

Media Release

2014 FREE AND SPECTACULAR PROGRAM

This summer the Perth International Arts Festival will reinvigorate the senses of Western Australian audiences with an insightful and exhilarating program of free events that will take place city-wide and beyond. With a schedule that includes the **Lotterywest Festival Spectacular** and the **Lotterywest Festival Celebration**, **Chevron Festival Gardens**, the **Rio Tinto Education and Family Program**, **Perth Writers Festival Family Day**, and the **Visual Arts Program**, there is something amazing on offer everyday throughout the Festival.

Perth Festival Artistic Director Jonathan Holloway said: “From dazzling fireworks displays to giant monuments, miniature towns, music, motion, and incredible visual art, the Free and Spectacular Program allows us to see the world in a different light. It is this program of high quality and accessible free events that really what makes the Festival one that belongs to the people of Perth.”

Join us for the **Lotterywest Festival Spectacular** on the banks of the Swan River over three nights when Xarxa, masters of public theatre on the most spectacular scale, create rhythmic explosions of music and movement, the elemental collision of fire meeting sea, and fireworks shooting into the night sky, with **Veles e Vents**, a family-friendly event that will leave the entire city with a pounding heart and indelible memories. Continuing this joyous study in storytelling, **I Think I Can** is an interactive artwork where participants will dictate their avatars journey through the magical streets of a crafted railway model and its accompanying town. Weird and wondrous storylines will dip and fold as actors expertly bring the avatars to life. Bringing your inner child to life is Turner Prize-winning artist Jeremy Deller who will relocate Stonehenge to Perth in a landmark Festival event for the **Lotterywest Festival Celebration**. **Sacrilege** stunningly reimagines one of the world’s most recognisable prehistoric monuments as a full-scale inflatable and interactive sculpture, and is characteristic of Deller’s ability to instigate memorable art experiences for the young and young at heart. He has created a Stonehenge bouncy castle!

The **Chevron Festival Gardens** will once again become the musical hub of the city this February. While tickets can be purchased to the jam-packed Contemporary Music program that takes place here, everyone is encouraged to enjoy free entry to the eclectic backyard-style hangout and bar. It is the perfect place to relax with friends and enjoy a drink while listening to the cool sounds of local and international DJs late into the night. On that note, we are thrilled to welcome back **Radio Barkas**, the Dutch DJs who bring with them a swag of wild tunes – crackling 45s and LPs from the fifties and sixties that spin rock’n’roll, calypso, RnB, mambo, surf, the works. Their portable radio station, a converted van called ‘De Kalipofoon’ creates a mobile DJ set of epic proportions that sets the Gardens alight night after night.

Young people are not only the audience of the future – they are the audience of now, and in this Festival there are plentiful opportunities for families to enjoy extraordinary arts experiences. Not only are **Veles e Vents**, **I Think I Can**, and **Sacrilege** all particularly recommended for audiences and young families, but the popular and free **Perth Writers Festival Family Day** is back on Sunday 23rd February. Children of all ages have the chance to meet their favourite authors at this fantastic outdoor carnival of hands-on activities for the whole family, including games, readings, workshops, face painting and performances.



Every year the **Visual Arts** program brightens the city's galleries and public spaces with a program of free events. Head down to the South Perth foreshore to marvel at South Korean artist **Do Ho Suh's Net-Work**, a canopy draped in a vast net with tiny human figures washing against the shorelines. Referencing both architecture and humanity, this delicate yet powerful web encourages contemplation of the identity of the individual in today's global society. Visitors to PICA will be entranced by South African **William Kentridge's The Refusal of Time**, an all encompassing installation of video projections of five interlinked films into which flow the magic of theatre, drawing, music, dance, and animation. Kentridge is one of the most acclaimed and compelling artists of our time and this outstanding work is a powerful commingling of the rich threads of social history, pathos, and humour that characterise his enduring multi-disciplinary practice. An entire room will become a fantastical landscape at John Curtin Gallery when artists Japanese artists **Paramodel** utilise vivid imagination and meticulous design skills to create **Paramodelic-Graffiti**, a wondrously immersive environment made from mass-produced toys and brilliant blue plastic train tracks. Creating an extraordinary new diorama specifically for the Festival, this is another event that will delight young and old. Also at John Curtin Gallery, **Ryota Kuwakubo's The Tenth Sentiment** will fill a room with a landscape of miniscule and everyday artefacts, and then seamlessly animate them into an immersive field of expansive vistas. Visitors will be enveloped in a world of wonder, journeying through a powerfully hypnotic scene aboard a tiny toy train.

