



Australian String Quartet

MEDIA RELEASE

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Margaret River Weekend of Music **16th - 18th April 2010**

Inaugural weekend of captivating classical music, food and wine set in Australia's stunning Margaret River region



The Australian String Quartet (ASQ) has teamed up with Saracen Estates, Vasse Felix and Fraser Gallop Estate to bring you three days of indulgence in the beautiful Margaret River region of Western Australia.

Enjoy a program of four concerts performed by the ASQ and its guest artists – Emma-Jane Murphy (cello), Jurg Dähler (viola) Marshall McGuire (harp) and Greta Bradman (soprano) – in stunning winery settings, accompanied by gourmet lunches and dinners and matching wines.

Marshall McGuire - Australia's leading harpist and Executive Manager of Artistic Planning of the West Australian Symphony Orchestra, will host the weekend.

The weekend opens at Saracen Estates, located on the beautiful rolling hills of the famed sub-region of the Wilyabrup Valley. Enjoy canapés on arrival before the opening concert, followed by a three-course dinner at the winery prepared by leading chef Michael Dixon.

On Saturday continue to Vasse Felix for a concert in the Holmes à Court Gallery followed by a picnic lunch in the magnificent sculpture garden set among the vines. After lunch participate in a master-class with Virginia Willcock, the wine maker at Vasse Felix and visit Margaret River's Secret Garden with its flowering pear tree avenue, wisteria covered walls, heritage roses and a glorious range of Iris.

On Saturday evening the private estate of Fraser Gallop will be opened for an exclusive house concert followed by a gala dinner in the Barrel Hall prepared by another outstanding local chef Dany Angove.

The weekend concludes on Sunday with a late morning concert at Vasse Felix followed by lunch at the winery's restaurant prepared by award winning chef Aaron Carr.

Concert packages include:

CABERNET

\$880 per person includes admission to all four concerts, a souvenir program, participation in the wine master-class (limited places), entry to Margaret River's Secret Garden, 3 course dinner on Friday and Saturday evenings, Saturday picnic lunch and Sunday 3 course lunch, all served with matching wines.

SHIRAZ

\$550 per person includes admission to three concerts (Friday evening, Saturday lunch time and Sunday morning), a souvenir program, entry to Margaret River's Secret Garden, 3 course dinner on Friday and picnic lunch on Saturday all served with matching wines.

MERLOT

\$235 per person includes admission to two concerts (Saturday lunch time and Sunday morning), a souvenir program, and picnic lunch on Saturday including a glass of wine. Throughout the weekend there will be bus transfers from: Smiths Beach Resort, Cape Lodge, Indijup Spa Retreat and Caves House to the wineries and Secret Garden. Cost - \$30 per person inclusive of all transfers.

See attached brochure for more details.

Interview Opp: ASQ violist and former local Fremantle girl, Sally Boud is delighted to be returning to her hometown for this inaugural event. She is available to talk further about the program and about what she loves most about coming home.

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