



New South Wales

**MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES
MINISTER FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES
MINISTER FOR MINERAL RESOURCES**



**SYDNEY SYMPHONY ANNOUNCES FIRST-EVER VISIT TO BROKEN HILL
AS PART OF ITS 2006 TOURING PROGRAM**

For the first time the Sydney Symphony's annual regional tour will head to the State's far west, with a special regional benefit concert in Broken Hill.

The Sydney Symphony and the NSW Government today announced details of the 2006 Regional Tour and the Broken Hill "Outback" performance.

"This is the third straight year the NSW Labor Government and the Sydney Symphony have joined forces to raise money for rural charities through a special benefit performance," said Ian Macdonald, Minister for Primary Industries, Natural Resources and Mineral Resources.

"This year's 'Outback' concert on May 27 will see the Sydney Symphony musicians travel to Broken Hill for the first time in its 74-year history.

"With the help of corporate sponsors, we aim to raise around \$50,000 which will be divided equally among the Royal Flying Doctors service, the School of the Air, and the Gallipoli Memorial Foundation."

Libby Christie, Managing Director of the Sydney Symphony, said the performance will be a highlight of the upcoming 2006 regional tour.

"This year the Sydney Symphony will visit eight regional towns performing in hospitals, schools, concert halls and theatres," Ms Christie said. "This will take us to Tamworth, Coffs Harbour, Taree, Armidale, Newcastle, Orange, Bathurst and of course Broken Hill."

A total of 75 Sydney Symphony musicians will travel to Broken Hill on two specially chartered planes along with two tonnes of instruments. The Symphony will once again be led by Chief Conductor and Artistic Director, Maestro Gianluigi Gelmetti.

"Each year our musicians look forward to visiting regional centres," Ms Christie said. "Over the past few years we have had the added enjoyment of helping local communities experiencing challenging times, thanks to the support of Minister Macdonald and many generous sponsors."

The 2006 Sydney Symphony's annual regional tour is made possible by the NSW Government through the NSW Ministry for the Arts, the NSW Department of Primary Industries and the NSW Department for Natural Resources; BHP Billiton; Regional Express Airlines; Xstrata Coal; Country Energy; Cadia Valley Operations; Telstra; Allco; Snowy Hydro Ltd; St. George Bank; the Broken Hill Council; and the Federal Government through the Australia Council for the Arts.

Tickets for the 2006 Broken Hill concert go on sale today and are priced from \$48 standard, \$38 concession for to seniors, students and under 20s. To book a ticket please contact the box office at Broken Hill on 08 8080-2222 from Mon-Fri 9am- 5pm.

Sydney Symphony Regional Tour Schedule 2006:

30 March	Sydney Symphony Brass Ensemble	Tamworth
31 March	Sydney Symphony Brass Ensemble	Coffs Harbour
1 April	Sydney Symphony Brass Ensemble	Taree
21 April	Mozart Performance	Armidale
22 April	Mozart Performance	Newcastle
27 May	Special "Outback" Benefit Concert	Broken Hill
30 June	Regional Tour	Orange
1 July	Regional Tour	Bathurst