

Media release: 5 June 2007



Adelaide Festival of Ideas releases full program, dedicates event to Elliott Johnston

Mark Cully, Chair of the Advisory Committee of the **Adelaide Festival of Ideas** today launched the full program for the 5th Festival.

The Festival's 2007 theme, **Which way to the future?**, taps into the big issues of the moment:

- how to meet our future **energy** and **water** needs,
- living in a world where **China** and **India** are global super-powers, and
- balancing **security** and **freedom** in an age of **terror** and **uncertainty**.

'The timing of the Festival is perfect', Mr Cully said. 'Australians go to the polls later this year to choose the government best equipped to take us into the future. The Festival is ideal preparation for thinking and talking about the big issues that concern us.'

Between **5-8 July** almost 60 sessions will be held at various venues along North Terrace, Adelaide. 38 overseas and Australian speakers will each give a solo talk, and take part in a variety of conversations and panel sessions.

Mark Cully also announced that this year's Festival is dedicated to the life's work of former judge **Elliott Johnston** AO, QC, and leader of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody, in acknowledgement of his lifetime contribution to the pursuit of justice for all under the law, and to achieving equality for all before the law.

'Elliott Johnston has shown that disadvantage can be overcome where there is a collective will and effort to do so. His example is an inspiration to us all. It shows we can craft the future we want', Mr Cully said.

Elliott Johnston will give the Festival's opening address at **8.00pm** on **Thursday 5 July** at **Elder Hall**. The opening address is immediately followed by the first evening session, **The Elephant and the Dragon** with speakers *Joseph Cheng, Ramachandra Guha, Robin Jeffrey, Philippe Legrain* and *Colleen Ryan* to be chaired by *Peter Mares*.

Other Festival evening sessions are:

After the binge ... the apocalypse? With *Miriam Baltuck, Peter Cullen, James Lovelock, Marion Nestle* and *Phillips Adams* (Chair).

The bubble-wrap age: Are we protecting ourselves too much? With *Hilary Charlesworth, Sidney Jones, John Levi, Paul Monk* and *Peter Mares* (Chair)

You cannot be serious! The boundary between reality and satire With *Charles Firth, Julian Morrow, Francis Wheen* and *Phillips Adams* (Chair).

The full timetable of Festival sessions is enclosed. Tickets for all evening sessions are \$28, \$23 (Friends of the Adelaide Festival) and \$15 (concession) and may be purchased through BASS, phone 131 246 or book online via the Adelaide Festival of Ideas web site at www.adelaidefestivalofideas.com.au or via the BASS web site at www.bass.net.au. Free programs with information on all sessions and participating speakers are available now. Visit www.adelaidefestivalofideas.com.au or pick up a hard copy from BASS outlets, metropolitan libraries and selected bookstores.

Media Information: Neil Ward Publicity: 08 8361 3577 0438 095 580

neil@neilwardpublicity.com.au

The Adelaide Festival of Ideas is produced by the Adelaide Festival Corporation

Level 9, 33 King William Street, Adelaide | PO Box 8221 Station Arcade, Adelaide SA 5000

T +61 8 8216 4444

F +61 8 8216 4455

E afa@adelaidefestival.com.au

W www.adelaidefestivalofideas.com.au