



A MONTH of SUNDAYS

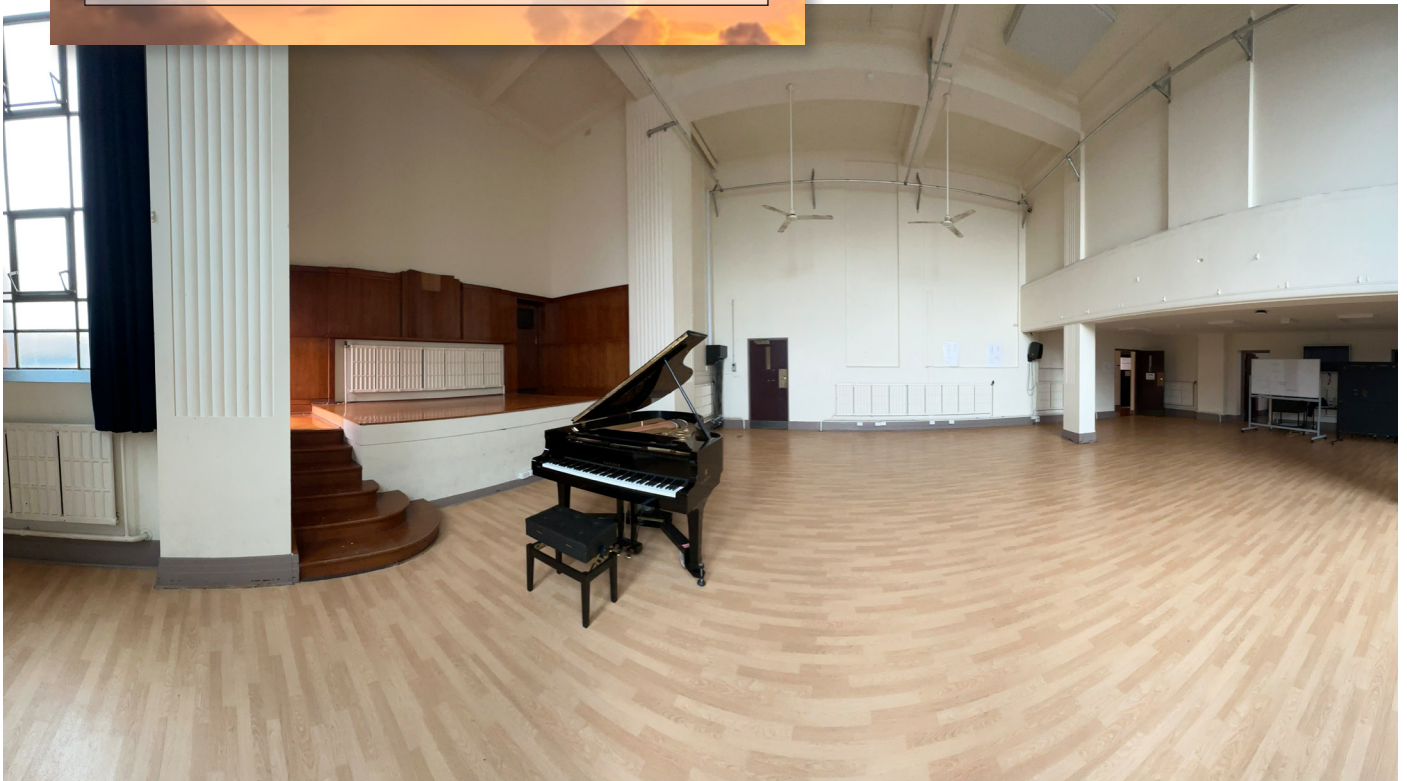
ACOUSTIC MUSIC CONCERT SERIES

2026 Program

A MONTH of SUNDAYS

ACOUSTIC MUSIC CONCERT SERIES

Welcome



Join us in the beautiful heritage-listed Media Arts Studio (Old Courthouse) at Federation University's Arts Academy Ballarat, for a Month of Sundays Season 2. In 2026, our program highlights the beauty and diversity of the human voice, from the sublime solo soprano of Kate MacFarlane to the emotive, soaring singing of Gelereh Pour (ZÖJ) and The Resonant Heart, led by Dr Nela Trifković.

We are delighted to welcome back

the Flinders Quartet, who will open our series with masterworks by Mozart and Beethoven, and we have a very special concert lined up with master blues and world-music guitarist Chris Finnen, visiting from South Australia.

