

Karin Schaupp and Umberto Clerici

'Spellbinding' guitar-cello duo reflects life in all its magic



Umberto Clerici and Karin Schaupp are bringing music from their acclaimed new album to Armidale (Image: Jack Dillon)

"Spellbinding" – Limelight Magazine

On **Thursday 5 April at 7:00pm**, the acclaimed guitar-cello duo **Karin Schaupp** and **Umberto Clerici** present an unmissable celebration of life and music at **Armidale Town Hall**. From gentle Spanish lullabies to fiery contemporary tunes, they reinvent beautiful melodies for the unique and intoxicating combination of cello and guitar. Based on their new album, *Wayfaring*, the performance is presented by Musica Viva Armidale and the New England Conservatorium of Music in association with Musica Viva Australia.

Schaupp and Clerici first shared a concert stage at the 2015 Musica Viva Festival in Sydney, where their pairing of guitar and cello proved a major hit. "We discovered a great musical affinity," says Schaupp. "Umberto is a very expressive performer and we both like to tell emotional stories through music. The guitar and cello 'sing' in the same register but with very different colours which complement each other well."

Their performance is a celebration of their first album together, *Wayfaring*, which has just been released on the ABC Classics label. "It focusses on songs and how they can illustrate our journey through life," she explains. "It's a gorgeous program of emotionally engaging and largely lyrical songs reconceived for cello and guitar. There are also some fiery Spanish and Latin pieces to round out the program and solos from each of us."

"Quite a few of the transcriptions were made for us for this project," she comments, describing the array of familiar tunes and new favourites that range from Schubert and Ravel to De Falla and Kats-Chernin. "They translate very well to the wordless voices of the cello and the guitar," she adds.

Of the upcoming tour, she says: "I have played in Armidale but it was a long time ago. It's been too long and I am looking forward to returning!"

ARIA Award winner **Karin Schaupp** is one of the most outstanding guitarists on the international scene, her playing hailed by the German press as "*so perfect, so complete, that it seems like a miracle*". In her teens she won prestigious international prizes in Italy and Spain, and is today sought after internationally as a recitalist, soloist and festival guest, making countless television and radio appearances. In 2003 she was awarded the Music Council of Australia Freedman Fellowship in recognition of her achievements, and in 2013 was awarded the prestigious Music Fellowship (2014-2015) from the Australia Council for the Arts. She is currently Head of Classical Guitar at the Queensland Conservatorium, Griffith University.

MEDIA RELEASE



Born in Turin, Italy, **Umberto Clerici** is a renowned soloist, chamber musician, principal cellist, educator and innovator. He has played as a soloist with orchestras worldwide, including the St Petersburg Philharmonic, the Russian State Orchestra of Moscow, Philharmonia Wien and the orchestras of Rome, Milan and Florence. He has performed in some of the most prestigious concert halls, such as Carnegie Hall in New York, the Musikverein in Vienna and the Great Shostakovich Hall in Saint Petersburg. In 2009 he was appointed Principal Cello at the Teatro Regio in Turin, a role he held until leaving Europe for Australia in 2014, to take up the positions of Principal Cellist of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra and Lecturer in Cello at the University of Sydney.

CONCERT: Thursday 5 April 2018, 7:00pm | Armidale Town Hall, 127 Rusden St Armidale

Bookings and further details: <https://necom.org.au/event/karin-schaupp-and-umberto-clerici/>

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 experience live performances no matter where they live.

Media Enquires: Adele Schonhardt, Media & Communications Manager, Musica Viva Australia
E aschonhardt@musicaviva.com.au | T (03) 9645 5092 | M 0457 727 379