

2025 PROGRAM

# DARWIN FESTIVAL

7-24  
AUGUST  
2025



Proudly supported by  
**NORTHERN  
TERRITORY**  
GOVERNMENT



## BE THE HEARTBEAT OF DARWIN FESTIVAL!

As a Friend of the Festival, you're an essential part of our vibrant community, supporting and celebrating arts and culture while creating unforgettable memories.

- **EARLY ACCESS TO HOT TICKETS**
- **FANTASTIC DISCOUNTS**
- **VIP TREATMENT & INSIDER ACCESS**
- **EXTRA PERKS & BONUS BENEFITS**



**\$99**



**\$160**



**BECOME A  
FRIEND TODAY!**

[DARWINFESTIVAL.ORG.AU](http://DARWINFESTIVAL.ORG.AU)



**Darwin Festival takes place on what has always been Larrakia land. We wish to pay our respects to the Traditional Owners of this Country and to their ancestors. As the Festival welcomes contemporary artists and art from Australia and around the world, we also celebrate the continuing culture of the Larrakia people.**

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**FOLLOW THE SOUNDTRACK TO YOUR FESTIVAL**



Program details are correct at time of printing but are subject to change where necessary and without notice. Please check [darwinfestival.org.au](http://darwinfestival.org.au) for up-to-date details.

Please be aware that you may be filmed or photographed while taking part in Darwin Festival events. Any footage or photos may be used to promote the Festival in the future.

**FOLLOW AND TAG US ON SOCIAL MEDIA**  
#DARWINFESTIVAL



Darwin Festival takes your privacy seriously – please see our full Privacy Policy at [darwinfestival.org.au/privacy-policy](http://darwinfestival.org.au/privacy-policy)

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## DR BILAWARA LEE OAM

Larrakia Honorary Elder

Welcome to Gulumoerrgin, Larrakia Land. The Larrakia are the Traditional Custodians of the land and waters of the Greater Darwin region and although our borders extend up to 50kms inland, we are Saltwater People. Darwin Festival is a virtual feast for the senses – not just for everyone's sight, touch, taste, hearing and smell but also for our souls and spirit. I look forward to seeing you at the Festival.



## HON. KON VATSKALIS

Lord Mayor of Darwin

There's always something happening in Darwin, but nothing quite takes over the city like Darwin Festival. Discover this annual artistic and cultural celebration in parks, theatres, clubs, bars and galleries and even on boats and buses. Bring the family to some of the many free events, buy a ticket to a great night out, enjoy food and drink from some of your favourite locals and celebrate all that's great about the City of Darwin.



## HON. LIA FINOCCHIARO, MLA

Chief Minister of the Northern Territory

Now's the time to start planning your ultimate Territory experience. Darwin Festival is a shining example of what makes life here so special – world-class events, vibrant culture and a strong sense of community. From extraordinary acts across the globe to the incredible talent of our own local artists, this Australian Tourism Awards Gold-winner brings people together and supports our vital tourism and hospitality sectors. The Northern Territory Government is proud to support this iconic event as we make the Territory a place to live, work, visit and invest.



## CHRIS OSBORNE

Darwin Festival Chair

Welcome to another Darwin Festival program, full to the brim with events that will tickle your funny bone, tantalise your taste buds, bring music to your ears, get you thinking and generally inspire and entertain you. It takes a lot of people power to make this Festival happen, as well as lots of generous support from the Northern Territory Government, City of Darwin and all of our fabulous partners and donors. But it couldn't happen without you, our beloved audience. So join us and enjoy Darwin Festival 2025!



# WELCOME TO DARWIN FESTIVAL 2025



## JAMES GOUGH

Darwin Festival  
Chief Executive Officer

## KATE FELL

Darwin Festival  
Artistic Director

*"Dwell on the beauty of life. Watch the stars and see yourself running with them."* – **Marcus Aurelius**

Every August, we celebrate the beauty of life in the Northern Territory, as Darwin Festival invites you to experience the richness and diversity of arts and culture and to connect with our natural environment. This year, Darwin itself is the star of the Festival – stunning concerts as the sun sets over the Arafura Sea; special food events while cruising on the Harbour; music in the beautiful surrounds of the Botanic Gardens; experiencing non-stop entertainment in the one-of-a-kind outdoor venue that is INPEX Sunset Stage and much more.

We run with the stars when, for 18 days and nights, we are removed from everyday life into the extraordinary – where we take flight and let our imaginations soar, where we see the world differently and our inner curiosity, creativity and sense of wonder is ignited.

At its heart, Darwin Festival is a place of connection and of coming together. Artists from the Northern Territory, Australia and the world share their stories, culture and ideas with us. They make us laugh, think, dance, play and remind us of what connects us and celebrate what makes us unique. We do this not at home on a screen but in real life with friends and strangers alike!

Our opening weekend sees some major events, including two spectacular music nights at Fort Hill Parklands at Darwin Waterfront that you won't want to miss. We're thrilled to be returning to Palmerston in our middle weekend for a jam-packed program, and we close the Festival at Darwin Ski Club with three special concerts. Our A Taste of Darwin program expands, with more opportunities to experience the distinctive flavours of the Northern Territory food and hospitality scene. Every night of the Festival there is something for everyone – from family fun to late night risqué, from circus to cabaret, from country music to hip hop, from theatres to galleries and everything in between.

Darwin Festival is only possible through the support of all of our partners, friends, donors, staff, volunteers and Board members and we deeply thank them all.

We hope you dive deep into this year's Festival and join us for some magical moments that you can only experience in Darwin this August.

# OPENING WEEKEND AT FORT HILL PARKLANDS

Fort Hill Parklands, set on the beautiful Darwin Waterfront, is the ultimate harbourside venue for Darwin Festival's opening weekend concert series. Enjoy world-class music and vibrant energy in this stunning outdoor space

Proudly supported by



## MUSIC

Fort Hill Parklands, Darwin Waterfront



Dates

Fri 8 & Sat 9 Aug 6.15pm  
Gates open 5.30pm

Tickets

♥ \$79 – \$140 (per concert)  
Children under 12 free (bookings required)

**NOTE** No BYO alcohol. Glass and unsealed bottles not permitted.  
Food stalls and bar onsite.

**Presented by Darwin Festival and SRO Events**

## GUY SEBASTIAN

**One of Australia's best-loved artists  
opens Darwin Festival's newest  
music venue**

Since Guy Sebastian exploded into our hearts as winner of the inaugural *Australian Idol* in 2003, he has been the only male solo artist to boast six #1 singles and three #1 albums in ARIA chart history. Guy has achieved over 1.3 billion streams world-wide and has attained 8 ARIA Gold certified releases, 14 Top 10 ARIA singles and has won seven ARIA Awards. He heads to Darwin having dropped his first new music of 2025, the high energy 'Maybe', and his much-anticipated new album is on the horizon. This will be one unmissable Festival music event.

Joining the line-up are Gabriella Cilmi with her distinctive voice and soulful songs and The Wanted Gems with their angelic harmonies.

Date

Fri 8 Aug





## L.A.B.

### Darwin, there is something 'In the Air' on our opening Saturday

In just five short years, L.A.B. have grown into one of the most-popular and busiest acts in New Zealand music. Their mix of reggae, electronic, blues and funk all combine to create a sound entirely their own.

They've performed at almost every major festival across NZ and entertained sold-out crowds on headline Australian tours. Now they're heading to Darwin for the first time, bringing their much-loved catalogue plus hits from their number one new album, *L.A.B VI*.

On the line-up is Andrew Gurruwiwi Band bringing their high-energy, Yolŋu funk sound from the beaches of Birrtjimi and Yirrkala in Northeast Arnhem Land. With even more to be announced, this is the perfect fun night of world class music for your Festival opening weekend!

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Date

Sat 9 Aug

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# FESTIVAL PARK

**Thu 7 – Sun 24 Aug**  
5pm – late  
(Closed Mon 11 & 18 Aug)

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**FREE ENTRY**

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## A magical oasis of arts, culture and culinary delights!

Step into Festival Park, the beating heart of Darwin Festival 2025, where a world of wonder awaits. This vibrant hub transforms Civic Park into an enchanting playground of artistic adventure where everyone is invited.

Be captivated by the mesmerising *Trumpet Flowers* in the Kolsen Twilight Playground. This stunning installation by world-renowned Amigo & Amigo studio creates an interactive musical garden, blending light and sound in a spectacle you won't want to miss.

Every night, the park comes alive with free entertainment showcasing the best of NT musicians and bands on the Darwin Port Bandstand, alongside captivating roving acts. Feast your eyes on new artworks by Larrakia artists Jason and Trent Lee adorning the INPEX Sunset Stage wall and Techy Masero's innovative bamboo designs.





Indulge your senses at our curated selection of local food vendors, offering a mouthwatering journey through the Territory's culinary landscape. From quick bites to leisurely feasts, every dish tells a story of our community's passion and creativity. This year, we're raising a glass to our new partner, Alice Springs Brewing Co, whose exceptional Territory-crafted beers add a refreshing twist to your Festival experience.

INPEX Sunset Stage is where you can experience some of the best music, family, comedy, magic and cabaret acts, all performed in the beautiful outdoor venue that comes alive each night of the Festival.

Come play, explore and connect at Festival Park – where every moment is infused with the magic of the Territory. Your Festival adventure starts here!

Welcome to Country	FREE Thu 7 Aug 5.15pm
Kolsen Twilight Playground	FREE installation 5pm – 9pm
INPEX Sunset Stage	Nightly ticketed performances
Darwin Port Bandstand	FREE live music from 6.30pm
Airnorth Moonlight Lounge	Festival hospitality space
Festival Food & Bars	Nightly from 5pm
Club Awi	Fri & Sat nights after the late show
Box Office	Open 5pm – late
See individual event pages for full program details.	

Photo: Elise Derwin

# SITZLER FESTIVAL LAWN

The excitement spills over from Festival Park to Sitzler Festival Lawn, where The Spiegeltent is back! Gather with friends, grab a drink and step inside to be whisked away to a lavish European performance hall. Get ready to be dazzled and delighted!

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# LA RONDE

**"ALL-KILLER  
NO-FILLER."**

THE LIST (UK)

## **An international grand variété of circus extraordinaires**

After a dazzling debut at the 2025 Adelaide Fringe, *La Ronde* is bringing its seductive and intoxicating spectacle to Darwin.

Blending the exquisite, the elegant and the extraordinary with the utterly delightful, *La Ronde* is a smorgasbord of the finest variety artists from around the world.

The newest show from the internationally renowned creative team at Strut & Fret (*Blanc de Blanc*, *LIMBO*, *The Party*) is sure to be the hottest ticket in town this August.

### **CIRCUS // CABARET**

**The Spiegeltent, Sitzler Festival Lawn,  
in front of Parliament House**



Dates & Times

Thu 31 July – Sat 23 Aug

Various times visit  
[darwinfestival.org.au](http://darwinfestival.org.au) for details

Duration

1hr 30mins including interval

Tickets

♥ \$59 – \$145

**NOTE** Contains nudity, sexual references, smoke effects and strobe lighting. Suitable for ages 15+

**Presented by Strut & Fret in association  
with Darwin Festival**



# CLOSING WEEKEND AT THE SKI CLUB

In what is fast becoming a Festival institution, we're heading back to Darwin Ski Club for three magical nights to close out our 2025 program. Settle in beside an iconic Darwin sunset and be treated to a feast of music and memories from an array of incredible Australian talent

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## MUSIC

### Darwin Ski Club



Dates

Thu 21 – Sat 23 Aug

Visit [darwinfestival.org.au](https://darwinfestival.org.au) for all individual show details

Tickets

♥ \$59.50 – \$70 (per concert)  
Children under 12 free (bookings required)

Photo: Elise Derwin

**NOTE** *The Redgum Years* and *The Songs of Elton & George* are seated performances. Sarah Blasko is a standing show with limited seating available.

**Presented by Darwin Festival and Darwin Ski Club**





## JOHN SCHUMANN & THE VAGABOND CREW THE REDGUM YEARS

Redgum was one of the most popular Australian concert acts in the 1980s. Now, frontman and songwriter John Schumann returns with his band, The Vagabond Crew, to present *The Redgum Years*, a tribute to the iconic band with all the songs, stories and laughter.

Date

Thu 21 Aug

ANTHONY CALLEA & TIM CAMPBELL

## THE SONGS OF ELTON & GEORGE

Powerhouse vocalists and dynamic performers Anthony Callea and Tim Campbell present an unmissable celebration of two iconic musical legends – Elton John and George Michael. With their unparalleled musicality, they will breathe new life into timeless classics for one unforgettable and entertaining live music experience.

Date

Fri 22 Aug



## SARAH BLASKO

WITH GORDI, LITTLE QUIRKS  
+ ELEANOR JAWURLNGALI

Award-winning singer-songwriter Sarah Blasko leads an all-female line-up of good vibes and great music. This dynamic show features the contagious synth beat of electro-pop artist Gordi, the luscious harmonies and infectious energy of Little Quirks and the ethereal Eleanor Jawurlngali.

Date

Sat 23 Aug

Photo: McLean Stephenson



# DARWIN FESTIVAL IN PALMERSTON



Join us on Friday for a night of free family fun featuring live music, singalongs, market stalls and more. Then on Saturday, secure your ticket to an unforgettable country music celebration. It's sure to be another fun-filled weekend!

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## FAMILY FIESTA

**Family Fiesta is lighting up Palmerston again with a huge night of free Friday fun for all ages!**

Jump into a conga line, show off your limbo moves and dance to the infectious sounds of La Descarga – the masters of Latin-Aussie tropical beats.

