

MEDIA RELEASE

14 February 2011

**NATIONAL GALLERY OF AUSTRALIA ANNOUNCES
LIVE AT THE SCULPTURE GARDEN**

Featuring Deni Hines, Monica Trapaga and more, hosted by James Valentine

The **National Gallery of Australia** presents **Live at the Sculpture Garden** over four evenings: **Friday 11, Saturday 12, Friday 18 and Saturday 19 March 2011**. The events bring together superb art, great Australian comedy acts, award-winning cabaret artists and contemporary jazz in the stunning surrounds of the National Gallery of Australia's Sculpture Garden.

Popular musician and ABC radio personality **James Valentine** will host these not-to-be-missed performances. The evenings begin at 5pm with an exclusive, after-hours viewing of the *Ballets Russes: the art of costume* exhibition, then the live acts commence at 7.00pm. The performance line-up for *Live at the Sculpture Garden* features:

Friday 11 March

Comic **Gabby Millgate** followed by soothing jazz music by **Monica Trapaga** and **The James Valentine Quartet**.

Saturday 12 March

The burlesque, racy performance of **Six Quick Chicks** grace the stage with brilliant comedy cabaret.

Friday 18 March

Experience comic genius **Sammy J** followed by the seductive tunes of **Jackie Marshall** and The James Valentine Quartet.

Saturday 19 March

Multi-award winning comic **Felicity Ward** followed by ARIA Award winner **Deni Hines** and The James Valentine Quartet.

"Live at the Sculpture Garden is such a great concept – art, comedy, cabaret – in a perfect setting and working with the National Gallery of Australia. I jumped at the opportunity", said James Valentine.

Visitors can also enjoy special guided tours every half hour in the Ballets Russes exhibition, live music in the Gallery spaces as well as 10% discount on merchandise in the Ballets Russes exhibition shop.

An extensive menu featuring gourmet food and beverages will be available for purchase from the **Sculpture Bar**, in association with Veuve Clicquot, at the Sculpture Garden until 10:30pm.

Live at the Sculpture Garden is presented in conjunction with Canberra's newest March event, Enlighten: www.enlightencanberra.com

Tickets on sale now and can be purchased online at www.nga.gov.au or www.ticketek.com.au
Cost: \$45 general admission, National Gallery of Australia members \$40.

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