

WOMADELAIDE 2005 ARTISTS – edited information

Edited information gathered from artist biographies/ websites. Please visit artist website (link provided) or contact the WOMADelaide Publicity Office on (08)8 271 1488 for more information.

Adel Salameh Trio (Palestine/Algeria)

Palestinian oud (lute) virtuoso and composer, Adel Salameh, returns to WOMADelaide in 2005, ten years after having performed here in 1995 with India's K.Sridhar. Joining Adel on stage for this year's performance is the acclaimed Algerian born singer Naziha Azzouz, and Adel Shams El Din on percussion.

Performing as a soloist while still living in the Arab world, Adel Salameh emigrated to Europe in 1990 where he has since collaborated with musicians from a variety of musical backgrounds: Turkish, Spanish, (flamenco guitarist Eduardo Niebla) Indian, (sarod player K. Sridhar), French, English, Israeli and jazz musicians. Adel has performed to great acclaim around the world and has worked for many years with WOMAD and Real World.

For more information on Adel Salameh Trio visit:

www.adelsalameh.com

by arrangement with Hemisphere Productions

Akhter Jahan (Bangladesh/Australia)

Singer Akhter Jahan was a premier recording artist in Bangladesh before coming to Australia as a refugee. Since then she has developed a unique Australian blend of Bengali classical, folk and devotional music that delights both Bangladeshi/Indian and western audiences with its hypnotic rhythms, raaga beats, improvised east and west jazz and folk instruments and riffs, and above all a soaring and angelic voice.

For WOMADelaide Akhter will be accompanied by: Keith Preston: bouzouki, santoor, bodhran; David Kotlowy: guitar, bass guitar; Josh Bennett: 12-string guitar, sitar, dilruba; Saurav Mitra: tabla; Sylvan (Schmo) Elhay: flute.

For more information on Akhter Jahan visit:

www.akhterjahan.net

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Alpha Blondy (Cote D'Ivoire)

Australian Premiere

From the Côte d'Ivoire comes African reggae superstar, Alpha Blondy, on his first ever tour to Australia.

For over twenty years Alpha Blondy, known as the 'African Rasta', has been a voice for liberation with songs that convey passionate messages against apartheid, war and political corruption. Influenced by the greats Marley and Tosh, and even recording with The Wailers, Alpha's reggae beat has a distinctly African flair.

Alpha Blondy rose to fame in the early 80s with his debut recording *Jah Glory* in 1982, which featured the hit *Brigadier Sabary*. With some 13 albums to date (excluding 'best of'), and a Grammy nomination for Best Reggae Album of the Year for his 2003 album *Merci*, and an international following, Alpha Blondy is one of West Africa's most successful artists.

The multi-lingual Alpha sings in French, English, his mother tongue Dioula, plus other Ivorian and African languages, and in Hebrew and Arabic.

Alpha Blondy is joined on stage by the 10-piece reggae band - The Solar System.

The Audreys (Australia)

From footstomping to mournful melodies, wistful harmonies, original songs and old songs reworked, fiddle, banjos, acoustic and steel guitars and even a mandocello, that's what you'll hear from The Audreys, a folky/rootsy kind of band from Adelaide. They were a feature band at the 2004 FUSE Festival and were awarded a SAMI Award for Most Popular Australian Act in the same year. A CD is on the cards for 2005 as well as an extensive touring schedule.

The Audreys are: Taasha Coates: voice, melodica, harmonica, glockenspiel, baby accordion; Tristan Goodall: National reso-phonic guitar, acoustic guitar, banjo; Cam Goodall: banjo, 12-string acoustic guitar, harmonies, banjolin, mandocello; Mike Green (aka Mikey G): fiddle, mandolin, harmonies.

For more information on The Audreys visit:

www.theaudreys.com.au

Café of the Gate of Salvation (Australia)

".. passionate, footstomping gospel ...", Michael Magasanik, The Age

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Founded in 1986 by Tony Backhouse, Café of the Gate of Salvation is an a cappella choir inspired by the African-American gospel tradition. The choir's sound is an exhilarating mix of traditional spirituals, vocal hijinks from the quartet tradition of the 1940s, contemporary gospel and original songs penned by choir members. Rock, pop, funk, R&B and calypso rhythms have found their way into the gospel genre. It shoots from the heart its message of love, joy and hope.

32 singers will take the stage at WOMADelaide 2005.

