



DARWIN FESTIVAL E-NEWS

Issue 7, June 2005

DARWIN FESTIVAL 11 - 28 AUGUST 2005

SNEAK PREVIEW OF THE DARWIN FESTIVAL 2005

The Darwin Festival 2005 is fast approaching, and have we got an exciting program lined up for everyone this year! We are excited to announce the return of the **Star Shell** in 2005; an entertainment-venue treat for the dry season. The all-in-one Festival hub, club and main stage will again be crammed with entertainment and activity for 18 nights of the Festival and will see the tropical Botanic Gardens transformed into a lively and colourful 'place to be' during the balmy August nights.

Everyone wants to know what events are going to be part of this year's Festival - so we have decided to give you a very small sneak peak at the program this year...

Australia's most popular comedy trio, **Tripod**, most well-known for their antics on the Triple J Breakfast show, will have audiences in stitches at their Star Shell performance.

One of Australia's most influential dance companies, **Australian Dance Theatre** will present their electrifying, post-modern reworking of *Swan Lake* with **Birdbrain** at the Darwin Entertainment Centre.

With a strong focus on free and family events, the Darwin Festival 2005 will see a weekend dedicated to the exotic and colourful **Kultura** on Saturday 20th August and **The Australian Central Teddy Bears' Picnic** on Sunday 21st August. Both events will again take place at the Botanic Gardens with Kultura featuring performances and workshops from local artists, Darwin schools and community groups. The weekend of free family entertainment is an annual Darwin Festival celebration.

Following on from the huge success of the **Santos Concert on the Esplanade**, the free concert will move back to its traditional Festival timeslot of Saturday night (13th August) and promises to be another fantastic night of live music and entertainment that offers some of the best Indigenous musicians the Territory has on offer.

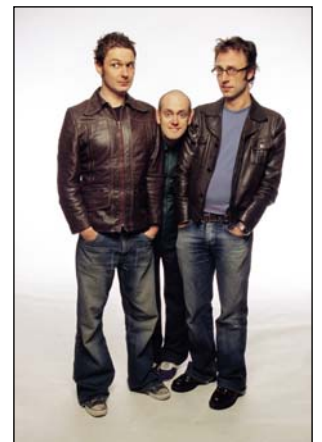
The highly anticipated Darwin Festival 2005 program will be launched on Tuesday 12th July.



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TRIPOD

The fun-loving, musical lads of **Tripod** will bring their brand new live show, **Self-Saucing** to the Darwin Festival Star Shell, so be prepared to buckle-up for a fast-paced onslaught of comedy and music with the colourful, lovable and downright sexy bundle of three.



Described by the Melbourne Herald-Sun as "**the funniest musical comedy act in the country**", Tripod have enjoyed sell-out shows at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival, Edinburgh Fringe Festival and were the popular regular guests of Wil Anderson & Adam Spencer on the Triple J Breakfast show.

Date: Fri 19 & Sat 20 Aug

Time: 8pm

Venue: Star Shell, Botanic Gardens

GREAT THRIFTY CAR HIRE DISCOUNTS!

If you are planning on visiting Darwin during the Darwin Festival and would like to take advantage of great car hire rates, then visit the Darwin Festival website and follow the link from the front page to book your discounted Thrifty car hire.

HOLIDAY PACKAGES TO DARWIN!

Just because you don't live in Darwin doesn't mean you have to miss out on the culture, the entertainment, the tropical climate and the amazing atmosphere of the Darwin Festival, because we have some excellent holiday deals from most capital cities in Australia.

Visit the Darwin Festival website, and follow the link from the front page to book your discount holiday package including flights, accommodation, Festival tickets, tours and more.

BECOME A PLUS CLUB MEMBER

Enjoy discounts on Festival shows and other performances around Darwin, receive invitations to special events during the Festival, receive regular newsletters, and save lots of money! Darwin Festival PLUS Club membership is valid for one year. **Complete the online registration form on the website or call the Darwin Festival office to become a member. Full member \$33 ; Concession \$22**

PLUS Club membership is a marketing based membership program. If you wish to vote at the AGM or nominate to become a Board member, you must become a Darwin Festival Association Incorporated member.

www.darwinfestival.org.au

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AUSTRALIAN CENTRAL TEDDY BEARS' PICNIC



The highlight of the year for Darwin kids - the Australian Central Teddy Bears' Picnic - is back!

For a great morning of entertainment and activities, bring the kids and the teddy bears down to the Botanic Gardens on Sunday 21st of August.

We'll have **Dag Dropsy**, with his amazing juggling, magic and the wild uni-cycle as well as other performers plus activities, face painting, play

equipment, story telling, craft and lots more!

Don't let the kids miss out on the event of the year!

