



ABC  
Classic FM



*to the Arts, Music  
Education & Community*

## MEDIA RELEASE

Embargoed until 9pm Thursday 18 August 2016

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### **MUSIC & OPERA SINGERS TRUST** takes over management of the **ABC YOUNG PERFORMERS AWARDS**

The ABC Young Performers Awards will return in 2017 following an agreement and ongoing partnership between the ABC and the Music & Opera Singers Trust Ltd (MOST). MOST will take over the management and staging of the competition whilst ABC Classic FM will continue to broadcast the awards, long recognized as Australia's premier awards for young classical performers. The Australian symphony orchestras will continue their long-term support through the provision of performance opportunities and prizes.

**MOST's Chief Executive Officer Roland Gridiger** said "We are thrilled to be presenting this prestigious competition for young talented musicians. The partnership with the ABC will ensure the continuing promotion and development of the next generation of Australia's best musical talent".

The ABC YOUNG PERFORMERS AWARDS format was developed in 1944 as a state-based competition run by the ABC supported by the State Symphony orchestras. Since 1997, the competition has grown under the stewardship of Symphony Australia and established a reputation as a launching pad for international careers.

"Australia's symphony orchestras have had a long and proud history of involvement in the competition and feel it is fitting that the Music and Opera Singers Trust take over the management of these Awards because they already manage a prestigious set of competitions for musicians and opera singers. Just like Symphony Australia, MOST's raison d'être is to promote excellence in the arts and music and to manage programs that recognise and develop creative potential," said **Kate Lidbetter, CEO of Symphony Australia**.

"We know MOST will do a great job in ensuring that the ABC Young Performers Awards continue to flourish and grow as well as playing a vital role in supporting the career development of the Finalists," said **ABC Classic FM Manager, Richard Buckham**.

In 2017/2018 the Venue Partner will be the Sydney Opera House and Presenting Partner the Sydney Symphony Orchestra.

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