

# Vivid Sydney media coverage 1 April-24 May

24/05/2009

► **Festival sets the city aglow**

Sunday Telegraph, 24/05/09, General News, Page 2  
By: None

Clip Ref: 00051767088

391 words  
Type: News Item  
Photo: Yes

A SPECTACLE of light, sound and creativity is about to showcase **Sydney** to the world. **Vivid Sydney**, developed by Events NSW and City of **Sydney** Council, starts on Tuesday when the city comes alive with the biggest international music and light extravaganza in the southern hemisphere.

**Keywords:** Brian(1), Circular Quay(1), creative(3), Eno(2), festival(3), Fire Water(1), House(4), Light Walk(3), Luminous(2), Observatory Hill(1), Opera(4), Smart Light(1), Sydney(15), Vivid(6), vividsydney(1)

► **Looking on the bright side**

Sunday Herald Sun, 24/05/09, Escape, Page 31  
By: Nicky Park

Clip Ref: 00051771227

419 words  
Type: Feature  
Photo: Yes

As I sip on a sparkling Lindauer Bitt from New Zealand, my eyes are drawn to her cleavage. I m up on the 32nd floor of the Intercontinental in Sydney enjoying the harbour views, dominated by the sails of the **Opera House**.

**Keywords:** 77 Million Paintings(1), Brian(1), Eno(5), Festival(8), House(5), Opera(5), Smart Light(1), sydney(10), Vivid(6), vividsydney(1)

► **Glow with the flow**

Sun Herald, 24/05/09, S-Diary, Page 11  
By: None

Clip Ref: 00051766352

54 words  
Type: News Item  
Photo: Yes

How many **festivals** does it take to change a coloured light bulb? On Tuesday night **Brian Eno** turns on the pretty lights for the three-week Vivic Festival.

**Keywords:** Brian(1), Eno(2), festival(2), festivals(1), House(1), Luminous(1), Opera(1), Vivid(1)

► **SOCIALISE**

Sun Herald, 24/05/09, S-Diary, Page 20

By: None

From Tuesday **Vivid Sydney**, billed as the biggest international music and light **festival** in the southern hemisphere, kicks off this week.

**Keywords:** Brian(1), Creative(3), creativesydney(1), Eno(1), festival(2), Luminous(1), Smart Light(1), Sydney(6), The Rocks(1), Vivid(1)

Clip Ref: 00051766502

568 words

Type: Feature

Photo: Yes

► **Party of the week**

Sun Herald, 24/05/09, S-Diary, Page 23

By: None

This week's top parties **Vivid Sydney** launch, Tuesday. Media Assisting Youth Day, Wednesday. The Den's First Birthday, Thursday. Sara Groen and Kate Ritchie.

**Keywords:** Sydney(1), Vivid(1)

Clip Ref: 00051766662

26 words

Type: News Item

Photo: Yes

► **Hot tickets Festivals**

Sunday Telegraph, 24/05/09, Insider, Page 131

By: None

This **festival** of light, music and ideas flicks the "on" switch this Tuesday. There's a free **Light Walk**, an adventurous music **festival** at the **Sydney Opera House** called **Luminous**, curated by **Brian Eno** and featuring The Necks, Ladytron and Rachid Taha, and much more. **Vivid** runs until June 14; details, [www.vividsydney.com](http://www.vividsydney.com).

**Keywords:** Brian(1), Eno(1), festival(2), House(1), Light Walk(1), Luminous(1), Opera(1), Sydney(1), Vivid(1), VIVIDSYDNEY(2)

Clip Ref: 00051768398

85 words

Type: News Item

Photo: No

► **Hot happenings**

Sunday Telegraph, 24/05/09, Insider, Page 147

By: None

On Monday Lady Gaga sings at Paddington's Uniting Church (to later air on Network Seven and Channel). The **Vivid Sydney festival** is launched with a cocktail party in The Customs Hall of the Overseas Passenger Terminal at **Circular Quay** on Tuesday

**Keywords:** Circular Quay(1), festival(1), Sydney(1), Vivid(1)

Clip Ref: 00051769030

119 words

Type: News Item

Photo: No

► **Hot box**

Sunday Telegraph, 24/05/09, Sunday Magazine, Page 8

By: None

These chunky ACME Studios Crayon Pens (\$60 each) will have you furrowing your brow, sticking out your tongue and fervently colouring within the lines just as you did when you first clasped a pudgy little hand around a wax crayon all those years ago. For more info, call 1300 527 277.

**Keywords:** Creative(1), creativesydney(1), Light Walk(1), Smart Light(1), Sydney(2)

Clip Ref: 00051768489

157 words

Type: News Item

Photo: Yes

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**23/05/2009**

► **Outside the Square**

Sydney Morning Herald, 23/05/09, Spectrum, Page 10

By: John Shand

BUSKERS take heart. You, too, could have a famous producer wander past, drop a scribbled note among the coins and turn you into an international recording artist

**Keywords:** Brian(3), Eno(6), Luminous(2)

Clip Ref: 00051715698

685 words

Type: News Item

Photo: Yes

► **Light show for Aussie icon**

Launceston Examiner, 23/05/09, General News, Page 39

By: None

SIPPING on a sparkling Lindauer Brut from New Zealand, my eyes are drawn to her cleavage. I'm way up on the 32nd floor of the Intercontinental in **Sydney** checking out the harbour views, dominated by the cream sails of the **Opera House**.

**Keywords:** 77 Million Paintings(1), Brian(1), Eno(5), festival(5), House(6), Opera(6), Smart Light(1), Sydney(9), Vivid(6), vividsydney(1)

Clip Ref: 00051752261

451 words

Type: News Item

Photo: Yes

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► **Vivid Sydney - your city in a different light**

Daily Telegraph, 22/05/09, General News, Page 2  
By: None

Clip Ref: 00051677992

107 words  
Type: News Item  
Photo: No

The Harbour City is about to come alive in a spectacular sea of light and sounds. From May 26, **Vivid Sydney** will provide a canvas for an array of international artists and musicians including **Brian Eno** as the curator of **Luminous**, connecting diverse acts with public talks and art installations.

**Keywords:** 77 Million Paintings(1), Brian(1), Eno(2), House(2), Luminous(3), Opera(2), Sydney(3), Vivid(3)

► **Not simple arithmetic**

Sydney Morning Herald, 22/05/09, Metro, Page 15  
By: None

Clip Ref: 00051690128

711 words  
Type: News Item  
Photo: No

The Roebling Tea Room in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, is mostly empty early this Friday morning, its old lamps unlit, its ceiling fans still. But with its wallpapered panels, giant central bar area, old-style soda fountain counter, low couches and battered old chairs it is still attractive: studied retro without flashiness.

**Keywords:** Brian(1), Eno(2), Luminous(2)

► **Coming soon**

Sydney Morning Herald, 22/05/09, Metro, Page 2  
By: None

Clip Ref: 00051690081

302 words  
Type: Feature  
Photo: Yes

US popette Katy Perry, of I Kissed A Girl fame, is coming to **Sydney** to play a show at the Enmore Theatre on August 17. Tickets went on sale today.

**Keywords:** Creative(1), House(1), Opera(2), Sydney(4), Vivid(2)

► **Art**

Sydney Morning Herald, 22/05/09, Metro, Page 2  
By: None

Clip Ref: 00051690098

149 words  
Type: Feature  
Photo: No

The S.H. Ervin Gallery on **Observatory Hill** pays tribute to Margaret Olley with a retrospective of her travel-inspired paintings in ink and watercolour.

**Keywords:** festival(1), Observatory Hill(1), Sydney(2), Vivid(1)

► **FROM LUMINOUS TO FIRE WATER: VIVID'S HIGHLIGHTS**

Sydney Morning Herald, 22/05/09, Metro, Page 3  
By: Kelsey Munro

A self-guided Light Walk" of low carbon-emission, smart-technology light installations created by artists. Start at the Observatory rotunda and wind down into **The Rocks**, then along the Quay, up to the conservatorium and down to the **Opera House** to see all the light sculptures.

**Keywords:** Brian(2), creative(3), Eno(3), festival(3), FIRE WATER(2), House(2), Light Walk(1), LUMINOUS(4), Opera(2), SMART LIGHT(1), SYDNEY(5), The Rocks(3), Vivid(2), vividsydney(1)

Clip Ref: 00051690100

357 words

Type: News Item

Photo: No

► **Festival thrown off track**

MX (Sydney), 22/05/09, General News, Page 5  
By: Matt Sun

Transport arrangements for the **Vivid Sydney** festival were derailed today when it emerged RailCorp has scheduled four nights of trackwork next week. The three-week festival launches on Tuesday night when the State Government hopes tens of thousands of Sydneysiders will travel to **Circular Quay** to see the **Opera House** lit up by musician **Brian Eno**.

**Keywords:** Brian(1), Circular Quay(1), Eno(1), Festival(4), House(1), Opera(1), Smartlight(1), Sydney(1), Vivid(2)

Clip Ref: 00051714253

192 words

Type: News Item

Photo: Yes

► **NOVA 96.9 (Sydney)**

**Breakfast - 22/05/2009 6:55 AM**  
**Merrick, Rosso and Kate Ritchie**

Kate and Dan discuss going to the Chandon Supper Club charity function last night. Dan talks about what is happening in Sydney this weekend: --The play 'Ruben Guthrie' at the Belvoir Street Theatre --Zine Fair at the MCA --Primo Italiano Festival at Stanley St, East Sydney --Vivid Sydney Festival

**Interviewees:** Dan Rookwood (\*), Time Out Magazine

**Duration:** 3.59

**Summary ID:** S00034786890

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Demographics

Male:	47000
Female:	29000
AB:	32000
GB:	15000
All People:	76000

► **ABC 702 Sydney (Sydney)**

**Afternoons - 22/05/2009 1:57 PM**  
**James Valentine**

Lisa Lerkenfeldt, TwoThousand.com.au, joins Valentine to discuss events across Sydney for the weekend. - Luminous Festival

**Interviewees:** Lisa Lerkenfeldt, TwoThousand.com.au

**Duration:** 2.40

**Summary ID:** S00034789346

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Demographics

Male:	14000
Female:	34000
AB:	9000
GB:	33000
All People:	48000

► **MUSIC EVENT Marathon finale on stage**

Mosman Daily, 21/05/09, General News, Page 46  
By: None

Clip Ref: 00051582828

310 words  
Type: News Item  
Photo: Yes

A MAJOR music event, the marathon finale to **Luminous**, will feature **Brian Eno** on stage in Australia for the first time. **Eno** mastermind of the inaugural midwinter music festival at **Sydney Opera House** will join forces with Underworld's Karl Hyde, guitarist Leo Abrahams, synthesist Jon Hopkins and Australia's own undisputed maestros of improvised minimalism, The Necks, for Pure Scenius.

**Keywords:** Brian(1), Circular Quay(1), Eno(3), festival(2), House(3), Luminous(2), Opera(3), Sydney(8), The Rocks(1), Vivid(3)

► **For your diary**

Herald Sun, 21/05/09, Extra, Page 61  
By: None

Clip Ref: 00051636831

140 words  
Type: News Item  
Photo: No

WINTER isn't all gloom. Ladytron are returning to Australia for **Brian Eno**'s cutting-edge **Luminous** festival in Sydney, but Melburnians won't miss out entirely the UK electro revivalists will play a gig at the HiFi.

**Keywords:** Brian(1), Eno(1), Luminous(1)

► **Comedian and musician Reggie Watts set to stir up the locals in Mullum**

Northern Star, 21/05/09, General News, Page 19  
By: None

Clip Ref: 00051645364

435 words  
Type: News Item  
Photo: Yes

The New York one-man-band returns to share what is promised to be a side-splitting night of innovative showmanship. ~DYNAMIC. Non-linear. Improvised. Absurdist.

**Keywords:** Brian(1), Eno(1), festival(3), Luminous(1), Sydney(2), VIVID(1)

► **For Vivid, Eno's best**

MX (Sydney), 21/05/09, General News, Page 5  
By: Matt Sun

Clip Ref: 00051659986

238 words  
Type: News Item  
Photo: No

Dozens of artists are braving **Sydney**'s wet and wild weather conditions to complete final preparations for next week's **Vivid Festival**. **Vivid Sydney** executive producer Brenton Kewley, on loan from the City of **Sydney**, said rain, forecast to continue through to the weekend, would not slow down **Smartlight Sydney** preparations.

**Keywords:** 77 Million Paintings(1), Brian(1), Circular Quay(2), Eno(2), Festival(3), House(1), Opera(1), Smartlight(1), Sydney(6), The Rocks(3), Vivid(4)

▶ **ABC 702 Sydney (Sydney)**  
**Mornings - 21/05/2009 10:35 AM**  
**Deborah Cameron**

Demographics	
Male:	22000
Female:	27000
AB:	11000
GB:	30000
All People:	49000

Cameron talks to Angus Fontaine, editor in chief, Time Out Magazine about events on the weekend. He says there are many events at the Sydney Writers' Festival. He recommends the Dorothy Porter Tribute, Peter Corris, Richard Morgan, Zine Fair and Kate Grenville. The Vivid Sydney Festival is on next week. He says the Light Walk will be amazing. The Papunya Tjupi exhibition ends this weekend at The Ivan Doherty Gallery. He also recommends the Charles Darwin exhibit at The National Maritime Museum, 'When the Rain stops falling' at The Drama Theatre and 'Ruben Guthrie'. He says the Chandon Supper Club for Camp Quality is on tonight at the Aria Restaurant, Otto Quay and Glass. The Italian Festival is also on this weekend. The Pussycat Dolls are in Sydney and the tickets for AC/DC go on sale this week. James Morrison is performing at The Basement and The Crow are on at the Bald Faced Stag on Friday. The Uninvited Guests Film Festival is also on.

**Interviewees:** Angus Fontaine, Editor in Chief, Time Out Magazine

**Mentions:** Brian Eno, musician; Galaxy Bookshop; Mad Men

**Duration:** 5.56

**Summary ID:** S00034770744

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**20/05/2009**

▶ **Comedy's hair apparent**  
Gold Coast Bulletin, 20/05/09, BITE, Page 8  
By: None

Clip Ref: **00051579457**  
386 words  
Type: News Item  
Photo: Yes

FOR most people, the prospect of performing a comedy show without preparing material seems bordering on madness, but that's how US performer Reggie Watts rolls. Watts refuses to offer clues about what to expect of his shows, which fuse music, comedy and theatre, except that they are different every night.

**Keywords:** Brian(2), Eno(2), Luminous(1)

▶ **No headline**  
Northern District Times, 20/05/09, Supplement 1, Page 4  
By: None

Clip Ref: **00051580993**  
141 words  
Type: News Item  
Photo: No

A spectacular outdoor festival unlike anything seen before in **The Rocks** is about to happen, thanks to the **Sydney** Harbour Foreshore Authority. From 6pm to 9pm on June 12, 13 and 14, Fire Waterwill present an interpretation of the fire that devastated the 19th century convict ship the Three Bees, which sank in **Sydney** Cove 195 years ago.

**Keywords:** Fire Water(1), Sydney(2), The Rocks(2), Vivid(1), vividsydney(1)

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► **Free Light Walk**

Northern District Times, 20/05/09, Supplement 1, Page 5  
By: None

Smart Light Sydney's free **Light Walk** will treat visitors to an array of 25 light art sculptures around the city's harbour precinct. Bring your mobile phone to access free video from artists and a guide from our intelligent mobile network.

**Keywords:** Light Walk(2), Smart Light(1)

Clip Ref: **00051581002**

63 words  
Type: News Item  
Photo: No

► **Triple musical treat**

Northern District Times, 20/05/09, Supplement 1, Page 8  
By: None

A major music event like no other, the marathon finale to **Luminous** will feature Brian Eno live on stage in Australia for the first time. The mastermind behind the inaugural mid-winter music **festival** at **Sydney Opera House**, Eno will join forces with Underworld's Karl Hyde guitarist Leo Abrahams, synthesist Jon Hokin and Australia's own undisputed maestros of improvised minimalism, The Necks, for Pure Scenius.

**Keywords:** Circular Quay(1), festival(1), House(2), Luminous(1), Opera(2), Sydney(5), The Rocks(1), Vivid(2)

Clip Ref: **00051581014**

205 words  
Type: News Item  
Photo: Yes

► **Dateline**

Wentworth Courier, 20/05/09, General News, Page 5  
By: None

KEN Benn from New Zealand presents an afternoon of storytelling and laughter at the Hughenden Arts Hotel, 14 Queen St, Woolahra, 2-4pm. Tickets: \$20 at the door, includes Devonshire tea.

**Keywords:** Light Walk(1), SMART Light(1)

Clip Ref: **00051612987**

156 words  
Type: News Item  
Photo: No

## 19/05/2009

► **Late show: night at the museum**

Daily Telegraph, 19/05/09, Sydney Live, Page 27  
By: Elizabeth Fortescue

FORGET Kevin Rudd's stimulus package Museum of Contemporary Art director Elizabeth Ann Macgregor has a recession-busting recipe that is bringing record numbers of visitors through her doors. And they're bringing their cash with them.

**Keywords:** Creative(3), festival(1), Sydney(2), Vivid(1)

Clip Ref: **00051522397**

336 words  
Type: News Item  
Photo: Yes



► **Jaw-dropping vocal range**

Noosa News, 19/05/09, Entertainer, Page 4  
By: None

THIS year's **Sydney Festival** pin-up returns to spread his unique talents further around Australia. On his inaugural visit in January, Reggie Watts chalked up 11 sell-out shows.

**Keywords:** Brian(1), Eno(1), Festival(4), festivals(1), Luminous(1), Sydney(4), Vivid(1)

Clip Ref: **00051508970**

306 words  
Type: Feature  
Photo: Yes

► **Late night art chance**

MX (Sydney), 19/05/09, General News, Page 4  
By: None

The Museum of Contemporary Art will remain open on three consecutive Friday nights as part of the **Creative Sydney** festival. MCA Late Night Fridays will begin on May 29 and include spotlight tours of exhibitions and host **Creative Sydney** forums and talks.

**Keywords:** Creative(1), Sydney(2)

Clip Ref: **00051560889**

116 words  
Type: News Item  
Photo: No

► **Dateline**

Inner Western Suburbs Courier, 19/05/09, Inner City, Page 14  
By: None

May 26-PROFESSOR Larissa Behrendt to speak at Marrickville West Public School as part of Marrickville Council's Sorry Day celebrations. Professor Behrendt is an Aboriginal academic and writer.

**Keywords:** Brian(2), Eno(3), Luminous(2)

Clip Ref: **00051563174**

589 words  
Type: News Item  
Photo: Yes

► **Taking the main stage**

Drum Media, 19/05/09, General News, Page 33  
By: None

There was a certain amount of hesitance, especially in the prominent media, around the fact that NSW Premier Nathan Rees lost out to Melbourne, Sydney's favourite interstate rival, in the bidding for golf supremo Tiger Woods. Instead, he rolled out **Brian Eno** who, having presided over production duties for the recent Coldplay and U2 albums, is currently at the forefront were probably right to be tentative, given the comparative tourism pull between the two.

**Keywords:** Brian(1), Eno(2)

Clip Ref: **00051565483**

979 words  
Type: Feature  
Photo: No

► **Promoting state to America**

Newcastle Herald, 18/05/09, General News, Page 6  
By: None

Clip Ref: 00051484409

100 words  
Type: News Item  
Photo: Yes

MEMBER for Newcastle Jodi McKay is beating the drum for NSW in the US on a 10-day trip to promote upcoming events in **Sydney**. Ms McKay will promote the 2009 **Sydney** World Masters Games, **Vivid Sydney** light and music **festival** and attend the BIO International Convention to attract investment in science and medial research.

**Keywords:** festival(1), Sydney(3), Vivid(1)

► **INSIDES JON HOPKINS**

The Brag, 18/05/09, General News, Page 14  
By: None

Clip Ref: 00051513246

109 words  
Type: Feature  
Photo: No

At long last and just in time for his appearance at the **Luminous** Festival in June - Jon Hopkins new album **Insides** is out, featuring guest instrumentalists Lee Abrahams on the guitar and hurdy-gurdy, Emma Smith on the violin, Davide Rossi on the electric violin, Vince Sipprell on the viola, Lee Muddy Baker on the drums, King Creosote on the humming, and Lisa Lindley-Jones on the additional vocals.

**Keywords:** Luminous(1)

► **Rock music news**

The Brag, 18/05/09, General News, Page 14  
By: None

Clip Ref: 00051513247

1042 words  
Type: Feature  
Photo: No

Seemingly not content with curating a megafestival, producing U2 and being the coolest bald man on the planet, **Brian** Eno has gone one step further by choosing seven Australian guest acts to complement the already amazing **Luminous** event, taking place in less than a month. Watussi, Lob Lovina, The Crooked Fiddle Band and the Alister Spence Trio are among the lucky ones, as well as Sydney post-prog-blitzers Pivot and Palace Of Fire, which includes the two exmembers of Wolfmother without the giant, erm, afros.

**Keywords:** Brian(2), ENO(3), Luminous(2)

► **BACK MY PROJECT**

The Brag, 18/05/09, General News, Page 32  
By: None

Clip Ref: 00051549464

106 words  
Type: Feature  
Photo: No

Have you got a brilliant idea for a creative project but lack the cash to make it a reality? **Creative Sydney** wants you to pitch your project to a panel of creative industry experts and decision makers for honest, practical feedback live on stage

**Keywords:** Creative(3), creativesydney(1), Sydney(2)

► **VIVID FESTIVAL!**

The Brag, 18/05/09, General News, Page 32  
By: None

Clip Ref: 00051549473

60 words  
Type: Feature  
Photo: No

Next week check out our special section on Vivid **Sydney Festival**, including your arts tips for cool panels, forums, exhibitions and installations happening at **Creative Sydney Festival**, the Smart Lights **Festival**, and the Eno-curated **Luminous Festival**. Head to <http://vividssydney.com> for more info. What with **Sydney Film Festival**, Vivid and the Biennale, Winter could be the new Summer for **Sydney**...

**Keywords:** Creative(1), Festival(6), Luminous(1), Sydney(4), VIVID(3)

► **CREATHIE SYDNEY WANT TO BACK YOUR PROJECT**

3-D World, 18/05/09, General News, Page 47  
By: None

Clip Ref: 00051557012

99 words  
Type: Feature  
Photo: No

If you've got a brilliant idea but no funds to realise it, **Creative Sydney** want to hear from you. They will pitch the best ideas to a panel of creative industry experts and six of the best will then compete at Back My Project on 4 June for the top spot, in front of a live audience, judges and possible sponsors.

**Keywords:** Creative(2), creativesydney(2), SYDNEY(2)

## 17/05/2009

► **A clash of civilisations**

Sunday Age, 17/05/09, General News, Page 21  
By: Steve Dow

Clip Ref: 00051452248

1275 words  
Type: News Item  
Photo: No

What's big, brassy lass to do when her cool little sister gains the arty edge? Languidly bathing in her harbour beauty and bling for the two decades Melbourne has spent stoking its arts arid ideas economy, Sydney will later this month flick its rusty buzz switch to rich configurations of colour with a water view, naturally.

**Keywords:** Events NSW(3), Geoff(1), Parmenter(5)

► **Music BIG GIGS**

Sunday Mail Adelaide, 17/05/09, Inside Entertainment, Page 106  
By: None

Clip Ref: 00051452975

234 words  
Type: Feature  
Photo: Yes

THE only thing bigger than Reggie Watts hair is the hype that surrounds him, but there s no doubt that it s all totally justified.

**Keywords:** Brian(1), Eno(1), Luminous(1)

► **Top five**  
Sun Herald, 17/05/09, Travel, Page 6  
By: Marcus Westbury

Clip Ref: 00051450607  
414 words  
Type: News Item  
Photo: No

I went there a few years ago for a cultural **festival**. Everything led me to believe it would be an intimidating and scary place but I loved it.

**Keywords:** Creative(2), festival(2), Sydney(2), Vivid(1)

► **Festivals**  
Sunday Telegraph, 17/05/09, Insider, Page 129  
By: None

Clip Ref: 00051451908  
56 words  
Type: News Item  
Photo: Yes

The popular word **fest** begins tomorrow with umpteen ticketed and free events. Nigerian writer Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie gives the opening address on Wednesday.

**Keywords:** Brian(1), Eno(1), fest(1), festival(2), House(1), LUMINOUS(1), Opera(1), SYDNEY(3), Vivid(1), vividsydney(1)

## 16/05/2009

► **weekend**  
Daily Telegraph, 16/05/09, Weekend, Page 35  
By: None

Clip Ref: 00051404169  
1263 words  
Type: News Item  
Photo: Yes

IT MIGHT be the beginning of the colder months but Sydneysiders do not need to retreat to their loungerooms. And with the launch of the first Vivid festival, which runs from May26 to June 14, there is little excuse for doing so. As Events NSW CEO Geoff Parmenter notes, **Sydney** has a comfortable winter, which drove the organisation's decision to launch Vivid.

