From Bach to Westlake: acclaimed Australian guitar quartet perform at WAAPA

The Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts is pleased to present, for one concert only, the award-winning Melbourne Guitar Quartet performing music from their critically acclaimed debut CD, Four Elements, in the Music Auditorium on Friday 21 August at 7.30pm.

Formed in 2005, the Melbourne Guitar Quartet (MGQ) is an energetic, ground-breaking ensemble featuring prize-winning artists from the Victorian College of the Arts.

Currently featuring founding members Jeremy Tottenham and Peter Karutz, 2004 Kingston Arts Fellowship Grant recipient Ben Dix, and Antony Field, Head of Guitar at the Victorian College of the Arts, MGQ is dedicated to the development of chamber music repertoire for the guitar.

The four musicians arrange and perform music for the full range of instruments in the guitar family – including the classical bass guitar, baritone guitar, standard guitar, treble guitar and octave guitar – and percussion instruments.

MGQ is the recipient of numerous awards, including 1st prize in the Athenaeum Chamber Music Prize at the Victorian College of the Arts and the Cone of Silence for most popular act at the 2008 Quiet Music Festival.

For their Perth performance at WAAPA, MGQ will play an excitingly eclectic program of new and premiere arrangements of works that span the musical eras, from Toccata and Fugue in D minor by Johann Sebastian Bach to Omphalo Centric Lecture by leading Australian composer, Nigel Westlake.

The concert will also feature William Walton’s spirited Three Bagatelles, excerpts from Astor Piazzolla’s tango operita María de Buenos Aires and Francis Kleyjans’ enchanting Los Cuatro Elementos. The final piece on the program is the hauntingly beautiful Coonowrin by the Australian composer Robert Davidson, who described MGQ’s version on their new CD as “one of the best recordings of my music.”

For lovers of guitar music, this is a not-to-be-missed opportunity to hear one of Australia’s most respected guitar quartets live on stage.

**Performance Information: Melbourne Guitar Quartet – Four Elements**
Friday 21 August at 7.30pm.
Music Auditorium, WAAPA, Edith Cowan University, 2 Bradford St, Mt Lawley.
Tickets are $30 full/$20 concession. Bookings through WAAPA Box Office on 9370 6636.

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For complimentary tickets to this concert or for further information, interviews or photo opportunities, please contact:
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