



# Qantas The Australian Way April, 2011

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# slice

slicemedia.com

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APRIL DIARY ✦ Females float above the Sunshine Coast ✦ Melbourne is just tomb much ✦ Barossa Valley brings va-va voom to the vintage ✦ The circus shows Perth a trick or two ✦ Easter frolics in Sydney COMPILED BY DAVID LEVELL



# Diary

The best of what's on in Australia, state by state.



## ↑ Eugene von Guérard: Nature Revealed

FROM APRIL 16

Ian Potter Centre NGV Australia, Melbourne.

Vienna-born artist Eugene von Guérard (1811-1901) was colonial Victoria's most important landscape painter, winning his reputation with meticulous vistas of Gippsland, the Otways, the crater lakes of the volcanic western districts and other locations. Today von Guérard's paintings supply a priceless record of what these environments once looked like, thanks to his care in accurately reproducing geography, geology and vegetation. This retrospective, the first to be mounted in 30 years, presents some 150 of von Guérard's art works, including many a colourful scene he captured in his journeys around Australia, Europe and New Zealand. [www.ngv.vic.gov.au](http://www.ngv.vic.gov.au)

Eugene von Guérard,  
*The Hermitage Of St Maria  
Avocatella Near Naples, 1849*

VICTORIA



press clip

## AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

[www.visitcanberra.com.au](http://www.visitcanberra.com.au)

### UNTIL APRIL 25

❖ **Indecent Exposure**, National Portrait Gallery, Canberra. All things Annette Kellerman (1886-1975) – champion swimmer, fitness advocate, entertainer. [portrait.gov.au](http://portrait.gov.au)

### APRIL 21-25

❖ **National Folk Festival**, Exhibition Park, Canberra. The people's music, dancing, stories and masterclasses. [www.folkfestival.asn.au](http://www.folkfestival.asn.au)

## VICTORIA

[www.visitvictoria.com](http://www.visitvictoria.com)

### THROUGHOUT APRIL

❖ **Experimental Gentlemen**, Ian Potter Museum of Art, Melbourne University. That's what Cook's sailors called the scientists and artists who made the *Endeavour's* voyage one of discovery beyond cartography. Colonial art and archival treasures show the awe and wonder that inspired many an early explorer. [www.art-museum.unimelb.edu.au](http://www.art-museum.unimelb.edu.au)

### UNTIL APRIL 24

❖ **Melbourne International Comedy Festival**, various venues. One of the globe's biggest comedy festivals, and that's no joke. But the rest is, with funny types offering laugh measures. [comedyfestival.com.au](http://comedyfestival.com.au)

### UNTIL APRIL 26

❖ **Dreams Come True: The Art of Disney's Classic Fairy Tales**, ACMI, Melbourne. This one's a total "cel" out, with much making-of material behind Disney's beloved animated fairytale films. [www.acmi.net.au](http://www.acmi.net.au)

### FROM APRIL 7

❖ **In The Next Room Or The Vibrator Play**, MTC Theatre Sumner, Melbourne. A 19th-century doctor, whose method for treating female hysteria really hits the switch, finds his wife wants the same medicine in a play that set Broadway abuzz. [mtc.com.au](http://mtc.com.au)



Effigy of Paruvo  
from Marovo  
Lagoon, Solomon  
Islands, c1910-1930

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY



## Varilaku:

### Pacific Arts From The Solomon Islands

THROUGHOUT APRIL

National Gallery of Australia, Canberra.

The style involves black glossy surfaces, iridescent shell, distended faces and fluid limbs, and a fondness for decorating weapons and canoes.