**Keywords:** 77 Million Paintings(1), Brian(2), Circular Quay(1), creative(13), creativesydney(1), Eno(6), Festival(14), Fire Water(4), House(5), Light Walk(4), Luminous(3), Observatory Hill(2), Opera(6), Smart Light(6), Sydney(23), The Rocks(4), vivid(5), vividsydney(2)

15/05/2009

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► **Luminous leads the light brigade**

Australian, 15/05/09, Arts & Entertainment, Page 29  
By: Lyn Den Barber

Clip Ref: 00051345701

1275 words

Type: News Item

Photo: No

One of the most exciting pieces of local music news this year was that the US composer-musician Jon Hassell would be playing in Australia in June for the first time. The innovative trumpet player will be here for **Luminous**, a new annual festival of music, art installations and talks organised by the **Sydney Opera House** and curated this year by Hassell's sometime collaborator, the producer and artist **Brian Eno**.

**Keywords:** 77 Million Paintings(1), Brian(3), Creative(6), Eno(7), Festival(8), festivals(1), Fire Water(1), House(6), Luminous(9), Opera(6), Smart Light(3), Sydney(23), the Rocks(1), Vivid(14)

13/05/2009

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► **Taking Sydney (by strategy)**

Rouse Hill Times, 13/05/09, General News, Page 49  
By: None

Clip Ref: 00051204051

275 words

Type: News Item

Photo: No

A MAJOR music **event** like no other, the marathon finale to **Luminous** will feature **Brian Eno** live on stage in Australia for the first time. The mastermind behind the inaugural mid-winter music festival at Sydney Opera House, **Eno** will join forces with Underworld's Karl Hyde, guitarist Leo Abrahams, synthesist Jon Hopkins and Australia's own undisputed maestros of improvised minimalism, The Necks, for Pure Scenius.

**Keywords:** Eno(4), event(1), Events(3), Luminous(2), Master Events Calendar(1), strategy(1), Vivid(2)

► **Taking Sydney (by strategy)**

Blacktown Advocate, 13/05/09, General News, Page 73  
By: None

Clip Ref: 00051202667

275 words

Type: News Item

Photo: Yes

A MAJOR music **event** like no other, the marathon finale to **Luminous** will feature **Brian Eno** live on stage in Australia for the first time. The mastermind behind the inaugural mid-winter music festival at Sydney Opera House, **Eno** will join forces with Underworld's Karl Hyde, guitarist Leo Abrahams, synthesist Jon Hopkins and Australia's own undisputed maestros of improvised minimalism, The Necks, for Pure Scenius.

**Keywords:** Eno(4), event(1), Events(3), Luminous(2), Master Events Calendar(1), strategy(1), Vivid(2)

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**MEDIA MONITORS**

► **Smart light sydney**

Time Out Sydney, 13/05/09, General News, Page 24

By: None

Sydney ignites as a supernatural city of light when the switch is flicked on Smart Light Sydney, a sensory smorgasbord of music, light, performance and debate. The beacon at the centre of it all is the Light Walk, a world-first, totally free, 90-minute journey through 26 interactive light sculptures spanning The Rocks, around Circular Quay all the way to Bennelong Point and a reborn Sydney Opera House

**Keywords:** Events NSW(1)

Clip Ref: **00051319961**

807 words

Type: Feature

Photo: No

**12/05/2009**

► **After a kangaroo curry a refreshing dose of Eno**

Sydney Morning Herald, 12/05/09, Arts & Entertainment, Page 10

By: Louise Schwartzkoff

WITH a month to go before the hand Sine performs in front of 1500 people at the Opera House, the singer and guitarist Liam O'Connell is still wondering if the whole thing is a hoax perhaps the work of a bitter former girlfriend.

**Keywords:** Eno(5), Events(1), Luminous(3), Vivid(1)

Clip Ref: **00051203986**

403 words

Type: News Item

Photo: No

► **ABC 702 Sydney (Sydney)**  
**Breakfast - 12/05/2009 7:14 AM**  
**Adam Spencer**

Spencer says Three Minute Sydney is part of the Creative Sydney Program. Listeners must submit thoughts by next Mon. The most-interesting submission winner will face public presentation. The details are on creativesydney.com.au.

**Duration:** 1.00

**Summary ID:** S00034654205

This program or part thereof is syndicated to the following 1 station(s):-

ABC Central Coast (Gosford)

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Demographics

Male:	68000
Female:	78000
AB:	60000
GB:	82000
All People:	146000

► **2GB (Sydney)**  
**Afternoons - 12/05/2009 2:53 PM**  
**Chris Smith**

Smith reads out quiz question on the Vivid Sydney Festival.

**Duration:** 0.22

**Summary ID:** S00034662850

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Demographics

Male:	23000
Female:	21000
AB:	3000
GB:	28000
All People:	44000

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11/05/2009

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► **CREATIVE SYDNEY**

The Brag, 11/05/09, General News, Page 16  
By: None

Clip Ref: 00051183939

166 words  
Type: Feature  
Photo: No

Creative Sydney has announced the first details for the inaugural free event series, set to take place from May 27 June 12 during the ambitious Vivid Sydney festival. Program highlights include Three Minute Sydney, where some of the city's leading personalities will present their visions on what the city is to them and what it could be; Behind the Screens, a rare opportunity to gain insight into the inner-workings of local film production companies; Back My Project, where local emerging artists will pitch their creative ideas to a panel of experts Dragon's Den-style.

**Keywords:** advertising(1), Creative Sydney(2), event(1), Vivid(1)

► **SMart Light Sydney**

Sydney Morning Herald, 11/05/09, Special Report, Page 4  
By: None

Clip Ref: 00051498437

59 words  
Type: News Item  
Photo: No

Sydney will become a living canvas of music and light with a beautiful walk showcasing dynamic and environmentally friendly art installations throughout the Opera House and The Rocks. There will be a special Italian design event on June 4 organised by the Italian Trade Commission, Italian Chamber of Commerce and supported by Vogue Living (invitation only).

**Keywords:** SMART LIGHT(1)

06/05/2009

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► **Sydney's Carnival of light**

Daily Telegraph, 06/05/09, Sydney Live, Page 56  
By: Elizabeth Fortescue

Clip Ref: 00050922124

170 words  
Type: News Item  
Photo: No

THE music of an eccentric German composer whose face appears on the cover of a Beatles album and who wrote a quartet for strings and four helicopters, will be performed as part of a new festival called Smart Light Sydney.

**Keywords:** Events NSW(1)

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**MEDIA MONITORS**



## 05/05/2009

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### ► IN FROM THE OUTSIDE

Drum Media, 05/05/09, General News, Page 40  
By: None

Clip Ref: 00050917764

677 words  
Type: Feature  
Photo: Yes

Electronic composer/musician Jon Hopkins **spent** most of 2007 holed up in the studio with Coldplay working alongside Brian **Eno** as co-producer of their Viva La Vida Or Death And All His Friends. But the Coldplay album wasn't the wily time Hopkins has worked closely with limo.

**Keywords:** Eno(2), events(1), LUMINOUS(3), spent(1)

## 04/05/2009

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### ► Time to be ingenious

Daily Telegraph, 04/05/09, Sydney Live, Page 36  
By: Alex Lalak

Clip Ref: 00050811010

554 words  
Type: Feature  
Photo: Yes

IT SOUNDS like it is from a B-grade horror film but Generation Slashie is the future. They have been dubbed "multi-disciplinary multi-taskers", their queen bee is the everbusy Cate Blanchett and they will be taking centre stage at the upcoming mini-festival of talks and workshops called **Creative Sydney**.

**Keywords:** accessible(1), Creative Sydney(4), events(2), money(2), Vivid(2)

### ► Street Level

The Brag, 04/05/09, General News, Page 37  
By: None

Clip Ref: 00050909599

516 words  
Type: News Item  
Photo: Yes

How did you get into independent publishing? I've loved zines and mags from the first time I flicked through The Face in high school to the first hand-made zine I found, like a stray diamond, among the flyers at my suburban record shop. I guess that magic, the idea of telling stories, creating images and erm, having **access** to really cool musicians and creative types made me want to study journalism.

**Keywords:** access(1), advertising(1), Creative Sydney(2), events(1)

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**MEDIA MONITORS**

## 03/05/2009

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► **The light fantastic**

Sun Herald, 03/05/09, S-Diary, Page 23  
By: Elissa Blake

Clip Ref: 00050782767

692 words  
Type: News Item  
Photo: Yes

BRIAN Eno's greatest fear in life is to sit next to someone on a plane who turns to him and says "So, what do you do?" It sounds so pompous to say artist, composer, producer and lecturer, they'd think I was making it up," says the softly spoken 60-year-old. Instead, I say I'm a patent attorney.

► **Lighting up the city in a big way**

Sunday Telegraph, 03/05/09, Insider, Page 127  
By: Jo Litson

Clip Ref: 00050784871

144 words  
Type: News Item  
Photo: Yes

FOR three weeks from May 26, the sails of the Sydney Opera House will resemble a "freeform painting" as they glow with changing coloured patterns. Designed by legendary musician and multimedia artist Brian Eno, the Opera House illumination is one of 24 captivating light-art installations that make up a free Light Walk running from the Sydney Observatory through The Rocks and around Circular Quay.

**Keywords:** Events NSW(1)

## 30/04/2009

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► **BRIAN ENO'S LUMINOUS**

Sydney City News, 30/04/09, General News, Page 17  
By: Amelia Groom

Clip Ref: 00050689365

401 words  
Type: News Item  
Photo: No

Already a legendary musician, singer and composer, a music theorist, political and environmental commentator, producer (for bands like U2, Coldplay and Talking Heads), author, visual artist and maker of sounds we hear all the time (on films, Phones, computer games and Microsoft Windows), Brian Eno's latest venture has been curating a new 3-week festival to be held in Sydney from the end of May.

**Keywords:** events(1), LUMINOUS(3), million(1)

► **Information**

Sydney Morning Herald, 30/04/09, Magazine, Page 20  
By: None

Clip Ref: 00050654889

1 words  
Type: News Item  
Photo: No

This fireworks guru unleashes his talents in Vivid Sydney, an ambitious new festival of light.

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**MEDIA MONITORS**

► **Something inspiring for all**

Sydney Morning Herald, 30/04/09, Arts & Entertainment, Page 9  
By: Clare Morgan

Clip Ref: 00050653465

402 words  
Type: News Item  
Photo: No

Think of it as a mini 2020 Summit: three weeks of provocative discussion and **events** showing off Sydney's creative talent, with the chance to solve a few problems along the way. **Creative Sydney** will run at the Museum of Contemporary Art (with one **event** in Parramatta) from May 27 to June 13. The program will be unveiled today.

**Keywords:** advertising(1), Creative Sydney(1), event(1), events(3), funding(1)

## 25/04/2009

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► **Events culture**

Daily Telegraph, 25/04/09, Weekend, Page 8  
By: Stephen Downie

Clip Ref: 00050388213

369 words  
Type: News Item  
Photo: Yes

WITH most of his shows on this tour selling out, Steve Coogan might well wonder why he didn't come to Australia sooner. Coogan is known as the creator of the characters Alan Partridge (pictured above), Paul and Pauline Calf and many others.

## 21/04/2009

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► **Artists go up in light**

Daily Telegraph, 21/04/09, Simply Food, Page 29  
By: Chris Hook

Clip Ref: 00050207897

400 words  
Type: Feature  
Photo: Yes

PITY light artists it's not often they get the chance to shine. We barely notice the everyday work of people such as designer Ruth McDermott, whose work can be seen in corporate headquarters, hotels and other venues across the world, including popular city watering hole The Establishment.

**Keywords:** Events NSW(1), Geoff(1), Parmenter(3)

17/04/2009

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► **Walking Port Macquarie**

Newcastle Herald, 17/04/09, Travel, Page 4  
By: None

Clip Ref: 00050066102

793 words  
Type: News Item  
Photo: No

Port Macquarie Port Macquarie s newest attraction, The Coastal Walk, has been completed, a nine-kilometre easygrade walk taking in beaches, headlands, historic sites and subtropical rainforest.

**Keywords:** Events NSW(1)

16/04/2009

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► **Music and light show in store**

Hornsby Advocate, 16/04/09, General News, Page 55  
By: None

Clip Ref: 00050019915

333 words  
Type: News Item  
Photo: Yes

A LIVING canvas of music and light will come to life with a spectacular Sydney festival curated by legendary musician and multimedia artist **Brian Eno**. **Vivid Sydney** will feature work by designers, architects, visual artists, musicians, computer game developers and festival producers.

**Keywords:** Brian Eno(1), economic(1), Eno(1), event(1), Events(2), million(1), Nathan(2), Premier(2), Rees(3), Vivid Sydney(6)

► **Make a date**

Alive Sydney, 16/04/09, General News, Page 6  
By: None

Clip Ref: 00050085067

572 words  
Type: News Item  
Photo: Yes

One of the city s finest dining establishments is rewarding members and newsletter subscribers with a special offer on Tuesday through to Thursday nights in April. Enjoy six courses including matching wines for just P5.

**Keywords:** Autumn Racing Carnival(1), event(2), events(1), planner(1), Smart Light(2)

07/04/2009

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▶ **3AW (Melbourne)**  
**Afternoons - 7/04/2009 12:49 PM**  
**Denis Walter**

Regular Segment - Music with Billy Pinnell. Caller John has heard a rumour that Brian Eno is touring. Pinnell has not heard if he is or not. John says that Eno is doing some work at the Sydney Opera House, and could be doing a tour after that. Pinnell says that Eno produced a lot of U2 albums, such Joshua Tree.

**Interviewees:** Billy Pinnell, 3AW music reporter

**Duration:** 1.23

**Summary ID:** M00034287730

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Demographics	
Male:	30000
Female:	41000
AB:	14000
GB:	44000
All People:	72000

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**Sunday Telegraph**  
**24/05/2009**  
**Page: 2**  
**General News**  
**Region: Sydney**  
**Circulation: 653000**  
**Type: Capital City Daily**  
**Size: 280.45 sq.cms**  
**-----S**

# Festival sets the city aglow



A SPECTACLE of light, sound and creativity is about to showcase Sydney to the world.

Vivid Sydney, developed by Events NSW and City of Sydney Council, starts on Tuesday when the city comes alive with the biggest international music and light extravaganza in the southern hemisphere.

Tuesday's opening night major event will be the lighting of the Sydney Opera House sails by renowned artist Brian Eno, to kick-start three weeks of "tripping the light fantastic" in Sydney.

The opening night's festivities start at 5pm and the sails will be lit until 1am. The best vantage points will be around Circular Quay, the Museum of Contemporary Art and the Overseas Passenger Terminal.

Within Vivid Sydney, you will find Luminous, a music festival at the Sydney Opera House curated by Eno; Smart Light, featuring the Light Walk, which will illuminate the city with low-energy art installations; and

A FESTIVAL OF MUSIC, LIGHT & IDEAS  
**VIV'd**

Creative Sydney, a series of free public seminars, workshops and performances celebrating the diversity and ideas of Sydney's creative talent.

The Light Walk sparks into life on Tuesday night, from 6pm.

Luminous will be staged at various theatres at the Sydney Opera House; the Light Walk goes from Observatory Hill to the Opera House; and Creative Sydney will be held at the Museum of Contemporary Art.

Vivid Sydney storytellers and image-makers will also perform in Parramatta.

The three-week Vivid Sydney festival ends with the magnificent Fire Water, which features a recreation of the 19th-century convict ship, the Three Bees, rising from the murky depths of Campbells Cove, surrounded by fire sculptures, light

installations and floating lanterns.

And *The Sunday Telegraph*, together with The Daily Telegraph and Events NSW, is giving you the opportunity to be a major part of the action.

Take your favourite photos of the opening night of Vivid Sydney on Tuesday and go into the draw to win one of five family-and-friend passes (six Category A tickets in each pass) to the Socceroos v Bahrain World Cup qualifier at ANZ Stadium on June 10.

Simply upload your best picture to [webphoto@dailytelegraph.com.au](mailto:webphoto@dailytelegraph.com.au)

Maximum image size is 652 x 431 pixels and must be captioned with your full name and email address.

Photos must be submitted by 5pm on Friday, May 29.

A selection of the best photos will appear on [news.com.au/sydneysfavouritelights](http://news.com.au/sydneysfavouritelights) until June 14.

For more information on Vivid Sydney and performance details, log on to [www.vividsydney.com](http://www.vividsydney.com)





**Sunday Herald Sun**  
**24/05/2009**  
**Page: 31**  
**Escape**  
**Region: Melbourne**  
**Circulation: 606500**  
**Type: Capital City Daily**  
**Size: 245.46 sq.cms**  
**-----S**

# Looking on the bright side

Sydney is to have its own festival of light, writes **Nicky Park**

**A**S I sip on a sparkling Lindauer Brut from New Zealand, my eyes are drawn to her cleavage.

I'm up on the 32nd floor of the Intercontinental in Sydney enjoying the harbour views, dominated by the sails of the Opera House.

In a few weeks' time the landmark will be bathed in a dynamic light artwork created by English musician Brian Eno, the guest curator of the inaugural Vivid Festival.

Events NSW chief Geoff Parmenter says almost 30 projectors will illuminate the entire surface of the building, including "the cleavage".

"The way that the sails are being lit, it's never been done before," Parmenter says from his Sydney office.

"They're being lit from 360 degrees for the first time, including the cleavage, the piece in the middle of the Opera House," he says, chuckling at the cheeky reference.

Eno's artwork will be the centre of Vivid festivities, expected to draw 100,000 visitors to the Sydney Harbour foreshore.

The three-week "festival of music, light and ideas" is inspired by France's Lumieres, and Meltdown in Britain,

which has had David Bowie, Massive Attack and rocker Nick Cave as curators.

Parmenter says he hopes the latest addition to the city's event calendar will earn Sydney the title of the "creative capital of the world".

Eno, who has produced albums with U2 and Coldplay, is keeping his Opera House production under wraps.

"I believe ... it won't be a static piece of art, but Eno's designed it and he's playing his cards very close to his chest," Parmenter says.

Eno will also bring his image/sound installation, *77 Million Paintings*, to Sydney,

where it will be a major draw-card of the program.

There will be live music, food markets and creative workshops happening during the festival. And Smart Light Sydney — an exhibition of light art sculptures — will take place on the harbour.

NSW Tourism Minister Jodi McKay says the festival is aimed at domestic visitors, but media from the US, Britain and Asia will also be covering the event.

McKay says she expects Vivid will this year inject about \$10 million into the city's economy.



**Shine on:** Sydney Opera House is the centre of the Vivid Festival

## boarding pass

**festival:** Vivid Festival runs from Tuesday until June 14. The sails of the Opera House and the foreshore lighting displays will be operating from 6pm until midnight each day. Visit <http://vividssydney.com/>

**stay:** The Intercontinental Sydney has Vivid Festival deals. Prices from \$270 a night for accommodation, valet parking and breakfast for two. Visit [www.sydney.intercontinental.com](http://www.sydney.intercontinental.com), (02) 9253 9000.

**more:** [www.visitnsw.com](http://www.visitnsw.com)





**Sun Herald**  
**24/05/2009**  
**Page: 11**  
**S-Diary**  
**Region: Sydney**  
**Circulation: 473769**  
**Type: Capital City Daily**  
**Size: 36.73 sq.cms**  
-----S



## Glow with the flow

How many festivals does it take to change a coloured light bulb? On Tuesday night **Brian Eno** turns on the pretty lights for the three-week Vivid Festival. As part of Vivid, Eno is curating the Luminous music festival, at which **Oscar Jimenez** (pictured) and his band, Watussi, will play the Opera House on June 12.

THEESA1 F01



# SOCIALISE

APARNA KHOPKAR *send event information to [socialise@sunherald.com.au](mailto:socialise@sunherald.com.au)*



**From Tuesday** Vivid Sydney, billed as the biggest international music and light festival in the southern hemisphere, kicks off this week. As well as Luminous, the Brian Eno-curated music festival, and *Smart Light*, the exhibition of light art installations that will pop up around the city, it includes Creative Sydney, a series of workshops, performances and seminars for creative types (there's a specially set-up bar so you can mingle with them). This week's events include Three Minute Sydney, in which you'll hear about visions of Sydney as imagined by Rafael Bonachela (Sydney Dance Company), Beck Ronson (Milk Crate Theatre) and others; and Behind The Screens, where you can get a sneak peek into the creative process as local studios and filmmakers dish their secrets. Museum of Contemporary Art Sydney, George Street, The Rocks. Entry is free but registration is recommended. See [creativesydney.com.au](http://creativesydney.com.au) for a full program rundown.

**Monday 7pm** Be the first in Sydney to see political thriller *State Of Play*. Movie buffs Popcorn Taxi are hosting a screening of the film, starring Ben Affleck, Russell Crowe and Helen Mirren, along with a question-and-answer session with director Kevin Macdonald after the show. The film is about a US congressman (Affleck) whose assistant is murdered and secrets are revealed when a reporter (Crowe) starts sniffing around. It's the Americanised version of a critically acclaimed British television series and is co-written by Tony Gilroy (the Bourne trilogy, *Michael Clayton*, *Duplicity*). Greater Union Cinemas, Westfield Bondi Junction, 500 Bondi Junction. \$17. See [popcorn-taxi.com.au](http://popcorn-taxi.com.au).



**Thursday, 8pm** Hot-shot ad man Ruben is 29, engaged to a model and reckons it's un-Australian not to drink, until he gets drunk, falls off a roof and is packed off to Alcoholics Anonymous. That's the premise of *Ruben Guthrie*, the award-winning play penned by Brendan Cowell. It first opened last year at Belvoir's Downstairs Theatre but has since been reworked for the main stage. The humorous play deals with the serious issue of binge drinking and the Aussie love of it, and is chock-full of familiar faces (Roy Billing, Megan Drury, Geoff Morrell and more). It runs until July 5. Belvoir Street Theatre, 25 Belvoir Street, Surry Hills. \$25-\$56. Phone (02) 9699 3444 or see [belvoir.com.au](http://belvoir.com.au) for more details.



**Sun Herald**  
**24/05/2009**  
 Page: 20  
 S-Diary  
 Region: Sydney  
 Circulation: 473769  
 Type: Capital City Daily  
 Size: 415.89 sq.cms  
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**Saturday 7pm** Dig out your winter woollies, pack a picnic and head out west for a free movie night. Aboriginal Movies by Moonlight is part of the *Marella: The Hidden Mission* exhibition and will feature the acclaimed film *BabaKiueria*. The mockumentary (written by Geoffrey Atherden, who also penned *Mother And Son*) turns the tables on Australian history, with indigenous Australians invading the land, and stars Bob Maza as Wagwan, the Minister for White Affairs. Bring your own rug, stake your spot in the picturesque gardens and settle in. Penrith Regional Gallery & The Lewers Bequest, 86 River Road, Emu Plains. Phone (02) 4735 1100 or see [penrithregionalgallery.org](http://penrithregionalgallery.org). Entry by donation.



**Wednesday, 7.30pm** Relive your teenage years at the Wrong Prom and learn all the dance moves you always secretly wanted to – the routines from classic foot-tapping movies like *Footloose*, *Dirty Dancing*, *Saturday Night Fever* and *Xanadu* (BYO rollerskates) will be broken down for you by professional dance teachers before a night of dancing beneath the disco ball. This week it's *Footloose*-themed (dig out those pale-blue skinny jeans and white singlet to look authentic) with DJ Sveta on the decks. Arrive on time to learn the moves. CarriageWorks, 245 Wilson Street, Eveleigh. \$12. For bookings or more info phone 1300 723 038 or see [carriageworks.com.au](http://carriageworks.com.au).





Sun Herald  
24/05/2009  
Page: 23  
S-Diary  
Region: Sydney  
Circulation: 473769  
Type: Capital City Daily  
Size: 1029.34 sq.cms  
-----S

# PARTY OF THE WEEK

AMY COOPER



Stuart Foley-Quin and Skye Leckie.



Paige Haywood.



Edwina McCann and Alex Perry.



Kelly Smythe and Justin Hemmes.



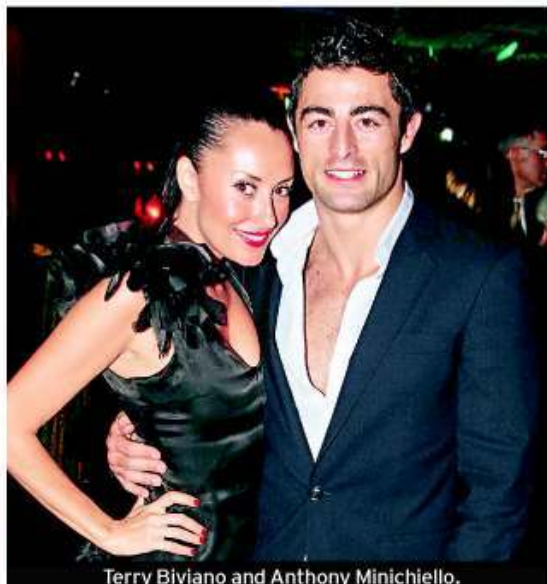
Zorin Finkelson and Paula Swanson.



Zoe Ventoura and Hugh Sheridan.



Rebecca Nazar.



Terry Biviano and Anthony Minichiello.



Sara Groen and Kate Ritchie.

Photos: Lee Besford

This week's top parties

Vivid Sydney launch, Tuesday. Media Assisting  
Liam Neeson's First Birthday, Thursday.

