**DARWIN FESTIVAL   
  
7 – 24 August 2025**

**2025 PROGRAM**

**Proudly supported by Northern Territory Government**

**BE THE HEARTBEAT OF DARWIN FESTIVAL!**   
  
Friends of the Festival $99\*   
Best Friends of the Festival $160\*   
  
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

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\*Terms and conditions apply. For full details go to 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.  
  
Follow the soundtrack to your Festival on Spotify on:

<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/3kfZ1NBVQNkU6OzmQddIt9?si=cee3ddd536c240be&pt=5f60747c7074c8e365a1829bd7f519b7>   
  
Follow and tag us on social media on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and YouTube. #DARWINFESTIVAL   
  
  
Program details are correct at time of printing but are subject to change where necessary and without notice. Please check 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.

Darwin Festival takes your privacy seriously – please see our full Privacy Policy at darwinfestival.org.au/privacy-policy

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**WELCOME TO DARWIN FESTIVAL 2025  
  
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. 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.

**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.  
  
**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!

**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.

Special Events **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.  
  
**Presented by Darwin Waterfront Corporation and SRO Events**

**Genre:** Music, Special Events  
**Venue:** Fort Hill Parklands,Darwin Waterfront

**Dates & Times:** Friday 8 & Saturday 9 August, 6.15pm (gates open 5.30pm) **Tickets:** $79 – $140 (per concert), Friends price available  
Children under 12 **FREE** (bookings required)

**NOTE** No BYO alcohol. Glass and unsealed bottles not permitted. Food stalls and bar onsite.  
  
This venue is wheelchair accessible.

**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: Friday 8 August**

Special Events

**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 th 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!

**Date: Saturday 9 August**

Special Events  
**FESTIVAL PARK**  
**A magical oasis of arts, culture and culinary delights!**  
  
Thursday 7 to Sunday 24 August

5pm until late (Closed Monday 11 and 18 August)

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!  
  
**FREE ENTRY**

**Welcome to Country - FREE** Thursday 7 August 5.15pm

**Kolsen Twilight Playground - FREE** installation 5pm to 9pm

**INPEX Sunset Stage -** Nightly ticketed performances

**Darwin Port Bandstand - FREE** livemusic from 6.30pm

**Airnorth Moonlight Lounge -** Festival hospitality space

**Festival Food & Bars -** Nightly from 5pm   
**Club Awi -** Friday & Saturday nights after the late show

**Box Office -** Open 5pm until late

See individual event pages for full program details.

This venue is wheelchair accessible.

**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!

**Proudly supported by Sitzler**

**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.  
  
**Presented by Strut & Fret in association with Darwin Festival**  
  
**Genre:** Circus, Cabaret

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

**Dates & Times:** Thursday 31 July to Saturday 25 August

Various times, visit darwinfestival.org.au for details

**Duration:** 1 hour 30 minutes including interval  
**All Tickets:** $59 - $145 | Friends price available   
  
**NOTE** Contains nudity, sexual references, smoke effects and strobe lighting. Suitable for ages 15+

This venue is wheelchair accessible.

Special Events

**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

**Proudly supported by Rimfire Energy**

**Genre:** Music, Special Events

**Venue:** Darwin Ski Club

**Dates & Times:** Thursday 21 & Saturday 23 August   
Visit darwinfestival.org.au for all individual show details

**Tickets:** $59.50 - $70 (per show). Friends price available   
Children under 12 **FREE** (booking required)  
**NOTE** The Redgum Years and The Songs of Elton & George are seated performances. Sarah Blasko is a standing show with limited seating available.  
  
This venue is wheelchair accessible.

**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: Thursday 21 August

**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: Friday 22 August  
  
  
**SARAH BLASKO**

**WITH GORDI, LITTLE QUIRKS + ELEANOR JAWURLNGALI**  
  
Award-winning singer-songwriter Sarah Blasko leads an allfemale

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: Saturday 23 August

Special Events

**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!  
  
Proudly supported by City of Palmerston  
  
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 Movie, Movie, 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!  
  
**Genre:** Family, Special Events

**Venue:** Goyder Square, Palmerston

**Date & Time:** Friday 15 August, 5pm - 9pm **FREE ENTRY**

**NOTE** Suitable for all ages. This venue is wheelchair accessible.  
  
**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.

**Genre:** Music, Special Events  
**Venue:** Goyder Square, Palmerston

**Date & Time:** Saturday 16 August, 6.30pm  
**Duration:** 3 hours **Tickets:** $25 – $44. Friends & Community Tix prices available  
Children under 12 **FREE** (bookings required)

**NOTE** Standing event. Limited seating available.  
  
This venue is wheelchair accessible.

