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## **PRESS RELEASE**

## A Christmas Concert - Couch Style!

"Couch Opera Live" is a new performance platform founded in 2020 in Western Australia, by Western Australian artists to showcase the artistry and beauty of the human voice.

Getting into the Christmas spirit, the "Couch Opera Live Christmas Special" will finish "Couch Opera Live's" first year off with a bang. With opera stars, musical theatre singers and plenty of Christmas carols and songs the concert will be lived streamed on 19 December 6pm AWST.

Performing will be world class artists such as French Baritone Richard Rittelmann, a good friend of opera star Roberto Alagna. Richard has extensive repertoire having performed principal roles in several prestigious opera company around the world, such as the role of Idomineo in the Opera Garnier in Paris, in Ariadne auf Naxos at Opera de Nice, in Werther at Regio Torino, and in Manon at Hong Kong Opera.

Other artists include emerging Australian bass-baritone Christopher Curcuruto who is currently A Lesley Studio Artist with Fort Worth Opera in Texas, German/Australian soprano Anna Voshege (based in Austria), UK based soprano Isabelle Freeman who has drawn acclaim in the USA as a "radiant" (Seen & Heard International) an "beautifully sensitive" (Australian Stage) artist, award winning Australian soprano Livia Brash (currently based in Germany), as well as Tom Green who started in roles such as Chris (Miss Saigon), Bok (Wicked), and Raoul (Phantom of the Opera).

Returning artists include Polish tenor Hubert Stolarski who has performed extensively in Europe and has taken part in the prestigious "Wuzhen Theatre Festival" in China and "The Festival Opera Tigre" in Argentina, musical theatre soprano and graduate of the acclaimed New York University Eimear Foley, soprano Daniella Sicari praised for her "...warmth and outstanding accuracy and attack..." (The Art), alumni of the prestigious Pacific Opera company and Couch Opera Live cofounder Jillian Halleron, as well as Couch Opera Live founder Magda Lisek praised for her "...trumpet-like tones...unerringly accurate and crystal clear, with impact beyond her stature and years." (The West Australian).

The concert will take you to a Christmas wonderland. In France, Richard's performance shows us the beauty and magic of a white Christmas. While on the opposite side of the world in Australia we delight in a summer Christmas drinking white wine at the beach.

All performers have been affected by the widespread cancellation of live events due to the Covid-19 pandemic, and Couch Opera Live aims to fundraise to support the artists performing. All artists will directly benefit from your donation.

For more information and updates please see: <a href="https://www.couchoperalive.com">www.couchoperalive.com</a>