

**VENUE  
HIRE**



**NATIONAL  
ART  
SCHOOL**





## CELL BLOCK THEATRE

The Cell Block Theatre provides a unique setting for a variety of events from product launches and corporate occasions to private parties, weddings, special ceremonies, performances and filming.

As the women's wing of the Old Darlinghurst Gaol from 1841 to 1920, the Cell Block Theatre held some of Sydney's most notorious criminals including the 'Queen of the Underworld' Kate Leigh. Since then, as part of the National Art School, the Cell Block Theatre has been used as a dynamic and experimental arts space hosting artists, musicians and performers as diverse as Peter Sculthorpe, John Bell, Nick Cave and Joan Jonas.

The visual form the Cell Block Theatre currently takes was made possible by Katharine Hepburn and Sir Robert Helpmann who started a fund to turn the derelict prison block into a dramatic venue. The internal walls and floors were removed to reveal towering ten-metre high sandstone walls and an open atmospheric cathedral-like space.

The impression of the old cells still lingers with traces of the curved stone staircases climbing three stories high, narrow barred windows, and rough sandstone edges that mark the cells and the solid iron doorway. The stone walls and wooden floors keep the simplicity of the space focused on the history that has been; making the Cell Block Theatre a very unique yet flexible venue for many types of events and activities.

The surrounding courtyards offset the history of the Cell Block Theatre and make a great outdoor entertainment space to supplement the indoor area. The National Art School also offers a Gallery Lawn space almost adjacent to the Cell Block which is ideal for outside wedding ceremonies.

**The Cell Block Theatre at the National Art School is a visually remarkable building and a significant feature of Australia's colonial and cultural heritage. Located in the inner city suburb of Darlinghurst, Sydney, the National Art School is a tranquil oasis nestled behind high sandstone walls and yet conveniently sits a stone's throw away from Taylor Square & Oxford street precincts.**



## VENUE DETAILS

### Capacity

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**Seated Dinner**

**150 seated**

**Cocktail**

**290 Standing**

**Theatrical**

**230 theatre style seating**

**Lecture/Presentations**

**230 theatre style seating**

### Facilities and Services

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- » 250 seats
- » 12 Trestle tables
- » Lectern (by arrangement)
- » Parking for 4 cars

### Sound

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- » 3 x EV SxA360 12" 2-way powered speakers
- » 4 x EV Zx1i 8" 2-Way Premium Loudspeaker
- » 1 x EV Sb2A Powered Sub Woofer
- » 1 Dynacord PCL 1245 Dual Channel Power Amplifier
- » 1 Mackie Audio Mixer Onyx 1220
- » 4 x Redback C0908 Weatherproof Speakers
- » 5 stack CD Player
- » Single Cassette Player
- » Microphone Outlets

### Lighting, Communications and Power

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- » Suspended Lighting at 8 metres comprising:  
2x 2x 36W high efficiency T8 Triphosphore Fluorescent lamps dimmable 'down installed' every 3metres and 1x 70W MH downlight every 3 metre
- » 2 x 3 Phase Power Outlets (Inside)  
1 x 3 Phase Power Outlets (Outside)
- » Hearing Augmentation system
- » Emergency Lighting
- » Fire and Security alarms
- » Standard Safety Railing





## SCHEDULE OF FEES EXC GST

### **Venue Hire**

Cell Block Midday to midnight	\$3300
Extra hours charged at	\$125ph
Gallery Lawn (5 hours)	\$1000
Filming & Photography rate	\$200ph

### **Security**

- » Monday to Friday 8.30am – 6.00pm  
\$45 per hour per security guard  
(min 4 hours)
- » **6.00pm – midnight** \$50 per hour  
per security guard (min 4 hours)
- » **Saturday 8.30am – 6.00pm** \$55 per  
hour per security guard (min 4 hours)
- » **6.00pm – midnight** \$60 per hour  
per security guard (min 4 hours)
- » **Sunday 8.30am – 6.00pm** \$65 per  
hour per security guard (min 4 hours)
- » **6.00pm – midnight** \$70 per hour  
per security guard (min 4 hours)

