

HORIZON FESTIVAL 26 AUG - 4 SEP 2022

MEDIA RELEASE

Embargoed until **6.30am Friday 17 June 2022**

RISE AND SHINE: HORIZON FESTIVAL REVEALS A 2022 PROGRAM OF HOMEGROWN HITS AND WORLD-CLASS WONDER

The sun is rising on a wonderland of arts, culture and entertainment with the highly anticipated **Horizon Festival** revealing its uplifting and accessible 2022 program at a launch event on the sandy banks of the Maroochy River tonight.

Supporting a world-class line-up, Horizon Festival returns to the Sunshine Coast from **Friday 26 August to Sunday 4 September 2022**.

An impressive line-up of local acts and nationally recognised artists will perform in one of Australia's most stunning destinations across 10 days and nights of music, visual art, performance, dance, family entertainment, spoken word, comedy and workshops.

Sunshine Coast Council Mayor **Mark Jamieson** said he was delighted to welcome Horizon Festival back to the region after a tumultuous few years.

"Horizon is an exciting celebration of the arts and a great example of Sunshine Coast Council and our community working together to create a festival that pushes boundaries and surprises and delights all in attendance," Mayor Jamieson said.

"Our region's arts and cultural sector is thriving and the Festival's incredible program is a testament to the world-class talent and creativity that is developed and nurtured on the Sunshine Coast."

Horizon Festival Director Hannah Clissold said the themes of *People, Arts, Culture and Place* beat at the heart of the Festival's 2022 program.

"It has been a strange two years and we are delighted to unveil a program that invites everyone to come together, in person, and experience the beauty, wonder and talent that abounds on the Sunshine Coast," Ms Clissold said.

"This year is about reconnection; about revisiting the region and experiencing it anew, discovering – or rediscovering – a favourite artist or event and reinvigorating the Sunshine Coast's vibrant arts and cultural scene.

"Horizon Festival is committed to investing in local artists and presenting an inclusive and accessible program that welcomes visitors of all ages as well as centring Kabi Kabi and Jinibara artists at the heart of the festival".

The *Wonderland Spiegeltent* sits centre stage at the Festival's Cotton Tree Park hub and features 10 days and nights of programming, from family shows to late-night cabarets and concerts with acts including **Kate Ceberano, Steven Oliver and Justine Clarke**.

HORIZON

SUNSHINE COAST

10 ARTS-FUELLED DAYS | 24 AUG - 2 SEP 2018

Every morning, the *Wonderland Spiegel tent* will be commandeered by kids and their keepers with the space thoughtfully curated for the Coast's little artists and explorers.

The sun rises and sets on Horizon Festival with two ceremonies paying respect to the land's First Nations traditional custodians, the Kabi Kabi and Jinibara peoples.

The *Opening Ceremony* at Cotton Tree Park celebrates the region's oldest living culture through songs, language, ceremony, art, dance and music.

The program ends with signature event *Dawn Awakening*, a multi-arts celebration of remembrance, dreaming and ritual, directed by Lyndon Davis at Stumers Creek, Coolumb.

Ms Clissold said the 2022 program's visual arts component celebrated the many of the world class artists residing on the Sunshine Coast, and included key projects by Kabi Kabi and Jinibara artists, incorporating the region's stunning natural environment..

"Our program welcomes renowned national acts to the Sunshine Coast and pays homage to the fantastic musicians and artists who live and practice their art locally," she said.

"We feel incredibly proud to be able to grow our local talent pool and help artists develop and present work that grabs the attention of locals and visitors alike."

Horizon Festival's music program is a celebration of culture and place with musicians performing intimate shows in unique open air locations including Dicky Beach, Eumundi, Maleny and Baroon Pocket Dam.

A colourful performance program includes the Australian festival premiere of *Looks Like A Tourist*, a large-scale choreographic work with a cheeky perspective on place and tourism.

The spotlight shines on Cotton Tree Bay and Kings Beach Ocean Pool when they stage *The Sinkers*, a part-comedy, part-amateur synchronised swimming routine, and on The Old Lock Up at Maroochydore when it transforms into an immersive lab and pharmacy for *Medicament For Your Predicament*.

For program information and bookings, festival updates and behind the scenes info, visit horizonfestival.com.au and follow @horizonartfest on social media.