Ref: 51766662



**Sunday Telegraph**  
**24/05/2009**  
 Page: 131  
 Insider  
 Region: Sydney  
 Circulation: 653000  
 Type: Capital City Daily  
 Size: 45.02 sq.cms  
 -----S



## FESTIVALS

### VIVID SYDNEY

This festival of light, music and ideas flicks the “on” switch this Tuesday. There’s a free Light Walk, an adventurous music festival at the Sydney Opera House called Luminous, curated by Brian Eno and featuring The Necks, Ladytron and Rachid Taha, and much more. Vivid runs until June 14; details, [www.vividsydney.com](http://www.vividsydney.com)

### SNOWY MOUNTAINS OF MUSIC

Perisher comes alive with the sound of music over the June long weekend, with nearly 50 acts headlined by Tex Perkins and The Audreys. June 5-8; details, [www.snowymountainsofmusic.com.au](http://www.snowymountainsofmusic.com.au)



## Sunday Telegraph

24/05/2009

Page: 147

Insider

Region: Sydney

Circulation: 653000

Type: Capital City Daily

Size: 48.75 sq.cms

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### HOT HAPPENINGS

On Monday **Lady Gaga** sings at Paddington's Uniting Church (to later air on Network Seven and Channel V)

The Vivid Sydney festival is launched with a cocktail party in The Customs Hall of the Overseas Passenger Terminal at Circular Quay on Tuesday

Eskimo Joe perform at an exclusive function in the Royal Hall Of Industries at Moore Park on Wednesday night

On the same night the Gourmet Traveller 2009 Travel Awards takes place at Guillaume at Bennelong while across town, Ruben Guthrie opens at Belvoir St Theatre with a guest list including **Claudia Karvan** and **Jeremy Sims**

On Thursday, The Den at Ivy celebrates its first birthday and new members-only nightclub White Revolver has it's official launch in Bondi





**Sunday Telegraph**  
**24/05/2009**  
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**Creative Sydney** Massage the right side of the brain at talks and events on photography, gaming and more. At the MCA, May 27 to June 12. Tickets: free. Call (02) 9245 2400 or visit [www.creativesydney.com.au](http://www.creativesydney.com.au).

**Smart Light Sydney** Stroll the city on the nightly Light Walk and see spectacular art sculptures transform waterfront areas from The Rocks to the Opera House. May 26 to June 14. Call (02) 8356 9611 or visit [www.smartlightsydney.com](http://www.smartlightsydney.com).



Is *The Chaser's* Dominic Knight as funny in print? Find out in his first novel *Disco Boy* (Random House, \$32.95), out now





# Outside the Square

A former New York busker heads to the Opera House, with a little help from Brian Eno.

## AMBIENT JOHN SHAND

BUSKERS take heart. You, too, could have a famous producer wander past, drop a scribbled note among the coins and turn you into an international recording artist.

That's what happened to Laraaji, a sometime actor, writer, stand-up comic and busking musician who was discovered by Brian Eno in New York in 1979. In his eyes, however, this was no lucky break but the logical consequence of the power of positive thinking.

Like many artists of all sorts in the 1960s and '70s, Laraaji had turned from existential self-flagellation to the saffron waft of Eastern philosophy and mysticism. His personal magic carpet ride led him to meditation, tai chi and on to metaphysical writings.

"One of the paths that I was experimenting with was called 'new thought'," he tells me. "Its idea was that you could practise thinking by deliberately choosing a new thought on a daily basis. You could choose a new way home, or a different way of putting on your shoes; doing something that feels unfamiliar."

At the time, Laraaji, who can play many instruments, desperately needed money, so he pawned his guitar. "Instead of taking money," he recounts, "this voice inside my head said: 'Don't take money, swap it for this autoharp'. So I said, 'Wow! This is *really* a new thought.' So I decided to go with it and see where it would lead. I left that pawnshop with five dollars and the autoharp."

Laraaji, who was born the more prosaic Edward Gordon in 1943, tried tuning the instrument to his favourite guitar chords and found the effect of exploring just one chord for long periods was very similar to meditation. Having developed his own approach, he added zither to his armoury, electrified it, and took to the streets and parks of New York.

As well as pursuing the "new thought" regime, Laraaji followed the process of positive affirmation espoused by the Mind Science Foundation.

"I remember saying to myself, 'I am attracting the right producer to my life'," he says.

"Perhaps a month or two later, I'm playing in [Washington Square Park] and

along with the money in my case there was this quickly jotted note that was something like: 'Dear Sir, please excuse this ragged piece of paper. I am working on a project, if you would be interested in hearing about it. Brian Eno.'

"I called him the next day and had a meeting with him. We talked about ambient music and I wasn't sure what he was talking about. He was putting words on something that he'd heard me doing and I hadn't heard those words being used for what I was doing. And so we started the project together."

The result was *Day Of Radiance*, the third album in Eno's ambient series. (Other albums in the series are Eno's *Music For Airports*, *The Plateaux Of Mirror* and *On Land*.) Suddenly Laraaji was transformed from busker into an artist whose music was widely embraced by the New Age industry.

He also began conducting meditation seminars and it was a short step for the ex-stand-up comic to incorporate laughter into these events. "I was opening my workshops with about five or 10 minutes of laughter exercises," he says, "and the laughter grew and grew until it became a workshop of its own. Now it's become therapeutic and [it's] laughing consciously to promote wellness."

Most people probably think of laughter and mediation as being almost complete opposites but Laraaji began to see important connections.

"Laughing is an energy release," he explains. "After 15 minutes of laughter there's a quietude that pervades the energy system: the body, the mind and the heart. And what remains is a soft, open presence that is very receptive to spontaneous awareness."

For his second major release, *Flow Goes The Universe*, Laraaji recorded vocals, African mbira, keyboards, percussion and Tibetan gongs. He will perform the album in its entirety as part of Eno's Luminous Festival at the Opera House in June, as well as conducting laughter workshops.

**Laraaji: *Flow Goes The Universe*, Playhouse, June 5, 8.30pm; laughter workshops, Utzon Room, June 6-7, 2pm; [sydneyoperahouse.com/luminous](http://sydneyoperahouse.com/luminous).**



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Page 2 of 2



The best medicine ... composer Laraaji also teaches laughter meditation.



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**23/05/2009**  
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# Light show for Aussie icon

**The Sydney Opera House is set to get her "cleavage" lit up, reports NICKY PARK.**

**S**IPPING on a sparkling Lindauer Brut from New Zealand, my eyes are drawn to her cleavage.

I'm way up on the 32nd floor of the Intercontinental in Sydney checking out the harbour views, dominated by the cream sails of the Opera House.

In a few weeks' time, the landmark will be bathed in a dynamic light artwork created by English musician Brian Eno, the guest curator of the inaugural Vivid festival.

Events NSW chief Geoff Parmenter said almost 30 projectors would illuminate the entire surface of the building, including "the cleavage".

"The way that the sails are being lit, it's never been done before," Mr Parmenter says from his Sydney office.

"They're being lit from 360 degrees for the first time, including the cleavage, the piece in the

middle of the Opera House," he says, chuckling at the cheeky reference.

Eno's masterpiece will be the epicentre of Vivid festivities,

expected to draw 100,000 visitors to the Sydney Harbour foreshore.

The three-week "festival of music, light and ideas" is inspired by France's Lumieres, and Meltdown in the UK, which boasts curators like David Bowie, Massive

Attack and home-grown rocker Nick Cave.

Mr Parmenter said he hoped the latest addition to the city's event calendar would earn Sydney the title of the "creative capital of the world".

Eno, who has produced albums with U2 and Coldplay, is keeping his Opera House production under wraps.

"I believe there is an amount of movement, so it won't be a static piece or art, but Eno's designed it

and he's playing his cards very close to his chest," Mr Parmenter says.

Eno will bring his image/sound installation, 77 Million Paintings, to

Sydney, a major drawcard of the program packed with live music, food stalls, creative workshops and Smart Light Sydney — an exhibition of light art sculptures around the harbour.

NSW Tourism Minister Jodi McKay said the festival was aimed at domestic visitors, but media from the US, UK and Asia would also be covering the event.

Ms McKay said she expected Vivid to inject about \$10 million into the city's economy.

NSW Tourism plans to make Vivid an annual event, and Mr Parmenter said it would become an "enduring tourism asset" to the city.

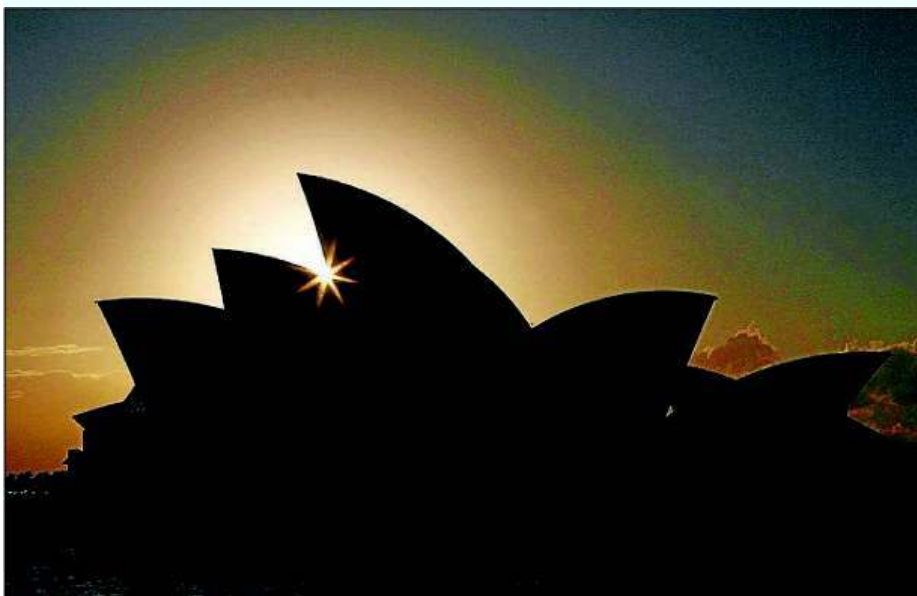
— The writer was a guest of Tourism NSW and Intercontinental Sydney.

## IF YOU GO:

**WHAT:** Vivid festival.

**WHEN:** Runs from the May 26 until June 14. The sails of the Opera House and foreshore lighting displays will be operating from 6pm until midnight each day.

**MORE DETAILS:** Visit <http://vivid Sydney.com/>



*The Sydney Opera House will be put under lights for the Vivid festival.*



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# Vivid Sydney - your city in a different light



Lighting the Opera House sails: Part of Vivid Sydney's Luminous exhibition

THE Harbour City is about to come alive in a spectacular sea of light and sounds.

From May 26, Vivid Sydney will provide a canvas for an array of international artists and musicians including Brian Eno as the curator of *Luminous*, connecting diverse acts with public talks and art installations.

Highlights include New York supergroup Battles, UK synth-popsters Ladytron, Irish singer-songwriter Damien Dempsey, trumpeter Jon Hassell, Reggie Watts and the hottest name in electronic music, Jon Hopkins.

Luminous also launches Eno's major lighting artwork of the Opera House sails and his image-sound installation *77 Million Paintings*.





# music

## NOT SIMPLE ARITHMETIC

COMPLEX NEW YORK QUARTET BATTLES ARE A LOT OF THINGS. JUST DON'T LABEL THEM 'MATH ROCK'. BY **BERNARD ZUEL**.

THE Roebling Tea Room in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, is mostly empty early this Friday morning, its old lamps unlit, its ceiling fans still. But with its wallpapered panels, giant central bar area, old-style soda fountain counter, low couches and battered old chairs it is still attractive: studied retro without flashiness.

There is heartland rock on the radio, including Bon Jovi's *You Give Love A Bad Name*, a very un-Battles sound. "It's a very un-Battles time," mutters John Stanier (drums-percussion), the first of the Brooklyn-based group to arrive, freshly shaven and clean-cut as usual but his eyes a little rheumy.

The night before, the whole band had been at a friend's exhibition opening in Manhattan's Soho district and the partying

had gone on late. Which may explain why Stanier orders a substantial and heartily greasy burger with egg. When Ian Williams (guitars-electronics) arrives later, the only other band member to make it out this morning, his shower-wet hair is swept aside roughly and he settles for a coffee.

The unconventional New Yorkers are soon to be in some ways one of the more traditional parts of Brian Eno's highbrow Luminous festival at the Opera House. According to Williams, Eno met them after a London show and declared "You guys are dirty, I like that," which Williams took to mean "raw, cold and messy fury". While the Opera House shows loom, it was outdoors at the Big Day Out last year where many Australians first experienced the tightly rhythmic and controlled explosions that define the Battles sound.

In a way those performances both made sense of and proved how inaccurate descriptions were of their music as "math rock". You really did feel as if your head was being worked over like you were sitting in a high-level maths class, just hanging on.

At the same time, the thrill of the energy, rhythm and performance were altogether physically enlivening.

Williams is still amused at the term. "People have this idea like, I went to math class when I was a kid and I had to think and it was hard and I am confused and I sometimes asked 'What's going on?' and sometimes when I see Battles I go 'What's going on?' and therefore it's like math rock."

Maybe then it's safer to say that this is complex music from a "modern





**Sum of all parts ... Battles' (from left) Ian Williams, John Stanier, Dave Konopka and Tyondai Braxton.**

experimental band", as the absent Tyondai Braxton (keyboards-guitars-vocals) once put it. It's music that requires both band and audience to pay attention and work rather than passively engage.

It's also what you get when a band comes together, as this one did in 2005, as experienced musicians (Stanier, for example, had spent 10 years with heavy and brainy quasi-grunge band Helmet) who aren't having to learn on the job.

"I definitely think part A was already taken care of, meaning that everybody already knows how to play their instruments really well," Stanier says.

"So it was more a question of what are we going to do with all the stuff we can do? We can do anything. It's limitless."

To which Williams responds: "Limitlessness can present its own challenges. It's a blank page. Even today, our roles aren't that clear in the band. There isn't a defined front man, there isn't a defined songwriter. The process is still really open and experimental and it's always finding

itself out again. And that's challenging in a lot of ways."

One challenge comes in being experimental while working within the confines of the extensive use of loops and electronics, which keeps things "rigid and super tight", according to Stanier. That is one of the defining elements of this band, the melding of so many factors, from loops to prog-rock movements to hard surfaces, vocals as just another sound and even intimations of the experimental end of jazz.

Or as Williams puts it, "it's like the human aesthetic against the machine's".

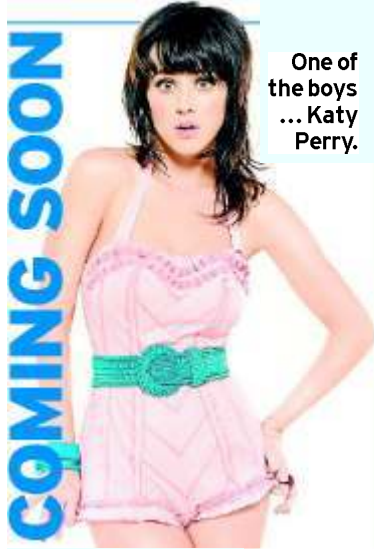
"It's the sloppiness of reality – like a plate of macaroni and cheese – but in this framework of a machine where every noodle is the same; if you took a photograph of a plate of spaghetti but then duplicated the photo many times." Forget math rock, it's home economics rock.

## BATTLES

Luminous Festival, **May 30-31**, Sydney Opera House, **Opera Theatre**, 8.30pm, \$40-\$70.



**Sydney Morning Herald**  
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**One of the boys ... Katy Perry.**

US popette **Katy Perry**, of *I Kissed A Girl* fame, is coming to Sydney to play a show at the Enmore Theatre on August 17. Tickets went on sale today.

**British chart-toppers Doves bring their epic rock to the Metro Theatre on July 30 (on sale June 4). They're also hit tips to get a spot at Byron Bay's Splendour In The Grass.**

If you were anywhere near a dance floor in 1990, you'd know their work: the original boy band **New Kids On The Block** have reunited and will play the Acer Arena on August 10.

**Erotically charged ballroom dance production *Burn The Floor*, featuring performances based around the waltz, samba, salsa, tango, swing and jive, plays at the Sydney Theatre Royal on June 5 and 6.**

Geelong-based company Back to Back Theatre, made up of an ensemble of actors with disabilities, presents its new work **Food Court**, set to a live improvised soundtrack by **The Necks**, at the Opera Theatre, Sydney Opera House, on June 9 and 10 as part of Vivid (see page 3).

**Psychedelic metal proponents Monster Magnet play the Metro Theatre on September 6.**

Well on the road in their quest to be the next Veronicas, polished Melbourne pop duo **Dash & Will** play the Hopetoun on June 27.

**Hip-hop crew Hilltop Hoods play the Enmore Theatre on July 18. Tickets go on sale Tuesday.**

Coinciding with its role as host to the **Creative Sydney** part of Vivid, the MCA will stay open until 9pm on Fridays for three weeks, May 29, June 5 and June 12. Entry remains free.

**Rockers Manchester Orchestra play the Oxford Arts Factory on July 28; tickets on sale now.**

Internationally successful Queensland singing ensemble **the Ten Tenors** perform at the State Theatre on July 17.

**French rockers Phoenix take on the Enmore Theatre on August 5 (on sale May 29).**





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# this week

## art

The S.H. Ervin Gallery on Observatory Hill pays tribute to **Margaret Olley** with a retrospective of her travel-inspired paintings in ink and watercolour. In Annandale, master painter **John Mawurndjul** presents a new collection of bark paintings and ceremonial poles at Annandale Galleries. From Tuesday, the 25 glowing artworks in **Smart Light Sydney** illuminate the Sydney harbour precinct as part of the Vivid festival (see page 3). Redfern is the perfect location for **There Goes The Neighbourhood**, an exhibition by local and international artists who respond to the gentrification of inner-city suburbs, at Performance Space. Indigenous painter **William King Jungala's** two daughters exhibit with their late father in **3 Kings**, at Kate Owen Gallery in Rozelle. Italian artists from the 1960s and '70s turn language into art in **Poesia Visiva**, at the University Art Gallery, Camperdown. Three photographers take a fresh look at the Parramatta River in **Suspension**, at the Parramatta Artists Studios.



**Sydney Morning Herald**  
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**MTWTFS-**

## FROM LUMINOUS TO FIRE WATER: VIVID'S HIGHLIGHTS

**SMART LIGHT** A self-guided "Light Walk" of low carbon-emission, smart-technology light installations created by artists. Start at the Observatory rotunda and wind down into The Rocks, then along the Quay, up to the conservatorium and down to the Opera House to see all the light sculptures. "There are some fantastic ones," Vivid Sydney executive producer Brenton Kewley says. "My favourite is the fig tree down near the Overseas Passenger Terminal. There will be an exercise bike and when you pedal the whole tree lights up." **Tuesday to June 14**, 6pm-midnight each night, free.

**LUMINOUS** Brian Eno coined the word "scenius" to indicate that creative genius today is rarely sponsored by a lone individual's brilliance. "Scenius



stands for the intelligence and the intuition of a whole cultural scene," he has said. "It is the communal form of the concept of the genius." Pure Scenius, the finale of the Luminous festival, will see Eno joined by Underworld's Karl Hyde, guitarist Leo Abrahams, synthesist Jon Hopkins and Australian improvisation icons the Necks for three linked concerts combining improvised sound and vision. **Pure Scenius –**

**Luminous Finale: Opera House Concert Hall, June 14;** concert 1: 5-6.30pm; concert 2: 7.30-9pm; concert 3: 9.45-11.15pm. One concert \$60, two \$120, three \$180.

**FIRE WATER** In 1814, convict ship the Three Bees caught fire in the harbour when a cabin boy fell asleep with his candle still alight.

**Finale ... Brian Eno.** Photo: Polly Borland

"History records that all the ammunitions on board were set alight and cannonballs were being shot across The Rocks and into Sydney as far up as Bridge Street," Kewley says. This spectacle over three nights will see a replica 12-metre ship emerge from the harbour before catching fire and sinking (minus the cannonballs). **June 12, 13 and 14**, 6-9pm; **Campbells Cove**, The Rocks, free.

**CREATIVE SYDNEY** Creative Sydney is the ideas component of the Vivid festival, with panels, discussions, workshops and performances running mostly Wednesday, Thursday and Friday nights for the three weeks of the festival. A highlight will be Remixing History. (Attendance at seminars is free but registration is required.)

**Remixing History: May 27**, 8-9pm, **MCA**; **Songs of Sydney: June 12**, 8-11pm, **MCA**. For more info, see [vividssydney.com](http://vividssydney.com). **Kelsey Munro**



MX (Sydney)  
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MTWTF--

# Festival thrown off track

**Matt Sun**

Transport arrangements for the Vivid Sydney festival were derailed today when it emerged RailCorp has scheduled four nights of trackwork next week.

The three-week festival launches on Tuesday night when the State Government hopes tens of thousands of Sydneysiders will travel to Circular Quay to see the Opera House lit up by musician Brian Eno.

Thousands more are expected at the Smartlight exhibition later in the week.

RailCorp has scheduled work on the North Shore line from Monday from 9.30pm to 2am, which will affect services

on four other lines as well as the City Circle.

It was expected festival organisers and RailCorp would hold talks today over the issue.

RailCorp today said they would monitor crowd numbers and provide extra buses if needed.

Opposition transport spokeswoman Gladys Berejiklian said the debacle demonstrated the need for an integrated transport authority.

"There are up to 12 transport authorities and none of them talk to the relevant authorities," Berejiklian said.

"All these things fall through the cracks because the left hand doesn't know what the right hand is doing."



Francesco Mariotti's *Fire Flies* sculpture is part of Vivid.

Picture: CHRIS PAVLICH



## MUSIC EVENT

# Marathon finale on stage

A MAJOR music event, the marathon finale to Luminous, will feature Brian Eno on stage in Australia for the first time.

Eno – mastermind of the inaugural midwinter music festival at Sydney Opera House – will join forces with Underworld's Karl Hyde, guitarist Leo Abrahams, synthesist Jon Hopkins and Australia's own undisputed maestros of improvised minimalism, The Necks, for *Pure Scenius*.

A choose-your-own-adventure in sound, sonics and structure, this triple treat for music lovers will feature three improvised concerts, separated by two intervals, where each concert picks up where the other left off.

The result of a collaboration by Eno and his guests, the first concert is based on a predetermined sequence of events.

Parts two and three will progress from this – each will have their similarities and differences.

Like a laboratory conducting an undisclosed experiment, *Pure Scenius* will be a combustible, spontaneous, must-see mix of intellect, innovation and instrumentation.

And the experiment goes beyond music: offstage Toby Vogel will be filming, mixing, reprocessing and projecting layers of imagery on three massive screens, like he does for Underworld's live shows.

*Luminous* is a cornerstone of Vivid Sydney, a public festival that will transform the city into a spectacular living canvas of music and light in and around Sydney Opera House, The Rocks, Circular Quay, Parramatta and city centre.

One of five anchor events in the first NSW Master Events Calendar created by Events NSW on behalf of the NSW Government, *Vivid Sydney* will showcase the city as a major creative hub in the Asia Pacific region and celebrate the diversity of Sydney's creative industries.





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#### PURE SCENIUS

**Date:** Sunday, June 14  
**Venue:** Concert Hall, Sydney Opera House  
**Times:** Concert 1: 5pm, 6.30pm. Concert 2: 7.30pm, 9pm. Concert 3: 9.45pm, 11.15pm.  
**Tickets:** \$60 per concert. No concessions.  
**Bookings:** 9250 7777, [sydneyoperahouse.com](http://sydneyoperahouse.com)

Sydney is about to be treated to a lighting display as part of the Vivid Sydney event.



**Herald Sun**  
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 MTWTFS-

## >> club land

### CYCLONE WEHNER

#### > for your diary

WINTER isn't all gloom. Ladytron are returning to Australia for Brian Eno's cutting-edge Luminous festival in Sydney, but Melburnians won't miss out entirely — the UK electro revivalists will play a gig at the HiFi.

Suave French disco DJ Dimitri From Paris enjoyed summer's party at Alumbra so much he's flying back.

Aussie hip hopppers Hilltop Hoods hit the road in July to promote their latest album, *State of the Art*. Catch them at the Palace.

And the Wu-Tang Clan's Ghostface Killah, finally bringing da ruckus Down Under, is confirmed for a second show at the Espy.

**See> Ladytron, HiFi Bar, 125 Swanston St, city, June 5.**

**See> Ghostface Killah, Esplanade Hotel, 11 Upper Esplanade, St Kilda, June 25 and 27.**

**See> Dimitri From Paris, Our House, Your Disco, Alumbra, Shed 9, 161 Harbour Esplanade, Docklands, June 27.**

**See> Hilltop Hoods, Palace Theatre, 20 Bourke St, city, July 31.**



# Comedian and musician Reggie Watts set to stir up the locals in Mullum

**The New York  
one-man-band  
returns to share  
what is promised to  
be a side-splitting  
night of innovative  
showmanship.**

“DYNAMIC. Non-linear. Improvised. Absurdist. Surrealist. Bi-pedal. Anthropological and neurobiological”.

These are just a few of the words that comedian and musician Reggie Watts uses to describe his show.

“Essentially I consider myself a multi-disciplinary comedic performer,” he told Pulse earlier this week.

The New York based one-man-band returns to Australia this month and will stop by Mullumbimby to share what is promised to be a side-splitting night of innovative showmanship.

Watts uses a loop machine,

microphone and his voice, which sports an impressive 10-octave vocal range, to record layers of beats, bass lines and melody, often completely improvised.

“It’s really just a dose of imagination and information that hopefully leaves people very confused but entertained,” Watts said.

