



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### ***Palette on the Pier – A Regional Arts Fundraiser and Showcase***

City chefs and country artists have rallied to support Regional Arts NSW's inaugural fundraising dinner, *Palette on the Pier*, to be held on the historic Walsh Bay waterfront in Sydney on Wednesday 27 October. This exciting new event will feature a Mediterranean-style degustation menu for up to 1000 people, accompanied by award-winning wines from the Canowindra region and quality jazz, along with an auction of fine regional artworks.

The inaugural *Palette on the Pier* dinner was created by the Walsh Bay Precinct Partnership to highlight the restaurants of the area and to raise funds for Regional Arts NSW.

Chefs Adam Humphries (Restaurant Arras), Serif Kaya (Ottoman), Roberto Taffuri (Ventuno), Chloe Kinajil (Firefly) and Brigid Kennedy (Simmer on the Bay) are combining their talents – and their logistics skills – to create and serve a very special menu under the stars.

“This is a special place in Sydney that combines cultural organisations, great restaurants and cafés in a peaceful waterfront location,” says Ms Kennedy, who is the Chair of the Walsh Bay Precinct Partnership. “We wanted to create an event that brings together food lovers and arts supporters to enjoy fine food, wine and entertainment in the tradition of an Italian village feast and help the non-profit arts organisations who are our neighbours in this unique location.”

Six wineries from Canowindra in the central west – Swinging Bridge Estate, Falls Wines, Wallington Wines, Gardners Ground, Rosnay Wines and Toms Waterhole – have joined the party, selecting wines from their range to match the meal.

Artists from all areas of regional NSW have donated works to raise funds through a silent auction to be held during the course of the dinner. A mixture of traditional and contemporary paintings, photography, sculpture, carving and ceramics will be on show. Indigenous artists including ‘Sauce’ from Murrin Bridge, Treahna Hamm from Albury Wodonga, Eddie Harris from Wilcannia and Mary Kennedy from Warren have donated work. Other artists include Angus Nivison and Julia Griffin from the New England region, Lara Scolari from Dubbo, Di Tarr, Pam Wettenhall, Elizabeth Paterson, Chris Orchard, Angela Matthews, Melanie Evans and Raeleen Pfiffer from the Riverina, Lorna Crane and Sonia Turner from southern NSW, Charley Wrencher from the Northern Rivers and Naomi Crowther from the ACT.

“This will be a fantastic showcase of the quality, range and diversity of work created by artists living in regional NSW” said Elizabeth Rogers, CEO, Regional NSW.

Chair of Arts Upper Hunter and trumpeter, Stuart St Hill, is bringing his band Fish Fry to the event to give a city audience a taste of jazz from the country. They will be joined by Sydney jazz band Sixty Six.

Guest speaker for the evening will be the NSW Minister for the Arts, The Hon. Virginia Judge MP.

*Palette on the Pier* will be held on Wednesday 27 October 2010, 7-10pm at Pier 2, Walsh Bay.

**Tickets:** \$150 (transaction fees may apply). Available until COB 22 October from Sydney Theatre Company Box Office 02 9250 1777.

**Information:** 02 9270 2507, [www.regionalartsnsw.com.au](http://www.regionalartsnsw.com.au).

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