**A TASTE OF DARWIN**

**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.**

**Proudly supported by Hospitality NT**

**WATERFRONT COCKTAIL TRAIL**  
Cocktail lovers, take a walking adventure to some ofDarwin’s best Waterfront bars as you’re serenaded by TheNEO Horns. Savour signature cocktails, delicious eats andbehind-the-bar secrets at Wharf One, Hot Tamale, OysterBar, Chow, Snapper Rocks and Dock One.

**Genre:** Eat & Drink  
**Venue:** Meet at Wharf One, Darwin Waterfront

**Date & Times:** Thursday 14 August, 6pm & 7pm  
**Duration:** 2 hours 30 minutes **Tickets:** $150

**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.  
  
**Genre:** Eat & Drink  
**Venue:** Meet at Festival Park Box Office

**Dates & Times:** Tuesday 12 & Wednesday 13 August, 6.30pm  
**Duration:** 2 hours 40 minutes **Tickets:** $160

**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.

**Genre:** Eat & Drink  
**Venue:** Parap Fine Foods

**Date & Times:** Wednesday 6 & Thursday 7 August, 7pm  
**Duration:** 2 hours  **Tickets:** $160   
  
  
 **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.  
  
**Genre:** Eat & Drink  
**Venue:** Visit darwinfestival.org.au for venue details

**Date & Times:** Saturday 9 & Friday 22 August, 6pm  
**Duration:** 3 hours  **Tickets:** $165  
 **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.

**Genre:** Eat & Drink  
**Venue:** Meet at Dock 3, Stokes Hill Wharf

**Date & Times:** Sunday 10 August, 5.30pm  
**Duration:** 2 hours 45 minutes **Tickets:** $180

**Proudly supported by Darwin Harbour Cruises**

**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.

**Genre:** Eat & Drink  
**Venue:** Meet at The Last Supper

**Date & Times:** Wednesday 20 August, 6.30pm & 7.30pm  
**Duration:** 2 hours  **Tickets:** $110

**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.

**Genre:** World Premiere, Eat & Drink, Special Events, Comedy   
**Venue:** Beachside Pavilion, Mindil Beach Casino Resort   
**Dates & Times:** Tuesday 12 & Wednesday 13 August, 6.45pm Thursday 14 August 6pm & 8.30pm   
**Duration:** 1 hour 10 minutes   
**Tickets:** All Tickets $75, Table of 8 $560   
**NOTE** Ticket price includes six wine tastings. Contains coarse language and adult themes. Strictly for ages 18+

This venue is wheelchair accessible.   
This performance is Auslan interpreted.

**Proudly supported by Mindil Beach Casino Resort**

**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.  
  
**Genre:** Visual Art   
**Venue:** Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory   
**Award Ceremony:** Friday 8 August 6pm  
**Exhibition Dates:** Saturday 21 June 2025 – Monday 26 January 2026 **Opening Times:** 10am to 4pm daily  **FREE**This venue is wheelchair accessible. This event is partially subtitled or

includes dialogue, background music and/or sounds.

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

**NAINA SEN   
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, SHUNDORI is a multi-projection, multichannel video installation that turns the walls of the

gallery into an immersive portal. **Presented by Darwin Festival and Qubit Gallery  
  
Proudly supported by Australian Government & Centre for Australia India Relations**

**Genre:** World Premiere, Visual Art   
**Venue:** Qubit Gallery   
**Exhibition Dates:** Friday 8 - Sunday 24 August  
Opening Times: Thursdays & Fridays 12pm – 6pm, Saturdays 10am   
**FREE**  
  
This venue is wheelchair accessible. This event is partially subtitled or includes dialogue, background music and/or sounds.

**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.  
  
**Presented by MusicNT and YouTube  
  
Genre:** Music   
**Venue:** Darwin Amphitheatre   
**Date & Time:** Saturday 9 August, 7pm (Gates open 6pm)   
**Duration:** 4 hours  
**Tickets:** $40.80 - $48. Friends price available  
Children under 12 **FREE** (bookings required)  
  
**NOTE** This is an alcohol free event. Glass and unsealed bottles not permitted.  
  
This venue is wheelchair accessible.

**CIRCA**

**DUCK POND  
  
“Swan lake as you’ve never seen it before.” The Times**  
  
**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.

**Genre:** Circus   
**Venue:** The Playhouse, Darwin Entertainment Centre   
**Dates & Times:** Friday 22 August, 7pm   
**Duration:** 1 hour 15 minutes   
**Tickets:** $25 - $60. Friends and Community Tix prices available   
**NOTE** Suitable for all ages.

This venue is wheelchair accessible.   
This event is partially subtitled or includes dialogue, background music and/or sounds. This event contains minimal language and are suitable for audiences who speak English as a second language.  
  
