

## Media Release

### Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

Wednesday 3 December 2014

---

## Orchestral program set to challenge Australia's finest young musicians

Australia's finest young orchestral musicians are converging on Hobart from December 1-13 for the annual Australian International Symphony Orchestra Institute (AISOI) concert program.

Now in its ninth year, the AISOI program delivers two weeks of intensive learning to these aspiring and inspiring musicians, culminating in a feast of masterworks from the orchestral repertoire.

More than 200 musicians will make up the AISOI orchestra.

Under the leadership of international acclaimed conductors Marko Letonja (TSO Chief Conductor) and Alexander Briger (Australian World Orchestra), and mentored by some of Australia's leading orchestral players, the musicians will be pushed to the limit of their musical abilities by tackling the most iconic, notoriously difficult, large-scale symphonic pieces from the orchestra repertoire.

Frank Celata, AISOI Artistic Director, said "this year's program is our most challenging yet."

For the first AISOI concert, the orchestra (led by Briger) will take on the famous *Symphony No. 9* by Gustav Mahler. Written at a time when Mahler was haunted by death and search for inner peace, this symphony is arguably one of his greatest achievements.

The second concert, conducted by Marko Letonja, will feature the monumental work by Strauss, *Ein Heldenleben A Hero's Life*.

Director of the University's Conservatorium of Music, Associate Professor Andrew Legg, said AISOI is the premier orchestral event on the musical calendar for Australia's best young orchestral musicians.

"Employing sensational tutors and internationally acclaimed conductors, the students will have the opportunity to perform the biggest and most remarkable large scale orchestral works from the classical canon."

Professor Legg said the best part of AISOI was the way it harnessed and focused the enormous energy and passion of Australia's finest young musicians.

“The AISOI concerts are really spectacular to attend, and not to be missed.”

For more information on AISOI, please visit: <http://www.utas.edu.au/aisoi>

**Information released by:**

University of Tasmania, Communications and Media Office

Phone: (03) 6226 2691 or 0447 537 375

Email: [Media.Office@utas.edu.au](mailto:Media.Office@utas.edu.au)