

MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

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ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors



Hit gospel event returns to MONA this November

After the outstanding success of last year's Standing in the Shadows of MONA concert, the Southern Gospel Choir (SGC) will perform a spirited encore in November.

For the past 13 years the choir has forged its own identity through contemporary, high-energy African American gospel music.

Associate Professor Andrew Legg is Director of the UTAS Conservatorium of Music and founder of the SGC.

"African American gospel underpins the whole world of contemporary music – from country to punk, from rock to soul," Legg said.

"From U2 to Foreigner, from Sam Cooke to the Violent Femmes, they all know it. They all love it. They all play it. They are all birthed from it, one way or another."

For this one-off-gig at **MONA on Sunday, November 24**, the SGC has invited one of African America's leading stars of gospel, Take 6's Khristian Dentley, to front the choir.

Khristian, Legg, Maria Lurighi (UTAS Co-ordinator, Contemporary Voice) and the SGC will present renditions of hits by Joe Cocker, Michael Jackson, Stevie Wonder, Aretha Franklin and some left-field and surprising gospel-inspired tunes.

Event details

Who: All welcome to attend this free family event.

What: Standing in the Shadows of MONA Southern Gospel Choir concert.

When: Sunday, November 24, 2013, from 2-5pm.

Where: MONA, 655 Main Road Berriedale, Hobart.

Transport: Please note there is limited onsite parking. Visitors could instead opt for the MR-1 Fast Ferry, use MONA's free secure bicycle parking, or taxi/bus with friends.

About Khristian Dentley: Dently is a multi-talented music producer, musician, and singer. He has produced a long list of Grammy award-winning albums, including the Breath of Life release *Excellent* in 2013. Dently is best known as one of the significant new members of Grammy Award-winning

supergroup Take 6. Take 6 (Claude McKnight, Mark Kibble, Joel Kibble, Dave Thomas, Alvin Chea and Khristian Dentley), has been heralded by Quincy Jones as the "baddest vocal cats on the planet." Six virtuosic voices united in crystal clear harmony, against a backdrop of syncopated rhythms, innovative arrangements, and funky grooves that bubble into an intoxicating brew of gospel, jazz, R&B, and pop. With praise from such luminaries as Ray Charles, Stevie Wonder, Brian Wilson, Ella Fitzgerald and Whitney Houston, the multi-platinum selling sextet has toured across the globe, collaborated across genres, and is recognised as the pre-eminent a capella group in the world.

Dentley is also part of a new musical partnership with Legg, Myron Butler and Levi and Kirk Franklin called The Power of Gospel. The group brings their combined talent, drive and energy for gospel to communities around the world. They will be touring in Johannesburg, Helsinki and Kyoto over the next six months.

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