

## ICONIC AUSTRALIAN MUSICIAN, SONGWRITER AND AUTHOR NICK CAVE

Go behind the music and into Nick Cave's imagination and the sources of his unique vision through original lyrics, notebooks, artwork, photography and books. There are objects from the musician's own library and office, rare and previously unavailable video and documentary footage.

This fascinating exhibition is an insightful and playful journey through Cave's connection with Melbourne, London, Berlin, São Paulo and Brighton, United Kingdom. It explores the many phases of Cave's career, including his work with *The Boys Next Door*, *The Birthday Party*, *The Bad Seeds* and *Grinderman*.

*"This has been a revealing and rewarding experience. Much of this stuff has sat around in boxes for years and the process of 'excavating' it has been many things – moving, disturbing, inspiring and downright terrifying."*

Nick Cave

This exhibition draws from over 800 items generously donated by Nick Cave to the Arts Centre's Performing Arts Collection.



Image credit 1, see back page



NATIONAL  
LIBRARY  
OF AUSTRALIA

Exhibition Gallery  
Open daily 9 am – 5 pm  
Parkes Place  
Canberra  
02 6262 1111



Supporter of the Exhibitions  
and Special Events Program



Australian Government  
Visions of Australia



### Image Credits

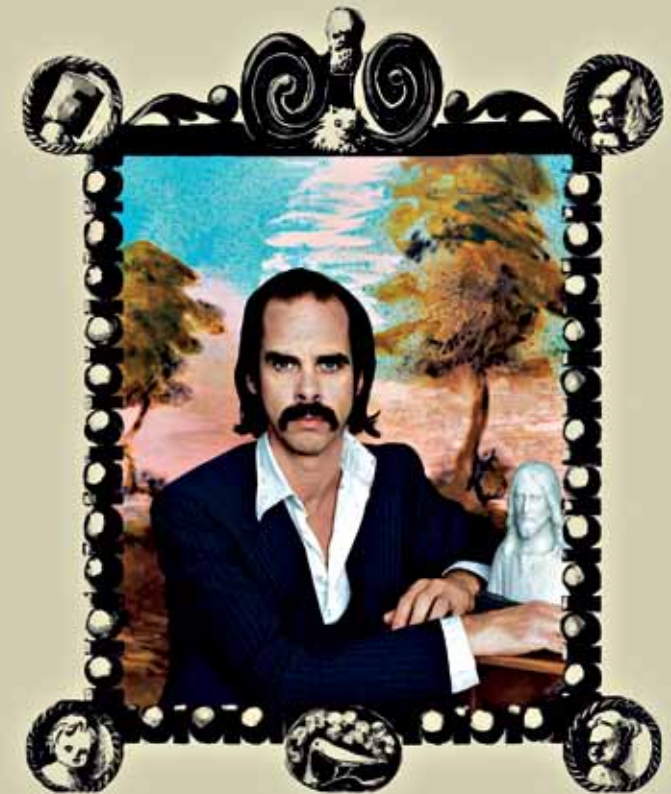
- 1 *Euchrid's Crib*, Nick Cave in Yorkestrasse, West Berlin, 1985  
Bleddyn Butcher, born London 1953  
silver gelatin print; 17 x 24.8cm  
Kindly lent by Nick Cave
- 2 Handwritten dictionary contained in notebook, 1984  
vinyl, metal, paper and pen; 18.0 x 12.0 x 2.0 cm  
Gift of Nick Cave, 2006  
the Arts Centre, Performing Arts Collection
- 3 *The Last Show. The Boys Next Door*, Crystal Ballroom, Melbourne, 1980  
acrylic paint and ink on paper; 21.5 x 20.5 cm  
Gift of Nick Cave, 2006  
the Arts Centre, Performing Arts Collection

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA  
AND THE ARTS CENTRE PRESENT

# NICK CAVE

---

## THE EXHIBITION



PHOTOGRAPH BY POLLY BORLAND ORIGINAL PAINTING BY TONY CLARK COMMISSIONED BY THE ARTS CENTRE IN 2007

FINAL AUSTRALIAN VENUE

15 August – 29 November 2009

FREE EXHIBITION

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA

# EVENTS

Get Nicked, the Australian Music Trivia Night Gather a team of friends and test your knowledge of Australian music. Special rounds will focus on Nick Cave and his music.

