

THE AUSTRALIAN WORLD ORCHESTRA ANNOUNCES THE APPOINTMENT OF HARISH RAO AS CHAIRMAN



DATE: Thursday 29 November, 2018

The Australian World Orchestra (AWO) is delighted to announce esteemed entrepreneur and business leader Harish Rao as the new Chair of the renowned orchestra, following the recent departure of Adrian Ahern.

A Patron of AWO since 2012, Harish Rao is currently the Global Head of Business Development at Sundaram Business Services and serves on the Board of Guide Dogs Victoria and the Advisory Board of the Australia India Institute.

Harish’s past achievements include roles as Victorian President of the Australia India Business Council and the Victorian Government Multicultural Business Advisory Council.

The announcement comes hot on the heels of AWO’s highly successful 2018 season, in Australia in May with Maestro Riccardo Muti, and a return tour of India in September which saw 52 musicians perform exhilarating concerts in Chennai, Mumbai and Kochi and embark on a number of education workshops.

Announcing the appointment, AWO Artistic Director Alexander Briger AO, said, “We’re tremendously excited to welcome Harish in his new role as Chairman. His expertise in business and international relations, coupled with his passion for the Australian World Orchestra’s vision will prove invaluable as we continue to grow our reputation as a world leading orchestra.”

Harish Rao said, "I was first exposed to the Australian World Orchestra in 2012 prior to the visit to Australia of Maestro Zubin Mehta. In late 2012, it was my privilege to accept the role as Patron alongside many other esteemed peers. Since that time I have been moved by the energy, passion and captivating music of this world-class orchestra. I am delighted to accept the role of Chairman and would like to take it to new heights in the years to come."

Following the sensational response to the Australian concerts with Riccardo Muti earlier this year, the **AWO** has announced its eclectic and bravura program for July 2019, under the baton of Alexander Briger, with the orchestra returning to the Arts Centre Melbourne and performing in Canberra for the first time as well as a one off performance in Sydney of **AWO SIX**, an elite ensemble of AWO all stars.

ABOUT THE AUSTRALIAN WORLD ORCHESTRA

Since its inaugural concert series in 2011, the AWO has established itself as one of the world’s leading orchestras, dazzling audiences in Australia and overseas and performing to over 45,000 music lovers. The AWO’s purpose is simple: to bring together in concert Australia’s finest orchestral musicians from around the world, while encouraging and developing young talent. United, the cream of Australia’s national and international musicians present performances of soul-stirring musicianship.

australianworldorchestra.com.au

For more information regarding this media release please contact

MIRANDA BROWN PUBLICITY

miranda@mbpublicity.com.au 03 9419 0931 / 0411 568 781