



June 2, 2015

Queensland Theatre Company to farewell Artistic Director Wesley Enoch

Queensland Theatre Company is set to wave a very loving farewell to Artistic Director Wesley Enoch following his appointment as Festival Director of the Sydney Festival.

A leading voice for theatre, the arts and particularly Indigenous arts in Australia, Enoch's Sydney Festival appointment is another major coup for Queensland talent.

Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk said Wesley Enoch advocated a spirit of collaboration that would leave a legacy in Queensland. "Wesley Enoch started his theatre career in his home state of Queensland and is a passionate leader and arts advocate whose vision has inspired a generation of theatre artists and practitioners," the Premier said.

"His many highlights for Queensland Theatre Company include *Black Diggers*, which toured throughout Australia in 2014-15, and was, in fact, a successful co-production with the Sydney Festival.

"I thank Wesley for his outstanding achievements and look forward to new artistic partnerships between Queensland companies and Sydney Festival as Wesley takes on his new role," Ms Palaszczuk said.

Executive Director of Queensland Theatre Company Sue Donnelly said the Company was excited for Wesley as he leaves the artistic family he has so strongly led for southern shores.

"Wesley will remain one of the great Artistic Directors to lead QTC. His vision, his sense of social justice, his bravery, his ability to empower and enthuse is admired throughout our ranks. From the stage to behind the scenes, he is a man of the arts through and through, and we all wish him the absolute best," she said.

"That he will take Sydney Festival to new heights, we have no doubt," she said.

"In 2010 Wesley Enoch became the Queensland Theatre Company's sixth artistic director and the first Indigenous head of an Australian state theatre company. He is a renowned playwright and director, and is comfortable breaking new artistic ground wherever he steps. He leaves QTC with flagship new programs, an artistic calendar that is full and a vision that will remain for years to come."

Ms Donnelly said a global search for the company's new Artistic Director was already underway, with an announcement to come later this year.

For interviews, imagery and more, please contact Kath Rose & Associates on 07 3357 9054 or mobile 0416 291 493 or email kath@kathrose.com