For those intrigued by the more provocative, Australian artist **Richard Bell** will present his first exhibition in Western Australia with **Embassy**, a recreation of the original Aboriginal Tent Embassy, the protest camp set up in 1972 on the lawns of Parliament House in Canberra, and a previously unseen selection of his highly acclaimed paintings as well as a controversial trilogy of recent videos. **Anne Ferran**, one of Australia's most acclaimed photo-media artists, melds the mediums of photography, textile, text, and installation to investigate Australia's colonial past, in particular tracing the anonymous lives of women and children in prisons and asylums. A feature of **Shadow Land**, her first exhibition in Western Australia, will be new work that has been made in response to the disbanded library at the Fremantle Prison. **Stranger Than Fiction: Art of our Time** at the Art Gallery of Western Australia will showcase a dynamic selection of international contemporary art from The Museum of Modern Art in New York, as part of the ongoing MoMA series, and **Bali: Return Economy** at the Fremantle Arts Centre is an expansive exhibition exploring the ever-changing relationship between Western Australia, Bali and the artists, both Western Australian and Balinese, who create work informed by the island.

PROGRAM OF FREE AND SPECTACULAR EVENTS:

Lotterywest Festival Spectacular

Veles e Vents

When: Friday 7 February – Sunday 9 February. 8pm.

Where: Langley Park

Lotterywest Festival Celebration

Jeremy Deller: Sacrilege

When: Monday 17 February – Saturday 1 March. 11am-7pm (except Monday 17 February 2pm-7pm and Sat-Sun 9am-7pm).

Where: Supreme Court Gardens

I Think I Can

When: Sunday 8 February – Wednesday 19 February., 11am-5pm (except 13-14 February 1pm-7pm).

Where: Western Australian Museum, Perth Cultural Centre

Chevron Festival Gardens

When: Thursday 6 February – Saturday 1 March.

Where: Western Australian Museum, Perth Cultural Centre

Radio Barkas

When: Thursday 6 February – Saturday 1 March.

Where: Chevron Festival Gardens, Western Australian Museum, Perth Cultural Centre

Perth Writers Festival Family Day

When: Sunday 23 February. 9am-3pm.

Where: Perth Writers Festival Precinct, UWA

Do Ho Suh: Net-Work

When: Friday 7 February – Saturday 1 March. All day.

Where: South Perth Foreshore, Sir James Mitchell Park

William Kentridge: The Refusal of Time

When: Thursday 13 February – Sunday 27 April.

Tuesday-Sunday 10am-5pm. Open until 7am during the Festival.

Where: PICA, Perth Cultural Centre

Paramodel: Paramodelic-Graffiti

When: Thursday 6 February – Thursday 17 April. Monday-Friday 11am-5pm and Saturday-Sunday 1pm-5pm.

Where: John Curtin Gallery, Curtin University

Ryota Kuwakubo: The Tenth Sentiment

When: Thursday 6 February – Thursday 17 April. Monday-Friday 11am-5pm and Saturday-Sunday 1pm-5pm.

Where: John Curtin Gallery, Curtin University

Richard Bell: Embassy

When: Thursday 13 February – Sunday 27 April. Tuesday-Sunday 10am-5pm.

Where: PICA, Perth Cultural Centre

Anne Ferran : Shadow Land

When: Saturday 8 February – Saturday 19 April. Tuesday-Saturday 11am-5pm.

Where: Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery, UWA

Stranger Than Fiction: Art of our Time

When: Saturday 1 February – Monday 5 May. 10am-5pm daily, closed Tuesdays, open late during February.

Where: Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth Cultural Centre

Bali: Return Economy

When: Saturday 1 February – Thursday 27 March. 10am-5pm daily.

Where: Fremantle Arts Centre



FESTIVAL INFO: 08 6488 5555 • perthfestival.com.au

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Perth International Arts Festival

Founded in 1953 by The University of Western Australia, the Perth International Arts Festival is the longest running international arts festival in Australia and Western Australia's premier cultural event. The Festival has developed a worldwide reputation for excellence in its international program, the presentation of new works and the highest quality artistic experiences for its audience. For 61 years the Festival has welcomed to Perth some of the world's greatest living artists and now connects with over 700,000 people each year.

Jonathan Holloway is the Artistic Director 2012-2015.

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