

**MEDIA RELEASE**

28 JANUARY 2020

**OPERA QUEENSLAND'S NEW PERFORMANCE SPACE – THE STUDIO – OFFERS  
UNPRECEDENTED ACCESS TO ARTISTS**

Opera Queensland's Season 2020 features a series of unique recitals staged in the newly refurbished Opera Queensland Studio at South Bank.

The rich diversity of operatic talent in Queensland will be showcased across 10 performances in The Studio this year.

**Artistic Director and CEO Patrick Nolan** said the performances provided a rare opportunity for opera audiences to get up close and personal with the artists.

"All of the artists in this series have a deep connection to Queensland – whether they grew up here, were trained at the Queensland Conservatorium or live here now – and this is a showcase of the extraordinary talent we have in this state," Mr Nolan said.

"This initiative reinforces Opera Queensland's commitment to staging great opera, whether it be in the grandness of the QPAC's Lyric Theatre or the intimacy of The Studio."

Mr Nolan will work with each artist to design the program for their performances.

"Artists will draw from a wide repertoire of music, sharing personal insights and career highlights, while offering audiences the chance to see behind the curtain of their lives and careers," said Mr Nolan.

The performances begin with award-winning mezzo-soprano and long-time Opera Queensland collaborator **Hayley Sugars** who presents *Songs of Desire*, a program of songs about the mystery, intrigue, yearning and splendour of love on **February 14 and 15**.

Pianist **Alex Raineri** and renowned Wagner scholar and author **Peter Bassett** present *Wagner, His Contemporaries and Followers* on **March 13 and 14**, a compelling program exploring Richard Wagner's world through his letters and music.

Popular Argentinian-Australian baritone **José Carbó** shares secrets about his extraordinary career with music from Fauré, Verdi and Gluck, among others, in *A Musical Life...Songs That Taught Me How To Sing* on **May 22 and 23**.

Well-known to Queensland audiences, **Jason Barry-Smith** charts the "seven ages" of a person with music from Gilbert and Sullivan, Rodgers and Hammerstein and Richard Maltby Jnr in *A Life in Many Parts* on **June 19 and 20**.

Tenor **Bradley Daley** explores the tradition and influence of German composers in *Songs of Wagner and Strauss* on **July 31 and August 1** as a prelude to Brisbane's exclusive season of Wagner's *Tristan und Isolde*, **October 28 & 31**.

Tickets start from \$63 and can be booked at [oq.com.au](http://oq.com.au)

- ENDS-

**Opera Queensland Studio 2020 performance schedule**

Conservatorium Building  
140 Grey St, South Bank

**HAYLEY SUGARS**

*Songs Of Desire*

14 February, 7pm

15 February, 2pm

[oq.com.au/whats-on/hayley-sugars/](http://oq.com.au/whats-on/hayley-sugars/)

**ALEX RAINERI AND PETER BASSETT**

*Wagner, His Contemporaries and Followers*

13 March, 7pm

14 March, 2pm

[oq.com.au/whats-on/alex-raineri-peter-bassett/](http://oq.com.au/whats-on/alex-raineri-peter-bassett/)

**JOSE CARBO**

*A Musical Life...Songs That Taught Me How To Sing*

22 May, 7pm

23 May, 2pm

[oq.com.au/whats-on/jose-carbo/](http://oq.com.au/whats-on/jose-carbo/)

**JASON BARRY-SMITH**

*A Life In Many Parts*

19 June, 7pm

20 June, 2pm

[oq.com.au/whats-on/jason-barry-smith/](http://oq.com.au/whats-on/jason-barry-smith/)

**BRADLEY DALEY**

*Songs of Wagner and Strauss*

31 July, 7pm

1 August, 2pm

[oq.com.au/whats-on/bradley-daley/](http://oq.com.au/whats-on/bradley-daley/)

**Download Opera Queensland's Season 2020 brochure, high resolution imagery and video here:**

[https://www.dropbox.com/sh/u856i7v082qiyak/AAAnMImLcsr2sWz\\_zzj3htFha?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/u856i7v082qiyak/AAAnMImLcsr2sWz_zzj3htFha?dl=0)

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