**Proudly supported by Woolworths**

**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?  
  
**Genre:** Dance   
**Venue:** The Playhouse, Darwin Entertainment Centre   
**Dates & Times:** Friday 15 & Saturday 16 August, 7.30pm   
**Duration:** 1 hour 10 minutes   
**Tickets:** $51 - $60. Friends prices available   
**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+

This venue is wheelchair accessible.   
This event is partially subtitled or includes dialogue, background music and/or sounds.   
This event contains minimal language and are suitable for audiences who speak English as a second language.  
  
**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 Mimì...” 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?

**Genre:** Opera   
**Venue:** The Playhouse, Darwin Entertainment Centre   
**Dates & Times:** Friday 8 & Saturday 9 August, 7.30pm   
**Duration:** 2 hours including interval  
**Tickets:** $20 - $64. Friends prices available   
**NOTE** Sung in Italian with English surtitles. Contains haze effects

and adult themes.

This venue is wheelchair accessible.  
  
**Presented by Darwin Entertainment Centre and Opera Australia in association with Darwin Festival**

**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.  
  
**Genre:** Music   
**Venue:** The Playhouse, Darwin Entertainment Centre   
**Date & Time:** Saturday 23 August, 7.30pm   
**Duration:** 2 hours including interval  
**Tickets:** $22 - $65. Friends prices available   
**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+

This venue is wheelchair accessible.   
This event contains minimal language and are suitable for audiences who speak English as a second language.  
  
**Presented by Darwin Symphony Orchestra**

**SHAMROCK TENORS   
  
“Beautiful harmonies and a typically Irish sense of fun!”   
The Irish News**  
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!

**Genre:** Music   
**Venue:** The Playhouse, Darwin Entertainment Centre   
**Date & Time:** Sunday 17 August, 7.30pm   
**Duration:** 2 hours including interval  
**Tickets:** $49.90 - $94.90. Friends prices available

This venue is wheelchair accessible.   
  
**Presented by Andrew Kay & Associates**

**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.

**Genre:** Music   
**Venue:** Brown’s Mart Theatres   
**Date & Times:** Sunday 17 August, 2pm & 6pm   
**Duration:** 50 minutes  
**Tickets:** $39.10 - $46. Friends prices available

This venue is wheelchair accessible.

**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.

**Genre:** Family   
**Venue:** Studio Theatre, Darwin Entertainment Centre   
**Dates & Times:** Friday 8 August, 5.30pm   
Saturday 9 August, 10am & 1pm  
**Duration:** 1 hour   
**Tickets:** $25   
**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+

This venue is wheelchair accessible.   
This event is partially subtitled or includes dialogue, background music and/or sounds.   
This event contains minimal language and are suitable for audiences who speak English as a second language.  
This event has been created to be less sensory-stimulating and overwhelming. It has a relaxed attitude to noise and movement and audience members are free to move about during the show.  
  
**Proudly supported by Carpentaria and DCOH**

**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.

**Genre:** Theatre   
**Venue:** Brown’s Mart Theatre   
**Dates & Times:** Wednesday 13 & Thursday 14 August, 6pm   
Friday 15 August, 5pm & 7.45pm  
Saturday 16 August, 2pm & 7.45pm  
**Duration:** 55 minutes  
**Tickets:** $39.10 - $46. Friends price available   
**NOTE** Contains strobe and loud noises. Suitable for ages 15+

This venue is wheelchair accessible.   
This event is partially subtitled or includes dialogue, background music and/or sounds.   
This event contains minimal language and are suitable for audiences who speak English as a second language.

**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.  
  
**Genre:** Theatre   
**Venue:** Brown’s Mart Theatre   
**Dates & Times:** Thursday 21 & Friday 22 August, 8pm   
Saturday 23 August, 2pm & 8pm  
Sunday 24 August, 6pm  
**Duration:** 1 hour  
**Tickets:** $39.10 - $46. Friends price available   
**NOTE** Contains haze effects and coarse language. Suitable for ages 12+

This venue is wheelchair accessible.

**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.

**Genre:** World Premiere, Film   
**Venue:** Brown’s Mart Theatre   
**Dates & Times:** Saturday 9 & Sunday 10 August, various times visit darwinfestival.org.au for details  
**Duration:** 1 hour  
**Tickets:** $22

This venue is wheelchair accessible.

**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.  
  
**“The most nuanced and dynamic hip hop gig.” INDAILY**

**Genre:** Theatre, Music   
**Venue:** Brown’s Mart Theatre   
**Dates & Times:** Wednesday 6 & Thursday 7 August, 8pm  
Friday 8 August, 6.30pm & 8.30pm   
**Duration:** 1 hour  
**Tickets:** $25 - $46. Friends and Community Tix prices available  
**NOTE** Suitable for ages 12+

This venue is wheelchair accessible.  
  
