Festival of Voices returns to warm souls, make spirits soar

Accredited Workshops offered by UTAS

Workshops, Weekend Courses and Performances open to all

The Festival of Voices has expanded its programs in 2010 to appeal to students, proficient singers, amateur singers and those who just like to watch!

Now in its sixth year, Festival of Voices attracts outstanding international and local artists to generously convey their talent in a program embracing one, four and five day workshops, a professional development program and a short course vocal program – all giving an outstanding opportunity to learn new vocal skills and sing with your friends.

One of this year’s very special guest artists is Californian Austin Willacy (pictured above), a singer-songwriter and leading light of American Contemporary A Cappella who has appeared with such greats as Ray Charles and James Brown and contemporary stars, Jem, Rachael Yamagata and Amos Lee. Austin is a member of The House Jacks, a groundbreaking vocal rock band with whom he has produced seven full-length albums, conducted international master classes and toured extensively internationally.

Austin Willacy is heading to Tasmania from 7 - 11 July to teach in one location only, Tasmania’s Festival of Voices, where he will lead workshops and a short course in Contemporary A Cappella. His visit will culminate in a not-to-be-missed concert performance at Hobart’s beautiful St David’s Cathedral on Friday 9 July and a Festival Finale appearance at the Tasmanian Concert Hall on Sunday 11 July.

Also joining the stellar line-up of guest teachers and artists taking part this year are:

- 2009 Festival of Voices stars Myron Butler and Timberlyn Butler from the USA, returning by popular demand. These Grammy award-winning singer-songwriters, recording artists and inspirational teachers will again lead the festival Gospel Major Workshop.
- One of the most respected and accomplished figures in Australian classical music, the conductor and operatic choral director, Simon Kenway, who will teach this year's Opera/Choral Major Workshop.
- Lyn Williams, the inspirational founder and Artistic Director of the Gondwana Choirs, including the renowned Sydney Children's Choir and Gondwana Voices which perform regularly with such leading ensembles as the Sydney Symphony and Australian Chamber Orchestra. Lyn will lead this year's Young Voices program.
- A stroke of programming genius will see three of Australia’s best-loved community choir directors - Kavisha Mazzella (La Voce Della Luna Italian Women’s Choir), Tony Backhouse (Café at the Gate of Salvation) and Stephen Taberner (Spooky Men’s Chorale) - team up for a sensational day-long workshop as well as individual workshops and performances.

Workshops and performances are booking fast. Full program details and bookings at: www.festivalofvoices.com