For more information on Café of the Gate of Salvation visit:
www.cafeofthegateofsalvation.com.au

Capercaillie (Scotland)

From their humble beginnings in the wee highland village of Taynult in Argyll, Capercaillie are credited with being the major force in bringing Celtic music to the world stage. With a career that spans over two decades and 15 albums, Capercaillie are one of the biggest acts to ever come out of Scotland.

Capercaillie's unique brand of fusion and willingness to extend familiar instrumentation of fiddle, uilleann pipes, whistle, with samples, loops and cross-cultural experimentation, enables them to move easily from traditional Celtic music into modern layered sounds.

Capercaillie's stellar line-up includes Manus Lunny on bouzouki; Charlie McKerron on fiddle; Donald Shaw, keyboards and accordion; Ewen Vernal (ex-Deacon Blue) bass; David Robertson, percussion; Che Beresford, drums; and the ubiquitous Michael McGoldrick, former BBC Young Musician of the Year, on flute and pipes. Plus, the exquisite voice of Karen Matheson, considered by many to be the finest Gaelic singer alive today.

For more information on Capercaillie visit:
www.capercaillie.co.uk

Daara J (Senegal)

Australian Premiere

Exclusive

"Daara J are funk'n' fearsome polemicists and well worth discovering" Straight No Chaser

"Unmissable!" Andy Morgan, BBC review of Daara J at WOMAD Rivermead 2004

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Alhadji Man, Faada Freddy and N'Dango D are Daara J, one of Senegal's top hip hop crews, who last year were awarded a highly-coveted BBC World Music Award for Best African Act. The charismatic crew are one of the most explosive live acts to emerge on the world stage of late, and are the confident and positive new voice of African hip-hop.

The group's third and most recent release *Boomerang* was acclaimed by the UK's The Observer as "one of the best hip hop albums of the century".

Daara J, which means 'school of life', sing in Wolof, French and English, and their music is a mix of French or American rap, reggae, soul, funk, Cuban music and traditional African melodies.

supported by the French Embassy in Australia and French Music Export Office

Dulsori (South Korea)

Exclusive

"Spectacular, world class percussion performance", The Straits Times, 2004

Dulsori are a dynamic and unique Korean percussion group who highlight Korean traditional rhythm with a modern style. Dulsori – meaning 'sound of nature' – was established in 1984, inspired by a traditional Korean artform called Madangnori. The group's program for WOMADelaide features Samulnori (a traditional Korean music which imitates the sounds of nature), plus a powerful and exuberant contemporary performance of the ancient Taoism philosophy. The strong and mesmerising beats of Dulsori were recently featured at the Closing Ceremony of the 2004 Singapore International Arts Festival.

Dulsori are: JUNG Wooyul; CHA Hyun Jin; JUN Hyun Sook; HA Taek Hu; LEE Joong Won; (these names may change at late notice). Director MOON Map Hyun.

For more information on Dulsori visit:

www.dulsori.com

supported by the Korea Foundation

George Rurrambu & Birdwave (Australia)

George Rurrambu is a pioneer of Aboriginal rock music. In a career that began over 20 years ago with his internationally acclaimed band, Warumpi,(who recorded the first ever rock song in an Aboriginal

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language), or more recently as a solo professional artist, George is a respected and proud ambassador for his culture. He is a living legend to Aboriginal people all over Australia and much loved by non-Indigenous Australians for Warumpi's anthemic songs *Blackfella Whitefella* and *My Island Home*. He has achieved mainstream success both in Australia and overseas and in 2004 was recognised at the inaugural NT Music Industry Awards for his contribution to the music industry.

George last toured with Warumpi in 1999. He has since made countless appearances on television and radio, at festivals across Australia, toured Europe, and recorded a solo reggae album *Nerbu Message*. George has also turned his talents to theatre in the production *NERRPU Dhawu Rrurrambuwuy (The story of George Rrurrambu)*. He is in demand around the country as a speaker lecturing on Yolngu culture and music and has conducted cultural workshops in Berlin and Amsterdam.

George will be joined by four piece instrumental band Birdwave - Stuart Courtenay on drums; Brendan Hicks on bass; Robbie Courtenay on Hammond organ/Rhodes; and Anda Fellows on congas/percussion. The collaboration introduces an underlying funk, its roots in the Stax Volt sound, Motown; New Orleans funk, to the Jamaican roots of Studio One reggae.