In our troubled times, we hope you will find solace in the inspiration, the uplift and the calm that a Month of Sundays will bring.

Look forward to seeing you there!

BOOKINGS



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ACOUSTIC MUSIC CONCERT SERIES

Flinders Quartet



Flinders Quartet photo by Pia Johnston

Back by popular demand after last year's standout performance, Flinders Quartet returns to Ballarat to open the second series of Month of Sundays.

Celebrating 26 years on the world stage, this internationally acclaimed ensemble brings electrifying artistry to three masterworks of the string quartet repertoire.

From the dark drama of Mozart's *Adagio and Fugue* to the fiery drive of Beethoven's Op.18 No.4 and the sweeping brilliance of Op.127, this is chamber music at its most compelling. Bold, intimate and unforgettable - secure your seat and experience one of Australia's finest ensembles live in Ballarat.

23 August 2026

2:30PM

MOZART

Adagio & Fugue in C minor,
K.546

BEETHOVEN

String Quartet in C Minor Op.
18 No. 4

String Quartet in E-Flat Major
Op. 127

www.flindersquartet.com

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ZÖJ



ZÖJ photo credit Noora Ziaee

Since 2016, Galereh Pour and Brian O'Dwyer have moved between worlds, between languages, between instruments, between what is said and what cannot be. Their music, rooted in heritage experimental sensibility, finds power in quietness and truth in imperfection. From *Fil O Fenjoon* (2023) to *Give Water to Birds* (2024), ZÖJ have built a body of work that defies categorisation: intimate yet vast, ancient yet utterly contemporary.

In this concert, ZÖJ will perform music from their third album, *May the Devil's Ear Be Deaf*, which was recorded live without overdubs, at the BANFF Centre for Arts and Creativity in Canada, during an intercultural music residency in 2025.

