

MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

DATE: FRIDAY 15 MARCH 2013

ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors



THINKtent sessions a break from social media

Forget social media. Slow down. Re-connect face-to-face with people who value stimulating and meaningful exchange of views and ideas.

This is the increasingly rare scenario being encouraged by Inglis Clark Centre director Natasha Cica during Tasmania's international arts festival Ten Days on the Island.

The Inglis Clark Centre at UTAS has teamed up with international multi-disciplinary design practice Liminal Spaces and Ten Days on the Island to stage *THINKtent* at locations across Tasmania.

"*THINKtent* doesn't ask participants to come to a university campus or other established venue for public discussion. It takes conversation to the people," Associate Professor Cica said.

"This extraordinarily inventive travelling tent is an intimate, enclosed and exquisitely decorated space for thinking, talking and listening.

"The interior is adorned with specially commissioned furniture and décor by Tasmanian designers and makers – including UTAS staff members Simon Ancher and Rachael Rose. It provides a beautiful, 'safe' space for people to come together for conversation and reflection."

The tent accommodates up to five people at a time in programmed conversations lasting about 45 minutes each. Participants decide how to arrange their seating and shared time.

THINKtent will feature topics as diverse as *Too Many Festivals?* with Greg Leong of Theatre North, *My Mediocrity Addiction* with Scott Rankin of Big hART, and *Tasmania's Antarctic Connections* with Sir Guy Green, Chair of the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery.

Anyone interested in Aboriginal convicts, education, economics, literature, food, poetry, pulp mills, democracy or design will discover amazing opportunities to join *THINKtent* – with its extensive programme starting in Burnie on **Saturday, March 16.**

Entry is free but bookings are essential on 03 6233 5300.

Session times and speakers are:

BURNIE, Saturday 16 March, on the foreshore near Fish Frenzy

10:30am - 11:15am

with Greg Leong, General Manager, Theatre North, Launceston: *Too Many Festivals?*

11:30am - 12:15pm

with Scott Rankin, Creative Director + Executive Producer, Big hART: *My Mediocrity Addiction*

12:30pm - 1:15pm

with Steve Kons, Mayor, Burnie City Council: *Visions for Burnie*

1:30pm - 2:15pm

with Nick Towle, Systems Thinker + Designer: *Thriving 21st Century Communities*

2:30pm - 3:15pm

with Eliza Wood, Co-Manager, Mount Gnomon Farm: *Food, Values + Consumer Choice*

3:30pm - 4:15pm

with Esa Laaksonen Director, Alvar Aalto Academy, Finland: *Democratic Design*

LAUNCESTON, Sunday 17 March, Design Centre Tasmania courtyard

10:30am - 11:15am

with Gary Cleveland, Social Entrepreneur: *Are Organisations Responsible?*

11:30am - 12:15pm

with Sue Kilpatrick, Director, Centre for University Pathways and Partnerships, UTAS: *Valuing Education*

12:30pm - 1:15pm

with Owen Tilbury, Director, BOFA Festival: *Tasmania - Creative Island?*

1:30pm - 2:15pm

with Esa Laaksonen, Director, Alvar Aalto Academy, Finland: *Democratic Design*

2:30pm - 3:15pm

with Kim Seagram, Co-Owner, Stillwater & Black Cow: *Tasmanian Food + Wine*

GREATER HOBART, Saturday 23 March, MONA

10:30am - 11:15am

with Tony Thorne, Animator and Artist: *The Last Days of the Mill*

11:30am - 12:15pm

with Danielle Wood, Author: *Tasmania's New Story?*

12:30pm - 1:15pm

with Damon Thomas, Lord Mayor of Hobart, and Pippa Dickson, Project Manager & Designer: *Local Meets Global at GASP!*

1:30pm - 2:15pm

with Kristyn Harman, Historian & Educator: *Aboriginal Convicts*

2:30pm - 3:15pm

with John Armstrong, Author & Philosopher: *Idealistic or Realistic?*

3:30pm - 4:15pm

with Esa Laaksonen, Director, Alvar Aalto Academy, Finland: *Democratic Design*

GREATER HOBART, Sunday 24 March, MONA

10:30am - 11:15am

with Sir Guy Green, Chair of TMAG and Ten Days on the Island, Honorary Antarctic Ambassador for Tasmania: *Tasmania's Antarctic Connections*

11:30am - 12:15pm

with Matthew Lamb, Co-Editor, Island Magazine: *Australian Literary Culture*

12:30pm - 1:15pm

with Mark Kelleher, Secretary, Department of Economic Development, Tourism & the Arts: *Tasmania's Economic Options*

1:30pm - 2:15pm

with Diane Caney, Poet: *Power, Play + Patrick White?*

2:30pm - 3:15pm

with Heather Rose, Author, Entrepreneur & Creative Thinker: *Life As Fun*

3:30pm - 4:15pm

with Graham Gourlay, Culture Change Consultant: *Unmagical Tasmanian Moments*

<http://tendaysontheisland.com/2013-program/thinktent>

Information released by:

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Ten ● **Tasmania's** ● **15 - 24**
Days on ● **International** ● **March**
the Island ● **Arts Festival** ● **2013**