**Presented by Darwin Festival and Nexus Arts**

**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.  
  
**Genre:** Comedy, Magic   
**Venue:** Brown’s Mart Studio   
**Dates & Times:** Wednesday 6, Thursday 7 & Saturday 9 August, 8.15pm  
Friday 8 August, 8.45pm  
**Duration:** 1 hour  
**Tickets:** $30.60 - $36. Friends price available  
  
This venue is wheelchair accessible.  
  
  
**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.  
  
**Genre:** Comedy  
**Venue:** Brown’s Mart Studio   
**Dates & Times:** Wednesday 13 - Saturday 16 August, 8pm  
**Duration:** 1 hour  
**Tickets:** $30.60 - $36. Friends price available  
**NOTE** Strictly 18+  
  
This venue is wheelchair accessible.

**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.

**Genre:** Comedy  
**Venue:** Brown’s Mart Studio   
**Dates & Times:** Wednesday 13 - Saturday 16 August, 6.15pm  
**Duration:** 1 hour  
**Tickets:** $30.60 - $36. Friends price available  
**NOTE** Suitable for ages 15+  
  
This venue is wheelchair accessible.

**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!

**Genre:** Comedy, Cabaret  
**Venue:** Brown’s Mart Studio   
**Dates & Times:** Wednesday 6, Thursday 7 & Saturday 9 August, 6pm  
Friday 8 August, 7pm  
**Duration:** 50 minutes  
**Tickets:** $30.60 - $36. Friends price available  
  
This venue is wheelchair accessible.

**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.  
  
**Genre:** Comedy  
**Venue:** Brown’s Mart Studio   
**Dates & Times:** Wednesday 20 - Friday 22 August, 5.45pm  
Saturday 23 August, 4pm  
**Duration:** 1 hour 10 minutes  
**Tickets:** $30.60 - $36. Friends price available  
  
This venue is wheelchair accessible.

**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.  
  
**Genre:** Comedy  
**Venue:** Brown’s Mart Studio   
**Dates & Times:** Wednesday 20 August, 8pm  
Thursday 21 - Saturday 23 August, 7.45pm  
**Duration:** 1 hour 15 minutes  
**Tickets:** $30.60 - $36. Friends price available

This venue is wheelchair accessible.

**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!  
 **“Rhonda Burchmore is a true Master of her arts and an absolute living legend.” Glam Adelaide**

**Genre:** Cabaret  
**Venue:** INPEX Sunset Stage   
**Dates & Times:** Friday 8 August, 8pm  
Saturday 9 & Sunday 10 August, 7pm  
**Duration:** 1 hour  
**Tickets:** $42.50 - $50. Friends price available  
**NOTE** Seated performance. Contains nudity, strobe lighting, haze effects, coarse language and adult themes. Strictly 18+

This venue is wheelchair accessible.

**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.  
  
**“A perfect blend of awe, laughter and plenty of huge gasps from the audience.” The List (UK)**  
  
**Genre:** Magic  
**Venue:** INPEX Sunset Stage   
**Dates & Times:** Friday 15 August, 6.45pm  
Saturday 16 August, 7pm  
Sunday 17 August, 7pm & 8.45pm  
**Duration:** 1 hour 10 minutes  
**Tickets:** $42.50 - $50. Friends price available  
**NOTE** Seated performance. Suitable for ages 12+

This venue is wheelchair accessible.  
 **Proudly supported by hunt & hunt lawyers**

**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.  
  
**Genre:** Music, Cabaret  
**Venue:** INPEX Sunset Stage   
**Dates & Times:** Tuesday 12 – Thursday 14 August, 7pm  
**Duration:** 1 hour   
**Tickets:** $42.50 - $50. Friends price available  
**NOTE** Seated performance.

This venue is wheelchair accessible.

**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.  
  
**“Emma Donovan is one of those voices that stops you in your tracks – soulful, powerful and deeply moving.” Rolling Stone Australia  
  
Genre:** World Premiere,Music  
**Venue:** INPEX Sunset Stage   
**Dates & Times:** Thursday 7 August, 7pm and Friday 8 August, 6pm  
**Duration:** 1 hour   
**Tickets:** $25 - $50. Friends and Community Tix prices available  
**NOTE** Seated performance.

This venue is wheelchair accessible.

**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.

**Genre:** Comedy  
**Venue:** INPEX Sunset Stage   
**Dates & Times:** Friday 22 August, 7pm  
**Duration:** 1 hour   
**Tickets:** $40.80 - $48. Friends price available  
**NOTE** Seated performance. Contains coarse language. Suitable for ages 15+

This venue is wheelchair accessible.   
This performance is Auslan interpreted.

