## MEDIA RELEASE

## **NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA**

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ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors



## 'Falling' on their feet: Con students given chance to perform at major rock festival

A new partnership between the University of Tasmania and The Falls Music & Arts Festival, made possible by the sponsorship of philanthropist Graeme Wood, will see UTAS Conservatorium students perform on the Marion Bay stages.

The project recognises the faith of Graeme Wood and the Festival in the burgeoning talent at UTAS.

With two spots reserved exclusively for UTAS artists, the new relationship will see Conservatorium students sharing the bill and promoted worldwide alongside leading local, national and international acts at The Falls Music and Arts Festival in Marion Bay.

Head of the UTAS Conservatorium, Professor Andrew Legg, welcomed Mr Wood's initiative that created the collaboration.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for our students, to be able to perform onstage in front of a festival audience and alongside some of the most popular artists working today.

"Performance is one of the key aspects of what we teach at the Conservatorium, and learning to perform in a professional way, at a professional event, is an invaluable lesson.

"We thank Mr Wood and The Falls Music & Arts Festival wholeheartedly.

"We are certain our students will be very excited by this; and we are equally certain the musicians who are selected will rise to the occasion and put on a fantastic show," Prof Legg said.

Mr Wood said: "The Falls Music and Arts Festival is a case study of the tangible economic impact that creative events, and cultural and ecotourism can have for the Tasmanian economy.

"As a philanthropist and businessman, this inspirational combination of creative endeavour and sustainable economic return is something I'm very keen to support," he said.

The Falls Music & Arts Festival Director, Simon Daly, was also excited about the partnership, commenting: "Tasmania has so much amazing local talent. We have enjoyed discovering and helping Tasmanian artists each year through our general programming and also through our 'Foster a Band' initiative.

"We welcome this new opportunity to work with Graeme Wood and UTAS on the development of UTAS students. We are sure that the resulting performances revealed at the Festival will be exceptional."

The Falls Music and Arts Festival is held annually in Marion Bay, Tasmania (Dec 29-Jan 1) and Lorne, Victoria (Dec 28-Jan 1). The artistic program is revealed progressively from July as the program becomes confirmed. The ticket ballot will be opening in July via <a href="https://www.fallsfestival.com">www.fallsfestival.com</a>

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