Australia’s aspiring young musicians in Hobart for orchestral institute and concerts

Australia’s finest young musicians will converge on Hobart from November 27 to December 12 for the Australian International Symphony Orchestra Institute (AISOI) concert program.

Now in its fifth year, AISOI is acknowledged as one of the most innovative and professionally structured orchestral training programs in the country.

The two weeks of intensive rehearsals, tutorials and concerts are carefully planned to simulate the schedule that would be followed by a professional orchestra.

Artistic Director Frank Celata, of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, said AISOI offers students an important developmental stepping stone in the transition from student to professional orchestral musician.

“The conductors Arvo Volmer, Jeffrey Schindler, Myer Fredman and Alex Briger all have distinguished international orchestral careers,” he said.

The orchestral program will culminate in a series of concerts featuring traditional works by Bruckner, Korngold, Gershwin and Stravinsky, as well as a new work by Conrad Pope commissioned specifically for AISOI.

In a major coup, Pope, the eminent American composer and orchestrator, will be present for the world premiere of this work on December 12.

Another exciting new development this year is the recording for proposed CD release a work previously unrecorded, entitled Unsong Heroes – a symphony for orchestra, choir and soloists by the late British-born composer Michael Easton.

At AISOI it will be conducted by one of Australia’s leading conductors and musical educators, Douglas Heywood OAM.

Two of the major works included in this year’s concerts are the Symphony No.8 by Anton Bruckner on December 5, followed by a pillar of the 20th-Century orchestral repertoire: Igor Stravinsky’s monolithic ballet, The Rite of Spring, on December 12.

Along with these works from the pantheon of the orchestral repertoire will be a performance of George Gershwin’s eponymous Rhapsody in Blue, with the brilliant Australian pianist, Lachlan Redd, as soloist.
ISIOI concert details:

Tickets available at Centertainment and www.utas.edu.au/music

Friday, December 3
AISOI Advanced Conductor Concert 1
7pm, Conservatorium of Music Recital Hall
Program: MAHLER Symphony No. 4 (chamber ensemble version arr. Irwin Stein)
DVORAK Symphony in E minor (from the New World) (movements 1 and 3)
Tickets: Adults, $20; concession, $15; University of Tasmania Alumni, $12.

Sunday, December 5
AISOI Concert 1
7pm, Hobart City Hall
Conductor: Arvo Volmer
Program: BRUCKNER Symphony No. 8
Tickets: Adults, $50; students/concession, $40; University of Tasmania students and alumni, $25.

Saturday, December 11
AISOI Advanced Conductor Concert 2
7pm, Conservatorium of Music Recital Hall
Program: HOLST Die Planeten fur Kammerorchester (The Planets for Chamber Orchestra)
RAVEL Ma Mere L'Oye (Movements "Laideronnette, Impératrice des Pagodes" and "Les entretiens de la Belle et la Bête")
Tickets: Adults, $20; concession, $15; University of Tasmania Alumni, $12.

Sunday, December 12
AISOI Concert 2
7pm, Hobart City Hall
Conductor: Jeffrey Schindler
Piano: Lachlan Redd
Mezzo Soprano: Bonnie Snell Schindler
Program:
KORNGOLD Overture to The Sea Hawk
KORNGOLD Tomorrow for Mezzo Soprano and Women's Chorus
POPE Newly commissioned work – world premiere performance
GERSHWIN Rhapsody in Blue
STRAVINSKY Le Sacre du Printemps (The Rite of Spring)
Tickets: Adults, $50; students/concession, $40; University of Tasmania students and alumni, $25.

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