

Classic Moves: Margaret Throsby and Greta Bradman join the weekend in 2017

## Embargoed Until 13:15 AEST Wednesday 16 November, 2016

After more than two decades of successfully presenting her iconic daily **Midday Interview**, ABC Classic FM's <u>Margaret Throsby</u> will say goodbye to weekdays and hello to weekends in 2017, presenting a new program on Saturday mornings.

Designed for weekend listening, **Saturday Morning with Margaret Throsby** (9am-12 pm) will begin on Saturday 21 January 2017.

"All good things must come to an end. I feel the time is right to say goodbye to the Midday Interview and for me to take on new challenges. I'm really excited and looking forward to the new program format and timeslot, where I'll co-presenting with a guest who will share stories about their love of classical music. I'd like to invite my loyal weekday listeners to spend their Saturday mornings with me," said Margaret Throsby.

The final Midday interview will be broadcast on 16 December 2016.

Weekday Afternoons will begin at 12pm, and in 2017 it will be presented by Mairi Nicolson.

Following positive feedback from listeners after guest-presenting in 2016, leading Australian soprano **Greta Bradman** will join the 2017 weekend line up on ABC Classic FM to present a selection of music designed for relaxation and renewal on Sunday mornings (9am-12pm).

"I'm incredibly excited about joining the ABC Classic FM family - I've listened to it since I was a small child! One of my greatest loves is bringing people together around classical music - and this opportunity will enable me to connect with people from all over the world through glorious classical music via the "remote togetherness" of radio," said Greta Bradman.

<u>Damien Beaumont</u> will move to present **Evenings** from Monday to Thursday each week, with **Russell Torrance** taking the reins on Friday and Saturday evenings.

ABC Classic FM's current midnight to dawn selection, **Overnights**, will be replaced in 2017 by **Night Music**, a new program presented by some of your favourite ABC Classic FM presenters. This new format will give listeners familiarity and companionship through the night hours. For those who prefer uninterrupted music overnight, it will still be available via ABC Classic 2 online or through the ABC Radio app.

Saturday and Sunday will see talk content make way for high-profile concerts from around Australia in response to audience feedback that listeners want to hear more music on weekends.

**Keys to Music** will now be heard on Mondays at 7pm. Listeners who prefer to hear this program on the weekend can still access it via audio on demand – online and on the ABC Radio app.

**Music Makers** will no longer be heard as a regular weekly one-hour program on Saturday but ABC Classic FM will continue to broadcast interviews and documentaries related to music programming.

**Weekend Afternoons** with <u>Julian Day</u> will now begin at 12pm and broadcast up to two concerts each day. With more concerts broadcast on weekend afternoons, where more listeners can enjoy them, ABC Classic FM will present Friday and Saturday evening music programs designed to accompany the two most social and relaxed nights of the week.

In 2017, **For the God Who Sings**, a program occasionally affected by schedule clashes with longer operas broadcast in Sunday Opera, will now be heard from 11 pm to 1 am on Sunday nights. This change will assure a regular starting time for this popular program and its devoted listeners. The program will continue to be available on the website to listen on-demand.

ABC Classic FM continues to showcase Australian performance to a national and international audience with an average of one Australian concert a day through the year.

## **Key Schedule Changes:**

Saturday Morning with Margaret Throsby 9am until 12pm

Sunday Morning with Greta Bradman 9am until 12pm

Weekday Afternoons with Mairi Nicolson (Tuesday – Friday) 12pm until 4pm

Weekend Afternoons with Julian Day (Saturday – Monday) 12pm until 4pm

Keys to Music with Graham Abbott, Monday at 7pm

For The God Who Sings with Stephen Watkins, Sunday 11pm – 1am

**Night Music** with various presenters, Monday – Saturday 12am – 6am

Night Music with various presenters Sunday, following For The God Who Sings 1am - 6am

## **Greta Bradman biography** (short)

Greta Bradman grew up on a farm in the Adelaide Hills, received her undergraduate music and singing training at the Elder Conservatorium of Music, her Vocal Fellowship from the Australian National Academy of Music (2013) and her Graduate Diploma in Advanced Vocal Studies with Distinction from the Wales International Academy of Voice in Cardiff (2014) thanks the Australian International Opera Award. Greta also has a Bachelor of Arts Degree, Graduate Diplomas in French and German, a First Class Honours Degree in Psychology (APS Award for Dux of Year), and a Master of Psychology (Clinical) with distinction.

Greta started her music life as a chorister, composer, and pianist, but since then has worked as a soprano soloist with symphony orchestras, chamber orchestras, opera companies, ensembles and choirs around Australia, UK, USA, Europe, India, New Zealand, and the Asia Pacific.

In 2015 Greta released her debut recording for Decca Classics, My Hero, with Richard Bonynge conducting the English Chamber Orchestra, which became the best selling classical album in Australia of 2015.

In 2017 Greta will sing the roles Opera Australia and Victorian Opera. She will undertake a residency at ANAM, tour nationally and work on a follow-up solo album for Decca Classics. Alongside her musical career, Greta continues her practice in clinical and performance psychology which includes working as a faculty member at The School of Life; and as content director, presenter and advisor to the Arts Wellbeing Collective.

Despite Greta's singing career she has maintained her Australian base. She is happily married to her teenage sweetheart with whom she has two children. She is passionate about providing her kids with an Australian childhood, enveloped by family, music, sport, and the Australian sunshine.

For further information: please contact Emma Paillas, ABC Classic FM Marketing Manager on (02) 8333 2697 or 0437 796 982.

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