His comedy styling is laden with social commentary, ranging on topics from theology to racism, with a hip-hop/trip-hop approach.

You know you are in for an interesting night when one of Watts’ aims is to stir up the audience.

“It’s basically being an agitator and I love being an agitator. I’m not out to piss off the audience, I’m just having a game,” he said.

This month Watts performs a handful of Australian shows as well as headlining the Sydney Comedy Festival. To add to the hectic schedule, he has been chosen, along with five other artists (including legendary Brian Eno), to perform at Luminous, the festival of light, music and ideas (a part of the new Sydney arts festival VIVID) in June.

“Oz audiences are great audiences – always ready to go,” Watts said.

“They are rather silly people hence they understand what I do.

“After seeing Monty Python [at the age of 14], I realised that being on stage is not limited to just reciting written material.”

Watts spent some time in Seattle in the 1990s, sparking what was to become the beginning of a career in comedy.

Post-Seattle grunge, he said ‘improvised musical jam sessions, filled the void and spurred a small movement that would draw audiences on club nights’.

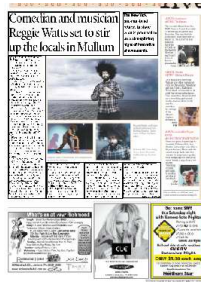
His band enjoyed 10 years on the scene, prompting the start of a new chapter for Watts. He moved to New York and developed what audiences will experience when he performs in Mullumbimby.

“I decided that I needed to move onto something that would make me more of a living and [so I] pursued comedy full-time,” he said.

With a musical history steeped in classical piano and violin, the stint in the nineties Seattle scene and a plethora of creative collaborations (including Regina Spektor, Imogen Heap and Jermaine Brent of Flight of the Conchords), Reggie has built a reputation on being a one-of-a-kind performer.

– *Adelaide French*





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 General News  
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 MTWTFS-



Support from S Sorrensen with projections by Jonathan Oxlade.



Reggie Watts performs at Mullumbimby Civic Hall on Sunday. Doors open 7.15pm for 8pm start.

Tickets: \$25 from Fairy Floss, Byron Bay and Mullumbimby Bookshop.



**MX (Sydney)**  
**21/05/2009**  
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**MTWTF--**

# For Vivid, Eno's best

**Matt Sun**

Dozens of artists are braving Sydney's wet and wild weather conditions to complete final preparations for next week's Vivid Festival.

Vivid Sydney executive producer Brenton Kewley, on loan from the City of Sydney, said rain, forecast to continue through to the weekend, would not slow down Smartlight Sydney preparations.

"Currently there are 25 light-

ing installations being erected throughout Circular Quay and The Rocks," he said.

Kewley expects "Cycle" to be the most popular – an interactive display in which bulbs in a tree at Circular Quay light up when someone pedals a bike.

Music festival curator Brian Eno is expected to arrive in Sydney in the next few days to put the finishing touches on his exhibition and the Opera

House sails lighting display.

"He has brought together some great international and Australian bands, the talks program and his exhibition 77 Million Paintings," Kewley said.

"Having someone like Eno as a curator makes Vivid Sydney a point of difference, it's not your traditional arts festival."

Organisers expect people from across the city to come into the CBD at night.

Restaurants around The

Rocks are being encouraged to remain open to cater for late-night crowds.

Kewley said there would be some road closures around The Rocks but no extra trains.

And the advice to festival-goers in the event of rain?

"Bring an umbrella – it's outdoors and if it's going to rain, it's going to rain," he said.



# Comedy's hair apparent

**F**OR most people, the prospect of performing a comedy show without preparing material seems bordering on madness, but that's how US performer Reggie Watts rolls.

Watts refuses to offer clues about what to expect of his shows, which fuse music, comedy and theatre, except that they are different every night.

"It makes me really, really nervous when I have to remember prepared things, so I guess performing works kind of the opposite for me than for most people," he says.

"It's just a slow evolution from childhood, being a class clown.

"Some nights I'll get inspired to try to make the show run a certain way, but it might not work and I have to change my path and try something else.

"In those cases, I go back to older ideas and allow them to be inspirational and then it buys me time, so I can get reconnected."

Watts was the poster boy for this year's Sydney Festival, where he performed nine sold-out shows.

This time, he's back to play the Sydney Comedy Festival and headline Brian Eno's Luminous event at the Opera House.

"I met Brian Eno at a technology conference and we hit it off so he's invited me to be involved in a couple of things like this over the years," says Watts.

His quick wit and ability to channel multiple characters and improvise songs have won him a legion of fans here, which he's keen to enlarge with this run of shows.

"You just never know until you get there and have the first night. I met amazing people," he says of his last trip to Australia.

A one-man phenomenon, Watts uses loop pedals to build his own brand of hip-



Comedian, vocalist, beat-boxer, musician – Reggie Watts does it all

hop and comedy and likes his gigs to be inspired by the places where he performs.

"Things like language and culture all play a part in what sort of show it's going to be," he says.

"I never know until I'm on stage. If before the show I overhear a conversation in a cafe or I have an interesting taxi ride, I

don't purposely try to use it that night, but it might influence things," he says.

❑ **Reggie Watts plays The Powerhouse, in Brisbane, on Saturday at 7.30pm (tickets are \$30) and Mullumbimby Civic Hall, in northern NSW, on Sunday at 8pm (tickets \$25).**



**Northern District Times**  
**20/05/2009**  
**Page: 4**  
**Supplement 1**  
**Region: Sydney**  
**Circulation: 58675**  
**Type: Suburban**  
**Size: 75.14 sq.cms**  
**--W----**

■ **A spectacular outdoor festival** unlike anything seen before in The Rocks is about to happen, thanks to the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority. From 6pm to 9pm on June 12, 13 and 14, Fire Water will present an interpretation of the fire that devastated the 19th century convict ship the *Three Bees*, which sank in Sydney Cove 195 years ago. The stunning spectacle will be complemented with the live classical sounds of ARIA Award-nominated band Coda, as hundreds of lanterns float on Campbells Cove, representing descendants of convicts. Three times each evening, a sculpture of the ship will emerge from the water and burst into flame as fire sculptures, light installations, musicians and giant helium-filled lanterns transform The Rocks into a warm winter haven. Fire Water is a free event that will bring history to life. Full details are available at [www.therocks.com](http://www.therocks.com) or for information on Vivid visit [www.vividsydney.com](http://www.vividsydney.com)





**Northern District Times**  
**20/05/2009**  
**Page: 5**  
**Supplement 1**  
**Region: Sydney**  
**Circulation: 58675**  
**Type: Suburban**  
**Size: 24.13 sq.cms**  
**--W----**

## Free Light Walk

■ Smart Light Sydney's free Light Walk will treat visitors to an array of 25 light art sculptures around the city's harbour precinct. Bring your mobile phone to access free video from artists and a guide from our intelligent mobile network. Nightly from 6pm to midnight, May 26 to June 14 at Observatory Hill, the Rocks, Circular Quay, Customs House and Sydney Opera House.





# Triple musical treat

Choose-your-own-adventure in sound, sonics and structure

**A** major music event like no other, the marathon finale to Luminous will feature Brian Eno live on stage in Australia for the first time.

The mastermind behind the inaugural mid-winter music festival at Sydney Opera House, Eno will join forces with Underworld's Karl Hyde, guitarist Leo Abrahams, synthesist Jon Hopkins and Australia's own undisputed maestros of improvised minimalism, The Necks, for Pure Scenius.

A choose-your-own-adventure in sound, sonics and structure, this triple treat for music lovers will feature three improvised concerts, separated by two intervals, where each concert picks up where the other left off.

The result of a collaboration by Eno and his guests,

the first concert is based on a predetermined sequence of events. Parts two and three will progress from this – each will have their similarities and differences.

Like a laboratory conducting an undisclosed experiment, Pure Scenius will be a combustible, spontaneous, must-see mix of intellect, innovation and instrumentation.

And the experiment goes beyond music: offstage Toby Vogel will be filming, mixing, reprocessing and projecting layers of imagery on three massive screens, like he does for Underworld's live shows.

Luminous is a cornerstone of Vivid Sydney, a public festival that will transform the city into a spectacular living canvas of music and light in and around

Sydney Opera House, The Rocks, Circular Quay, Parramatta and city centre.

One of five anchor events in the first NSW Master Events Calendar created by Events NSW on behalf of the State Government, Vivid Sydney will showcase the city as a major creative hub in the Asia Pacific region and celebrate the diversity of Sydney's creative industries.

■ Pure Scenius, June 14. Times: Concert I from 5pm to 6.30pm; concert II from 7.30pm to 9pm; concert III from 9.45pm to 11.15pm. Venue: Concert Hall, Sydney Opera House. Tickets: \$60 per concert. No concessions. Bookings: 9250 7777 or online at [sydneyoperahouse.com](http://sydneyoperahouse.com)



Seeing is believing...  
Vivid Festival. (Inset)  
Brian Eno



**Wentworth Courier**  
**20/05/2009**  
**Page: 5**  
**General News**  
**Region: Sydney**  
**Circulation: 48370**  
**Type: Suburban**  
**Size: 70.50 sq.cms**  
**--W----**

## Dateline

### TALL TALES AND TRUE

**MAY 24** KEN Benn from New Zealand presents an afternoon of storytelling and laughter at the Hughenden Arts Hotel, 14 Queen St, Woolahra, 2-4pm. Tickets: \$20 at the door, includes Devonshire tea. Presented by the Australian Storytelling Guild, [www.storytellersnsw.org.au](http://www.storytellersnsw.org.au).

### MONSTER JUMBLE SALE

**MAY 27** SECOND-HAND clothing sale at Paddington Town Hall, in sup-

port of Barnardos. Continues until May 29. Come and grab yourself a fashion bargain.

### LIGHT UP SYDNEY

**MAY 26** SMART Light Sydney delivers three weeks of free light, music and events until June 14. Full details are at [www.smartlightsydney.com](http://www.smartlightsydney.com), but the mini-festival includes the free Light Walk, nightly from 6pm, which takes in Observatory Hill, The Rocks, Circular Quay, Customs House and Sydney Opera House. There are also free Light



Walk guided tours, leaving from the Opera House forecourt at 6.30pm, 7.30pm and 8.30pm on Friday, May 29 and Saturday, May 30, as well as Friday to Sunday, June 5-7, and Friday and Saturday, June 12 and 13.



# Late show: night at the museum

The MCA offers some respite from gloom, writes **Elizabeth Fortescue**

FORGET Kevin Rudd's stimulus package — Museum of Contemporary Art director Elizabeth Ann Macgregor has a recession-busting recipe that is bringing record numbers of visitors through her doors. And they're bringing their cash with them.

Macgregor says the MCA last month recorded its highest monthly attendance in its 17-year history, with a total of 70,613 visitors coming into the galleries.

"Traditionally in difficult times, people have turned to the arts," she says. "The museum is free."

"But it's more about people looking for something to spark their imagination and forget the doom and gloom. People are

embracing the chance to experience optimistic and engaging exhibitions."

And once inside the building, visitors aren't just checking out art . . . they're also spending their hard-earned.

"Our shop sales are way above. It's the one bit of our income that's going up," Macgregor says.

And March also broke records, with 61,392 visitors. To celebrate, the MCA wants to open until 9pm on Friday nights. It will trial late-night openings for three consecutive weeks starting on May 29, to coincide with *Creative Sydney*, part of the Vivid festival, celebrating the city's creative talent through a program of talks

and performance. The MCA's current exhibition of work by the Japanese artist Yayoi Kusama, who has a condition that leads to spots appearing before her eyes, is proving hugely popular.

But Macgregor says the other current shows — one on contemporary drawing, one on artworks influenced by literature — offer different experiences and appeal to different demographics.

The MCA recently received a "substantial" gift of cash from Melbourne philanthropist Loti Smorgon, for which Smorgon secured the naming rights to the MCA's planned new sculpture terrace. The terrace is part of a \$50 million MCA redevelopment for which Macgregor hopes to secure development approval "within a couple of weeks".

The MCA still needs to raise \$22 million for the works.



Open late: MCA director Elizabeth Ann Macgregor (left) and Creative Sydney's Jess Scully

Picture: Jim Trifyllis



**Noosa News**  
**19/05/2009**  
**Page: 4**  
**Entertainer**  
**Region: Noosa QLD**  
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**Type: Regional**  
**Size: 142.62 sq.cms**  
**-T--F--**

## Jaw-dropping vocal range

THIS year's Sydney Festival pin-up returns to spread his unique talents further around Australia.

On his inaugural visit in January, Reggie Watts chalked up 11 sell-out shows.

Count down to his reunion with rabid Sydney fans as Reggie headlines the Sydney Comedy Festival in May, and appears with Brian Eno as one of the five select performers in Luminous, a festival of music, ideas, lights and performance that's part of the new Vivid Sydney, in June. Select cities and regional areas will now get the chance to see a live Reggie Watts show between May 17 and June 6.

Reggie Watts is a completely unique comedian and musician.

He shakes new meaning into what you can do with a human voice, a microphone and a loop machine.

Exploiting a jaw-dropping ten-octave vocal range he creates funky bass lines and soulful diva-esque vocals to underpin hilarious, off-the-cuff riffs on everything from ancient history and technology, science and racism, to theology and pop culture. Channelling more than 300 characters, his mix of improvised music, absurd comedy and visceral social commentary makes him a one-of-a-kind performer.

An incisive commentator on all that surrounds him, and one-man-band, Watts is like a tornado traversing hip-hop, trip-hop, '80s pop alternative, nu-metal and classical opera. No two songs or performances are ever the same, as he disorients and stuns his



**WHO:** Reggie Watts  
**WHERE:** Joe's Waterhole, Eumundi  
**WHEN:** Friday  
**INFO:** 5442 8144 or [www.musicliveatjoes.com](http://www.musicliveatjoes.com)

audiences like a supernatural force.

And globe-trotting designer Jonathan Oxlade is creating visuals for Reggie to respond to his own unique way.

Born in Germany and raised in the US, Reggie is a classically trained pianist and jazz singer.

He made his name playing and singing in the Seattle music scene through the '90s, shifting to a music-comedy hybrid.

Reggie then infiltrated the New York and Los Angeles comedy scenes, and top festivals including South By South West (US), Edinburgh Fringe (UK), Montreal's Just For Laughs and Cape Town Comedy Festival.



**MX (Sydney)**  
**19/05/2009**  
**Page: 4**  
**General News**  
**Region: Sydney**  
**Circulation: 96253**  
**Type: Capital City Daily**  
**Size: 42.99 sq.cms**  
**MTWTF--**

## Late night art chance

The Museum of Contemporary Art will remain open on three consecutive Friday nights as part of the Creative Sydney festival.

MCA Late Night Fridays will begin on May 29 and include spotlight tours of exhibitions and host Creative Sydney forums and talks.

"MCA Late Night Fridays will be a great way for people working in the CBD and The Rocks areas to drop into the MCA after office hours," director Elizabeth Ann Macgregor said.

"We're expecting a strong turnout, particularly with people looking to catch the last few weeks of Yayoi Kusama's exhibition, which closes on June 8."

Last month the MCA recorded its highest ever monthly attendance, with more than 70,000 people visiting exhibitions.





## Dateline

### SORRY DAY

**MAY 26** PROFESSOR Larissa Behrendt to speak at Marrickville West Public School as part of Marrickville Council's Sorry Day celebrations. Professor Behrendt is an Aboriginal academic and writer. The school will also host the New Gen Philharmonic Orchestra, a committed group of young musicians under the leadership of Romano Crivici. Phone: 9558 5762.

### A TASTE OF ITALY

**MAY 27** AS part of the Sydney Italian Festival, Barilla's executive chefs are showcasing Italian cuisine and its rich history with public masterclasses and an open-air trattoria in Martin Place on May 27 and 28 from 11am to 3pm. Also see details of the A Taste of Italy Masterclasses on June 2 and 3 at Casa Barilla in Annandale at [innerwestcourier.com.au](http://innerwestcourier.com.au).

### CELEBRATING ITALY

**MAY 29** THE Italian organisation, Co. As. It is calling on Italian Australians to celebrate the treasures of Italy at its annual Italian National Ball. This year's gala event will feature a night of Italian food and entertainment. The event will be held at Le Montage. Phone: 9654 0744.

### AMATO'S WINE FAIR

**MAY 30** COME down to Amato's Liquor Mart between noon and 5pm for the liquor store's Italian Wine Fair 2009. There will be a big selection of wines from Italy. The wine tastings

will feature a drop or two from prosecco to soave to pinot grigio in the whites and fantastic reds from sangiovese to valpolicella to brunello. Come and speak to the importer of the wine, not just a tasting person.

### MUSIC FESTIVAL

**MAY 30** EX-WOLFMOTHER and Inner West musos Chris Ross and Myles Heskett will join

Brian Eno and six other Australian bands at the inaugural Luminous music festival at Sydney Opera House. They join cult band The Neck who will perform in Back to Back Theatre's production Food Court and alongside Eno in the festival finale Pure Scenius. Palace of Fire will be the first music act of the festival when they open for New York supergroup Battles on May

30 and 31. See more [innerwestcourier.com.au](http://innerwestcourier.com.au).

### WEATHERBY COMING BACK

**MAY 30** ABORIGINAL artist Greg Weatherby makes his return to the Sydney art scene with *Coming Back*, an exhibition of paintings at



Amato's Liquor Mart will host its annual Italian Wine Fair on August 30 from noon and 5pm. It will showcase one of the biggest selections of Italian wines in Sydney.



Palace of Fire will join Brian Eno and six other Australian bands at the inaugural Luminous music festival at Sydney Opera House.



**Inner Western Suburbs Courier**  
**19/05/2009**  
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 Inner City  
 Region: Sydney  
 Circulation: 76992  
 Type: Suburban  
 Size: 329.09 sq.cms  
 -T-----

Marrickville Council's Chrissie Cotter Gallery.  
*Coming Back* reflects Weatherby's personal journey after the loss of his wife of 38 years.

### BURWOOD MEMORIAL

**MAY 31** THE National Servicemen's Association, Burwood branch will hold a memorial service at Burwood Park 11am. The National Servicemen's Association of Australia was founded in 1987. It represents the 287,000 young men called up for service in the navy, army and air force between 1951 and 1972. To find out about the Burwood branch phone 9181 2144.

### BILINGUAL SCHOOL OPEN DAY

**JUN 03** THE Italian Bilingual School at Casa d'Italia Leichhardt will open to the public for an interactive display of the school in action. It is the first school in Australia to provide a bilingual and bicultural education in English and Italian. It provides a program of study which targets students needs by combining elements of both the Australian and the Italian curriculum. Phone: 9572 9077.

### ORCHESTRA RETURNS

**JUN 06** AFTER an acclaimed sold-out inaugural concert, the Metropolitan Chamber Orchestra will make its return to Rozelle for its second concert season. The highly anticipated performance will feature three wonderful works from Schubert, Mozart and Beethoven. Phone 0414 927 135. See more innerwestcourier.com.au.



# TAKING THE MAIN STAGE

**BATTLES HAVE BEEN HAILED THE WORLD OVER AS BOUNDARY PUSHERS AND FORWARD THINKERS. DRUMMER JOHN STAINER EXPLAINS TO SCOTT FITZSIMONS THAT HIS BAND "IS AWESOME, FULL-THROTTLE, 100% PROFESSIONAL ALL THE TIME."**

There was a certain amount of hesitance, especially in the prominent media, around the fact that NSW Premier Nathan Rees lost out to Melbourne, Sydney's favourite interstate rival, in the bidding for golf supremo Tiger Woods. Instead, he rolled out Brian Eno who, having presided over production duties for the recent Coldplay and U2 albums, is currently at the forefront of the music industry, and the Luminous festival. The doubters were probably right to be tentative, given the comparative tourism pull between the two. In fact, even music fans may have shown a level of disinterest, until Battles were rolled out as leaders of the event, that is.

For those members of the music community who have yet to experience their phenomenal debut album, *Mirrored*, they are truly missing out. Many a music critic has attempted to describe the Battles sound and live show, and, in summary, this article will place its bets on an experimental outburst of prog-math-electronica ingenuity that is truly unique and captured faultlessly in their live show. (Surely that superlative-heavy summary will entice you to go and search out the album.) In a nutshell, picture four ridiculously talented musicians dealing in all matter of loops, two of which often – in fact usually – are playing two instruments at once and triggering incomprehensible vocals, which were prerecorded during the song's intro. Now take that extravaganza and move it from a pub into the Sydney Opera House's Concert Hall and you've got what is bound to be one hell of a night. "I hope it'll sound amazing. I'm assuming it will, [being] such a professional, prestigious venue," resonates the assured, cagey and often repetitive John Stainer, drummer for the New York-based collective. "I'm assuming it's gonna be incredible, I hope! You know, if the Symphony Orchestra can play there so can we.

"The crazy thing is that I'm actually arriving the day of the show and then I'm leaving the day after our show... I'm actually leaving the first thing the next morning, we all are. It's gonna be a really quick in and out, the fastest ever. I'll barely be in Australia for 48 hours," he illustrates, "which is ridiculous, but we have to get back to our writing... we have to get back to work." It's a double-edged sword for fans given that the minute, but nevertheless existent, hope that the band will stick around for some surprise shows is culled, whereas the fact that finally some new material is in motion should offer sufficient compensation.

"We started [writing] while we were in Asia, that's why we can't really hang out in Australia, which is kind of a shame," he laments. "I've never flown down there just for two days [just to] turn around and come back; it's a long way go. But we just can't really afford to do that right now. Gotta keep the focus on our record." Just what that record may sound, look, smell or feel like is something that

the interviewee is not willing to divulge. Partly due to the fact that most of it hasn't even been thought-up yet, you can understand the defensive stance when one realises the sheer amount of expectation surrounding the often make-or-break follow-up – a nervousness that, apparently, Stainer doesn't share. "I don't feel any pressure [for the new record] because I'm 100% confident that we're going to make an amazing record again. So there's no pressure from anyone, especially not the label."

Does that confidence arise from being around musicians you trust? "Yeah, exactly. I'm confident that we're able to perceive absolutely any sort of musical idea that we present in front of us, with no boundaries. It's kind of a good feeling."

Whatever it sounds like, one thing to expect is development. The step-up from the band's EPs to album was remarkable, and given their experience with other musical exploits (Stainer alone has ties to the Mike Patton lead Tomahawk as well as Helmet and Mark Of Cain), it's unlikely they'll remain stale. "I will tell you that the difference between the EPs and *Mirrored* is the result of getting to know each other much better musically and also just being on tour. Those EPs were done the second after we started so it's very, very, very, raw [and] new. We didn't really know what we were doing... So that being said, the new record will absolutely be different. How it will be different, I can't really tell you that, but of course it will be different. There's absolutely no pressure at all."

And as for the historic Luminous event, one would have an inkling that there may be something special in the works, be it guest appearances, amazing lighting or hopefully new material. In the fashion becoming typical of this interview, Stainer alludes to the fact that some of those things might happen, all the while leaving any real details in the dark. Any Eno involvement was discarded with, "He's not telling us what to play or what to look like. It's all us." Special efforts were met with, "No, not really because I think that will be favouring one over the other. I mean, obviously there's a bit of a difference [between] playing to 100,000 people and 20 people," he exaggerates, "but we certainly don't go out of our way. It's not like we're gonna play better because it's at the Opera House or we're gonna play worse. We're gonna do what we do, which is awesome, full-throttle, 100% professional all the time." As for grandiose lighting and new material, he offers, "Umm... You will have to wait and see for that one," and, "Yes, there will be. That's all I'm gonna say on that one," respectively.

WHO Battles

WHEN & WHERE Saturday 30 and Sunday 31 May, Sydney Opera House Concert Hall



**Drum Media**  
**19/05/2009**  
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**General News**  
**Region: National**  
**Circulation: 33339**  
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**Size: 418.87 sq.cms**  
**-T-----**



The crazy thing is that I'm arriving the day of the show and then I'm leaving the day after... I'll barely be in Australia for 48 hours, which is ridiculous, but we have to get back to our writing.







**Newcastle Herald**  
**18/05/2009**  
 Page: 6  
 General News  
 Region: Newcastle NSW  
 Circulation: 49880  
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 Size: 46.31 sq.cms  
 MTWTFS-

## Promoting state to America

MEMBER for Newcastle Jodi McKay is beating the drum for NSW in the US on a 10-day trip to promote upcoming events in Sydney.

Ms McKay will promote the 2009 Sydney World Masters Games, Vivid Sydney light and music festival and attend the BIO International Convention to attract investment in

science and medial research.

Ms McKay said promoting NSW as an affordable holiday destination for Americans was vital in the light of a global slowdown in spending.

"In 2008 we received more than 295,000 visitors from the USA, up by 2.5 per cent on the previous year," she said.



JODI MCKAY





**The Brag**  
**18/05/2009**  
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 General News  
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 Circulation: 30042  
 Type: Magazines Lifestyle  
 Size: 119.95 sq.cms  
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**INSIDES – JON HOPKINS**

At long last –and just in time for his appearance at the Luminous Festival in June - **Jon Hopkins'** new album *Insides* is out, featuring guest instrumentalists Leo Abrahams on the guitar and hurdy-gurdy, Emma Smith on the violin, Davide Rossi on the electric violin, Vince Sipprell on the viola, Lee Muddy Baker on the drums, King Creosote on the humming, and Lisa Lindley-Jones on the additional vocals. Remixes of 'Light Through The Veins' were provided by David Holmes and Ewan Pearson. The album artwork is also REALLY pretty. We have three copies to give away. Email us with your postal addy and the name of Hopkins' last album.



