

MEDIA RELEASE

23 April 2025

Experience Opera Australia in concert with two mesmerising Requiem performances this June

Following last year's sold out, five-star performance of Mozart's Requiem, Opera Australia will be staging two rare and intimate performances across Sydney this June for audiences to enjoy the talents of the nation's premier performing arts company outside of their traditional performance space at the Sydney Opera House and embrace the healing power of music.

Fauré Requiem

The world class Opera Australia Chorus will lend their soaring voices to Fauré's beautiful melodies, regarded as his best-known work.

The French composer who wrote his Requiem purely for pleasure chose to, unlike traditional requiems that are of a haunting and sombre nature, encapsulate a sense of warmth and optimism. Throughout the piece's seven sections, its glorious, rich and soulful melodies particularly the purity of the 'Pie Jesu' soprano solo and the memorable 'In Paradisum' with its magical harp accompaniment offer a calm and serene outlook that serves as a profound meditation of the solace and rest waiting after death.

The Opera Australia Chorus will be conducted by esteemed Chorus Master Paul Fitzsimon, accompanied by Michael Curtain on St James' Church's Bicentennial Pipe Organ, an incredible instrument commissioned for the Church's 200th birthday in 2024.

7:00pm Thursday 4 June 2026, St James Church, 173 King Street, Sydney

Brahms Requiem

More than two decades since Opera Australia last performed Brahms German Requiem with their full Orchestra and Chorus, this special event invites audiences to immerse themselves in Brahms' grand, heart-rendering music and unparalleled artistry.

Brahms' German Requiem is a monumental work for orchestra, chorus and soloists, written in the grips of the composer's despair over the loss of both his mother and mentor where he found solace in the spiritual. Whilst Requiem's are typically written in Latin, Brahms chose words from Luther's German bible to compose his piece. Describing it as a 'Human Requiem', Brahms intended for his music to be rich in emotion and put listeners on a path from grief to healing.

Renowned Australian conductor Nicholas Milton will lead the Opera Australia Orchestra through this heart rendering music with the solos to be performed by principal stars soprano Celeste Lazarenko and baritone Luke Gabbedy.

7:00pm Tuesday 23 June 2026, City Recital Hall, 2 Angel Place, Sydney

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DR HARUHISA HANDA



Bookings

Opera Australia Box Office

02 9318 8200

www.opera.org.au

Media Enquiries

Analisse Lettieri | Publicist | 0488 244 750 | analisse.lettieri@opera.org.au

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