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QPAC's plans show Queensland's growing appetite for world-class live music and nurturing homegrown stars

The Queensland Government's commitment to a new 1500 seat, \$150 million theatre at Queensland Performing Arts Centre (QPAC) will be one of the "missing pieces" required to help make Queensland the number one arts destination in Australia, according to Queensland Music Festival (QMF) Artistic Director Katie Noonan.

"Queenslanders love live performance, especially music, and some of our greatest concerts have been performed in QPAC," Ms Noonan said.

QMF, which will celebrate its 20th anniversary next year, has a long history of performing at QPAC in every size of venue from the intimate to the very grand, including main stage highlights *Randy Newman with the Queensland Symphony Orchestra*, *The Love of the Nightingale*, *The Pink Twins*, *Piano Lessons*, *Credo*, *Tristan und Isolde* with the Australian Youth Orchestra, *The Michael Nyman Band with William Barton*, *16 Lovers Lane*, *Hang with QYO*, and *On Song* on the popular Green Jam stage.

"As we enter our 20th year, this new, state-of-the-art theatre reinforces our state's worthiness as Australia's next cultural capital and will free up the Concert Hall, Lyric and Cremorne theatres to allow QMF to provide further amazing opportunities to Queenslanders from all musical backgrounds."

"I'm also delighted that QPAC will be charged with this project. John Kotzas and his team are to be congratulated that their vision to build arts audiences has been so successful that they need a new theatre!"

The new theatre will include digital and technological features to increase the reach of performances in the theatre to regional audiences beyond Brisbane – including the technology for live simulcasts.

QMF will also consult alongside the wider performing arts industry during the design phase to ensure acoustic quality, orchestral servicing, stage and back of house design and audience experience are considered.

-ENDS-

Queensland Music Festival is a statewide celebration of music with a vision to transform lives and communities through music. Queensland Music Festival is an initiative of the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland.

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