

MEDIA RELEASE

LOVE IS... AUSTRALIAN WEDDING FASHION EXCLUSIVE TO POWERHOUSE MUSEUM

A curated collection of Australian wedding fashion spanning 200 years will be on display for the first time in *Love Is... Australian Wedding Fashion* exclusive to the Powerhouse Museum. Presented by the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences Centre for Fashion, *Love Is* opens on 13 May 2017.

Wedding fashions from Australian celebrities and high profile personalities will be on display alongside examples of bridal trends across generations of Australians. *Love Is* features over 60 wedding outfits such as designs by Vera Wang, Toni Matceviski and Romance Was Born, accessories such as a headpiece by celebrity milliner Viktoria Novak and photos from the weddings of prominent Australians.

Famous wedding fashions on display include **Nicole Kidman's** Balenciaga gown, **Jesinta Franklin's** (nee Campbell) and **Kate Waterhouse's** Vera Wang wedding dresses, **Dan Single's** Tom Ford suit and self-designed shirt and **Bambi Northwood-Blythe's** Roberto Cavalli gown, **Anthony Callea** and **Tim Campbell's** Versace and Calibre wedding attire, **Terry Biviano's** J'Aton dress, **Collette Dinnigan's** dress of her own design and **Yellow Wiggle Emma Watkins-Gillespie** and **Purple Wiggle Lachy Gillespie's** wedding outfits.

From Australia's oldest surviving wedding dress, worn by Ann Marsden in 1822, to colonial fashions, elegant 1920s gowns, the hippy 1960s and through to contemporary designs that reflect the cultural diversity of modern Australia, uncover the history of Australian wedding fashion through the ages.

Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences (MAAS) Director, **Dolla Merrillees**, said the exhibition was a unique way to view Australian fashion.

"Wedding ceremonies have long played an important role in the lives of Australian families and this exhibition showcases the changing nature of marriage and relationships in our diverse culture. At a time when there is a national dialogue about marriage equality, this exhibition reflects our evolving society and provides a snapshot of Australian culture through the prism of wedding fashions," said Ms Merrillees

Love Is is presented with support from Principal Partner **Tiffany & Co** and is the third exhibition presented by the MAAS Centre for Fashion, following *Isabella Blow: A Fashionable Life* in 2016 and *Unlaced: Collette Dinnigan* in 2015. *Love Is* will be accompanied by a series of public programs.

Exhibition details

What: *Love Is... Australian Wedding Fashion*

When: 13 May 2017 – 22 April 2018

Where: Powerhouse Museum, 500 Harris Street, Ultimo NSW 2007

Details: maas.museum/love

Admission: Free with general admission: \$15 adult, \$8 concession, kids under 16 years free

Bookings: (02) 9217 0111 www.maas.museum

Images available here: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/56f78x6gub7sspi/AAA6VxUBdrhVIKHwFWAfoOMma?dl=0>

What does love mean to you? To celebrate *Love is... Australian Wedding Fashion* we want to hear what love is to you. Share an image or story that describes what love is to you, hashtag #loveismaas #powerhousemuseum

For media enquiries, contact: Eli Wallis | eli.wallis@maas.museum | 9217 0564 / 0402 359 016
Additional media images available upon request.

About the Museum of Arts and Applied Sciences. Powerhouse Museum, alongside Sydney Observatory and Museums Discovery Centre, is part of the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences (MAAS), Australia's contemporary museum for excellence and innovation in applied arts and sciences. MAAS has a vast and diverse collection of over 500,000 objects.

About The Centre for Fashion. The MAAS Centre for Fashion is Australia's first public centre for fashion excellence, giving unrivalled access to arguably the largest public fashion collection in Australia. Working closely with local, national and international designers, and industry and tertiary partners the initiative will foster creative excellence, scholarly inquiry and public curiosity through exhibitions, interactive events, fellowships, designer residences, publications, acquisitions, programs and research.