



**MEDIA RELEASE**

**8 December 2009**

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## **Extraordinary series of serious classical music concerts**

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In January 2009 after attending the Murray River International Music Festival, singer, writer, director, artistic director, and public advocate of the arts, Robyn Archer, described it as an “extraordinary series of serious classical music concerts under the direction of the equally extraordinary Sergio de Pieri”

Archer went on to say, during an ABC Radio National broadcast of the tenth Manning Clarke Lecture, that Mildura provided a role model for the nation. In 2009, by “placing art firmly in the middle of life where it belonged even in times of adversity”, the Festival doubled its attendance numbers on previous years and provided beautiful music along with regional food and wine to feed the senses.

Each year Sergio de Pieri, who was awarded an OAM for his contribution to music, embarks on his annual pilgrimage to Mildura, bringing with him marvellous virtuosi from Italy. In 2010 he raises the bar with the release of the 2010 Murray River International Music Festival program with another extraordinary series of concerts.

Artists such as world renowned flautist, Roberto Fabbriciani will play concerts in churches, small halls, wineries and old river towns presenting classical concerts of excellent quality all along the river.

**Fabbriciani** is known for his versatility and creativeness and his large repertoire which includes works dedicated to him by composers such as John Cage, Ennio Morricone, Karl Stockhausen and Takemitsu. The famous Italian flautist is an interpreter of new music and has composed powerful and affecting music setting the stage for a magical world of sound.

As well as solo concerts, Roberto Fabbriciani will play with his friend and outstanding guitarist, Massimo Scattolin who will present the world premiere of his Murray River music in Wentworth on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> of January before both players embark on a tour along the Murray River.

The Festival opens on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2010 in one of the most beautiful gardens in regional Australia - the heavenly Ampelon Gardens in Gol Gol NSW near Mildura. Patrons will be treated to a Schubertiade, (based on 19<sup>th</sup> century celebrations of sociable pastimes and the music of Schubert), featuring Fabbriciani and Scattolin who will be joined by Australians; violist, Helen Ireland of Flinders Quartet and cellist, Josephine Vains of Freshwater Trio.

Festival audiences will be regaled by other outstanding internationally renowned performers including Edwin Paling former Concertmaster of the Royal Scottish National Orchestra and soprano Shu Cheen Yu currently with Opera Australia, who will perform with Festival favourite Anthony Halliday along with rising star flautist Stephanie Jackson.

The full program is on line at [www.artsmildura.com.au](http://www.artsmildura.com.au) and a brochure is available at outlets throughout the Murray River region. Tickets online NOW.

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