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Adelaide International Guitar Festival announces International Classical Guitar Competition

The 2010 **Adelaide International Guitar Festival** will run over four days from **25 – 28 November**. The Festival will be presenting some of the best guitarists from around Australia and the world, with artists crossing a range of genres and showcasing their skill, musicianship and creativity.

As part of the 2010 program the Festival has announced an **International Classical Guitar Competition**. This will be an opportunity for emerging players to be heard and given exposure on an international platform with total prizes to the value of \$35,000, putting it on par with the world's most prestigious competitions.

The competition is open to competitors of all ages with three qualifying rounds, including the audition, semi final and final round. The overall winners will be recognised at an award presentation in the Dunstan Playhouse on the final day of the Festival.

Artistic Director for the Adelaide International Guitar Festival and world renowned guitarist, **Slava Grigoryan**, says, *"It's very exciting to introduce a major new classical guitar competition in Australia. This is the most substantial prize for classical guitarists to have been created in Australia and will be an incredible opportunity for emerging talent. The judging panel will be made up of some of the most established players and teachers in Australia and a selection of international artists who will be performing at the Festival"*.

The **International Classical Guitar Competition** prize is supported by the Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation, consistent with the Foundation's mission to enrich the lives of generations to come.

As part of the first prize, one lucky guitarist will also receive a **Jim Redgate** guitar. Local luthier **Jim Redgate** has been building world class classical guitars for more than 20 years in Adelaide. Jim's concert level guitars have a beautiful rich tonal character and each instrument has its own unique personality, with players like Odair Assad, Ana Vidovic and Slava & Leonard Grigoryan being some of the elite musicians who choose to play Redgate instruments. For this competition **Jim Redgate** will be crafting a double top guitar constructed from master grade Cedar and fine Brazilian Rosewood. Redgate guitars are available exclusively through Classic Guitars International in the US and have been their best selling guitar for over a decade.

The **Adelaide International Guitar Festival**, presented and produced by the Adelaide Festival Centre, provides a truly unique festival experience, combining the very best of classical and fine art guitar festivals with a broad range of genres. In 2010 **Slava Grigoryan** will draw together a unique and high calibre range of world class artists and will present a broad spectrum of genres, including: Classical, Brazilian, Flamenco, World, Roots, Contemporary Fusion and Songwriting.

Over the four days and nights the **Adelaide International Guitar Festival** will feature more than 50 national and international artists in 16 performances and three Australian premieres, along with a range of free and low cost workshops, master classes, artist talks and panel discussions for audiences and artists alike.

The first 2010 **Adelaide International Guitar Festival** performance highlight will be announced in late November 2009, as part of the Adelaide Festival Centre 2010 Season Brochure, followed by the full Festival program launch in mid 2010.

Applications for the Classical Guitar Competition open from 25 November 2009 and close 31 March 2010. Further information regarding eligibility, repertoire and application forms will be available for

download from 25 November 2009 from the Festival website. www.adelaideguitarfestival.com.au

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