

MEDIA RELEASE
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**SUMMER OF LOVE AT THE NATIONAL GALLERY: OSHER GÜNSBERG, SARAH BLASKO
AND WIN A WEDDING**

Be swept away by the romance of *Love and Desire: Pre-Raphaelite Masterpieces from the Tate* with a series of signature events throughout summer. The program features a romantic garden party led by television host and author, Osher Günsberg, plus ARIA award-winning musician Sarah Blasko reimagines her songs of love and desire for an intimate one-off event inside the exhibition. One lucky couple will also have the wedding of their dreams as the gallery offers a \$25,000 wedding package. Join this sumptuous program of music, theatre, and art inspired by the Pre-Raphaelite masterpieces.

SUMMER LOVIN' WITH OSHER GÜNSBERG

Television host and author, Osher Günsberg, turns up the heat on Saturday 19 January to lead a special *Summer Lovin'* event. Open to everyone, Günsberg will host a summer party in the gallery's spectacular Australia Garden. Couples, singles and groups are welcome, with the chance to win a date inside the exhibition and be seduced by the iconic artworks. Purchase a traditional or posh picnic for this enchanting garden party with friends, food, entertainment, and love advice from the country's resident romance expert. Ticket price includes exhibition entry.

Saturday 19 January, 6pm-9pm

Tickets \$55 for traditional picnic/\$75 for posh picnic, available from nga.gov.au.

SONGS OF LOVE AND DESIRE WITH SARAH BLASKO

Captivating performer Sarah Blasko transforms the *Love and Desire* exhibition into an immersive experience on Friday 8 February. Win a double pass for this limited-capacity, exclusive performance as Blasko reimagines her songs of love inspired by the Pre-Raphaelites. Intertwining angelic voices and acoustic instruments, expect a magical night of music, before an exclusive viewing of the exhibition itself.

Friday 8 February, 7pm-9pm

To enter, tell us which Sarah Blasko song sparks your love or desire. Limited to 20 double passes only. Enter at nga.gov.au.

WIN A WEDDING

On 2 March, one lucky couple will have the chance to tie the knot in the gallery's spectacular sculpture garden. The National Gallery is giving them the chance to win a wedding valued at \$25,000. The prize includes venue hire, your own wedding co-ordinator, bridal suite, and a sumptuous reception comprising games, pre-dinner drinks and canapes, a wedding cake and a three-course reception dinner for 100 people. Bring your own bride or groom! Entries close on Wednesday 2 January 2019. Terms and conditions apply. To enter, tell us your love story in 100 words or less <https://nga.gov.au/lovedesire/win.cfm>.

LOVE & DESIRE: VALENTINE'S DINNER AND CONCERT

A curated night of feasting, live performance, music, poetry and romance. Internationally acclaimed singer and host extraordinaire, Mikangelo will transport you into the world of the Pre-Raphaelites, joined by the embodiment of the Pre-Raphaelite muse, Anushka, with Happy Axe's mythical sonic dreamscapes, and Santa Fe based Wendy Rule showcasing her Persephone songbook. Ticket price includes drink on arrival, exhibition entry and a luxurious dinner in Gandel Hall. Cash bar available.

Friday 15 February, 6.00pm – 10.30pm

Tickets \$165 or \$150 Members/ Concession (18+ years).

OPHELIA AFTER HOURS

Experience the reimaging of Shakespeare's tragic damsel *Enter Ophelia* on stage, presented by Essential Theatre & Three Birds Theatre. This is a thrilling black comedy exploring femininity, isolation and entertainment. Ticket price includes one hour performance and exhibition entry. Cash bar available.

Friday 26 April and Saturday 27 April 6.00pm – 8.30pm, Sunday 28 April 4.00pm – 6.00pm

Tickets \$60/ \$55 Members/Concession

Love & Desire: Pre-Raphaelite Masterpieces from the Tate comprises some of the most loved and visited paintings from the Tate Britain collection. Highlights include John Everett Millais' *Ophelia* and John William Waterhouse's *The Lady of Shalott*. It's the first time these iconic artworks will be leaving the Tate to be exhibited together anywhere in the world. Alongside more than 40 of Tate Britain's best-loved works, a further 40 loans from British and Australian collections will show the themes of the movement in this unsurpassed collection. Opens 14 December.

***Love & Desire: Pre-Raphaelite Masterpieces from the Tate* runs 14 December to 28 April 2019**

Tickets: Adults \$25. Children under 16: FREE.

KEY LINKS:

Imagery download links: https://nga.gov.au/aboutus/mediacentre/loveanddesire/select_images.cfm

Web link: <https://nga.gov.au/lovedesire/>

Visit nga.gov.au/whatson to discover the full program during this summer of love.

MEDIA ENQUIRIES

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