

## Media Release

### Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

Monday, 5 September 2016

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## University students gear up for 2016 Junction Arts festival in Launceston

The University of Tasmania is once again involved in this year's Junction Arts festival in Launceston, which kicks off this week - September 7-11 – and encourages the community to take part in a host of interactive arts experiences.

University students from the Tasmanian College of the Arts (TCotA) and the School of Architecture and Design will help bring to life three of the program's events through the media of dance, theatre and food:

- **Relax the Chimp:** An outdoor community dance event created by Tasdance in partnership with the University, which invites people to dance, experiment, play and get physical while watching their own larger-than-life avatar dancing on the big screen. **When:** Thursday 8 and Friday 9 September from 6.30pm – 8pm, and Saturday 10 September 6.30pm – 7.30pm in Prince's Square. <https://junctionartsfestival.com.au/program/relax-the-chimp>
- **Sensory Meal:** Ignite your senses with a celebration of fine food, sensory experience and surprise. Students from TCotA, the School of Architecture and Design and culinary students from TasTAFE will create a dinner like no other. **When:** Thursday 8 September, 6.30pm and 8.30pm, in the Old Brisbane Arcade. <https://junctionartsfestival.com.au/program/sensory-meal>
- **5footway:** Artists Mike Hornblow and Agung Gunawan, together with Design Studio 8 students from the School of Architecture and Design, present a journey into DIY science fiction, featuring food performance, dance video, and live links between Junction and Indonesian sister-festival Pelem Festival. **When:** On Saturday 10 September, Harvest Market will host Europa Moon Lander, a roving food cart that looks like a boat, from 8.30am -12.30pm. From 6pm – 10pm in Princes Square, the Moon Lander meets its bamboo mothership, Satellite Maroon. <https://junctionartsfestival.com.au/program/5footway>

TCotA Head of Theatre Dr Helen Trenos said the festival was part of the fabric of the Launceston arts scene, and had a particular focus on engaging the community, which aligned with TCotA's own focus on engagement outside of its classrooms.

"This year is the first the festival has included the Sensory Meal, although it has had five iterations as a teaching project between the interior design students from the School of Architecture and Design and the TCotA theatre students, so it's a chance for the community to take part too," Dr Trenos said.

"Relax the Chimp is also being opened to the public for the first time, after running as a series of workshops for students, staff and their families since the beginning of the semester.

"Tasdance is the state's premier dance company, so it's an exciting way for our students to engage with them and their professional practice.

"The festival also provides the University's graduating performing arts students with an annual platform for their own work, as an avenue for immersive theatre experiences which have the audience at the heart."

**Information released by:**

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