**RHYS NICHOLSON**

**HUGE BIG PARTY CONGRATULATIONS**

On this, the year of our Lord 2025, it’s a brand-new standup 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.  
  
**Genre:** Comedy  
**Venue:** INPEX Sunset Stage   
**Dates & Times:** Thursday 7 August, 8.45pm  
**Duration:** 1 hour 15 minutes  
**Tickets:** $40.80 - $48. Friends price available  
**NOTE** Seated performance. Contains coarse language. Suitable for ages 15+

This venue is wheelchair accessible.

**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.  
  
**Genre:** Comedy  
**Venue:** INPEX Sunset Stage   
**Dates & Times:** Tuesday 12 August, 8.45pm  
**Duration:** 1 hour  
**Tickets:** $25 - $48. Friends and Community Tix prices available  
**NOTE** Seated performance. Contains coarse language. Suitable for ages 15+

This venue is wheelchair accessible.

**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.

**Genre:** Comedy  
**Venue:** INPEX Sunset Stage   
**Dates & Times:** Tuesday 19 August, 7pm  
**Duration:** 1 hour   
**Tickets:** $40.80 - $48. Friends price available  
**NOTE** Seated performance. Contains coarse language. Suitable for ages 15+

This venue is wheelchair accessible.   
This performance is Auslan interpreted.

**JUDE PERL TRIES TO FINISH A SENTENCE**

Talking is hard! And no one knows that better than multiaward-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.

**Genre:** Comedy  
**Venue:** INPEX Sunset Stage   
**Dates & Times:** Sunday 24 August, 7pm  
**Duration:** 1 hour  
**Tickets:** $40.80 - $48. Friends price available

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

This venue is wheelchair accessible.

**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.

**Genre:** World Premiere, Cabaret  
**Venue:** INPEX Sunset Stage   
**Dates & Times:** Wednesday 13 & Thursday 14 August, 9pm  
**Duration:** 1 hour  
**Tickets:** $25 - $48. Friends and Community Tix prices available  
**NOTE** Seated performance. Suitable for ages 15+   
  
This venue is wheelchair accessible.  
  
**Proudly supported by Power & Water**

**SHALOM KAA**

**PURPLE PLASTIC MAORI: 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!  
  
**Genre:** Cabaret  
**Venue:** INPEX Sunset Stage   
**Dates & Times:** Saturday 23 August, 7pm  
**Duration:** 1 hour  
**Tickets:** $25 - $48. Friends and Community Tix prices available  
**NOTE** Seated performance. Contains occasional coarse language and references to bullying and drug addiction. Suitable for ages 12+

This venue is wheelchair accessible.

**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.

**Genre:** Magic, Comedy  
**Venue:** INPEX Sunset Stage   
**Dates & Times:** Wednesday 20 & Thursday 21 August, 9pm  
**Duration:** 1 hour  
**Tickets:** $40.80 - $48. Friends price available  
**NOTE** Seated performance. Contains coarse language and sexual

references. Suitable for ages 15+

This venue is wheelchair accessible.

**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.  
  
**Genre:** Words & Ideas  
**Venue:** INPEX Sunset Stage   
**Date & Time:** Thursday 21 August, 7pm  
**Duration:** 1 hour  
**Tickets:** $40.80 - $48. Friends price available  
**NOTE** Seated performance. Contains coarse language and adult themes. Suitable for ages 15+

This venue is wheelchair accessible.

**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.

**Genre:** Words & Ideas, Comedy  
**Venue:** INPEX Sunset Stage   
**Date & Time:** Sunday 10 August, 8.45pm  
**Duration:** 1 hour  
**Tickets:** $40.80 - $48. Friends price available  
**NOTE** Seated performance. Contains coarse language and adult themes. Suitable for ages 15+

This venue is wheelchair accessible.

**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.

**Genre:** Words & Ideas  
**Venue:** INPEX Sunset Stage   
**Dates & Times:** Tuesday 19 August, 8.45pm  
**Duration:** 1 hour  
**Tickets:** $29.75 - $35. Friends price available  
**NOTE** Seated performance.

This venue is wheelchair accessible.

**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.

**Genre:** Cabaret, Words & Ideas  
**Venue:** INPEX Sunset Stage   
**Dates & Times:** Wednesday 20 August, 7pm  
**Duration:** 1 hour  
**Tickets:** $40.80 - $48. Friends price available  
**NOTE** Seated performance.

This venue is wheelchair accessible.

**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.  
  
**Genre:** Family, Music  
**Venue:** INPEX Sunset Stage   
**Dates & Times:** Saturday 23 August, 5.15pm  
**Duration:** 55 minutes  
**Tickets:** $20 - $28. Friends price available  
**NOTE** Seated performance. Suitable for ages 0-5.

This venue is wheelchair accessible.

