

ARC presents *Mirabooka*

Synopsis

Mirabooka is a collaboration between Indigenous performance group "Nunukul Yuggera" and musical ensemble "Visions of a Nomad"

The two groups have a track record of working together, they produced their first highly successful theatre show "ARC dreaming" in 2001 which received standing ovation and rave reviews on their tour's to Europe, Ireland and Greece. In this ancient and modern ceremony our host, Nunukul Yuggera leads a spectacular corroboree, empowered and ornamented by a cultural cast of local and global musicians.

The topic of reconciliation has always been the driving force between the collaboration. ARC is a meeting place of Cultural integrity.

The working process involved is of an organic nature and the cast of ARC adheres to Indigenous protocols. Ideas for the content of the show are open to all members of the cast, it's a unique and harmonious working ethic that has proven to produce fantastic results.

Naturally people are curious to explore that what's unknown, the artist involved are passionate about changing the nature of things for the good through exploring new territory yet ARC is also about preserving traditional Culture, Law and Ceremony. Through using Cultural parallels in elemental ceremonial and archetypal mediums, ARC strives to embellish the storyline of Aboriginal Culture in its past, present and future form.

Making Aboriginal culture accessible to our young generations by using popular musical genres like hip hop fusing in with culture, this unique production also utilises the sacred elements of western Classical, Jazz and World music. A variety of genres in Western music are used as a parallel to the European world of theatre and the Aboriginal world of ceremony, both sacred in establishing communication, manifestation, creativity and social change.

A tableau of stories are linked, covering aspects of ancient, urban and present Aboriginal Culture. The show is all about energy, a modern ceremony, ARC is about making people feeling inclusive to both Indigenous and non Indigenous Culture.

Mirabooka is a follow up on ARC dreaming and includes digital backdrops, created by Michael Cuming, key member and composer of "Visions of a Nomad".

The digital backdrop displays an array of scenery from Stradbroke Island and the Ipswich region of Queensland, the ancestral home of Nunukul Yuggera, as well as animation and collage and awesome wildlife photography, two years in the making, the backdrops add to the show as an important feature.

Examples of featured story's in Mirabooka

Mirabooka

Meaning, the formation of the southern cross is a story set in ancient times about a young fellow called Mirabooka. Tribes were at war and going for each other at a place now called Mount Coot-tha in Brisbane, Bayami (God) noticed that the young warrior Mirabooka was a special person, Bayami also noticed that Mirabooka never broke any laws, Bayami decided that Mirabooka's spirit should be placed as a star in the sky. Mirabooka spirit shines as the brightest star in the sky when we look at the formation which we now call the southern cross.

Surging sea

The tide of colonisation is a piece that explores the experience of the first ships arriving on the shores of Australia from an Aboriginal perspective.

The polyrhythmic rhythms and the dance associated within this piece is an invocation, it draws a parallel with the colonisation of Australia and the battle between people of the land and people of the sea.

Like waves crashing on a cliff they rebound against each other and create an opposing gravity of the battling forces, this dance has been performed by many different Aboriginal language clans as a healing and mourning for the loss of culture identity and way of life.

Waves- premonition dreams of change

Set in the time of pre colonisation, initially only a few elders are aware of the coming changes through premonition dreams. The men interpret their dreams as an omen of change and darker days to come.

No pre recorded music is used in the show for the purpose of maintaining the integrity of Ceremony.

The evocation of the music is parallel with the invocation of the spirit of the dance, song and music being a universal language, problems, predicaments and solutions are explored through the work.

Within the show, the cast explores to cross boundaries, musically and choreographically.

New urban stories are being told through the medium of dance, storytelling and music, yet, the strong traditional roots are never forgotten and take up a big part of the show.

The show is a non stop continuation of repertoire, one piece flows into the next seamlessly. This format forces the audience its full attention and truly brings the magic and energy of this mesmerising and powerful performance alight.

There is no limit to experimenting within Mirabooka, the audience is exposed to a unique, very different approach to modern day story telling.