Australian National Academy of Music

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MEDIA RELEASE

WINNER ANNOUNCED: **KARAJAN ACADEMY PLACE (BERLIN)**





The Australian National Academy of Music (ANAM) has announced violinist Harry Ward as the winner of the 2021/2022 Karajan Academy place under ANAM's International Academy Program.

"After an intense virtual audition process, we are pleased to announce Harry as the third recipient of a place in the Karajan Academy as part of ANAM's ongoing partnership with the Berlin based organisation" said ANAM Artistic Director Nick Deutsch. "Throughout his time at ANAM, Harry has displayed all the necessary skills to fulfil such a role to the highest level. He is an exceptionally talented violinist, accomplished chamber musician and skilled orchestral player. He has proven his leadership potential and we believe he will excel in Berlin surrounded by a collection of the world's finest musicians as colleagues and mentors, alongside opportunities to perform in one of the world's great orchestras."

Harry's two-year position will commence in Berlin from early 2021 and will include classes, mentorship and chamber music with long-standing and experienced members of the Berliner Philharmoniker, plus a significant number of performances with the orchestra.

"I'm incredibly honoured and thankful for this wonderful opportunity" said Harry. "The Berliner Philharmoniker is such an inspiring musical environment and an orchestra l've grown up listening to. I'm so fortunate to get a glimpse into their world and what makes it so special."

The prestigious placement for ANAM musicians is made possible by the generous support of Naomi Milgrom AO and Harrold Mitchell.

In what has been a challenging year, Harry welcomes this new chapter and is excited for the opportunity: "Thank you ANAM for all of your support and thank you to Naomi Milgrom and Harrold Mitchell – I am so very grateful, and can't tell you how much it means to me!"

ANAM's International Academy Program aims to deliver professional development opportunities to ANAM musicians and alumni in the world's leading orchestras, ensembles and academies, and includes partnerships with the Karajan Academy, Mahler Chamber Orchestra and the Orchestra Academy of the Bayerisches Staatsorchester.

The partnership between ANAM and the Karajan Academy was established in 2016, and past recipients of the two-year placement dedicated to an ANAM musician include violinists Harry Bennetts, currently Associate Concertmaster at Sydney Symphony Orchestra, and violinist Riley Skevington who finishes his time at the Academy in January 2021.

Images: Harry Ward (photos by Pia Johnson)

ABOUT HARRY WARD

Harry is an accomplished violinist, already in demand as a soloist, concertmaster and chamber musician for performances in Australia and internationally. Solo appearances include with the Xiamen Philharmonic, Hangzhou Philharmonic, Orquesta Sinfónica de Michoacán and Tasmanian Symphony Orchestras. An avid chamber musician, Harry is a founding member of the Rathdowne Quartet and has performed alongside members of the Emerson, Michelangelo, Ehnes, Australian string quartets and in concert with the late Joseph Silverstein. In 2017, Harry was invited to perform at the Rome Chamber Music Festival which included performances with Edgar Meyer, playing Meyer's string quintet and performances with members of the Venice Baroque Orchestra.

In 2019, Harry performed with the Australian Chamber Orchestra as part of their Emerging Artists programme where he worked closely with Helena Rathbone. For 2020-21, Harry is honoured to be selected as a Futuremaker with Musica Viva where he will participate in a series of 'intensives' across the two-year program, receiving strategic mentoring from leading artists, directors, consultants and representatives from a diverse array of artistic and professional sectors.

Harry has won many prizes in various competitions, including winner of the Australian National Youth Concerto Competition, the award for Best Performance of New Zealand Commissioned Work at the Michael Hill International Violin Competition and as a finalist in the ABC Young Performers Awards and 11th International Competition of Young Violinists in Honor of K. Lipiński and H. Wieniawski.

Harry is currently studying in Melbourne with Dr Robin Wilson at the Australian National Academy of Music (ANAM). He previously studied with Professor Boris Kuschnir at the Kunstuniversität Graz and Amy Schwartz-Moretti at the Robert McDuffie Center for Strings. Harry grew up in Sydney where he studied with Professor Peter Zhang and Professor Alice Waten at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music.

Harry plays a 1780 Pietro Antonio Landolfi violin, kindly on loan from an anonymous benefactor.

ABOUT ANAM

The **Australian National Academy of Music (ANAM)** is dedicated to training the most exceptional young musicians from Australia and New Zealand. It is a place in which musicians fulfil their potential as music leaders, distinguished by their skill, imagination and courage, and by their determined contribution to a vibrant music culture.

With an outstanding track record of success, ANAM alumni work in orchestras and chamber ensembles around the world, perform as soloists, contribute to educating the next generation of musicians and receive major national and international awards.

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