



Royal Albert Hall

8 April 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

RE: BRETT BROWN'S DEBUT RECORDING

As the CEO of the Royal Albert Hall and former CEO of Opera Australia, it is my pleasure to write in support of Brett Brown's fundraising efforts for his debut album with Australia's leading music producer, Chong Lim AM.

Chong Lim has produced some of Australia's finest talent including Olivia Newton John, Kylie Minogue, John Farnham and David Campbell - and Brett has the potential to become part of this legacy.

I have known Brett since my tenure at Sydney Theatre Company. He was only 18 years of age, with credits already including Opera Australia and the Shakespeare Globe Centre Australia. In 2006, Brett was awarded one of only 34 places to study at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art. With 2500 applicants worldwide, this was a notable accomplishment. As I watched Brett's final year performances in London, it was evident that he would forge an impressive career.

Brett's reputation as an actor and classical singer is reflected in his international achievements. He has performed leading roles with the Royal Shakespeare Company and OperaUpClose, and the title role of *Hamlet* in South Korea. For the past three years he has represented Australia with his solo *Henry V* performance at European Shakespeare festivals. In recognition of his talent, Brett was awarded *Best Solo Shakespeare Performance 2016* at the Ostrava Shakespeare Festival.

As a baritone, Brett's repertoire spans Bach to Sam Smith. Notably, he opened the 2017 *Resonate* concert series at the Art Gallery of NSW with his classical-cabaret *Postcards*, and returned the following year to present *To Sleep Perchance to Dream*. This year he sings a world premiere by acclaimed American composer, Nico Muhly, with the Omega Ensemble at City Recital Hall.

Few artists possess Brett's abilities as a Shakespearean actor and classical singer. Combining these elements with an extensive repertoire, he is extending the boundaries of the classical-crossover genre, to the enrichment of the art form.

This recording will enable Brett to share his gifts within a national and international context. In doing so, he stands to bring classical-crossover music to new audiences, especially the younger generation.

Your assistance will enable Brett to make a far-reaching artistic contribution to the Australian Arts.

Kind regards

Craig Hassall AM
Chief Executive