

# MSO

## NEW WORLD SYMPHONY

21 – 24 SEPTEMBER 2018

CONCERT PROGRAM

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**Melbourne Symphony Orchestra**

**Xian Zhang** conductor

**Tianyi Lu** conductor

**Benjamin Grosvenor** piano

**Smetana** *The Bartered Bride: Overture*

**Schumann** Piano Concerto in A minor

**INTERVAL**

**Dvořák** Symphony No.9 *From the New World*

**Pre-concert talk (Friday & Saturday)** Join Monica Curro, Assistant Principal 2nd Violin of the MSO, for a pre-concert conversation on-stage at Hamer Hall from 6.15pm.

**Post-concert conversation (Monday)** Join Andrew Aronowicz, composer and Limelight Magazine contributor, for a post-concert conversation inside the Stalls Foyer of Hamer Hall from 8.30pm.

**Running time:** One hour and 45 minutes, including a 20-minute interval.

In consideration of your fellow patrons, the MSO thanks you for silencing and dimming the light on your phone.

*We'd love to hear your thoughts on our large format programs. Please share your feedback with Box Office representatives or email [boxoffice@mso.com.au](mailto:boxoffice@mso.com.au).*

# XIAN ZHANG

## CONDUCTOR

Music Director of the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, Xian Zhang's contract has recently been extended until 2023/24. In 2016, Zhang became Principal Guest Conductor of the BBC National Orchestra and Chorus of Wales, the first female conductor to hold a titled role with a BBC orchestra. She is Conductor Emeritus of the Orchestra Sinfonica di Milano Giuseppe Verdi.

Xian Zhang has recently appeared with orchestras such as the Orquesta Nacional de España, Academy of Saint Cecilia, and National Arts Center Orchestra, Ottawa. In the opera house, she has conducted *La bohème*, *Traviata*, and *Otello* in recent years. Born in Dandong, China, she champions Chinese composers such as Chen Yi, whose *Antiphony* she conducted in her 2017 Los Angeles Philharmonic debut.

# BENJAMIN GROSVENOR

## PIANO

Benjamin Grosvenor first came to prominence when he was 11 as winner of the Keyboard Final of the 2004 BBC Young Musician Competition. He has appeared with orchestras such as the Boston Symphony, Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra, Filarmonica della Scala and New York Philharmonic. Conductors he has appeared with include Esa-Pekka Salonen, Vladimir Ashkenazy, Jiří Bělohlávek, Riccardo Chailly, Vladimir Jurowski, and Ludovic Morlot.

Recent recordings include Homages, the music of great composers paying homage to predecessors (including Busoni's transcription of Bach's Chaconne BWV 1004 and Ravel's *Le Tombeau de Couperin*). Forthcoming performances include piano recitals in the UK and Madrid, performances with the London Philharmonic, Royal Scottish National Orchestra and City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, and Schumann's Piano Concerto in Slovakia.

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Melbourne  
Symphony  
Orchestra