Sing your heart out at *I Like To Move It, Move It*, the ultimate musical movie singalong. Darwin's own M3 Dance bring the heat with explosive moves, infectious energy and a soundtrack the whole family will love. And don't miss the Top End Clown Troupe, bringing playful chaos and delight.

With delicious eats, buzzing markets and high-energy entertainment, this is one fiesta you won't want to miss. Bring everyone along and soak up the feel-good festival energy!

### FAMILY

**Goyder Square, Palmerston**



Date & Time

Fri 15 Aug 5pm – 9pm

FREE

Photos: Elise Derwin & @whatsonmelb

**NOTE** Suitable for all ages.





## SHANE NICHOLSON, SARA STORER, DAVID GARNHAM & THE REASONS TO LIVE + FRIENDS

# BUFFALO COUNTRY

### An evening of true-believer, heart-on-your-sleeve country music

David Garnham & the Reasons to Live are your house band for an evening of outstanding Australian country music. Joining them are two of Australia's finest multi-Golden Guitar and ARIA Award-winning country artists – Sara Storer and Shane Nicholson.

The night features an all-star tribute to a Top End country music icon, Mark A Hunter. Charming Territory irreverence drips from his debut album *Songs From The Buffalo Country*, which has grown a cult following (due in part to his aversion to performing live). Hear songs including the legendary 'Barramundi', 'The Mary River' and 'Wallaby Leg' performed by David Garnham & the Reasons to Live with special guests The Choir of Man, Gleny Rae Virus, Caiti Baker and others to celebrate a truly classic NT album. Then enjoy sets by Sara Storer and Shane Nicholson to round out an epic night of country.



### MUSIC

#### Goyder Square, Palmerston



Date & Time Sat 16 Aug 6.30pm

Duration 3hrs

Tickets   \$25 – \$44  
Children under 12 free (bookings required)

**NOTE** Standing event. Limited seating available.



# A TASTE OF DARWIN



## WATERFRONT COCKTAIL TRAIL

Cocktail lovers, take a walking adventure to some of Darwin's best Waterfront bars as you're serenaded by The NEO Horns. Savour signature cocktails, delicious eats and behind-the-bar secrets at Wharf One, Hot Tamale, Oyster Bar, Chow, Snapper Rocks and Dock One.

### EAT & DRINK

#### Meet at Wharf One, Darwin Waterfront

Date & Times	Thu 14 Aug 6pm & 7pm
Duration	2hrs 30mins
Tickets	\$150

Photo: Steve Strike



## GOLDEN HOUR BAR TRAIL

Join us for a one-of-a-kind evening of indulgence, flair and mixology. Choose your path: a glamorous 1920s-inspired journey through Hanky Panky, Stonehouse and Baraki, or a lush tropical escape through Bar Kokomo, Charlie's and Darling Pasta Club.

### EAT & DRINK

#### Meet at Festival Park Box Office

Dates & Times	Tue 12 & Wed 13 Aug 6.30pm
Duration	2hrs 40mins
Tickets	\$160

Photo: Elise Derwin



We're taking you around the city to tempt your tastebuds and tickle your fancy as we showcase the enviable food and beverage culture here in Darwin. Curated by Neville Pantazis, our Taste of Darwin events are for foodies, cocktail lovers and anyone who's up for a good time.

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# GLOOM AND GOURMET

Enter the deliciously dark world of *Gloom and Gourmet* where a sumptuous banquet accompanied by fine wine awaits. Be swept into an evening of haunting melodies and razor-sharp spoken word by The Deity and the Damned. From spine-tingling murder ballads to poetry that pierces the soul, this is storytelling that lingers long after the last bite. It's wit, wine and wickedness served fresh at Parap Fine Foods.

## EAT & DRINK

### Parap Fine Foods

Dates & Times	Wed 6 & Thu 7 Aug 7pm
Duration	2hrs
Tickets	\$160

Photo: Paz Tassone



# MAKAN CLUB

*Makan Club* celebrates the vibrant diversity of the Northern Territory, bringing people together through local food, art and community. Enjoy a thoughtfully curated four-course menu alongside Indigenous artwork and storytelling that reflects the interconnectedness of culture and Country. *Makan Club* is a rich, multisensory experience shaped by the cultural connections that influence how we eat and gather.

## EAT & DRINK

Visit [darwinfestival.org.au](http://darwinfestival.org.au) for venue details

Dates & Times	Sat 9 & Fri 22 Aug 6pm
Duration	3hrs
Tickets	\$165

Photo: Laundry Gallery

**Presented by Laundry Gallery**



## FESTIVAL HARBOUR CRUISE

Set sail on a sunset cruise like no other. Hosted by comedians Merrick Watts and Amy Hetherington, this floating feast celebrates the flavour and flair of the Territory's hospitality scene. Some of the Top End's most exciting hospitality creatives share their stories as you enjoy delicious dishes, a wine-tasting and specially-crafted cocktails – all served up with a side of hilarious banter and that legendary Darwin Harbour sunset.

### EAT & DRINK

#### Meet at Dock 3, Stokes Hill Wharf

Date & Time	Sun 10 Aug 5.30pm
Duration	2hrs 45mins
Tickets	\$180

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## COMEDY BUS TOUR

Hop aboard the *Comedy Bus Tour* and experience the wild moods of the Top End's seasons with three killer stops: The Last Supper (Dry), One Mile Brewery (Wet) and Willing Distillery (Build Up). At each venue, enjoy a drink on arrival and a cracking set from local legends Amy Hetherington and Brent Watkinson, plus interstate comedy star (and Darwin's own) Dave Woodhead. It's laughter, drinks and local flavour – Darwin-style.

### EAT & DRINK // COMEDY

#### Meet at The Last Supper

Date & Times	Wed 20 Aug 6.30pm & 7.30pm
Duration	2hrs
Tickets	\$110

Photo: Elise Derwin

# MERRICK WATTS

# AN IDIOT'S GUIDE TO WINE: VOLUME 3

**The Festival-favourite wine tasting unlike any other is back!**

After two hugely successful Top End trips, you can guarantee this hotly-anticipated *Volume 3* will be another must-see.

Comedian Merrick Watts (who, surprisingly, has genuine wine chops and, unsurprisingly, is an idiot) has been busy meticulously "researching" new wines for this latest show. It's hard work, but someone's got to do it. Expect unexplored varietals, fresh wine regions and new stories.

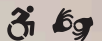
Everything's new... except the idiot.

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**WORLD PREMIERE // EAT & DRINK // COMEDY**

**Beachside Pavilion,  
Mindil Beach Casino Resort**



Dates & Times	Tue 12 & Wed 13 Aug 6.45pm Thu 14 Aug 6pm & 8.30pm
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Duration	1hr 10mins
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Tickets	\$75
Table of 8	\$560

Photo: Monica Pronk

**NOTE** Ticket price includes six wine tastings.  
Contains coarse language and adult themes. Strictly 18+







# 2025 TELSTRA NATIONAL ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER ART AWARDS

## Explore, engage and celebrate Australia's vibrant Indigenous art scene

The 2025 Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards (NATSIAA) is a celebration of contemporary Indigenous art.

With 71 exceptional works, selected from over 200 entries, Telstra NATSIAA provides a snapshot of the finest contemporary Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art created in the past year.

Visit Australia's most prestigious and longest running Aboriginal art awards.

Bring a picnic to the MAGNT lawns on Friday 8 August and help celebrate and uplift the powerful voices and creative excellence of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists.

## VISUAL ART

### Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory



Awards Ceremony	Fri 8 Aug 6pm
Exhibition Dates	Sat Jun 21 2025 – Mon 26 Jan 2026
Opening Times	10am – 4pm daily

FREE

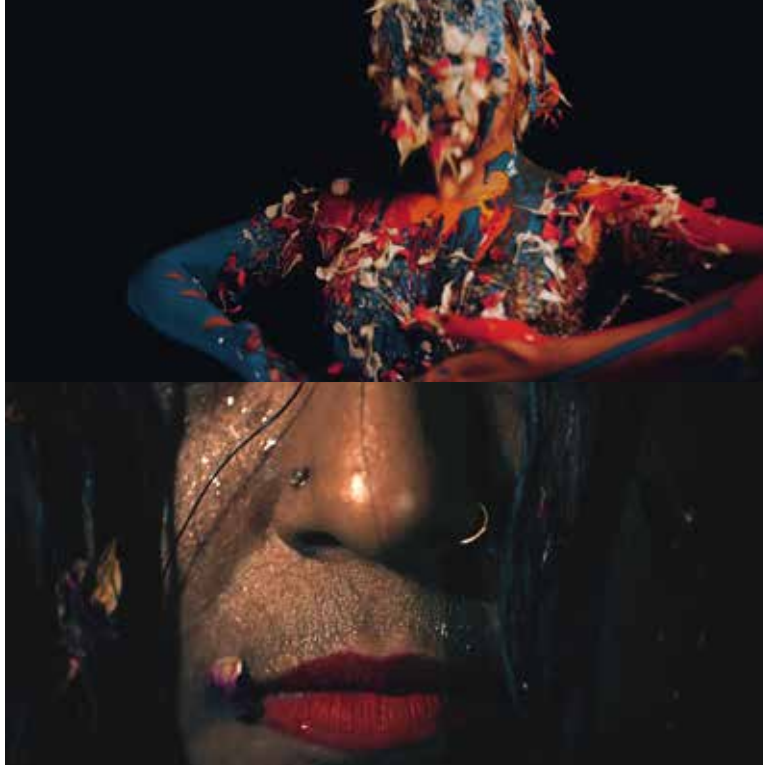
2024 Telstra Art Award Winner Noli Rictor standing in front of his painting *Karnanathi*, 2023  
Photo: Charlie Bliss

**Presented by the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory and Principal Partner Telstra**

Telstra NATSIAA Principal Partner







NAINA SEN

# সুন্দরী / SHUNDORI

## A bold and intimate exploration of contemporary South Asian identity

Be entirely enveloped in the vivid and sometimes surreal world of acclaimed filmmaker and video artist Naina Sen's large-scale, conceptual video works.

Created over five years between India and Australia, this sensorial experience deconstructs and reconstructs the idea of the Indian feminine through stylised, futurist metaphorical reimaginings of Indian feminist mythology, contemporary cultural and ritualistic practices and personal storytelling.

Accompanied by a layered soundscape of field recordings, women's songs, spoken word and a textural score, সুন্দরী / SHUNDORI is a multi-projection, multi-channel video installation that turns the walls of the gallery into an immersive portal.

## WORLD PREMIERE // VISUAL ART

Qubit Gallery



Exhibition Dates

Fri 8 – Sun 24 Aug

Opening Times

Thu & Fri 12pm – 6pm

Sat 10am – 3pm

Sun 11am – 4pm

FREE

Photo: Naina Sen

**Presented by Darwin Festival and Qubit Gallery**





# NATIONAL INDIGENOUS MUSIC AWARDS

## Shining a spotlight on First Nations musical brilliance

Held annually on the traditional lands of the Larrakia people, the *National Indigenous Music Awards (NIMAs)* celebrate the rich diversity of Indigenous music from across Australia – from emerging talents to international sensations like The Kid Laroi and Jessica Mauboy.

Join us under the stars at Darwin's historic Amphitheatre as we applaud the winners, soak up the ambiance and celebrate some of the most exciting music this country produces.

## MUSIC

**Darwin Amphitheatre**



Date & Time

Sat 9 Aug 7pm  
Gates open 6pm

Duration

4hrs

Tickets

♥ \$40.80 – \$48

Children under 12 free (bookings required)

Photo: Benjamin Waringundu Ellis

**NOTE** This is an alcohol free event.  
Glass and unsealed bottles not permitted.

**Presented by MusicNT and YouTube**





# CIRCA DUCK POND

**The enchantment of *Swan Lake* meets the thrill of the circus, with humour, panache and feathers!**

The world's most romantic ballet is re-imagined as a circus spectacular, full of Circa's signature physicality and shot through with cheeky humour and a thoroughly contemporary energy.

Be swept away by this tale of swans and hapless princes sparkling with quirky touches, like the sequinned flipper-wearing duck army and a burlesque black swan. There are sumptuous aerials, jaw-dropping acrobatics and of course feathers!

Touching, funny and utterly entertaining, *Duck Pond* is a tale of identity and finding your true self.