**Friday 25 September, 6 pm**  
**Foyer, \$15 (includes free drink on arrival)**  
**Drinks and light refreshments can be purchased**  
**Bookings: 02 6262 1271**

## FILMS

*The Proposition* (2005)  
104 min, MA 15+

A gun-slinging outlaw receives an impossible proposition following his capture by police. Stars Guy Pearce with screenplay by Nick Cave, music by Nick Cave and Warren Ellis.

**Thursday 27 August, 6 pm**  
**Theatre, gold coin donation**

*Ghosts of the Civil Dead* (1988)  
128 min, R

Prison gangs clash in a high-tech security jail where there are no rules. Cave co-wrote the script, starred in and wrote the music for the film.

**Thursday 15 October, 6 pm**  
**Theatre, gold coin donation**



Image credit 2, see back page

## TALKS

**Curator Floor Talk**  
The Arts Centre's Janine Barrand, curator of the exhibition, conducts a walk-and-talk through the exhibition.

**Saturday 15 August, 2 pm**  
**Exhibition Gallery, free**

**Nick Cave:  
The Reader**

Discover what Nick Cave has on his bookshelf, from the works of Dostoyevsky, Victor Hugo and Thomas Hardy to the *Holy Bible*. Penelope Grist, the Library's Exhibitions Branch Curatorial Assistant, explores the literary background that inspires Cave's work as a writer across genres.

**Thursday 1 October, 12.30 pm**  
**Conference Room, free**

**Cold-blooded But Catchy:  
The Nature and Origins of the Murder Ballad**  
Justine van Mourik, the Library's Registrar of Exhibitions and Loans, spares none of the gory details in tracing the origins of some of the traditional murder ballads that informed *Nick Cave and The Bad Seeds'* album *Murder Ballads* (1996).

**Tuesday 20 October, 12.30 pm**  
**Conference Room, free**

**Nick Cave: Contemporary Musician,  
Contemporary Bard**

Robyn Holmes, the Library's Curator of Music, explores Nick Cave's musical sensibilities through the exhibition and the Library's collection of contemporary music.

**Thursday 5 November, 12.30 pm**  
**Exhibition Gallery, free**

**Flying the Coop**

Join Chris Downton (aka DJ Evil Chris) as he discusses Australia's limited audiences in the 1980s for bands such as *Nick Cave and The Bad Seeds* and *The Birthday Party* and their London and Berlin experiences.

**Friday 27 November, 4.30 pm**  
**Foyer, \$10 (includes a glass of wine and special entry to the exhibition)**  
**Bookings: 02 6262 1271 or bookings@nla.gov.au**

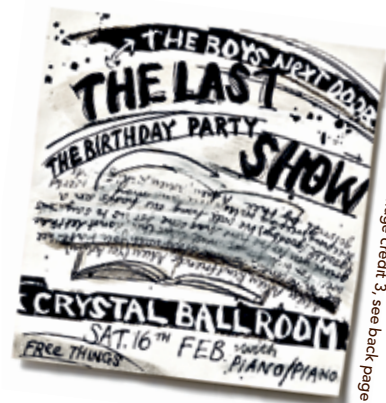
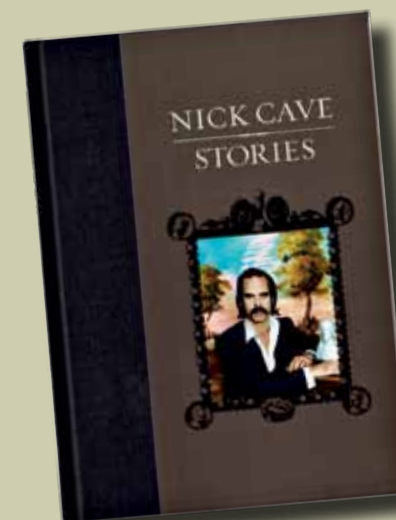


Image credit 3, see back page

# NICK CAVE MERCHANDISE

FROM THE NATIONAL LIBRARY BOOKSHOP

Take home a lasting memento of one of Australia's modern music icons. Visit the National Library Bookshop and select from a unique range of *Nick Cave: The Exhibition* merchandise. Items include the publication *Nick Cave Stories*, CDs, t-shirt, poster, postcard and fridge magnet.



**National Library Bookshop**  
**Open 9 am—5 pm daily**  
**Or purchase online at [shop.nla.gov.au](http://shop.nla.gov.au)**

All events are correct at the time of printing.  
For further details, visit [www.nla.gov.au](http://www.nla.gov.au) or phone 02 6262 1271.