

MEDIA RELEASE

Strictly embargoed to 6pm Monday 25 May, 2015

EDGAR MEYER
BRISBANE

QLD
MUSIC
FESTIVAL
17 JULY
- 22 AUG
2015



QUEENSLAND MUSIC FESTIVAL BRINGS THE WORLD'S FINEST DOUBLE BASSIST TO BRISBANE TO PERFORM A WORLD PREMIERE AND INSPIRE A GENERATION OF MUSICIANS

Grammy Award-winning double bass virtuoso Edgar Meyer will visit Australia for the first time in July, performing exclusively in Brisbane for Queensland Music Festival (QMF), including the Australian premiere of his Concerto for Double Bass and Orchestra in E.

Hailed by the *New Yorker* as “the most remarkable virtuoso in the relatively unchronicled history of his instrument”, the American artist has forged a remarkable career as a performer and composer and is a major coup for this year’s QMF.

Meyer’s uniqueness in the field was recognized by a MacArthur Award in 2002 and he has won several Grammy Awards for collaborations with music talents Yo-Yo Ma, Mark O’Connor, Béla Fleck, Stuart Duncan and Chris Thile.

QMF has not only secured Meyer for three incredible concerts, he will also lead a very special masterclass for budding double bassists.

QMF Artistic Director James Morrison said it was fantastic for Queensland to attract such a big name, and an absolute treat for Australian audiences to have the opportunity to experience Meyer’s sheer musical genius.

“Some musicians are so remarkable that the word virtuoso is simply inadequate. Double bassist, Edgar Meyer, is one such musician,” Mr Morrison said.

“This is Edgar Meyer’s first visit to Australia and he is only performing in Brisbane. To bring such high calibre talent to Brisbane for an Australian debut and world premiere performance is a significant achievement for QMF, and Meyer is a must see for Australian audiences.”

“We are particularly excited about the masterclass as it represents a shared passion by Meyer and QMF to dedicate time to important legacy work and to provide opportunities for young people to

further their artistic potential that they would otherwise not have.”

Celebrating the opening of QMF on 17 July, Meyer will take to the QPAC Concert Hall stage with legendary trumpeter James Morrison and Queensland Symphony Orchestra (QSO) in *QSO, Morrison & Meyer*.

Here Meyer and Morrison will perform the world premiere of renowned Finnish composer Max Savikangas’ new Double Concerto for Trumpet, Double Bass and Symphony Orchestra, commissioned by QMF, QSO and Tampere Philharmonic Orchestra

The concerto is bookended by Nielsen’s colourful *Maskerade* Overture and Beethoven’s Symphony No.5, all conducted by Finnish sensation Santtu-Matias Rouvali.

In a special free concert on 19 July, QMF and ABC Classic FM will present Meyer in a double bass recital of stellar proportions, showing that indeed, he is uniquely gifted. ABC Classic FM will broadcast the concert.

On 21 July, Meyer and the Camerata of St John’s will unite for an Australian premiere and rare opportunity to hear Meyer’s Concerto for Double Bass and Orchestra in E – and his famous interpretation of the Bottesini Concerto No.2 at the Queensland Conservatorium Theatre.

In an extraordinary opportunity for up-and-coming musicians to learn from the best, Meyer will share his wealth of knowledge in an exclusive masterclass for four tertiary level double bass students from Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University (QCGU) on 20 July at the Ian Hanger Recital Hall, Queensland Conservatorium

Audiences are invited to witness the unique event of an artist of unrivalled skill and ability guiding four of the state’s brightest and most talented young musicians.

Media Contact – Agency North

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Mr. Morrison said it is an extraordinary opportunity to simply hear Edgar Meyer perform live, let alone be taught by him in a masterclass and the artist's series of performances epitomizes QMF's exciting and bold program.

"Music has the ability to transform lives, whether you are performing or in the audience and there is nothing quite like being spellbound by the live music of an inimitable artist at the top of their game."

QSO, Morrison & Meyer is presented by QMF, QSO and Brisbane City Council, and proudly supported by Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University and Philip Bacon Galleries.

Edgar Meyer in Recital is presented by QMF and Brisbane City Council, and proudly supported by Philip Bacon Galleries and ABC Classic FM.

Edgar Meyer with Camerata of St John's is presented by QMF and Brisbane City Council, and proudly supported by Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University, Philip Bacon Galleries, ABC Classic FM and 612 ABC Brisbane.

ENDS

QSO, Morrison & Meyer

Brisbane

Fri 17 Jul 7.30pm
Concert Hall QPAC

Tickets \$47 – \$110 qmf.org.au

BOOKINGS

qmf.org.au or qtix 136 246

Edgar Meyer in Recital

Brisbane

Sun 19 Jul 5pm
Studio 420 ABC

Free Event qmf.org.au

Edgar Meyer with Camerata of St John's

Brisbane

Tue 21 Jul 7.30pm
Conservatorium Theatre
Queensland Conservatorium

Tickets \$45 – \$110 qmf.org.au

Masterclass

Mon 20 Jul 10am
Ian Hanger Recital Hall
Queensland Conservatorium

Tickets \$12 – \$25 qmf.org.au

Queensland Music Festival is an initiative of the Queensland Government.

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