



SOLANGE ANNOUNCED AS FIRST VIVID LIVE ARTIST

***Only Australian Shows, exclusive to Vivid LIVE
Ticket ballot opens today: high demand expected***

******* 'A faultless, theatrical ode to black womanhood' - The Daily Telegraph**
'A Prince-like feat of precision choreography and communal elevation' - The Guardian

Sydney – Monday 26 February, 2018. The Sydney Opera House today announced that Grammy award-winning singer, songwriter, artist and activist **Solange Knowles** will perform her acclaimed breakthrough album, *A Seat at the Table*, for the first time in Australia exclusively at **Vivid LIVE** in June as part of **Vivid Sydney**, the world's largest festival of light, music and ideas.

For four nights only, the young R&B queen will fill the Opera House Concert Hall with her superb voice and unique aesthetic, including cinematic sets and spectacular dancers.

Solange will perform in the round, offering audiences a 360° view of her cutting-edge choreography and bold staging. The performances, as part of **Vivid LIVE**, mark **Solange's** debut at the Sydney Opera House and are her only scheduled 2018 Australian shows.

Minister for Tourism and Major Events, Adam Marshall, said: "Each year, the Harbour City showcases the most exceptional talent in light, music and ideas. This year, as part of Vivid Sydney's 10th anniversary, we are delighted that Solange will headline Vivid LIVE at the Sydney Opera House. I encourage all music fans to start planning their trip to Sydney to see this incredible performer when she debuts her critically-acclaimed album at these four exclusive Sydney performances"

Sydney Opera House Head of Contemporary Music and Vivid LIVE Curator, Ben Marshall, says: "Solange Knowles is having her moment on the world stage right now. With *A Seat At The Table's* exploration of black American identity, empowerment and the complexities of black womanhood, she is at the molten-hot intersection of effortlessly cool music and thoughtful activism. Solange's brilliance in combining spectacular performance with politically-charged music to create a precisely choreographed, fun and riveting neo-soul show, points to the future of R&B. She is the perfect artist, in every sense of the word, to occupy centre-stage at Vivid LIVE, this year celebrating 10 years of ambitious and rigorous contemporary music taking over the Sydney Opera House. Catch this rare, dazzling appearance of Solange while you can; she is the artist 2018 needs."

The release of Solange's third album, which she co-produced with legendary musician and bandleader Raphael Saadiq, catapulted her to R&B stardom in 2016. *A Seat at the Table* charted #1 on the Billboard 200, earned a Grammy award for Best R&B Performance and was named best album of 2016 by *Pitchfork*, *Spin* and *Vibe*. "It already seems like a document of historical significance," *Pitchfork* said of the album. "Not just for its formidable





musical achievements but for the way it encapsulates black cultural and social history with such richness, generosity, and truth.”

Since her debut album *Solo Star* in 2002, Solange has continued to refine her unique sound, blending jazz, funk, electronica and R&B/soul elements in *Sol-Angel and the Hadley St. Dreams* released in 2008, followed by her *True* EP in 2012. Now with her fourth release, *A Seat at the Table*, Solange has created a sonic landscape that redefines R&B as we know it both musically and lyrically.

The ballot for Solange’s exclusive **Vivid Sydney** performances follows sold-out ballots to see world-class shows including **Morrissey** (2015), **Kraftwerk**’s 3D Catalogue retrospective (2013), and **Anohni**’s immersive and sense-shifting *Hopelessness* (2016). Now in its 10th year, **Vivid LIVE**’s commitment to present the most ambitious and innovative local and international talent through one-off commissions and exclusive performances is stronger than ever. The full program for Vivid LIVE at the Sydney Opera House will be announced mid-March with the full Vivid Sydney program.

-ENDS-

KEY INFORMATION

WHAT:	Solange
WHEN:	8:00PM Friday 1 June, Saturday 2 June, Sunday 3 June and Monday 4 June
WHERE:	Concert Hall, Sydney Opera House
TICKETS:	Premium tickets \$137* *plus booking fee A Reserve \$119* B Reserve \$109* C Reserve \$99* D Reserve \$79*
MORE INFO:	http://sydneyoperahouse.com/vividlive
MEDIA IMAGE:	Click here

IMPORTANT TICKETING INFORMATION

An application process has been implemented for **Solange**’s only Australian shows at **Vivid LIVE**, in anticipation of high demand and to ensure everyone has an equal chance to make applications over a seven-day period. This will minimise website congestion and distribute tickets to fans across time zones, states and countries. Successful applicants will be notified via email with a link to purchase tickets between 10am - 4pm (AEDT) Thursday 8 March. Unsuccessful applicants will not receive a link to purchase, however will be automatically added to a waitlist in the event of a later release of tickets.





Tickets can be applied for anytime between Monday 26 February 2018 (7:00am AEDT) and Sunday 4 March 2018 (11:59pm AEDT). Successful applicants will be chosen at random from within the allocations designated for visitors and locals.

To apply go to <http://sydneyoperahouse.com/vividlive>

ONLY ONLINE APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED. APPLICATIONS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED OVER THE PHONE OR IN PERSON.

Vivid Sydney

Vivid Sydney is the world's largest festival of light, music and ideas, which for 23 days - from 25 May to 16 June 2018 – places a spotlight on Sydney and reinforces its position as the home of light, creativity, cutting edge music, engaging conversations and the exchange of new ideas. The festival is owned, managed and produced by Destination NSW, the NSW Government's tourism and major events agency. In 2017 Vivid Sydney attracted a record 2.33 million attendees and injected over \$143 million into NSW's visitor economy. For more information visit www.vividsydney.com

Vivid LIVE

From 25 May – 16 June, the **Sydney Opera House** welcomes some of the most ambitious and innovative artists to the nation's most famous stages for **Vivid LIVE**, part of **Vivid Sydney**, the world's largest festival of light, music and ideas.

In 2018, Vivid LIVE celebrates its 10th anniversary as the Opera House's annual centrepiece contemporary music festival, having first launched in 2009 as '**Luminous**', the brainchild of renowned British artist and musician **Brian Eno**. Curated for the fourth time by the Opera House's Head of Contemporary Music, **Ben Marshall**, the festival continues to transform the Opera House inside and out, hosting the most interesting and original artists from around the world in its theatres, rehearsal spaces, foyers, recording studio and, most publically, its iconic sails.

A festival of firsts, Australian premieres and bespoke music projects, it has staged **Brian Eno's** *Pure Scenius* (2009), **The Cure's** *Reflections* (2011), the **Yeah Yeah Yeahs'** Karen O in 'Stop The Virgins' and **Janelle Monáe** (both 2012), **Kraftwerk's** *The Catalogue in 3D* (2013), **St. Vincent** (2014), *An Evening with Morrissey* (2015), **Bon Iver's** 'Cercle' and **Max Richter's** 'Sleep', performed overnight in the Concert Hall (both 2016). The ground-breaking [Songlines](#) transformed the sails into an animated canvas of indigenous artwork in 2016, and last year Ash Bolland brought the sails to life with his mesmerising marine-inspired [Audio Creatures](#).

