon Wind Philharmonic to Australia for the first time and it will be a truly special moment to see our musicians perform alongside this world-class musical force.”

QMF is searching for young locals in both Townsville and Brisbane to share their families' WWI story and play a pivotal role in the concerts. For more information visit qmf.org.au/onehundredandoneyears

One Hundred and One Years is presented by Queensland Music Festival, the Queensland Government through the Anzac Centenary Coordination Unit, Brisbane City Council and Townsville City Council.

PERFORMANCE DETAILS

Date: 16 & 17 July 2015
Venue: Jezzine Barracks, Townsville
Tickets: FREE EVENT

Date: Sunday 19 July 2015
Venue: Brisbane Riverstage
Tickets: FREE EVENT



Dedicated to a better Brisbane



Queensland Music Festival is an initiative of the Queensland Government and a state-wide celebration of music with a vision to transform lives through unforgettable musical experiences.

WEB: qmf.org.au
ENQUIRIES: 07 3010 6600

Follow us on:

Facebook: /QldMusicFestival

Twitter: @QMF

Instagram: @qldmusicfest

MEDIA CONTACT

For more production information / images / interviews please contact:

Natasha Spong
Agency North
0424 202 147
nspong@agencynorth.com.au

-ENDS-