

29/06 '01 FRI 19:34 FAX

NEWS RELEASE**Premier of New South Wales
Australia**

Friday, 28 June 2001

PREMIER PAYS TRIBUTE TO 'MAMMA LENA'

The Premier of NSW, and Minister for Citizenship, Mr Bob Carr today paid tribute to Mamma Lena, on the occasion of the official launch of the 'Mamma Lena - Italian Icon' documentary project.

The Government announced today that it would be contributing \$10,000 towards the project.

"Mamma Lena was the first voice of Italian women on Australian radio," Mr Carr said.

"She was one of many women who contributed to the special needs of the Italian Australian community.

"She is a true humanitarian, dedicated and passionate woman.

"This documentary project will help us remember the important contribution of Mamma Lena.

"I also acknowledge the important work of Mamma Lena Foundation and Joanne Rowe in the development of the documentary.

"Mamma Lena is one of many Italian influences, who have brought traditions and skills that have changed and enriched Australian tastes and styles," Mr Carr said.

Contact: Aldo Pennini (02) 9228 8239