

Melbourne Symphony Orchestra

MEDIA RELEASE

MSO to tour China in May 2018

The Melbourne Symphony Orchestra will tour to China this month, performing in six cities in ten days under the helm of Chief Conductor Sir Andrew Davis.

Following its successful performance and residency with the Shanghai Symphony Orchestra in 2016, the MSO returns to undertake its first major China tour in sixteen years.

Eighty-two musicians and guest artists including China's most eminent violinist Lu Siqing, pianist Moye Chen and MSO assistant conductor Tianyi Lu will perform in Shanghai, Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Nanjing and Hangzhou with a final concert in Beijing.

Minister for Creative Industries Martin Foley said:

"There is a growing appetite in China and across the region for Victoria's creative and cultural talent, and our best are now on the world stage."

"The MSO has been a feature of the Cultural Partnership Agreement between Victoria and China, signed in 2015, which highlights the importance of cultural exchange and diplomacy."

"A tour like this is an exciting and ambitious exercise. It will drive further cultural engagement, support future performance opportunities and promote the strengths of our creative state."

The MSO will perform three separate programs on the tour, featuring Carl Vine's *V*, Bruch's Violin Concerto No.1, Beethoven's Symphony No.3, Liszt's Piano Concerto No.1, and Tchaikovsky's Symphony No.6 *Pathétique*.

Melbourne Symphony Orchestra will tour China from 15 to 26 May 2018, appearing in Guangzhou (16 May), Shenzhen (17 May), Shanghai (19 May), Nanjing (20 May), Hangzhou (22 May) and Beijing (24 May).

The MSO's 2018 China tour is supported by the Victorian Government through Creative Victoria, as well as Lendlease China, the Harold Mitchell Foundation Fund, Li Family Trust, RRL Family Trust and numerous patrons.

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