



Australian
String
Quartet

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ASQ plays Schubert: a live-streamed farewell concert for Sharon Grigoryan, presented by Clayton Utz in association with UKARIA Cultural Centre

Join the Australian String Quartet (ASQ) online for a special live-streamed event, generously presented by ASQ National Partner Clayton Utz.

In celebration of cellist Sharon Grigoryan's seven-year tenure with the ASQ, this is your chance to see one of her final performances with ASQ colleagues and collaborators Dale Barltrop and Francesca Hiew (violins) and Stephen King (viola), live-streamed around Australia and the world, from the stunning UKARIA Cultural Centre in the Adelaide Hills.

The ASQ is no stranger to live-streaming. Throughout the pandemic the group has continued to provide transformative music experiences to their legion of fans, and connected with brand-new audiences, through its streaming platform ASQ Live + On Demand, and highly regarded inaugural webseries, *ASQ Live at UKARIA*.

ASQ National Partner Clayton Utz has generously enabled the ASQ to share this sold-out South Australian concert with ASQ audiences, fans and well-wishers across Australia and the world, so that everyone can join in the celebration of Grigoryan and what has been a stellar contribution to string quartet music and cultural life.

"One of the things I was saddest about, when finding out that all of ASQ's touring needed to be cancelled for the rest of 2020, was that I couldn't say goodbye in person to all of ASQ's amazing friends in the audience around the country. It is a great comfort knowing that we can farewell each other through this live stream from UKARIA. Knowing that we will have that connection means a great deal to me." ASQ cellist Sharon Grigoryan

"Sharon is a much-loved member of our ASQ family and we are excited to have the opportunity to stream her farewell performance for our Australian supporters through the generous support of Clayton Utz." Angelina Zucco, ASQ Chief Executive

Clayton Utz Chief Executive Partner Bruce Cooper said it had been a pleasure, both for the Firm and its clients, to have engaged with Sharon over the past few years. *"We're grateful that we can be part of this special send-off for her: a gifted musician, a delightful person, and a good friend to us. While we have always enjoyed her in ASQ concerts, and are sad to see her move on, we're also gratified to know that her performances will endure through ASQ's catalogue."*

Audiences can access the live stream via the **ASQ Live + On Demand** platform, or via the **ASQ's Facebook page**. It will remain available on ASQ Live + On Demand for subscribers to re-watch at their leisure.

ASQ plays Schubert

Friday 13 November, 12:50pm (ACST)

SCHUBERT String Quartet no 14 in D minor *Death and the Maiden*

MATTHEW HINDSON String Quartet no 3 *Ngeringa*

Streaming via ASQ Facebook and ASQ Live + On Demand

For more information on the ASQ visit the website at asq.com.au or phone 1800 040 444 for details.

For all media enquiries contact Jeff Smith, Jeff Smith Creative Consulting on 0402 677 389 or mrjeffsmith@gmail.com

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BACKGROUND

BIOGRAPHY – AUSTRALIAN STRING QUARTET

For 35 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 18th 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.

Michael Dahlenburg replaces Sharon Grigoryan as ASQ cellist in November 2020.

SHARON GRIGORYAN - BIOGRAPHY

Born in Melbourne, Sharon studied at the University of Melbourne and the Australian National Academy of Music (ANAM) under David Berlin, Philip Green, and Howard Penny. From 2008-2012 Sharon held a position with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra (MSO) and was a regular participant in their Chamber Players series. In 2009 she formed the Hopkins String Quartet and was, in the same year, accepted into the Australian Chamber Orchestra's Emerging Artists program. She has since toured extensively with the ACO.

In 2011 Sharon was a recipient of the MSO Friends' Travel Scholarship and spent a year in Berlin studying with Professor Wolfgang Emanuel Schmidt and Nicolas Alsteadt. Since then she has performed with the Mahler Chamber Orchestra and Spira Mirabilis Chamber Orchestra, as well as being a core member of the Melbourne Chamber Orchestra.

Sharon has performed as a guest with the Australia Ensemble, and the Australian World Orchestra under conductors Sir Simon Rattle and Ricardo Muti. In 2015 she formed a duo with guitarist and husband Slava Grigoryan, and is the current Artistic Director of the *Barossa, Baroque and Beyond* music festival..

Sharon also has a passion for teaching. Apart from teaching the cello privately, she has tutored ensembles such as the Melbourne Youth Orchestra, AYO's National Music Camp orchestras, and been a guest chamber music tutor at ANAM.

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