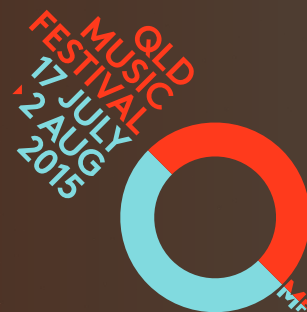


MEDIA RELEASE

Strictly embargoed to 6pm Monday 25 May, 2015



STRADBROKE CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL

LATIN PASSION LIGHTS UP STRADDIE

Get hot this winter with the tango's smouldering burn at the eighth *Stradbroke Chamber Music Festival*, 24–26 July 2015.

The ever-popular Saturday-night concert at the Point Lookout Surf Life Saving Club always has something different for festival-goers. This year, French violinist Cyril Garac and Australian bandoneon player Maggie Ferguson will join with Berlin-based pianist Paul Hankinson, the festival string players and a pair of tango dancers for an evening of music that celebrates the classic Argentinian dance form. Then, at the end of the program, the chairs will be cleared away and everyone will get the chance to show that it takes two to tango!

The festival's Artistic Director, Rachel Smith, said: "We're delighted that Cyril, the most highly regarded tango violinist in Europe today, is coming from Paris to introduce us to the sultry wonders of tango music."

Outstanding string players Sophie Rowell, Rachel Smith, Caroline Henbest, Louise King and Eric de Wit make return appearances at the 2015 festival, alongside pianist Liam Viney, clarinettist Irit Silver and double bass player Marian Heckenberg.

A *Bach and Birdsong* concert begins at the Point Lookout Community Hall on Saturday at 8am with quality coffee and muffins (included in the ticket price for this concert) from Michael Bulloch's *Coffee in Cylinders* team. Then the Bach solo pieces start at 9.30 am in this intimate venue looking through tea-trees to the sea.

Among the other highlights of the six-concert program are masterworks by Chausson, Haydn, Dvorak and Schubert (the *Death and the Maiden* string quartet). Tribute is being paid to the renowned Australian composer Peter Sculthorpe, who died in August 2014, with the performance of his *Songs of Sea and Sky*.

As the climax of the event, the Sunday-afternoon concert at Dunwich Public Hall will open with the world premiere of a composition for piano and string quartet that has been

commissioned for the festival. Composer Paul Hankinson (whose cabaret-style show wowed the audience at the Life Saving Club in 2013) is taking a Straddie theme to create an affectionate, adventurous but easily accessible piece — one that is evocative, sometimes whimsical, sometimes fun, vibrant and wild.

Stradbroke Chamber Music Festival is presented by QMF.

ENDS

Stradbroke Chamber Music Festival

North Stradbroke Island

Fri 24 - Sun 26 Jul
Various venues

Tickets from \$35

qmf.org.au

This project has received financial assistance from the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland and the Regional Arts Development Fund, a partnership between the Queensland Government and Redland City Council to support local arts and culture.

Queensland Music Festival is an initiative of the Queensland Government.

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