

MEDIA RELEASE: Thursday 21 January 2021

NEW PERTH FESTIVAL SHOWS ON SALE

Program celebrates a world of talent in our own backyard



Wild Things takes over Perth Zoo on Sun 28 Feb

With just two weeks until **Perth Festival 2021** kicks off, we are thrilled to announce an exciting range of new shows and extra performances to meet popular demand for our all-Western Australian program.

The **Literature & Ideas** and **Contemporary Music** programs are out now, along with more details about **City of Lights, Supported by Lotterywest** in the Perth Cultural Centre and our **Wild Things** family day out at **Perth Zoo**.

Many Festival shows have sold out and we are rapt that local audiences have responded so brilliantly to our WA-made program, supporting local artists and local stories with universal appeal.

Tickets are on sale for **Literature & Ideas** events and **WA Mixtape**, a blissful celebration of Western Australian music presented in association with **RTRFM** at Government House Gardens. Extra tickets also are available for a range of Festival shows including **One and Many, Structural Dependency, Galup and The Cherry Orchard**.

Our 2021 Literature & Ideas program spans three weekends, starting with **A Day of Ideas** focusing on the mighty Derbal Yerrigan / Swan River at **Perth Concert Hall** on 13 February.

On 21-22 February, **His Majesty's Theatre** will be buzzing as lovers of books and the people who write them share the joy at more than 30 events for **Literature Weekend in the City**. An array of local writers – and international and national special guests joining live by video link – will take centre stage at the beautiful, freshly refurbished heritage theatre.

Spend the weekend with former Prime Minister **Julia Gillard**, acclaimed US novelist **Brit Bennett**, Oscar-winner **Shaun Tan** and Booker Prize finalist **Maaza Mengiste** talking to local moderators and answering audience questions, along with our best Western Australian writers. If you can't make it on the day, we've made it easy to buy a ticket to watch some key sessions from home. See the full schedule [here](#).



Perth Festival closes in stunning style on 28 February when our **Curated by Kids** young programmers let their ideas run free at **Wild Things: Perth Festival Takes over Perth Zoo**.

This zootopia of authors, musicians and activities for all ages include **Perth Symphony Orchestra** pop ups, **Soukouss Internationale**, **James Foley**, animal illustration classes, creature choreography, Noongar storytelling and an animal passport trail that takes you around the world. With a focus on the conservation work by **Perth Zoo**, learn about the numbat, the western swamp tortoise and the red tail black cockatoo in this family day out.

Throughout the Festival, Perth Cultural Centre comes to life for **City of Lights, Supported by Lotterywest**, where the entire family can walk through a series of spectacular free projections and explore the precinct's venues and hospitality.

Projections at City of Lights will turn the precinct into an immersive 360-degree cinematic thoroughfare, with its grand buildings drenched in vivid colours and powerful stories of our place in the world. Seven films, including the **Bilya Beneath** tribute to the waterways of our city, will run in a continuous loop from 8pm to midnight Tuesday to Sunday nights.

City of Lights encourages visitors to walk through and explore the precinct from surprising new angles.

While there, you can grab a bite before you see a show, drop into a local bar for a post-show drink, catch some free tunes at The State Theatre Centre's **STC Courtyard Sessions** or some late-night fun at **The Rechabite**. Special guest curators will bring their own flavours to **STC Courtyard Sessions**, whether that's the laid-back vibes of Grammy winner **Lucky Oceans** or the African beats of the crew behind Festival show **Black Brass**.

We also celebrate our local music heroes with **WA Mixtape**, a special chilled-out evening of classic WA covers and originals presented in association with **RTRFM** at Government House Gardens on 20 February.

Rising WA stars like punk act **Dennis Cometti**, electro outfit **Your Girl Pho**, dreamy indie act **Rabbit Island** and soul pop singer **Queency** get together with **Kim Salmon**, **Katy Steele** and other local legends to perform an original song plus classic tunes from **Eurogliders**, **The Stems**, **The Triffids**, **Jebediah** and many more.

WA Mixtape – think RTRFM's *In the Pines* meets *Slightly Odway* – is the third concert in Perth Festival's series of WA musical showcases at Government House Gardens this year. It complements the sold-out Festival events **Koort (Heart)** and **The Jazz Line** as a treat for fans of music in a beautiful garden setting.

[Perth Festival](#) runs 5 – 28 February. **Lotterywest Films** is on now and runs until 28 March.

WHAT: Projections at City of Lights

WHERE: City of Lights, Perth Cultural Centre

WHEN: Fri 5 Feb - Sun 28 Feb, Tue – Sun 8pm – midnight (Projections shown on continuous loop.)

No projections Mon 8, 15 & 22 Feb and Sun 14 Feb (Chinese New Year)

HOW MUCH: FREE



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WHAT: WA Mixtape

WHERE: Government House Gardens

WHEN: Sat 20 Feb, 6pm-9pm (doors open 5pm)

HOW MUCH: \$49



WHAT: Literature Weekend in the City

WHERE: His Majesty's Theatre

WHEN: Sat 20 Feb & Sun 21 Feb

HOW MUCH: Selected sessions – pay what you can



The Literature and Ideas program is also supported by Boffin Books.

WHAT: Wild Things (Perth Festival takes over Perth Zoo)

WHERE: Perth Zoo, South Perth

WHEN: Sun 28 Feb, 9am – 12pm and 2pm – 5pm

HOW MUCH: \$39 (Child 3 and under FREE)



BOOKINGS AND FESTIVAL INFO: perthfestival.com.au

[Click here for Festival media kits and images.](#)

For further information, interviews or images please contact:

Stephen Bevis

+61 8 6488 8618 / 0448 927 281

sbevis@perthfestival.com.au

Belinda Sherry

+61 8 6488 8582 / 0415 346 803

bsherry@perthfestival.com.au

Perth Festival acknowledges the Noongar people who continue to practise their values, language, beliefs and knowledge on their kwobidak boodjar. They remain the spiritual and cultural birdiyangara of this place and we honour and respect their caretakers and custodians and the vital role Noongar people play for our community and our Festival to flourish.



ABOUT PERTH FESTIVAL

Founded in 1953 by The University of Western Australia, Perth 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 67 years, the Festival has welcomed to Perth some of the world's greatest living artists and now connects with hundreds of thousands of people each year. Iain Grandage is the Artistic Director 2020 – 23.

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Shadow Wine Bar
Alex Hotel

Perth Festival wishes to thank and acknowledge Lotterywest on behalf of the many artists, organisations and events in this program that have been supported by the Lotterywest COVID-19 Relief Fund.

Archives of Humanity supported by Wesfarmers Arts.

Children of the Sea and *Hymns for End Times* supported by the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, its arts funding and advisory body.

Children of the Sea, *Black Brass*, *Hymns for End Times*, *Slow Burn*, *Together* and *Whale Fall* supported by the WA Government through the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries.

Dreams of Place partnership between West Australian Symphony Orchestra and Western Australian Youth Orchestra supported by Woodside.

Hymns for End Times and *Whistleblower* supported by Minderoo Foundation.

MoveMoveMove presented with the support of venue partners, State Theatre Centre of Western Australia and The Rechabite and project donors Impact100 WA, Megan & Arthur Criddle and the APS Foundation.

WASO's Indigenous Creative Collaborations supported by Bendat Family Foundation.

Whale Fall supported by City of Perth and PICA's Art Commissioners.

Whistleblower assisted by the Australian Government's Major Festival's Initiative, managed by the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body, in association with the Confederation of Australian International Arts Festivals Inc, commissioned by Perth Festival, Sydney Festival and Arts Centre Melbourne.



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