

MUSICAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The first project of its kind in Australia, the MSO, in partnership with Deborah Cheetham AO and Short Black Opera, will develop a Musical Acknowledgement of Country for languages from across all 11 official language groups as identified by the Victorian Aboriginal Corporation for Languages.

Upon completion of the project, the MSO will gift sheet music, an MSO recording and Language Guides back to each community. With the permission of the local indigenous collaborators, the Musical Acknowledgments of Country will be freely available for use by schools, community ensembles and local venues.

“ This is a highly nuanced project... certain to become a template for all major orchestras in Australia. ”

– Deborah Cheetham AO



COLLABORATION WITH MELBOURNE MUSEUM'S RIVER OF LANGUAGE EXHIBITION (29 June – 16 October 2019)



— STAGE 1 January – June 2019 —

CONSULTATION AND COLLABORATION

Work with recognised Traditional Owner groups, individual language custodians and communities to make a translation of their Acknowledgement of Country text.

— STAGE 2 May – July 2019 —

WORKSHOPS & DEVELOPMENT

Deliver on-Country workshops with indigenous communities to develop a musical framework for the text.

— STAGE 3 August – September 2019 —

COMPOSITION

Deborah Cheetham AO will develop the musical composition to accompany each text.

— STAGE 4 September 2019 and beyond —

PRESENTATION

Eight on-Country premieres during the MSO's regional tour and in Melbourne at the MSO's Sidney Myer Free Concert Series in February 2020.

TOURING DESTINATION	LANGUAGE MSO WILL PERFORM	ON COUNTRY PREMIERE
● Ballarat	Wadawurrung	4 Oct 2019
● Bendigo	Dja Dja Wurrung	4 Nov 2019
● Hamilton	Gunditjmara	6 Nov 2019
● Horsham	Jardwadjali	5 Nov 2019
● Mildura	Ladjiladji	2020
● Shepparton	Yorta Yorta	3 Oct 2019
● Port Fairy	Gunditjmara	Late 2019
● Wangaratta	Bangerang & Way Wurru	2 Oct 2019
● Warragul	Ganai Kurnai	14 Sept 2019
● Warrnambool	Gunditjmara	7 Nov 2019
● Melbourne	Boon Wurrung	Feb 2020

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