

TASMANIAN CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL 2023
ORAVA QUARTET
REMARKS BY
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
BALL ROOM, FRIDAY 20 OCTOBER 2023

[Vice-Regal Salute is played]

Please be seated.

Good evening and a very warm welcome to this opening Concert of the 2023 Tasmanian Chamber Music Festival.

I begin by paying my respects to the traditional and original owners of this land: the palawa people. I acknowledge the contemporary Tasmanian Aboriginal community and recognise their enduring culture and continued connection to land, sea and waters.

We are delighted to be hosting the Orava Quartet in this Ball Room with its excellent acoustic. Over the next few days, we shall have much chamber music to look forward to, to be performed in our Hobart Town Hall, in St David's Cathedral, at *Valleyfield* and at the Agrarian Kitchen in New Norfolk. And we have already had wonderful reviews about this year's Fringe Festival held last Saturday.

Before our stunning chamber music begins, I would like to mention that our Festival Director, Alannah Dopson, has made an extraordinary act of generosity by donating to Government House the beautiful red velvet chairs, upon which you are all seated. May I also report that you are the first guests to be seated on them here tonight. They enhance and uplift an already magnificent Ball Room. I can assure you all that they are certainly more comfortable and better on the eye than their predecessors! Alannah, thank you from us all here this evening, and the many audiences to come, for your generosity.

[HE leads applause, moves to her seat with ADC. David invites Alannah to the lectern, David to his seat. Alannah speaks briefly and invites the Orava Quartet to the stage, Alannah returns to her seat – one hour performance.]