

JUDITH WRIGHT CENTRE TO CELEBRATE NEW QUEENSLAND WORK AT 2010 HIGHLIGHTS LAUNCH

Three world premieres of new Queensland works and an array of Australian music, dance and theatre performances will be unveiled at the **Judith Wright Centre of Contemporary Arts 2010 Highlights Launch** on Friday 27 November 2009.

Judith Wright Centre Director Ruth Hodgman says the 2010 programme reflects a new direction for the Brisbane arts venue, which will focus on presenting and producing new Queensland work that engages the wider community.

"The 2010 programme reflects a turning point for the Judith Wright Centre as we commit to producing, presenting and showcasing Queensland artists and companies who are defining the future of contemporary arts practice," Ms Hodgman said.

"We are vigorously working to harness the energy, innovation and imagination of our resident arts organisations and Queensland artists to enliven and connect with the Valley community and beyond," she said.

"A perfect example is the groundbreaking premiere of *While Others Sleep*, a major collaboration between our resident company Expressions Dance Company, the Judith Wright Centre and acclaimed local band Misinterprotato," she said.

"Without giving too much away, this new Queensland work is an intoxicating fusion of jazz and dance and positions these artforms in a contemporary yet accessible fashion to engage the wider community," she said.

A "Welcome to Country" ceremony directed and choreographed by local actor Jermaine Beezley will kick off the **Judith Wright Centre 2010 Highlights Launch**.

Entertainment for the night will include live music performances by acclaimed jazz vocalist and composer **Megan Shorey** and jazz bassist **Andrew Shaw**, and a **Drawing Performance** by renowned artist **Kellie O'Demsey**.

Acclaimed for her work with the Barbican (London), **Kellie O'Demsey** will use drawing, painting and inking techniques to create a large scale artwork in the Brunswick St Shopfront that conveys her interpretation of the 2010 highlights and the relationship between the artists, live performers and general public.

Direct from sell out seasons in New York, London, Edinburgh and Sydney, **Tom Tom Crew** will complete the **Judith Wright Centre 2010 Highlights Launch** with their exciting mash-up of extreme circus and hip hop.

Judith Wright Centre Director Ruth Hodgman says the **2010 Programme Highlights** are designed to attract a diverse range of audiences that enjoy new and different experiences.

"Our 2010 programme is tailored towards audiences that are adventurous; people who like to explore new ideas and fresh directions and trends," Ms Hodgman said.

"At the Judith Wright Centre we are excited about connecting artists and their audiences so that together the two can explore creativity and possibilities," she said.

"We thank the Queensland Government, as owners of the Judith Wright Centre, for their ongoing support," she said.

-ENDS-

Date	Friday 27 November, 2009
Time	Kellie O'Demsey Drawing Performance from 5.30pm Welcome to Country Ceremony 6pm Launch of 2010 Programme Highlights 6pm start Tom Tom Crew Performance 7.30pm
Venue	Judith Wright Centre of Contemporary Arts
Tickets	Invitation only

For further information, images and interview opportunities please contact
Judith Wright Centre Senior Marketing Coordinator Dorothy Farrell
p 07 3872 9005 f 07 3872 9001 e dorothy.farrell@jwcoqa.qld.gov.au