

MEDIA RELEASE

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SUSTAINABLE LIVING FESTIVAL

Melbourne & Beyond 12 – 27 February 2011

Australia's finest accepts the mission

In just under two weeks Australia's largest sustainable event, the Sustainable Living Festival, catapults into a gob smacking 16 day festival. From humble beginnings 12 years ago, the Festival has grown into a state-wide event, celebrating sustainability in Melbourne and beyond. This year the Festival will feature events in iconic Melbourne locations including Royal Botanical Gardens, Yarra River, National Gallery of Victoria, RMIT University, Melbourne Town Hall and Federation Square.

The 2011 Festival is on a mission, a Safe Climate Mission. With the likes of David Suzuki (CAN), Michael Reynolds aka Garbage Warrior (USA), Ian Lowe, Clive Hamilton, Adam Bandt MP, Rob Oakeshott MP, Julia Zemiro, Charlie Pickering, and a bunch of Australia's favourite personalities having accepted the mission, the Festival urges all Australians to join these change agents and band together to restore a safe climate and sustainable future.

This year's Festival also sets itself apart from past festivals with a new format. Increasing the capacity to allow more punters to get involved, the Festival unveils two new playgrounds, the Green House and Sustainability at the Edge program. The Green House and Sustainability at the Edge program will host a range of Sustainable Living Festival produced events covering topics that are guaranteed to inspire and ignite discussions from the average Joe to the hardcore environmentalist. Added to this will be the vastly popular Green Market, showcasing over hundreds of green solutions from over a hundred exhibitors.

International guests to the 2011 Festival will be David Suzuki, highly acclaimed scientist, educator, broadcaster and activist, and Michael Reynolds, world renowned renegade architect. Dr Suzuki will be at the Festival as part of Moonlight Cinema's Australasian premiere of his film *The Force of Nature: The David Suzuki movie*. The film, as described by David is his "last lecture ... a distillation of my life and thoughts, my legacy, what I want to say before I die."

Dr Suzuki will also participate in the highly contested Great Debate – Environmentalism is Failing, alongside Professor Ian Lowe (Australian Conservation Foundation), Christine Milne MP (Deputy Leader of Australian Greens), Clive Hamilton (author and public intellectual), Anna Rose (co-founder of the Australian Youth Climate Change Coalition), Phillip Sutton (author of *Climate Code Red* and co-founder of Safe Climate Australia) with Julia Zemiro as moderator. Reflecting on the success and failures of the environmental movement, the debate is expected to generate thought and action.

Full Festival program available at www.slf.org.au/festival

For information, interview opportunities and images, please contact:

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