



National Centre for the Performing Arts, Beijing, China
Photo: Chris Woods

6 SOLD-OUT CONCERTS
in 6 cities

12 DAYS

9940 LIVE AUDIENCE

4 BROADCASTS
of MSO's Beijing Concert in China via CCTV

**83 MUSICIANS
& GUEST ARTISTS**

19 VIPS ON TOUR

**ALLIANCES BEYOND THE TOUR
2018-2022**
New four-year partnerships in Shanghai and Beijing

9 DIPLOMATIC EVENTS

In May 2018, Melbourne Symphony Orchestra toured to China and delivered sold-out performances in Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Shanghai, Nanjing, Hangzhou and Beijing.

This was the MSO's first full orchestra tour of China since 2002. The tour party included 83 musicians, Chief Conductor Sir Andrew Davis, Cybec Assistant Conductor Tianyi Lu, and guest soloists Lu Siqing (China's most eminent violinist) and Beijing-born pianist Moye Chen.

Members of the Australian String Quartet (MSO's Ensemble in Residence in 2017) performed with the Orchestra in all cities.

A total of nine diplomatic events were hosted for the MSO during this tour, engaging dignitaries from Chinese and Australian/Victorian government agencies, as well as representatives from the arts, education and business sectors.

The MSO's 2018 China Tour was generously supported by the Victorian Government through Creative Victoria, as well as Audi China, Lendlease China, the Harold Mitchell Foundation Fund, Li Family Trust, RRL Family Trust, Major Performing Arts Group, and numerous individual patrons.

Melbourne Symphony Orchestra
Sir Andrew Davis Chief Conductor
Tianyi Lu Cybec Assistant Conductor

PROGRAM 1 (Shanghai only)
Moye Chen piano

Carl Vine V, *An Orchestral Fanfare* (Australian work)
Liszt Piano Concerto No.1
Beethoven Symphony No.3 *Eroica*

PROGRAM 2 (All other cities)
Lu Siqing violin

Carl Vine V, *An Orchestral Fanfare* (Australian work)
Bruch Violin Concerto No.1
Tchaikovsky Symphony No.6 *Pathétique*

**600
FLIGHT
BOOKINGS**

**250
TRAIN
TICKETS**

1000 HOTEL BOOKINGS

5 TONNES OF FREIGHT

MEDIA COVERAGE

 **184** CLIPPINGS

 **1.56** BILLION
AUDIENCE REACH

100% POSITIVE COVERAGE

- The MSO was portrayed in Chinese media coverage as a distinguished orchestra, led by globally-respected Chief Conductor Sir Andrew Davis
- References to concert performances noted enthusiastic responses by audiences and a large number of encores performed
- Various Australian funding bodies attracted media attention including Creative Victoria and the Li Family Trust

“The role of the arts and cultural diplomacy are extremely important. From my point of view the MSO’s tour of China is a really valuable part of our overall presentation of Australia as sophisticated, modern, clever and interesting multicultural country.”

Jan Adams

Australian Ambassador to China

NURTURING RELATIONSHIPS

- A new four-year partnership (2019–2022) in Beijing with the National Centre for Performing Arts that includes performances, co-commissioning and skills exchange between China and Victoria
- Ongoing collaboration with the Shanghai Philharmonic Orchestra and Shanghai Symphony Orchestra as an extension to our partnership agreement
- Ongoing opportunities to work with our partner Lendlease in China and beyond
- Confirmation of an additional 4 broadcasts of MSO’s Beijing Concert into China via CCTV

“I think it is absolutely wonderful that the MSO is making this tour so extensive... They are reaching out beyond Shanghai and Beijing to the many other wonderful cities that are screaming out to receive our culture and learn more about Australia. What better way than to listen to a performance by the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra!”

Tim Dillon

Commissioner for Victoria to China

“The Melbourne Symphony Orchestra is one of Australia’s premier cultural organisations. We are very proud to have it representing both Melbourne and Victoria, wherever and whenever it goes. To have the MSO come to China and showcase not just the best of our cultural abilities but certainly the best of Australia is amazing. It’s fantastic and certainly something that can’t be reproduced easily.”

The Hon. Philip Dalidakis MP

Minister for Trade and Investment

Victorian Government

