



Festival 2018

Festival 2018 to join forces with Bleach* Festival

Festival 2018, the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games (GC2018) arts and culture program, will join forces in April 2018 with Bleach* Festival to extend festival programming across the coast, from Coomera to Coolangatta.

The Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Corporation (GOLDOC) will deliver the host city Festival 2018 program that will be a bold, aspirational 12-day, multi-arts festival that complements the GC2018 sports program by enlivening iconic city public spaces.

With two major festival sites in Broadbeach and Surfers Paradise operating throughout GC2018, the Bleach* programming for Festival 2018 will expand celebrations further into the Gold Coast community.

GOLDOC Chairman, Peter Beattie AC said Festival 2018 aims to develop vibrant cultural destinations for the whole community to enjoy.

"GC2018 is about drawing communities and spectators together in celebration of the Commonwealth Games values of humanity, equality, destiny and Festival 2018 will be a key component in delivering this.

"Not only will Festival 2018 enhance spectators' experiences as they spill out from the stadiums to encounter visual arts installations to world-class, high energy performances, but the spread of artistic programming across the Gold Coast also invites local residents to participate in the atmosphere and celebrations of GC2018", Mr Beattie said.

GOLDOC CEO, Mark Peters said Bleach* Festival, Gold Coast's annual multi-arts festival, has deep connections with the local arts community and will be integral to the overall artistic program.

"Bleach* Festival has a long standing investment supporting local artists and the Gold Coast arts and cultural industry and we're delighted to be collaborating with them.

"Local performers will have the opportunity to participate, perform and raise their profiles amongst national and international arts networks.

"This exposure to new and global audiences will be a key legacy that Festival 2018 will leave behind and the acceleration of local artist development will provide long term benefits for the Gold Coast arts community," Mr Peters said.

Gold Coast Mayor Tom Tate said Bleach* Festival would add another layer to the Festival 2018 program.

"Local talent is such an integral part of our annual arts and culture festival. I'm confident the inclusion of Bleach* Festival with Festival 2018 will be an explosion of creativity - the biggest our city has ever seen," he said.

Bleach* Festival Artistic Director Louise Bezzina said she was proud to be part of the creative lead team for GC2018, delivering more than 20 new works including a number of world premieres and numerous local engagement opportunities.

"Since 2012, Bleach* Festival has been proudly and passionately Gold Coast and we are thrilled to be partnering with Festival 2018 to invite audiences, both local and visiting, to experience a very different side to our city during GC2018," Ms Bezzina said.

"Bleach* at Festival 2018 is our most ambitious, thought-provoking program to date, paying tribute to local legends past and present in a spectacular showcase of what, and who, makes the Gold Coast such a special part of the world."

Bleach* at Festival 2018 will run as part of Festival 2018 from 4-15 April 2018. The full program of events is set to be released in early February 2018.

For the latest Festival 2018 updates, please visit gc2018.com/festival2018.

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For more information, please email media@goldoc.com or contact:

Bronwyn Bender: +61 481 907 056
Arts and Culture Communications and PR Specialist
Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Corporation (GOLDOC)

Cassie Grace: +61 466 023 291
Arts and Culture Marketing and Communications Lead
Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Corporation (GOLDOC)

About Festival 2018:

Festival 2018 will be a bold, aspirational 12-day multi-arts festival that galvanises a city, inspires audiences, and celebrates the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games (GC2018).

Festival 2018 will showcase a wide range of creative activities and events, generating a festive atmosphere during Games time across the Gold Coast and the three event cities Brisbane, Cairns and Townsville over the duration of GC2018 from 4-15 April 2018

Festival 2018 will feature a mix of highly acclaimed theatrical productions, an eclectic array of world-class musicians, breathtaking dance and physical theatre pieces, striking art and Indigenous arts practice, to surprise and delight audiences of all ages.

Festival 2018 is a globally significant celebration that will transform the cultural life of the Gold Coast and provide Queenslanders with unique and world-class participation and engagement opportunities.

On the Gold Coast, Festival 2018 will be delivered by GOLDOC with the support of the City of Gold Coast and Bleach* Festival and will be curated and programmed by the internationally-renowned, Brisbane-based, Queensland performing arts company, Circa Contemporary Circus. The arts and culture program will also feature Bleach* Festival performances, commissions and activities, supporting the local Gold Coast arts and culture industries.

About Bleach* Festival:

Bleach* Festival is proudly supported by the City of Gold Coast. Bleach* Festival is also supported by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland, part of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet, and Tourism and Events Queensland.

In its short history, Bleach* Festival has emerged as a captivating and distinctive event, that has strong community and critical support. Bleach* Festival has grown to become a signature cultural event for Queensland and has the capacity to be an event of national and international significance and importance.