



Australian  
String  
Quartet

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

22 November 2018

### ***The Australian String Quartet Instrumental in Italy***

Straight off the back of its knock-out season with Sydney Dance Company *Forever & Ever*, the **Australian String Quartet** (ASQ) travelled to Italy for a fortnight of trailblazing concerts and masterclasses.

The group performed at esteemed concert halls in Como, Bologna, Rome and undertook a special residency in L'Aquila, performing and teaching in the infamous *Paper Concert Hall*, designed by Shigeru Ban Architects and gifted to the city by the Japanese Government after the devastating earthquakes of 2009.

Furthering its mission to promote Australian music to the wider world, the ASQ included works by Australian composers Carl Vine, Peter Sculthorpe and Joe Chindamo into its programs across the country. The Quartet also performed with leading British pianist William Howard at the Accademia Filarmonica, Bologna. In response to the ASQ's performances of this new music, the critics glowed.

*"The ASQ executed a programme of absolute excellence for the complexity of execution..."*  
[www.radiolaquila1.it](http://www.radiolaquila1.it)

*"...an impeccable interpretation of the string quartet n.6 in F minor of Mendelssohn and above all the contemporary Australian composers: Carl Vine, Joe Chindamo and Peter Sculthorpe."*  
L'unione degli artisti

*"...the balance of the quartet.. Touched perfection..seemed like a single performer."*  
[www.quinteparallele.it](http://www.quinteparallele.it)

**For further information contact Samuel Jozeps, Marketing and Communications Manager on 0429 645 436 or [sjozeps@asq.com.au](mailto:sjozeps@asq.com.au).**





## **BIOGRAPHY – AUSTRALIAN STRING QUARTET**

For over 30 years, the Australian String Quartet (ASQ) has created unforgettable string quartet performances for national and international audiences. Dedicated to musical excellence with a distinctly Australian character, the Quartet’s purpose is to create chemistry and amplify intimacy through experiences that connect people with string quartet music.

From its home base at the University of Adelaide, Elder Conservatorium of Music, the ASQ reaches out across Australia and the world to engage people with an outstanding program of performances, workshops, commissions and education projects. The Quartet’s distinct sound is enhanced by a matched set of 18<sup>th</sup> century Guaragnini instruments, handcrafted by Giovanni Battista Guaragnini between c.1743 and 1784 in Turin and Piacenza, Italy. These precious instruments are on loan for the ASQ’s exclusive use through the generosity of UKARIA.

*Dale Barltrop plays a 1784 Guaragnini Violin, Turin*

*Francesca Hiew plays a 1748-49 Guaragnini Violin, Piacenza*

*Stephen King plays a 1783 Guaragnini Viola, Turin*

*Sharon Grigoryan plays a c.1743 Guaragnini Violoncello, Piacenza, 'Ngeringa'*

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