

# MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 30.03.09

CULTURAL INFUSION &  
MELBOURNE RECITAL CENTRE PRESENT:

## A RUSSIAN EASTER VIGIL

WITH GUEST BARITONE PROTODEACON NICHOLAS TRIANTAFILLIDIS

Cultural Infusion has collaborated with the newly opened Melbourne Recital Centre to present a *Russian Easter Vigil* on Easter Saturday as part of festival *Walk to the Field of Stars – A Musical Pilgrimage* that celebrates the music of the Christian Holy Week and Jewish Passover. David Barmby, Melbourne Recital Centre Artistic Administrator says that **“The Festival has been designed not so much as a festival of sacred music from around the world, but as an opportunity for us all to “walk” the narrative of darkness to light.”**

The *Russian Easter Vigil* features Melbourne Cappella performing in the tradition of Imperial Court Cappella choirs, under the direction of Nicholas Cowall, Australia's leading interpreter and promoter of Russian Choral Repertoire. They will be joined by guest soloist Protodeacon Nicholas Triantafillidis (USA) and recorded bell chimes from the great Russian Cathedrals. The concert will take the audience on a musical journey starting with the preparatory penitential weeks before Great Lent, through the 40 days of Lent to the festive and joyous music of Easter.

In the one-thousand-year history of Christian Russia, choral music and bell ringing has played a prominent role in the rich cultural **fabric of Russia's major religion Orthodoxy**. Russian composers from Mussorgsky to Rachmaninov have had a fascination with bells and have incorporated their rhythmic interplay into their sacred compositions.

This unique late evening performance will be accompanied by a multimedia presentation and lighting themes by Dr Allan Chawner, Associate Professor and senior lecturer in Photomedia at the University of Newcastle to create a sense of place and occasion in an intimate concert setting. A free pre-concert talk will be given by Artistic Administrator David Barmby 45 minutes before the performance.

10:30pm Saturday 11 April, 2009

Elisabeth Murdoch Hall  
Melbourne Recital Centre  
31 Sturt Street, Southbank

A res \$60 (\$50 conc) B res \$50 (\$40 conc)

75 mins (no interval)

[9:45pm – Free Pre-Concert Talk]

Cultural Infusion is a national, not-for-profit, intercultural arts organization. Please visit [www.culturalinfusion.com](http://www.culturalinfusion.com) for more information.

For media enquires regarding the *Russian Easter Vigil* please contact Emily Kocaj from Cultural Infusion on 03 9412 6666

For more information and bookings, go to [www.melbournerecital.com.au](http://www.melbournerecital.com.au) or call the Box Office on 03 9699 3333



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