

media release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Jonathan Békés announced as new TSO Principal Cello



The TSO is delighted to announce the appointment of **Jonathan Békés** to the prestigious leadership role of **Principal Cello**. Originally from Sydney Jonathan joined the TSO in 2018. He started playing cello at 10 years old and studied at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music and the Australian National Academy of Music. Jonathan's appointment follows the 2019 retirement of his predecessor Sue- Ellen Paulsen, after an impressive 33-year tenure in the position.

Jonathan is in great demand as a performer, chamber musician and teacher across Australia and has taken his cello across the world, having performed across four different continents. He is a founding member of the world renowned Estivo Trio and plays regularly with the Australian World Orchestra, Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, and Sydney Symphony Orchestra. He has appeared as soloist with numerous orchestras around Australia including the Sydney Youth Orchestra and the Beecroft Orchestra.

In his spare time, Jonathan is a passionate Sydney Swans supporter and a committed Hobart Hurricanes enthusiast. He is a keen squash player, an avid golfer and loves to get outside to go hiking and mountain biking.

Jonathan Békés said, ‘To be Principal Cello of an Orchestra has been my dream for as long I can remember. I’m really looking forward to having a role in shaping the future sound and direction of the orchestra and taking the cello section into new realms. I’m looking forward to learning new things and improving my own playing and being able to do all of this in such a wonderful place surrounded by great people.’

TSO CEO Caroline Sharpen said, ‘We’re absolutely thrilled to have Jonathan move into this vital leadership role in the orchestra and we know he’ll continue to thrill audiences with his superb musicianship and charismatic stage presence.’

*The **Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra** has been inspiring, invigorating and entertaining audiences since 1948. Based in Hobart’s Federation Concert Hall, the 47-piece TSO performs an extensive and varied concert season in Hobart, a smaller season in Launceston as well as concerts elsewhere in Tasmania. The TSO enjoys a profile well beyond the shores of the island state, having taken out major national awards in recent years for performances and recordings. Further afield, the orchestra has toured Asia, Europe, North and South America and the Middle East.*

*Eager to connect with as many Tasmanians as possible, the TSO offers a wide-ranging education and outreach program and attracts diverse audiences to its highly successful Live Sessions concerts, which are given in sheds, microbreweries and other non-traditional venues. The TSO is at the forefront of nurturing the next generation of composers and conductors with intensive training programs such as the Australian Composers’ School, Australian Conducting Academy and Louise Crossley Conducting Workshop. A much-recorded orchestra, the TSO has over 80 CDs in its catalogue. For works which require choral forces, the TSO is joined by the TSO Chorus, an auditioned group of approximately 80 voices. **Eivind Aadland** is the orchestra’s Chief Conductor and Artistic Director.*

LINKS

- [Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra](#)

Press contact, including interview and image requests

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