

2 December 2009

--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--

COUNTIES MANUKAU DISTRICT HEALTH BOARD CHIEF APPOINTED TO AUCKLAND PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra (APO) announces the appointment of Counties Manukau District Health Board Chief Executive, **Geraint Martin**, to its Board of Trustees.

In welcoming Mr Martin, APO Chairman **Rosanne Meo** noted his breadth of community engagement, strong background in public policy and a long list of career achievements as major considerations for his appointment.

“Geraint brings a wide range of skills and experience to the APO Board as well as his great love of music. His involvement in South Auckland and the health sector will also contribute to our commitment to our broader community activities.”

Apart from Rosanne Meo, Geraint Martin joins other members of the APO’s Board, **Jonathan Baker, Richard Ebbett, Michael Moyes, Kieran Raftery** and **Jonathan Mane-Wheoki**.

Before heading one of the largest District Health Boards in New Zealand, Mr Martin came from the Welsh Assembly Government as Director of Health and Social Care Strategy, with significant experience managing many levels of service provision in primary and secondary care and more than two decades in public management.

Mr Martin is presently heading the largest capital redevelopment programme in New Zealand which seeks to transform Middlemore Hospital into one of the leading healthcare centres in Australasia. He is also a member of the Institute of Directors, as well as being on the Advisory Board of the New Zealand Centre of Social Innovation.

“What a wonderful honour it is to join the ranks of the APO’s Board of Trustees and to be involved with one of the most dynamic and inventive organisations in the country,” says Mr Martin. “The APO has a well deserved reputation for excellence, not just in concert hall performances, but also in their many first-rate programmes which service the communities all over our region. It’s an organisation on which, I feel, we can bestow a large measure of support and pride.”

The APO is Auckland’s only professional symphony orchestra. Established in 1980, it has since grown into one of the country’s premier arts organisations with broad community support. As a valued cultural asset for the city, the Orchestra presents a full season of symphonic work throughout the year and boasts one of the most comprehensive music education programmes in the country.

--RELEASE ENDS--

NB: Please note the correct spelling of “Philharmonia” and ignore “Philharmonic” option from spell-checks.

For images, queries, and interviews please contact:
Marc Laureano, APO Publicity and Communications Manager
E: marcl@apo.co.nz M: +64 21 675477 P: +64 9 638 6266 x210