

MEDIA RELEASE

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ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors



Tassie 'angels' help Tania realise a dream

Country music star Tania Kernaghan will realise one of her dreams this weekend when she joins forces with a Tasmanian orchestra and choir.

Tania, sister of Lee Kernaghan and four-time Golden Guitar award-winner in her own right, is to record her song *Believe in Angels* with the UTAS Conservatorium of Music's Tasmania Discovery Orchestra and the renowned Southern Gospel Choir on Saturday evening.

Believe in Angels, co-written with Tania's Los Angeles-based sister Fiona, was inspired by Angel Flight, a charity that co-ordinates non-emergency flights to help residents of the Outback cope with the triple burden of bad health, poor finances and long distance.

"*Believe in Angels* is not a typical country song," Tania explained this week. "It needs the backing of an orchestra and choir and while I know many country musicians I didn't know where to begin finding an orchestra or choir."

Cue Mark Buys, a Conservatorium of Music lecturer and film composer.

Tania met Mark through working together on an Australian feature film called *Shadows of the Past*.

Then, during a working holiday with Fiona in Tasmania early last month, she was invited by Mark to visit the Conservatorium and speak to some of his students about the craft of songwriting.

"I spent an hour with him and his students," Tania said. "Afterwards I mentioned that I had this dream to one day record a song that I had written with an orchestra."

"Mark's immediate response was: 'You've come to the right place'.

"I am hugely appreciative of the fact that Mark and the TDO string players will donate their time on Saturday night, after a full day's rehearsals for the Sunday concert, to make this dream of mine a reality."

Tania intends to release the recording as a single and also as a music video clip. It will be included on her Greatest Hits album to be released later this year, with part of the proceeds being donated to Angel Flight.

Her involvement with the charity began three years ago when she was asked by promoter Lance Smith to be its patron.

Its major fundraising activity is the annual Outback TrailBlazer 4WD Challenge through western Queensland. The next event, in April 2012, will be called the Twelve Rivers Run and takes in 12 towns, separated by 12 rivers, over one week.

A previous fundraiser saw an Oktoberfest being staged in the tiny far-western Queensland town of Jundah last year. Jundah's population is a mere 68 but that event attracted 1,000 visitors, some in traditional lederhosen, and a German oom-pah band from the Gold Coast.

For further information about Angel Flight and Outback TrailBlazer:
www.outbacktrailblazer.com.au.

The Tasmania Discovery Orchestra will perform Beethoven's Symphony No 7 in a program called Discover the Orchestra at the Stanley Burbury Theatre, Sandy Bay campus, at 2.30pm on Sunday. Further details:
www.tasmaniadiscoveryorchestra.com.au.

Tania Kernaghan, Mark Buys and the Southern Gospel Choir's director, Dr Andrew Legg, are available for interview.

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