

MEDIA RELEASE

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JOEP BEVING

Dutch amateur musician **Joep Beving** gave up his day job after his self-released recordings streamed online more than 85 million times.

Composer, pianist and one-man recording phenomenon **Joep Beving** will make his Australian debut at the Melbourne Recital Centre this October.

Joep (pronounced Yoop), who lives in Amsterdam, first performed and recorded his “mood music” album, **Solipsism** for the enjoyment of his family. Then, partly for fun, he made it available on music-streaming service Spotify. He never imagined that his piano tunes would draw such a vast audience worldwide. But such was the popularity of **Solipsism** that four record companies were soon fighting over him.

His delicate, atmospheric compositions may initially have been written for his family, but his melodies instantly struck a chord with listeners when tracks from the album first appeared on streaming music playlists alongside the likes of **Max Richter**, **Ólafur Arnalds** and **Nils Frahm** and **Dustin O’Halloran**.

Beving creates genuinely relaxing and contemplative neo-classical music with a broad and immediate appeal. It is music that displays introspective, melancholic, filmic and uplifting characteristics – presented in a simple, warm acoustic atmosphere.

He has described his music as the type that can easily tell stories: the emotive, cinematic landscapes his songs summon are spaces to fall into.

A follow-up album, **Prehension**, was released earlier this year and his popularity has only continued to rise. **Prehension** carries forward the musical and philosophical themes Joep identifies in his music – understated and haunting, music stripped to its bare essentials.

“I call it ‘simple music for complex emotions’ says Beving, summing up its universal appeal. “The world is a hectic place right now and I feel a deep urge to reconnect on a basic human level with people in general. Music as our universal language has the power to unite.”

At 6ft 10in this towering Amsterdammer is truly part of a whole new wave of classical composers, changing the face of the genre and opening it up to fresh slew of fans.

Joep Beving’s Melbourne Festival debut will see him playing tracks from both **Prehension** and **Solipsism**.

“Beving is a modern classical phenomenon.” Arts Desk London

Melbourne Recital Centre, Elisabeth Murdoch Hall

Sat 14 Oct

7.30pm

1 hr 15 mins, no interval

A Reserve \$49 / \$39

B Reserve \$39 / \$29

Under 30s \$30

www.festival.melbourne

Melbourne Recital Centre 03 9699 3333

#melbfest

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