

ADELAIDE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

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MEDIA RELEASE

Home time for Brunnhilde

Adelaide audiences have a great deal to be thankful for this August with the "Brunnhilde of Oz" **Lisa Gasteen** returning to the concert stage and orchestra where she won international acclaim for that demanding role in Adelaide's 2004 Wagner Ring Cycle. Lisa Gasteen is returning to Adelaide as part of an orchestral tour with the national symphony orchestras which will also see her perform with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra at the end of the month.

Lisa Gasteen performs with Adelaide Symphony Orchestra at the **Adelaide Festival Theatre** on **Saturday, 9 August** at **8.00pm**. Performing selections of Wagner and Strauss the performance gives Adelaide audiences, who know her well as Brunnhilde (The Ring), a chance to hear her in other great roles in which she excels.

The good news for Australian audiences and a strong angle is that Lisa Gasteen has decided to spend more time at home. Years of touring the world, in demand as one of the few singers who can conquer the great dramatic roles, have taken their toll and the soprano is feeling the pressure. Having said this Lisa still has a residence in the UK and has future contracts both in Europe and the United States but has had to turn down some major job opportunities in the process.

Lisa Gasteen has an international reputation as a Wagnerian soprano, specialising in roles from Wagner and Richard Strauss operas, such as Isolde and Salomé. Within a year of being awarded a Covent Garden Scholarship in 1984, Gasteen made her opera debut in Aida with what was then the Lyric Opera of Queensland. She sang the High Priestess in that production, but when she made her New York debut in 1997 in the same opera it was in the title role.

Gasteen has performed the roles of Elsa (Lohengrin), Elisabeth (Tannhäuser) and Salomé in Queensland (her home state) with Opera Queensland and in Sydney with Opera Australia, as well as around the world, including at Covent Garden, London and Stuttgart Opera.

ENDS For further media information:

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