Horizon Festival delivers events within Queensland Health's COVID Safe framework. If a performance is cancelled due to COVID, patrons will be offered a full refund or the opportunity to transfer to a new date.

Horizon Festival is supported by the Queensland Government through Tourism and Events Queensland and features on the It's Live! in Queensland events calendar.

Sunshine Coast Council and Horizon Festival pay our deepest respect to the Traditional Custodians of this Country; the Kabi Kabi (Gubbi Gubbi) and Jinibara peoples of the vast Sunshine Coast region. First Nations people are the original storytellers and artists of these lands and we acknowledge the festival is enriched through the cultural contribution of First Nations artists.

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Media contact:

Jaishri Johnstone

Aruga

0404 188 615

jai@aruga.com.au

HORIZON FESTIVAL 2022 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

WONDERLAND SPIEGELTENT

From outdoor garden performances, circus, cabaret, creative workshops and spoken word, to live music, a dedicated creative space for families and delicious local eats, Wonderland Spiegeltent has something to inspire, delight and entertain everyone. Big-name acts include Kate Ceberano, Steven Oliver's *Bigger & Blacker*, *Le Coup*, *Common People Dance Project*, *Circus Wonderland*, Justine Clarke and *Babushka Kids*.

Friday 26 August to Sunday 4 September

LOOKS LIKE A TOURIST

This new, site-specific, large-scale choreographic work makes its world Festival debut across Horizon's opening weekend. Bringing together more than 50 community participants in inflatable orange suits, the visual spectacle explores the behaviours and impacts of tourism.

Friday 26 August – Sunday 28 August

MEDICAMENT FOR YOUR PREDICAMENT

An experimental pharmacy of political medicines, this immersive work includes *OPEN LAB!*, a hands-on workshop to diagnose and remedy matters close to the heart and *OPEN PHARMACY!*, a subversive retail space installation showcasing the medicaments made in the workshop and serving up quick and dirty prescriptions and the effervescent power of conversation.

Saturday 27 August – Thursday 1 September

THE SINKERS

Connect and sync when "the Sunshine Coast's most underwhelming synchronised swimming club" delivers a bracing dose of refreshing entertainment and humour. Pop your floaties on and participate or watch from the grandstands.

Saturday 27 August – Sunday 28 August

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DAWN AWAKENING

The community is invited to gather before dawn at Stumers Creek to witness a beautiful multi-arts celebration of remembrance, dreaming and ritual. Directed by Lyndon Davis, this signature event features local and national First Nations artists.

Sunday 4 September

OPEN AIR

Open Air is a celebration of place with concerts performed for an intimate audience and live-streamed for viewers outside the region to enjoy. Artists include Emily Wurramara, Andrea Kirwan, Yirinda, Cloe Terare and a Blak Social event with Aya J and Tia Gostelow.

Various dates

SONGS OF GAIA

Experience a world premiere performance, a poignant cross-cultural music performance at the foot of the Glasshouse Mountains that is an ode to Gaia (Mother Earth) at this time of environmental crisis.

Saturday 3 September

KABI KABI CONNECTIONS

This new media work creates visibility for the stories of the Kabi Kabi people and their contemporary representations of Country and is projected from the pier at Cotton Tree and the Wonderland Spiegeltent.

Friday 26 August – Sunday 28 August

HOMEGROWN

Celebrating its third year, Homegrown gives artists the opportunity to work closely with the Festival to develop and present their work. Projects this year include Guyu and friend Mr Pelican, Sand and Silence of the Jams.

Tuesday 30 August – Saturday 3 September

Various times and location

LISTEN MORE, NOT SPOKEN FOR

Listening walks have been created through the Maroochy Regional Botanic Gardens by a team of children in collaboration with Quandamooka artist Libby Harward, their families and our Mother Earth. A descendant of the Ngugi people of Mulgumpin (Moreton Island) in the Quandamooka, Listen More, Not Spoken For, breaks through the colonial overlay to connect us with the cultural landscape.

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Various times

CIRCA'A PEEPSHOW

Circa's Peepshow turns cabaret on its head, literally — that lurches from the thrillingly acrobatic to the comically playful. Expect teetering towers of balanced bodies, extreme bending, beguiling burlesque, and devilishly precarious aerials. Held in the Wonderland Spiegeltent, Cotton Tree Park, Maroochydore / Kabi Kabi Country.

Friday 26 August — Friday 2 September

Various Times

ENDS

Join the conversation:

