

Sydney, Australia

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INTERNATIONAL MUSIC AND LIGHT FESTIVAL TAKES OVER SYDNEY

From psychedelic jellyfish swimming across the Sydney Opera House sails to digital light paint graffiti on the Museum of Contemporary Art and live fire performances set to music on Sydney Harbour, Vivid Sydney festival of light, music and ideas has transformed the city after dark.

Vivid Sydney opened on Friday 27 May with the illumination of 40 light installations including the spectacular lighting the Sydney Opera House sails featuring the spectacular 3D mapping projections by French design collective SUPERBIEN.

Executive Producer of Vivid Sydney Ignatius Jones, known worldwide for his ambitious major event productions said SUPERBIEN has taken the lighting of the Sydney Opera House sails to a new level, making one of the world's great monuments sing and dance a way we've never seen before.

"Inside the Sydney Opera House an incredible line-up of musicians have been performing at Vivid LIVE, Vivid Sydney's music program curated by Stephen Pavlovic including the opening act Spiritualized, Architecture in Helsinki, Cut Copy, OFWGKTA and the Hypnotic Brass Ensemble.

"Last night one of the world's most influential bands The Cure took to the stage for the second of two epic world exclusive shows, The Cure: Reflections. The band performed their first three albums live, in their entirety, plus four encores of some of their most popular songs.

"Cure fans from around Australia and the globe were on their feet from the minute the show started and the Concert Hall came alive with the roar of the crowd," he said.

Deputy Premier of NSW Andrew Stoner who officially opened Vivid Sydney on Friday night said Vivid Sydney has been attracting visitors from around Sydney, Australia and the world to experience what has become a must-attend festival on the NSW Events Calendar.

"On the opening weekend The Rocks and Circular Quay were packed with people, the atmosphere similar to New Year's Eve with families, kids and friends out and about enjoying the festival.

"Thousands have followed the trail of light around Circular Quay and The Rocks, taking in over 40 light installations including interactive light sculptures and awe-inspiring projections by a global field of artists from countries including Germany, Singapore, New Zealand, The Netherlands, France, Thailand and Australia.

"Crowds have been gathering on the water's edge of Sydney Harbour around Campbells Cove to enjoy the live fire spectacle of FireDance.

"Also proving popular is the 'Unfamiliar Customs' light show on Customs House, where state of the art 3D mapping technology leaves the whole of the façade appearing to melt, crumble, catch fire and fill with water.

“Whether you throw light at the MCA to achieve a giant paint graffiti effect or play hopscotch on the Moore Steps in Circular Quay with the stairs lighting up with colour as you walk up and down them, nobody should miss Vivid Sydney this year,” he said.

Vivid Sydney is the largest festival of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere and a major celebration of the creative industries positioning Sydney as the creative hub of the Asia-Pacific region. The festival is one of five signature events on the NSW Events Calendar.

The full Vivid Sydney program is available at <http://vividssydney.com>

Vivid Sydney images are available to download at <http://vividssydney.com/media/image-library>

MEDIA CONTACT:

Tamara Sperling, Events NSW

02 8114 2400 or 0416 028 682

tamara.sperling@eventsnsw.com.au

Erin Huckle, Avviso PR

02 9368 7277 or 0432 977 529

erinh@avviso.com.au