## CIRCUS

**The Playhouse,  
Darwin Entertainment Centre**



Dates & Times

Fri 22 Aug 7pm

Duration

1hr 15mins

Tickets

\$25 – \$60

Photo: Damien Bredberg

**NOTE** Suitable for all ages.

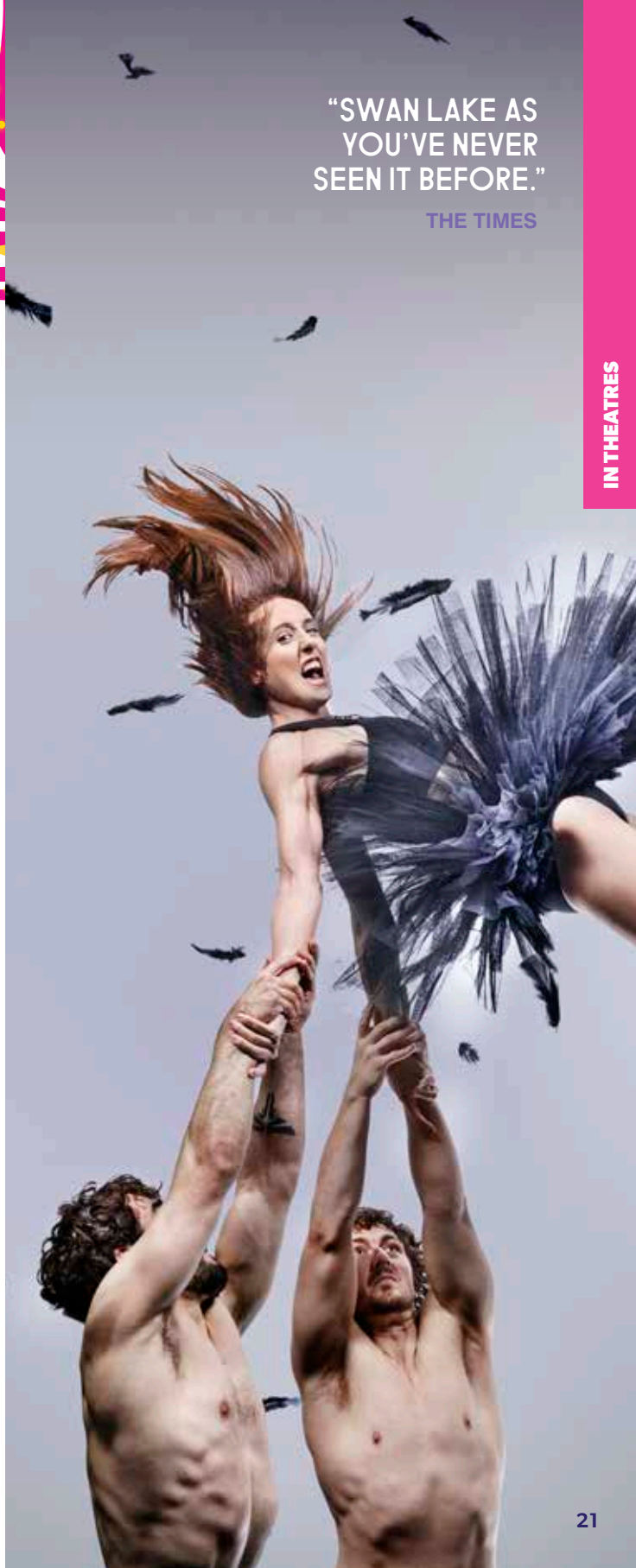
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**Woolworths**

**"SWAN LAKE AS  
YOU'VE NEVER  
SEEN IT BEFORE."**

THE TIMES

IN THEATRES







# BANGARRA DANCE THEATRE

# ILLUME

**Journey through a kaleidoscope of images, patterns and synergies into the otherworldly language of light**

From the extraordinary Bangarra Dance Theatre comes an iridescent new theatrical experience. Drawing together music, visual arts and dance, *Illume* explores the awe of light, a bridge between the physical and spiritual worlds.

Created in collaboration by Mirning choreographer Frances Rings and Goolarrgon Bard visual artist Darrell Sibosado, *Illume* explores the ways light has captivated and sustained Indigenous cultural existence for millennia. *Illume* asks the urgent question: is the deep wisdom passed down from elders enough to illuminate a path forward from the shadows of a dark future?

## DANCE

**The Playhouse,  
Darwin Entertainment Centre**



Dates & Times

Fri 15 & Sat 16 Aug 7.30pm

Duration

1hr 10mins

Tickets

♥ \$51 – \$60

Photo: Daniel Boud

**NOTE** Contains elevated sound levels, flashing lights, haze and smoke effects and voices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who have passed. Suitable for ages 12+

**Presented by Darwin Entertainment Centre  
and Bangarra Dance Theatre in association  
with Darwin Festival**

OPERA AUSTRALIA

# LA BOHÈME

By Puccini

## Experience the original bohemian love story

A poet, a painter, a musician and a philosopher walk into a bar to celebrate a sudden windfall in a lean winter. It's Christmas Eve, and the poet has just felt the first pangs of great love. When a seamstress knocks on his door searching for candlelight, the pair fall in love faster than she can sing "Yes, they call me Mimi..." Some emotions are too big for words alone, and for that, we have music.

*La Bohème* exposes your soul to the feelings that only music can express. The music soars with the ecstasy of love, crackles with the pain of jealousy and cries with the agony of loss. Puccini's score has always captured the soaring spirit of young love and this new production breathes fresh life into one of the world's favourite operas. By the time the curtain comes down, you'll know the answer to an eternal question: is love enough?

### OPERA

The Playhouse,  
Darwin Entertainment Centre



Dates & Times Fri 8 & Sat 9 Aug 7.30pm

Duration 2hrs including interval

Tickets  \$20 – \$64

Photo: Daniel Boud

**NOTE** Sung in Italian with English surtitles. Contains haze effects and adult themes.

**Presented by Darwin Entertainment Centre and Opera Australia in association with Darwin Festival**



IN THEATRES





# DARWIN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

## HEAVEN AND EARTH

Witness the premiere of an incredible new work, *Wuyal's Journey*. This collaboration between Rirratjingu songman Banula Marika and Darwin Symphony Orchestra Composer in Residence Netanela Mizrahi is based on the story of Wuyal (the sugarbag man), an important ancestral being in Northeast Arnhem Land. The concert culminates with Gustav Mahler's transcendent Symphony No. 4, a thrilling work exploring life in all its splendour.

### MUSIC

**The Playhouse,  
Darwin Entertainment Centre**



Date & Time Sat 23 Aug 7.30pm

Duration 2hrs including interval

Tickets \$22 – \$65

Photo: Adnan Reza

**Presented by Darwin Symphony Orchestra**



# SHAMROCK TENORS

Take a journey to the Emerald Isle with Shamrock Tenors. Enjoy the classics like 'Whiskey in the Jar', 'The Parting Glass', 'Wild Rover' and, of course, 'Danny Boy', all performed in beautiful five-part harmony. Filled with Irish charm, stellar vocals and electrifying performance, you're invited to experience the music of Ireland like never before!

### MUSIC

**The Playhouse,  
Darwin Entertainment Centre**



Date & Time Sun 17 Aug 7.30pm

Duration 2hrs including interval

Tickets \$49.90 – \$94.90

Photo: Danny Kaan

**Presented by Andrew Kay & Associates**

**"BEAUTIFUL HARMONIES AND A  
TYPICALLY IRISH SENSE OF FUN!"**

**THE IRISH NEWS**





# ARAFURA MUSIC COLLECTIVE

## THE BRIDGE OF DREAMS

*The Bridge of Dreams* by Arafura Music Collective is a transcendent chamber music performance of profound contemplation. Featuring Australian composers, Karyn Sassella's poetry and Paz Tassone's visuals, it explores birth, love, ageing and life's fleeting nature, framed by the natural cycles of the Gulumoerrgin calendar. Embrace life's transient moments with grace and appreciation.

### MUSIC

**Brown's Mart Theatre**



Date & Times Sun 17 Aug 2pm & 6pm

Duration 50mins

Tickets \$39.10 – \$46

Photo: Paz Tassone



# SENSORIUM THEATRE

## WONDERBOX

Sensorium Theatre, Australia's leading theatre company for young audiences with disability and their friends, invites children to explore a magical, multi-sensory wonderland. Inside a giant puzzle-box, kooky-carnival friends lead you through fantastical projections, tiny delights and live music, celebrating every child's curiosity with wondrous surprises and opportunities to discover their magical selves.

### FAMILY

**Studio Theatre,  
Darwin Entertainment Centre**



Dates & Times Fri 8 Aug 5.30pm  
Sat 9 Aug 10am & 1pm

Duration 1hr

Tickets \$25

Photo: Jessica Wyld

**NOTE** *Wonderbox* is an inclusive show and each performance will be adapted based on the access requirements of individual audience members. Suitable for ages 8+

Proudly supported by





## THE LAST GREAT HUNT NIGHT NIGHT

See a theatrical film created live each night through a blend of puppets, animation and DIY digital magic. Highly visual and playfully cinematic, the newest creation from The Last Great Hunt tells the heartwarming story of life, death and other dimensions. Downtrodden Antarctic scientist Pip must team up with a mysterious, glowing entity to reveal the threads that bind life, death and the universe.

### THEATRE

#### Brown's Mart Theatre



Dates & Times Wed 13 & Thu 14 Aug 6pm  
Fri 15 Aug 5pm & 7.45pm  
Sat 16 Aug 2pm & 7.45pm

Duration 55mins

Tickets \$39.10 – \$46

Photo: Dan Grant

**NOTE** Contains strobe and loud noises. Suitable for ages 15+



## PONY CAM COLLECTIVE BURNOUT PARADISE

Four performers mount four treadmills. What begins as a simple wager between performer and audience becomes a desperate attempt to complete a series of escalating tasks that confront the limitations of the performer's bodies, spirits and minds. *Burnout Paradise* is a delusional and physical celebration of our collective struggle to establish clear boundaries in our lives.

### THEATRE

#### Brown's Mart Theatre



Dates & Times Thu 21 & Fri 22 Aug 8pm  
Sat 23 Aug 2pm & 8pm  
Sun 24 Aug 6pm

Duration 1hr

Tickets \$39.10 – \$46

Photo: Cameron Grant

**NOTE** Contains haze effects and coarse language.  
Suitable for ages 12+



## CROWN AND COUNTRY

Step into a world of profound beauty and extraordinary ceremonial knowledge. *Crown and Country* is a collaboration between Warlpiri philosopher, teacher and visionary Wanta Jampijinpa Pawu-Kurlpurlurnu and composer Marc “Monkey” Peckham, alongside Wanta’s father, First Contact elder Jerry Jangala Patrick OAM. Together, they translate deep intergenerational cultural knowledge into an unforgettable immersive experience of film and music, inviting you to gain a deeper understanding of belonging, connection and responsibility to Country.

### WORLD PREMIERE // FILM

#### Brown’s Mart Theatre



Dates & Times	Sat 9 & Sun 10 Aug Various times visit <a href="http://darwinfestival.org.au">darwinfestival.org.au</a> for details
Duration	1hr
Tickets	\$22

Photo: James Gillot



## KULTAR AHLUWALIA THE MIXED-RACE TAPE

Hip hop artist Kultar Ahluwalia blends hip hop with old recordings, family interviews and spoken word to explore identity, masculinity, mixed marriage and fatherhood. Kultar delves into his Punjabi heritage and upbringing, revealing the miraculous steps that connect us all.

### THEATRE // MUSIC

#### Brown’s Mart Theatre



Dates & Times	Wed 6 & Thu 7 Aug 8pm Fri 8 Aug 6.30pm & 8.30pm
Duration	1hr
Tickets	\$25 – \$46

Photo: Paul Charles Bartlett

**NOTE** Suitable for ages 12+

**Presented by Darwin Festival and Nexus Arts**

“THE MOST NUANCED AND  
DYNAMIC HIP HOP GIG.”

INDAILY

**BUY TICKETS** [darwinfestival.org.au](http://darwinfestival.org.au) | Transaction fees apply





## TRICKSY COLLINS ASSIGNED MAGICIAN AT BIRTH

Join queer femme comedian Tricksy on a journey through hilarious yet mind boggling stage illusions, quick-witted sketches and an eye-opening look into the world of magic from her unique perspective.

**COMEDY // MAGIC**

**Brown's Mart Studio**



Dates & Times Wed 6 – Thu 7 Aug & Sat 9 Aug 8.15pm  
Fri 8 Aug 8.45pm

Duration 1hr

Tickets \$30.60 – \$36

Photo: Frenchie Holiday



## SEX TOY STORY

In Pip O'Shea's hilarious, educational, steamy night for everyone (over 18, that is!) questions will be answered, curiosities will be satisfied and you will get a good time – don't get too excited, we just mean the show.

**COMEDY**

**Brown's Mart Studio**



Dates & Times Wed 13 – Sat 16 Aug 8pm

Duration 1hr

Tickets \$30.60 – \$36

Photo: Iona Francis

**NOTE** Strictly 18+



## HOT DEPARTMENT

Hot Department is a festival staple renowned for their unforgettable sketch comedy. Australia's most cherished failed actors, Honor and Pat, have cemented themselves in the alternative comedy scene with their unique brand of unhinged, cinematic stupidity and stupid hot comedy.

**COMEDY**

**Brown's Mart Studio**



Dates & Times Wed 13 – Sat 16 Aug 6.15pm

Duration 1hr

Tickets \$30.60 – \$36

**NOTE** Suitable for ages 15+



# DARWINVISION

Six local acts represent their suburbs in a dazzling, fierce competition for the title of Best Suburb. Expect an electrifying night of dance, burlesque, comedy and spectacle celebrating local talent with friendly rivalry. Who will reign supreme? You decide!

## COMEDY // CABARET

Brown's Mart Studio		🌀
Dates & Times		Wed 6 – Thu 7 Aug & Sat 9 Aug 6pm Fri 8 Aug 7pm
Duration		50mins
Tickets		💖 \$30.60 – \$36



## WRIGHT & GRAINGER HELIOS

*Helios* transplants the Ancient Greek tale into a modern-day myth wound round the winding roads of rural England and into the everyday living of a towering city. This is a story about life and about the invisible monuments we build to it.

### THEATRE

Brown's Mart Studio		🌀
Dates & Times		Wed 20 – Fri 22 Aug 5.45pm Sat 23 Aug 4pm
Duration		1hr 10mins
Tickets		💖 \$30.60 – \$36

Photo: Late Cut Media



## WRIGHT & GRAINGER ORPHEUS

A tale of impossible, death defying love told through hair raising spoken word and soaring soulful music. *Orpheus* weaves a world of dive bars, side streets and ancient gods into a story about love and how far you'll go to get it back.

