
PAUL SIMON AND ROBERT PLANT

move to NEWCASTLE ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE

Saturday 30th March

PAUL SIMON

Special Guest: Rufus Wainwright

Platinum Reserved Seating \$199 / Gold Reserved Seating \$149 / Silver Reserved Seating \$99
(plus handling and payment processing fees)

Sunday 31st March

ROBERT PLANT

& the Sensational Space Shifters

Special Guests: Blind Boys Of Alabama

Platinum Reserved Seating \$199 / Gold Reserved Seating \$149 / Silver Reserved Seating \$99
(plus handling and payment processing fees)

Saturday 9th March 2013

Chugg Entertainment today confirmed the move of this Easter's two-fold line-up; Paul Simon and Robert Plant, from the Hunter Valley's Hope Estate to the Newcastle Entertainment Centre.

Each concert will play the same dates previously scheduled: Paul Simon (with Rufus Wainwright) on Saturday 30th March and Robert Plant (with Blind Boys of Alabama) on Sunday 31st March, now at the Newcastle Entertainment Centre.

Executive Chairman, Michael Chugg said, *"We're moving to the Newcastle Entertainment Centre, which will be a more intimate environment for these two artists."*

Chugg added, *"I encourage all fans to take the opportunity to see these two iconic artists. These guys are legends and now Newcastle is seeing them in the most intimate venue on the tour."*

Both Paul Simon and Robert Plant will be performing career-spanning sets and promise numerous favourites and greatest hits from their rich catalogues, including their solo careers, and Simon & Garfunkel and Led Zeppelin, respectively.

New tickets for the Newcastle Entertainment Centre shows go on-sale at midday this Monday March 11 from ticketek.com.au or 132 849.

The Newcastle Entertainment Centre Box Office has extended its hours today until 4pm to assist with enquiries (02 4921 2121) but exchanges will not commence until Thursday March 14.

Already-purchased Hope Estate tickets remain valid for the Entertainment Centre concerts and all GA Lawn and Platinum ticket holders in Sections A2 & A3 do not need to do anything except turn up at the new venue on the night of the concert.

From Thursday March 14, platinum A1 and A4 ticketholders, and all Gold tickets, will need to exchange from the Newcastle Entertainment Centre Box Office Monday to Friday 9am-5pm and on Saturdays between 9am-12noon.

Ticketholders residing outside the Newcastle area and who require their tickets exchanged can simply

exchange at the venue on the night.

Tickets have been automatically reallocated into the same price categories in consideration of the Entertainment Centre's ratio to Hope Estate and prioritised by time and order of original purchase.

The previously categorised General Admission Lawn tickets have become Silver seating and do not need to be exchanged.

Patrons who purchased tickets for Hope Estate will be contacted by Ticketmaster with full exchange and refund options this Monday March 11. If a refund is required it must be done with Ticketmaster.

NEWCASTLE ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE

Tickets through www.ticketek.com.au or 132 849

Saturday 30th March **Paul Simon**
Special guests: **Rufus Wainwright**

Sunday 31st March **ROBERT PLANT**
Special guests: **& the Sensational Space Shifters**
Blind Boys Of Alabama

Concerts sold separately

[On Sale Midday Monday 11 March](#)

Hope Estate, Hunter Valley

Exchange tickets through Newcastle Entertainment Centre:

In-person at the Box Office or by phone 02 4921 2121

Refunds through www.ticketmaster.com.au or 136 100

PAUL SIMON

with special guest Rufus Wainwright

Saturday 30th March

Paul Simon

In the wake of the 25th anniversary of his musical landmark, *Graceland*, **Paul Simon** will bring fans a performance spanning all eras of his illustrious career: from beginnings in the folk clubs of early 1960s Greenwich Village, to the warm and anthemic fruits of his celebrated partnership with Art Garfunkel, right through to his acclaimed solo career.

Widely regarded as one of the most successful and prolific songwriters of the latter half of the 20th century, Simon has consistently penned songs that are mature and literate, but also melodically engaging. Lyrically, with an astute political and social conscience, he has at times spoken to the concerns and uncertainties of a generation yet also focused on the personal sentiment. In the early 1960s, the folk revival swept New York City, and a new breed of singers and songwriters introduced a new approach to the craft of creating tunes – at the forefront was Paul Simon. As the 60s gave way to the 70s and 80s, Simon expanded his musical palette, and helped introduce many rock and pop fans to world music with his outstanding release, *Graceland*.

