

MEDIA RELEASE

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BENAUD BOYS DELIVER HAT-TRICK

The **Benaud Trio** is establishing itself as a major player in Melbourne's classical music scene by launching their own **concert series** in 2007. Three concerts will take place at the Collins Street Baptist Church with the first on Monday April 16 at 7pm. 'Melbourne has become the chamber music capital of Australia and we're thrilled to be a part of it' said pianist Amir Farid, winner of the 2006 Australian National Piano Award.

The Benauds have made a big impression on the Australian **cricketing community** performing at the Boxing Day Test and at the launch of the Steve Waugh Foundation in Sydney. Despite all the excitement and extra publicity, cricket is not the main game for this prize-winning group. 'Although we named ourselves after cricketing patriarch Richie Benaud, it doesn't mean that we are not one-hundred percent serious about classical music' said violinist Lachlan Bramble. 'We spend a lot more time practicing our scales than our bowling!'

Each concert in the series will begin with a work by one of the classical masters. 'Since this is our first concert series we thought this would be a great place to start. We owe a lot to those guys!' said pianist Amir Farid. The Benaud Trio are equally at home performing music of the 20th and 21st centuries. Listeners will also be able to enjoy music of living Australian composers at each concert including the Melbourne Premiere of Matthew Hindson's new Piano Trio. The first concert also includes Alfred Schnittke's *Piano Trio*, an intense piece of music not for the faint hearted. 'We've made sure that each concert has something for everyone' said cellist Ewen Bramble.

The Benaud Trio rose to national prominence after winning the Piano Trio prize at the 2005 Australian Chamber Music Competition. In June 2006 the Benauds completed a three week residency at the Banff Centre in Canada, performing several times in the Banff Summer Arts Festival. The trio are now 'Musicians in Residence' at 3MBS FM.

Benaud Trio Concert 1: Mozart Plus

Monday April 16, 7pm, Collins Street Baptist Church, Melbourne

Tickets: \$40/\$32

Mozart: Piano Trio in C major K.548

Ross Edwards: Piano Trio (1998)

Arvo Pärt: Mozart-Adagio

Alfred Schnittke: Trio (1985/1992)

Book online at www.3mbsboxoffice.com or phone 1300 884 654

Ends

For further information please contact:

Lachlan Bramble

P 0422 017 929

E benaudtrio@gmail.com

W www.benaudtrio.com