**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).  
  
**Genre:** Family, Music  
**Venue:** INPEX Sunset Stage   
**Dates & Times:** Friday 22 August, 5.15pm  
**Duration:** 45 minutes  
**Tickets:** $25 - $35. Friends price available  
**NOTE** Seated performance. Suitable for all ages.  
  
This venue is wheelchair accessible.

**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.  
  
**Genre:** Family, Music  
**Venue:** INPEX Sunset Stage   
**Dates & Times:** Saturday 9 August, 5.15pm  
**Duration:** 45 minutes  
**Tickets:** $25 - $35. Friends and Community Tix prices available  
**NOTE** Seated performance. Suitable for all ages.  
  
This venue is wheelchair accessible.

**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.  
  
**Genre:** Family, Music  
**Venue:** INPEX Sunset Stage   
**Dates & Times:** Saturday 16 August, 5.15pm  
**Duration:** 1 hour  
**Tickets:** $25 - $35. Friends and price available  
**NOTE** Seated performance. Suitable for all ages.  
  
This venue is wheelchair accessible.  
  
**INPEX Sunset Stage family events are proudly supported by McDonald’s**

**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!  
  
**Genre:** Music  
**Venue:** Festival Park  
**Dates:** Thursday 7 – Sunday 24 August (no shows Mondays)  
See darwinfestival.org.au for line-up and set times **FREE**  
This venue is wheelchair accessible.  
  
**Proudly supported by Darwin Port**

**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. **Genre:** Special Event  
**Venue:** Festival Park  
**Dates:** Thursday 7 – Sunday 24 August   
Tuesday – Sunday 5 - 9pm (closed Mondays) **FREE**   
**NOTE** Suitable for all ages.  
This venue is wheelchair accessible.  
  
**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!

Visit <https://staging.darwinfestival.org.au/plan-your-festival/festival-food/> for more food info!  
**Proudly supported by MatarazzIR**

**HEY DJ**

**A HIP HOP PARTY JAM**

A body movin’ celebration that is part-education, partnostalgic 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.  
  
**Genre:** Music, Dance  
**Venue:** INPEX Sunset Stage  
**Date & Time:** Friday 8 August, 9.30pm  
**Duration:** 1 hour 15 minutes **Tickets:** $40.80 - $48. Friends price available   
**NOTE** Standing event. Limited seating available. Your ticket gains you entry to *Club Awi* (18+) after the show.

This venue is wheelchair accessible.

**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.  
  
**Genre:** Music  
**Venue:** INPEX Sunset Stage  
**Date & Time:** Saturday 9 August, 9pm  
**Duration:** 1 hour **Tickets:** $40.80 - $48. Friends price available   
**NOTE** Standing event. Limited seating available. Your ticket gains you entry to *Club Awi* (18+) after the show.This venue is wheelchair accessible.

**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.  
  
**Genre:** Music, Dance  
**Venue:** INPEX Sunset Stage  
**Date & Time:** Friday 15 August, 9pm  
**Duration:** 1 hour **Tickets:** $25 - $48. Friends and Community Tix prices available   
**NOTE** Standing event. Limited seating available. Your ticket gains you entry to *Club Awi* (18+) after the show.This venue is wheelchair accessible.

**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.  
  
**Genre:** Music  
**Venue:** INPEX Sunset Stage  
**Date & Time:** Saturday 16 August, 9pm  
**Duration:** 1 hour **Tickets:** $40.80 - $48. Friends price available   
**NOTE** Standing event. Limited seating available. Your ticket gains you entry to *Club Awi* (18+) after the show.This venue is wheelchair accessible.  
  
**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!  
  
**Genre:** Music  
**Venue:** INPEX Sunset Stage  
**Date & Time:** Friday 22 August, 9pm  
**Duration:** 1 hour **Tickets:** $40.80 - $48. Friends price available   
**NOTE** All ages show. Standing event. Limited seating available. Your ticket gains you entry to *Club Awi* (18+) after the show.This venue is wheelchair accessible.

**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.  
  
**Genre:** Music  
**Venue:** INPEX Sunset Stage  
**Date & Time:** Saturday 23 August, 9pm  
**Duration:** 1 hour **Tickets:** $25 - $48. Friends and Community Tix prices available   
**NOTE** Standing event. Limited seating available. Your ticket gains you entry to *Club Awi* (18+) after the show.  
  
This venue is wheelchair accessible.