[www.nga.gov.au](http://www.nga.gov.au)

### FROM APRIL 8

❖ **Tutankhamun & The Golden Age Of The Pharaohs**, Melbourne Museum. About 50 artefacts from Tut's tomb, including his golden crown, plus about 80 items from other New (but still pretty old) Kingdom burial sites. See story page 58. [www.kingtutmelbourne.com.au](http://www.kingtutmelbourne.com.au)

### FROM APRIL 9

❖ **Rock Of Ages**, Comedy Theatre, Melbourne. Jukebox musical set in late 1980s LA with songs by Foreigner, Poison, REO Speedwagon, Whitesnake, Twisted Sister, Quiet Riot, Quarterflash and Starship (famous for falsely claiming to have built a city). [www.rockofages.net.au](http://www.rockofages.net.au)



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**FROM APRIL 12**

❖ **La Bohème**, State Theatre, Arts Centre, Melbourne. Puccini produced anew; this time catch the down-and-out bohos falling in love in Weimar Berlin. US soprano Takesha Meshé Kizart stars as Mimi, while Korean tenor Ji-Min Park takes on Rodolfo. See story page 133.

[www.opera-australia.org.au](http://www.opera-australia.org.au)

**APRIL 14-26**

❖ **La Mirada Film Festival**, ACMI, Melbourne. New and classic Spanish and Latin American cinema, guest curated by Ang Lee, Ken Loach and Guillermo del Toro. Spanish food and wine, too. [lamirada.org.au](http://lamirada.org.au)

**FROM APRIL 20**

❖ **Macbeth**, State Theatre, Arts Centre, Melbourne. Verdi's shake-up of Shakespeare's supernatural king-killer thriller presented with grand choruses and a surreal set of abstracted tree roots. [www.opera-australia.org.au](http://www.opera-australia.org.au)

**QUEENSLAND**

[www.queenslandholidays.com.au](http://www.queenslandholidays.com.au)

**APRIL 15-17**

❖ **Dirt & Dust Festival**, Julia Creek. Blood-horse, sweat and rears, with racing equines, perspiring triathletes and Australia's Best Butt. [www.dirtndust.com](http://www.dirtndust.com)

**APRIL 22-30**

❖ **Skysisters Convention**, Toogoolwah (Sunshine Coast). It's a plane, it's a bird... or to misquote *The Weather Girls*—it's raining women. Watch 100 female skydivers do 5000 jumps, a 60-woman formation and, land sakes, a body-painted jump. [skysisters.com.au](http://skysisters.com.au)

**FROM APRIL 29**

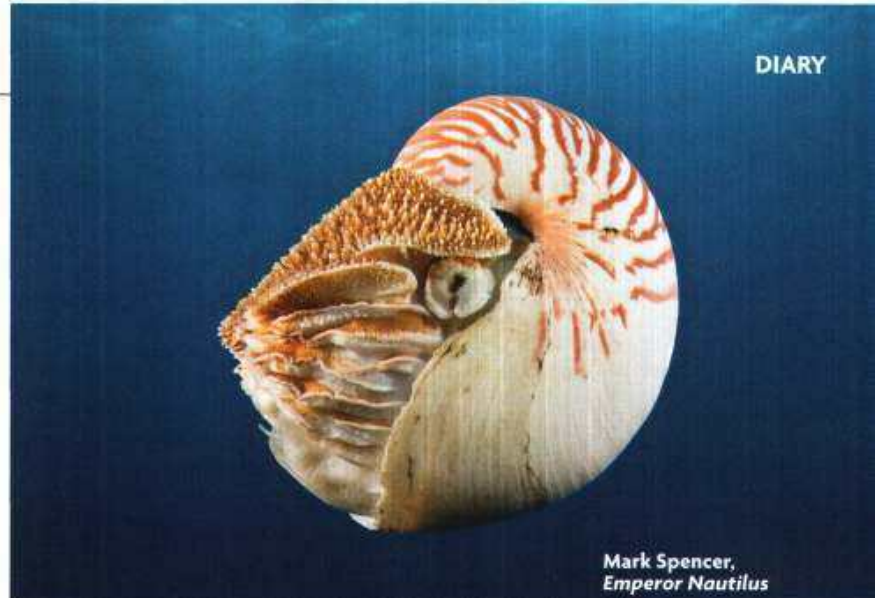
❖ **Urban Country Music Festival**, Caboolture. Ignore the contradiction in terms while filling your ears with Thirsty Merc, James Reyne and others. Markets, bush balladeers, horseplay. [urbancountry.com.au](http://urbancountry.com.au)

**NEW SOUTH WALES**

[www.visitnsw.com.au](http://www.visitnsw.com.au)

**THROUGHOUT APRIL**

❖ **Zebra!**, Wharf One, Sydney. Global financial crisis meets midlife crisis as two 50-something guys (Colin Friels and Bryan Brown) meet in a bar. One is the other's daughter's fiance, and the bar owner is a woman from his past. [sydneytheatre.com.au](http://sydneytheatre.com.au)



DIARY

Mark Spencer,  
Emperor Nautilus

NEW SOUTH WALES

↑ **Our Coral Sea:  
An Underwater Paradise**

UNTIL APRIL 9

Arthouse Hotel, Sydney.

Five marine photographers focus on the need to conserve this unprotected tropical wonderworld east of the Barrier Reef. [www.protectourcoralsea.org.au](http://www.protectourcoralsea.org.au)

**APRIL 2-17**

❖ **National Trust Heritage Festival**, various venues. Themed *Amazing Stories*, this year's festival gets in touch with our past via tours, exhibitions, walks, talks, concerts and fairs. [www.nsw.nationaltrust.org.au](http://www.nsw.nationaltrust.org.au)

**APRIL 10**

❖ **The Church: A Psychedelic Symphony**, Sydney Opera House. The George Ellis Orchestra joins the neo-psych, neo-prog Oz band for their 30th anniversary concert, give or take the odd unguarded moment. [www.sydneyoperahouse.com](http://www.sydneyoperahouse.com)

**FROM APRIL 11**

❖ **Sydney Comedy Festival**, various venues. The event that doesn't mind being called a real joke. Rest assured they'll do their jest. [www.sydneycomedyfest.com.au](http://www.sydneycomedyfest.com.au)

**APRIL 14-27**

❖ **Sydney Royal Easter Show**, Sydney Showground, Olympic Park. The annual frenzy of farm odours and fairy floss. [www.eastershow.com](http://www.eastershow.com)

**FROM APRIL 16**

❖ **Archibald Prize**, Art Gallery of NSW. The 90-year-old portraiture contest is Australia's most popular art show. It's your patriotic

duty to face up and bemoan the judges' choices. But what do you know about art anyway? [www.thearchibaldprize.com.au](http://www.thearchibaldprize.com.au)

**FROM APRIL 16**

❖ **Salon Des Refuses: The Alternative Archibald & Wynne Prize Selection**, SH Ervin Gallery, Sydney. Admire Archibald entries not deemed wall-worthy for the official hanging, but damned fine daubs, nonetheless. [www.nsw.nationaltrust.org.au](http://www.nsw.nationaltrust.org.au)

**APRIL 21-26**

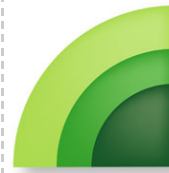
❖ **Byron Bay Bluesfest**, Byron Bay. Bob Dylan, Elvis Costello, Jethro Tull, ZZ Top, the Dingoes, Mavis Staples, Wolfmother, CW Stoneking, Kasey Chambers, Gurrumul and many more. [www.bluesfest.com.au](http://www.bluesfest.com.au)

**TASMANIA**

[www.discovertasmania.com.au](http://www.discovertasmania.com.au)

**APRIL 24-30**

❖ **International Mural Fest & Taste Of The North West**, Sheffield. Nine artists painting murals. If you don't fancy watching paint dry on the last day, munch local produce at Taste Of The North West. [www.muralfest.com.au](http://www.muralfest.com.au) and [www.tasteofthenorthwest.com.au](http://www.tasteofthenorthwest.com.au) >



press clip

## NORTHERN TERRITORY

[www.travelnt.com](http://www.travelnt.com)

### APRIL 9-18

❖ **Alice Springs Heritage Festival.** Includes Jailhouse Folk (a night of Aussie music), a bus tour of heritage properties, open days at the old gaol, school and the telegraph station.