Harper (Australia)

"he is by far the best harmonica player I've ever heard. He just bends that thing and makes it wai!",
Luke Jolly, Mixdown Magazine

Australian singer, harmonica virtuoso and didgeridoo player, Harper, has created quite a buzz at home and in the US where he tours regularly. Playing custom designed Bushman Harps, he is known for his innovative harp playing, powerful vocals, and original compositions.

Awarded Best Male Vocalist of the Year and Song of the Year (*I Swear I'm Innocent*) in 2004 at the Australian Blues Music Awards, Harper has also won the acclaim of US critics. Leading harmonica magazine *Guide to the Best of the Blues Harmonicas & Beyond* voted his 2003 release *Way Down Deep Inside* Album of the Year, and in addition the magazine awarded Nick The Sweet Harmonica Award and The Nasty Harmonica Award.

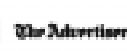
For WOMADelaide Harper will be joined by Adam Pringle on lead guitar, Chris Mawer on bass guitar and Jacob Cook on drums.

For more information on Harper visit:

www.harper.biz

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Jali Buba Kuyateh (The Gambia)

“Jali Buba Kuyateh is a captivating performer with exceptional skill and emotional power....” Doug De Vries - Australian guitar great

The multi-talented Jali Buba Kuyateh is a master of the West African kora, a dancer and singer. A prolific musician, Jali began playing the kora and composing at the age of ten, and now has over one hundred compositions to his name. Born into the famous Kuyateh griot family, Jali resides between Casamance in the south of Senegal, and Bakau in The Gambia. He is not only a master of his traditional kora tunes, but has also applied the kora to other styles such as the mbalax made popular by Youssou N’Dour, the soukous of Mali, and reggae, salsa, jazz and the blues.

For more information on Jali Buba Kuyateh visit:

www.jalibubakuyateh.com

by arrangement with K&S Promotions

Jim Moray 4 (England)

“...Moray is an impressive and wildly original new performer”, The Guardian.

The Times publication said of Jim Moray: *“...Jim Moray, whose fusion of trad ballads and beats on his Sweet England album is the hippest thing to hit the folk world in years.”* At just 22, Birmingham’s Jim Moray is single-handedly turning the English folk music world on its head.

Massively talented, Jim’s original contemporary interpretations of traditional English music has breathed new life into some of the oldest and most beautiful songs ever written. The UK media embraced his debut recording *Sweet England* as the greatest leap forward in English folk music for the last 30 years, and in 2004 won Album of the Year at the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards. Jim was also awarded The Horizon Award for Best Newcomer.

For more information on Jim Moray visit:

www.jimmoray.co.uk

Kronos Quartet (USA)

For over 30 years, the Kronos Quartet: David Harrington (violin), John Sherba (violin) Hank Dutt (viola) and Jennifer Culp (cello), have remained at the forefront of avant-garde music. Maintaining a

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singular artistic vision with a combination of fearless exploration and commitment to expanding their range and musical context has ensured Kronos its recognition as one of the most celebrated and influential ensembles of our time. Their extensive work, which includes more than 40 extraordinary recordings, has garnered numerous awards, including a Grammy for Best Chamber Music Performance (2004) and Musicians of the Year (2003) from Musical America.

Inspired by such broad influences as 20th-century masters (Bartók, Shostakovich, Webern), contemporary composers (Sofia Gubaidulina, Arvo Pärt, Alfred Schnittke), jazz legends (Ornette Coleman, Charles Mingus, Thelonious Monk), and artists from even farther afield (rock guitar legend Jimi Hendrix, Pakistani vocal master Pandit Pran Nath, avant-garde saxophonist John Zorn), Kronos have built a compellingly eclectic repertoire.

For more information on Kronos Quartet visit:
www.kronosquartet.org

Les Yeux Noirs (France)

Australian Premiere

Les Yeux Noirs weave musical magic with their energetic and brilliant interpretations of French, Yiddish and gypsy music.

Formed over ten years ago by frenetic violin virtuoso brothers, Eric and Olivier Slabiak, (sons of Jewish emigrants to Poland), who trained at the Brussels Conservatory, the energetic eight piece draw their audience into a dizzying vortex of Central European gypsy and klezmer sounds and images. Their music has been described as ‘Yiddish ‘n’ roll’.

In addition to the Slabiak brothers, Les Yeux Noirs are: Francois Perchat on cello; Pascal Rondeau on acoustic guitar and vocals; Franck Anastasio on electric bass; double bass, and vocals; Marian Miu on cymbalum; Constantin Bitica on accordion and Aidje Tafial on drums draw their audience into a dizzying vortex of Central European gypsy and klezmer sounds and images.

