

## MEDIA RELEASE



### **Brisbane State High graduate set for musical fame**

Upcoming rising star **Emily Newham** is “one of the brightest young talents I have seen in a decade,” says esteemed Senior Lecturer Mr Peter Luff from the Queensland Conservatorium of Music. At the tender age of 18 years old, Brisbane State High School graduate **Emily Newham** prepares for the biggest role of her musical career as Principal Horn in Schumann’s romantic masterpiece *Konzertstück* for 4 French Horns and Orchestra. This rare showpiece bristles with difficulty and requires four highly skilled players to master the work on Saturday 30 May 7pm at QPAC Concert Hall with the Queensland Youth Symphony.

**Emily Newham** has performed in some of Australia’s best orchestras and productions including Opera Australia’s ‘The King and I’ (2014), Queensland Pops Orchestra, Australian Youth Orchestra’s ‘The Flying Dutchman’ (2015), and the Creative Generation Excellence Awards in Instrumental Music (MOST). She achieved her A.MusA on horn at the age of 16, and was the 2013 QSEC Open Champion of Champions and Open French Horn Champion. Currently in her second year of study at the Queensland

Conservatorium of Music, Ms Newham believes being a part of Queensland Youth Orchestras has prepared her for professional work within an orchestra and as a soloist.

“Queensland Youth Orchestras has given me invaluable experience playing within an orchestra and cohesive horn section,” Ms Newham said.

“Whether that is stepping up as a leader, or blending and matching within the section, Queensland Youth Orchestras has provided me with fantastic skills I can use in my professional work.”

Inspired to continue studying music after high school, Ms Newham said it was her music teachers **Ms Ysolt Clark (private)** and **Mr Bill Barker (instrumental – Brisbane State High School)** who made her believe she could make a career out of it.

“I loved music from an early age and the support of my parents and music teachers **Ms Ysolt Clark** and **Mr Bill Barker** encouraged me to make the most of opportunities that came my way,” Ms Newham said. “One important thing I’ve learnt is that you don’t have to be a child prodigy to become an exceptional musician.

“If you are passionate about music and willing to practice and put in the hard work, the results will speak for themselves.”

**Emily Newham** will captivate audiences alongside three outstanding musicians **Tobias Hill, James Bradley and Trestan McMillan** from the Queensland Youth Symphony on Saturday 30 May 7pm at QPAC Concert Hall. The program will also feature Vaughan Williams magnificent work *A London Symphony*, and the world premiere of *Good Vibrations* by Melbourne-based composer Allan Zavod who has performed and composed with some of the world greats including jazz legend Duke Ellington, Grammy award-winning guitarist George Benson and trumpet virtuoso James Morrison.

The majority of the 100 members of the **Queensland Youth Symphony** are tertiary music students, brought together by their passion for orchestral playing, and combining their skills to form one of the world’s leading youth orchestras. QYS has its own subscription series, tours internationally every four years, and again in 2015 was named QPAC’s Youth Orchestra in Residence.

**Conductor John Curro AM MBE** founded QYS in 1966 and continues conducting the orchestra with authority and charisma, motivating the orchestra to musical greatness. As a respected figure through the Australian musical community and within the international landscape of youth music education, he has conducted many of Australia’s professional orchestras and various international orchestras including the London Virtuosi, the Shanghai Philharmonic Orchestra and the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra.

Tickets are available online through QTix, or by calling 136 246.

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For **interviews with Emily Newham** and more information, images or interviews please contact:

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