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the Arts Centre  
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10 August, 2006

## **Open House at the Arts Centre featuring *Visible*: a showcase of great local African and Indigenous talent**

Come face to face with some of the hottest Indigenous and new African performers Melbourne has to offer, on stage for one electrifying show – **Visible, at the Arts Centre, Hamer Hall, as part of Open House weekend, Sunday 3 September, 2006.**

A long time in the making this vibrant concert reveals the rich layer of artistic talent bubbling away in our city. It draws artists from two cultural projects initiated by Multicultural Arts Victoria (MAV), *Visible* and *Black Harmony Gathering*.

The *Visible* project is a mentoring scheme that teams new and emerging African performers with established artists also from migrant or refugee backgrounds to help them develop their art form. *Black Harmony Gathering* is an annual event that brings together local Indigenous artists and African performers who have recently migrated to Australia.

The groups have focussed on exploring their cultural heritage by reinterpreting popular and traditional songs and dances, as well as creating original compositions.

These projects have been instrumental in giving a voice, face and expression to these new and emerging performers and this concert is a fabulous opportunity to celebrate how much they have achieved.

*"Because of MAV believing in me, now I strongly know what I want to do in the future and have confidence to follow it. The benefits and opportunity that came my way through this mentorship are endless for me and people in my community".*

Khaled Abdulwahab, *Visible* performer

Artists performing in the concert include: **The Koori Youth Will Shake Spears, Little G, Joel Ma, Monica Weightman, Sudan Azza, South Sudan Musica, Sudanese Catholic Choir, Diafrix, Jali Buba Kuyateh, Ethiopian Circus, Dave Arden** and more. **A compilation CD created through the *Visible* project will also be launched at the concert.**

### **Get to the show early for free entertainment from 12.30 – 3.30pm**

- Discover the talents and culture of African and Indigenous artists at the marketplace
- Join in a coffee ceremony, get a henna tattoo or get your hair braided
- Indigenous face painting
- Experience the food from the regions

the Arts Centre in association with Multicultural Arts Victoria presents as part of MIX IT UP

**VISIBLE,**

**Sunday 3 September, 2006**

**the Arts Centre, Hamer Hall**

**Show from 1pm - 3pm, foyer activities and entertainment from 12.30 – 3.30pm**

**A FREE EVENT**

**Contact the Arts Centre on 03 9281 8000 or visit [www.theartscentre.net.au](http://www.theartscentre.net.au) for details**

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**open house**  
go to town!



10 August, 2006

## Go to Town!

### Regional Victorians are invited to an arts marathon in Melbourne

**On 2-3 September, eight of Melbourne's best and biggest arts attractions will join forces to offer people living in regional Victoria a weekend to remember.**

Now in its fourth year, the **Open House** program is designed to encourage all Victorians to experience the world-class facilities, shows and collections on offer at their state-owned cultural venues. This year Open House extends a special welcome to those living outside the city with a range of programs, special offers and accommodation deals.

Over one marathon weekend, visitors can see Phar Lap together with dinosaur and design exhibitions, Ned Kelly's armour, breathtaking art collections from Australia and the world, interactive and fun science exhibitions, milestones from 50 years of television, some totally hot African and Indigenous music – and more!

Special offers include \$5 tickets to selected ACMI cinema shows, and great deals at the Library and Melbourne Museum cafes and the NGV International restaurant.

Participating organisations include: **the Arts Centre, the Australian Centre for the Moving Image, The Ian Potter Centre: NGV Australia, the Immigration Museum, Melbourne Museum, NGV International, Scienceworks** and the **State Library of Victoria**. Most of these venues are within walking distance of each other, and entry to all is free or low-cost.

### Open House at the Arts Centre

Open House at the Arts this year features a particular emphasis on cultural diversity via the MIX IT UP! program, events and activities include:

- **Backstage tours**, come behind the scenes of Victoria's favourite performing arts venue.
- Multi-cultural and Indigenous performers as part of the Arts Centre's MIX IT UP! cultural diversity program – get a taste of the action in the George Adams Gallery on Saturday ahead of the big free concert, **VISIBLE** on at Hamer Hall, Sunday.
- **VISIBLE** also features free foyer entertainment such as African and Indigenous dancers, arts and crafts and regional food.
- Discover the artistic delights of the **Sunday Market**.
- **Sunday Soapbox**, a free discussion and performance event focusing on tales of struggle and success from refugee and migrant artists.
- **Meeting Place, Keeping Place** an exhibition of 16 talented local artists who boldly embody the spirit of the Arts Centre's MIX IT UP! program.
- **My, World, My Victoria, My Home**, artworks from young Victorians from all over the State.
- **Illustrators Australia 2006**, an exhibition of Australian Illustrators all reflecting on the MIX IT UP! theme. All works are for sale and will be auctioned on Sunday 3 September at 3.30pm.

Open House, on 2-3 September 2006, is an initiative of the Victorian Government through Arts Victoria and is supported by Tourism Victoria. For more information about the Open House weekend program, call Information Victoria on 1300 366 356 or go to: [www.arts.vic.gov.au/openhouse.htm](http://www.arts.vic.gov.au/openhouse.htm)

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