



**Celebrate Australia 2002**  
**4th China Shanghai International Arts Festival**  
**10 – 17 November**

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**SYDNEY DANCE COMPANY present SALOME**  
**Myth-making and cutting edge contemporary dance**

**Monday 11 November and Tuesday 12 November 2002**  
**Shanghai Grand Theatre**

Australia's most celebrated choreographer, Graeme Murphy, brings his exotic world acclaimed production of *Salome* to Shanghai for two performances on November 11 and 12, as part of *Celebrate Australia 2002* at the 4<sup>th</sup> China Shanghai International Arts Festival.

Murphy's captivating choreography combines with Michael Askill's original, live percussion score and costumes by world-renowned fashion designer Akira Isogowa, to produce a visual and sensual masterpiece, inspired by the haunting biblical figure of Salome.

Sydney Dance Company, founded in 1969, is today regarded as Australia's leading contemporary dance company. Led by Artistic Director and choreographer, Graeme Murphy and Associate Director, Janet Vernon, the company has developed a large repertoire of original dance works.

International touring includes major festivals or seasons in London, Paris, Rome, Spoleto, Athens, Istanbul, Amsterdam, Madrid, Segovia, Santander, Lisbon, Turin, Reggio Emilia, Bari, Palermo, Syracuse, Catania, Cremona, Brescia, Florence, Zurich, Innsbruck, Mexico City, Guanajuato, Bogota, Caracas, Auckland, Wellington, Tokyo, Singapore, Hong Kong, Seoul, Pusan, Perpignan, Reims, Clermont-Ferrand, Cologne and Heilbronn.

Graeme Murphy has choreographed prolifically for the Sydney Dance Company. His repertoire extends from composing movement for classical music such as Ravel's *Sheherazade* to composing choreography for Puccini's opera *Turandot* and for a range of Australian composers. Murphy was awarded an AM in 1982 for his services to dance and he continues today to push the boundaries of dance and aesthetics before a global audience.

*"A contemporary work of quite startling originality. Murphy has once again proved himself to be the master of theatrical invention. The dancers dance, sing, rage and play percussion with a huge energy that underscores the whole work."* The Dominion, Wellington New Zealand

*Celebrate Australia 2002* is supported by the Australian Government through the Australia International Cultural Council an initiative of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in partnership with the Australia Council for the Arts. Other partners include the Australia-China Council, the Australian Film Commission, Austrade, the Australian Tourist Commission and State Governments of New South Wales, South Australia and Western Australia.

For further information about Sydney Dance Company visit: [www.sydneydance.com.au](http://www.sydneydance.com.au)  
 For publicity images visit: [www.reckless.on.net/publicity](http://www.reckless.on.net/publicity) User name: Press Password: Shanghai

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT**

**EMMA COLLISON: PUBLICIST, CELEBRATE AUSTRALIA 2002**  
 TEL: +612 9699 5199 OR 0418 584 795 EMAIL: [babyoscar@bigpond.com](mailto:babyoscar@bigpond.com)

**YAN LING: PUBLICITY COORDINATOR, CHINA SHANGHAI INTERNATIONAL ARTS FESTIVAL**  
 TEL: +86 21 5383 2664 EMAIL: [pr@artsbird.com](mailto:pr@artsbird.com)