# rock music news

welcome to the frontline: what's goin' on, down and around town... Welcome Julz Steinweg!

## BRIAN ENO'S LOCAL PICKS

Seemingly not content with curating a mega-festival, producing U2 and being the coolest bald man on the planet, **Brian Eno** has gone one step further by choosing seven Australian guest acts to complement the already amazing *Luminous* event, taking place in less than a month. **Watussi**, **Lolo Lovina**, **The Crooked Fiddle Band** and the **Alistair Spence Trio** are among the lucky ones, as well as Sydney post-prog-blitzers **Pivot** and **Palace Of Fire**, which includes the two ex-members of **Wolfmother** without the giant, erm, afros. The biggest kudos is dub/dancehall group **Sine**, who Eno found through YouTube. Wow, I'm getting that video of me singing Bardot's 'Poison' when I was 12 on the net right now. All these artists will be supporting overseas talent including **Battles**, **Ladytron** and **Reggie Watts**. Tickets and full details available at the Luminous website.

## ART VS. SCIENCE ARE KILLING IT...

No, really. The Triple J Unearthed winners and relentless touring band have just hit No.1 on the iTunes Dance charts with their debut EP, helped along by bangers like *Parlez-Vous Francais* and *Flippers*. The boys are also going to be supporting **Datarock** and **Grafton Primary** on upcoming tours, as well as featuring prominently at the **Come Together Festival** this June Long weekend. In case we didn't make it clear enough, these guys are hot property. Get in on it now before everybody else tells you what great gigs you missed.

## ...AS ARE MAXIMO PARK

*Quicken The Heart*, the new long player from the quirky and verbose Glaswegians has just hit the top of the UK Album charts. This is a considerable achievement, considering stiff

competition in the form of **Lady GaGa**, **Beyonce**, **Lily Allen** and some old guy called **Bob Dylan**. The lovely lads from **Maximo Park** released the record in Australia yesterday, so go on, give it a whirl. Do not let the fact that the UK spawned the Susan Boyle phenomenon stand in the way of great rock music. After all, they also gave us *Little Britain* and Franz Ferdinand. Maximo Park have done two sell-out tours in Australia in the past five years, so expect them back here before Lady GaGa does a duet with Susan Boyle. Whenever that is.

## SPLENDOUR SELLS OUT

You probably didn't need us to tell you this, chances are you sat on the Qjump website and watched 17,500 tickets disappear before the clock even hit 11. In record time, Byron's winter music extravaganza **Splendour In The Grass** completely sold out, including camping tickets. That means that if you wanted to see the likes of **Jane's Addiction**, **Bloc Party**, **Friendly Fires** and more, you're going to have to start sleeping with somebody who works in music promotions. Alternatively, we've been notified that on JUNE 15 AT 9AM, Qjump is having a re-sale of all the tickets that those bastards bought even though they had no intention of going. Which means you might still be in with a shot. If not, maybe fly a helicopter overhead? People have done weirder shit in my time. Splendour is on July 25-26 at Belongil Fields, Byron Bay.

## KARNIVOOL

Former Brag-er and current 'Home and Hosed' host Dom Alessio loves these guys, with a recent review announcing they "they're monolithic statements of heavy rock. The



**The Brag**  
**18/05/2009**  
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 M-----

rhythms are inhuman. The band once again proved they are undoubtedly the best purveyors of alternative rock in Australia." Round here, we don't like to fight with Dom (*I do - Ed*), and you shouldn't either, when he says **Karnivool** are kicking some major ass, you can be sure he means it. Of course, Sydney kids don't need Dom's testimony, they've helped the bands sell-out both their shows at The Metro on 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of June. If you've already got tickets, Perth's new favourites **The Sugar Army** are now confirmed for supports. Should be a great night.

### PARTY FOR FBI!

As made clear by their preposterously awesome **Ask Richard** campaign, our mates over at **Fbi 94.5 FM** are currently very much in the red, and that bastard recession isn't helping matters. What is helping are a bunch of local bands who have decided to return the love the station has given them by donating proceeds of their shows to the radio gang. **Traps** launch their 7" with guests **Cabins** and **The Twerps** (Melb) at The Curious Works Studio, Surry Hills, next Sat May 23, with FBI running the bar. Meanwhile prog-rockers **Jericco** are donating two bucks from every ticket sold to their headline show at The Excelsior on June 5. So if you want to get plastered or just hear some great tunes, you may as well put that spare change back into your fave station's pocket. That's not a request folks, it's an order.

### BIRDS OF TOKYO

Having totally killed it at the recent **WAMI** awards, scooping up five gongs including Most Popular Act and Most Popular Album, you can tell that **Birds Of Tokyo** clearly are in need of some more friends. To that end, they've just announced some regional add-ons to what seems to be their never-ending tour of Australia. If you're one of the kids who missed out on **Karnivool** tickets, this band features the same front man, Ian Kenny. That's not exactly a full substitute, but just thought we'd put that out there. If you live outside the CBD, the guys are likely coming to your favourite venue; Entrance Leagues Club, Bateau Bay on July 29, Hornsby RSL, July 30, Waves, Wollongong on July 31, Bathurst Panthers, August 1 and Penrith Panthers, July 2. Somebody give these guys a holiday!

### TRIPLE J'S HOTTEST SONG OF ALL TIME

Like the 'Hottest 100', but with extra list potential Triple J is attempting to do the unthinkable and categorise our favourite tracks from whenever til never. This is undoubtedly a huge task, and you can help them out by registering your Top Ten at their website < [www.triplej.net.au/hottest100](http://www.triplej.net.au/hottest100) > from June 1. In 1989, **Joy Division** won this uber-poll with 'Love Will Tear Us Apart'. Do the country a favour and vote in a happier tune twenty years on. We're thinking **Lonely Island's** 'Jizz In My Pants' might be a good place to start. Full details at Triple J Online. Get voting!



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General News

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### BACK MY PROJECT

Have you got a brilliant idea for a creative project but lack the cash to make it a reality? **Creative Sydney** wants you to pitch your project to a panel of creative industry experts and decision makers for honest, practical feedback live on stage. Six of the most innovative and adventurous projects in Sydney will compete for angel funding at **Back My Project**, 8pm on June 4, in front of an audience of peers, funding bodies and potential sponsors. For your chance to pitch, submit a brief outline of your idea - using words, images, videos, music, whatever it takes - by Monday May 25 at 5pm. See [www.creativesydney.com.au](http://www.creativesydney.com.au) for more details.



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## VIVID FESTIVAL!

Next week check out our special section on **Vivid Sydney Festival**, including your arts tips for cool panels, forums, exhibitions and installations happening at **Creative Sydney Festival**, the **Smart Lights Festival**, and the Eno-curated **Luminous Festival**. Head to <http://vividssydney.com> for more info. What with Sydney Film Festival, Vivid and the Biennale, Winter could be the new Summer for Sydney...





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**M-----**

## CREATIVE SYDNEY WANT TO BACK YOUR PROJECT

If you've got a brilliant idea but no funds to realise it, Creative Sydney want to hear from you. They will pitch the best ideas to a panel of creative industry experts and six of the best will then compete at Back My Project on 4 June for the top spot, in front of a live audience, judges and possible sponsors. All you need is an idea and to enter just email your outline (using words, videos, music, anything really) to [info@creativesydney.com.au](mailto:info@creativesydney.com.au) with 'Back My Project' as the subject. Entries close Monday 25 May. Head to [creativesydney.com.au](http://creativesydney.com.au) for more info.



# A clash of civilisations

Sydney is launching a quintet of big, brash events in an effort to position itself as Australia's arts capital, but Melbourne is quietly holding its own, writes

**Steve Dow.**

**W**HAT'S a big, brassy lass to do when her cool little sister gains the arty edge? Languidly bathing in her harbour beauty and bling for the two decades Melbourne has spent stoking its arts and ideas economy, Sydney will later this month flick its rusty buzz switch to rich configurations of colour — with a water view, naturally.

For 21 nights beginning on May 26, the iconic sails of the Sydney Opera House will be lit with a continuously changing "freeform painting" created by English artist and soundscape musician Brian Eno, lured to Australia to curate a new Sydney music festival called Luminous. Eno will also display what's promoted as his audio-visual "masterpiece" — 77 *Million Paintings* — on luminous screens inside the Opera House.

In a sure sign NSW wants to unsettle Victoria's claim to the high ground of ideas, on May 27 Events NSW will also launch an annual Creative Sydney festival to become "an annual hub for the creative industries throughout Australia

and the Asia Pacific", with three weeks of conferences and talks on music, design, architecture, writing, performance and film.

Says Events NSW boss Geoff Parmenter, the former head of marketing at Football Federation Australia: "I'd like to think that people throughout the region would come to Sydney every June to get their ideas."

The two events are part of Vivid Sydney, which is being launched as a "festival of music, light and ideas" itself, but in reality is an umbrella title for Creative Sydney and Luminous, as well as Smart Light Sydney, for which the harbour and historic Rocks area will be lit up at the same time, and an event called Fire Water, celebrating "food, flame and spectacle".

The NSW Government, having salivated over the Victorian Government's established and successful calendar of arts, cultural and sporting events, created Events NSW with an annual \$30 million budget in late 2007. It strung together the "first ever" NSW master events calendar — and created a flurry of new festivals into the bargain.

Vivid Sydney, one of five "anchor events", including a rebranding of the New Year's

celebrations as Vivacity and a new outdoor food, wine and lifestyle festival in October called Crave, is the culmination of this push to market Sydney as Australia's arts capital.

The idea of making cities "creative" captured imaginations across the West when US academic Richard Florida argued in his influential 2002 book *The Rise of the Creative Class* that cities made more welcoming to designers, musicians, writers, actors, artists and architects gain economic benefits such as greater international competitiveness.

Vivid's festivals and events are projected to generate \$10 million in economic activity for NSW, but many critics argue that the problem with Sydney's approach to the arts is its focus on being big, festival-driven and "top down", at the expense of emerging artists at the bottom of the rung, who are better supported in Victoria.

Discussing Vivid with *The Sunday Age* last week, Parmenter threw down some big claims for Sydney, setting it above other cities, particularly Melbourne. "Sydney and NSW is the capital of the creative industries of Australia — certainly, it's over-represented in terms of the share of the economy," he proclaimed. "I don't think



we've showcased that proactively or effectively prior to now, and part of the motivation for creating Vivid Sydney is to reclaim some of that ground."

Melbourne, he says, has done "an extraordinarily good job" of promoting its creative credentials, while Sydney has "done very little". "It sat on its hands after the Olympics . . . but at the same time, pretty much all the (national) creative institutions, bar the Australian Ballet, are headquartered here in Sydney, and we have a disproportionate share of people working in the creative industries."

The truth is, big bucks are at stake, and with creative industry employment growth slowing in recent years, and likely to fall with the recession, the states are hungry for a bigger slice of the creative pie, their forks poised above each other's helpings.

Melbourne had great success under Jeff Kennett in 1998 when the Victorian Government wooed Gideon Obarzanek's Chunky Move dance company to relocate from Sydney. The Bracks government followed up by luring film crews away from pricey Sydney locations by helping fund location shoots and script development. NSW, despite hanging on to more creative workers in most fields, is eyeing off Melbourne and Brisbane's share of the computer games industry, worth big export dollars.

Parmenter insists there should be more "cross-fertilisation" between Sydney and Melbourne creatively, and that the cities' festivals are not mutually exclusive. So

has he inquired about the Victorian Government's initiative of the Centre for Books, Writing and Ideas? "I haven't seen it, no; I must look into it," he says.

In 2006, Australia's creative workforce stood at 486,715 people — 50,000 more than in 2001. Collectively, they earned \$27.8 billion in salaries and wages, according to an analysis by Queensland University of Technology's ARC Centre of Excellence for Creative Industries and Innovation. Victoria's share of the creative workforce was 27.5 per cent in 2006, essentially unchanged since last measured in 2001, but NSW's share fell slightly from 38.9 to 38.3 per cent over that period.

Yet the creative workforce share of NSW's total employment — 6.4 per cent — is still higher than in Victoria, where it is 5.9 per cent. And that differential was enough to prompt the NSW Government to crow in a December 2008 state and regional development document, *NSW Creative Industry Insights*, that the state is the "home to Australia's creative industry".

This comes as news to Ian Maxwell, head of the department of performance studies at Sydney University. "Every year, I have handfuls of students who come to me to explain that they're not going to be in class for four weeks because they've got a gig at the Melbourne Comedy Festival. The buzz is all about that . . . I don't think that they see that in Sydney so much."

Maxwell's own studies began at the Victorian College of the Arts in the late 1980s, when theatre com-

panies in Melbourne were closing and the future for those working in the arts looked dire. Gradually, the City of Melbourne encouraged people to move into town and make use of the burgeoning lane-way cafe and bar scene, an idea the City of Sydney has more recently latched onto.

While the former Kennett government's emphasis on big events — from the Three Tenors to the Grand Prix to the AFL grand final — was a "bread and circuses" approach to marketing Victoria that conflated arts and sport into a "bland" culture of events, says Maxwell, he believes that Melbourne has managed to nurture local scenes successfully at the same time.

Driving into Melbourne, "it feels like a place that's growing and quite dynamic", Maxwell says. "Sydney doesn't feel it has to make the effort because it's a global city. It's a place that's managed to get through on charm and opportunity rather than a coherent vision of what it might be."

The arts in NSW are largely market-driven, Maxwell says. Newer festivals such as Luminous, after initial NSW Government funding, are expected to become self-sustaining. Parmenter confirms this, and says the private sector has shown "substantial interest" in investing in Luminous.

The NSW Government's own figures in its 2008 *Creative Industry Economic Fundamentals* report reveals Victoria spends much more money directly on artists and developing the creative industry



"Melbourne feels like a place that's growing and quite dynamic. Sydney doesn't feel it has to make the effort because it's a global city. It's a place that's managed to get through on charm and opportunity."

IAN MAXWELL, Sydney University





than NSW does — an annual average of \$86.8 million, or 28 per cent of Victoria's total creative expenditure between 2001-02 and 2005-06, compared to a NSW average of \$69 million, or 16 per cent, over the same period — in large part because the older state has to spend more of its money to upkeep decaying buildings housing its arts institutions.

From an artist's point of view, Melbourne is also a cheaper place to set up base. "I've got lots of friends who would rather chance their arm down in Melbourne because you've got a better chance of having a sustainable existence," Maxwell says.

Ben Eltham, a Melbourne-based writer, musician and theatre producer, agrees. Eltham, originally from Brisbane, moved south in 2007 to take up an internship with the Melbourne Fringe Festival, which receives funding from Arts Victoria. He says that while he has noticed that some artists are being forced by high rents to move from traditional creative suburbs such as St Kilda and Fitzroy out to the likes of Brunswick and Preston, he has been able to find reasonably cheap digs in Collingwood.

Eltham, who is researching a PhD in cultural policy at the Uni-

versity of Western Sydney, and is a fellow at the Sydney-based Centre for Policy Development, says Melbourne's virtue is its "ecosystem of cultural enterprise", which Sydney fails to emulate because of a lack of proper funding at the lower end.

"In Melbourne, there are big companies and there are big performing arts venues, but there are also small companies and small venues. So, if you're an artist trying to work your way through the system, or a director or a person who's a stage manager or works in a crew, or simply a cultural entrepreneur, there's a ladder there, a stepping stone."

Eltham is highly critical of Luminous. He sees it as a form of "cultural cringe", importing the likes of Eno and ignoring local artists, although Events NSW insists local artists are important players in all its festivals being launched this month. Eltham says the NSW Ministry of Arts largely ignores much of the "really awesome underground stuff" going on in Sydney. "The classic example is a fringe festival . . . Melbourne's had a fringe festival for 26 years, Adelaide's had one for 49 years. Sydney doesn't have one at all."

Ultimately, say critics, Sydney

and Melbourne's relative success at harnessing the creative economy will depend on how well they look after creative people at both ends of the economy. Not only the advertising and marketing types who have a mean income of about \$65,800 in Sydney and \$59,100 in Melbourne, but those at the lower end: musicians and performing artists who earn a mean of \$40,000 in NSW and \$37,700 in Victoria — provided they're not waiting on tables instead. The little artists of today could be the big, money-spinning artists of tomorrow.

That requires more money for fringe activities, as well as involving the little artists in big festivals. Parmenter is at pains to point out Vivid is both "top down and bottom up", but ultimately rejects the idea that Sydney is losing out to Melbourne in the creative economy when fed-up artists head south. "Creative people are going to try and absorb influences from all over the world," he says. "London's not all that cheap a place to live but there's plenty of people go and do a stint over there."

As for the perception there's lots of interesting, creative things for emerging artists to experience in Melbourne, he says nonchalantly: "I agree completely."



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## Music

### BIG GIGS

■ THE only thing bigger than Reggie Watts' hair is the hype that surrounds him, but there's no doubt that it's all totally justified.

The American musician (pictured right) is a one-man phenomenon, using loop pedals to build his own brand of hip-hop and comedy.

Watts performed nine shows at the Sydney Festival in January, and every one sold out.

This time he's back to play the Sydney Comedy Festival and headline Brian Eno's Luminous event at the Opera House.

Catch him at the Governor Hindmarsh tonight - you won't regret it.

■ NOT that into manic beatboxing looping mixed with comedy?

Perhaps Floridian metalcore monsters Trivium are more your thing. The band will be ripping up HQ tonight.

■ ROOTS and blues troubadour Ash Grunwald is bringing tunes from new album *Fish Out Of Water* to The Gov on Friday night.



Grunwald has been working closely with hip-hop producer Count Bounce, so expect something that'll make you move.

■ FEELING lucky, punks? Well, you should be, because Boston straight-edge hardcore act Have Heart is in town on Friday night to play the Underground.

Probably not the best gig to have too many beers at.

■ LISTEN up, Super Troupers. If you're a fan of Sweden's biggest export, you'll love The ASO Plays ABBA on Friday night at the Festival Theatre.

All of ABBA's biggest hits are given a classical twist.





# Top five Marcus Westbury



## >1. Nairobi, Kenya

I went there a few years ago for a cultural festival. Everything led me to believe it would be an intimidating and scary place but I loved it. I met some amazing people and experienced a slice of their lives. I met young artists doing radical visual arts and music production. I went to the national park, the Rift Valley and to a shanty town on the edge of Nairobi. But not on a safari. Kenya's very green and lush in parts but Nairobi isn't architecturally spectacular. It's basically a railway junction and yet a fascinating place.



## >2. Montreal, Canada

An amazing creative community with a really interesting dynamic between the French and English-speaking cultures. Montreal is quite different from any other North American city and it's full of people making or doing interesting things in galleries and performance spaces – it has a vibrant, dynamic street-level art. It makes for a rich kind of culture. I like cities in general and Montrealers have a distinctive sense of their cultural identity. The people who live there own it and make it.



## >3. Vientiane, Laos

It's a very small city and it hasn't been entirely ruined by the generic backpacker circuit; it's still a very distinctive place. The food is a confluence of French and South-East Asian influences and it's cheap. I walked about the city and went tenpin bowling with the locals. Vientiane is the type of place to go to and hide for six months to think and write. I've backpacked around Thailand but Laos is completely different and much more interesting to hang out in.



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#### > 4. Wellington, New Zealand

I've only been there for a few days and I want an excuse to go back. As a small city, it's beautiful and dense, with interesting spaces, cafes and galleries. I have a general frustration with big international cities, whereas Wellington has a distinctive character. I don't drive, so a lot of my travel, in general, is to walk around. Wellington's topography has an inner-city area with beautiful old homes and weatherboard houses. It's a textured city, with lots of things going on.



#### > 5. Newcastle, NSW

It's a really beautiful city that gets a bad rap. It's my home town and favourite place in Australia. I'm constantly making excuses to go there. It's right on the beach, with beautiful old buildings. I love taking people to Newcastle. We lend the empty buildings there to artists and fill shop fronts with arts and craft. It's worth taking the time to visit.

*Marcus Westbury is the curator of Creative Sydney, part of the Vivid Sydney festival. See [creativesydney.com.au](http://creativesydney.com.au).*



## Sunday Telegraph

17/05/2009

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Insider

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## FESTIVALS

### SYDNEY WRITERS' FESTIVAL

The popular word fest begins tomorrow with umpteen ticketed and free events. Nigerian writer Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie gives the opening address on Wednesday. Runs till May 24. Details: [www.swf.org.au](http://www.swf.org.au)

### LUMINOUS

Brian Eno curates an adventurous music festival at the Sydney Opera House as part of Vivid Sydney, May 26 to June 14. Details; [www.vividsydney.com](http://www.vividsydney.com)





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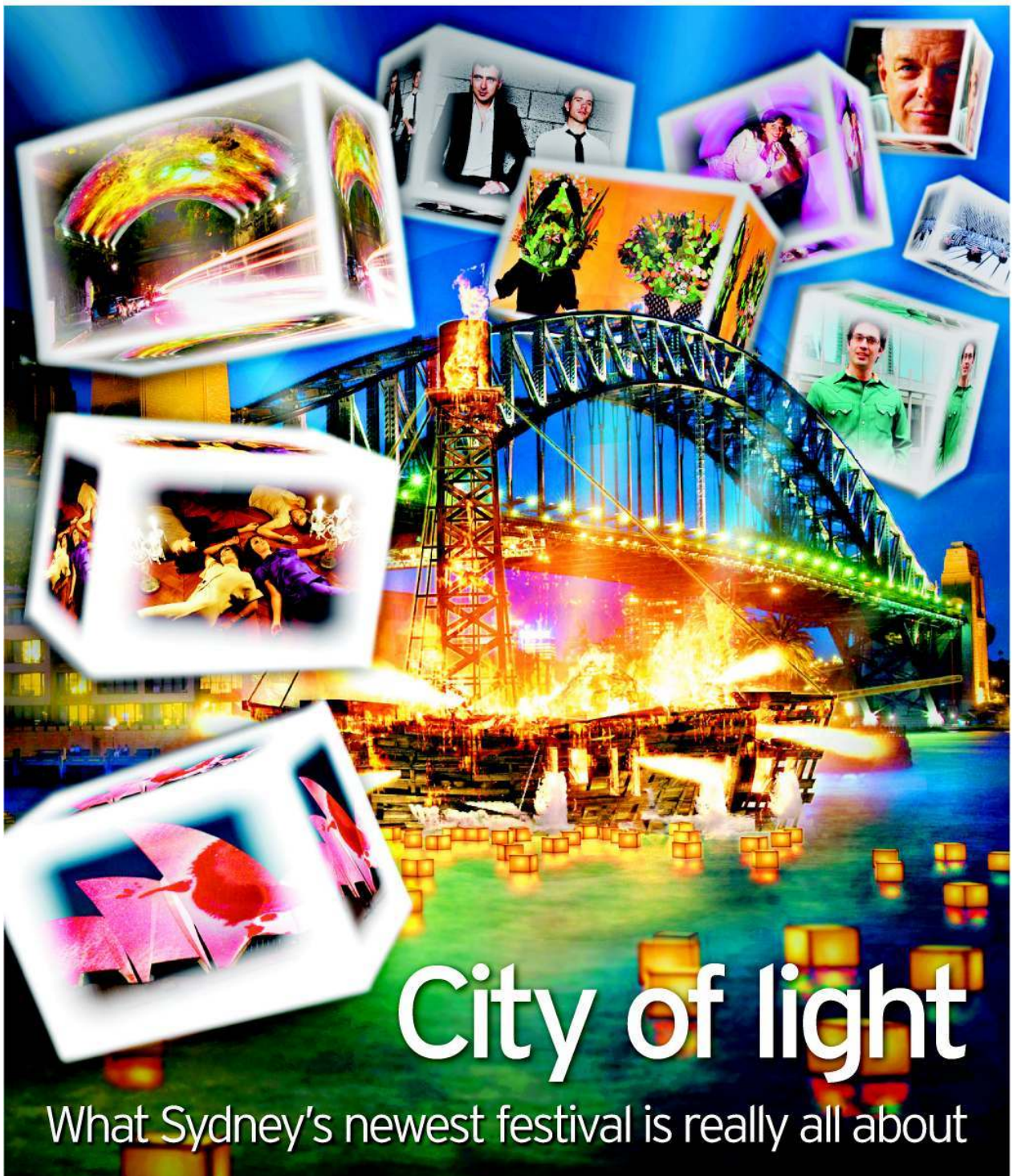


# weekend

**Dear diary 36**  
An intimate account of  
a life cut short by war

**Flight plan 107**  
How a 100-year dream  
gave us an eco treasure

**Meeting Mr Write 37**  
Why Georgie Parker found her  
new play so nerve-racking





# Let's paint the town a vivid red

Our harbour city is about to become a winter wonderland of sights and sounds

IT MIGHT be the beginning of the colder months but Sydneysiders do not need to retreat to their loungerooms. And with the launch of the first Vivid festival, which runs from May 26 to June 14, there is little excuse for doing so.

As Events NSW CEO Geoff Parmenter notes Sydney has a comfortable winter, which drove the organisation's decision to launch Vivid.

