



illawarra **FOLK** FESTIVAL

12-15 JANUARY 2012

BULLI SHOWGROUND, WOLLONGONG, NSW



Presented Illawarra Folk Club Inc. PO Box 5289, Wollongong, NSW 2500

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MEDIA RELEASE:

Squeeze, strum or pluck: you choice at the folk instrument expo

There will be squeezeboxes of all types and all kinds of instruments to blow, bow, pluck, thrash, strum, plunk, press, pull and thump at the Illawarra Folk Club's Folk and Acoustic Instrument Expo on Saturday, 19 November at the Wollongong Conservatorium of Music.

The Expo is part of Illawarra Folk Week, a leadup event from November 11-19 for the 27th annual Illawarra Folk Festival at Bulli Showground in January.

Special guests at the Expo include Sydney accordion maestro Christiaan Dolislager, who will be bringing at least 50 squeezeboxes, and Illawarra violin and guitarmaker Roland Stefan.

The expo will be held at the Wollongong Conservatorium of Music at Gleniffer Brae from midday to 3pm on 19 November. Entry is free.

Illawarra Folk Festival artistic director David De Santi said the expo was held for the first time last year, and its success had encouraged the folk club to make it an annual event to help promote the folk festival

"It's a chance for local folk and acoustic musicians to show and share their favourite, quirky, colourful, noisy, homemade or unique instruments to the world," Mr De Santi said.

"Hopefully it may encourage others to try the wide and diverse range of instruments used by folk and acoustic musicians for their musical craft and enjoyment."

Meanwhile, Early Bird season tickets are now on sale for the four-day folk festival event held at Bulli Showground from 12-15 January. Early Bird season tickets are just \$100. That's just \$25 per day for four days and nights of great entertainment, including world class musicians, poetry, folk dancing and musical workshops. It's also a \$30 saving on the full price season ticket.

The Illawarra Folk Festival is an annual event presented by volunteers from the Illawarra Folk Club, and over more than a quarter of a century has established itself as the largest folk festival in NSW.

Visit www.illawarrafolkfestival.com.au to book. Tickets are also available at Albion Park and Bulli post offices or by phoning the **FESTIVAL HOTLINE 1300 887 034**

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