For more information on Les Yeux Noirs visit:
www.lesyeuxnoirs.net

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Lo'Jo (France)

Exclusive

“Lo'Jo have grafted together all their musical loves and obsessions like French chanson, Afro-beat, gypsy, Indian, funk, dub, Arabic, Berber and African music into a sound which you're unlikely to hear anywhere else on the planet or forget in a long long while,” Andy Morgan, UK.

The incomparable Lo'Jo, who the UK's Independent called *"one of the best live bands in the world"*, return to WOMADelaide for an exclusive Australian performance.

From Angers in the Loire Valley, France, a cultural centre of musicians, painters, poets, acrobats, circus artists and street theatre performers, Lo'Jo have forged an unmistakable musical identity and carnival-esque sound since its formation over 20 years ago. They are regular performers at WOMAD festivals and constantly travel the world collaborating with diverse musicians.

Lo'Jo are: Guillaume Bourreau; Richard Bourreau; Jérôme Lubin; David Lemonnier; Nicolas Meslien; Yamina Nid El Mourid; Nadia Nid El Mourid; Denis Péan; Jean-Paul Romann; Mathieu Rousseau.

At WOMADelaide 2005 Lo'Jo will join with renowned fire installation artists La Compagnie Carabosse for a unique performance – details to be announced.

For more information on Lo'Jo visit:

www.lojo.org

supported by the French Embassy in Australia and French Music Export Office

Mahinarangi Tocker (New Zealand)

Exclusive

“An amazing singer-songwriter...quick to impress with her stunning voice and her percussive guitar style... her voice remains achingly beautiful.” Simon Sweetman, The Dominion Post.

Mahinarangi Tocker is an extraordinary talent – singer, songwriter, musician, performer, actor and published poet. She has been writing music since the age of seven and performing since she was ten, and with over 600 compositions to her credit, Mahinarangi is undoubtedly one of New Zealand's most prolific and highly respected artists.

Mahinarangi Tocker is of Ngati Raukawa, Ngati Tuwharetoa, Ngati Maniapoto, Jewish and Celtic ancestry.

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Mahinarangi's WOMADelaide debut in 2005 will feature her newest work *The Mongrel in Me* which draws on the cultural strands of her ancestry. She will be joined by a stellar line-up of New Zealand's best musicians including: Shona Laing, vocals, acoustic guitar; David Downes, piano, drums, vocals; James Wilkinson, fretless bass, acoustic guitar, vocals; Jimmy Young, Northumbrian pipes, tin whistle, bodhran; Denny Stanway, vocals, bodhran; Anahera Higgins, bodhran, vocals; Ashley Brown, cello. Mahinarangi Tocker features on vocals, acoustic guitar, piano, percussion.

supported by Te Waka Toi (Creative New Zealand)

Mia Dyson (Australia)

"Dyson's bluesy grooves and rootsy rhythms are played with energy and poise every time. If someone with Dyson's voice, who can play and write like she can, isn't destined for blues-related greatness, then there's something seriously amiss with the world", Rhythms Magazine review

Singer, songwriter, guitarist Mia Dyson's original music is a blend of blues, soul and country. At only 22 years of age, Mia is renowned for her songwriting ability, an extraordinary depth of passion in her voice, and dynamic guitar technique. Mia's accomplished debut CD *Cold Water* was promptly acknowledged among ARIA's Best Blues and Roots Albums of 2003. Musical inspirations include Bonnie Raitt, Little Feat, Steely Dan, Lucinda Williams, alongside Tom Waits and Nick Cave.

Based in Melbourne, Mia has featured at the Port Fairy Folk Festival, the Byron Bay Blues and Roots Festival, as support for the likes of Eric Bibb, Tony Joe White and Renee Geyer, and toured Europe and North America in 2004.

For more information on Mia Dyson visit:

www.miadyson.com

Nadya's 101 Candles Orkestra (Australia)

A singer with diverse taste and experience, Nadya Golski is the guiding force behind this eclectic band of many influences and backgrounds: Australian, Irish, Macedonian, Polish, Russian, South American, Bosnian, Jewish. There is always a strong improvisational element in their performances, which lead from Eastern European Balkan and Gypsy rhythms and melodic structures, to Jazz and Latin refrains.

From a mixed Polish Australian background, Nadya began her career as a performer in Poland, where she worked for several months with the world famous Gardzienice Theatre Company, and following a stint singing in bars in Paris, returned to Australia to launch her career.