"For large chunks of our winter it's a pretty mild, pleasant place to be and we've probably not made enough of that — this is our way of showcasing one of those great aspects of Sydney," Parmenter says.

The series of events is labelled a "festival of music, light and ideas".

If that sounds a bit confusing, think of Vivid as the overall title of a festival made up of four parts — Luminous (music festival at Sydney Opera House), Smart Light Sydney (series of lights displays at The Rocks), Creative Sydney (talks, showcases and forums at the MCA and Parramatta's Riverside Theatres by and with local creative types working in disciplines ranging from fashion to film and video game design) and Fire Water (a re-enactment of the sinking of a convict ship at Campbells Cove).

## Luminous

**May 26-June 14, 9250 7777,  
[luminous.sydneyoperahouse.com](http://luminous.sydneyoperahouse.com)**

THE sails of the Sydney Opera House will be illuminated by light and ambient music for 20 days from May 26 for a rule-bending, innovative festival curated by British music legend Brian Eno.

The festival will be all about variety, with a mixture of well-known names and emerging artists and it will invite audiences to discover new sounds and artists.

There will be several major concerts in the Opera Theatre featuring international stars

such as dub and reggae king Lee "Scratch" Perry, UK electro artists Ladytron, the Melbourne performance group Back To Back Theatre, Irish crooner Damien Dempsey and Arabic rocker Rachid Taha.

On a smaller scale there will be shows in the intimate Playhouse theatre, including renowned electronic artist Jon Hopkins and Larraji, a multi-talented musician who creates dreamlike sounds and will also be hosting a laughter workshop in the Utzon Room.

Another of the performers hand-picked by Eno for this festival is the Sydney Festival favourite Reggie Watts, who has been in town for the Sydney Comedy Festival and is coming back to perform three shows at the Playhouse.

As with many of the performers, Watts was selected for this festival as a result of a long-running association with Eno.

"I met Brian Eno at a technology conference and we hit it off so he's invited me to be involved in a couple of things like this over the years," Watts says.

Throughout the Luminous festival there will be two Eno-designed lighting installations on display: His acclaimed audio-visual work *77 Million Paintings* will be in The Studio, while the exterior of the Sydney Opera House will glow with a new work called *Lighting The Sails*.

The festival will culminate in a marathon concert on Sunday, June 14, called *Pure Scenius*. From 5pm, Eno will perform improvised music alongside artists including guitarist Karl Hyde and local act The Necks, and the music will be paired with video imagery mixed and projected live by Toby Vogel. The second concert will start at 7.30pm and the final instalment begins at 9.45pm, with tickets available to each of the concerts individually or together as a package.

**Alex Lalak**

## Creative Sydney

**May 27-June 13, [creativesydney.com.au](http://creativesydney.com.au)**

WE TEND to take them for granted, but creative folk are a big slice of our economy.

NSW Department of State And Regional Development figures show that our creative industries, including film and TV, theatre, music, fashion, visual arts and even video game







production, employ more than 5 per cent of the workforce. And that has grown by almost 30 per cent over the past decade. It's a sector as big as finance and bigger than agriculture.

Creative Sydney acknowledges and celebrates those creative talents and helps foster future generations through discussions, seminars, conferences and exhibitions.

"It's a really relaxed, entertaining and social way of celebrating creativity and while we're celebrating it [let's] have a serious discussion of how we can help people create new creative products," artistic director Jess Scully says.

Present at various events will be local creative types having a red-hot go. Among them is Graz Mulcahy, who is best-known for his sunglasses design under his own label Graz, but also for the likes of AM Eyewear and Ksubi Eyewear. He is also a successful DJ and music director, most recently working at Australian Fashion Week. He'll be talking at an event on Friday, May 29, called Generation Slashie, about working across different creative fields.

"They all link and mutually benefit each other. If you can manage to marry one, two, three or four creative mediums, you'll experience many more benefits because you're open to a lot more," he says.

Mulcahy is keen to share his experiences.

"I've done a lot of stuff over the past 10 years, travelled the world taking products from Australia to the rest of the world and experienced many different mediums," he says.

"So my first reaction [upon being asked to participate] was that I wanted to pass on some of this information to people who are about to endeavour to do that."

But it is not just about those already working in their chosen creative endeavours. Scully hopes the program inspires younger people.

"I wish I could have taken my parents to something like this 15 years ago," she says.

"[There are] going to be some really inspiring nights where we have some of Australia's leading talent telling us their stories."

**Chris Hook**

## Smart Light Sydney

**Light Walk, 6pm to midnight, May 26-June 14, Observatory Hill to the Opera House, free, guided tours on Friday and Saturday nights, [smartlightsydney.com](http://smartlightsydney.com)**

MARY-ANNE Kyriakou must be used to this question because she has her answer ready.

"What is light art?" she asks.

"It's this space between architecture, design and art. It goes beyond those disciplines to create something new."

Light art seeks to provide atmosphere or elicit emotion. And Sydney audiences are soon to have a taste of it in Smart Light Sydney, Australia's first light art festival.

Kyriakou is Smart Light Sydney's founder and director. She is also a light artist whose own work will feature in Light Walk, the main component of Smart Light Sydney. Light Walk will take place after dark, with 25 pieces of light art illuminating locations along a mapped walk from Observatory Hill, through The Rocks, past Circular Quay and ending at the Opera House.

The light artists include Tom Barker and Hank Haeusler whose work, titled *Janus*, is a giant face projected between the buildings in Kendall Lane, The Rocks. Visitors can send an image of themselves to the "Janusscreen" from their phone or computer. Janus will then analyse their faces and display their emotions.

Smart Light Sydney also includes a series of light art symposia, a performance at the Conservatorium of Music of Karlheinz Stockhausen's compositions enhanced by lighting effects, and a Light Art exhibition at the University of Technology Sydney.

Bluezones along Light Walk will enable audience members to download information about the artworks on to their mobile phones. It is the largest Bluetooth network to be used at an Australian festival.

**Elizabeth Fortescue**

**/// We  
have some of  
Australia's  
leading  
talent telling  
us their  
stories**



## Fire Water

**Campbells Cove, The Rocks;  
 June 12-14, 6pm-9pm, free,  
[vividssydney.com/fire-water-event/](http://vividssydney.com/fire-water-event/)**

IT MAY be winter, but that doesn't mean a trip to the footy is the only thing worth leaving a warm home behind to get out and see.

At least, that's the philosophy behind *Fire Water*, which re-enacts the dramatic burning of the convict ship the Three Bees, which sank in Sydney Cove in 1814.

*Fire Water* creative director Michael Cohen, from the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority, says the three-night event is about making the city an exciting place to be during winter.

"We don't have cracker night and we don't have bonfire night any more," says Cohen.

"It will be the middle of winter and we have this beautiful harbour and we have a pretty temperate climate. So, we hope this will be another thing which gets people out enjoying a winter night in a whole other way."

The spectacle takes the audience back to 1814

when a convict ship arrived in Sydney with 210 men from Ireland. When a careless cabin boy left a candle alight, captain and crew — aware that 30 casks of gunpowder were on board — were forced to abandon ship.

"The governor actually left town because they thought there was enough gunpowder on the ship to blow up the city," Cohen says.

A team is hard at work constructing a contraption which will serve as the Three Bees.

"It's a major engineering feat to get the whole thing to work," he says.

Sydney band Coda will provide an eerie soundscape. Audience members are asked to bring along empty 1.5L plastic bottles — or plastic bottles of a similar size — for lantern-making workshops, with the end product floated on the Harbour to pay homage to the convicts and their descendents.

"We wanted to show there are fun and interesting ways we can interpret historical events," Cohen says.

**Stephen Downie**

**Vivid Sydney, May 26-June 4,  
[vividssydney.com](http://vividssydney.com)**



Cold comforts: (from left) Graz Mulcahy, Jess Scully, Mary-Anne Kyriakou and Reggie Watts, who are all involved with different aspects of Vivid  
 Picture: John Fotiadis



# Luminous leads the light brigade

*The big names are lining up for Sydney's confusing new winter arts festival, writes*

**Lynden Barber**

ONE of the most exciting pieces of local music news this year was that the US composer-musician Jon Hassell would be playing in Australia in June for the first time. The innovative trumpet player will be here for Luminous, a new annual festival of music, art installations and talks organised by the Sydney Opera House and curated this year by Hassell's sometime collaborator, the producer and artist Brian Eno. This in turn is part of Vivid, a confusing umbrella festival of "music, light and ideas", backed by Events NSW, the corporate body set up by the state Government.

Though no household name, Hassell is a heavyweight of the contemporary music world, his collaborators and former employers including such luminaries as minimalist composer Terry Riley, guitarist Ry Cooder and Talking Heads. He's best known however for his series of "fourth world music" recordings: a consistently innovative demolition of the boundaries between world music, rock, jazz, ambient, serious music and the avant-garde.

NSW has been much criticised by the arts community for lagging behind other states in the funding of major arts events. Vivid certainly indicates that the state is trying to lift its game. The coup is bringing Eno to Sydney. The revered Brit would be on the wish list for many rival international arts events, given his reputation as a rock producer (U2, David Bowie and Talking Heads), a pioneer of ambient music, and creator of visual art-and-sound installations.

As well as selecting international and local artists to perform at the Opera House — they include Hassell, Ladytron, Karl Hyde, Seun Kuti, Laraaji, Rachid Taha, Damien Dempsey, Lee Perry and the Necks — Eno will play live with other musicians in a series of three concerts, appear in a public discussion with Hassell, and has designed a lighting display to project on to the Opera House sails at night. SOH performing arts director Rachel Healy says Eno's illuminations have the potential to attract world attention, and adds that "it opens up all kinds of possibilities into the future about other artists we might work with".

Luminous is an SOH initiative that is part of its growing role as a producer of performing arts. In the past nine years the venue's management has moved away from being simply a venue for hire, and developed its own programming agenda.

Events NSW, the corporate body launched less than two years ago as part of the lemma government's major-events policy, is backing

and co-ordinating the Vivid initiatives, which include Smart Light Sydney (various lighting events, with a focus on Sydney Harbour), Creative Sydney (a talks program) and Fire Water (promoted as "three nights of flame, food and spectacle" in the city's historic precinct, the Rocks).

The thinking: Sydney has a major summer arts festival and an autumn literary festival, but too little to attract visitors and engage locals in the winter but for the Sydney Film Festival, and the Biennale. Vivid is aimed at filling the gap.

Events NSW chief executive Geoff Parmenter is the first to admit that NSW had been years behind other states when it came to fully supporting and helping to create large-scale, attention-grabbing occasions. Victoria's equivalent was set up 18 years beforehand, he points out. Parmenter says Sydney dropped the ball after the 2000 Olympics. There was a feeling that the city already had a fantastic harbour and beaches; just add the Games and that would be enough to attract visitors. Eventually the penny dropped. The new view is that "Sydney has to be a lot more proactive in promoting itself".

Part of the Events NSW brief is to develop a year-round events calendar, support existing events and help to create and attract new ones. A sports fixture such as a grand prix is off the table because it is too easily swiped by competitors. The aim is to help develop "large, signature events" unique to Sydney that could help attract tourists. Lighting installations that utilise the harbour foreshore may help achieve this, although Sydney is not the only international metropolis set near water, and a major global city has already put in a bid for Vivid's creative team to organise a similar event, says Parmenter.

The first piece of the jigsaw to fall in place was Smart Light Sydney, a separate organisation that had already approached Eno about displaying his video-and-sound installation, *77 Million Paintings* (appearing in Vivid). It also had ideas for lighting events around the harbour. These "ticked a lot of our boxes", says Parmenter, citing their freshness, sustainability and use of some of the city's strengths.

Not long afterwards, SOH chief executive Richard Evans and associate director Philip Rolfe approached Events NSW with the concept of an annual music festival curated by a different high-profile creative arts figure every year. Their inspiration came from Paul Simon's curated concerts at Brooklyn Academy of Music in 2008, and Meltdown at London's Southbank Centre, curated this year by jazz legend Ornette Coleman. "We thought that by putting these together you might just make one plus one make three," Parmenter says.

The Creative Sydney part of the equation is intended to showcase Sydney's creative industries, which artistic director Jess Scully says includes such diverse fields as fashion, gaming, film, advertising, object and graphic design,





back

arts and publishing, “all these things that aren’t normally grouped together with fine arts”. Its series of free talks and live events will take place at the Museum of Contemporary Art daily (with some at Parramatta in Sydney’s west). One evening has a self-explanatory title, “The Future of Art and Technology”, while another is called “What is Sydney to You?”. The description — “our leading lights and biggest stirrers share their vision of the city through sound, vision and storytelling” — gives little idea of what to expect. The marketing problems start to pile up when an outsider tries to disentangle the branding mess that is Vivid and its various tentacles. A general arts festival is relatively easy to conceptualise; ditto film, literature and dance festivals. Not so a series of new events themed around “music, light and ideas”, particularly when they have competing and unfamiliar brand names.

Behind the issue is the way Vivid has been created from the nailing together of separate events, at least two of which — Luminous and Smart Light Sydney — were conceived independently. Reflecting this is the head-scratching experience offered by its associated

websites. Go to the homepage for the Sydney Opera House and you find a link for Luminous, but nothing for Vivid, for example.

“I’m fully in support of Vivid and it clearly has informed our choice of Brian Eno to curate Luminous, but we are not responsible for Vivid as a brand, and in fact Luminous can exist with or without the brand,” Healy says. “I think Vivid is a brilliant initiative, but it isn’t being controlled or owned or run out of the Opera House.”

Creative Sydney’s Scully agrees that “the message hasn’t been presented as clearly as it could be”, adding that the new concept is difficult to market in its first year, and there are different institutions involved.

The budget for the inaugural Vivid is about \$7 million, of which roughly 25 per cent is coming from Events NSW, according to Parmenter. Rolfe says advance tickets sales for Luminous, the main ticketed program, are on target, with concerts by some of the more popular acts expected to sell out by next week.

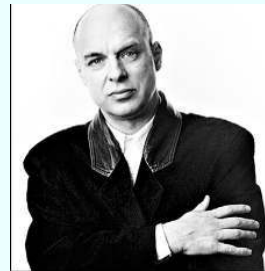
Vivid Sydney is at various venues, May 26 to June 14.



**Top brass:** Trumpet player Jon Hassell will perform in Australia for the first time at Sydney’s new Luminous festival



**Earning stripes:** Ladytron will perform at the Sydney Opera House



**Pioneer:** Producer and artist Brian Eno



**Rouse Hill Times**  
**13/05/2009**  
**Page: 49**  
**General News**  
**Region: Sydney**  
**Circulation: 18470**  
**Type: Suburban**  
**Size: 208.31 sq.cms**  
**--W----**

# Taking Sydney (by strategy)

## DETAILS

**Date: Sunday, June 14**  
**Times: Concert I: 5pm-6.30pm;**  
**Concert II: 7.30pm-9pm;**  
**Concert III: 9.45pm-11.15pm.**  
**Venue: Concert Hall,**  
**Sydney Opera House**  
**Tickets: \$60 per concert.**  
**No concessions.**  
**Book: 9250 7777 or at**  
**[sydneyoperahouse.com](http://sydneyoperahouse.com)**

A MAJOR music event like no other, the marathon finale to Luminous will feature Brian Eno live on stage in Australia for the first time.

The mastermind behind the inaugural mid-winter music festival at Sydney Opera House, Eno will join forces with Underworld's Karl Hyde, guitarist Leo Abrahams, synthesist Jon Hopkins and Australia's own undisputed maestros of improvised minimalism, The Necks, for Pure Scenius.

A choose-your-own-adventure in sound, sonics and structure, this triple treat for music lovers will feature three improvised concerts, separated by two intervals, where each concert picks up where the other left off.

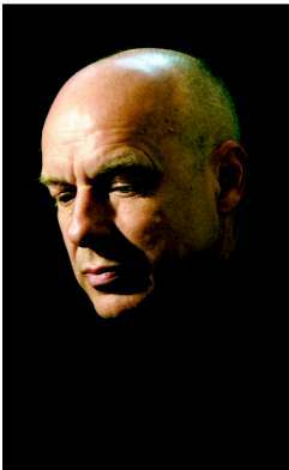
The result of a collaboration by Eno and his guests, the first concert is based on a predetermined sequence of events. Parts two and three will progress from this - each will have their similarities and differences.

Like a laboratory conducting an undisclosed experiment, Pure Scenius will be a combustible, spontaneous, must-see mix of intellect, innovation and instrumentation.

And the experiment goes beyond music; offstage Toby Vogel will be filming, mixing, reprocessing and projecting layers of imagery on three massive screens, like he does for Underworld's live shows.

Luminous is a cornerstone of Vivid Sydney, a public festival that will transform the city into a spectacular living canvas of music and light in and around Sydney Opera House, The Rocks, Circular Quay, Parramatta and city centre.

One of five anchor events in the first-ever NSW Master Events Calendar created by Events NSW on behalf of the NSW Government, Vivid Sydney will showcase the city as a major creative hub in the Asia Pacific region and celebrate the diversity of Sydney's creative industries.



Brian Eno will appear live for the first time in Australia next month.





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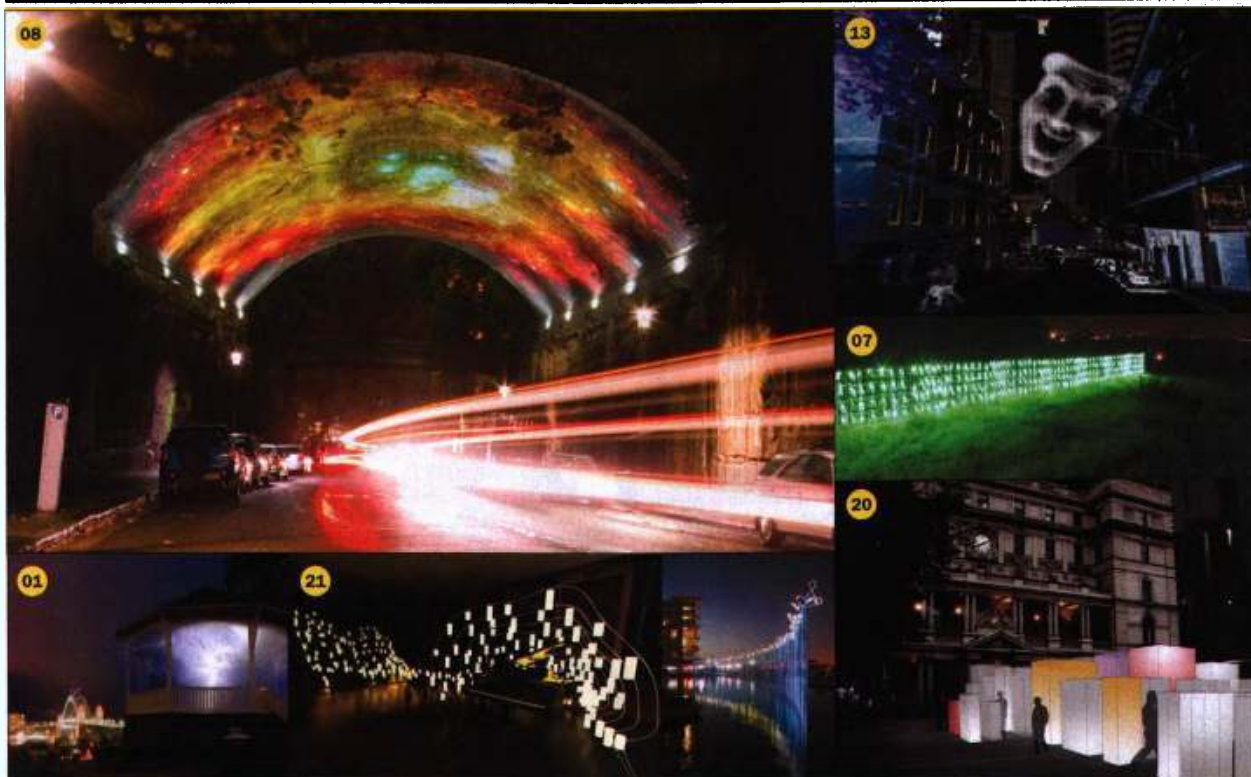
**Brian Eno will appear live for the first time in Australia next month.**



A FESTIVAL OF MUSIC, LIGHT & IDEAS  
**VIVID**  
 SYDNEY

**ONLINE NOW!** Join Time Out's Smart Light bar crawl through The Rocks! [timeout.com/sydney](http://timeout.com/sydney)

# Smart Light Sydney



**Light up your life** Dark recesses and disused spaces get illuminated on the Smart Light walk

Sydney ignites as a supernatural city of light when the switch is flicked on **Smart Light Sydney**, a sensory smorgasbord of music, light, performance and debate.

The beacon at the centre of it all is the Light Walk, a world-first, totally free, 90-minute journey through 26 interactive light sculptures spanning The Rocks, around Circular Quay all the way to Bennelong Point and a reborn Sydney Opera House.

Smart Light Sydney also incorporates symposia, exhibitions, and *Licht*, a unique orchestral epic. According to artistic director Mary-Anne Kyriakou, the festival has been designed to revitalise dormant urban spaces and engage Sydneysiders in a debate on the energy that fuels a city, creative and otherwise.

"Sydney is blessed with amazing natural light by day – bright blue skies, shimmering waters, sun-dappled bushlands. But our nights need light to drive economy but also to weave magic and enchantment," Kyriakou says.

The theme for this nightscape is 'City and Memories'. "Cities are full of light pollution – uncontrolled light, flood lighting, light spilling into the atmosphere," Kyriakou points out. "With Smart Light we want to harness that light and redefine it, creating new memories for people in re-energised spaces in old Sydney town."

By day, Sydneysiders can attend talk-fests on lighting design and architectural illumination. From dusk, they'll stroll the harbour foreshore to see iconic buildings and underrated nooks turned into living canvases.

[www.vividsydney.com](http://www.vividsydney.com)

## Light Walk

Fizzing virtual reality displays of light art, projection and video will cast Sydney's past, present and future in a spectacular and inspiring new light. Highlights will include 'Vessel of (Horti) Cultural Plenty' opposite Cadman's Cottage; 'Cloud of Bats', celebrating Sydney's nightly tide of flying foxes; 'Janus', a giant floating human face in The Rocks; and 'Shadows', which shows a convict on the run from the cops in a stairwell opposite the Argyle Cut. *See map opposite for the Light Walk trail or download it at [www.smartlightsydney.com](http://www.smartlightsydney.com)*

## Festival of the Stars

This series of 3D theatre events, food stalls and entertainment celebrates the International Year of Astronomy and offers stargazers views of Saturn, Leo and Virgo and even Argo Navis, the constellation named after the legendary ship used by Jason and the Argonauts in Greek mythology.

*Sydney Observatory, 29–30 May, 6pm, \$10–\$47.*

## Art Light

Experimental light installations achieve optimum visual impact at this wholly recyclable, eminently illuminating and totally free exhibition.

*University of Technology Sydney, 26 May–14 Jun, 10am–10pm.*

## Smart Light Symposia

The future of sustainable lighting design discussed over four symposia.

Will 'Ban-the-Bulb' advocate and prospective PM Malcolm Turnbull light up these nights? *27 May, 1–2 & 9 June at University of Technology, Customs House & Events NSW Sydney, 6–8pm. (register at [www.dab.uts.edu.au](http://www.dab.uts.edu.au) to attend).*

**ONLINE NOW!** Time Out names the 10 most amazing nightspots in Sydney! [timeout.com/sydney](http://timeout.com/sydney)





Time Out Sydney  
13/05/2009  
Page: 24  
General News  
Region: National  
Region: National  
Type: Magazines Lifestyle  
Size: 1410.53 sq.cms  
Weekly

**Light Walk**

Bring your mobile phone for FREE downloads from the Light Walk intelligent network

ONLINE NOW! Check out our Light Walk slideshow [timeout.com/sydney](http://timeout.com/sydney)

**VIV'd SYDNEY**

**MILLERS POINT**

**OBSERVATORY PARK**

**THE ROCKS**

**CIRCULAR QUAY**

**BENNELONG POINT**

**SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE**

**ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS**

**CONSERVATORIUM OF MUSIC**

**01 WEATHER PATTERNS**  
Alex Haw, UK. Rotunda, Observatory Hill

**02 BENCH & TREES**  
Reinhard Germer/Tim Geary/Fiona Venn, Aus. Observatory Hill

**03 THE PARADOX BETWEEN LIGHT AND TIME**  
Andy Uprock, Aus. Observatory Hill

**04 PICK A DATE TO MATCH THE BRIGHTEST MOON**  
Jeppe Andersen, Denmark. Observatory Hill

**05 CLOUD OF BATS**  
Trent Middleton/Ruth McDermott/Ben Baxter, Aus. Wall on Watson Rd

**06 JEWEL BOX OF LIGHT**  
Reinhard Germer/Tim Geary/Fiona Venn, Aus. Garrison Church, Argyle St

**07 FIRE FLIES**  
Francesco Mariotti, Switz. Along Argyle St

**08 ROCKLIGHTS**  
Ingo Bracke, Germany. Argyle Cut

**09 SHADOWS**  
Simon Grimes, Aus. Steps to Gloucester Walk

**10 HUMAN FLAGS**  
Carolee Pumelle/Nuno Maya/Andre Goncalves, Portugal. Playfair Lane

**11 HAMMERHAUS**  
Laurenz Theinert, Germany. Cleland Blvd

**12 WASTE**  
Michael Day, Aus. The Rocks

**13 JANUS**  
Tom Barker/Hank Hausler, Aus Kendall Lane

**14 VESSEL OF (HORTI) CULTURAL PLENTY**  
Warren Langley, Aus. Cadman Park

**15 RAINBOW**  
Mark Hammer/Andre Kecskes, Aus. Outside Billich Gallery

**16 CYCLE**  
Clouston Associates, Aus. Circular Quay, International Passenger Terminal

**17 GHOSTS OF THE ROCKS**

**18 FAÇADE**  
Electric Canvas, Aus. Museum of Contemporary Art

**19 RADIANCE**  
First Fleet Park

**20 LUMENOCITY**  
Sean Bryen/Sascha Crocker/Andrew Daly, Aus. Customs House Forecourt

**21 DOVES THAT CRY**  
Mary-Anne Kyriakou/Joe Snell, Aus. Inside Customs House

**22 BIRDS**  
Emrah Baki Ulas/Miriam Roos, Aus. East Circular Quay

**23 NOTHING LEFT TO GUESS**  
Tim Carr, Aus. East Circular Quay

**24 SONGLINES**  
Joe Snell, Aus. Conservatorium of Music

**25 LIGHTING THE SAILS**  
Brian Eno, UK. Sydney Opera House

**FREE!**

**Fire Water**

READ MORE ON THIS THREE-DAY FESTIVAL OF MUSIC, FOOD AND FIRE See Around Town section

Built around a spectacular pyrotechnic recreation of the 1814 sinking of convict ship **The Three Bees**, this three-day festival of music, food and fire will see Sydneysiders invited to float lanterns onto the waters of Sydney harbour in tribute to our convict descendants.

