

## MEDIA RELEASE

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# Commonwealth Games Arts Chief to Lead Waterfront Cultural Review

One of Australia's leading artistic directors has been appointed to lead a review of arts, culture and events on the Hobart waterfront.

Sue Natrass AO comes to the project from her role as Chairwoman of Australia's biggest free cultural event, Festival Melbourne 2006, the cultural festival of next year's Commonwealth Games.

Ms Natrass will join local consultants Anne Kerr and Greg Hudson for the eight-month waterfront project that will examine ways of retaining and strengthening artistic and cultural activities as well as attracting new ones.

The project has been commissioned by the Sullivans Cove Waterfront Authority.

"We are delighted to secure the services of Sue Natrass as she has enormous experience working in the arts for 40 years in capacities as varied as stage manager, company manager, director and artistic director," said Jeff Gilmore, Chief Executive, Sullivans Cove Waterfront Authority.

"Her experience will be invaluable as we seek to build on the already rich concentration of artistic and cultural activities in the Cove and its growing use as a setting for events.

"It is important to have a thorough understanding of arts, culture and events when considering the future of Sullivans Cove and surrounding areas, and this understanding of the issues will be aided by Ms Natrass who has played an invaluable role in the cultural life of Australia through the many projects with which she has been involved."

Ms Natrass, who also sits on the Board of the Theatre Royal, was named as one of 250 women on the Centenary of Federation 'Women Shaping the Nation' Honour Roll in 2001.

She was Artistic Director of the groundbreaking Melbourne Festival in 1998 and 1999, and was Artistic Director of the Adelaide Festival in 2001.

She is currently President of the Victorian College of the Arts, Chair of the Confederation of Australian International Arts Festivals, a Director of the International Diabetes Institute, a Member of the Melbourne and Olympic Parks Trust as well as a number of other boards and foundations.

In the 2002 Queen's Birthday Honours, Ms Natrass was appointed as an Officer of the Order of Australia and in 2003 was awarded the Centenary Medal.

The other members of the consulting team, Anne Kerr and Greg Hudson, are well known in artistic and cultural event circles, with wide-ranging experience in advising boards, fostering growth, market research, community consultation and project management.

Note to Editors: Sue Natrass AO will visit Hobart on Friday, 13 January 2006. Media interviews will be available on this day. Please contact the Sullivans Cove Waterfront Authority in you would like further information.

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### **About the Sullivans Cove Waterfront Authority**

The Sullivans Cove Waterfront Authority is the planning authority responsible for protecting, enhancing and developing Sullivans Cove and surrounding areas. The Authority aims to preserve the unique qualities of the Hobart Waterfront, which defines the identity, vitality and image of the Tasmanian people.

#### **Media Enquiries**

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