

17 April 2018

WASO Chorus to tour China: May 2-14



The West Australian Symphony Orchestra Chorus will embark on a 12-day tour of China, with performances in Shanghai, Nanjing and Beijing.

The tour will run from May 2 to May 14. It will involve a total party of 62 people, including 55 WASO Chorus members and Chorus Director Christopher van Tuinen. Two pianists and four percussionists from the University of Western Australia will also perform with the WASO Chorus.

The tour came about through an invitation from Australian International Productions who have been working with major venues in China for over a decade, and will coincide with the WASO Chorus' 30th anniversary.

Christopher van Tuinen first spoke to Australian International Productions about bringing the WASO Chorus to China in 2017, while conducting a large-scale China tour of Puccini's opera *Turandot*.

"This invitation to tour certainly highlights the calibre of the WASO Chorus, and also the reputation of WASO, who toured to Beijing and Shanghai in 2016."

"The WASO Chorus has established itself as Perth's leading symphonic chorus, performing a huge range of music and this experience will be a huge coup for all members"

WASO Chief Executive Craig Whitehead stated:

"Our Chorus make an outstanding contribution to WASO, and this tour is a wonderful recognition of their hard work and dedication."

"WASO has an exciting relationship with China through its close connection to the China Philharmonic Orchestra, and this tour will help build new layers of relationship in the region."

TOUR ITINERARY

4 May, 2018, 19.30

Shanghai Poly Theatre, Shanghai

6 May, 2018, 19.30

Shanghai Oriental Arts Centre, Shanghai

11 May, 2018, 19:30

Nanjing Grand Theatre, Nanjing

12 May, 2018, 19.30

University of China Concert Hall, Beijing

TOUR REPERTOIRE

ORFF *Carmina burana* (arranged for 2 pianos and 4 percussion)

HANDEL *Messiah*: Hallelujah chorus.

HANDEL *Zadok the Priest*

VERDI *Nabucco*: Va, pensiero

BIZET *Carmen*: Toreador Song

MASCAGNI *Cavalleria Rusticana*: Easter Hymn

About the WASO Chorus

Formed in 1988 the WASO Chorus consists of over 100 auditioned choristers from Perth and surrounding areas, who give their time voluntarily. They rehearse weekly at Perth Concert Hall and will present 11 performances across 2018. The WASO Chorus regularly feature in the WASO annual concert season, and have developed a reputation for excellence in music ranging from Baroque to contemporary.

#Ends#

For further details please contact:

Luke Pownall

Public Relations Manager

West Australian Symphony Orchestra

Tel: (08) 9326 0061 **Mob: 0400 748 552**

pownall@waso.com.au