Fire Water runs 12-14 Jun, 6-9pm. **FREE!**

ONLINE NOW! Check out Time Out's list of Sydney's Hottest Nights Out! [timeout.com/sydney](http://timeout.com/sydney)





**Sydney Morning Herald**  
**12/05/2009**  
**Page: 10**  
**Arts & Entertainment**  
**Region: Sydney**  
**Circulation: 211370**  
**Type: Capital City Daily**  
**Size: 220.95 sq.cms**  
**MTWTFSS-**

## After a kangaroo curry, a refreshing dose of Eno

**Louise Schwartzkoff**

WITH a month to go before the band Sine performs in front of 1500 people at the Opera House, the singer and guitarist Liam O'Connell is still wondering if the whole thing is a hoax – perhaps the work of a bitter former girlfriend.

O'Connell was at home in Melbourne, making a kangaroo curry, when the Opera House called with the news.

Brian Eno, famous for his work with David Bowie, U2 and Coldplay, had seen Sine perform on YouTube and wanted them to join the line-up at his inaugural Luminous festival.

"I didn't believe it and I started laughing," O'Connell says. "When I tell people about it, I feel like a raving lunatic. I feel like they're looking at me and thinking I should lay off

the herb."

Part of Vivid Sydney, a new festival presented by Events NSW, Luminous will feature such cult musical acts as the Necks, Underworld's Karl Hyde and Eno himself.

Sine, one of seven Australian bands selected by Eno as special guests and supporting acts, will share the bill with the Grammy Award-winning reggae and dub artist Lee Scratch Perry at the Opera Theatre on June 11.

For a band that rehearses in the bass player's bedroom and performs mostly in pubs and regional festivals it is a big leap.

"It sort of restores my faith in the music world that something like this could actually happen," O'Connell says.

"You get jaded about how the industry works. You're just a

drop in the ocean and you think no one of influence is interested.

"We never imagined someone like Brian Eno would even take a look at us."

Sine was formed two years ago as an informal jamming outfit. It is a motley crew of full-time and part-time musicians, most of whom teach to make ends meet. They have poured their earnings into their first EP, which they hope will be ready for Luminous.

"We're looking at this as an opportunity to be heard, and we're going to try to milk this for all it's worth," O'Connell says. "But even if nothing else comes of it, at least we will have played at the Opera House. You don't get a chance like that every day."



It's a Sine ... the band will play at the Opera House. Photo: Rebecca Hallas

### ALSO ON THE BILL



Other Australian acts to be announced today include Palace Of Fire, Pivot, Lolo Lovina, the Crooked Fiddle Band, the Alister Spence Trio and Watussi, pictured.



**The Brag**  
**11/05/2009**  
**Page: 16**  
**General News**  
**Region: Sydney**  
**Circulation: 30042**  
**Type: Magazines Lifestyle**  
**Size: 43.48 sq.cms**  
**M-----**

## CREATIVE SYDNEY

**Creative Sydney** has announced the first details for the inaugural free event series, set to take place from May 27 – June 12 during the ambitious **Vivid Sydney** festival. Program highlights include **Three Minute Sydney**, where some of the city's leading personalities will present their visions on what the city is to them and what it could be; **Behind the Screens**, a rare opportunity to gain insight into the inner-workings of local film production companies; **Back My Project**, where local emerging artists will pitch their creative ideas to a panel of experts 'Dragon's Den-style'. Notable performances include **Remixing History**, a live DJ/VJ performance mixing music, film, TV, news footage and advertising jingles; and for the finale, **Songs of Sydney** sees local musicians pay tribute to their town – Coffee Boy's ode to summer, 'Gropin' Dem Beachballs' is said to have missed the cut which, when you think about it, is probably rather fortunate for the young man and his heritage. Explore the full program at [creativesydney.com](http://creativesydney.com).





## Sydney Morning Herald

11/05/2009

Page: 4

Special Report

Region: Sydney

Circulation: 211370

Type: Capital City Daily

Size: 29.48 sq.cms

MTWTFS-

### SMART LIGHT SYDNEY

Sydney will become a living canvas of music and light with a beautiful walk showcasing dynamic and environmentally friendly art installations throughout the Opera House and The Rocks. There will be a special Italian design event on June 4 organised by the Italian Trade Commission, Italian Chamber of Commerce and supported by *Vogue Living* (invitation only).

*May 26-June 14, free, 8356 9611.*



**Daily Telegraph**  
**06/05/2009**  
**Page: 56**  
**Sydney Live**  
**Region: Sydney**  
**Circulation: 369000**  
**Type: Capital City Daily**  
**Size: 58.19 sq.cms**  
**MTWTFS-**

## Sydney's carnival of light

THE music of an eccentric German composer whose face appears on the cover of a Beatles album and who wrote a quartet for strings and four helicopters, will be performed as part of a new festival called *Smart Light Sydney*.

A photo of Karlheinz Stockhausen, who died in 2007, can be seen in the back row of celebrity heads on *Sgt Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band* cover. The Beatles revered Stockhausen, who was famous for his pioneering work in electronic music.

Frank Zappa, Miles Davis, Pink Floyd and Bjork all acknowledged his influence. An orchestral and "light art" interpretation of extracts from Stockhausen's vast, seven-opera cycle, *Licht*, will be staged at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music on Saturday, June 6. The free event will run from 1pm until late.

Performers include the acclaimed vocal ensemble The Song Company under artistic director Roland Peelman. *Smart Light Sydney* is a major component of *Vivid Sydney* (May 26-June 14), described by Events NSW as the biggest international music and light festival in the southern hemisphere.

**Elizabeth Fortescue**



Drum Media  
05/05/2009  
Page: 40  
General News  
Region: National  
Circulation: 33339  
Type: Magazines Lifestyle  
Size: 210.58 sq.cms  
-T-----

# IN FROM THE OUTSIDE

HEADING THIS WAY AS PART OF THE BRIAN ENO-CURATED LUMINOUS FESTIVAL, **JON HOPKINS** TALKS WITH **ADAM D MILLS** ABOUT HIS NEW ALBUM *INSIDES* AND WHAT IT WAS LIKE TO PLAY BEFORE 20,000 COLDPLAY FANS.

Electronic composer/musician Jon Hopkins spent most of 2007 holed up in the studio with Coldplay working alongside Brian Eno as co-producer of their *Viva La Vida Or Death And All His Friends*. But the Coldplay album wasn't the only time Hopkins has worked closely with Eno. Hopkins was also invited to contribute to Eno's *Another Day On Earth* album back in 2004, though it was released the following year, and since then the pair have been virtually inseparable. "It's never boring with him," Hopkins admits. "It's been five years now and we've done a lot of different projects. Each time he calls it's about something new and amazing. The last phone call was about the Luminous Festival in Sydney. There's always something going on, usually pretty interesting."

After working with Coldplay – and before he gets here for the Luminous Festival – Hopkins will release his third full-length album, *Insides*. Unfettered by vocal cues or rigid song structures, Hopkins' own albums might be seen as lacking a narrative focus. However, this is not the case; there's more going on with *Insides* than the collision of experimental electronica, ambient and modern classical minimalism. "It is abstract, but there are also a lot of stories in there and things that mean something to me. I'm almost trying to score events and things that happened to me in my life. This record more than the others is vaguely an attempt to communicate some feelings. But I think it's nicer if people can attach it to their own life. Particularly the piano pieces. To me it's very important to have some pure solo piano pieces on there, because it's so pared down. You're telling a very simple story in a way, with just a few notes. I like the idea of that as a background that people can attach whatever they want to."

Coming half a decade after his last album, *Contact Note*, *Insides* reflects a great deal of the personal and musical growth he has undergone in that time. The album sees him pushing the two extreme ends of his sound – the lush, organic textures that stem from his time as a child piano prodigy and a continuing interest in classical



music, as well as the pulsating electronics and subsonic bass of rave culture. Somehow, *Insides* manages to reconcile the incongruities of these parallel themes, even as they seem to be diverging further. "I had this idea of doing that when I started the track *Vessel*," Hopkins says. "That's the piece that really set the idea for the album going, because it has that very soft, almost muted piano with the damper pedal on and you can hear all the felts and the notes and the hammers and stuff, then I don't know why, but I almost thought it would be funny to put an enormous beat after that... So I just got really into the idea of stylising it to that point, where there are two very distinct extremes that don't really battle but just sit alongside each other."

More so than with any of his previous releases, there's a real sense of space on *Insides*, something that stands in contrast to a great deal of electronic-based records. Hopkins says that this was a deliberate result of his approach to the album. "I would do things like recording outside the window where I'm working to try and put something of the place in it. The second album I did was very clean... This one, I just wanted to forget about all the technically correct things you're supposed to do when recording and just do whatever. Just experiment a bit more. You can hear birds (sometimes intentionally and sometimes not), you can hear cars, you can hear bits of the river I used to live next to. That all puts it in a place for me, rather than being in some kind of electronic void."

WHO Jon Hopkins

WHAT *Insides* (Domino/EMI)

WHEN & WHERE Friday 6 to Sunday 8 June, Playhouse



# Time to be ingenious

Disciples of the arts take multi-tasking to a higher plane, writes **Alex Lalak**

## **festival** **Creative Sydney**

**Museum of Contemporary Art, Circular Quay and The Roxy, Parramatta;**  
**May 27-June 12, free with registration,**  
**[creativesydney.com.au](http://creativesydney.com.au)**

IT SOUNDS like it is from a B-grade horror film but Generation Slashie is the future.

They have been dubbed "multi-disciplinary multi-taskers", their queen bee is the ever-busy Cate Blanchett and they will be taking centre stage at the upcoming mini-festival of talks and workshops called Creative Sydney.

"There's this whole generation of creative people coming through looking up to people like Cate Blanchett and John Polson, who are about being inspired by the cross-pollination between industries, disciplines and artforms," says Creative Sydney director Jess Scully.

"People are feeling the crunch of the GFC so they are finding creative ways to create their careers by doing more than one thing."

One of the people eagerly awaiting the chance to mix with other creative types is photographer/filmmaker/jeweller Cara Stricker, who will be taking part in the Generation Slashie discussion.

"I'd never heard of this whole slashie thing until they told me I was one and I was like, 'Is that a word?'. I guess they found a box for me," Stricker says.

"Lots of people have been talking about how they are living on people's couches and wondering if they are going to be able to keep doing this if no one is making any money. I'd like to hear people's stories and it's nice to hear why they are doing things and get a fresh perspective."

Creative Sydney is part of the broader Vivid Festival, which is taking over Sydney from the end of May for several weeks and will also include an extensive public light show and a music festival at the Sydney Opera House.

Vivid celebrates the artistic life of the city and Creative Sydney will bring people

together to discuss the best and worst aspects of trying to work in the creative arts industry.

"We met with people who are creative leaders at the established and the emerging level and asked what excited them about working in Sydney, what opportunities they think they've had here, what frustrates them and what's difficult about working in Sydney," Scully says.

"We compiled a list of topics, which we've culled to 19 key discussion points. We've set about finding inspiring stories of how people have found ways to take advantage of opportunities and overcome obstacles."

Topics include practical information on how to find money to fund projects and opportunities to engage with creative types.

In Three Minute Sydney, people such as Rafael Bonachela from Sydney Dance Company and *Guerilla Gardener's* Mickie Quick will share their vision of the city, The Space Race is a brainstorming session looking at finding appropriate buildings to house

artistic activities and there will be a DJ/VJ presentation called Remixing History.

Other events include an opportunity for people to pitch their creative ideas in the hope of scoring funding in Back My Project and a showcase of successful, high-profile locals who will talk about how they made it to their positions called the Creative Catalyst Showcase, hosted by Chris Taylor from *The Chaser*.

"The events are for anyone that wants to feel inspired and anyone who thought 'I wish I knew what was going on in Sydney', and this is an accessible way to discover these things that are happening," Scully says. "There's nothing exclusive about it."





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MTWTFS-



Vibe: Cara Striker (left)  
and curator Jess Scully  
Picture: John Fotiadis



**The Brag**  
**04/05/2009**  
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M-----

## Street Level

With Jess Scully, Director of the Creative Sydney festival, May 27 - June 12



### How did you get into independent publishing?

I've loved zines and mags from the first time I flicked through **The Face** in high school to the first hand-made zine I found, like a stray diamond, among the flyers at my suburban record shop. I guess that magic, the idea of telling stories, creating images and erm, having access to really cool musicians and creative types made me want to study journalism.

The publishing bug really bit hard when I worked on our student paper, **Vertigo**, in 2000, which really was the best year ever for student activist types to complain about things. **STU** evolved from there, and **Yen**, **Hotpress**, **Empty** and **SummerWinter** kind of followed on from the same idea - using mags as an excuse to talk to inspiring people - and as a vehicle for telling their stories in words and pictures.

### Virtues of a Journalism/Law degree?

I'm glad I studied journo as it instilled a sense of responsibility and accountability, for the stories you tell, and to the people who trust you with their work and ideas. It also helped me edit my own writing - the best advice I ever got was to cut out the clever bits - the bits you've overworked, where you're out to impress

rather than tell the story. Law has been great for dealing with crappy real estate agents, negotiating contracts and generally giving the impression that I know what I'm doing (helpful when I don't)... but you wouldn't want me on your crack legal team as I did spend most of this degree in the food court at Market City.

### Tell us about SummerWinter?

Christopher Ferguson and I started it a few years back - it's a fashion magazine that tells stories about the past, present and future of creativity and inspiration in Australian culture - it's a tribute to everything we love about magazines. It's lavish, indulgent and pretty obscure.

### Your current inspirations?

Right now I'm inspired by clever people on Twitter (hard to find but they're out there), TED, New Matilda, Enmore's incredible food, Chippendale's patchwork roadworks, Rowda ya Habibi and Ice and Slice (Newtown), Make: Do, Kid Zoom, Mini Graff, Oh Really, Freshly Baked and Stupid Krap, George Gittos and Hellen Rose, PAM, Romance Was Born, Cara Stricker and Kevina-Jo Smith... lucky for me a lot of these inspirations will be at Creative Sydney.

### Why is Creative Sydney important?

Because it's the first time that the broad spectrum of creative culture - from fashion and film to flash design, media and music to visual art, performance, technology, architecture and advertising - has been brought together in Sydney, to celebrate the work we make here and the people who make it happen. It's important because it's not just an "ain't it cool" conference, with big names flown in to make us all feel inadequate, but instead it's a locally-aware, practically-focused series of conversations and events that can inspire and inform everyone from established professionals to students, newbies and fans. It's important for anyone who ever thought there was nothing fun happening in this town of ours, or didn't know how to find it.

What: Creative Sydney festival  
as part of the **Yard Sydney** festival  
Where: Museum of Contemporary Art  
When: May 27 - June 12, 2009  
More: [www.creativesydney.com.au](http://www.creativesydney.com.au)





# The light fantastic

*Meet Brian Eno, music genius, writes ELISSA BLAKE.*

BRIAN Eno's greatest fear in life is to sit next to someone on a plane who turns to him and says "So, what do you do?"

"It sounds so pompous to say 'artist, composer, producer and lecturer', they'd think I was making it up," says the softly spoken 60-year-old. "Instead, I say I'm a patent attorney. That usually kills the conversation stone dead."

Internationally known as a producer (for David Bowie, Talking Heads, Coldplay and U2, among others), composer (he is widely regarded as the father of ambient music) and former glam-rocker (with Roxy Music), Eno's music is a lot better known than his face.

"One time I was flying from Toronto to New York and a woman sat next to me and asked me what I did," he says. "I gave her the usual line and she said, 'How interesting, so am I!' I had to tap dance like mad for the next hour."

Eno may have to brush up on his patent law before boarding his flight to Sydney, his first trip to Australia, to steer the Sydney Opera House's inaugural three-week winter music festival, Luminous. The event features more than 30 music acts, a massive light installation and a series of talks, all hand-picked by Eno, who will be working at the festival for the entire three weeks.

"We're hoping this is going to become one of the most significant music festivals in the southern hemisphere," says Richard Evans, chief executive of the Opera House.

"Brian Eno brings an intellectual edge to this festival and each year we hope to have someone of international standing who can pull in the most interesting acts in the world."

Eno's music program features performances by reggae maverick Lee "Scratch" Perry, Rachid Taha ("Algeria's Johnny Cash", according to Britain's *The Independent*), electro-pop luminaries Ladytron, New York experimental band Battles ("The best thing I've seen in years, the beginning of a new wave in pop," Eno says) and Seun Kuti, the bandleader son of Afrobeat visionary Fela Kuti.

"I think Seun's going to be absolutely stunning," Eno says. "His father was a huge inspiration for me for many, many years. A lot of the work I did with Talking Heads was very

much affected by Fela. And Seun's band is really incredible, 18 people on stage. When I first heard Fela on stage I thought 'this is the music of the future' and I still think it's true."

Luminous includes performances from comedian-musician Reggie Watts (one of the stand-outs in this year's Sydney Festival), a continuous light show playing over the sails of the Opera House, a selection of stories by neuroscientist and author David Eagleman ("I've written a piece of music for each of them so that each will be presented as a little tiny radio play," Eno says) An eight-hour finale of music and ideas called Pure Scenius will end Luminous. Eno plans to lecture over live music by cult Sydney band the Necks and Underworld's Karl Hyde, on his favourite subject: why people make art and why do we care about it?

"Why does any of us care about [artists] Pierre Mondrian or Kandinsky or the Rolling Stones? Why do we like red sweaters over green ones? I try to answer these questions in many different ways from different angles," he says.

Eno's most recent projects include composing the score to Peter Jackson's film adaptation of the best-selling novel *The Lovely Bones*, designing the sound to the video game Spore and producing U2's new album, *No Line On The Horizon*. ("I always like working with U2, they are very sweet people," he says. "They're like a very happy but chaotic Irish family.")

"I hope [Luminous] will start a new way of thinking about contemporary culture," Eno says. "I've mixed up different kinds of music with the idea of conversation."

"One of the points I want to make is that being an artist does not mean you don't have anything to do with what is going on in the world. Being an artist is a way of being deeply involved in what is going on rather than escaping from it."

*The Luminous festival plays at the Sydney Opera House from May 26 to June 14. Free-\$130. Phone (02) 9250 7777 or see [sydneyoperahouse.com](http://sydneyoperahouse.com).*

**'Being an artist is a way of being  
 deeply involved.'**



**Sun Herald**  
**03/05/2009**  
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S-Diary  
Region: Sydney  
Circulation: 473769  
Type: Capital City Daily  
Size: 397.15 sq.cms  
-----S



Well-connected ... Brian Eno's influence will attract international acts. Photo: Polly Borland





**Sunday Telegraph**  
**03/05/2009**  
**Page: 127**  
**Insider**  
**Region: Sydney**  
**Circulation: 653000**  
**Type: Capital City Daily**  
**Size: 98.42 sq.cms**  
**-----S**



## Lighting up the city in a big way

FOR three weeks from May 26, the sails of the Sydney Opera House will resemble a "freeform painting" as they glow with changing coloured patterns.

Designed by legendary musician and multimedia artist Brian Eno, the Opera House illumination is one of 24 captivating light-art installations that make up a free Light Walk running from the Sydney Observatory through The Rocks and around Circular Quay.

The Light Walk will showcase dynamic, innovative displays by light artists from Australia and overseas nightly from 6pm to midnight.

Other works include a four-storey vase with light-emitting diode (LED) flowers and a giant human face whose expression changes.

The Light Walk is the centrepiece of Smart Light Sydney, a component of Vivid Sydney, a music and light festival created by Events NSW.

Smart Light Sydney explores clever new ideas for lighting public places using low-energy solutions.

**Vivid Sydney, May 26-June 14**  
**Full details: [www.vividsydney.com](http://www.vividsydney.com)**



**Sydney City News**  
**30/04/2009**  
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General News  
Region: NSW  
Circulation: 21500  
Type: Suburban  
Size: 192.96 sq.cms  
-----S-



BY AMELIA GROOM

Already a legendary musician, singer and composer, a music theorist, political and environmental commentator, producer (for bands like U2, Coldplay and Talking Heads), author, visual artist and maker of sounds we hear all the time (on films, iPhones, computer games and Microsoft Windows), Brian Eno's latest venture has been curating a new 3-week festival to be held in Sydney from the end of May.

Appropriately, the program of music, art, performance and ideas spans events as diverse as rock, classical, electronica and world music, art installations, lectures, panels and a continuous light show projected on the Opera House sails.

*Luminous* is unlike most arts festivals because it is a clear manifestation of one man's idiosyncratic interests and values, as opposed to something designed by a committee. First up is Eno's keynote address *Pure Scenius*. "Genius is usually taken to mean the special intelligence of one person," he tells us via the video on the website, "whereas what I think more often happens is that you get fertile scenes where there's the cumulative intelligence of a lot of people." Taking this idea of 'scenius', he says his vision for the festival was to create a scene of cross-fertilisation for a few weeks and to see how all these people and ideas would interact.

Eno will also make an appearance on stage for David Eagleman's reading. A neuroscientist by day and sci-fi writer by night, Eagleman's research on time perception, synesthesia and visual illusions will be perfectly suited to Eno's accompanying soundscapes.

Continuing on the synesthesia thing Eno's 'visual music' installation in The Studio will comprise 77 million permutations of 360 hand painted slides constantly evolving and interwoven with ambient sound.

Highlights from the music program include Battles, Ladytron, Lee Scratch Perry, Jon Hassell, Karl Hyde and the original band of legendary Nigerian singer Fela Kuti (cited by Eno as one of his biggest influences) fronted by his son Sean Kuti.

Besides the international line up there are some exciting appearances from home-grown talent including The Necks giving a live improvised score for Back to Back Theatre's *Food Court*, a hit at last year's Melbourne International Arts Festival (the image alone should get you there).

Being given all this in the Opera House is exciting enough, but having the building outside scintillating with the man's own continuously changing configurations of colour for the duration of the festival is like a huge psychedelic cherry on top.