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Nadya's 101 Candles Orkestra will feature the following musicians: Nadya Golski - lead vocals; Rafal Dabrowski - keys, back vox; John Maddox - double bass, back vox
Dragi Kocoski – accordion; Blagojce Dimitrievski - clarinet and saxophone; Kiril Stojcevski - drums and tarabuka; Rick Faulkner – guitar; Daniel Weltlinger - violin
Christos Baltides – oud.

For more information on Nadya Golski visit:

www.nadya.com.au

Nick Parnell Trio (Australia)

“Parnell displays dazzling skill on marimba, xylophone and all things percussive”, The Advertiser.

One of Australia's best percussionists, Nick Parnell, teams with drummer sensation Tim Irrgang, and groove master Jo Fragnito in the Nick Parnell Trio.

Formed in 2004, this dynamic group performs original arrangements of African, Japanese, Spanish and Brazilian based works on instruments including marimba, steel pan, djembes, ethnic drums, cymbals, exotic bells and bongos. A graduate of the Adelaide Conservatorium of Music, Nick Parnell has studied with a number of the world's top musicians including Gary Burton (USA) and Uffe Savery of the Safri Duo (Denmark), and studied Gamelan music in Yogyakarta. He is well known for his exploration of cross over music and fusing classical music with other styles, and is due to release his first solo CD in 2005.

Tim Irrgang performs in a wide variety of styles from jazz to classical, and Jo is a major prize winner of the Australian Percussion Eisteddfod.

Not Drowning, Waving (Australia/PNG)

Thirteen years ago, Not Drowning, Waving joined the line-up at WOMADelaide's inaugural staging. Since that time the festival has presented the group's co-founder David Bridie in solo performance, or with Papua New Guinea artist Telek, and on another occasion with My Friend The Chocolate Cake. After an illustrious ten year career in which the band built a world-wide reputation, recorded six albums and two film soundtracks, Not Drowning, Waving folded in 1993. In 2005 they reform for a one-off appearance at WOMADelaide, with co-founders David Bridie and John Phillips, joining Telek (vox, guitar), Helen Mountfort (cello); Russel Bradley (drums), James Southall, (percussion), Rowan McKinnon (bass), Pius Wasi (wind instruments), Ben Hakalitz (percussion).

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Not Drowning, Waving's music was haunting, evocative, brooding, and eclectic, and they were unlike any band at the time. *"They were proudly, brilliantly unlike any band this country has produced. And the sound they made was as distinctive as it was indefinable. They wrote songs you could feel like sunlight on your skin, taste like salt left behind by the sea"* Jon Casimir.

Look out for a two-CD collection of Not Drowning, Waving songs due for release in March 2005. Titled *Through the one last door* it will be out on Liberation Music.

For more information visit:

www.davidbridie.com.au www.mana.com.au

Ozomatli (USA)

Los Angeles band Ozomatli are among the new breed of global music. The ten-piece play a kind of hi-octane pan-Latino dance music which mixes elements like ska, samba, salsa, punk, hip hop to varying degrees, funk, Tex Mex, swing and soul as well. Famous for their awesome live sets which create joyous havoc, they've conquered the USA and the world through relentless touring. Defiantly radical the multi-racial crew have never been shy about their commitment to social justice and anti-war convictions.

Ozomatli are: Jiro Yamaguchi: percussion; Wil-Dog Abers, bass, vocals; Justin Poree, percussion, MC, vocals; Asdrubal Sierra, trumpet, lead vocals; Raul Pacheco, guitar, lead vocals; Ulises Bella, tenor sax, clarinet, vocals; Mario Calire, drums; Rene 'Spinobi' Dominguez, turntablist; Jabu Smith-Freeman: MC; Sheffer Bruton, trombone

For more information on Ozomatli visit:

www.ozomatli.com

In association with Falls Festival

Patrick Duff and Alex Lee (England)

Exclusive

Former Strangelove lead singer Patrick Duff, and Alex Lee (ex Suede and Strangelove) created quite a buzz at WOMAD Reading last year with their unique combination of maverick genius. Having first worked together in the rock band Strangelove, who achieved critical acclaim and chart success with three albums, Patrick and Alex have now re-united.

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Patrick's solo career has seen him working with Adrian Utley, of the band Portishead, legendary sixties veteran harmonica player Pete Trill and South African singer Madosini and WOMAD. Alex Lee has worked on numerous film and TV soundtracks as well as playing sessions for Bristol bands Alpha and Lupine Howl.

