



ABOUT THE ARTISTS

The name **James Morrison** is known throughout the world for his sheer brilliance as a jazz musician and an all round entertainer. He is constantly on the move, touring everywhere and anywhere fine music has an audience. His CDs are best sellers and James works with the cream of the world's best performers. Ray Brown calls him 'The Genius' but Wynton Marsalis said it best: 'Man, James Morrison can play!' Morrison is, by anybody's standard, a virtuoso. Besides the trumpet, this multi-instrumentalist also plays trombone, euphonium, flugel horn, tuba, saxophones, double bass and piano. James has been recognised for his service to the arts in Australia by being appointed a Member of the Order of Australia, with particular mention of his contribution to music education. In 2015, James established the James Morrison Academy of Music in Mount Gambier, South Australia, an innovative school dedicated to teaching jazz and offering an Associate Degree in Music. This exciting initiative involves educators from all over the world, transforming young musicians' lives with inspiration and a love of jazz.

The **James Morrison Academy Jazz Orchestra (JMAJO)** is the premier performing ensemble of the internationally acclaimed James Morrison Academy program. The JMAJO, a 20 piece jazz big band, is noted for exceptional individual musicianship and tight ensemble performance. JMAJO concerts feature standards made famous by international jazz greats, original compositions and arrangements by Australian artists and the wealth of new work written by current and former James Morrison Academy students. Although only founded in 2015, the JMAJO tours Australia every year visiting major venues in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, the Gold Coast and Adelaide. Outreach is a large part of the JMAJO touring schedule and the group enjoys workshopping and performing with primary and secondary schools all around Australia. In addition, the JMAJO has an active gigging schedule of corporate events, community and university events and performances in their local area of Mount Gambier, South Australia. To date, the JMAJO has performed alongside Grammy-winner Wycliffe Gordon, Grammy-nominee the One O'Clock Lab Band, Aria-winner Kate Ceberano, Australian Jazz Award nominee Olivia Chindamo and acclaimed Australian vocalists Sarah McKenzie and Anthony Callea.

Melbourne Recital Centre acknowledges the people of the Kulin Nation on whose land this concert is being presented.



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