

TRIBAL EXPRESSIONS

THE BUSINESS OF ART AND CULTURE IN INDIGENOUS VICTORIA
15 - 26 MARCH 2006

Tribal Expressions is a celebration of Victoria's Indigenous culture, showcasing the state's leading Indigenous businesses, artists and performers during the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games.

Featuring over 250 participants Tribal Expressions will be the largest Indigenous showcase ever staged in Victoria. Visitors can enjoy free exhibitions and performances, music, dance, theatre and comedy, sample bush foods, buy a range of authentic Indigenous products and artworks, enjoy traditional and contemporary Indigenous performances, and learn about Victoria's unique Indigenous culture and history.

Highlights include:

Business Showcase – Thursday 16 – Saturday 18 March 11am – 9pm, The Atrium, Federation Square, See and buy a wide range of high quality, authentic Indigenous products from across the state, sample bush foods or explore potential business opportunities.

Arts & Crafts Market – Saturday 25 March 10 am – 8pm, City Square, Swanston St

A one-day market featuring a smorgasbord of Indigenous arts, crafts, bush foods and entertainment. 30 stalls offering quality hand-crafted Victorian Indigenous products with price ranges to suit everyone.

Performance Showcase - Made up of seven concerts over four exciting days and nights (19, 23, 24 and 25 March) the Tribal Expressions Performance Showcase will promote the talents of over 100 of Victoria's best Indigenous musicians, singers, actors, and performers.

- The **BlackBox** at the Arts Centre will be transformed into an intimate cabaret setting with performances in theatre, comedy, movement and music including country, rock, hip hop and jazz.
(Sunday 19 March 9pm and 10.45pm; Thursday 23 March 9pm and 10.45pm)

- **BMW Edge** at Federation Square will showcase the cream of Victoria's Indigenous dancers, both contemporary and traditional, and bands covering pop, rock, hybrid multimedia sounds and jazz.
(Friday 24 March 8pm; Saturday 25 March 2pm and 5pm)

Visual Arts Showcase – Spanning six venues across Melbourne and more than ninety established and emerging artists, the Visual Arts Showcase highlights the breadth and depth of Victoria's Indigenous arts sectors and provides visitors with a unique introduction to contemporary south eastern Australian Indigenous art.

Exhibition venues: The BlackBox at the Arts Centre; The Aunty Joyce Johnson Gallery, Koorie Heritage Trust Cultural Centre; Common Goods Exhibition, Melbourne Museum; Sofi's Lounge and the Lobby Gallery, The Sofitel Hotel; Foyer, The Langham Hotel; and Tjanabi@Federation Square.

Free entry to all events.

Tribal Expressions is an initiative of the Respecting Indigenous Communities Strategy for the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games.

For more information call the Koori Business Network on 1300 799 526 or (03) 9651 9158 or visit www.business.vic.gov.au/tribalexpressions

Media enquiries:

Sandra Del Monaco Ph 9651 9881 or 0409 386 625, sandra.delmonaco@iird.vic.gov.au
Koori Business Network, Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development