

## MEDIA RELEASE

### **Palette on the Pier – Harbourside Walsh Bay.**

On Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> October at 7.00pm up to 1000 diners will sit down to an al fresco degustation dinner on the water's edge of the historic shipping wharf at Walsh Bay. The event will showcase the fine food of the Walsh Bay restaurants with wines from the Canowindra region in the central west of NSW, accompanied by some cool jazz. The NSW Minister for the Arts, the Hon Virginia Judge MP has agreed to open ***Palette on the Pier – An Arts Table for 1000***, to celebrate the beginning of the Pier 2/3 being handed over for redevelopment for arts and cultural uses under a 99 year lease as announced by the Premier of NSW, Kristina Keneally in May this year.

This will be the first annual dinner that will bring together the arts, business and residential interests that form the Walsh Bay community with all proceeds to be donated to one of the resident arts organisations. For this inaugural event, proceeds of the dinner will be donated to Regional Arts NSW to assist them in their work to support arts and cultural development and activities that build positive futures for regional, rural and remote communities across NSW. To enhance the fundraising element of the evening, there will be a silent auction of selected artworks from each of the 14 arts regions.

***Palette on the Pier – An Arts Table for 1000*** is a project of the Walsh Bay Precinct Partnership, an organisation established to ensure the sustainable growth of Walsh Bay as a unique business hub within the City of Sydney. It is planned to support a different non-profit arts organisation each year.

The Chair of the Walsh Bay Precinct Partnership, Brigid Kennedy said “We wanted to create an event to complement the ‘cultural ribbon’ notion of this precinct, create identity as a special place in Sydney combining cultural organisations, great restaurants and cafes in a peaceful waterfront location; to bring together lovers of fine food and arts supporters to enjoy fine food, wine and entertainment in the tradition of an Italian village feast and to assist the non-profit arts organisations who are resident in this precinct.”

Regional Arts NSW CEO, Elizabeth Rogers said, “This is a unique opportunity for Regional Arts NSW to engage with a Sydney audience and to raise much needed funds for our programs. We are excited by the high quality art that is produced in regional NSW that we will showcase for auction at the dinner. We are so thankful for the amazing support we have received from our neighbouring arts organisations, the Walsh Bay Precinct Partnership and restaurants, the wineries of the Canowindra region in the central west, our designer, printer, artists and our state wide network of regional arts development officers.”

“Regional Arts NSW is a very small organisation and we would never have attempted an event of this scale without this extraordinary level of support.”

***Palette on the Pier – An Arts Table for 1000*** will be held in Wednesday 27 October, 2010, 7 – 10pm.  
**Tickets:** On sale 13 August - 20 October from Sydney Theatre Company Box Office 02 9250 1777 | \$150 (transaction fees may apply). **Information:** 02 9270 2500 [www.regionalartsnsw.com.au](http://www.regionalartsnsw.com.au).  
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***Palette on the Pier – An Arts Table for 1000*** is a project of the Walsh Bay Precinct Partnership in association with Regional Arts NSW.

The participating restaurants are

- Ottoman Cuisine
- Sebel Pier One
- Simmer on the Bay
- Restaurant Arras
- Ventuno *Pizzeria Enoteca Birreria*
- Vittoria Coffee

The participating wineries are:

- Swinging Bridge Estate
- Falls Wines
- Wallington Wines
- Gardners Ground
- Rosnay Wines
- Hamilton Bluff

Supporters include:

- Paragon Printing
- Swell Design Group
- Sydney Theatre Company

Regional Arts NSW is supported by the NSW Government through Arts NSW

RANSW is endorsed as a deductible gift recipient under the Register of Cultural Organisations and holds a charitable fundraising authority No 13835 from the NSW Office of Charities.