



Brisbane Festival 2010 is about to take off!

Brisbane Festival 2010 will roar into action this Saturday with **QBE Riverfire** and the last ever (yes - it seriously is the last time) dump and burn by an F111 at the event before they are finally decommissioned.

Brisbane Festival Artistic Director Noel Staunton said "The F111's have been part of Riverfire for a long time and while this will definitely be the last time we'll see them at this event, we have new and exciting plans for Riverfire 2011. I don't want to give too much away but I can say that we will be using a lot more modern technology and making the event more environmentally friendly in the future."

Brisbane Festival has made it easy for the public to enjoy QBE Riverfire on the move with a FREE iPhone Application with all the details about the best vantage points, plus road & bridge closures and information about how to get the most out of the event.

QBE Riverfire will mark the beginning of Brisbane Festival, a three week extravaganza of arts that will take place at venues and public spaces across the city.

In the first week of Brisbane Festival an unlikely but intriguing group of characters will entertain audiences across the city including cancan dancers, baroque musicians, Lord and Lady Macbeth, Shakespearean witches, Indonesian dancers, Shaolin Monks and Estonian Bathers.

On Sunday 5 September **Sunsuper Riverbreakfast** will transform the Goodwill Bridge into a Parisian boulevard, complete with café, croissants, cancan dancers and mime artists.

On Tuesday 7 September two of the world's most eclectic music groups – **The Australian Brandenburg Orchestra and Paris-based L'Arpeggaita** – will come together for the first of two very special concerts. Imagine a pinch of Baroque, a dash of folk and jazz, and whole bunch of energy and the result is this tour de force that will keep audiences spellbound from start to finish.

Wednesday 8 September will see acclaimed performer and choreographer Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui take to the stage with the famed Shaolin Monks in **Sutra**. Faith, imagination and stunning acrobatics merge in this awe-inspiring spiritual exploration.

Also on Wednesday - Marcus Graham and Helen Christinson will be the first artists to perform on stage at the QUT Festival theatre with the opening of **Macbeth**. Brisbane Festival's purpose built amphitheatre at the Brisbane Powerhouse will provide a magic setting for what is one of Shakespeare's most famous and quoted plays.

This weekend, in an alley somewhere in the CBD, five Estonian artists who make up the group Art Container will be getting back to their roots when they set up and perform "**The Bathers**" as part of Brisbane Festival's rambunctious celebration of fringe theatre, **Under The Radar**. "The Bathers" is the beginning of 22 days of fringe theatre that will take over Metro arts and command attention all over Brisbane's CBD.

A new initiative of the festival this year is **Critical Mass**, an experiment with online conversations before, during and after the Festival. Through a dedicated blog and via other social media tools, arts experts, audiences, amateur critics and Festival enthusiasts are encouraged to participate in discussions. Take a look here www.criticalmassblog.net

Download the iPhone app...make a plan...get ready, get set...Brisbane Festival 2010 is about to take off!

Full programme details, media kit and images are available on the website www.brisbanefestival.com.au

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