



NATIONAL TRUST

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MEDIA RELEASE

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Mao's Last Dancer illustrator to appear at Norman Lindsay Festival

The illustrator for *The Peasant Prince*, the picture book version of *Mao's Last Dancer*, Anne Spudvilas, will appear at the Norman Lindsay Festival for Children's Literature on Saturday 20 and Sunday 21 March.

A Victorian native, Anne travelled to China with the dancer Li Cunxin to stay with his family, spend time in Beijing, visiting the Beijing Dance Academy and gathering photographic reference for the book which won the NSW Premiers' Award, the Queensland Premiers' Award and was awarded an Honour Book in the Children's Book Council awards.

Anne Spudvilas said: "After visiting the Norman Lindsay festival last year, I look forward to being a part of it".

The Festival will also feature readings and book signings by new and established authors like Aaron Blabey, Debra Oswald, Stephen Measday, Tristan Bancks and Freya Blackwood.

Kids can meet their favourite book characters and there'll be local handicraft stalls, refreshments, face-painting and entertainment, making it the perfect weekend away for the whole family.

Amanda Trevillion, National Trust Norman Lindsay Gallery property manager said: "The Festival is a great opportunity for parents to encourage their children's love of reading. For adults who want to try their hand at writing or illustrating, it's the best place to learn from the amazing and incredibly talented authors and illustrators at the Festival."

Included in the entry price is the chance to visit the Norman Lindsay Gallery's etching and painting studios where the controversial and prolific artist of *The Magic Pudding* spent his days.

Date: Saturday 20 – Sunday 21 March 2010

Time: 10am-4pm

Location: Norman Lindsay Gallery, 14 Norman Lindsay Crescent, Faulconbridge, Blue Mountains

Price: \$15.00 adult, \$10 child, \$12 concession, \$40 family

For more information see www.nationaltrust.com.au

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