

# media release

Wednesday 19 October 2016



## RACT TO BECOME TSO PRINCIPAL PARTNER

The Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra today announced that the RACT, one of the orchestra's long-time corporate partners, will step up to the role of Principal Partner, effective from the start of 2017.

Principal Partner is the orchestra's highest category of corporate philanthropic support, signifying a special relationship between the TSO and the RACT.

Nicholas Heyward, TSO Managing Director, pointed out that the TSO and the RACT have long enjoyed a mutually beneficial partnership, most notably through *RACT Symphony under the Stars*, free outdoor concerts held every February in Hobart and Launceston.

"We were delighted to welcome the RACT as a Premier Partner in 2012 so are especially pleased that our relationship has deepened and matured to the extent that the RACT will now be taking on the role of Principal Partner," he said.

"As a not-for-profit arts organisation, the TSO is reliant upon funding from a range of sources, most notably the Australian Government through the Australia Council, and the State Government through Arts Tasmania and the Tasmanian Icon Program.

"But in order to perform to the highest level and carry out all of our activities, including education, outreach and community programs, we need to broaden our funding base, and this is where our corporate supporters and individual donors prove to be invaluable.

"We are therefore very excited that the RACT will be taking on this new, enhanced role as the TSO's Principal Partner."

Stacey Pennicott, Executive General Manger, Membership & Community at the RACT, said that the RACT was pleased to be able to further support the TSO through its Premier Partner sponsorship.

"The TSO is a well-respected and highly successful organisation providing Tasmanians with an outstanding program of performances. The ongoing success of the RACT's community *Symphony under the Stars* concerts in Hobart and Launceston

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has encouraged us to further support the TSO and the Tasmanian community in the delivery of the overall concert series.”

In welcoming the RACT as incoming Principal Partner, the TSO would like to acknowledge that Hydro Tasmania was the orchestra’s Principal Partner between 2013 and 2016.

Hydro Tasmania will be a Premier Partner of the TSO from the start of 2017 and will continue to support AccessTix, a highly successful program that distributes free concert tickets to Tasmanians experiencing disadvantage.

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