For more information on Patrick Duff and Alex Lee visit:
www.patrickduff.net

The Pigram Brothers (Australia)

Brothers Alan, Stephen, David, Colin, Philip, Peter and Gavin form the Pigram Brothers band today. The seven piece country folk/rock band hail from Australia's north west pearling town of Broome, WA and it is fair to say the Pigram Brothers are now considered Kimberley music icons. The band and their music reflects the laid back style and exotic cultural mix of their homeland, their indigenous ancestry, and the Kimberley's spectacular landscapes and 'saltwater country'.

Their hugely successful debut recording *Saltwater Country* (1996) produced by Shane Howard of Goanna fame, was voted Best Debut Album at the National Indigenous Music Awards in Sydney 1998, and their 2001 release *Jiir*, was produced by Kerryn Tolhurst (of Dingoes fame). The group's theatre credits include composing and performing the music for the internationally proclaimed productions of *Bran Nue Dae* and *Corrugation Road*.

The line-up for WOMADelaide 2005 includes: Alan Pigram, lead guitar, mandolin, ukulele, tiple; Stephen Pigram, singer, acoustic guitar, harmonica, requinto, vahlia, ukulele, dulcimer; David Pigram, singer, acoustic guitar; Colin Pigram, singer, acoustic guitar; Philip Pigram, singer, drums; Peter Pigram, bass guitar; Gavin Pigram, percussion.

For more information on The Pigram Brothers visit:
www.pigrammusic.com

Richie Havens (USA)

Australian Premiere

After many years of touring North America and Europe, 'Living Legend' Richie Havens travels to Australia for the first time in March 2005. WOMADelaide 2005 will be his first ever performance in Australia.

Richie Havens is a hero of the Woodstock generation. Called back for endless encores after opening the Woodstock festival in 1969, Richie finally improvised a song based on the old spiritual *Motherless*

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Child that then became *Freedom* (now considered the anthem of a generation) on the film *Woodstock* reaching a worldwide audience of millions.

Richie's fiery, poignant, always soulful, singing style has remained unique and ageless since he first emerged from the Greenwich Village folk scene in the early 60s. A prolific artist, for the last three decades, Havens has toured non-stop and released over twenty albums – his latest *Grace of the Sun* was released in July 2004.

For more information on Richie Havens visit:
www.richiehavens.com

by arrangement with Hocking and Vigo

Sally Ford and The Pachuco Playboys (Australia)

Sultry Cuban grooves from the seven-piece Sally Ford and The Pachuco Playboys... Sally Ford and Patrick Cronin, the names behind one of the most successful groups on the Australian roots music scene, Texicali Rose, have a new musical project – Sally Ford and the Pachuco Playboys, which plays the roots of salsa – son montuno, boogaloo and cha cha cha.

Two of Australia's most respected latin percussionists Javier Fredes and Leo Salvo (Los Cabrones), join the driving rhythm section of Chris Lesser (piano), Conrad Henderson (bass) and Lliam Freeman (guitar). And together with Sally Ford's powerful bel canto vocal style and Patrick Cronin's soulful trumpet, this is one danceable and exciting Latin band not to be missed at WOMADelaide 2005.

They've had crowds dancing at Queenscliff, Mildura and Port Fairy Festivals, Melbourne Festival Club, Echoes of Freedom festival, and at the Famous Spiegeltent late last year where they launched their debut CD *Sol de Abril* (April Sun).

Silvia Entcheva (Bulgaria/Australia)

Outstanding vocalist Silvia Entcheva was formerly a member of the Grammy Award winning Bulgarian choir Le Mystere Des Voix Bulgares, with whom she toured extensively. In Australia since 1994, Silvia has been a soloist with the Martenitsa Choir, formed the Silvia Entcheva Trio (with Llew Kiek and Kim Saunders) and performed at a number of music festivals around Australia. A more recent project is the a cappella trio Pippero, a Bulgarian style women's singing group, with Mara Kiek and Jarnie Birmingham.

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In Australia Silvia's credits include singing in the Adelaide Festival opera *Flamma Flamma*, recordings with Mara! and the Martenitsa Choir, and released her first CD *The Donkey Drank Wine* with the Silvia Entcheva Trio, which was nominated for World Music Album of the Year in 1999. Silvia was also nominated for Female Artist of the Year in 1999 and 2000.

For WOMADelaide 2005, Silvia will perform two solo vocal sets.

