

MEDIA RELEASE

Euan Murdoch to step down as CEO of Melbourne Recital Centre

EMBARGOED UNTIL 12PM TUESDAY 9 AUGUST

Andrea Hull AO, Chair of Melbourne Recital Centre's Board, has today announced that Euan Murdoch will step down as CEO and return home to New Zealand in the new year.

Euan will depart Melbourne Recital Centre at the end of February 2023, after more than six years leading the Centre.

On Euan's leadership and tenure, Andrea said: 'Euan has led Melbourne Recital Centre with distinction, bringing together a cohesive and creative team which presented a diversified program attracting new audiences and enhanced patronage. His tenure included the unprecedented pandemic which caused major disruptions to our program. Euan's calm and effective leadership engendered the loyalty of staff, audiences, patrons and musicians. He returns to New Zealand with our deep gratitude.'

During his time as CEO, Euan has championed the wellbeing of the Melbourne Recital Centre team, nurtured local artists with new performance opportunities, led the Centre's 10th birthday celebrations and hosted stars of the highest calibre including Gabrieli Consort and Players, The Sixteen, Jordi Savall and Xavier Diaz-Latorre, and delivered \$2 million in donations since March 2020 for the Centre's *Local Artist Appeal* to support the organisation's work in creating employment and performance opportunities for independent local artists, and leading the recovery of our industry during the pandemic.

Reflecting on his time leading the Centre, Euan said:

'After six and a half wonderful years at the helm of my favourite place to experience live music, it is time to return home to Aotearoa to pursue new opportunities. The Centre's success during this time would not have been possible without the support of our incredible artists, passionate audiences, generous supporters and terrific staff. I am proud of the inspiring artists who have graced our stages - from Academy of St Martin in the Fields to Baker Boy and The Wiggles. I am delighted to have welcomed new audiences of all ages and stages to the Centre and welcomed back familiar faces almost every night of the week.'

Euan also expressed his gratitude to the Centre's donor community and staff, and looks forward to the organisation's future:

'I am grateful to our supporters, who helped us raise \$2 million to support local musicians and ensembles during the pandemic. And of course, all of this is thanks to the Melbourne Recital Centre team, who really are the best in the business and dedicated to making the Centre the best we can be. The Centre's future is very bright indeed, and I look forward to seeing how it evolves in its next chapter.'

Steve Dimopoulos, Minister for Creative Industries, thanked Euan for his contribution to Victoria's music offering and cultural life:

'Euan has led Melbourne Recital Centre with passion and enthusiasm, cementing Melbourne Recital Centre as a stand-out venue to experience live music in Victoria. His commitment to our creative community has been unwavering and I thank him for his contribution.'

Melbourne Recital Centre has commenced the recruitment process to find its next CEO. Please contact Mary Jo Capps AM for more information: maryjo@mjcapps.com.au | mjcapps.com.au | 0414 441 221

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