

MEDIA RELEASE

Murray Yarran to perform 'Welcome to Country' at opening of Third International Conference of Fashion Incubators 2011

The Third International Conference of Fashion Incubators will be held at the Parmelia Hilton in Perth from the 11th until the 13th of September 2011. Murray Yarran a Noongar man from the Ballardong tribe will perform the 'Welcome to Country' at the opening of the conference.

'Welcome to Country' is an important ceremony by Aboriginal people and inviting them to perform it helps non-Indigenous people recognise Aboriginal culture and history.

The process of 'Welcome to Country' recognises the unique position of Aboriginal people in Australian culture and history. It recognises that Aboriginal people the original Custodians of the Land and enables the wider community to share in Aboriginal culture and heritage, facilitating better relationships between Indigenous people and other Australians.

Mr Yarran has been involved in Aboriginal and Government Politics for many years and has a strong ongoing connection to his heritage and culture. Murray is a director on a number of peak Aboriginal organisations like Perth Noongar Foundation, Western Australian Aboriginal Legal Service ,Kaata –Moorda Aboriginal Corporation and is also employed at Peedac Pty Ltd which is a peak Aboriginal employment and training organisation.

Mr Yarran said, "I am a very keen advocate for human rights and have been on numerous Aboriginal and local government bodies. I am also involved with environmental and heritage activities. I am looking forward to performing the 'Welcome to Country' at the Third International Conference of Fashion Incubators."

The Conference is being hosted by community organisations Textile Clothing Footwear Resource Centre of WA (TCFWA), designedge Fashion Incubator, TCF Global and the Belmont BEC. These organisations provide those in the fashion, TCF creative industries access to business workshops, online mentoring, forums, industry cluster networks, and national and global linkages to other small businesses operating in the textile, clothing, footwear & leather industry across Australia and around the globe.

The Third International Conference of Fashion Incubators will offer new opportunities for fashion business educators and fashion trade events from around the globe to network, discuss best practice and expand global designer marketing and promotional opportunities. The Conference will aim to build on past successful conferences of International Fashion Incubators held in UK and USA. It will assist the growth and development of fashion industry business educators and those that nurture and support emerging designers, as well as elevating Perth on the international fashion stage.

The event will present challenging speakers at the forefront of the industry as well as a range of practitioners willing to share their experiences and expertise, exhibitors and great opportunities for global networking. The Conference will also announce the establishment of an International Fashion Incubator Organisation.

Conference Convenor, Carol Hanlon said "We are honoured to have Murray Yarran perform a 'Welcome to Country' and to showcase the talents of Aboriginal artist Jilaga Murray-Renui and Indigenous designers and textile artists from WA & Northern Territory at our event".

A list of other speakers for the International Conference of Fashion Incubators can be seen at <http://www.fashionincubators.com/speakers>

For up to date information on the Conference, please visit www.fashionincubators.com, or email conference@tcfglobal.com

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