### **Cleaning**

3 hrs post event cleaning	\$300
Extra hrs required	\$150 per hour

### **Payment**

Bond	\$1000
Deposit on signing of contract	40% of total
Final amount by 14 days prior event	
Extra cost incurred within 14 days of event	

### **Cancellation by the Hirer**

- » If the cancellation occurs more than 8 weeks before the event, a full refund of the fees paid by the hirer will be made, less an administration charge of \$100.
- » If the cancellation occurs less than 8 weeks but more than 2 weeks before the event, a refund of one half of the deposit paid by the hirer will be made.
- » If the cancellation occurs less than 2 weeks before the event, there will be no refund of the deposit.

### **Cancellation by the National Art School**

If we are not able to provide previously organised facilities due to circumstances beyond our control, no further reclaim, other than a full refund of any money paid to us, is claimable.

### **Insurance**

Prior to the commencement of the event, the Hirer must produce evidence of a Public Risk Insurance Policy covering injury to person or property on the premises for an amount of at least \$10,000,000.

### **Failure to vacate premises at the end of term of hire**

If the Hirer fails to vacate the premises at the agreed end of the term of hire, additional charges will occur for each hour or part thereof past the agreed end of hire. The Hirer will be liable for any damages that may occur during this period and any other additional costs relating to security or any other staff of the National Art School.

<sup>1</sup>The National Art School requires its own security personnel to be present at all times. The number of guards required is determined by the National Art School and is dependent on the type of event and numbers. The Hirer may wish to employ additional private security at their own cost. However the Hirer and any private security firm engaged by the Hirer must comply with all directions given by the security personnel of the National Art School.



### **Hirer's indemnity**

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The National Art School will have no responsibility or liability for any death or injury to person or any loss of or damage to property of the Hirer or of any other persons within the premises and the Hirer indemnifies the National Art School from and against all such claims.

### **Additional obligations**

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The Hirer must:

- » Keep the premises clean and tidy
- » Not interfere with any of the services that pass through, under or over the premises
- » Not bring any dangerous substances into the premises
- » Not breach any fire safety regulations
- » Not obstruct fire doors and other points of egress
- » If alcohol is to be served, meet all licensing requirements for the provision of alcohol
- » Not bring onto the premises any ignitable gases or liquids
- » Not permit smoking in any indoor or enclosed areas on the premises

**For more information or to organise a no obligation tour of this unique venue, located within the historic campus of the National Art School, please contact Julie O'Reilly on (02) 9339 8658 or email [julie.oreilly@nas.edu.au](mailto:julie.oreilly@nas.edu.au)**

- » Not use nails, screws, staples, adhesive tape or other attachments on any wall or doors of the premises without consent
- » Remove everything brought onto the premises, including waste
- » Not use any logo of the National Art School or any related entity
- » In accordance with council regulations, ensure that noise levels do not exceed 5 dba above background noise and cease at midnight
- » Ensure the National Art School approves all publicity associated with the use of the premises, including all signage. This approval may be exercised with absolute discretion

**The National Art School reserves the right to refuse to hire any of its facilities to any person or body as it determines, and such decision will be final.**

### **Catering**

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The National Art School's preferred caterer is Piquant Catering, proud winner of the 2012 Restaurant and Catering NSW Best Small Caterer Award  
[www.piquant.com.au](http://www.piquant.com.au) 02 9713 1577  
[office@piquant.com.au](mailto:office@piquant.com.au)

**PIQUANT**  
CATERING



**National Art School, Forbes Street,  
(adjacent to Taylor Square)  
Darlinghurst NSW 2010**  
ABN 891 401 79111  
Wedding photography by Jennifer Leahy, silversalt