

# MEDIA RELEASE

29 June 2007

For immediate release

## Powerhouse Museum presents Diana: a celebration

An exhibition direct from Althorp Estate celebrating the extraordinary life and times of “the people’s princess”.

Australia will get a closer look at the private and public life of “the people’s princess” Diana, Princess of Wales, when the major international exhibition *Diana: a celebration* arrives exclusively at the Powerhouse Museum in Sydney from 29 September 2007.

On loan from Althorp Estate, the Spencer family's 500-year-old ancestral home in England, *Diana: a celebration* showcases the life and humanitarian work of one of the most remarkable women of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Featuring over 150 objects, the exhibition chronicles Diana’s life from her childhood years through to her engagement and royal wedding to Prince Charles, and her very public life as the Princess of Wales.

Highlighting the exhibition is the glorious Royal Wedding Gallery featuring Diana’s resplendent 1981 wedding gown, diamond tiara, veil and 25-foot train. On display is also a stunning collection of dresses, suits and couture evening gowns worn by Diana throughout her life and designed by Versace, Valentino, Chanel, Dior and Lacroix, amongst others.

Portraits of Diana’s ancestors, family jewels, paintings and other precious heirlooms from Althorp Estate are displayed and private childhood moments captured on film by her family, her engagement to Prince Charles and the events leading up to the Royal Wedding are remembered and animated with video, photographs, personal possessions and correspondence.

Diana’s role as a tireless charity advocate and spokesperson is also explored, including her pioneering efforts for those afflicted by AIDS, the care of the homeless, and the tragic consequences of the unregulated use of land mines.

“Australians have long had a special affection for Diana, with fond memories of her boundless spirit and her extraordinary kindness and devotion to others,” said Powerhouse Museum Curator Glynis Jones.

“Visitors will get a rare and intimate glimpse into her world and the many roles for which she became known, from the young bride who captured our hearts, to the icon of fashion and style, and as a humanitarian campaigner whose legacy continues to support charities around the world.”

The outpouring of grief following her untimely death in 1997 is also remembered through a display of books of condolence in a space where visitors will be able to reflect on Diana's remarkable life and achievements.

*Diana: a celebration* is displayed for three months each year at Althorp Estate and has been seen by over a million people. The exhibition has travelled to Japan, Canada and the USA to overwhelming audiences and now comes to the Powerhouse Museum - the only Australasian venue.

*Diana: a celebration* is produced by Arts and Exhibitions International in association with the Althorp Estate.

**On View:** *Diana: a celebration*  
29 September 2007 – May 2008

**Address:** Powerhouse Museum  
500 Harris Street, Ultimo, Sydney

**Telephone:** (02) 9217 0111

**Website:** [www.powerhousemuseum.com](http://www.powerhousemuseum.com)

**Hours:** 10.00am to 5.00pm (closed Christmas Day)

**Admission:** General admission \$10 adult, \$5 child, \$6 conc and \$25 family.  
Additional admission to *Diana: a celebration* will apply – tickets on sale late July.

**Media information, images or interviews:**  
Hayley Gallant, Publicist, Powerhouse Museum  
Tel: 9217 0157 or Email: [hayleyg@phm.gov.au](mailto:hayleyg@phm.gov.au)