

ADELAIDE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA



SEASON 2009

ASO MEDIA RELEASE

ASO Opens Season with Mahler's Symphony No.1

The Adelaide Symphony Orchestra will open its Master Series on **Friday 20 March** and **Saturday 21 March** with a performance of **Mahler's Symphony No.1**.

These performances will be newly appointed ASO Concertmaster Natsuko Yoshimoto's first Master Series concert in the position. 'I absolutely love Mahler, it's a great passion of mine, for me there is no better way to start our Master Series than with Mahler, there is a real buzz amongst the ASO and Adelaide about the project', Yoshimoto said.

The orchestra's performances of Mahler's Symphony No.1 are part of the ASO's Mahler symphony cycle, which will cumulate in 2012. The ASO is the only orchestra in Australia to commit to play all Mahler symphonies as a complete project.

The aspiration is driven in large part by the orchestra's achievements in the 1998 and 2004 Wagner Ring Cycles. The success of the Melba recordings of the 2004 Cycle with astonishingly positive international critical reviews, spurred Chief Conductor, Arvo Volmer to push for development of the musical 'lineage' from Wagner to Mahler and beyond.

Mahler pushes the musician, the conductor and the listener to explore their personal depths. And since 2006, when the orchestra played Mahler's 5th, audiences and musician alike have relished the challenge to experience the presence of the moment while each Mahlerian phrase was unearthed and discovered.

In November the ASO's Mahler symphony cycle will continue with performances of Mahler's Symphony No.4.

Natsuko Yoshimoto and Arvo Volmer are both available for interviews.

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