

Canberra rings with international music, colour

WEEKEND DIARY

TODAY

- 10am onwards: Manuka Pool, Craft ACT Gallery. 75 Summers. Admission price varies.
- 10am-5pm: Canberra Museum and Gallery. MusiCMaGic. Free admission.
- Noon-midnight: Garema Place, City Walk and Petrie Plaza. Food and Dance Spectacular. Free admission.
- 2pm: ScreenSound Australia. International Film Festival: Newsfront (Australia). Free admission.
- 8pm: The Street Theatre. *When a Man Loves a Woman*. Bookings, 6247 1223.
- 8pm: Canberra Theatre. Tibetan-style songs from Ya Long Art Troupe. Bookings, 6275 2700.
- Evening: Tilley's Divine Café, Lyneham. Victor Martinez and The Martinez Brothers with Joseph Tawadros. Bookings, 6249 1543.
- 7pm-late: The Street Theatre. Fringe Festival: Jali Buba Kuyateh and Binton Kandeh, H. Renaud & Caribbean Soul, Amin Palangi, Dynamic Dance and Fringe Fashion. Free admission.
- 9am-5pm: Exhibition space, ACT Assembly. Iranian Art Bazaar.
- 10am-5pm: Embassy of the Republic of Croatia, O'Malley. *Ragusa Resurrected*, paintings by Ian Sharpe.
- 10am-5pm: PhotoAccess Studio. *The Passion Photographs*.
- 10am-5pm: Belconnen Community Centre. Chinese Art in Canberra.
- 10am-late: The Street Theatre. Theatre Posters from Ljubljana.
- 10am-5pm: Restaurant Gallery, University of Canberra. History of Migrants.
- Noon-4pm: Craft ACT Gallery, Civic. The Hoop of the World.
- 1pm-4pm: Tuggeranong Arts Centre. 2004 Festival Photographs by Ben Kopillow; and Photographs of the Island of Malta.

TOMORROW

- 11am-5pm: City Walk. Contact Canberra. Free admission.
- 11am-5pm: Garema Place. The Greek Glendi. Free admission.
- 2pm: ANU Arts Centre. *Tutto Italiano*. Bookings, 6125 5491.
- 2pm-7pm: Canberra Labor Club, Belconnen. Latin American Sunday. Bookings, 6288 5047.
- 2pm: ScreenSound Australia. International Film Festival: *Lili Marlene* (Germany). Free admission.
- 7pm-late: The Street Theatre. Fringe Festival: The history of music in Canberra Part 1, Victor Martinez and The Martinez Brothers. Free admission.
- 9am-5pm: Exhibition space, ACT Assembly. Iranian Art Bazaar.
- 10am-5pm: Embassy of the Republic of Croatia, O'Malley. *Ragusa Resurrected*, paintings by Ian Sharpe.
- 10am-5pm: PhotoAccess Studio. *The Passion Photographs*.
- 10am-5pm: Belconnen Community Centre. Chinese Art in Canberra.



FAST BEAT: Jali Buba Kuyateh, left, with his kora, and Joseph Tawadros with his oud, tune up for their performances at the festival last night. Picture: MELISSA ADAMS

By Helen Musa
Arts Editor

Artists from overseas began pouring into Canberra yesterday for the showcase concert held last night at the Canberra Theatre and the week of international performers' events to follow.

Meeting outside the Canberra Theatre for the first time yesterday were musicians from Senegal-Gambia, Nigeria, Egypt, Tibet and Turkey.

Jali Buba Kuyateh, a hereditary musician known for his skills in playing the kora, a West African harp, has been performing since the age of five.

He was joined by Bintou Kandeh,



who dances, but also plays the hand drum to accompany Kuyateh. She has been performing for 15 years.

The Ebonyi State Nigerian Troupe combines dance and drumming skills. They will also be performing today at the Food and Dance Spectacular and tonight at Club Mombassa.

The Tawadros brothers, Joseph and James, originally came from

Egypt. Joseph, 21, plays the oud and was nominated for an award at the 2004 Arias for his first album *Storyteller*.

They will play tonight at Tilley's in Lyneham.

Nyima Tashi and Dawa Dolma play music rarely heard outside Tibet. Trained at the Tibetan Institute of Performing Arts in Dharamsala, the Dalai Lama takes a personal interest in their music. They have lived and worked in Australia since 2000.

The Samsun State Classical Turkish Music Choir, which also performed at the Peace Concert on Thursday was founded in 1991.

Conducted by Murat Salim Tokac, the choir performs music by

composers with Ottoman, Greek, Armenian and Jewish origins.

The showcase concert has always been one of the National Multicultural Festival's most popular events.

With the addition of Canberra Moya Simpson, who compered last night's concert, and Peter J. Casey, who performed at his piano, it was a good example of Canberra reaching to the wider world.

■ For festival information, phone 6207 0162 or visit the web site, www.multiculturalfestival.com.au