During his distinguished career Paul Simon has been the recipient of many honours and awards including 12 Grammy Awards, three of which (*Bridge Over Troubled Water*, *Still Crazy After All These Years* and *Graceland*) were

Albums of the Year. In 2003 he was given a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award for his work as half of the duo Simon and

Garfunkel. He is a member of The Songwriters Hall of Fame, a recipient of their Johnny Mercer Award and is in the Rock n' Roll Hall of Fame as a member of Simon and Garfunkel and as a solo artist. His song *Mrs. Robinson* from the motion picture *The Graduate* was named in the top ten of The American Film Institute's 100 Years 100 Songs. He was a recipient of The Kennedy Center Honors in 2002 and was named as one of Time Magazine's *100 People Who Shape Our World* in 2006. In 2007, Simon was awarded the first annual Library of Congress Gershwin Prize for Popular Song. Named in honor of the legendary George and Ira Gershwin, this newly created award recognizes the profound and positive effect of popular music on the world's culture, and is given annually to a composer or performer whose lifetime contributions exemplify the standard of excellence associated with the Gershwin's. In 2011 Mr. Simon was elected to The American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Rufus Wainwright

Affectionately referred to by Elton John as "*the greatest songwriter on the planet*" and praised by the New York Times for his "*genuine originality*," Grammy nominee **Rufus Wainwright** has established himself as one of the great male vocalists and songwriters of his generation. He is the son of folk singers Loudon Wainwright III and Kate McGarrigle, and brother of Martha Wainwright, but Rufus has achieved his success by carving out his own singular sound in the worlds of rock, opera, theatre, dance and film.

Recently in Australia for a national tour, Wainwright once again wooed audiences with his staggering live performances off the back of his latest offering, the acclaimed Mark Ronson-produced album *Out Of The Game*. One of the world's true original contemporary artists, with grace and humour, craft and confidence, the album is a remarkable return to the pop world of Rufus Wainwright – showing his scope of sounds and styles, unified by both his incomparable voice and the lucidity of his vision.

ROBERT PLANT & SENSATIONAL SPACE SHIFTERS

*with special guest **Blind Boys of Alabama***

Sunday 31st March

Robert Plant

Plant is regarded as one of the most timeless and significant voices in the history of the rock music genre, making his first commercial recordings in 1966. In 1967, he had also formed a group called the Band of Joy, with drummer John Bonham. Soon, Bonham, Plant, guitarist Jimmy Page, and bassist John Paul Jones assembled to become The New Yardbirds, which later became **Led Zeppelin**.

Plant has since had a successful solo career, producing albums with Jimmy Page and recordings with bands like The Honeydrippers, Priory of Brion, and Strange Sensation. In 2010 he released an album with the Band of Joy, co-produced by his band mate Buddy Miller which received 2 Grammy Award nominations. In 2011, he was voted in a Rolling Stone readers' pick as first place in 'the best lead singers of all time'

The Sensational Space Shifters are his latest project, a loose band "*inspired by the roots music of Mississippi, Appalachia, Gambia, Bristol and the foothills of Wolverhampton and drawing on influences collected in a lifetime of meander and journeying.*" Along-side Robert are his semi-regular guitarist Justin Adams and Juldeh Camara from Gambia, Justin's Ritti - playing partner in their duo Juju.

Exciting audiences around the world, he presents songs from his early days in Led Zeppelin to his more recent adventures in the heart land of the US, in dizzy collisions of rhythm and power. His current companions have created a performance that digs deep into the roots of the blues, turning ancient, dark music that inspired so much of British and American rock on its head. He mixes crazy trans-rhythms and psychedelic riffs to create a powerful and unique adventure.

Blind Boys Of Alabama

The living legends of gospel music are returning to Australia with their glorious meld of gospel, blues and rock 'n' roll. It's hard to find a more joyful sound than their unforgettable shows filled with laughter and packed with emotion that they have finessed over 7 decades of touring. **The Blind Boys** were formed in the Alabama Institute For The Negro Blind over 70 years ago and they haven't stopped since, their road has not been easy – but their regard in the industry is unrivalled.

Some of their career highlights include 5 Grammy Awards; Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award; Gospel Music Hall of Fame inductees; 4 Gospel Music Association Dove Awards; and 3 U.S. Presidential Administrations inviting them to the White House to perform. On their last Australian tour in 2011 with Mavis Staples, they sold out two Sydney Opera House Concert Halls.