RECEPTION TO MARK THE 2025 TASMANIAN CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL REMARKS BY HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA GOVERNMENT HOUSE, WEDNESDAY 29 OCTOBER 2025

VICE REGAL SALUTE

Good evening, everyone. Thank you for joining us here to celebrate the 2025 Tasmanian Chamber Music Festival. May I welcome all the Tasmanian Chamber Music Festival staff, performers and supporters who are with us this evening.

May I begin by acknowledging the Muwinina people upon whose land we gather. I acknowledge today's Tasmanian Aboriginal Community as ongoing custodians of Country. I recognise their enduring culture and deep connection to land, sea, sky, and waters.

Since it was established in 2017, this Festival has occupied a special place on Tasmania's cultural calendar, highlighting chamber music performed by exceptional musicians.

In addition to the first-class musical program, the Festival also gives audiences experience of Tasmania's history and heritage, special venues, and our wonderful food and wine for which our State is renowned.

We have previously enjoyed festival performances at Government House: in 2023, the delightful Orava Quartet, and last year, the Alma Moodie Quartet.

May I congratulate festival organisers on again presenting a sold-out program of diverse music. I am delighted that more than three quarters of your audience are travelling to Tasmania from other parts of Australia to attend festival concerts.¹ Impressively, many attendees have attended every festival since 2017.² I warmly welcome them all to our State.

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¹ Email Stephen Block/OS, 30 September 2025

² Ibid.

I acknowledge the festival staff and congratulate them on their efforts in creating this popular and special community event. Finally, I thank the performers for bringing world-class chamber music to Tasmania.

Please now enjoy your reception and take the opportunity to visit our State Rooms.