

Brass music as you've never heard it before: The Australian Brass Quintet tours regional NSW

26 April – 5 May 2017



The Australian Brass Quintet: Tristram Williams, David Elton, Ben Jacks, Scott Kinmont and Shannon Pittaway

“Sizzlingly intense” – The West Australian

From **26 April to 5 May 2017**, the **Australian Brass Quintet** tours regional New South Wales for Musica Viva with a program ranging from ancient songs of love and loss to the electrifying rhythms of West Side Story. Appearing in **Tamworth, Gunnedah, Coolah, Grafton and Dubbo**, the five celebrated brass players will also visit secondary schools, hold masterclasses and work with local ensembles such as the **Gunnedah Shire Band**.

“Leave all your expectations of brass music at the door,” says trombonist Scott Kinmont. “While brass instruments are known for being loud and exciting - and there will be a fair share of this in our concerts - they can also be sweet and lyrical.”

The program, **Street Song**, showcases the full spectrum of these expressive qualities, with music spanning over five hundred years - some written specifically for brass quintet, some arranged for this ensemble. “The songs from West Side Story have entered the public consciousness for good reason,” says Kinmont. “It’s simply great music that is as fresh today as it was sixty years ago when Bernstein wrote it. If you enjoy this music from the streets of New York, you’ll also find a lot to love in *Street Song* by Michael Tilson Thomas.”

“Not only are we playing these and other great pieces from recent times; we are also exploring some amazingly complex and beautiful music from fifteenth century Spain,” he continues. “Imagine trying to explain to Juan del Encina that his songs were going to be performed over five hundred years later, on a continent unknown to him.”

The quintet members are held in the highest regard as soloists and orchestral leaders, appearing regularly all over the world and teaching at the finest tertiary institutions. **David Elton** is Principal Trumpet with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra. **Tristram Williams** is an internationally renowned soloist and teacher with many years’ experience as Principal Trumpet with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra. **Ben Jacks** is Principal Horn and **Scott Kinmont** is Associate Principal Trombone of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, while **Shannon Pittaway** is Principal Bass Trombone of the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra.

Regional touring is a highlight for the group. As Kinmont explains: “You simply cannot recreate the live music experience - that ‘electricity’ that is generated in the room between the performers and their audience. Attempts to capture this has proved elusive for even the most expensive home theatres and stereo systems - why should this experience be limited to the big cities?”

Australian Brass Quintet

David Elton - trumpet
Tristram Williams - trumpet
Ben Jacks - horn
Scott Kinmont - trombone
Shannon Pittaway - bass trombone

Program

Street Song

Juan de ENCINA - Five Villancicos arr. Scott Kinmont
David STANHOPE – Three Australian Folk Songs for Quintet
Anders HILLBORG – Brass Quintet (1988)
Michael TILSON THOMAS - Street Song

Concerts

Fri 28 April	8:00pm	Tamworth Regional Conservatorium of Music Chapel Theatre, 223 - 227 Marius Street, Tamworth Bookings: ph. 6766 6911 http://www.tamworthregionalconservatorium.com.au/events/
Sat 29 April	6:00pm	Gunnedah Conservatorium 90 Barber St, Gunnedah Bookings: ph. 6742 3998 http://www.gunnedahconservatorium.com.au/articles/77
Sun 30 April	2:00pm	The Octagon, St Andrew's Cultural Centre, Coolah Bookings via Gunnedah Conservatorium: ph. 6742 3998 http://www.gunnedahconservatorium.com.au/articles/77
Tues 2 May	7:30pm	Christ Church Cathedral, Grafton Duke Street, Grafton Bookings via Clarence Valley Conservatorium: ph. 6643 3555 http://www.cvcon.com.au/what-s-on.html
Fri 5 May	7:30pm	Macquarie Conservatorium 72 Bultje St, Dubbo Bookings via Macquarie Conservatorium: ph. 6884 6686 http://www.macqcon.org.au/calendar.html

Since its formation in 1945, the not-for-profit national arts company Musica Viva Australia has delivered quality music to regional and remote areas around the country, ensuring all music lovers can experience live performances no matter where they live.