

17 August 2018

Ben Lusher
Director, Key Sites Assessment
Department of Planning and Environment

RE: Sydney Opera House Building Renewal Program: Concert Hall and Creative Learning Centre
(SSD8663)

Dear Mr Lusher,

I refer to the submission of SSD8663 for the Sydney Opera House Building Renewal Program, specifically the proposed upgrades to the Concert Hall.

I write on behalf of the Australian Chamber Orchestra (ACO) to support this application. The ACO is a resident company of the Sydney Opera House and performs regularly in the Concert Hall.

The ACO supports the renewal project on the basis that the experience of audiences in the Hall will be much improved by the work. The ACO was very pleased to participate in an acoustic test of trial reflectors on the SOH Concert Hall stage in November 2016. The results were quite extraordinary as a small ensemble of musicians was able to be heard very clearly in many points around the auditorium, much more clearly than with the current reflectors.

The ACO believes that audiences will benefit from hearing a much more even sound from orchestras and performers in all seats in the auditorium after the acoustic work has been completed.

The foyer improvements will also enhance the concert experience for all audiences. The increased accessibility will make visits to the Sydney Opera House more comfortable, particularly for those with mobility issues.

I reiterate our support for the application.

Yours faithfully,



Richard Evans
Managing Director