[www.tourism.thealice.com.au](http://www.tourism.thealice.com.au)

### APRIL 10-15

❖ **Devil's Claw Festival.** Gregory National Park. Volunteer to weed out those noxious devil's claw plants. [tourism.thealice.com.au](http://tourism.thealice.com.au)

### FROM APRIL 29

❖ **Katherine Country Music Muster.** Katherine. Hear ye, hear yee-ha: three days of twang for your buck, plus ute muster, street parade and line dancing. [www.kcmm.com.au](http://www.kcmm.com.au)

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA

[www.southaustralia.com](http://www.southaustralia.com)

### APRIL 1-9

❖ **Tastes Of The Outback,** various venues, statewide regional. A tasty diversity of outback food events and other activities.

[www.tastesoftheoutback.com.au](http://www.tastesoftheoutback.com.au)

### APRIL 8-9

❖ **Coonawarra After Dark Weekend.** Coonawarra wine region. Nocturnal cellar door happenings, behind-the-scenes harvest tours and various tastings. [coonawarra.org](http://coonawarra.org)

### APRIL 8-10

❖ **Bundaleer Festival,** Jamestown. If you go down to the woods, you'll hear David Hobson, Silvie Paladino and the Fishbowl Boys barbershop quartet making music in Bundaleer Forest. [bundaleerfestival.com.au](http://bundaleerfestival.com.au)

### FROM APRIL 16

❖ **Patricia Piccinini: Once Upon A Time.** Art Gallery of SA, Adelaide. A showcase of her life's work, in all its compellingly icky glory. Her sculptures often depict weird hybrid creatures, part animal, human and machine. [www.artgallery.sa.gov.au](http://www.artgallery.sa.gov.au)

### FROM APRIL 23

❖ **Barossa Vintage Festival,** Barossa Valley. Celebrate the vintage: food and wine, auctions, parades, markets and the Festival Ball. [www.barossavintagefestival.com.au](http://www.barossavintagefestival.com.au)

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA

[www.westernaustralia.com](http://www.westernaustralia.com)

### FROM APRIL 21

❖ **Saltimbanco,** Challenge Stadium, Perth. Cirque du Soleil launch a national tour in Perth, presenting this popular and highly acrobatic show set in an imaginary dreamlike city. [www.cirquedusoleil.com/Saltimbanco](http://www.cirquedusoleil.com/Saltimbanco)

### APRIL 23-26

❖ **Fremantle Street Arts Festival,** Fremantle. Buskers, stand-up comedy and circus tricks aplenty. [www.fremantlefestivals.com](http://www.fremantlefestivals.com)

## ON TOUR

### THROUGHOUT APRIL

❖ **Turns,** Wagga Wagga, Adelaide, Port Macquarie, Tamworth, Taree. Nancye Hayes and Reg Livermore in a show about showbiz, life, the universe and everything, evoking music hall, pantomime and burlesque.

[www.turnstheshow.com.au](http://www.turnstheshow.com.au)

### UNTIL APRIL 10

❖ **Alliance Française French Film Festival,** Brisbane, Canberra, Perth, Adelaide. Vive le subtitle! [www.frenchfilmfestival.org](http://www.frenchfilmfestival.org)

### FROM APRIL 14

❖ **Much Ado About Nothing,** Sydney, Canberra. No, not a stray Seinfeld episode; John Bell whacks Shakespeare's classic sitcom in 1950s Sicily. [www.bellshakespeare.com.au](http://www.bellshakespeare.com.au)

### APRIL 17-27

❖ **Bob Dylan,** Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne, Wollongong, Byron Bay, Sydney. Singing-songwriting's perennial premier example. Quick quiz: in which song, and why, did he wish he was "on some Australian mountain range"? The answer, my friends, is...

[www.chuggentertainment.com](http://www.chuggentertainment.com)

### APRIL 20-23

❖ **Buffy Sainte-Marie,** Melbourne, Sydney. Leading Native American singer-songwriter, blacklisted from US radio in the 1960s, hasn't toured Australia since the 1970s. You might know *Up Where We Belong* and *Universal Soldier*. [www.creative-native.com](http://www.creative-native.com)