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MEDIA RELEASE

STRICTLY EMBARGOED 6PM TUESDAY 30 MAY, 2017

Virtuosic cellist flies *Bach to Bush* to Western Queensland during Queensland Music Festival

Some of the world's most spectacular and inspiring musical genres will be introduced to new ears between 13 and 23 July when internationally acclaimed cellist Louise King flies to regional and remote Western Queensland as part of Queensland Music Festival's (QMF) free event series *Bach to Bush*.

The tour will also feature renowned Australian percussionist and experienced commercial pilot John Morrison, who will fly to nine towns – Boonah, Goondiwindi, Cunnamulla, Quilpie, Bedourie, Charleville, Barcaldine, Longreach and Warwick – to perform alongside King in an adventurous collection of musical works from around the world.

Many shows will see local community choirs joining King and Morrison on stage, as part of QMF's signature festival choral project *You're The Voice*. Both experienced music educators, they will also deliver a tailored workshop or masterclass in each town before the performance, sharing their talent with local schools and musicians.

QMF Artistic Director Katie Noonan said *Bach to Bush* would showcase musical feats, from the glory of Bach to the wonder of new Australian contemporary works, and traditional and unexpected tunes from around the world.

"Louise King is a wonderful musician I have had the honour of sharing a stage with. Together with John Morrison, she will introduce regional Queenslanders to new soundscapes, from Bach to baroque, contemporary to Appalachian country, Irish traditional to flamenco, and from gypsy to blues," Ms Noonan said.

Queensland Premier and Minister for the Arts Annastacia Palaszczuk congratulated QMF on sharing the gift of music with some of the most isolated corners of the state.

"The *Bach to Bush* tour will see percussionist John Morrison fly virtuoso cellist Louise King to nine Western Queensland towns for joint performances, workshops and masterclasses," Ms Palaszczuk said.

"The Queensland Government is proud to support this tour and Regional Engagement initiative through the Playing Queensland Fund, which delivers regional cultural tourism outcomes, community engagement opportunities, and dynamic musical experiences to our regions."

Sunshine Coast-based Louise King is a master cellist who fuses classical tradition with alternative folk, blues and experimental texturing. She is tremendously passionate about engaging new audiences and building appreciation for all types of music.

Originally hailing from the UK, King has extensive international experience and training. She is an inspiring concert artist, teacher, recording artist, adjudicator and event producer and has won prestigious scholarships, solo prizes and several international chamber music competitions. King performs in Australia's finest music festivals and classical concert series.

"I am thrilled to be part of the *Bach to Bush* tour to regional Queensland," said Ms King.

"Growing up in a regional area myself, I love bringing music to small communities. I love creating experiences that bring people together for a shared, collective listening experience. I believe that through music we celebrate a sense of place, tell stories about our past and shared future - music celebrates our diversity and shared experience. I hope that in the communities we visit, people will discover how our music making has shaped and made us as artists, and enjoy exploring creative ideas with us in our community workshops."

"The *Bach to Bush* concert program is a selection of my favourite works for solo cello I have collected over the last twenty years of my musical journey. This collection celebrates the traditional classical music legacy with composers like Bach, juxtaposed with world music featuring female and living Australian composers. Fusing percussion with the solo cello, and featuring an amazing array of percussion instruments, lifts the program into a new musical dimension."

John Morrison is an acclaimed jazz drummer, band leader, music educator and experienced commercial pilot. He is considered one of Australia's best Big Band drummers and is a gifted teacher, producer, and patron for many outstanding youth bands and orchestras, and has mentored hundreds of young musicians.

For QMF, he flew bandmates from the John Morrison trio and jazz star Emma Pask to Western Queensland for a tour in 2015, and in 2012 he seeded bands in remote parts of Cape York, giving young Indigenous Australians the opportunity to try jazz for the first time.

Bach to Bush is presented by Queensland Music Festival with the support of the Australia Council for the Arts, Tim Fairfax Family Foundation, the Playing Queensland Fund, the Regional Arts Development Fund, Diamantina Shire Council, Goondiwindi Regional Council, Murweh Shire Council, Paroo Shire Council, Southern Downs Regional Council, Barcaldine Regional Council, Longreach Regional Council, Quilpie Shire Council, Scenic Rim Regional Council and Jumpers & Jazz in July.

This project has been assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body, and the Queensland Government through: the Playing Queensland Fund; and the Regional Arts Development Fund, a partnership between the Queensland Government and the Diamantina Shire Council, Goondiwindi Regional Council, Murweh Shire Council, Paroo Shire Council and Southern Downs Regional Council.

For more information visit qmf.org.au.

EVENT DETAILS

EVENT: *Bach to Bush*

DATE: Thursday 13 to Sunday 23 July 2017

VENUES: Boonah, Goondiwindi, Cunnamulla, Quilpie, Bedourie, Charleville, Barcaldine, Longreach and Warwick

TICKETS: Free

EVENT: *Bach to Bush* - Boonah

DATE: Thursday 13 July 2017

TIME: 7pm

VENUE: Boonah Cultural Centre

TICKETS: Free / Bookings Required

BOOKINGS: qmf.org.au / 07 5463 3068

EVENT: *Bach to Bush* - Goondiwindi

DATE: Friday 14 July 2017

TIME: 7pm

VENUE: Goondiwindi Theatre

TICKETS: Free

BOOKINGS: qmf.org.au / 07 4671 0365

EVENT: *Bach to Bush* - Cunnamulla

DATE: Saturday 15 July 2017

TIME: 7pm

VENUE: Cunnamulla Shire Hall

TICKETS: Free

EVENT: *Bach to Bush* - Quilpie

DATE: Sunday 16 July 2017

TIME: 6pm

VENUE: Quilpie Shire Hall

TICKETS: Free

EVENT: *Bach to Bush* - Bedourie

DATE: Monday 17 July 2017

TIME: 7pm

VENUE: Bedourie Community Centre

TICKETS: Free

EVENT: *Bach to Bush* - Charleville

DATE: Wednesday 19 July 2017

TIME: 7pm

VENUE: Charleville Town Hall

TICKETS: Free

EVENT: *Bach to Bush* - Barcaldine

DATE: Thursday 20 July 2017

TIME: 7pm

VENUE: Barcaldine Town Hall
TICKETS: Free

EVENT: *Bach to Bush* - Longreach
DATE: Friday 21 July 2017
TIME: 7pm
VENUE: QANTAS Founders Museum
TICKETS: Free / Gold Coin Donation Appreciated

EVENT: *Bach to Bush* - Warwick
DATE: Sunday 23 July 2017
TIME: 11.30am
VENUE: Jumpers & Jazz in July – Palmerin Street, Warwick CBD
TICKETS: Free
MORE INFO: jumpersandjazz.com

Click [here](#) to watch Louise King's 2016 'Re-imagining classical music' TEDxNoosa Talk.

ENDS

Queensland Music Festival is an initiative of the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland, part of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet.

Queensland Music Festival is a state-wide celebration of music with a vision to transform lives and communities through music.

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