

RECONCILIATION WEEK

PERFORMANCE
EVENT WITH

**DEBORAH
CHEETHAM AO**

and also featuring the
**DOVETON COLLEGE
ABORIGINAL CHOIR**

**THURSDAY
28 MAY 2015
5PM-7PM**

**DRUM THEATRE
LONSDALE STREET
DANDENONG**

**RSVP ESSENTIAL
BY THURSDAY 21 MAY**

to Chris Edmonds
via email: c.edmonds@semml.com.au

**ADMISSION IS FREE
REFRESHMENTS WILL
BE SERVED**

For more information, please contact
Chris Edmonds by phone **03 8791 1911**
or email c.edmonds@semml.com.au



Deborah Cheetham, Yorta Yorta woman, soprano, composer and educator

has established her place as an artist in great demand. Since her international debut in 1997, Deborah has performed in the theatres and concert halls of the United States, Europe, the United Kingdom, New Zealand and throughout Australia.

In April 2007, Deborah was awarded a two-year Fellowship from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Board of the Australia Council for the Arts. This fellowship allowed her to create Australia's first Indigenous opera, Pecan Summer.

In 2010, Deborah brought together Australia's first classically trained Indigenous ensemble to present the world premiere of Pecan Summer. In the same year she was a finalist for Australian of the Year in Victoria.

The success of Pecan Summer has led to the creation of Short Black Opera Company, a national not-for-profit opera company devoted to the development of Indigenous opera singers.

After serving as Head of the Wilin Centre for Indigenous Arts and Cultural Development from 2011 to 2014, Deborah was appointed as Associate Dean of Indigenous Development at the Faculty of the VCA and MCM, University of Melbourne.

In the 2014 Queen's Birthday Honours List, Ms Cheetham was appointed as an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO), for "distinguished service to the performing arts as an opera singer, composer and artistic director, to the development of Indigenous artists, and to innovation in performance".

In March 2015 Ms Cheetham was inducted onto the Victorian Honour Roll of Women.