**CLUB AWI**

**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 curate 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.  
  
**Genre:** Late Night, Music  
**Venue:** INPEX Sunset Stage  
**Dates & Times:** Friday 8 August, 10.45pm – 2am  
Saturday 9 August – Saturday 23 August, 10pm – 2am

Friday 8 August - DJ R!OT + Mista Monk  
Saturday 9 August - Laundry Gallery x Country Struts Hoedown + BENNYGOLD  
Friday 15 August - Future Roots + DJ JEM w/ Afro House United  
Saturday 16 August - Peachy Party  
Friday 22 August - Croc Records  
Saturday 23 August - 2Lubly **Tickets:** $15 at the door. Friends price available   
**NOTE** Strictly 18+  
  
This venue is wheelchair accessible.

**MUSIC AT THE RAILS**

**Darwin’s favourite year-round live music venue hosts three unmissable, high-energy gigs this Festival  
  
Genre:** Music  
**Venue:** 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:** Friday 8 August, doors 7.30pm **Tickets:** $25 - $42. Friends and Community Tix prices available   
  
**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:** Saturday 16 August, doors 7.30pm **Tickets:** $35.70 - $42. Friends price available   
  
**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:** Sunday 17 August, doors 7pm **Tickets:** $59.90   
  
**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.   
  
**Genre:** Music  
**Venue:** Visitor & Event Centre, George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens  
**Date & Time:** Sunday 10 August, 5.15pm  
**Duration:** 1 hour **Tickets:** $37.40 - $44. Friends price available   
  
This venue is wheelchair accessible.  
This event is contains minimal language and is suitable for audiences who speak English as a second language.

**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.  
  
**Genre:** World Premiere, Dance  
**Venue:** The Esplanade  
**Date & Time:** Sunday 17 August, 6pm  
**Duration:** 45 minutes **FREE** (registration required)   
**NOTE** Bring a picnic blanket. Suitable for all ages.  
  
This venue is wheelchair accessible.  
  
**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.  
  
**Genre:** Special Event, Family  
**Venue:** The Esplanade  
**Date & Time:** Sunday 10 August, 9am - 12pm **FREE**   
**NOTE** Suitable for all ages.  
  
This venue is wheelchair accessible.  
This event is contains minimal language and is suitable for audiences who speak English as a second language.  
  
**Proudly supported by City of Darwin**

**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.  
  
**Genre:** Circus, Family  
**Venue:** Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory  
**Dates & Times:** Wednesday 13 – Friday 15 August, 5pm  
Saturday 16 & Sunday 17 August 10am & 5pm  
**Duration:** 45 minutes **Tickets:** $25 - $35. Friends price available   
**NOTE** Suitable for all ages.  
  
This venue is wheelchair accessible.  
This performance is partially subtitled or includes dialogue, background music and/or sounds.  
This performance is Auslan interpreted.  
This performance has been created to be less sensory-stimulating and overwhelming. It has a relaxed attitude to noise and movement and audience members are free to move about during the show.  
 **Presented by Darwin Festival and Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory**

**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.  
  
**Genre:** Special Event  
**Various venues, dates & times, visit darwinfestival.org.au for details  
FREE  
  
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.  
  
**Genre:** Words & Ideas  
**Venue:** Library & Archives NT  
**Dates & Times:** Wednesday 13 August, 5.30pm & 7pm  
**Duration:** 1 hour  **FREE**   
  
**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. **Genre:** Special Event  
**Venue:** The Spiegeltent, Sitzler Festival Lawn, in front of Parliament House  
**Date & Time:** Thursday 14 August, 4pm  
**Duration:** 2 hours **FREE** (bookings required)  
  
This venue is wheelchair accessible.  
  
**Proudly supported by ABC Radio Darwin**

**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.  
  
**Genre:** Film, Music   
**Venue:** Deckchair Cinema  
**Date & Time:** Thursday 7 August, 6.15pm (Gates open 5.45pm)  
**Duration:** 3 hours **Tickets:** $25 - $40. Friends and Community Tix prices available.  
  
**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 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 (p26)**

Fri 15 & Sat 16 Aug 7.30pm

**The Mixed-Race Tape (p36)**

Thu 7 Aug 11am

**Night Night (p33)**

Thu 14 Aug 11am

**POD (see darwinfestival.org.au for details)**

Thu 7 & Fri 8 Aug 9.30am & 11.30am

Mon 11 Aug 9.30am

**Wonderbox (p32)**

Wed 6 & Thu 7 Aug 9.30am & 12.30pm

Fri 8 Aug 9.30am  
  
**Proudly supported by Northern Territory Government, The Smith Family & DCOH**

**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 for more details.  
  
**Proudly supported by Northern Territory Government**

**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 for more details. A limited number of community tickets are available per event.  
  
