

MEDIA RELEASE

STRIKE UP THE BANDS

Expect the unexpected at the Triple M Ekka Concert Series on Oval No 2 on three upbeat nights of the 2003 Ekka.

diesel and **Palladium** on Saturday, August 9; **Taxiride** and **Rhubarb** on Tuesday, August 12 and **Killing Heidi**, **The Tenants** and **Shutterspeed** on Saturday, August 16.

The No 2 Oval stage will be where it's at for groovers at this year's Ekka with plenty of beat and sexy sounds starting at 7.30pm on all three nights.

diesel burst out of Perth in 1987 with the band Johnny Diesel and the Injectors and won the music ARIA Awards for best new talent and best selling album of the year. A great deal has happened since that time. Johnny pulled the pin on the Injectors in 1991, resurfacing as diesel with the single, **Love Junk**. **The Lobbyists**, a mix of new songs, was released in 1993, hit number one on the Australian charts and diesel again won the ARIA for best Male Artist.

diesel spent five years in New York but returned home in 2001 and reunited with his old friend, Craig Portails. **Hear** was recorded in Sydney and the first single, **Getta Kick**, had an immediate response.

Just over a year since the release of their debut album **Sister Fluter** and **Sunday Best**, Brisbane-based rock four-piece **Palladium** fired a fresh salvo of new compositions, five urgent rockers in the form of EP **Everybody Loves New Fashion**.

Palladium has something to say and you can expect them to get the message across at this year's Ekka.

Slow Motion, Rhubarb's second album after their first knock-out, **Kamikaze**, showcases a new depth and sophistication.

Rhubarb has now set up their own label, **Toupee Records**, and recorded **Slow Motion** with producer and new Rhubarb guitarist, Caleb James. The tracks cover a wide range to entrance old followers and attract new adherents.

Brisbane's own independent band, ***Shutterspeed*** has only just released the new album, ***Custom Made Hit Parade***, with some of the top songs to be heard at Ekka.

Shutterspeed are Andrew Petersen (vocals and guitar), Anthony Dettori (vocals, guitar) Dan Alder (bass), Scott Laphorne (drums) and Morgan Wilson (organ and piano). Their music is emotionally direct and without pretension, made to last the test of time.

Killing Heidi exploded on the Australian music scene when the Hooper Kids, Jess and Ella, got together two years ago with Warren Jenkin and drummer, Adam Pedretti to record debut album, Reflector. Now, having hooked up with Paul Kosky of Wah Wah Music, the group has built a beach side studio at Sorrento on the Victorian coast for their latest, more empowered offering with producer/arranger, Josh Abrahams, as the main keyboard player.

An opening riff sets a groovy pace for lyrically disgruntled verses that reflect political issues but end on a note of hope.

The music starts at 7.30pm with headliners on at 8.45pm to 10pm.

Country music fans will want to head to the entertainment stage on Friday, August 9 when the Bundarberg Rum Bush Fund presents James Blundell with songs that echo the spirit of both Outback and city Australians.

But it doesn't stop there. Cover bands will play in all Ekka bars to carry the fun late into the evening.

All tastes and age groups have been catered for in the musical mix. Family Services Minister, Judy Spence, will open Seniors Week, Saturday August 16 at a special afternoon concert featuring Col Joye and Judy Stone on the Concert Stage.

Roving musicians, visual artists and street performers will create a kaleidoscope of colour and movement throughout the day and evening during the show's duration with special acts such as the Hooley Dooleys and Silly Billy catering for small Ekka patrons.

There are no limitations on entertainment at this year's Ekka.

Ends

**For further information please call Nan Dwyer on 07 3253 3923
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