### THEATRE

Brown's Mart Studio		🌀
Dates & Times		Wed 20 Aug 8pm Thu 21 – Sat 23 Aug 7.45pm
Duration		1hr 15mins
Tickets		💖 \$30.60 – \$36

# RHONDA'S AFTER PARTY

**This is *Rhonda's After Party* – and you're on the guest list**

Step into a wild night of glamour, circus, music and cheeky comedy in *Rhonda's After Party*, a seductive, adults-only variety show hosted by Australian entertainment icon Rhonda Burchmore OAM.

We all know Rhonda from television and the world stage, but how often do you get invited to an after party at her place? This immersive romp is part cabaret, part circus and all outrageous fun. Audiences get up close and personal with Rhonda and her friends like they've never been allowed before!

A party platter of risqué performances, belly laughs and sexy surprises – dress up, drink up and come in darl!

## CABARET

### INPEX Sunset Stage



Dates & Times

Fri 8 Aug 8pm  
Sat 9 & Sun 10 Aug 7pm

Duration

1hr

Tickets

♥ \$42.50 – \$50

Photo: Damien Bredberg

**NOTE** Seated performance. Contains nudity, strobe lighting, haze effects, coarse language and adult themes. Strictly 18+

"RHONDA BURCHMORE IS A TRUE  
MASTER OF HER ARTS AND AN  
ABSOLUTE LIVING LEGEND."

GLAM ADELAIDE







"A PERFECT BLEND OF  
AWE, LAUGHTER AND  
PLENTY OF HUGE GASPS  
FROM THE AUDIENCE."

THE LIST (UK)

# SUHANI SHAH

## SPELLBOUND

### Let go of logic and let Suhani take over

Suhani Shah is the world's most subscribed mentalist, with over four million YouTube subscribers and two million Instagram followers.

Suhani has been performing on stage since she was just seven years old, presenting over 5,000 shows in the following two decades. A certified superstar in the magic industry, she regularly tours to packed stadiums and has wowed some of the biggest names in entertainment and sport with her skills.

With her charm, incredible knowledge of human behaviour and unparalleled skills in mind reading, Suhani will have the audiences on their feet in utter amazement.

### MAGIC

#### INPEX Sunset Stage



Dates & Times  
Fri 15 Aug 6.45pm  
Sat 16 Aug 7pm  
Sun 17 Aug 7pm & 8.45pm

Duration  
1hr 10mins

Tickets  
♥ \$42.50 – \$50

**NOTE** Seated performance. Suitable for ages 12+

Proudly supported by

hunt&hunt  
lawyers

**BUY TICKETS** [darwinfestival.org.au](http://darwinfestival.org.au) | Transaction fees apply



# OPERA QUEENSLAND ARE YOU LONESOME TONIGHT

## A foot-stomping, heart-stirring celebration of country music and opera

*Are You Lonesome Tonight* is a unique performance that bridges two musical worlds, featuring arias and songs by Bizet, Verdi, Slim Dusty, Troy Cassar-Daley and Dolly Parton.

Young Australian singers Gabrielle Diaz, Marcus Corowa and Jonathan Hickey perform with soaring harmonies, masterful musicianship and an irresistible energy. Join us for an unforgettable night of music – by the finale, you'll be on your feet cheering for more!

Come in your shorts and thongs, or your tuxedos and ballgowns. This is opera like you've never seen it before – bold, adventurous and full of heart.

## MUSIC // CABARET

### INPEX Sunset Stage



Dates & Times

Tue 12 – Thu 14 Aug 7pm

Duration

1hr

Tickets

♥ \$42.50 – \$50

Photo: Dylan Evans

**NOTE** Seated performance.



“EMMA DONOVAN IS ONE OF THOSE VOICES THAT STOPS YOU IN YOUR TRACKS – SOULFUL, POWERFUL AND DEEPLY MOVING.”

ROLLING STONE AUSTRALIA

# EMMA DONOVAN

## TAKE ME TO THE RIVER

**Join one of Australia’s most powerful voices on a journey through the heart of soul, gospel and rhythm and blues**

In *Take Me To The River*, Emma Donovan reimagines timeless songs made famous by legends like Sam Cooke, Al Green, Aretha Franklin and Ann Peebles, blending them with her own spirit and story. Backed by a world-class band, Emma brings raw emotion and deep groove to every note, celebrating music that speaks to love, hope, struggle and joy. From soaring anthems to tender ballads, this is a powerful tribute to the river of soul music that continues to flow through generations.

A night of music, meaning and heart – where every song is a story and every story finds its song. Backed by a powerhouse band, this is soul music reimagined, powerful and personal.

### WORLD PREMIERE // MUSIC

INPEX Sunset Stage



Dates & Times	Thu 7 Aug 7pm Fri 8 Aug 6pm
Duration	1hr
Tickets	\$25 – \$50

Photo: Ian Laidlaw

**NOTE** Seated performance.





# MELANIE BRACEWELL

## A LITTLE TREAT

Bad day? Time for a little treat. Good day? I think that deserves a little treat. With the end of her 20s rapidly approaching, Melanie Bracewell unpacks the last decade of her life. You've seen her on the tele, now treat yourself to her latest live offering.

### COMEDY

#### INPEX Sunset Stage



Date & Time Fri 22 Aug 7pm

Duration 1hr

Tickets \$40.80 – \$48

Photo: Emma Holland

**NOTE** Seated performance. Contains coarse language.  
Suitable for ages 15+

# RHYS NICHOLSON

## HUGE BIG PARTY CONGRATULATIONS

On this, the year of our Lord 2025, it's a brand-new stand-up comedy concert from your ol' pal Rhys Nicholson. Winner of Most Outstanding Show at the 2022 Melbourne International Comedy Festival, this is an evening of hilarious madness you won't want to miss.

### COMEDY

#### INPEX Sunset Stage



Date & Time Thu 7 Aug 8.45pm

Duration 1hr 15mins

Tickets \$40.80 – \$48

Photo: Monica Pronk

**NOTE** Seated performance. Contains coarse language.  
Suitable for ages 15+





# ANISA NANDAULA

## YOU CAN'T SAY THAT

Anisa Nandaula invites you to explore the hilariously complex world of being a Black girl in Australia. With a sharp wit and relatable anecdotes, Anisa reflects on her journey from Uganda to Rockhampton, where she anticipated a multicultural paradise but instead found cows and cultural confusion.

### COMEDY

#### INPEX Sunset Stage



Date & Time Tue 12 Aug 8.45pm

Duration 1hr

Tickets \$25 – \$48

Photo: Emma Holland

**NOTE** Seated performance. Contains coarse language.  
Suitable for ages 15+

# DAVE HUGHES

## WTF?

Lately comedy legend Dave Hughes has been saying "WTF?" more than ever, and he's created an entire new show around it. With his natural charm and unmistakably Australian humour, Hughsey is a master of stand-up comedy with a unique talent for transforming everyday mishaps into uproarious routines. Don't miss this hilariously unforgettable evening of laughter.

### COMEDY

#### INPEX Sunset Stage



Date & Time Tue 19 Aug 7pm

Duration 1hr

Tickets \$40.80 – \$48

Photo: Ian Laidlaw

**NOTE** Seated performance. Contains coarse language.  
Suitable for ages 15+



**BUY TICKETS** [darwinfestival.org.au](https://darwinfestival.org.au) | Transaction fees apply



# JUDE PERL TRIES TO FINISH A SENTENCE

Talking is hard! And no one knows that better than multi-award-winning singer, songwriter and comedian Jude Perl. Even just choosing the words can be a complete nightmare! Did you know that not everyone agrees with each other about things? In this brand-new show, Jude faces their greatest challenge to date – making one definitive statement.

## COMEDY

### INPEX Sunset Stage



Date & Time Sun 24 Aug 7pm

Duration 1hr

Tickets  \$40.80 – \$48

Photo: Nick Manuell

**NOTE** Seated performance. Contains coarse language, political, religious or racial themes and sudden loud noises. Suitable for ages 15+

# A NIGHT OF ROCK AND ROLL WITH BOGAN VILLEA

With big hair and even bigger energy Bogan Villea (aka Ben Graetz) and a powerhouse line-up of guests crank up the volume in this high-voltage night of Aussie rock anthems with a uniquely Blak and bogan twist.

## WORLD PREMIERE // CABARET

### INPEX Sunset Stage



Dates & Times Wed 13 & Thu 14 Aug 9pm

Duration 1hr

Tickets   \$25 – \$48

Photo: Oliver Eclipse

Proudly supported by

**NOTE** Seated performance. Suitable for ages 15+

**PowerWater**







## SHALOM KAA PURPLE PLASTIC MĀORI: HOMECOMING

Don't want to be Māori, gay or Asian-looking? Turn life into a cabaret! Shalom's award-winning autobiographical show returns home with live band, dancers, special guests, Kapa Haka (with poi!) and the singalong of all singalongs!

### CABARET

#### INPEX Sunset Stage



Date & Time Sat 23 Aug 7pm

Duration 1hr

Tickets \$25 – \$48

**NOTE** Seated performance. Contains occasional course language and references to bullying and drug addiction. Suitable for ages 12+

## DOM CHAMBERS A BOY AND HIS DECK

Dom Chambers' unconventional approach to magic has flown him around the globe, made him an online sensation and landed him on a Broadway stage. *A Boy and His Deck* is his coming-of-age story. Laugh, gasp and blush – this is comedy and magic with a devilish twist.

### MAGIC // COMEDY

#### INPEX Sunset Stage



Dates & Times Wed 20 & Thu 21 Aug 9pm

Duration 1hr

Tickets \$40.80 – \$48

Photo: Monica Pronk

**NOTE** Seated performance. Contains coarse language and sexual references. Suitable for ages 15+





# CONVERSATIONS LIVE

With Sarah Kanowski and Richard Fidler

Join Sarah Kanowski and Richard Fidler, the voices behind the ABC's most-loved podcast, for a rare night on stage. Expect captivating tales, unexpected insights and a few special guests along the way.

## WORDS & IDEAS

**INPEX Sunset Stage**



Date & Time Thu 21 Aug 7pm

Duration 1hr

Tickets \$40.80 – \$48

Photo: Daniel Boud

**NOTE** Seated performance. Contains occasional coarse language and adult themes. Suitable for ages 15+

# JOHN SAFRAN

## SQUATTING AT KANYE'S AND OTHER ADVENTURES

Discovering Kanye West is praising Adolf Hitler, John Safran heads to America to find out what's up and ends up squatting at one of Kanye's LA mansions. Alone with his thoughts, John finds himself becoming more paranoid each day, reflecting on past adventures and wondering whether he went too far.

## WORDS & IDEAS // COMEDY

**INPEX Sunset Stage**



Date & Time Sun 10 Aug 8.45pm

Duration 1hr

Tickets \$40.80 – \$48

**NOTE** Seated performance. Contains coarse language and adult themes. Suitable for ages 15+





# NO PLACE LIKE HOME

Charlie King and Lisa Pellegrino take you on a journey home through a night of heart-warming storytelling and live music. *No Place Like Home* explores themes of home, identity and belonging – and how this can mean many things to many people. Guests include Les Huddleston Lipwurrunga, Melanie Mununggurr, Dave Garnham and more.

## WORDS & IDEAS

### INPEX Sunset Stage



Date & Time Tue 19 Aug 8.45pm

Duration 1hr

Tickets \$29.75 – \$35

Photo: (A)manda Parkinson

**NOTE** Seated performance.

# GILL HICKS STILL ALIVE (AND KICKING)

London terrorist bombings survivor Gill Hicks explores the wonder of knowing life through facing death; how the lows make the highs even higher! Laugh, maybe cry or sit and ponder as Gill shares experiences full of insight and wisdom told through gripping narrative, jazz favourites and stunning projections.

## CABARET // WORDS & IDEAS

### INPEX Sunset Stage



Dates & Times Wed 20 Aug 7pm

Duration 1hr

Tickets \$40.80 – \$48

Photo: Lauren Finch

**NOTE** Seated performance.



**BUY TICKETS** [darwinfestival.org.au](http://darwinfestival.org.au) | Transaction fees apply





## MONSKI MOUSE'S BABY DISCO DANCE HALL

*Monski Mouse's Baby Disco Dance Hall* is the ultimate retro-fabulous party for 0 – 5s and their grown-ups, hosted by DJ Monski Mouse and her Monski Mouse Dancers.

Expect to do some high-energy smiling to retro hits, pop favourites and thumping nursery rhymes as heads and shoulders, knees and toes bop 'til they drop. It's THE must-do event for young families at the Festival.

### FAMILY // MUSIC

#### INPEX Sunset Stage



Date & Time Sat 23 Aug 5.15pm

Duration 55mins

Tickets \$20 – \$28

Photo: Damien Bredberg

**NOTE** Seated performance. Suitable for ages 0 – 5.



## WHISTLING KITE NEW MUSIC DALBA GULWA

Written by Senior Larrakia Elder Dr Aunty Bilawara Lee and Netanela Mizrahi, *Dalba Gulwa* features songs written for our children, and children everywhere, to hear and learn the sounds of Larrakia language. Bring your darrandirra (family) and sing along with the choir like the Bilawara galuma-gag, gay danggal (Red-tailed black cockatoo flies, calling out with its strong voice).