The exquisite genius of Galereh Pour, we are simply not worthy.
Nick Cave

13 September 2026

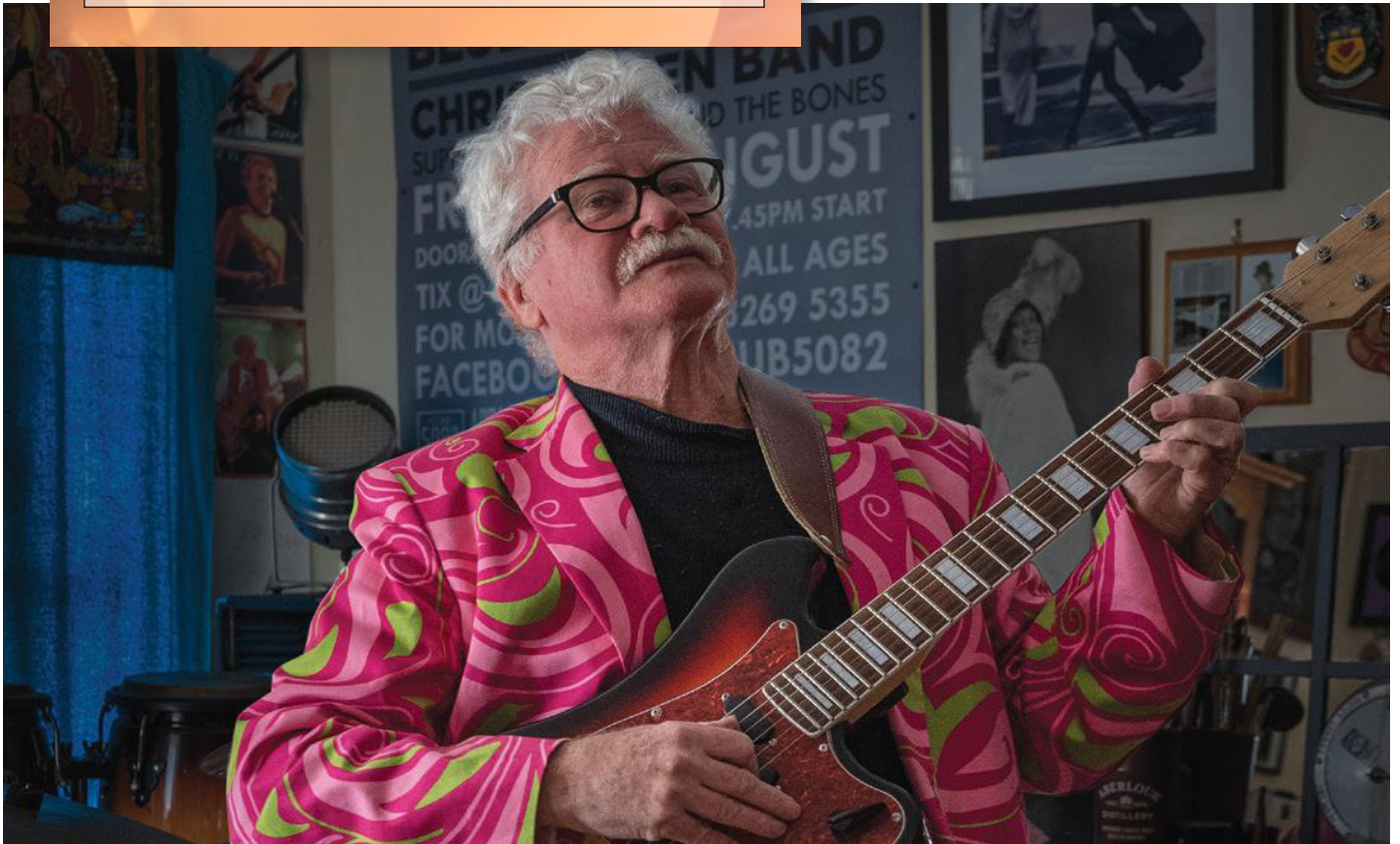
2:30PM

www.gelarehpour.com

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Chris Finnen



For 70 years, Chris Finnen has grooved to the music in his mind – and magically transposed it to the guitar. From jumping on stage as a precocious 15-year-old to jam with Billy Thorpe, and also The Loved Ones, to joining Australia's legendary blues band Chain, Chris has wowed audiences and is revered as one of Australia's most beloved guitarists.

Chris performed for the Dalai Lama in 2005, was a guest of the International Expo in Nagoya, Japan, and has shared the stage with some of the world's best, including Buddy Guy, Bo Diddley, Jimmy Witherspoon, Roy Buchanan, Eric Burdon, Keb Mo, Bob Brozman, Johnny Copeland, The Holmes Brothers, John Mayall, and Mavis Staples. He has worked in Australia with Matt Taylor, Phil Manning, Dutch Tilders, Margaret Roadnight, Jeff Lang, Kevin Borich and Colin Offord. In 2013, he was inducted into the New York Blues Hall of Fame.

Chris will be joined for this acoustic set by long-time friend and collaborator, Richard Chew.

25 October 2026

2:30 PM

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Kate Macfarlane

15 November 2026

2:30PM

For this concert, Kate will be joined by Inscape piano trio, featuring **Varvara Vakhrameeva** (violin), **Lachlan Dent** (cello) and **Richard Chew** (piano) Their program will include songs by **Erik Satie**, **Richard Chew** and **Samuel Barber**.



Kate MacFarlane photo credit Albert Comper.

Kate Macfarlane is a Melbourne-based soprano known for her expressive musicianship and stylistic versatility across opera, lieder, and oratorio. She trained in Baroque vocal performance at the Hochschule für Musik in Cologne under renowned countertenor Kai Wessel, and has since appeared to critical acclaim throughout Germany and Australia.

She performs regularly with Adelaide Baroque, e21, the St John's Bach Cantata Program, and The Firm New Music, and has recently appeared as a soloist in sold out concerts with Victoria Chorale, the Ballarat International Foto Biennale, and the Organs & Fine Music Festival.

Passionate about forging genuine connections with her audiences, Kate strives to create intimate and engaging performances that dissolve traditional boundaries between musician and listener. In 2026 she continues an active recital schedule, including exciting collaborations with the Broadford Salon series, Christ Church Concerts, and the Month of Sundays series in Ballarat.

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The Resonant Heart



The Resonant Heart is a Naarm/Melbourne-based collective of CALD and BIPOC women and female-identifying artists, instigated by Dr Nela Trifković and featuring Irine Vela, Vahideh Eisaei, Kelly Dowall, Elnaz Sheshgelani, Sarita McHarg and Lizzy Kuoth. Drawn from across the globe, these extraordinary artists unite to champion diverse perspectives and celebrate the intimate knowledge of the heart.

Through original and traditional music, multilingual poetry, storytelling, film, sound, puppetry, movement and dance, The Resonant Heart crafts luminous creative rituals that honour each artist's unique cultural knowledge while igniting something entirely new. Their live performances pulse with individual brilliance and collective fire — a testament to the transformative power of deep collaboration in contemporary Australia.

29 November 2026

2:30PM

theresonantheartcollective.com