

— ADELAIDE —
SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA
— SEASON —
2007
A GRAND MUSICAL JOURNEY

Recording Coup for ASO

The Adelaide Symphony Orchestra has been invited to record the complete cycle of Sibelius symphonies, the first such undertaking in Australian recording history.

2007 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the death of Finland's greatest composer Jean Sibelius. The Adelaide Symphony Orchestra has been invited to create the first ever Australian recording of the full Sibelius Symphony Cycle with ABC Classics.

The announcement that the ASO will record the full Sibelius Symphony Cycle follows the critically acclaimed ten day Sibelius Festival earlier this year.

The ASO will commence recording the next instalment in the Sibelius Cycle project, Symphonies No.4 and No.5 and Valse Triste later this month at the Adelaide Town Hall, regarded as having the best acoustic in Australia. The Adelaide Symphony Orchestra is now recognised reputation for its crisp and inspiring interpretations of the Sibelius repertoire with ASO Chief Conductor Arvo Volmer.

"My passion for the music of Sibelius runs very deep, and I always knew I would only embark on recording any of it when I felt I had the right orchestra and the right team with me to do this music justice," Volmer said. "These ABC Classics recordings will, I hope, stand as a testament to the very happy and fruitful association I have with the wonderful players of the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra."

ASO Chief Executive Rainer Jozeps says that the Sibelius recording project is an important one for the orchestra and its relationship with Arvo Volmer. 'The recent Sibelius Festival and released recording of Sibelius symphonies No. 2 and 7 have been met with great enthusiasm and has greatly enhanced the ASO's reputation throughout Australia. The fact that we will be the first Australian orchestra to have recorded all of the Sibelius symphonies is a thrill and testament to the skill of the ASO's players and Arvo Volmer's passion for the finnish composer'.

Robert Patterson, Head of ABC Music said, 'Over the years, ABC Classics has been involved in a number of composer-cycles with the Australian symphony orchestras, and we're thrilled to join with the ASO in recording this complete set of Sibelius symphonies. The response to the initial release of the Second and Seventh Symphonies has been outstanding and Arvo Volmer has demonstrated an extraordinary affinity with these Finnish masterpieces. We predict similar critical acclaim for the next five symphonies in the cycle.'

The Adelaide Symphony Orchestra and Arvo Volmer have recently received an ARIA nomination for the ABC Classics Sculthorpe Requiem and orchestral works disc which has won international praise.

For further media information, interviews with Arvo Volmer or ASO players

ASO Publicist, Jeff Smith, ph (08) 8233 6205, 0402 677 389 or smithj@aso.com.au