### FAMILY // MUSIC

#### INPEX Sunset Stage



Date & Time Fri 22 Aug 5.15pm

Duration 45mins

Tickets \$25 – \$35

Photo: Paz Tassone

**NOTE** Seated performance. Suitable for all ages.



## WARUMUNGU ELDERS WITH DR SHELLIE MORRIS AO SINGING FOR OUR LITTLE ONES

*Singing for our Little Ones*, the Warumungu children's album, is part of a powerful cultural project keeping the Warumungu language alive. Created by Warumungu language custodians and Dr. Shellie Morris AO, hear songs that celebrate Country, language and culture, ensuring future generations can learn, sing and connect.

### FAMILY // MUSIC



INPEX Sunset Stage 	
Date & Time	Sat 9 Aug 5.15pm
Duration	45mins
Tickets	 \$25 – \$35

Photo: Shauna Upton


**NOTE** Seated performance. Suitable for all ages.



## THE LITTLE RED COMPANY I LIKE TO MOVIE, MOVIE

Experience all your favourite musical movie moments in a high-energy show that's perfect for a family sing-along! Featuring a soundtrack from iconic family classics like *The Lion King*, *Shrek*, *Matilda*, *Aladdin*, *Frozen*, *Hairspray*, *Madagascar* and more, this is the ultimate party playlist brought to life on stage delivering hit after hit from your family's favourite films.

### FAMILY // MUSIC

INPEX Sunset Stage 	
Date & Time	Sat 16 Aug 5.15pm
Duration	1hr
Tickets	 \$25 – \$35

**NOTE** Seated performance. Suitable for all ages.

INPEX Sunset Stage family events  
proudly supported by





# DARWIN PORT BANDSTAND

## Your free live music fix in Festival Park

Meet friends and family for a bite to eat and enjoy a nightly musical showcase of the many cultures of this city.

Settle in for smooth tunes from musical mover and shaker Erin Conart and her band The Conartists, get down to The Gleny Rae Virus Band's lively interpretations of country, rockabilly and western swing classics, enjoy a showcase of culture and arts from our sister cities at Sister Cities Soiree or dance, groove and feel the pulse of Latin energy with Fiesta.

LAUNCH x Darwin Festival showcases incredible local young talent, Ngarukuruwala Group share music, dance and culture from the Tiwi Islands and Camp Dog bring the rock n roll party to the Park!

## MUSIC

### Festival Park



Dates

Thu 7 – Sun 24 Aug  
(no shows Mondays)

See [darwinfestival.org.au](http://darwinfestival.org.au)  
for line-up and set times

Photo: Charlie Bliss

Proudly supported by





# KOLSEN TWILIGHT PLAYGROUND



## AMIGO & AMIGO TRUMPET FLOWERS

### Trumpet Flowers are blooming in Festival Park!

Explore a vivid, interactive world of light and sound, inspired by the charm of vintage gramophones. As a vibrant jungle of light, colour and sound bursts forth like a symphony of nature, meander and explore this floral forest and activate your own spectacular light show accompanied by a mesmerising score. Everyone is invited to enjoy this enchanting musical garden in our Kolsen Twilight Playground.

#### SPECIAL EVENT

##### Festival Park



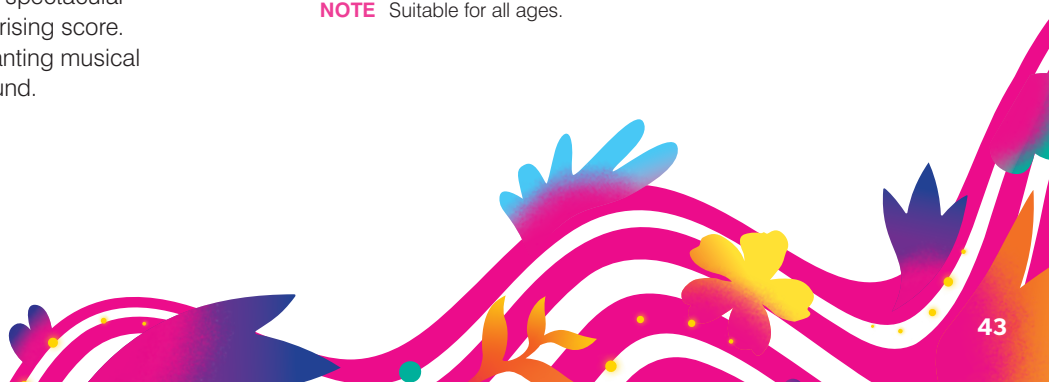
##### Dates & Times

Thu 7 – Sun 24 Aug  
Tue – Sun 5 – 9pm  
(closed Mondays)

**NOTE** Suitable for all ages.

Proudly supported by

## Kolsen



# FESTIVAL FOOD

**Embark on a mouthwatering adventure at Festival Park. Our line-up of local culinary legends serve up irresistible dishes that capture the essence of the Territory**

Get ready to eat your way around the world at Festival Park this year! Discover an eclectic mix of flavours that matches the diversity of Darwin – from bold Asian fusions to zesty Mexican bites, authentic Italian pizza and vibrant African delicacies. Whether you're craving Thai classics from **Hugs Panim**, legendary noodle salads from **Three Mum's Kitchen** or the tasty **Mr Minucci** burgers, there's something to tantalise every taste bud.

Crowd favourite **Hanuman** is back, bringing their signature spice-packed dishes, while we welcome newcomers **Flora's Temper Mexicantina** to add a fresh twist to festival dining. The taste of Africa from **Christine's Exotic Eats** will delight the senses, while **Bamboo Lounge** offers Southeast Asian-inspired creations filled with love and local produce.

As for enjoying a wood-fired pizza from **Cucina sotto le Stelle** under the festoon lights? That's a Festival tradition! For a sweet finish, **Trampoline Gelato** has you covered, with exclusive Festival flavours guaranteed to make you smile (and go back for seconds).

Festival Park is the place to feast, mingle and soak up the energy of Darwin Festival. With so many delicious options made with locally sourced ingredients and plenty of creative flair, every bite is a celebration of culture, community and culinary artistry. Come hungry and leave happy!



Photos: Elise Derwin





**SCAN HERE FOR  
MORE FOOD INFO!**

[darwinfestival.org.au](http://darwinfestival.org.au)

Proudly supported by MatarazzIR





# HEY DJ

## A HIP HOP PARTY JAM

A body movin' celebration that is part-education, part-nostalgic and all party! Starring acclaimed DJ YO! MAFIA alongside talented MCs, vocalists and dancers, witness this celebration of hip hop's best party jams throughout the years, inspired by the block party that started it all in 1973.

### MUSIC // DANCE

#### INPEX Sunset Stage



Date & Time Fri 8 Aug 9.30pm

Duration 1hr 15mins

Tickets \$40.80 – \$48

Photo: Helen Page

**NOTE** Standing event. Limited seating available. Your ticket gains you entry to *Club Awi* (18+) after the show.

# PLAYLUNCH

Forged in a Melbourne share house during lockdown, Playlunch blends late '90s and early 2000s Aussie nostalgia with retro dance vibes to create their own self-described 'Bogan Funk' sound. Since their 2022 debut, they've skyrocketed with viral TikToks, triple j plays and sell-out shows. Expect a whole new flavour of bangers and a big hit of nostalgia.

### MUSIC

#### INPEX Sunset Stage



Date & Time Sat 9 Aug 9pm

Duration 1hr

Tickets \$40.80 – \$48

Photo: BAKED

**NOTE** Standing event. Limited seating available. Your ticket gains you entry to *Club Awi* (18+) after the show.





# MEGANESIA

Join us for a celebration of the shared connections in culture, history and art with our Pacific and Torres Strait Island neighbours. Expect fresh young talent direct from the streets of Port Moresby alongside First Nations rappers and vocalists, traditional and contemporary dancers backed by phenomenal musicians. This is the future sound of Papua, Zenadth Kez and Yolŋu.

## MUSIC // DANCE

### INPEX Sunset Stage



Date & Time Fri 15 Aug 9pm

Duration 1hr


Tickets   \$25 – \$48

Photo: Claudia Sangiorgi Dalimore

**NOTE** Standing event. Limited seating available. Your ticket gains you entry to *Club Awi* (18+) after the show.

# WAFIA

Soulfully sweet pop artist Wafia brings her raw emotion and powerful performance to Darwin. Linking concepts of vulnerability and hope with nature, she shares songs from her long-awaited debut album *Promised Land*. Her exceptional understanding of the human condition is what sets Wafia, who identifies as both Arab and queer, apart from other pop acts.

## MUSIC

### INPEX Sunset Stage



Date & Time Sat 16 Aug 9pm

Duration 1hr

Tickets  \$40.80 – \$48

**NOTE** Standing event. Limited seating available. Your ticket gains you entry to *Club Awi* (18+) after the show.







## GO-JO

Fresh off the back of representing Australia in the 2025 Eurovision Song Contest with the song 'Milkshake Man', Go-Jo brings his infectious energy to Darwin. Known for his massive singalongs and undeniable charisma, this show promises to be an unmissable experience. Get ready for a night of high-energy anthems and surprise moments!

### MUSIC

#### INPEX Sunset Stage



Date & Time Fri 22 Aug 9pm

Duration 1hr

Tickets \$40.80 – \$48

Photo: Jeremy Kees Orr

**NOTE** All ages show. Standing event. Limited seating available. Your ticket gains you entry to *Club Awi* (18+) after the show.

## MISS KANINNA

A proud Yorta Yorta, Dja Dja Wurrung, Kalkadoon and Yirendali woman, Miss Kaninna has been commanding stages from a young age, carrying forward the storytelling of her ancestors and fearlessly bringing them into the present. Floating effortlessly between hip-hop, neo-soul and R&B, Miss Kaninna arrives as a potent force of punk and power.

### MUSIC

#### INPEX Sunset Stage



Date & Time Sat 23 Aug 9pm

Duration 1hr

Tickets \$25 – \$48

Photo: Michelle Grace Hunder

**NOTE** Standing event. Limited seating available. Your ticket gains you entry to *Club Awi* (18+) after the show.







# CLUB AWII

## Club Awi 2025 – the year of local, national and international collabs

This *Club Awi* we're bringing everyone together to get the party really pumping! Our line-up is serving some core Darwin heavies in the mix with the fresh bloods coming through, to present flavas you've never heard before. From Kununurra to Palmo, Bali to Katherine, Nightcliff to Wurrumiyanga, we've got you covered. We'll also be graced with some Larrakia visuals curated by Mikaela Lee and we're leveling up in the realm of performances and MCs as our cherries on top.

Every Friday and Saturday night after our late music gigs, the decks will ignite with killer mixes – think afro grooves colliding with moombahton and baile-funk, bootscootin' boogies through to disco glam, and a seamless flow from classic R&B booty bounce / jersey to fresh new school hip hop across house and footwerk. It's going to be a proper Darwin sonic feast!

Get your tickets at the door or stick around after your INPEX Sunset Stage late show for free entry.

## LATE NIGHT // MUSIC

### INPEX Sunset Stage



Dates & Times                      Fri 8 Aug 10.45pm – 2am  
Sat 9 – Sat 23 Aug 10pm – 2am

Fri 8 Aug                                      DJ RIOT  
+ Mista Monk

Sat 9 Aug                                      Laundry Gallery x  
Country Struts Hoedown  
+ BENNYGOLD

Fri 15 Aug                                      Future Roots  
+ DJ JEM w/ Afro House United

Sat 16 Aug                                      Peachy Party

Fri 22 Aug                                      Croc Records

Sat 23 Aug                                      2Lubly

Tickets                                      ♥ \$15 at the door

Photo: Elise Derwin

**NOTE** Strictly 18+

# MUSIC AT THE RAILS

Darwin's favourite year-round live music venue hosts three unmissable, high-energy gigs this Festival



## MUSIC

### Darwin Railway Club

## MULGA BORE HARD ROCK

Meet Mulga Bore Hard Rock. This six-piece band of family members from Akaye (Mulga Bore), two hours northeast of Alice Springs, bring their own style of GLAM hard rock.

Date & Time Fri 8 Aug doors 7.30pm



Tickets   \$25 – \$42

Photo: J Caswell

**Presented by Darwin Festival, Artback NT and Darwin Railway Club**

## PARTY DOZEN

Doom. Jazz. Hardcore. Psychedelic. No-wave. Industrial. Exactly what this sonic duo of saxophonist Kirsty Tickle and percussionist Jonathan Boulet are is up to the listener.

Date & Time Sat 16 Aug doors 7.30pm


Tickets  \$35.70 – \$42

Photo: Roger Deckker

**Presented by Darwin Festival and Darwin Railway Club**

## AMIGO THE DEVIL

In the vast realm of modern folk and alternative rock, USA's Amigo The Devil channels a voice of unsettling beauty and raw truth. His sound is all heart, with reckless abandon.

Date & Time Sun 17 Aug doors 7pm

Tickets \$59.90

Photo: Visions of the Abyss

**Presented by Destroy All Lines**



# WHISTLING KITE NEW MUSIC HOME

In the idyllic setting of the George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens, Whistling Kite New Music presents a stunning new program of contemporary chamber music. Featuring music by Pulitzer Prize winner Caroline Shaw and original work by Whistling Kite New Music members Nick Yates and Netanela Mizrahi, *Home* asks us all to find new ways to see and hear the places we call home.

