

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2014**



## **ARTISTS UNDER THE XMAS TREE!**



Crack open a bon-bon of surprises and a kaleidoscope of artists with today's special just-in-time-for-Christmas announcement.

Earthy, exuberant and inventive, the **London Klezmer Quartet** is back by popular demand at the 2015 National Folk Festival. This all female band of Europe's top Klezmer players have wowed the world so get ready to kick off your shoes and be part of their spirited journey.

Be prepared for a breathtaking Celtic odyssey with Irish born **Nuala Kennedy**, internationally renowned traditional flute player and singer. Described as haunting, vivid and magical, the Nuala Kennedy Band creates Irish and Scottish Gaelic music to die for.

**Mikelangelo and the Black Sea Gentlemen** are coming to the Nash! Get ready for some slow seduction, some Casanova charm and side-splitting Balkan humour. From the Sydney Opera House to Budapest and back, Mikelangelo and the Black Sea Gentlemen are one of the most unique acts in Australia and the world at present. Don't miss them.

With dark guitars and fragile mournful songs, comes the acclaimed **Lucie Thorne** accompanied by the subtle, sublime percussion of **Hamish Stuart**. With glowing reviews and Golden Guitar nominations **Mustered Courage** return to the National as the new face of bluegrass in Australia, or be captivated by the folk-pop grooves of the 2014 FAA Youth Award Winners **Oh Pep!**; and don't miss Festival Favourites **The Spooky Men's Chorale** who return to the stage with Sufi-esque odes to the Bee Gees and hilarious Georgian themed anthems of masculine glory.

From NSW our Featured State for 2015, the Festival is delighted to announce lauded veteran acoustic artist **Mike McClellan** who will showcase songs from his stellar new album *Dancing in the Rain*. There's the undisputed Queen of Boogie Woogie **Jan Preston's Boogie Circus**, the malt whisky overtones of **Christine Wheeler and Friends**, and for those with a penchant for poetry there's the 'Bard from Bourke' - **Andrew Hull**.

And there's more! Joining the international line-up from New Zealand are **Helen Webby and Davy Stuart** with their enthralling music on the Celtic harp, guitar and bouzouki; and from Finland experience the passion of Finish tango with award-winning artist **Pekka Mikkola**.

The National Folk Festival is one of the most accessible and longest running folk festivals in Australia attracting over 50,000 people every year to Canberra. With 18 venues set amongst a vibrant streetscape and, with over 200 international and national acts, the 2015 Festival will run from 2-6 April at Exhibition Park, Canberra. Early Bird 2 discounted Tickets are now on sale and if you book a season camping pass by Christmas you could win the Ultimate Tent Concert with Sparrow-folk performing live at your tent. For all info go to [www.folkfestival.org.au](http://www.folkfestival.org.au). Keep up with the latest Festival news on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube. @natfolkfest #5daysinaperfectworld

**All Media Enquiries to National Folk Festival Publicist Bettina Richter**  
**mob: 0414 441 860 e: [media@folkfestival.org.au](mailto:media@folkfestival.org.au)**