Date: Sun 21 Aug
Time: 9am - 12 noon
Venue: Botanic Gardens
Price: FREE



BIRDBRAIN - Australian Dance Theatre

One of Australia's most influential dance companies, Australian Dance Theatre, will present their electrifying, post-modern reworking of *Swan Lake* with **Birdbrain**.



Drawing on elements of classical ballet, gymnastics, breakdance, yoga and contortionism, Birdbrain is essentially *Swan Lake* condensed and made sexy by Artistic Director Garry Stewart.

From performances in the United States, Canada and across Europe, Birdbrain will delight Darwin Festival audiences with their astounding airborne athleticism at breakneck speed.

Date: Thurs 25 & Fri 26 Aug
Time: 8pm
Venue: Darwin Entertainment Centre - Playhouse

KULTURA & PESONA INDONESIA - FREE

Discover the traditions, cultures and music of the world and celebrate Darwin's community spirit and multiculturalism at Kultura.



Kultura is a free annual event featuring performances, music, dance, workshops, and displays by Northern Territory schools, community groups and performers.

And, don't miss this year's special 60th Anniversary celebrations of Indonesian Independence at Pesona Indonesia – this special event will feature Indonesian entertainment including music, dance, performances, workshops and exhibitions.

Bring along your family, your friends and a blanket and sit back and enjoy the afternoon and evening of performances and entertainment. Come and lose yourself amongst the colour and excitement of this unique cultural event.

Date: Sat 20 Aug
Time: 12 noon onwards
Venue: Botanic Gardens
Price: FREE

SANTOS CONCERT ON THE ESPLANADE - FREE

The annual Santos Concert on the Esplanade is a huge free night of entertainment under the stars.



The concert typically attracts audiences of around 8000, and is a celebration of the Northern Territory's own talent and some of Australia's finest Indigenous musicians.

The two previous years saw Yothu Yindi, Drum Drum, Nabarlek Band, Shellie Morris, Saltwater Band and Yugul perform to appreciative crowds, from blanket dwelling picnickers to energetic dancers.

Date: Sat 13 Aug
Time: 6pm - 10.30pm
Venue: Bicentennial Park, The Esplanade
Price: FREE



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DISCOUNTS FOR DARWIN FESTIVAL PLUS CLUB MEMBERS

Darwin Festival PLUS Club members are eligible to purchase one member's priced ticket to each of the following upcoming Darwin Entertainment Centre events:

DEBORAH CONWAY & Willy Zygier

8pm Fri 24th June

F-price \$30, **Members \$25**, Conc/Grp 10+ \$27

Deborah Conway is recognised as one of the country's most articulate and individual voices, with a career spanning over 20 years. Deborah's new material is rendered with summertime warmth and charm, with influences ranging from Simon and Garfunkel to The Mamas and the Pappas and James Taylor. Settle back and relax into an evening of true song-craft: beautifully realised verses and engaging melodies blending together perfectly.

THE BAR AT BUENA VISTA

8pm Fri 15th and Sat 16th July

F-Price \$59.90, **Members \$55.90**, Conc \$49.90, Grp 10+ \$55.90

Back by popular demand, the spirit of Cuba returns to Darwin! Featuring original members of the Buena Vista Social Club and the Afro-Cuban All Stars this performance is a dedication to the music, the dance, the colour and the life of Cuba.

ABBAolutely fABBAulous

8pm Wed 20th July

F-Price \$35, **Members \$30**, Conc/Grp 10+ \$30

In 2003, this fantastic ABBA tribute group played to a sell out audience at the Darwin Entertainment Centre. Now, by popular demand...they're back! This performance covers all the great ABBA songs including *Dancing Queen*, *Waterloo*, *Mamma Mia*, *I Do I Do I Do*, *Ring Ring*, *Rock Me* and *Fernando*, in total over 30 musical memories.

Bell Shakespeare's THE TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA

8pm Tue 9th - Wed 10th Aug

F-Price \$39, **Members \$32**, Conc/Grp 10+ \$35

A biting comedy about love and friendship, *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* is one of Shakespeare's earliest romantic comedies and will delight audiences with its twists and turns involving the flawed but passionate gentlemen Valentine and Proteus – two friends who fall in love with the same woman.

CALLING FOR VOLUNTEERS

This is your opportunity to get involved with the Darwin Festival!



If you're looking for some fun work experience, you're keen to meet new friends from all over the world, or you just want to get involved in the excitement of the Darwin Festival, then register your interest to volunteer for the Darwin Festival 2005.

There are volunteer opportunities in a range of areas including staffing the information centre, distributing Festival promotional material, stuffing envelopes, answering phones, working in the box office, organising signage and displays, conducting market research, working at the Festival Club door and much more.

Visit www.darwinfestival.org.au/volunteer_register.html and complete the online registration form to register, email project@darwinfestival.org.au or call Michelle Wild on 08 8981 0083.

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