

For immediate release –

George Michael: Listen to your Heart

A Tribute with your Adelaide Symphony Orchestra

Adelaide Symphony Orchestra is set to show a little faith in a symphonic spectacular showcase concert paying tribute to world pop star George Michael, Listen to your Heart, 15 and 16 February, Festival Theatre.

More than three decades ago, George Michael released his seminal debut solo album *Faith*. Adelaide Symphony Orchestra will celebrate this milestone and the anniversary of his death with a celebration of his life, to honour the pop icon gone far too soon.

George Michael was a singer-songwriter with a remarkable catalogue of music spanning pop, soul and disco, he was an idol to a generation. The world continues to pay tribute to the man and his legacy, your ASO will perform a thirty song extravagant production of his greatest works from his heart-wrenching torch ballads to his sugary pop trifles.

Under musical direction from maestro **John Foreman**, OAM, the orchestra will be joined on stage by a stellar line up of Aussies. Headliners include four time Logie award winner **Hugh Sheridan** and born entertainer **Rob Mills**, along with one of Australia's most versatile Indigenous entertainers **Casey Donovan**. RnB and Rock singer Andrew **De Silva** will bring soul to the line-up and man of many talents and musical theatre star **Bobby Fox** complete the soloists. They will perform a selection of George Michael's chart toppers from *Careless Whisper* through to *Faith*, *Father Figure* to *Praying for Time*, Whams effervescent *Wake Me Up Before You Go Go* to the ethos packed 90s hit *Freedom*.

Hugh can't wait to be back in his hometown to perform this exciting Showcase Series concert, *"George Michael was a maverick popstar, genius writer, with tonsils of gold, a subtle revolutionary, an unheralded philanthropist and a balladeer to make us burst. I had the good fortune to spend time with the George who used humility and humour as his first engagement with me and who shared his best insights into music without hesitation"*.

Hugh says his all-time favourite tune is, *"For me it's hard to go past "One More Try" from the "Faith" album. A tale of love both off and on rails, George opens up all the pipes just when it's needed and it gives me goosebumps every time I hear it."*

Don't miss this tribute to George Michael, in full symphonic sound, as we remember the man and his music at the Festival Theatre this February.

Adelaide Symphony Orchestra Managing Director Vincent Ciccarello said, *"George Michael was an artist defined by his desire to tackle in his songs issues that were political, psychological but, above all, deeply personal. Indeed, few songwriters of his era challenged their fans to listen without prejudice. I can't wait to experience this great catalogue of songs, showcased by a stellar cast and the ASO."*

The ASO is a world-class symphony orchestra. In addition to presenting classic repertoire the orchestra has a reputation for its Showcase Series of concerts that embraces popular contemporary music, excitement builds – adding pow to pop, while soundscapes burst beyond the cinema screen and disco dance anthems swell to their fullest glory. Don't miss the first exciting concert in the series for 2018.

SHOWCASE SERIES George Michael: Listen to your Heart
Thursday 15 & Friday 16 February, 7.30pm, Festival Theatre

Musical Director John Foreman
Special guests Hugh Sheridan
 Rob Mills
 Casey Donovan
 Andrew De Silva
 Bobby Fox

aso.com.au

MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

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