**Proudly supported by Northern Territory Government**

**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 mustsee 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

**Genre:** Visual Arts  
**Venue:** Outstation Gallery Exhibitions **The Rictor Family Wednesday 6 – Saturday 30 August**  
Presented in association with Spinifex Arts Project  
  
**Conrad Tipungwuti Wednesday 6 – Saturday 30 August**

Presented in association with Jilamara Arts & Crafts

**2025 SALON des Refusés Thursday 7 – Sunday 24 August**

**Tiwi Ningani (Tiwi Today) Friday 8 – Friday 15 August**

Presented in association with Ngaruwanajirri Art Centre

**Motorbike Paddy Ngal Friday 8 – Friday 15 August**

Presented in association with Utopia Art Centre

**Dhamula Burarrwaŋa Saturday 9 – Saturday 23 Aug**

Presented in association with Buku-Larrŋgay Mulka

**Simone Arnol and Bernard Singleton Wednesday 6 – Saturday 23 August**

Presented in conjunction with 8 Hele Gallery

**VISUAL ARTS  
ALL VISUAL ARTS EVENTS ARE FREE**

**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.  
  
**Venue:** Darwin Visual Arts  
**Dates & Times:** Friday 25 July – Saturday 16 August  
Wednesday 12pm – 5pm, Thursday & Friday 10am – 5pm, Saturday 10am – 2pm  
  
This venue is wheelchair accessible.

This performance does not contain any music, sound or dialogue.  
This performance contains minimal language and is suitable for audiences who speak English as a second language.  
  
**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 Karrajarri Saltwater woman Jenna Mayilema Lee’s ongoing exploration of language, materiality and the transformation of inherited histories.  
  
**Venue:** Northern Centre for Contemporary Art  
**Dates & Times:** Wednesday 6 August - Saturday 27 September  
Wednesday – Friday 10am – 4pm, Saturday 8am – 2pm  
  
This venue is wheelchair accessible.

This performance is partially subtitled or includes dialogue, background music and/or sounds.  
  
**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.  
  
**Venue:** Reflection Room, DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Esplanade Darwin  
**Dates & Times:** Thursday 7 – Sunday 10 August, 10am – 5pm  
  
This venue is wheelchair accessible.

This performance is partially subtitled or includes dialogue, background music and/or sounds.  
This performance contains minimal language and is suitable for audiences who speak English as a second language.

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

**PAUL GURRUMURUWUY**

**Milkum ga walŋa: pattern, camera, life**Through the camera you can see creation happening. This exhibition showcases a unique vision for cocreation honed over years by this late Yolŋu performer, scholar and artist.

**Venue:** Midpul Art Gallery  
**Dates & Times:** Saturday 2 August – Saturday 11 October  
Wednesday – Friday 10am – 4pm, Saturday 10am – 1pm  
  
This venue is wheelchair accessible.

This performance is partially subtitled or includes dialogue, background music and/or sounds.

This performance contains minimal language and is suitable for audiences who speak English as a second language.

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

**Miyarrka Media**

**RANIPUY: 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.

**Venue:** Midpul Art Gallery  
**Dates & Times:** Saturday 2 August – Saturday 11 October  
Wednesday – Friday 10am – 4pm, Saturday 10am – 1pm  
  
This venue is wheelchair accessible.

This performance is partially subtitled or includes dialogue, background music and/or sounds.

**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.

**Venue: UNTiTLED gallery+studio**  
**Dates & Times:** Saturday 2 – Thursday 21 August  
Wednesday – Friday 10am - 4pm, Saturday 10am – 12pm  
  
This venue is wheelchair accessible.

This performance does not contain any music, sound or dialogue.  
This performance contains minimal language and is suitable for audiences who speak English as a second language.  
  
**Presented by UNTiTLED gallery+studio**

**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**

National Relay Service **1800 555 660** (free from landlines) or **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**

**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 Randazzo Properties**

**Wheelchair accessible**

If an event’s information does not state that the venue is wheelchair accessible, 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.

**Auslan interpretation**

Some events are 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.

**OUR FESTIVAL PARTNERS**

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Proudly supported by NORTHERN TERRITORY MAJOR EVENTS COMPANY

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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**

[**https://www.darwinfestival.org.au/support-us/donate/**](https://www.darwinfestival.org.au/support-us/donate/)

Darwin Festival is a not-for-profit registered charity. All donations over $2 are tax deductible.

**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)

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**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, *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, *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 Charls MLA and staff; Suzana Bishop CEO Department of Tourism and Hospitality; Trevor Cox CEO of NT Major Events and staff; Aunty 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  
  
Friends of the Festival pre-sale booking period from 9am Wed 4 June. General Public on sale from 9am Fri 6 June.**

**HOW TO BOOK**

**ONLINE**

**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

**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

**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**

**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 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).  
  
**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 for details.

**COMMUNITY TIX**

Some events 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** 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** or contact our box office.

**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

Head to <https://www.darwinfestival.org.au/plan-your-festival/venues/> for a Festival venue map and transport options

Visit 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

**UNTiTLED 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