

# MEDIA RELEASE

## THE SOUND OF RHODES ENRICHES THE ANTIPODES FESTIVAL

**MELBOURNE, Monday March 2nd, 2009** – The **Mayor of Rhodes Hatzis Hatziefthymiou** has declared his support of the **2009 Antipodes Festival Lonsdale Street Glendi** – a free weekend celebrating all things Greek on **Saturday March 21 and Sunday March 22**.

The Mayor congratulated the Committee of the Antipodes Festival on its success in organizing the largest Greek cultural and arts event in Australia, "It is admirable that the second, third, and possibly fourth generations of Greeks in Australia continue to maintain and to promote the culture, traditions and customs of their ancestors."

Rhodian musicians will perform traditional music at the 'Glendi' as well as hold workshops with local musicians and dancers. Performances include The Rhode Band, band member **Fotis Eliamos** has substantially contributed to traditional music having played the santouri since the age of nine and has been awarded by the Ministry of National Education and Religious Affairs.

The participation of the Rhodian musicians enriches an already strong Lonsdale Street Glendi program which is headlined by **Glykeria** and features over **300 local performers**, art, craft and community stalls, roaming entertainers and local celebrities including Melbourne Greek identities, celebrity chef **George Calombaris**; Australian comic icon **George Kapiniaris** and **Vasilis** from the hit Channel 31 show Vasilis Garden.

The traditional Festival footprint of Lonsdale Street traders, stallholders and one main stage has also been tweaked with the introduction of the **Tastes Of the Aegean** trade marquee – where all things Greek and edible will be celebrated; a **Second Stage** along Lonsdale Street where competitions, music and late night Greek Australian Dj's will feature; and for the 'yiayiathes' and 'papouthes', a new dedicated seating area near the main stage.

### LISTING INFO:

When: Saturday March 21 & Sunday March 22

Where: Lonsdale Street Greek Precinct Melbourne (In between Exhibition & Swanston Streets)

Admission: Free

More information: [antipodesfestival.com.au](http://antipodesfestival.com.au) | 03 9662 2722



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