For more information check out:

<http://www.ether.com.au/entcheva/>

Te Matarae i Orehu (New Zealand)

Founded by distinguished Maori tohunga Irirangi Tiakiawa, Te Matarae i Orehu are a powerful strong group of Maori kapa haka dancers. The performers hail from the shores of Lake Rotoiti on New Zealand's North Island, within the tribal boundaries of Te Arawa, and take their name from the sacred headland of Orehu.

The renowned group continually push the boundaries of traditional Maori performing arts in a contemporary society, and in 2000 they won the top award of national kapa haka champions at the Aotearoa Maori Performing Arts Society Festival. In 2001 Te Matarae i Orehu collaborated with the Royal New Zealand Ballet in the production *Ihi FrENZy* which featured the music of Split Enz, and which subsequently went on to tour the UK and Canada.

Kapa haka are the traditional Māori performing arts. Te Matarae i Orehu will feature 25 performers on stage at Womadelaide 2005.

Supported by Te Waka Toi (Creative New Zealand)

Tony Mac Mahon (Ireland)

"Tony Mac Mahon is one of the most accomplished button accordionists ever... exceptional." The Irish Echo.

"One of the great Irish Traditional Musicians of our time", The Irish Voice.

Button accordion player Tony Mac Mahon is an icon of traditional Irish music. Renowned for his extraordinary interpretations of the old songs of Ireland, his music has been described as a language of passion.

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For over three decades this legend of the accordion has played and worked with the greats, including Seamus Ennis, Joe Cooley and Sean O’Riada, recorded three solo albums (on Gael-Linn), appeared on numerous collaborations, and spent many of those years as a broadcaster and producer on Irish television and radio, promoting and preserving traditional Irish music.

For WOMADelaide, Tony will perform solo and as special guest with the Kronos Quartet.

For more information on Tony Mac Mahon visit:

www.thepuredrop.info

Ustad Rashid Khan (India)

Australian Premiere

“The immensely gifted Ustad Rashid Khan is one of the leading torch bearers of Hindustani classical vocal music..... the sheer magic of his voice is known to jolt first time listeners into musical awareness!” Hindustan Times, Oct 2004

From a long lineage of famous singers, Rashid Khan is the most illustrious exponent of the Rampur gharana* of singing. Rashid’s growth from a child prodigy to a maestro has been phenomenal. He excels in every aspect of North Indian ‘khayal’ singing – voice, phrasing and virtuosity. He is known for his perfect control of melody and rhythm, and for the infusion of emotional content into his melodic elaboration (this was generally considered to be lacking in the styles of the older exponents). Pandit Bhimsen Joshi, the doyen of classical singers, now in his 80s, when asked recently who would inherit his mantle, said, "Rashid Khan".

* Rampur was a princely state in pre-Independent India ruled by Muslim nawabs who were patrons of music, and Gharana names normally are place names.

For more information on Ustad Rashid Khan visit:

www.ustadrashidkhan.com

Presented by arrangement with the Nataraj Cultural Centre and assisted by the Australia-India Council and the Indian Council for Cultural Relations

Vusi Mahlasela (South Africa)

"Vusi has a light on in him, something he would share with Bob Marley, or Neil Young, Marvin Gaye, Miles Davis, he has that sort of profound beauty."

Billboard Magazine.

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"He was a voice during the revolution, a voice of hope, like a Woody Guthrie or Bob Dylan of South Africa, and he still is." Dave Matthews

Born to music, accomplished guitarist, percussionist, composer, arranger, bandleader and performer, Vusi Mahlasela is blessed with the gift of song. His commanding voice and songs of peace and reconciliation have made him an integral part of the political and artistic fabric of South Africa for many years and have brought him a worldwide following. 1991 Nobel Prize winner, Nadine Gordimer, described Vusi as "...a national treasure". In 1994, Vusi was asked to perform one of the most important gigs of his life, the inauguration of South Africa's new president Nelson Mandela.

Vusi Sidney Mahlasela Ka Zwane was born in 1965 in Lady Selbourne, near Pretoria, and grew up in Mamelodi township, (where he still lives) a cradle of creativity that has produced a number of noted poets, writers, artists & musicians. He has recorded six highly acclaimed albums, the 1991 debut *When You Come Back* widely acknowledged as a South African classic. He is featured in *Amandla! A Revolution in Four-Part Harmony*, the celebrated film about the importance of music and song in South Africa's anti-apartheid struggle, and his songs have appeared on high profile compilation albums, including the Oscar-nominated 'Mandela' soundtrack. Vusi has featured at the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage festival alongside Hugh Masekela & Friends, opened for Ladysmith Black Mambazo, and recently toured extensively throughout North America.

