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SPOTLIGHT: FEAST IN THE FOREST AS MARTIN PLACE MORPHS INTO AN URBAN JUNGLE

Lights, cameras, appetites: The heart of the city sparkles for Vivid Sydney

It's Martin Place – but not as you know it – when the heart of the city centre comes to life after dark as a utopian urban jungle and sizzling foodie hotspot during Vivid Sydney, the world's largest festival of light, music and ideas, on until 17 June.

Visitors will be surrounded by the colour, movement, sounds and smells of incredible installations and projections including forests, frogs and fountains created by some of the world's most innovative light artists, and complemented by food prepared by some of NSW's best chefs and producers.

Porteño will lead an Argentinian inspired menu of NSW meats cooked over an open flame fire-pit, while visitors can quench their thirst with some of NSW's best beverages, with James Squire Beer & Cider, Archie Rose Gin and Vodka, Cattleyard Brewing Co. Beer and Azure Wines all served at the bar.

Culinary and creative duo Motti + Smith have curated an epic partnership between sweet legends Black Star Pastry and N2 Extreme Gelato to produce a glow cave of wondrous delights. Don your neons, step into the black lit box and light up your senses with tasty treats, including a glow in the dark donut.

Sandra Chipchase, Destination NSW Chief Executive Officer and Executive Producer of Vivid Sydney said: "Visitors will literally see Martin Place in a new light when some of the world's best creative and technological wizards join forces with some of the State's most creative chefs in a showcase of grand, interactive installations and spectacular culinary collaborations that bring the precinct to life during Vivid Sydney."

Program highlights include:

- **Urban Tree 2.0** – The Mushroom-shaped CTA building is transformed into a giant luminous mushroom-shaped tree teeming with exotic creatures where rivers flow, plant-life grows and a glowing frog tries to catch a caterpillar for dinner.
- **Atmos** – Starry, starry night: A magical, overhead display of rippling, ghost-like scrimms and ribbons above the dining area, recreating the majesty of our 'Southern Lights', the *Aurora Australis*.
- **re/FRACTION** – The 20-metre undulating, curved water veil of the Lloyd Rees fountain very familiar landmark reinvented it in a most unexpected way, using light to add vibrancy and





moments of newfound delight. The fountain comes to life every night by throwing brilliantly glittering, refracted light across the fountain's length, filling the cascade with vibrant colour, movement and animated characters.

- **Twelve-Tone** – Play these 12 interactive, illuminated stacks, representing the musical tones that make up an octave, to create hologram-like visual effects and patterns and hear the sounds of the musical scale.
- **Deep Forest** – Explore an oasis created by the fusion of artists and chefs, where forest and feasting come to the urban jungle of Martin Place, designed by production powerhouse Motti+Smith.
- **Waratah** – To honour this iconic plant native to NSW, this huge interactive, inflatable light sculpture gives visitors a larger-than-life experience of the aesthetics of this magnificent bloom.
- **Lux Populi** – Soaring 10 metres above the forest floor, with a kilometre of glowing neon rope reflecting off the skyscrapers in the finance district, this tree-like installation transforms glass and concrete into a sparkling corridor of light. Below, the chefs from renowned restaurant Porteño will cook a genuine Argentine barbecue on an open fire fuelled by wood and coal. They'll be joined by special guest chefs, Luke Powell (LP Quality Meats) and Ibrahim Kasif (Stanbuli), with Vivid Sydney-inspired specials that will run each night of the festival.

About Vivid Sydney

Vivid Sydney is the world's largest festival of light, music and ideas, which for 23 days - from 26 May to 17 June 2017 - transforms the Harbour City with its unique colourful, creative canvas. In 2016 Vivid Sydney attracted a record 2.31 million attendees. Vivid Sydney is owned, managed and produced by Destination NSW, the NSW Government's tourism and major events agency. Vivid Sydney features large scale light installations and projections - Vivid Light; music performances and collaborations - Vivid Music (including Vivid LIVE at the Sydney Opera House); and creative ideas, discussion and debate - Vivid Ideas, all celebrating Sydney as the creative hub of the Asia-Pacific. Vivid Sydney is in its ninth year. For more information visit www.vividsydney.com

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