## MUSIC

Visitor & Event Centre,  
George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens



Date & Time	Sun 10 Aug 5.15pm
Duration	1hr
Tickets	♥ \$37.40 – \$44

Photo: Paz Tassone



# TRACKS DANCE COMPANY ANTIDOTE A REMEDY FOR NOW

Beneath the spirit-filled Milkwood trees on The Esplanade, this free event celebrates the people of Darwin, inviting all to witness movement shaped by our collective stories. Created by Rachael Wallis, Jenelle Saunders, David McMicken, James Mangohig and Alyson Evans, *ANTIDOTE* is a suite of offerings, including a listening party and storytelling evening. Find out more online.

## WORLD PREMIERE // DANCE

The Esplanade



Date & Time	Sun 17 Aug 6pm
Duration	45mins
FREE (registration required)	

Photo: Duane Preston

**NOTE** Bring a picnic blanket. Suitable for all ages.

**Presented by Tracks Dance Company in association with Darwin Festival**





# CITY OF DARWIN TEDDY BEARS' PICNIC

***City of Darwin Teddy Bears' Picnic is back – bigger, brighter and bursting with fun!***

Grab your favourite teddy, round up the fam and head to The Esplanade for one of the best days on the Darwin calendar for kids (and their grown-ups too). It's free, it's fabulous and it's a tradition!

Step into the magical world of *Nylon Zoo*, where our littlest creatives can dress up as their favourite animals, parade with their pack and explore giant inflatable habitats. Get silly at the *Little Ravers Disco* (bubbles! confetti! bangers!) and boogie with DJ Guru Dudu's joyful silent disco. With face painting, interactive art and a huge range of fun-filled stalls for kids to explore, there's something around every corner to keep the little ones entertained.

## SPECIAL EVENT // FAMILY

**The Esplanade**



Date & Time

Sun 10 Aug 9am – 12pm

FREE

Photo: Elise Derwin

**NOTE** Suitable for all ages.

Proudly supported by



# ARC CIRCUS HOW THE BIRDS GOT THEIR COLOURS

**A living, breathing work of art that  
tells a powerful dreamtime story**

Experience the magic of *How The Birds Got Their Colours*, an Indigenous-led performance blending traditional First Nations dance, storytelling and contemporary circus in a visually stunning outdoor spectacle for the whole family.

Featuring Yugambeh Elder Luther Cora and Arc Circus, this breathtaking work brings a Dreamtime story to life, celebrating cultural connection, identity and the beauty of diversity.

## **CIRCUS // FAMILY**

**Museum and Art Gallery  
of the Northern Territory**



Dates & Times

Wed 13 – Fri 15 Aug 5pm  
Sat 16 & Sun 17 Aug 10am & 5pm

Duration

45mins

Tickets

♥ \$25 – \$35

Photo: Lexi Spooner

**NOTE** Suitable for all ages.

**Presented by Darwin Festival and  
Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory**



ACROSS DARWIN



# CREEK CONNECTIONS

Discover the stories of Darwin's creeks with Landcare NT. Through audio journeys, creekside walks, community dinners, films and conversations, you're invited to explore the culture, ecology and care of Rapid, Sandy, Ludmilla and Mitchell Creeks.

## SPECIAL EVENT

Various venues, dates & times,  
visit [darwinfestival.org.au](http://darwinfestival.org.au) for details

FREE

Photo: Emily Raso

**Presented by Landcare NT**



# STELLA DAY OUT

You're invited to the inaugural *Stella Day Out* in Darwin. This free literary festival celebrates and promotes the outstanding contributions of women and non-binary writers to Australian literature. Over two one-hour sessions, hear from past Stella-winning and nominated authors about their work and what inspired it.

## WORDS & IDEAS

### Library & Archives NT

Date & Times Wed 13 Aug 5.30pm & 7pm

Duration 1hr

FREE

Photo: Sally Tsoutas

**Presented by Stella**





## ABC RADIO DARWIN'S HAPPY HOUR IN THE SPIEGELTENT

Join Liz Trevaskis, host of ABC Radio Darwin Drive, broadcasting all the Festival fun live from The Spiegeltent stage. Expect exclusive performances, behind-the-scenes stories and a sneak peek at some of the must-see shows. Secure your spot in the audience or tune in live on your radio or online.

### SPECIAL EVENT

**The Spiegeltent, Sitzler Festival Lawn,  
in front of Parliament House**



Date & Time Thu 14 Aug 4pm

Duration 2hrs

FREE (bookings required)

Photo: Elise Derwin

Proudly supported by



## TROY CASSAR-DALEY A JOURNEY BETWEEN THE FIRES

Join Troy Cassar-Daley for an exclusive screening with a Q&A and songs to kick off the night! *A Journey Between the Fires* is a deeply personal and compelling story following award-winning singer-songwriter Troy Cassar-Daley as he navigates through profound grief and sadness to embark on his most challenging and rewarding album to date.

### FILM // MUSIC

#### Deckchair Cinema

Date & Time Thu 7 Aug 6.15pm  
Gates open 5.45pm

Duration 3hrs

Tickets \$25 – \$40

**Presented by Darwin Festival and Deckchair Cinema**

# SCHOOLS PROGRAM

**You're never too young to start loving the arts!**

That's why we're bringing artistic adventures to schools across Darwin and offering students of all ages the chance to experience the wonder of the theatre at a schools performance.

Visit [darwinfestival.org.au/schools](http://darwinfestival.org.au/schools) for all the details and to book for your school.

## **Duck Pond (p21)**

Fri 22 Aug 11am

## **How the Birds Got their Colours (p53)**

Wed 13 – Fri 15 Aug 10am

## **Illume (p22)**

Fri 15 & Sat 16 Aug 7.30pm

## **The Mixed-Race Tape (p27)**

Thu 7 Aug 11am

## **Night Night (p26)**

Thu 14 Aug 11am

## **POD (see [darwinfestival.org.au](http://darwinfestival.org.au) for details)**

Thu 7 & Fri 8 Aug 9.30am & 11.30am

Mon 11 Aug 9.30am

## **Wonderbox (p25)**

Wed 6 & Thu 7 Aug 9.30am & 12.30pm

Fri 8 Aug 9.30am

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# INDUSTRY CONNECT

We're offering local artists and arts industry workers a range of opportunities to connect with the Festival, visiting artists and each other. Industry Connect features a curated program of free workshops, masterclasses, talks and panel discussions delivered in a spirit of collaboration and exchange. This is a program for anyone who is keen to explore ideas, extend their learning and feel part of the wider Australian and international arts network. Sign up at [darwinfestival.org.au](http://darwinfestival.org.au) for more details.



# COMMUNITY TIX

Darwin Festival is committed to fostering inclusivity by ensuring as many members of our community as possible can be involved. With the support of Power & Water we are offering free and low-cost tickets to select events for not-for-profit organisations, charities, First Nations and multicultural organisations, as well as patrons holding a current Pension Card or Health Care Card. Visit [darwinfestival.org.au](http://darwinfestival.org.au) for more details.

-  A limited number of community tickets are available for events with this symbol.

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# OUTSTATION GALLERY

## Discover art from leading and emerging Indigenous Australian artists

Outstation Gallery is renowned for working directly with Aboriginal-owned Art Centres across Australia to deliver an exceptional and ethical art experience.

This Festival they present a range of exhibitions in spaces across the city, including *SALON des Refusés*. This must-see event returns to celebrate the talent of First Nations artists whose work is not accepted into the *NATSIAAs*.

For full exhibition details visit [darwinfestival.org.au](http://darwinfestival.org.au)

## VISUAL ARTS

### Outstation Gallery Exhibitions

**The Rictor Family** **Wed 6 – Sat 30 Aug**  
Presented in association with Spinifex Arts Project

**Conrad Tipungwuti** **Wed 6 – Sat 30 Aug**  
Presented in association with Jilamara Arts & Crafts

**2025 SALON des Refusés** **Thu 7 – Sun 24 Aug**

**Tiwi Ningani (Tiwi Today)** **Fri 8 – Fri 15 Aug**  
Presented in association with Ngaruwanajirri Art Centre

**Motorbike Paddy Ngal** **Fri 8 – Fri 15 Aug**  
Presented in association with Utopia Art Centre

**Dhamula Burarrwaja** **Sat 9 – Sat 23 Aug**  
Presented in association with Buku-Larrnggay Mulka

**Simone Arnol and Bernard Singleton** **Wed 6 – Sat 23 Aug**  
Presented in conjunction with 8 Hele Gallery

Photo: Elise Derwin



# VISUAL ARTS



## ARTBROKEN

A bold, dynamic exhibition that pushes the boundaries of artistic convention, challenging preconceptions, traditions and rules. Featuring a diverse group of artists, *ArtBroken* explores the concept of 'broken' through sculpture, painting, performance and animatronics. It includes a public 're-curation' gallery event on Saturday 9 August at 10am.

### Darwin Visual Arts



#### Dates & Times

Fri 25 July – Sat 16 Aug  
Wed 12pm – 5pm  
Thu & Fri 10am – 5pm  
Sat 10am – 2pm

Image: David Dalzell, *ArtBroken*, 2025

**Presented by Darwin Visual Arts Inc**



## JENNA MAYILEMA LEE

### Of Smoke and Rain

Spanning five years, this debut major solo exhibition reflects Gulumerridjin (Larrakia), Wardaman and Karrajarrri Saltwater woman Jenna Mayilema Lee's ongoing exploration of language, materiality and the transformation of inherited histories.

### Northern Centre for Contemporary Art



#### Dates & Times

Wed 6 Aug – Sat 27 Sep  
Wed – Fri 10am – 4pm  
Sat 8am – 2pm

Image: Jenna Mayilema Lee, *Archive of an Invasive Native*, 2020, dual channel video projection, animation by Sai Karlen

**Presented by Northern Centre  
for Contemporary Art**



## KIMIRRAKINARI (THE SEASON OF SMOKE)

The annual showcase of the finest and freshest Tiwi art is back. Don't miss the vibrant opening performance of a traditional 'Yoi' (dance with Tiwi dancers and singers) on Friday 8 August at 10am.

### Reflection Room, DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Esplanade Darwin



#### Dates & Times

Thu 7 – Sun 10 Aug 10am – 5pm

Photo: Carol Puruntatameri painting with pwoja (comb) on stringybark.  
Courtesy Alana Holmberg and Laundry Gallery

**Presented by Munupi Arts and Jilamara Arts  
and Crafts Association**



# ALL VISUAL ARTS EVENTS ARE FREE



## PAUL GURRUMURUWUY

Milkum ga walja:  
pattern, camera, life

Through the camera you can see creation happening. This exhibition showcases a unique vision for co-creation honed over years by this late Yolŋu performer, scholar and artist.

Midpul Art Gallery



Dates & Times

Sat 2 Aug – Sat 11 Oct  
Wed – Fri 10am – 4pm  
Sat 10am – 1pm

Image: (c) Miyarrka Media

**Presented by Miyarrka Media  
and Mipdul Art Gallery at CDU**



## Miyarrka Media RANJIPUY: THE BEACH IS BREATHING

What can beaches tell us about life and its ongoing possibilities? This mesmerising exhibition from Arnhem Land offers a powerful counterpoint to the images of environmental ruin that now haunt our collective futures.

Midpul Art Gallery



Dates & Times

Sat 2 Aug – Sat 11 Oct  
Wed – Fri 10am – 4pm  
Sat 10am – 1pm

Photo: (c) Miyarrka Media

**Presented by Miyarrka Media  
and Mipdul Art Gallery at CDU**



## Natalie Vidgen & Angie Soares THE WAKE UP

A poetic and urgent response to the quiet erasures of the natural world. Through woven sculptures, delicate textiles, paper-based works and devotional offerings, *The Wake Up* invites stillness, reflection and collective care.

UNTITLED gallery+studio



Dates & Times

Sat 2 – Thu 21 Aug  
Wed – Fri 10am – 4pm  
Sat 10am – 12pm

Photo: Natalie Vidgen and Angie Soares, *silent passage*, macroderma gigas (ghost bat), detail

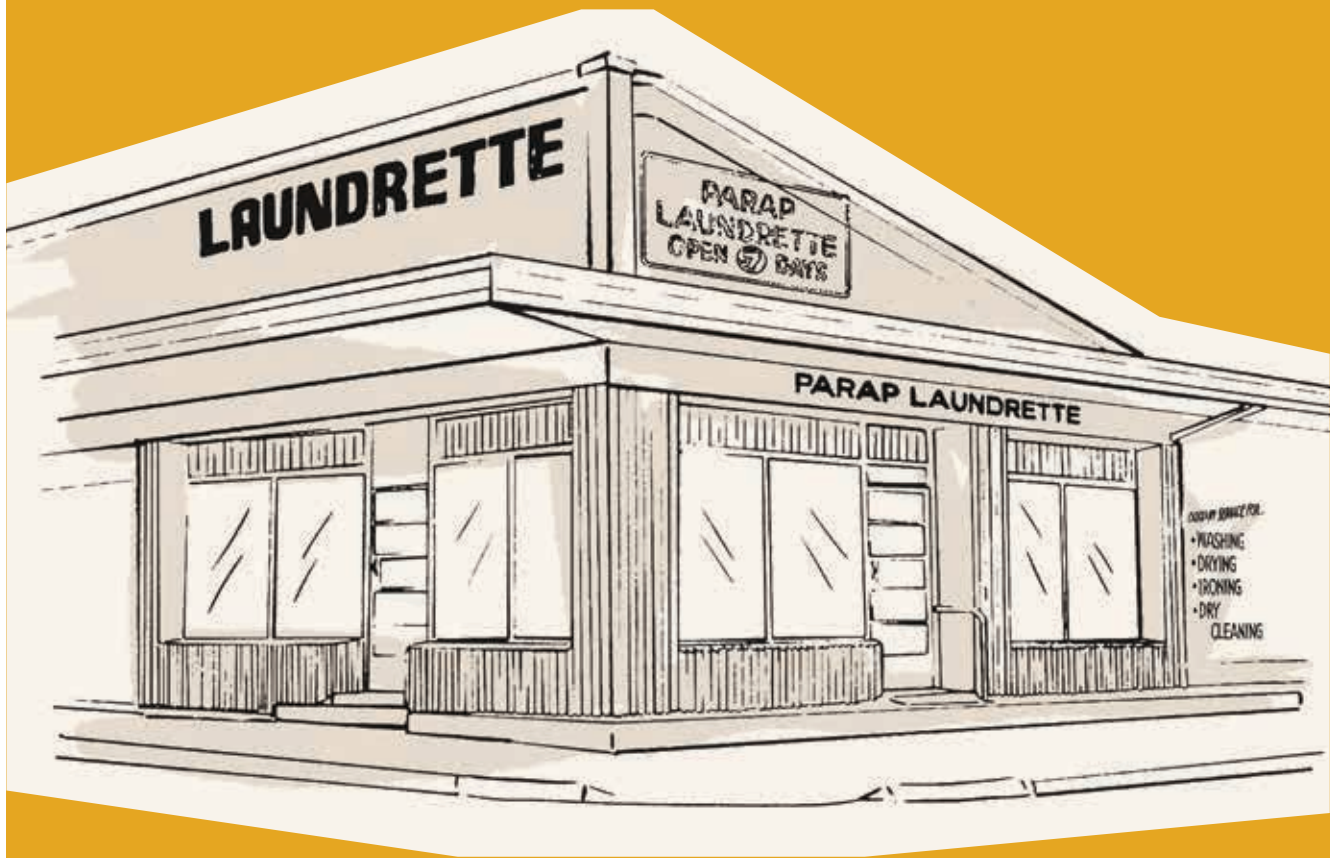
**Presented by UNTITLED gallery+studio**

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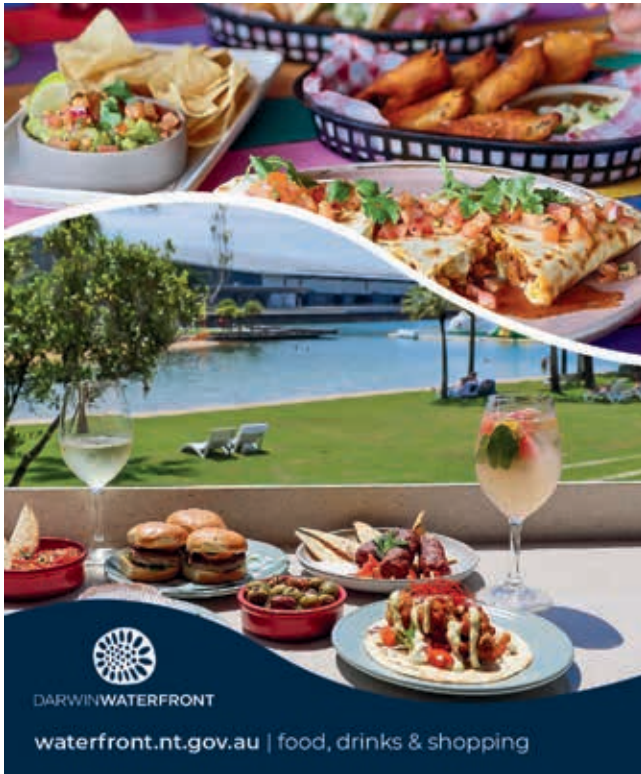


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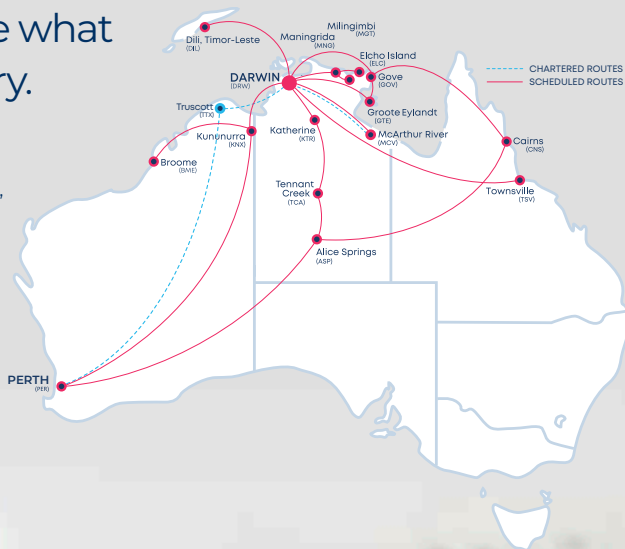
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We're supporting First Nations people with opportunities and platforms in the arts.

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Image: Elise Derwin, Darwin Festival 2024



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A portrait of Adam Steer, a man with a beard and glasses, wearing a dark blue shirt, standing with his arms crossed against a solid red background.

**Breakfast with  
Adam Steer**

105.7FM or the ABC listen app



The logo for Radio Darwin, featuring the text '105.7 Radio DARWIN' inside a red circle.



A professional video camera rig with a Canon lens, mounted on a red and black stabilizer, set against a black background.



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# ACCESS

We want as many people as possible to experience the magical moments of Darwin Festival.

We are committed to welcoming and including artists and audiences of all abilities to our events and offer a range of access services.

We are always looking to improve the accessibility of our events and invite you to get in touch with us via phone or email if you have any feedback or wish to discuss your access needs.

Phone **08 8943 4222**

Email **[access@darwinfestival.org.au](mailto:access@darwinfestival.org.au)**

National Relay Service **1800 555 660** (free from landlines) or **[relayservice.gov.au](http://relayservice.gov.au)**

You can make all your access bookings over the phone or via email. Information about the accessibility of individual events can be found in this program guide and at **[darwinfestival.org.au/accessibility](http://darwinfestival.org.au/accessibility)**

## Companion card

Companion Card holders are entitled to concession-priced tickets and a complimentary ticket for their companion. Please call or email to book.

## Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Program



As a subscriber to this program Darwin Festival encourages anyone with a non-visible disability or condition to wear a sunflower as a discreet way to let us know you might need additional assistance or understanding.

Access Program proudly supported by



The symbols outlined on this page indicate the accessibility of an event.

## Wheelchair accessible



If this symbol is not displayed on an event page, level access to the venue may be limited. Please contact us for further information.

The Esplanade, Festival Park, Sitzler Festival Lawn, Fort Hill Parklands and Darwin Amphitheatre are suitable for assisted wheelchair access.

## Visual content rating



Events with this symbol do not contain any music, sound or dialogue.



Events with this symbol are partially subtitled or include dialogue, background music and/or sounds.

## Auslan interpretation



Events with this symbol have Auslan interpreted performances thanks to our partnerships with Deaf Connect and Auslan Stage Left. These performances will be Auslan interpreted:

- *An Idiot's Guide to Wine: Volume 3* Thu 14 Aug 6pm
- *How the Birds Got Their Colours* Sat 16 Aug 10am
- Dave Hughes Tue 19 Aug 7pm
- Melanie Bracewell Fri 22 Aug 7pm

Please contact us if there are other shows you'd like to see interpreted.

## Language no barrier



Events with this symbol contain minimal language and are suitable for audiences who speak English as a second language.

## Sensory friendly



Events with this symbol have been created to be less sensory-stimulating and overwhelming. They have a relaxed attitude to noise and movement and audience members are free to move about during the show. Visit our website for more information.

# OUR FESTIVAL PARTNERS

## PRINCIPAL PARTNER



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# BE PART OF SOMETHING EXTRAORDINARY!

**Your donation supports the heart of the Festival by ensuring accessibility through free and subsidised tickets, providing young people with their first magical experience through our Schools Program and helping NT artists create new works for Darwin Festival stages**



**DONATE TODAY**

[darwinfestival.org.au](https://darwinfestival.org.au)



Darwin Festival is a not-for-profit registered charity.  
All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. Photo: Elise Derwin

## THANK YOU TO OUR 2025 FESTIVAL DONORS

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# DARWIN FESTIVAL

GPO Box 570 Darwin NT 0801  
T 08 8943 4200  
E [hello@darwinfestival.org.au](mailto:hello@darwinfestival.org.au)

## PATRON

**His Honour Professor the  
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## AMBASSADOR

**Hon. Lia Finocchiaro**  
Chief Minister of the Northern Territory

## DARWIN FESTIVAL BOARD

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**SRO Group**  
Bars Management

# FUNDING ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The following organisations and productions acknowledge the support of these government bodies:



Brown's Mart, Darwin Symphony Orchestra, Darwin Visual Arts, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, *National Indigenous Music Awards*, *A Night of Rock and Roll with Bogan Villea*, Northern Centre for Contemporary Art, *সুন্দরী / SHUNDORI*, *Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Awards*, Tracks Dance Company, UNTITLED gallery+studio



*Are You Lonesome Tonight*, *Circa*, Darwin Symphony Orchestra, *La Bohème*, *La Descarga*, *Night Night*, Northern Centre for Contemporary Art, Sensorium Theatre, *সুন্দরী / SHUNDORI*, *Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Awards*, Tracks Dance Company, UNTITLED gallery+studio

## THANK YOU!

We can't possibly list all the amazing people who help make the Festival happen. You know who you are. We would like to mention: Luke Gosling OAM, MP and staff; Hon Marie-Clare Boothby MLA and staff; Hon Jinson Charles MLA and staff; Suzana Bishop CEO Department of Tourism and Hospitality; Trevor Cox CEO of NT Major Events and staff; Auntie Bilawara Lee; Dr Tanzil Rahman MLA; Susan Emerson at Auslan Stage Left; Matthew Ward at KPMG; Lane Communications; NT Fleet; Mike and Bluey at Organic AG; StollzNow Research; Tourism NT; Darwin Festival Board; Darwin Festival donors, Best Friends and Friends of the Festival and, of course, our amazing Volunteers.



# BOOKING INFO

## HOW TO BOOK

### ONLINE

[darwinfestival.org.au](http://darwinfestival.org.au)

### PHONE

08 8943 4222

4 June – 24 August\*  
Mon – Fri 10am – 4pm

\*Closed public holidays

### EMAIL

[boxoffice@darwinfestival.org.au](mailto:boxoffice@darwinfestival.org.au)

For tickets bought online or over the phone, you'll receive a confirmation email of your booking – this is your e-ticket for scanning at the venue.

### IN PERSON

#### Top End Visitor Information Centre

6 Bennett St, Darwin City  
6 June – 24 August  
Mon – Fri 9am – 4.30pm  
Sat, Sun & public holidays 10am – 2pm

#### Festival Park Box Office

Cnr Smith St & Harry Chan Ave  
7 – 24 August\*  
Tue – Sun 5pm – late  
Box Office closes 15mins after the last performance.

\*Closed Mondays

If you have any access requirements please email [access@darwinfestival.org.au](mailto:access@darwinfestival.org.au) or call the box office on 08 8943 4222.

### TRANSACTION FEES

All online, phone and in person sales incur a \$5.50 (inc. GST) transaction fee.

### DARWIN ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE (DEC)

You can buy tickets to events at Darwin Entertainment Centre directly from DEC.

Online [yourcentre.com.au](http://yourcentre.com.au)

Phone 08 8980 3333 Mon – Fri 10am – 4pm

In person at DEC Box Office  
(open one hour prior to performances)

Email [boxoffice@yourcentre.com.au](mailto:boxoffice@yourcentre.com.au)

**Note** Transaction fees will apply for online, phone and in person sales. Darwin Festival multipack discounts are not available for purchases made through Darwin Entertainment Centre.

### DECKCHAIR CINEMA

Tickets to events at Deckchair Cinema can be purchased directly through the Deckchair Cinema Box Office or online at [deckchaircinema.com](http://deckchaircinema.com)

**Friends of the Festival  
pre-sale booking period  
from 9am Wed 4 June**

**General Public on sale  
from 9am Fri 6 June**

## PACKAGE DEALS & DISCOUNTS

### SAVE WITH A MULTIPACK

The more you see, the more you save! Buy tickets to four or more different Darwin Festival events in the same transaction and save 10% on FULL PRICED tickets.

Exclusions may apply.

### FRIENDS OF THE FESTIVAL

Friends of the Festival are entitled to 15% off two tickets to events\* with this symbol. Friends are eligible to receive a multipack discount of 15% off when booking 4+ events in one transaction\*.

Purchase a Friends of the Festival membership online, over the phone or in person.

\*Exclusions may apply. Discount applies to FULL-PRICED tickets only. Visit [darwinfestival.org.au](http://darwinfestival.org.au) for details.

### COMMUNITY TIX

Events with this symbol have limited free and low cost tickets available for not-for-profit organisations, charities, First Nations and multicultural organisations, as well as patrons holding a current Pension Card or Health Care Card. Visit [darwinfestival.org.au](http://darwinfestival.org.au) for more details.

### GROUP BOOKINGS

Bring the crew and save! Groups of eight or more receive a discount on tickets to events at the INPEX Sunset Stage and Fort Hill Parklands. Groups of ten or more receive a discount to *Heaven and Earth*.

### SCHOOL GROUPS

For more information about bringing a school group to a Darwin Festival show, visit [darwinfestival.org.au/schools](http://darwinfestival.org.au/schools) or contact our box office.

## TICKET PRICES

Ticket prices listed in this guide indicate the range of tickets available for an event and are not necessarily the price that each patron can access. View the full range of prices when selecting your tickets at [darwinfestival.org.au](http://darwinfestival.org.au) for each event. Please note that ticket sales will incur a transaction fee, which differs depending on where tickets are purchased.

## LOOKING FOR THE PERFECT GIFT?

A Darwin Festival Gift Voucher has you covered! Buy online and we'll email it straight to your inbox. Valid for three years. Easy to redeem.

## CONCESSIONS

When indicated, concession tickets are available for the following:

- Full-time students
- Children 12 years and under
- Pensioner and Carer Concession Card holders
- Health Care Card holders
- Seniors Card holders
- BasicsCard holders
- Companion Card holders
- Australian Defence Force personnel
- International defence force personnel

Proof of concession must be produced upon request by Box Office or Front of House staff.

Entry is free for children two years and under when they are not using a seat (subject to advertised age restrictions).

Entry is free for children 12 years and under at Fort Hill Parklands, Darwin Ski Club, *Buffalo Country* and *National Indigenous Music Awards* (ticket required).

# FESTIVAL VENUES

Darwin Festival takes place across the city and beyond. Here is some info about our venues.

All Darwin Festival venues are smoke free and BYO alcohol is not permitted.

## Box Offices

Located at Festival Park & Top End Travel & Information Centre (6 Bennett St)

## Festival Hub

### Festival Park

Cnr Smith St & Harry Chan Ave

Bar and food stalls open daily, 5pm until late

**Closed** Mon 11 & Mon 18 Aug

Here you'll find:

- INPEX Sunset Stage
- Darwin Port Bandstand
- Kolsen Twilight Playground

All performances at INPEX Sunset Stage are general admission. Venue opens just prior to the show start time. Patrons under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

### Sitzler Festival Lawn

In front of Parliament House, 15 Mitchell St

Bar open daily, 5pm until late

**Closed** Mon 4, 11 & 18 Aug

Here you'll find:

- The Spiegeltent



Scan here for a  
Festival venue map  
and transport options

Visit [darwinfestival.org.au](http://darwinfestival.org.au)  
for full details

 Take a Beam e-scooter  
around Darwin

## Special Event venues

### Darwin Ski Club

20 Conacher St, Fannie Bay

### Fort Hill Parklands

Darwin Waterfront

### George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens

Gardens Rd

Here you'll find:

- Darwin Amphitheatre
- Visitor and Event Centre

### Palmerston

Goyder Square, The Boulevard,  
Palmerston

## Galleries

### Darwin Visual Arts (DVA)

Ground floor, Harbour View Plaza,  
8 McMinn St

### DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel

#### Esplanade Darwin

116 The Esplanade

Here you'll find:

- Reflection Room

### Mipdul Art Gallery at CDU

Ground floor, Danala, Charles Darwin  
University, 54 Cavanagh St

### Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory

19 Conacher St, Fannie Bay

Here you'll find:

- Amphitheatre (outside venue)
- Gallery

### Northern Centre for Contemporary Art

Vimy Ln, Parap

### Qubit Gallery

7 Harriet Pl

### UNTiLED gallery+studio

3/1 Caryota Crt, Coconut Grove

## Across Darwin venues

### Darwin Railway Club

17 Somerville Gdns, Parap

Venue is strictly 18+

### Deckchair Cinema

Jervois Rd

### The Esplanade

Darwin Cenotaph War Memorial  
and Bicentennial Park (end of Peel St)

### Library & Archives NT

L2, Danala, Charles Darwin University  
54 Cavenagh St

### Mindil Beach Casino Resort

Mindil Beach, Gilruth Ave

Here you'll find:

- Beachside Pavillion

## Theatres

### Brown's Mart

12 Smith St

Here you'll find:

- Brown's Mart Theatre
- Brown's Mart Studio

All performances are seated but  
general admission.

### Darwin Entertainment Centre

93 Mitchell St

Here you'll find:

- The Playhouse
- Studio Theatre

All performances are allocated seating.

## A Taste of Darwin meeting places

### The Last Supper

1/35 Cavanagh St

### Parap Fine Foods

40 Parap Rd, Parap

### Stokes Hill Wharf

45 Stokes Hill Rd

### Wharf One

Darwin Waterfront

# 2025 DAILY DIARY

## Key

SPECIAL EVENT

MUSIC

THEATRE

DANCE

MAGIC

EAT & DRINK

FAMILY

CIRCUS

VISUAL ART & FILM

COMEDY & CABARET

WORDS & IDEAS

\* See [darwinfestival.org.au](http://darwinfestival.org.au) for full event details

## Event Abbreviations

**NIMAS**  
National Indigenous Music Awards

**NATSIAA**  
National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Awards

	VENUE	WED 6	THU 7	FRI 8	SAT 9	SUN 10	MON 11	TUE 12	WED 13
FESTIVAL PARK	Festival Park		Welcome to Country 5.15pm   p7						
			Darwin Port Bandstand * 6.30pm   p42	Darwin Port Bandstand * 7pm   p42	Darwin Port Bandstand * 6.30pm   p42			Darwin Port Bandstand * 6.30pm   p42	
	INPEX Sunset Stage		Emma Donovan 7pm   p33	Emma Donovan 6pm   p33	Singing for Our Little Ones 5.15pm   p41				
			Rhys Nicholson 8.45pm   p34	Rhonda's After Party 8pm   p30	Rhonda's After Party 7pm   p30			Are You Lonesome Tonight 7pm   p32	
				Hey DJ 9.30pm   p46	Playlunch 9pm   p46	John Safran 8.45pm   p38		Anisa Nandaula 8.45pm   p35	A Night of Rock and Roll with Bogan Villea 9pm   p36
				Club Awi 10.45pm   p49	Club Awi 10pm   p49				
SPECIAL EVENTS	Kolsen Twilight Playground		Trumpet Flowers 5pm – 9pm   p43					Trumpet Flowers 5pm – 9pm   p43	
	Fort Hill Parklands			Guy Sebastian 6.15pm   p4	L.A.B. 6.15pm   p5				
	Darwin Ski Club								
		La Ronde *   p9						La Ronde *   p9	
	The Spiegeltent								
	Goyder Square, Palmerston								
	A Taste of Darwin – various venues	Gloom and Gourmet 7pm   p15			Makan Club 6pm   p15	Festival Harbour Cruise 5.30pm   p16		Golden Hour Bar Trail 6.30pm   p14	
	Mindil Beach Casino Resort							An Idiot's Guide to Wine 6.45pm   p17	
IN THEATRES	Darwin Amphitheatre				NIMAS 7pm   p20				
	Darwin Entertainment Centre			La Bohème 7.30pm   p23					
				Wonderbox 5.30pm   p25	Wonderbox 10am & 1pm   p25				
	Brown's Mart Theatre	The Mixed-Race Tape 8pm   p27		The Mixed-Race Tape 6.30pm & 8.30 pm   p27		Crown and Country *   p27			Night Night 6pm   p26
		DarwinVision 6pm   p29		DarwinVision 7pm   p29		DarwinVision 6pm   p29			Hot Department 6.15pm   p28
		Assigned Magician at Birth 8.15pm   p28		Assigned Magician at Birth 8.45pm   p28		Assigned Magician at Birth 8.15pm   p28			Sex Toy Story 8pm   p28
ACROSS DARWIN	Darwin Railway Club			Mulga Bore Hard Rock 7.30pm   p50					
	Darwin Visual Arts	ArtBroken 12pm – 5pm   p58	ArtBroken 10am – 5pm   p58		ArtBroken 10am – 2pm   p58				ArtBroken 10am – 5pm   p58
	Deckchair Cinema		A Journey Between the Fires 6.15pm   p55						
	Doubletree by Hilton		Kimirrakinari 10am – 5pm   p58						
	The Esplanade					City of Darwin Teddy Bears' Picnic 9am – 12pm   p52			
	George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens					Whistling Kite New Music 5.15pm   p51			
	Library & Archves NT								Stella Day Out 5.30pm & 7pm   p54
	Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory	2025 Telstra NATSIAA 10am – 4pm   p18							
									How the Birds Got Their Colours 5pm   p53
	Midpul Art Gallery	Paul Gurrumuruwuy 10am – 4pm   p59			Paul Gurrumuruwuy 10am – 1pm   p59				Paul Gurrumuruwuy 10am – 4pm   p59
		Ranjipuy 10am – 4pm   p59			Ranjipuy 10am – 1pm   p59				Ranjipuy 10am – 4pm   p59
	Northern Centre for Contemporary Art	Jenna Mayilema Lee 10am – 4pm   p58			Jenna Mayilema Lee 8am – 2pm   p58				Jenna Mayilema Lee 10am – 4pm   p58
	Qubit Gallery			Shundori 12pm – 6pm   p19	Shundori 10am – 3pm   p19	Shundori 11am – 4pm   p19			
	UNTITLED gallery+studio	The Wake Up 10am – 4pm   p59			The Wake Up 10am – 12pm   p59				The Wake Up 10am – 4pm   p59
	Various Venues	Outstation Gallery exhibitions *   p57						Outstation Gallery exhibitions *   p57	



THU 14	FRI 15	SAT 16	SUN 17	MON 18	TUE 19	WED 20	THU 21	FRI 22	SAT 23	SUN 24	
Darwin Port Bandstand * 6.30pm   p42	Darwin Port Bandstand * 6.15pm   p42		Darwin Port Bandstand * 6.30pm   p42	Darwin Port Bandstand * 6.30pm   p42							
		I Like to Movie, Movie 5.15pm   p41						Dalba Gulwa 5.15pm   p40	Monski Mouse's Baby Disco Dance Hall 5.15pm   p40		
Are You Lonesome Tonight 7pm   p32	Suhani Shah 6.45pm   p31	Suhani Shah 7pm   p31	Suhani Shah 7pm & 8.45pm   p31		Dave Hughes 7pm   p35	Still Alive (and Kicking) 7pm   p39	Conversations Live 7pm   p38	Melanie Bracewell 7pm   p34	Purple Plastic Māori: Homecoming 7pm   p37	Jude Perl Tries to Finish a Sentence 7pm   p36	
A Night of Rock and Roll with Bogan Villea 9pm   p36	Meganesia 9pm   p47	Wafia 9pm   p47			No Place Like Home 8.45pm   p39	Dom Chambers 9pm   p37		Go-Jo 9pm   p48	Miss Kaninna 9pm   p48		
	Club Awi 10pm   p49							Club Awi 10pm   p49			
Trumpet Flowers 5pm – 9pm   p43					Trumpet Flowers 5pm – 9pm   p43						
							The Redgum Years *   p11	The Songs of Elton & George *   p11	Sarah Blasko *   p11		
La Ronde *   p9					La Ronde *   p9						
ABC Radio Darwin's Happy Hour 4pm – 6pm   p55											
	Family Fiesta 5pm – 9pm   p12	Buffalo Country 6.30pm   p13									
Waterfront Cocktail Trail 6pm & 7pm   p14						Comedy Bus Tour 6.30pm & 7.30pm   p16		Makan Club 6pm   p15			
An Idiot's Guide to Wine 6pm & 8.30pm   p17											
	Illume 7.30pm   p22		Shamrock Tenors 7.30pm   p24					Duckpond 7pm   p21	Heaven and Earth 7.30pm   p24		
Night Night 6pm   p26	Night Night 5pm & 7.45pm   p26	Night Night 2pm & 7.45pm   p26	The Bridge of Dreams 2pm & 6pm   p25				Burnout Paradise 8pm   p26		Burnout Paradise 2pm & 8pm   p26	Burnout Paradise 6pm   p26	
Hot Department 6.15pm   p28						Helios 5.45pm   p29			Helios 4pm   p29		
Sex Toy Story 8pm   p28						Orpheus 8pm   p29	Orpheus 7.45pm   p29				
		Party Dozen 7.30pm   p50	Amigo the Devil 7pm   p50								
ArtBroken 10am – 5pm   p58		ArtBroken 10am – 2pm   p58									
			Antidote * 6pm   p51								
2025 Telstra NATSIAA 10am – 4pm   p18											
How the Birds Got Their Colours 5pm   p53		How the Birds Got Their Colours 10am & 5pm   p53									
Paul Gurrumuruwuy 10am – 4pm   p59		Paul Gurrumuruwuy 10am – 1pm   p59				Paul Gurrumuruwuy 10am – 4pm   p59		Paul Gurrumuruwuy 10am – 1pm   p59			
Ranjipuy 10am – 4pm   p59		Ranjipuy 10am – 1pm   p59				Ranjipuy 10am – 4pm   p59		Ranjipuy 10am – 1pm   p59			
Jenna Mayilema Lee 10am – 4pm   p58		Jenna Mayilema Lee 8am – 2pm   p58				Jenna Mayilema Lee 10am – 4pm   p58		Jenna Mayilema Lee 8am – 2pm   p58			
Shundori 12pm – 6pm   p19		Shundori 10am – 3pm   p19	Shundori 11am – 4pm   p19				Shundori 12pm – 6pm   p19	Shundori 10am – 3pm   p19		Shundori 11am – 4pm   p19	
The Wake Up 10am – 4pm   p59		The Wake Up 10am – 12pm   p59				The Wake Up 10am – 4pm   p59					
Outstation Gallery exhibitions *   p57					Outstation Gallery exhibitions *   p57						



**20** DARWIN  
**25** FESTIVAL



[DARWINFESTIVAL.ORG.AU](http://DARWINFESTIVAL.ORG.AU)