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the Arts Centre  
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media release

the Arts Centre in association with Multicultural Arts Victoria presents

## **MIX IT UP: ELEFThERIA ARVANITAKI**

with special guest performances

by **The Habibis** and **Kundalila**, as well as traditional Greek singing, dancing and cuisine

Sunday 24 May, 2009 at the Arts Centre, Hamer Hall from 5pm – Tickets Selling Fast!

Free pre-show activities in the foyer from 3pm to celebrate Greek culture

Ticket prices \$40 - \$69 with premium tickets also available.

On sale now at [theartscentre.com.au](http://theartscentre.com.au), 1300 136 166 and ticketmaster outlets

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*“There is no doubt about it, the hot name internationally on the Greek music scene is Eleftheria Arvanitaki. Her voice has a clarity and emotional depth that registers whether or not you understand the words, and the music she sings has a lyricism and instrumental sophistication that sets it apart” - World Music Rough Guide*

*“The haBiBis weave the guitar, lute and bouzouki with consummate ease, in wide chiming choruses and intricate dances over which...voices cast seductive spells” - Rolling Stone*

On Sunday 24 May, Greek songstress **Eleftheria Arvanitaki** will take to the stage as part of the much anticipated MIX IT UP performance in celebration of Greek culture in Australia. Join us for a huge array of free pre-show entertainment and delight in the sights and sounds of Greek musicians and dancers who will warm your heart.

The star of the evening, performing inside Hamer Hall is **Eleftheria Arvanitaki**. Her beautiful, emotive voice gives potent expression to Greek folk songs, modern Greek composers and a multiplicity of other musical traditions, creating a rich and soulful new musical palette. With her magical voice and an appeal that transcends language borders, Arvanitaki is one of the great Greek singers of our time.

The supporting act of **Eleftheria Arvanitaki** at this cultural celebration are the Aria Award winning **The haBiBis**, who will play the music of Greece and the Greek speaking world - Cyprus, Macedonia, Asia Minor, Epirus and the Greek Islands.

**The haBiBis** will move you with their eclectic and melodic sounds, performing a diverse mix of musical styles, from the traditional Demotika to the more contemporary Rebetika (Greek blues), Laika, contemporary ballads as well as rhythmic folk tunes that boast wild clarinet solos and beckon the body to dance.

Live music is not confined to the main stage however, as from 3pm onwards a vibrant array of Greek orientated pre-show activity will spill out into the Hamer Hall foyer and outside area, including Greek dancing, delicious Greek delicacies to tantalise the tastebuds, photographic displays and the unique sounds of Greek-influenced **Kundalila**. This collection of enthusiastic artists will bring a vibrant cultural experience to the Arts Centre, a celebration of the Greek community – and all communities - in Australia.

The friendly and mellifluous sounds of **Kundalila**, a five-person acapella singing group of African and Greek influence will be heard in the Hamer Hall foyer during interval. Traversing diverse musical territories through the simple beauty of voice, **Kundalila** bring together a unique sound, which draws from the groups many cultural backgrounds and brings you to a place of familiarity, regardless of your origin. **Kundalila's** lyrics are heart warming and thought-provoking reflections, which lament on the human condition around the world.

Swathe your senses with a MIX IT UP experience on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May at the Arts Centre. MIX IT UP celebrates the cultural diversity of Victoria through music, dance and theatre from around the world. OPPA!

**MEDIA ENQUIRIES:**

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