

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **EKKA 2005 set to rock.**

Live music will return to the RNA showgrounds when the EKKA presents some of Australia's finest local and national music talent at this year's Royal National Show.

EKKA – Live and Loud features two concerts set to run on the first Friday and the last Saturday of Brisbane's biggest annual event, and are free with EKKA 2005 entry tickets.

Sponsored by Channel Nine and radio station Nova 106.9, the free all-ages shows will be headlined by national stars Spiderbait and Grinspoon and will feature local bands Shifter and Intercooler.

RNA Chief Executive Jonathan Tunny said with the recent closure of Festival Hall and the disappearance of Brisbane's live music venues, the RNA showgrounds were emerging as a primary venue for live music in the city.

"Our outdoor EKKA stage is an ideal venue for touring bands to perform these sorts of shows, and with sideshow alley in the background, it creates the perfect atmosphere for a great show," Mr Tunny said.

"Showcasing live music is another example of the shift from the traditional EKKA the people of Brisbane may be more familiar with to the EKKA that is keeping up with contemporary needs of the city".

Mr Tunny said last year's concerts featuring The Living End and The Screaming Jets attracted over 5000 people and the Spiderbait and Grinspoon concerts should "be a popular people puller".

"We are confident of a bright future for live music at the showgrounds and we can continue to offer the people of Brisbane a fantastic venue to come and watch their favourite bands".

EKKA 2005 entry ticket holders can see Grinspoon and Shifter on Friday August 12 and Spiderbait and Intercooler on Saturday August 20.

For more information contact: