

MEDIA RELEASE
18 FEBRUARY 2015

The Australian String Quartet pays homage to Gallipoli with *Remember Tomorrow*

The Australian String Quartet (ASQ) begins its 30th Anniversary year with an homage to the past and a view to the future with a commemorative concert program titled *Remember Tomorrow*.

Touring nationally, the program launches the ASQ's National Season 2015 with performances in Albany and Perth for the Perth International Festival of Arts on Thursday 19 and Friday 20 February, respectively, before travelling to Melbourne, Brisbane, Sydney, Canberra and concluding in Adelaide on 11 March, for the Adelaide Festival of Arts.

Central to the ASQ's *Remember Tomorrow* concert program, is the World Premiere of *Gallipoli* an evocative and moving new string quartet by one Australia's best-known composers – Ross Edwards.

ASQ cellist, Sharon Draper said, "We are honoured to be presenting the very first public performance of Ross Edwards' *Gallipoli* in Albany, where the Australian troops first left home soil. This meditative and reflective work is a haunting homage to the ANZAC Centenary".

Ross Edwards' *Gallipoli* for string quartet was commissioned by the Ian Potter Cultural Trust to commemorate the centenary of the Gallipoli landings in 2015 and is featured on a new compilation CD produced by Lady Potter AC, Frà Professor Richard Divall, together with The Ian Potter Cultural Trust and Monash University. Titled *Gallipoli – A Tribute*, the compilation CD has been produced in dedication to the RSL Australia, RSA New Zealand and Legacy and features poetry and prose alongside a collection of instrumental works and songs performed by leading Australian musicians.

The ASQ's *Remember Tomorrow* concert program opens with Haydn's powerful 'Emperor' string quartet and concludes with Shostakovich's String Quartet no 3, which was written in response to the Second World War. The only work completed by the composer in 1946, the work is full of emotion and questioning – with despair yet passionate hopes for a better future.

ASQ violist Stephen King and cellist Sharon Draper are joined on stage by leading Australian violinists Wilma Smith and Cameron Hill, to present this stirring program. The violinists, who are well-known across Australia for their orchestral and chamber music performances, are welcomed guest artists for the ASQ's *Remember Tomorrow* tour.

Quartet-in-Residence at the University of Adelaide, the ASQ was established in 1985 and has had a major impact on the musical life of Australia, commissioning, premiering and performing many works by leading Australian composers. The ASQ's busy calendar of performances for 2015 includes three national tours across metropolitan and regional Australia, its own flagship regional festival events in Dunkeld and Margaret River and an international tour to Italy in May 2015.

For further information on the ASQ and the *Remember Tomorrow* tour visit the website at asq.com.au or phone 1800 040 444 for details.

ENDS

For further media information: Angelina Zucco, Executive Director

Ph: 0402 642 121

asq@asq.com.au

TOUR DATES & TICKET PRICES

Albany, WA

Thursday 19 February, Albany Entertainment Centre*

Perth

Friday 20 February, Government House Ballroom, 7pm*

Standard \$76, Concession \$57, Under 30 \$30

To book: Ticketek 1300 795 012, ticketek.com.au

Melbourne

Thu 26 February, 7pm, Melbourne Recital Centre

Standard \$76, Concession \$57, Under 30 \$30

To book: Melbourne Recital Centre 03 9699 3333, melbournerecital.com.au

Canberra

Sun 1 March, 2pm, Gandel Hall, National Gallery of Australia**

Standard \$65, Concession \$60, NGA members \$55

To book: Call 02 6240 6701 or www.nga.gov.au

Brisbane

Thu 5 March, 7pm, Conservatorium Theatre, South Bank***

Standard \$70, Concession \$50, Under 30 \$30

To book: QTIX 136 246, qtix.com.au

Sydney

Sat 7 March, 7pm, City Recital Hall Angel Place

Standard \$76, Concession \$57, Under 30 \$30

To book: City Recital Hall Angel Place 1300 797 118, cityrecitalhall.com

Adelaide

Wed 11 March, 7pm, Adelaide Town Hall****

Standard \$75, Concession \$55, Under 30 \$30

To book: Bass 131 246, www.bass.net.au

\$15 Student Rush tickets available at all venues one hour prior to the concert.

* Presented in association with the Perth International Festival of Arts

** Presented in partnership with the National Gallery of Australia

*** Presented in partnership with Griffith University

**** Presented in association with the Adelaide Festival of Arts