

Passion

AUSTRALIAN EXCLUSIVE

Sydney Chamber Opera, Australia/The Netherlands/Belgium



Photo: Lalo Gonzalez of Elise Caluwaerts

"Pascal Dusapin's music tests mind and body"
New York Times

"by treating opera as vital, modern art, he's made the company into one of the world's best" in relation to Pierre Audi's appointment at the Dutch National Opera.
LA Times

Sydney Festival and Sydney Chamber Opera present *Passion*, an international collaboration with acclaimed theatre and opera director **Pierre Audi**.

Belgian actress and model turned soprano **Elise Caluwaerts** will be making her Australian debut alongside award-winning Dutch baritone **Wiard Without**. Together the soloists will trace the doomed voyage of mythical lovers Orpheus and Eurydice in a 21st century take on **Monteverdi's L'Orfeo** from French composer **Pascal Dusapin**.

Pascal Dusapin is renowned for his supple melodies, complex textures and mastery of the human voice, *Passion* is his sixth opera. Dusapin spoke of his inspiration from Monteverdi in an interview with Le Figaro where he said *"I have a profound relationship with this period in musical history, which greatly resembles our own in its taste and its experimental research"*.

Pierre Audi founded London's cutting edge Almeida Theatre in 1979 just two years after he left Oxford University. Audi has gone on to become the Artistic Director for Dutch National Opera (1988 – present), The Holland Festival (2005-2014) and New York's cultural institution Park Avenue Armory. Not shy to have multiple commitments Audi told New York Times *"I'm not doing too many things; I'm doing one thing...Each thing feeds another -- working with a visual artist invokes music, dance connects with opera, opera connects with theater, theater connects with poetry, literature and film -- those things are constantly swirling."*

Founded in 2010, Sydney Chamber Opera is critically acclaimed for creating compelling and innovative programming with a strong focus on ensuring that opera resonates with new and younger audiences.

Performed with Sydney's daring contemporary opera company, Sydney Chamber Opera with Pierre Audi at the helm, scaling the heights of *Passion* will be an experience not to be missed.

Soloists	Elise Caluwaerts and Wiard Without
Directed by	Pierre Audi
Conducted by	Jack Symonds
Revival direction by	Miranda Lakerveld

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Where City Recital Hall
When 14 & 15 January, 8.00pm
Duration 90 minutes
Price Premium \$109
A Reserve \$89/\$80
B Reserve \$55/\$50
Bookings Sydney Festival 1300 856 876
City Recital Hall 02 8256 2222
<http://sydneyfestival.org.au/passion>

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Performed in Italian with English subtitles.

Pre-show verbal description on 15 January at 7.30pm.



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