For more information on Vusi Mahlasela visit:
www.vusimahlasela.com

By arrangement with Jaslyn Hall Presents

Yair Dalal & the Asmar Ensemble (Israel)

"Yair Dalal is a fine oud and violin player who draws on his Iraqi Jewish and western classical musical roots to create a synthesis that is both individual and traditional... Dalal's great strength lies in the clarity, poise and deep musicality of his oud playing..." Songlines.

Six years ago, one of Israeli music's leading figures, Yair Dalal made his Australian debut at WOMADelaide 1999 with the Al Ol Ensemble. In 2005 he makes a welcome return, joined on stage by the Asmar Ensemble. A prolific composer, oud and violin player, Dalal's evocative music reflects the affinity he has with the desert and its inhabitants. He interweaves the traditions of Iraqi and Jewish Arabic music with a diverse mix of musical influences from the Balkans to India to create a unique and

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colourful sound. As a peace activist, Dalal has devoted much of his musical life to promoting peace in particular, between Jews and Arabs.

For WOMADELAIDE 2005, Yair Dalal will be joined by the Asmar Wnsemble, who are: Erez Mounk, tabla and percussion; Yotam Haimovitch, sitar; Itamar Shahaar, ney; Haim Ankri, vocal.

In addition to Yair Dalal's performances with the Ensemble, he will also orchestrate the popular All-Star Jam event.

For more information on Yair Dalal visit:

www.yairdalal.com

supported by the Embassy of Israel, Canberra.

Zap Mama (Belgium/Congo)

Exclusive

Marie Daulne and Zap Mama make music that sounds like a one woman multicultural movement, melding African percussion, American soul and European urbanity."

-Time Magazine

Zap Mama's return to WOMADELAIDE in 2005 will mark 10 years since the group and its charismatic leader Marie Daulne graced a WOMADELAIDE stage. At that time, the a cappella group had seduced the entire world with their eclectic mix of pygmy songs and Afro-Cuban rhythms. Since then, the visionary Daulne has transformed her music into a soundsystem that at the same time combines hip-hop, R&B, dub, Afropop and soul.

Established in 1990, Zap Mama released its debut *Adventures in Afropea* in 1993 on David Byrne's Luaka Bop label, followed by the 1994 *Sabsylma* which was nominated for a Grammy for Best World Music release. Subsequent releases saw the group working with instrumentalists, and collaborating with popular R&B and hip-hop artists. Following the success of her work on the *Mission Impossible II* soundtrack, Marie moved to New York and eventually to Philadelphia where she forged a strong relationship with one of the most prolific music communities in the US. She's also jammed in the studio with the likes of Bilal and Nelly Furtado, and joined Erykah Badu's band, for the singer's 2003 national tour.

For more information on Zap Mama visit:

www.zapmama.be

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Site Program

THE MORA BROTHERS (CUBA)

A WOMADelaide Foundation Artist Residency

The WOMADelaide Foundation presents an exciting visual arts project for 2005 featuring Cuban artists, brothers Filiberto and Yanoski Mora ... papier-mâché inventors extraordinaire!

“For us there is nothing more elementally powerful than the process of creating with paper, flour, paint and the imagination” - Filiberto Mora, Havana, Cuba.

The Mora Brothers are two remarkable artists living in Havana, Cuba. Their subject matter ranges from small-scale replicas of Havana taxis, spilling over with luggage, passengers and animals, to life size copies of shocking pink Chevrolets and gleaming Harley Davidson motorbikes.

Their work also includes wonderful decorative paper sculptures of Afro-Cuban saints and Orishas. Working together as a team, they offer a witty and affectionate insight into the day-to-day life found on the streets of Havana, with a wry perspective on Cuban urban culture.

Their link with the Buena Vista Social Club (BVSC) has resulted in the creation of several domestic sized pieces. One immortalises the now world famous musicians where the car is being driven by Ibrahim Ferrer with passengers, Omara Portuondo, Orlando ‘Cachaito’ Lopez and the late Compay Segundo.

The Moras will join with 20 South Australian artists in a week-long workshop program in association with the Community Arts Network in the lead up to WOMADelaide. They will be creating specially designed pieces to be completed over the three days of the festival.

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