

DARWIN FESTIVAL

NORTHERN TERRITORY ARTISTS
2020 EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST



SHIFTING REALITIES

STORM DOG | 2019

Photo: Carlo Macdonald

“BIG LOVE TO YOU GUYS FOR TRUSTING AND SUPPORTING THE VISION OF THE WORK, AND FOR SO BEAUTIFULLY CREATING THE PERFECT SPACE FOR IT TO BE INSTALLED AND CELEBRATED!”

- NAINA SEN



Photo: Face to Face, 2018, Darwin Festival, T.White

WHY WE LOVE LOCAL

Darwin Festival is an 18-day multi-arts festival held annually each August, delivering a program of free and ticketed events across genres including theatre, dance, music, comedy, circus, cabaret, visual arts, words and ideas. The artistic program captures the spirit of Darwin and the Northern Territory: irreverent, provocative, diverse, engaging and inclusive.

NT artists are at the heart of our program and are presented alongside events by highly regarded national and international artists. Darwin Festival is the only Australian major capital city festival that invites expressions of interest from artists and we are passionate about showcasing the diversity of talent that exists in the Territory. In 2018, we engaged 400 NT artists in a variety of events across the Festival.

Since 2009, we have connected with local artists, companies and arts workers who have ideas, works in progress or presentation-ready works.

Darwin Festival accepts proposals that are:

- across any art form
- works in progress or presentation-ready
- projects involving collaborations with other artists (both local and outside of the NT)
- youth or community projects

We are looking for new work or an existing concept with a new twist – this could be a first-time collaboration with other local artists or maybe you’re embarking into a new genre. We want things that Darwin hasn’t seen yet, or at least not for a very long time – events that push boundaries and challenge perceptions.

To submit your application, please complete the online form at www.darwinfestival.org.au.

Please contact Vanessa Wright, Program Producer for any questions at hello@darwinfestival.org.au

Proposals must be received by Friday 1 November 2019.

Please note there will be an information session for submitting EOIs in Darwin and Alice Springs in October with exact dates and locations to be confirmed and advertised closer to the time.

THE EXPERIENCE



**NAINA
SEN**

Video Artist | 2018

“Throughout the whole process, it was a really wonderful experience to work with the Darwin Festival team to shape *Face to Face* into something powerful, intimate and quintessentially Darwin.

“Big love to you guys for trusting and supporting the vision of the work, and for so beautifully creating the perfect space for it to be installed and celebrated! It was so respectful to not only the work we created, but more importantly showed such love and thought to the many Darwin residents who so generously took part in the project. It’s a work I’m really proud of.

“So much appreciation to the entire Darwin Festival crew who made it happen!”



**DAVID
SPRY**

Singer/Songwriter | 2018

Photo: Glenn Campbell

“Although you’re a local act, your EOI should be written to capture the attention of a wider audience – remember, Darwin Festival attracts people from far and wide!

“Express your performance ideas in a few short paragraphs that nail what your act is about. Keep in mind the logistics, for example, your performance space, key players and technical requirements. If you require live elephants shipped in from India – although cool – such requirements may not land you the gig...

“Darwin Festival worked with me to see my album launch come to fruition in The Lighthouse. It was really special to be in my hometown and play to a familiar audience.”

A POINT OF DIFFERENCE



**TALKING
THROUGH
WALLS**

Excursions | 2016 & 2017

Katy Moir first brought the concept of *Talking Through Walls* to our attention in 2015 – a walking tour, known to be a popular tourist activity in Darwin, but with a twist. Moir pitched the idea of focusing on the lives of the people living and working in the spaces and not just the history of the architecture. The 2015 event was so successful that we recommissioned Moir for a new series of this work for the 2017 Festival. Both series sold out.



**THE
TERMITE
MOUND
PROJECT**

Art Installation | 2017

The Termite Mound Project by Fiona Currey made its way into our program via the EOI call out for the 2017 Festival. Currey sent us a Photoshop image depicting towering fluorescent termite mounds set in and around Festival Park. The image was surprising and different – unlike any other installation work in Darwin – yet it also spoke directly to the local landscape.



Photos: Elise Darwin



“THANK YOU DARWIN FESTIVAL FOR TAKING A GAMBLE ON A CRAZY LOCAL COMEDIAN... FOUR NIGHTS AND OVER 300 PEOPLE... I AM LOST FOR WORDS”

- AMY HETHERINGTON

Comedian | 2016



FAQS

Who can apply to perform at Darwin Festival?

Darwin Festival is a fully curated international arts festival with invitations to perform issued by the Programming team. We are always keen to hear from artists about their work and have a particular interest in Northern Territory works. If you are a Northern Territory artist, you can submit an expression of interest by completing the application form.

What type of work do you program?

We are a multi-arts festival and will consider all art forms for programming. We are particularly interested in new work, or work with a point of difference that might not have been seen in Darwin recently. We enjoy artistic collaborations, free community projects and intimate performance works. We look for artists who have begun to build profile within their field and for whom a Darwin Festival performance would be the logical next step.

When will you notify me if I have been selected?

By the end of February 2020.

I submitted a proposal in previous years and was not successful, should I try again?

Yes, we're always keen to hear about how your work has developed over time.

I don't have any online materials that I can share with you, so how do I tell you about my work?

We highly recommend you tape your next performance. Alternatively, let us know when you're next performing or presenting your work in the Darwin region and we will try to be there.

I have more questions, what should I do?

If you are in Darwin on Tuesday 1 October 2019 or Alice Springs on Monday 21 October 2019, you can attend our information session at which the Programming team will be available to answer all your questions. If you are unable to attend or this date has passed, please email Vanessa Wright at hello@darwinfestival.org.au to arrange a time to talk about your project.