



# REVOLUTION A MUSIC ADVENTURE FROM THE BARRICADES OF TIME

27 APRIL – 7 MAY 2017

[cimf.org.au](http://cimf.org.au)

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## PRESS RELEASE

### All Things Vocal

#### For immediate release

Our Festival in Canberra has always distinguished itself by generous lashings of vocal music. This year is no exception. Indigenous singers, singers from China, the best vocal groups in this country, a Canberra based new vocal group, the Russian Orthodox Choir from Sydney and so much more take part in this year's event.

The 2017 Festival also brings together this country's very best choral directors: Richard Gill, inimitable in his wit, passion and dedication; Gordon Hamilton, the director of Australian Voices, and himself a new voice on ABC Classic FM; Roland Peelman, our very own Artistic Director with an enviable track record of 25 years with The Song Company; and last but not least, his successor at The Song Company, the English composer and director Antony Pitts.

There is not enough space here to describe the breath and wealth of vocal repertoire in the festival. It ranges from Rachmaninoff's rarely heard *Liturgy of St John Chrysostom*, a monument of the Orthodox liturgy, to Schubert's *Shepherd on the Rock*, to Handel's *Birthday Ode for Queen Anne*, alongside Bach Cantatas and Shostakovich's achingly beautiful *Romances on Alexander Blok*, a testament of faith in artistic endeavour in the face of unimaginable obstacles.

On the last day of the festival, Australian Voices bring us *Singing Prime Ministers*, Robert Davidson's acclaimed cycle of political speeches. And the first day of the Festival brings you not only the voices of oppression in the not-to-be missed free event 'Written in Blood', featuring a discussion on Blok and Shostakovich, but a bold statement that starts the Opening Gala performance. For the first time in our history, Beaver Blaze will be a new vocal work on *White Australia*, a blistering poem by Oodgeroo Noonuccal. It finishes with:

*The best of every race  
Should here find welcome place;  
The colour of his face  
Is no man's test of worth.*

**Tickets now available - book online @**

[www.cimf.org.au](http://www.cimf.org.au)

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#CIMF2017

For more information about the 2017 Canberra International Music Festival, please contact Marketing Coordinator Krista Vincent on 6182 0023 or [krista.vincent@cimf.org.au](mailto:krista.vincent@cimf.org.au)