

Melbourne Guitar Quartet  
**HARMONIC INSPIRATION**

Tuesday 5 July 6pm, Salon

Presented by Melbourne Recital Centre and Melbourne Guitar Quartet

LOCAL  
HEROES

## ARTISTS

Jeremy Tottenham, guitar

Benjamin Dix, guitar

Dan McKay, guitar

Michael MacManus, guitar

## PROGRAM

### ANTONIO VIVALDI (1678-1741)

Concerto No.4 for 4 violins & cello RV550 from *L'estro Armonico* [arrangement by Benjamin Dix]

I *Andante*

II *Allegro assai*

III *Adagio*

IV *Allegro*

Concerto No.10 for 4 violins & cello RV580 from *L'estro Armonico* [arrangement by Benjamin Dix]

I *Allegro*

II *Largo–Larghetto*

III *Allegro*

### JOAQUÍN RODRIGO (1901-1999)

Selections from *Concierto Madrigal* [arrangement by Benjamin Dix]

I *Fanfare*

II *Madrigal*

III *Entrada*

V *Girardilla*

VII *Fandango*

IX *Zapateado*

X *Cadenza y Andante Nostalgico*

## ABOUT THE MUSIC

As one of the main protagonists of the fast-slow-fast 'Italian Concerto' style, Vivaldi's concertos explore a rich tapestry of vibrant energetic *ritornellos*, mysterious conversational melodies and surging arpeggios. Highly rhythmic first movements are nothing less than characteristic of Vivaldi's writing, with refined melodies, shimmering arpeggios and unceasing forward momentum. Vivaldi's more delicate and lyrical side is thoroughly explored throughout the 'middle movements' as gentle singing melodies between the soloists appear to dance elegantly above the continuo lines. 'Fast, energetic and somewhat relentless' best describe the final movement of each concerto, swinging between strong rhythmic tutti passages, glistening arpeggios and driving solo lines equate to a finale fit for the end of any concerto.

Intended for and commissioned in 1966 by the iconic husband and wife guitar duo, Alexandre Lagoya & Ida Presti, the premiere of Rodrigo's *Concierto Madrigal* came in 1970 at the hands of Pepe and Angel Romero. Perhaps more of a suite than a traditional concerto, the *Concierto* is based upon an early Renaissance madrigal, '*Felices ojos mios*' [Happy Eyes of Mine] in which Rodrigo threads between each of the ten movements or 'episodes'. Originally scored for two guitars and orchestra, Melbourne Guitar Quartet's adaptation is one of the group's most ambitious undertakings to this date. Nothing captures the quintessential imagery and voice of Spain more than four guitars.

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## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Formed in 2005, **Melbourne Guitar Quartet (MGQ)** is a vibrant guitar based ensemble dedicated to the development of chamber music repertoire for the instrument. Utilising the unique concept of the Guitar Family of instruments (classical bass guitar, baritone guitar, standard guitar, treble guitar and octave guitar), the award-winning MGQ are continuously cultivating ground-breaking arrangements of major works for this idiom. MGQ exhibit the broader timbral spectrum of the instruments through use of the Guitar Family, while at times incorporating some percussion and other unique instrumentation into their arrangements. Embodying a dynamic and theatrical on-stage musical persona, MGQ is pursuing the genre seriously, aiming to welcome audiences who are curious about hearing new music and established favourites through the rich, vibrant and beautiful sound of the guitar quartet.

MGQ has once again undergone a new line up for 2016 welcoming into the group Melbourne based musician, Michael MacManus and saying farewell to long serving member Tonié Field.

*MGQ wish to thank and acknowledge the support of Hannabach Strings GmbH and Cut Common magazine.*

[www.mgq.com.au](http://www.mgq.com.au)

## NEXT CONCERT

**Americana**

Melbourne Guitar Quartet

Tuesday 15 November 6pm, Salon

For more information and tickets, please visit [melbournerecital.com.au/heroes](http://melbournerecital.com.au/heroes)

## ABOUT LOCAL HEROES 2016

Local Heroes is the easiest way to rediscover your love of chamber music or take delight in experiencing it for the first time. From strings to piano, early music to contemporary, art song to tango, there's something for every musical taste. This year *Local Heroes* showcases 19 acclaimed ensembles in 44 concerts in the award-winning acoustics of Melbourne Recital Centre's Salon and Elisabeth Murdoch Hall. Want to get to know the artists and learn more about the music they love to perform? Visit [localheroes.melbourne](http://localheroes.melbourne) to discover more.



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