MEDIA RELEASE

Level 5, 10 Hickson Road The Rocks Sydney NSW 2000 Australia Phone 61 2 8248 6500 Fax 61 2 8248 6599 sydneyfestival.org.au



Anna von Hausswolff

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

Uncompromising young artist delivers primordial pop and gothic drone via grand organ and majestic vocals



"Outright stunning." NPR

"Von Hausswolff's voice possesses the power to soar with those mighty pipes and still hold tight to delicate, personal emotions. I hope to find one album like Ceremony every year — a rare, thoughtful, inspiring record for a night on the couch or a candlelit evening." Bob Boilen, **NPR**

Photo: Anna von Hausswolff © Anders Nydam

In her Australian premiere, the genre-defying Anna von Hausswolff takes to Sydney Town Hall's monumental Grand Organ.

Daughter of ground-breaking artist and composer Carl Michael von Hausswolff, twenty-eight-year-old von Hausswolff is many things including a heart-stopping singer, a profoundly emotional songwriter, an accomplished composer, and a passionate fan of black metal, reflected in her beautifully complex song structures.

Built around von Hausswolff's love of the church organ, her 2013 album Ceremony is a majestic sounding record that explores the young artist's meditations on life and death. A set of very personal yet somehow universal songs, each track unravels the thought process of dealing with the loss of a loved one, musically narrating the universal emotions of shock, grief, purity of thought and the celebration of life. Ceremony is uplifting with Hausswolf's captivating vocals adding light and hope to a deeply felt suite of songs.

The Swedish-born, Copenhagen-based artist is influenced by the likes of Jefferson Airplane and the Cocteau Twins, as well as drone metal bands Earth and Barn Owl, with hints of Kate Bush and Stevie Nicks in her towering vocals. She draws from minimalistic organ composer Jan Welmers, and from film scores such as Suspiria and Angst. Tracked in the century-old Annedalskyrkan Church in Anna's native Gothenburg, Sweden, Ceremony in many ways takes its main inspiration from the massive pipe organ that fills that sacred hall. The album is full of swooning ambiance and lush, layered orchestral textures.

Anna von Hauswolff's majestic vocals and thunderous compositions channel her connection with nature and the deep forests of Sweden. With a passionate and visceral intensity that belies her 28 years, this striking performer creates unique and ritualistic musical experiences.

Where

Sydney Town Hall





MEDIA RELEASE

Level 5, 10 Hickson Road The Rocks Sydney NSW 2000 Australia **Phone** 61 2 8248 6500 **Fax** 61 2 8248 6599

sydneyfestival.org.au



When 11 January at 8.00pm

Duration 120 minutes including interval

Price \$49/\$44

Booking Sydney Festival 1300 856 876

sydneyfestival.org.au/anna

Multipacks are available for all Sydney Festival events except *Disco Dome*. Book 3 or more events and save. Discounts apply to full price A Reserve or General Admission tickets.





For interviews and further information contact:

Jessica Keirle, Publicity Manager, 02 8248 6525 / 0438 805 109 jessica.keirle@sydneyfestival.org.au
Anna Shapiro, Publicist, 0417 043 205 anna.shapiro@sydneyfestival.org.au
Gabrielle Wilson, Publicist, 0433 972 915 gabrielle.wilson@sydneyfestival.org.au

^{*} Seated tickets only.