



**MEDIA RELEASE: 10AM, Sydney, Australia, Thursday 6 April 2017**

## **OLIVER STONE JOINS VIVID SYDNEY LINE-UP**

Academy Award winning Director Oliver Stone will appear exclusively in Australia at **Vivid Sydney**, the world's largest festival of light, music and ideas. The acclaimed storyteller will speak at the **Vivid Ideas Game-Changer Talks Series**, as well as at global creative forum **Semi Permanent**.

Oliver Stone has written and directed more than 20 full-length feature films, earning him a well-respected place in cinematic history. He is lauded for some of the most influential films of the last four decades, including *Scarface*, *Midnight Express*, *Platoon*, *Wall Street*, *Natural Born Killers*, *JFK*, *Nixon*, and *The Doors*.

Stone is a master at tackling controversial subjects. His films are grand in scale and his hard-hitting style takes a realistic and truthful look at the world, which often polarises audiences.

Destination NSW Chief Executive Officer and Executive Producer of Vivid Sydney, Sandra Chipchase said, "At the Vivid Ideas Game-Changer Talks Series, Oliver Stone will speak 'In Conversation With Margaret Pomeranz', providing rare, behind-the-scenes insights into the creative workings of this cutting-edge cultural icon at the height of his industry".

"Vivid Sydney consistently presents and showcases the world's leading cultural innovators and Oliver Stone's involvement in this year's program is a further testament to the global creative talent Vivid draws to Sydney," she said.

Semi Permanent founder and director Murray Bell said, "Semi Permanent is excited to welcome iconic filmmaker and storyteller Oliver Stone to our extraordinary line up for 2017 in Sydney. The Academy Award winning writer and director is one of the most prolific of our time, making films that profoundly capture pivotal moments in our recent history – a lifetime spent creating entertaining and provocative works. Oliver will be speaking in conversation with us on the power of film to create change and challenge perceptions at Carriageworks in May."

At Vivid Ideas, Stone will share his philosophy on telling difficult stories, navigating controversy and resistance. He will address how his approach to the interplay between writer, storyteller and director has cemented his position among the legends of Hollywood. Joining Stone on stage will be Foxtel presenter and movie critic on Foxtel Arts' Stage & Screen Margaret Pomeranz AM. The Vivid Ideas Game-Changer talk will be held on Sunday 28 May, 5.00pm-6.30pm at City Recital Hall. Tickets are on sale now at: [vivid Sydney.com/ideas](http://vivid Sydney.com/ideas).

On interviewing Oliver Stone, Margaret Pomeranz AM said, "Interviewing Oliver Stone? One of the most significant filmmakers of the past forty years to trawl through our political and cultural history! It's intimidating, exciting and absolutely unmissable. If I weren't on the stage with him I would be in the audience."





For Semi Permanent 2017, Stone will be speaking 'in conversation' on the power of film to create change and challenge perceptions. Stone is in conversation live at Semi Permanent on Friday 26 May at Carriageworks. For details visit: [www.semipermanent.com](http://www.semipermanent.com)

Stone will join iconic American artist Shepard Fairey in the Vivid Ideas Game-Changer Talks Series. With just two months to go until Vivid Ideas, tickets are already selling fast for highlight events. The 2017 Vivid Ideas program is the largest ever, featuring more than 200 events and hundreds of speakers from across the globe. Vivid Ideas will continue to challenge, inspire and explore the changing face of the creative industries. A forum for creatives to collaborate, foster business connections and showcase new ideas, the Vivid Ideas program runs 23 nights from 26 May to 17 June 2017.

-ENDS-

#### NOTES TO EDITORS:

##### About Vivid Ideas

Vivid Ideas is Asia Pacific's annual celebration of innovation, creativity and change community, and is held as part of Vivid Sydney, the world's largest festival of light, music and ideas. Vivid Ideas brings the world's greatest minds, innovators and industry leaders to Sydney to build engagement between the creative industries and the broader economy, exploring trends, movements and opportunities that shape society and business through public talks, industry seminars, conferences, workshops and debates. Vivid Sydney is owned, managed and produced by Destination NSW, the NSW Government's tourism and major events agency and runs from 26 May to 17 June 2017. For more information visit [www.vividsydney.com/ideas](http://www.vividsydney.com/ideas)

**Vivid Ideas imagery and video is available at**  
[www.vividsydney.com/media-centre](http://www.vividsydney.com/media-centre).

##### About Semi Permanent

Semi Permanent is a dedicated global creative platform delivering bespoke events and content alongside an extensive and detailed directory of contributors and an ever expanding curated archive drawing on 15 years of live events and projects under the pillars of Design, Business and Culture  
[semipermanent.com](http://semipermanent.com)

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