



AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY PHNOM PENH

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MELBOURNE TO HOST WORLD PREMIERE OF BANGSOKOL: A REQUIEM FOR CAMBODIA

The Australian city of Melbourne will host the world premiere of *Bangsokol: A Requiem for Cambodia* in October 2017.

The announcement was made today at a press conference in Phnom Penh, attended by Australia's Ambassador to Cambodia, Angela Corcoran.

Bangsokol is the first major symphonic work that addresses the years of the Khmer Rouge regime and the aftermath. The composition fuses music, voice, film and movement, and is the first collaboration between renowned Cambodian composer Him Sophy and filmmaker Rithy Panh.

"Bangsokol will bring Cambodia's story to an Australian audience. It will enhance cultural appreciation and understanding of Cambodia's history. And it will showcase the best of Cambodian music and art to an international audience," Ambassador Corcoran said.

Bangsokol is helping to strengthen the close connections between Australians and Cambodians.

Prominent Australian choreographer, Giden Obarzanek, has played a key role in the production of Bangsokol.

The premiere in Melbourne will also enable engagement with the Australian Cambodian community.

The Australian Government is a proud sponsor of Bangsokol, and we have worked closely with Cambodian Living Arts to make this Australian premiere a reality.

"Australia looks forward to welcoming the Bangsokol artists, producers and supporters to the great city of Melbourne, for what will be an impressive showcase of music and cultural exchange," the Ambassador said.

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