



**MEDIA RELEASE  
OCTOBER 2014**

### **ASQ Celebrates the Spirit of Adventure and Artistic Collaboration**

The Australian String Quartet (ASQ) welcome three Australian guest artists to join them for their final national tour for 2014, *Relativity*, which starts in Perth on November 9.

Award-winning Australian soprano Greta Bradman will join the ASQ to present Paul Stanhope's *Sea Chronicles*, a song cycle for soprano and string quartet which celebrates Australia's unique coastal environment and the late Peter Sculthorpe's *Island Dreaming*, a single-movement work which draws together words compiled from old and modern Torres Strait Islander songs.

Bradman, whose extraordinary vocal range and captivating performances have earned her numerous awards, is celebrated as one of Australia's finest singers and joins the ASQ after a busy year of activity working across Australia and abroad. Bradman recently debuted as *Rodelinda* in the Handel opera of the same name with Maestro Richard Bonyngue conducting, and performed at a recital in London for HRH Prince Philip Duke of Edinburgh and friends.

The concert commences with Fanny Mendelssohn's rarely heard String Quartet in E-flat major and concludes with Felix Mendelssohn's String Quartet in A minor op 13 in a program inspired by the spirit of adventure which governed the Mendelssohn siblings' own private concerts back in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

ASQ violist, Stephen King and cellist, Sharon Draper welcome guest violinists Adam Chalabi and Graeme Jennings to join them for *Relativity* following the recent departure of ASQ violinists Kristian Winther and Ioana Tache due to unforeseen circumstances.

"While we are disappointed by the early departure of Kristian and Ioana, we look forward to working with Brisbane-based guest violinists Adam Chalabi and Graeme Jennings who are both highly seasoned and respected chamber musicians", said ASQ Executive Director, Angelina Zucco.

Known for his work with Tinalley String Quartet, Adam Chalabi, joins the ASQ for its *Relativity* tour courtesy of the University of Queensland's School of Music where he is currently an Associate Professor of Violin. Violinist Graeme Jennings, who toured globally as a former member of the legendary Arditti String Quartet, appears courtesy of the Queensland Conservatorium, Griffith University where he is Senior Lecturer in Violin and Viola.

In a first for the ASQ, cellist Sharon Draper and guest soprano Greta Bradman will be dressed by Melbourne fashion designer Susan Dimasi for *Relativity* thanks to a new collaboration with Luxury Fashion House, MATERIALBYPRODUCT. Fashion designer Susan Dimasi, who established her label in 2003, is thrilled about her collaboration with the ASQ.

"If I wasn't a fashion designer I would be a musician. I love the ephemeral nature of music. I think that is why I am more satisfied by seeing my fashion on the moving body than on a hanger," Ms Dimasi said.

*Relativity* concludes a busy year of touring activity for the Australian String Quartet and graces stages in Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney, Canberra and Brisbane.

### **About the Australian String Quartet**

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. The members of the ASQ are privileged to perform on a matched set of Guadagnini instruments. Hand crafted by Giovanni Battista Guadagnini between c.1743-1784 in Turin and Piacenza, Italy, the instruments are on loan to the Australian String Quartet for their exclusive use through the generosity of Ulrike Klein, Maria Myers and a group of donors who have supported Ngeringa Arts to acquire the viola.

The ASQ celebrates its 30<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary in 2015 and is set to announce its exciting 2015 National Season program at the end of November.

For further information, visit the website at [www.asq.com.au](http://www.asq.com.au) or phone 1800 040 444.

### **Tour Dates & Venues**

**Perth\*** – Sunday, November 9, 4.30pm, St Hilda’s Anglican School for Girls, Performing Arts Centre

**Adelaide\*** – Tuesday, November 11, 7pm, Adelaide Town Hall

**Melbourne** – Wednesday, November 12, 7pm, Melbourne Recital Centre

**Sydney** – Thursday, November 13, 7pm, City Recital Hall Angel Place

**Canberra** – Sunday, November 16, 2pm, National Gallery of Australia, Gandel Hall

**Brisbane** – Monday, November 17, 7pm, Conservation Theatre South Bank

\* Please note change of date, time and venue for Perth and change of concert date for Adelaide from originally advertised.

### **Program**

**Fanny Mendelssohn** String Quartet in E-flat major

**Paul Stanhope** *Sea Chronicles\**

INTERVAL

**Sculthorpe**, String Quartet No. 13 *Island Dreaming*

**Felix Mendelssohn**, String Quartet in A minor, op 13

\*Please note that this work replaces Brett Dean’s *And once I played Ophelia*, which has been rescheduled for Australian premiere in 2015 for the ASQ’s 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year.

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