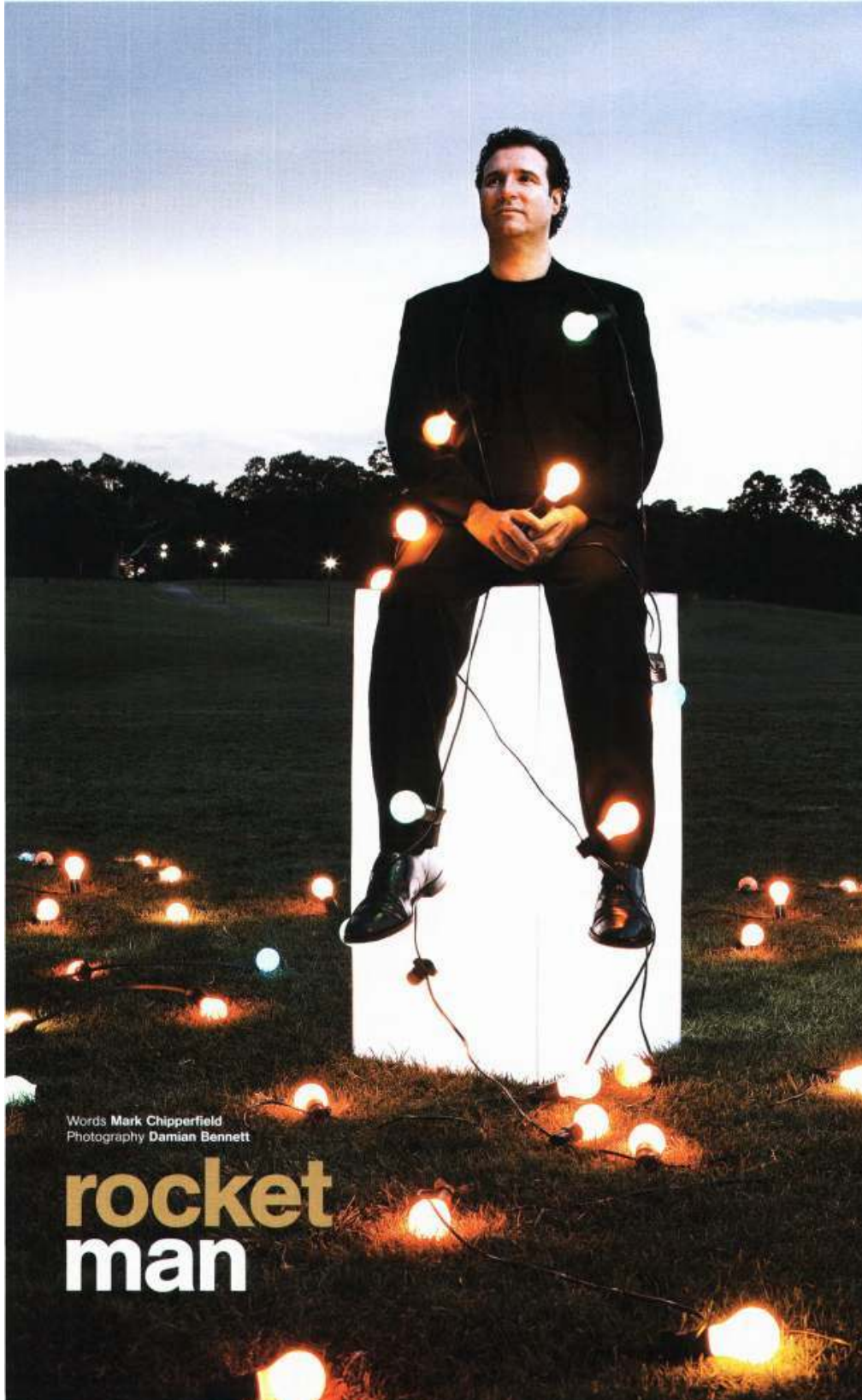
For more information and the full program see [luminous.sydneyoperahouse.com](http://luminous.sydneyoperahouse.com)



Sydney Morning Herald  
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Region: Sydney  
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Type: Capital City Daily  
Size: 617.95 sq.cms  
MTWTFS-

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# information







**Sydney Morning Herald**  
**30/04/2009**  
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 MTWTFSS-

Page 2 of 2

This fireworks guru unleashes his talents in Vivid Sydney, an ambitious new festival of light.

**Brenton Kewley** knows how to throw a party. For the past four years, he has been one of the production gurus behind the New Year's Eve fireworks spectacular. "Sydney is an incredibly vibrant city," he says. "I love its brashness. And its sense of style. New Year's Eve simply illustrates how much energy exists here."

Now Kewley, 44, is hoping to unleash that reservoir of energy and creative talent in a new festival of "music, light and ideas" called Vivid Sydney. The inaugural festival, which kicks off on May 26 and will take place mostly around Circular Quay, has already pulled off a major coup by signing up Brian Eno, the British composer, music producer and conceptualist, to curate the Luminous program at the Opera House, which will be lit for the duration. "Brian Eno is involved in the design of that lighting," says Kewley, the festival's executive producer. "He's also curating all of the music performances, exhibitions and talks at the Opera House."

Despite his obvious enthusiasm, Kewley is hard-pressed to precisely define a festival that he says will be both cutting-edge and attractive to a family audience. "I like to think of Vivid as being like a great jewellery box. Beautiful from the outside, you can open it up and pluck out what you want."

Kewley hopes his creation will become as established as the New Year's Eve celebrations. "It's really important that families come into the city and experience events," he says. "I really hope Sydneysiders take up that invitation."

Vivid Sydney is the brainchild of Events NSW, the organisation charged by Premier Nathan Rees with creating a world-class calendar of sporting, gastronomic and cultural events across NSW. The three-week festival can be broken down into three main components:

**Luminous** As well as *Lighting The Sails*, in which the sails of the Opera House will glow with ever-changing colours, Luminous will feature *77 Million Paintings*, Eno's free image and sound installation that is described in the program as "visual music"; a concert series starring everyone from English electronic pop outfit Ladytron to New York experimental supergroup Battles; and the finale, *Pure Scenius*, a one-off concert produced by Eno.

**Smart Light Sydney** This will showcase *The Light Walk*, a free display of light artworks on a trail from Sydney Observatory to the Opera House; Festival Of The Stars, a two-night program of stargazing; and Firewater, which will include outdoor barbecues in The Rocks and a re-enactment of the 1814 burning of the convict ship the Three Bees.

**Creative Sydney** A stand-alone festival, this "provocative discussion and events program" celebrates the city's creative talents and will feature talks, performances and exhibitions. Free with registration at [www.creativesydney.com.au](http://www.creativesydney.com.au).

*Vivid Sydney, May 26-June 14. [www.vividsydney.com](http://www.vividsydney.com).*





**Sydney Morning Herald**  
**30/04/2009**  
**Page: 9**  
**Arts & Entertainment**  
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**Size: 134.12 sq.cms**  
**MTWTFS-**

# Something inspiring for all

**Clare Morgan**  
 Arts Editor

THINK of it as a mini 2020 Summit: three weeks of provocative discussion and events showing off Sydney's creative talent, with the chance to solve a few problems along the way.

Creative Sydney will run at the Museum of Contemporary Art (with one event in Parramatta) from May 27 to June 13. The program will be unveiled today.

Artists and practitioners from sectors including music, design, architecture, gaming, photography, performance, writing, radio, film, television, media arts, advertising and visual arts will canvas topics from copy-right to networking to how to sell that big idea.

The festival's artistic director, Jess Scully, says the idea is to get the best thinkers in a room and let them go. "I think a lot of

people feel it's time the creative energies we have in Sydney were acknowledged and brought together in this way," she says. All events are free and the public will have opportunities to contribute and even get on stage.

Three Minute Sydney – where speakers share their vision of the city through sound, vision and storytelling – will feature members of the public alongside some of the city's leading lights.

"It could be someone at home ranting into their webcam or someone who makes a beautiful animation about what Sydney means to them. It might be a song or a poem. It just has to be three minutes," says Scully.

Another session, Back My Project, will enable people to pitch their ideas to an expert panel. Scully says: "We'll put the call out to find the six most creative projects in Sydney that just need a bit of funding to take

them to the next level. It could be film scripts or gallery spaces for emerging artists."

Many of the sessions will be about getting noticed, finding markets and tapping into networks. "I think Sydney is [a city] that hides her charms, even from long-term Sydneysiders," says Scully. "So often, if you're not within a certain social or professional network, you miss out on opportunities, events or happenings that would really inspire you."

Scully says the festival will not be a whingefest. "We don't want people to walk out of the MCA thinking, 'Woe is me' or 'There's no way I could ever do that'. We want them to walk out and think, 'Wow, I'm inspired by the way people have found creative solutions to the things I face.'"

Go to [www.creativesydney.com.au](http://www.creativesydney.com.au) for details.



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**25/04/2009**  
 Page: 8  
 Weekend  
 Region: Sydney  
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 Type: Capital City Daily  
 Size: 187.89 sq.cms  
 MTWTFSS-

# culture events

with Stephen Downie

## Funny business

**Steve Coogan, State Theatre, 46 Market St, City; today 8pm, \$69.90, 136 100, ticketmaster.com.au**

WITH most of his shows on this tour selling out, Steve Coogan might well wonder why he didn't come to Australia sooner. Coogan is known as the creator of the characters Alan Partridge (pictured above), Paul and Pauline Calf and many others.

## The write ideas

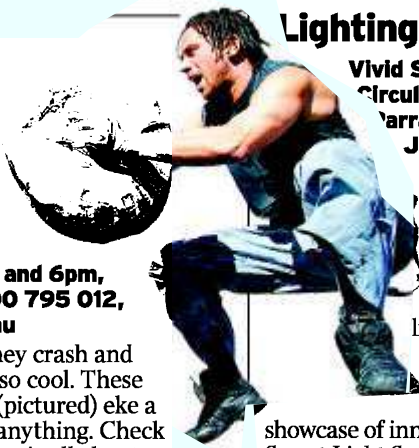
**Sydney Writers Festival, Walsh Bay precinct, City, Sydney suburbs and regional NSW; May 18-24, free and ticketed events, 9252 7729, swf.org.au**

WORKSHOPS, seminars, readings and talks with authors from around Australia and the world, including writers of fiction and non-fiction, poets, philosophers and historians.

## Big bang

**Stomp '09, Theatre Royal, cnr King and Castlereagh Sts, City; tonight 8pm, tomorrow 1pm and 6pm, \$69-\$89, 1300 795 012, ticketek.com.au**

THEY bang, they crash and they sound so, so cool. These percussionists (pictured) eke a rhythm out of anything. Check out what the fuss is all about.



## Lighting the way

**Vivid Sydney, The Rocks, Circular Quay and Parramatta; May 26-June 14, some events free, 9250 7777, luminous.sydney, operahouse.com, vividssydney.com**

SYDNEY'S new festival of music, light and ideas developed by Events NSW features Luminous, a showcase of innovative music acts; Smart Light Sydney, which includes a free "Light Walk" featuring stunning low-energy light art installations (pictured top); Creative Sydney; and Fire Water, with flame, food and various spectacles in The Rocks.

## Three for all

**Pigs, Bears And Billy Goats Gruff, Playhouse, Sydney Opera House; today and tomorrow, 10am and 12.30pm, \$26, 9250 7777, sydneyoperahouse.com**

THREE storytellers bring to life three classic children's stories: *Three Little Pigs*, *Three Billy Goats Gruff* and *Goldilocks And The Three Bears*.

## Opera nouse

**Cosi, New Theatre, 542 King St, Newtown; today 8pm, \$28/\$22; tomorrow 5pm, pay what you can (minimum \$10), until May 16, 1300 306 776, newtheatre.org.au**

A PRODUCTION of the classic Australian play by Louis Nowra. The story centres on Lewis, whose task is to turn a group of psychiatric patients into opera singers.

## Screen dreams

**Dungog Film Festival, James Theatre, 6 Brown St, Dungog; May 28-31, dungogfilmfestival.org**

HELD in Australia's oldest continuously running cinema, the historic James Theatre. Dungog offers audiences an overview of Australian feature, documentary and short film production over the past year.



EVENTS

**NEW SOUTH WALES**

These events are part of the NSW Master Events Calendar. More information: [eventsnsw.com.au](http://eventsnsw.com.au)



# Artists go up in light

## festival Vivid

**Sydney Opera House, Circular Quay, The Rocks and various locations; May 26-June 14, [vividnsydney.com](http://vividnsydney.com)**

PITY light artists — it's not often they get the chance to shine.

We barely notice the everyday work of people such as designer Ruth McDermott, whose work can be seen in corporate headquarters, hotels and other venues across the world, including popular city watering hole The Establishment.

But as part of the inaugural Vivid festival, McDermott is working with two colleagues on a light installation inspired by our flying fox population. The piece is being devised for Observatory Hill, as part of the Smart Light Sydney element of the Vivid festival.

"I've never done an outdoor piece before and I must say, it's very nerve-racking," she says.

McDermott's work will be one of 25 along the Harbour foreshore, beginning at the Opera House where Brian Eno — curator of Luminous, the music segment of the Vivid festival — will create a light display on the sails.

"To see my name on the same list as his [Eno's], I was just blown away," McDermott says.

People will view installations at The Rocks and make their way to the Opera House.

"It strikes me as something like Sculpture By The Sea, but in light," explains Events NSW CEO Geoff Parmenter.

His intention is to show off the ability of people such as McDermott and showcase Sydney's creative capabilities.

"Sydney and NSW is by any measure the creative capital of Australia. A disproportionately

large number of people working in the creative industries work in Sydney and NSW," Parmenter says. "We've allowed other parts of Australia to talk up their credentials and we've probably not taken the opportunity to remind people of the facts. A platform like Vivid is a good way of reminding people that this is creative HQ."

And not a bad little earner for the tourist industry either.

Parmenter says the festival is expected to bring in \$20 million, which will increase in subsequent years as festival awareness grows.

McDermott is just happy to be a part of the whole thing. Besides her work for the "light walk" she is also constructing a piece for an exhibition at UTS, which is part of the Smart Light program and looks at sustainable lighting.

McDermott's work uses acrylic with laser patterns etched into it, mounted on plinths and illuminated via LED lighting.

**Chris Hook**

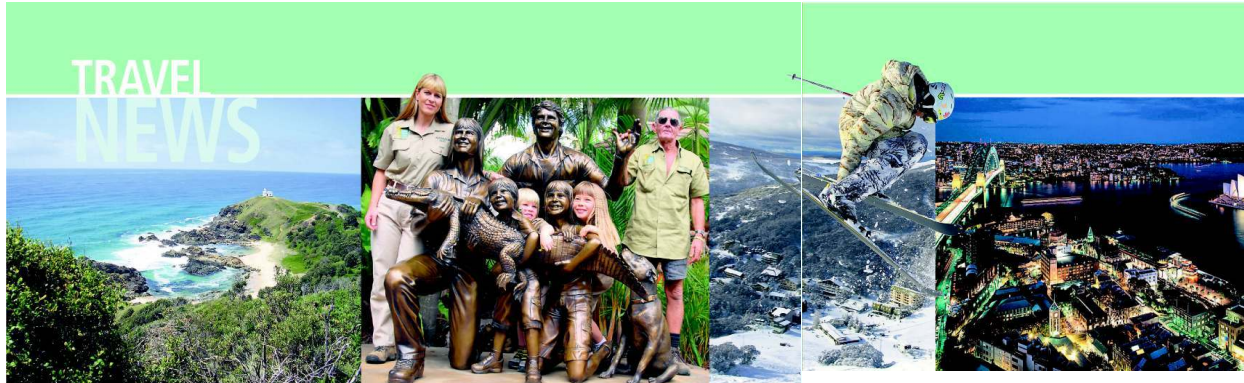


Shine: Ruth McDermott with a sample of her work Picture: John Fotiadis





**Newcastle Herald**  
**17/04/2009**  
**Page: 4**  
**Travel**  
**Region: Newcastle NSW**  
**Circulation: 49880**  
**Type: Regional**  
**Size: 1041.32 sq.cms**  
**MTWTFS-**



## Walking Port Macquarie

Port Macquarie's newest attraction, The Coastal Walk, has been completed, a nine-kilometre easy-grade walk taking in beaches, headlands, historic sites and subtropical rainforest. Stretching from Westport Park in town to Tacking Point Lighthouse in the south, the walk takes about 3.5 hours one way. The specially constructed walkway hugs the coast and features viewing platforms, interpretive signs, picnic spots and swimming at bays and beaches. The walk can be divided into four sections of about 2.5 km each, with a return bus option. It is free and accessible every day.

Other walks in the area include Kooloonbung Creek Nature Reserve, North Brother Mountain, Queens Lake Foreshore and Rocks Ferry Reserve along the Hastings River at Wauchope.

## Tourism winners

The late Steve Irwin's Australia Zoo, on Queensland's Sunshine Coast, slithered away with the Qantas Australian Tourism Awards major tourist attraction prize for 2008.

The award winners were - Major tourist attractions: Australia Zoo, Qld; Tourist attractions: Pet Porpoise Pool, Coffs Harbour, NSW; Major festivals and events: 2008 Clipsal 500, Adelaide, SA; Festivals and events: Fun4Kids Festival, Vic; Ecotourism: Montague Island Tours, Narooma, NSW; Heritage and cultural tourism: Old Melbourne Gaol Crime and Justice Experience, Vic; Indigenous tourism: Kooljaman at Cape Leveque, WA; Specialised tourism services: APT Group - VIP Touring, NT; Visitor information services: Augusta Margaret River Tourism Association Inc, WA; Meetings and business tourism: Adelaide Convention Centre, SA; Major tour and/or transport: Quicksilver Group, Qld; Tour and/or transport operators: The Discovery Group; Adventure tourism: The Maria Island Walk; Tourism marketing: Quicksilver Group, Qld; Tourism education and training: Skycity Darwin, NT; Tourism







**Newcastle Herald**  
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**Region: Newcastle NSW**  
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**MTWTFS-**

restaurants and catering: Cafe Pronto, WA; Tourism wineries: De Bortoli Winery and restaurant, Vic; Tourist and caravan parks: Lane Cove River Tourist Park, NSW; Backpacker accommodation: Sydney Central YHA, NSW; Hosted accommodation: Crystal Creek Meadows Luxury Cottages and Spa Retreat, NSW; Unique accommodation: Faraway Bay, The Bush Camp, WA; Standard accommodation: Narnu Farm, SA; Deluxe accommodation: The Old Woolstore Apartment Hotel, Tas; Luxury accommodation: Skycity Darwin, NT; New tourism development: Greater Blue Mountains Drive, NSW; Qantas award for sustainable: Skyrail Rainforest Cableway, Qld; Outstanding contribution by an individual at a national level: Laurie O'Meara, WA.



## New Aspen lodge

The snow has been falling on the Aspen/Snowmass ski slopes in the US but the season is about to finish, and already excitement for next season is growing as the luxurious Viceroy Resort and Residences at Snowmass nears completion.

Viceroy Snowmass will open for the 2009/10 US ski season as the new Snowmass Base Village's ski-in/ski-out hotel featuring 152 condominium hotel residences.

The opening of Viceroy Snowmass marks the company's first mountain resort, with claims it will bring the brand's signature fusion of style, design and innovative culinary experiences to Snowmass.

## Snow season omen

The same natural phenomenon is taking place now - as it did in 2000 - with Lake Eyre, 700 km north of Adelaide, filling up.

In 2000 skiing at Falls Creek opened a week early with a snow cover of 80 cm and all of June was quite extraordinary. In fact the locals cannot recall, ever, a winter season that started with so much snow.

Can the bumper season of 2000 be repeated? Mother Nature will make that call, but the Lake Eyre experience is providing some optimism for snow buffs. There hasn't been this volume of water in Lake Eyre since the new millennium and the operators of alpine resorts such as Falls Creek are quite prepared to acknowledge it may be an omen for their snow season.

## Vivid Sydney

Visitors can soon immerse themselves in the music and light of Vivid Sydney, the city's new sensory festival which organisers say will transform the city into a spectacular living canvas of music and light in and around Sydney Opera House, The Rocks, Circular Quay and the city centre.

Vivid Sydney will feature Luminous, a festival at Sydney Opera House; Smart Light Sydney, a free celebration of innovation through light art, music and ideas events; and Creative Sydney, a series of events exploring the wealth and diversity of Sydney's creative talent.

Vivid Sydney, which will run from May 26 to

June 14, is one of five anchor events on the first NSW Master Events Calendar created by Events NSW on behalf of the NSW Government.



## Adventure island

The new Koala Adventure Island resort in the Whitsundays - aimed squarely at the 18-plus market with plenty of activities and entertainment - has been given a Balinese feel during its upgrade and will feature Balinese-inspired massage beds, bamboo day beds and thatched pergolas along the beach and foreshore areas.

Opened last month on South Molle Island, Koala Adventure Island is a transformation of the former South Molle Island resort. The resort offers four styles of accommodation - beachfront bungalows, ocean view rooms, reef rooms and rainforest rooms.



# Music and light show in store

**WHAT: Vivid Sydney**  
**WHERE: The Rocks, Circular Quay, Sydney CBD**  
**WHEN: May 26 to June 14**  
**BOOKINGS:**  
**[www.vividsydney.com](http://www.vividsydney.com)**  
**WORDS: Rebecca Woolley**

A LIVING canvas of music and light will come to life with a spectacular Sydney festival curated by legendary musician and multimedia artist Brian Eno.

Vivid Sydney will feature work by designers, architects, visual artists, musicians, computer game developers and festival producers.

The festival will be held at the The Rocks, Circular Quay and the city centre from May 26 to June 14.

English musician Eno, known as the father of ambient music, will curate the sound side of the festival which will take place at the Sydney Opera House.

There will also be a free light walk illuminating the city with dozens of stunning low-energy light art installations, creative

industry seminars, workshops, performances and a three-night food festival.

"Vivid Sydney will showcase the city as a major creative hub and celebrate the diversity of Sydney's creative industries," Premier Nathan Rees said.

He said the festival of music, light and ideas would be the biggest event of its kind in the southern hemisphere and would drive tourism, attract investment and create jobs.

It is hoped Vivid Sydney will generate more than \$10 million in economic benefit for NSW.

Mr Rees said there was "no doubt" Sydney was the creative capital of Australia with 37 per cent of the country's creative

industry located in NSW.

Tourism Minister Jodi McKay said: "Events NSW identified a gap in the mid-year events calendar and wanted to show Sydney in a different light by offering visitors an international creative festival experience."

"We have some of the city's best creative minds working on this festival and we are confident that in time Vivid Sydney will attract the same level of international attention as the New Year's Eve celebrations on Sydney Harbour."

Sydney Lord Mayor Clover Moore said Vivid Sydney would strengthen the city's reputation as being "engaging and creative".

● Details: [www.vividsydney.com](http://www.vividsydney.com)



**Mary Anne Kiriakou shows her light exhibit to Premier Nathan Rees, Sydney Lord Mayor Clover Moore and Tourism Minister Jodi McKay at the launch of Vivid Sydney.**

Picture: KATRINA TEPPER





**Alive Sydney**  
**16/04/2009**  
**Page: 6**  
**General News**  
**Region: Sydney**  
**Circulation: 40335**  
**Type: Suburban**  
**Size: 992.04 sq.cms**  
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# Make a date

A pick of this week's standout events, plus a few to add to your planner

Catch keyboard player for Missy Higgins and Wes Carr, Gerard Masters laying down classic songs and some originals this Monday at Opera Bar from 8.30pm.



## FINE DINING FOR LESS

One of the city's finest dining establishments is rewarding members and newsletter subscribers with a special offer on Tuesday through to Thursday nights in April. Enjoy six courses including matching wines for just \$75. Sign up for the newsletter at [info@foveaux.com.au](mailto:info@foveaux.com.au) and mention you are a newsletter subscriber at time of booking. 65-67 Foveaux Street, Surry Hills. Phone: 9211 0664.

## 18 FABULOUS FILLIES

The Autumn Racing Carnival continues today with the Emirates Doncaster Mile, the Australian Oaks, the Lexus T.J. Smith Stakes and the Inglis Sires Produce Stakes at Royal Randwick Racecourse. Today's dress code is about sophistication so try a pencil skirt or beautiful blouse. [ticketek.com.au](http://ticketek.com.au)



## 21 GUYS AND DOLLS

Experience the Broadway energy of one of Sydney's favourite musicals, Guys and Dolls. An all-star cast including Lisa McCune, Marina Prior, Garry McDonald and Magda Szubanski perform nightly at the Capitol Theatre at 7.30pm. \$70-\$100 + bf. [guysanddollsthemusical.com.au](http://guysanddollsthemusical.com.au)



## BE CROATIVE

See, taste and hear the very best of Croatian culture at the Be CROative! exhibition tour today at the Overseas Passenger Terminal. Browse glass showcases of Croatian food, wine and inventions plus much more. From 10am.

## 20 THE NEXT BIG THING

Think your child has what it takes to be the next big musical superstar? The Powerhouse Museum is running a great workshop where they can become a DJ, record a song or edit a video in a one day creative workshop. Ages 8-17. \$60. [play.powerhousemuseum.com](http://play.powerhousemuseum.com)



## 22 CHER TRIBUTE

Betty Dargie steps into the well-worn heels of the one and only Cher, as she along with her cast present 'Half-Breed: The Ultimate Cher Show'. More a musical theatre production than tribute show, this is a no-expense-spared event with Cher's exact Vegas costume replicas and stunning choreography. At Slide, Darlinghurst. \$64 + bf (dinner and show). [ticketek.com.au](http://ticketek.com.au)

## ON THE HORIZON

### Kings Cross Festival

Only the freshest of produce and markets will be the norm at the Kings Cross Festival set for Sunday, May 3. Food personality Maeve O'Meara will be this year's ambassador.

### The Crucible

Arthur Miller's classic play opens at Sydney Theatre Company on May 4. An exceptional cast including Peter Carroll, Lynette Carroll, Marta Dusseldorp and Sean O'Shea will star in the Tanya Goldberg directed production. \$30. [sydneytheatre.com.au](http://sydneytheatre.com.au)

### Smart Light Sydney

Sydneysiders will come together in a "let there be light" moment when the inaugural Smart Light Sydney event takes place on May 26. Musician and artist Brian Eno will light up the Opera House sails as part of the free public walk, nightly from 6pm. [smartlightsydney.com](http://smartlightsydney.com)

### Beyoncé

Beyoncé is back, two years after her 2007 tour, and this time she's clad in couture and futuristic, edgy fashion. Her 'I Am...' tour takes place in Sydney on September 18. My Ticketek members can purchase tickets online before the general public on Tuesday, April 21 at noon. [ticketek.com.au](http://ticketek.com.au)

## Rain or shine



**THURSDAY**  
 Max 24  
 Min 15  
 Fine, Mostly sunny



**FRIDAY**  
 Max 22  
 Min 15  
 Fine, Mostly sunny



**SATURDAY**  
 Max 22  
 Min 13  
 Chance shower



**SUNDAY**  
 Max 22  
 Min 16  
 Chance shower



**MONDAY**  
 Max 22  
 Min 16  
 Chance shower