

The Master Storyteller of the Cello makes his ACO Debut

ALTSTAEDT PLAYS HAYDN & TCHAIKOVSKY

14–30 June

Canberra, Brisbane, Sydney, Newcastle, Melbourne, Adelaide, Perth



“Altstaedt has technique to burn, near perfect intonation, superb control of extreme registers and harmonics. ...so impeccable is his rhythmic nuance, that one hung on every note as if they were the words of a master storyteller.”

– THE AUSTRALIAN

“An absolute revelation. Nicolas Altstaedt is one of the cello realm’s most brilliant young princes.”

– HUFFINGTON POST

With his distinctive unruly curls, unorthodox concert attire and raw talent, **Nicolas Altstaedt** is a cellist in a league of his own. The charismatic German-French musician first burst onto the international stage as a BBC New Generation Artist and quickly become a fixture in the world’s greatest concert halls, from New York’s Carnegie Hall to Paris’s Théâtre des Champs Élysées, performing with the likes of the Vienna Philharmonic and the Staatskapelle Berlin.

Altstaedt has earned a reputation as a dazzling musical chameleon, performing music that spans over a period of a thousand years, from the early days of the Renaissance through to music by today’s most groundbreaking composers. Much like the ACO’s own Richard Tognetti, the Gramophone Award-winning virtuoso also challenges the conventions of what it is to be a ‘classical’ musician, frequently taking to the stage as musical director and conductor in addition to performing as soloist on his precious 280-year-old Guaragnini cello.

Media Contact

For interview requests, images, media tickets or further information, please contact:

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He has held the position of Artistic Director with a number of ensembles and festivals including the Lockenhaus Chamber Music Festival, where he was hand-picked to succeed the revered violinist Gidon Kremer, and the Haydn Philharmonie.

Altstaedt's charisma, versatility and dynamism makes him the perfect match for the **Australian Chamber Orchestra**, a group acclaimed around the globe as an 'ensemble of soloists'. In what promises to be a very special collaboration of high-octane virtuosity, Altstaedt will make his ACO debut as both director and soloist, taking centre stage to perform music including Haydn's beloved Cello Concerto in C major alongside Tchaikovsky's *Rococo Variations*, a work of fiendish virtuosity and lyricism. Also on the program are works by 20th-century masters György Kurtag, Sándor Veress and Iannis Xenakis, which will see Altstaedt showcase the many voices of the cello, from sensuous and rich to vibrant and dazzling.

Concert Details

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- JOSEPH HAYDN (arr. strings) Seven Last Words of Christ (selections)
- GYÖRGY KURTÁG (arr. strings) Officium breve in memoriam Andreae Szervánszky (selections)
- PYOTR ILYICH TCHAIKOVSKY (arr. strings) Rococo Variations
- SÁNDOR VERESS Four Transylvanian Dances
- IANNIS XENAKIS Aroua
- JOSEPH HAYDN (arr. strings) Cello Concerto in C major

Nicolas Altstaedt Director & Cello
Australian Chamber Orchestra

Canberra - Llewellyn Hall

Fri 14 June, 8pm

Sydney Opera House

Sun 30 June, 2pm

Brisbane - QPAC

Concert Hall

Mon 17 May, 7pm

Melbourne - Arts Centre Melbourne

Sun 23 June, 2.30pm

Mon 24 June, 7.30pm

Sydney - City Recital Hall

Tue 18 June, 8pm

Thu 20 June, 7pm

Sat 29 June, 7pm

Adelaide Town Hall

Tue 25 June, 7.30pm

Perth Concert Hall

Wed 26 June, 7.30pm

Newcastle City Hall

Fri 21 June, 7.30pm

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