



MEDIA RELEASE

NATIONAL GALLERY OF VICTORIA

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NGV Friday Nights celebrates the radical spirit of fashion icons Westwood and Kawakubo



7 November 2025: This summer, **NGV Friday Nights** transforms the gallery after dark in a celebration of self-expression inspired by two of fashion's most influential designers - **Vivienne Westwood** and **Rei Kawakubo of Comme des Garçons**.

From 12 December, NGV will open its doors late every Friday night where visitors can explore *Westwood | Kawakubo* after hours, an exhibition tracing five decades of groundbreaking designs that have re-shaped the look of fashion.

In addition to exhibition access, each week the NGV becomes a stage for sound and spectacle, with DJ sets from some of Australia's most exciting names, including **Breaking and Entering, Adriana, DJ Manchild, YO! Mafia, Small Fry, Claire Knight, Tanzer, Yeo and Danny Issues**. With nostalgic classics from the 70s, 80s, and 90s alongside favourite summer dance tunes, NGV Friday Nights during *Westwood | Kawakubo* captures the eclectic energy that defines both designers' worlds.

Adding to the atmosphere, visitors can enjoy dining and bar experiences throughout the Ground Level of NGV International, including share-style plates, snacks and a curated drinks while taking in the Friday Nights DJ line-up and in NGV Gallery Kitchen, a relaxed setting for light dishes and drinks the perfect complement to the exhibition experience.

Pop-up bars and experiences include the **Moët & Chandon Champagne Bar**, serving Moët & Chandon Impérial Brut and Rosé Impérial; the **Yering Station Wine Bar**, offering curated Yarra Valley wines; the **Four Pillars Bar**, mixing signature gin cocktails that capture the flavours of summer; and the **Häagen-Dazs Ice Cream Cart**, serving premium flavours throughout the season.

On Friday 30 January, NGV Friday Nights presents a special one-night-only collaboration with **Midsumma**, Australia's premier queer arts and cultural organisation. As part of Midsumma Festival, a vibrant line-up of LGBTQIA+ DJs and roving performances features at NGV Friday Nights, celebrating the spirit of creative self-expression that unites both Westwood and Kawakubo.

Tony Ellwood AM, Director, NGV, said: 'Vivienne Westwood and Rei Kawakubo have redefined fashion and showed the world how clothes can be an unparalleled vehicle for self-expression. This season of NGV Friday Nights celebrates the legacy of the designers and invites visitors to experience their radical creativity.'

NGV Friday Nights runs every Friday evening from **12 December 2025 to 17 April 2026** at NGV International, St Kilda Road, Melbourne. Further information and tickets are available via the [NGV website](https://www.ngv.vic.gov.au).

Westwood | Kawakubo is on display **7 December 2025 to 19 April 2026** at NGV International.

NGV Friday Nights Line Up:

- Friday 12 December 2025: Tanzer
- Friday 19 December 2025: Breaking & Entering
- Friday 26 December 2025: Yo! Mafia
- Friday 2 January 2026: Claire Knight
- Friday 9 January 2026: Small Fry
- Friday 16 January 2026: Danny Issues
- Friday 23 January 2026: DJ Manchild

- Friday 30 January 2026: Midsumma programming
- Friday 6 February 2026: Tanzer
- Friday 13 February 2026: Yeo
- Friday 20 February 2026: Danny Issues
- Friday 27 February 2026: Adriana
- Friday 6 March 2026: Claire Knight
- Friday 13 March 2026: Small Fry
- Friday 20 March 2026: DJ Manchild
- Friday 27 March 2026: Breaking & Entering
- Friday 3 April 2026: Adriana
- Friday 10 April 2026: Yeo
- Friday 17 April 2026: Adriana

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Images:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/jipzg6dv0lkq1we9wi1j9/AFNvGoO4BCdSfStTo4HAYLM?rlkey=oxhmoeswgr0051lpfnn873yue&st=x23sskly&dl=0>

Image Caption: NGV Friday Nights, Photo: Leah Hulst

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