

10 GLORIOUS DAYS OF MUSIC IN CENTRAL AUSTRALIA

# DESERT SONG

FESTIVAL

ALICE SPRINGS • 8-17 SEPTEMBER 2017

CELEBRATING DIVERSITY, HOLDING HANDS TOGETHER



# 2017 PROGRAM

[WWW.DESERTSONG.COM.AU](http://WWW.DESERTSONG.COM.AU)



**FRIDAY 8 SEPTEMBER**

**FIRST Festival DAY**

12 noon - 2pm: The Piano - Todd Mall

Venue Details: Todd Mall Alice Springs



'Play me!' Desert Song Festival invites you to excite 'ebony and ivory' and enliven the CBD with harmony and melody...

**FRIDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 5.30PM**

**The Parade of Performers**

**Todd Mall**

Choirs, singers and musicians ignite Todd Mall with sound, colour and harmony in creative movement towards the Flynn Lawns for 'First Nite' - the Festival opening event.

**FRIDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 6.00PM - 7.30PM**

**'First Nite'**

**The Festival Opening Event at Flynn Church Lawns in the CBD**

\$ Free event.

Come and help launch the 2017 Desert Song Festival with a rousing celebration! A CBD event staged on the Lawns of the John Flynn Memorial Church. Join festival headline act Poco Tutti, Asante Sana, the Central Australian Aboriginal Women's Choir, 'Q' Tamala Express and much more - a 'taster' of what is to come!



**FRIDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 7.45PM**

**'Desert Song Central' the Festival Club at The Watertank Café**

Venue details:

16 Wilkinson St, Ciccone NT 0870

\$10 door entry.

Featured Artists:

Tamala Express;

Robby Wirramanda Knight

Excellent food, BYO, quality musicians and the great Desert Song Festival atmosphere.



**SAT 9 SEPTEMBER**

12 Noon - 2pm: The Piano - Todd Mall

Venue Details: Todd Mall Alice Springs

'Play me!' Desert Song Festival invites you to excite 'ebony and ivory' and enliven the CBD with harmony and melody...

**SAT 9 SEPTEMBER 6.30PM**

**DESERT VOICE**

**at Araluen Arts Centre**

Venue Details: 61 Larapinta Dr, Araluen NT 0870

\$30 Adult/\$15 Concession /\$10 Child/\$65 Family

Booking: araluenartscentre.nt.gov.au

or at the Araluen Box Office

The Signature Choral event of the 2017 Desert Song Festival featuring Festival Headline Act - Poco Tutti, Asante Sana, the Central Australian Aboriginal Women's Choir, Warren H Williams, 'Q', Joaquin Hour and much more.....



**ANANGUKU ARA**

**An Exhibition by**

**Emma Stuart, Barbara Stuart, Wei Luan and Alison Anderson**

Curated by Rebekah Stuart

**Opening** Friday 25 August

at The Art Shed, 6 - 8PM

**Exhibition** 25 August 20 September

at The Art Shed, 10 Crispe St, Alice Springs, NT

Desert Song Festival proudly presents 'Ananguku Ara', an exhibition in which Alison Anderson, Barbara Stuart, Emma Stuart and Wei Luan collaborate to present a distinctive vista of Central Australia, its land, lore and people.

Weekly workshops, artists' talks, walk-throughs, field trips, music and more. Check website for full program details.



Painting (detail) Barbara Stuart and Alison Anderson







**SUNDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2.00PM - 4.30PM**

**PENTATONIC**

Venue details: The Stuart Town Gaol 8 Parsons St, Alice Springs NT 0870

\$20 Adult/\$10 Concession, students and children / \$40 Family

Booking:  
<https://www.trybooking.com/QYZN>

A promenade concert in 5 heritage places: the Stuart Town Gaol, the Old Law Courts, Flynn Memorial Uniting Church, the Hartley St School room and the Residency:

A two-and-a-half-hour feast of Masterworks, Guitar, Cello, 'Poco Tutti', vocal virtuosity and much more...

Complimentary canapés to finish.



**SAT 9 SEPTEMBER 8.00PM**

**'Desert Song Central' the Festival Club at Watertank Café**

Venue details: 16 Wilkinson St, Ciccone NT 0870  
\$10 door entry.

Featured Artist: Warren H Williams

Excellent food, BYO, quality musicians and the great Desert Song Festival atmosphere.



**SUNDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 5.15PM**

**SACRED SONG**

Venue details: Flynn Church Lawns in the CBD

\$ Free event

Sacred Song celebrates sacred music from a diversity of faith traditions: Samoa, Africa, Pitjantjatjara, Western Arrarnta, Maori, Buddhist Kirtan, Christian Traditions and many others. Come at 5.00pm. Sit on the Lawns and experience the moving music from local faith communities as the sun sets on another beautiful Central Australian spring day.

**MONDAY 11 – FRIDAY 15 SEPTEMBER**

Desert Song Festival Schools and Community program. Headline Act Poco Tutti, Artist in Residence 'Q' and Sisters of Invention engage local schools, community groups and the disability sector with a program of workshops, performances and masterclasses.

**MONDAY 11 SEPTEMBER**

**11.00AM**

The Piano on Todd Mall

Venue details: Todd Mall, Alice springs

'Play me!' Desert Song Festival invites you to excite 'ebony and ivory' and enliven the CBD with harmony and melody...

**MONDAY 11 SEPTEMBER**

**12 NOON - 2PM**

**'Midday in the Mall'**

Venue Details: Todd Mall Alice Springs

\$ Free event

School groups, buskers, pop-up choirs and musicians: main course performances to accompany your lunch in the CBD.





**MONDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 2PM - 3PM**

**The Piano on Todd Mall**

Venue Details: Todd Mall Alice Springs

'Play me!' Desert Song Festival invites you to excite 'ebony and ivory' and enliven the CBD with harmony and melody...

**MONDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 6.00PM**

**'Vocal Jam' at The Residency**

Venue details: Cnr of Parsons & Hartley Streets, Alice Springs

A cappella at its best and 'unplugged' instrumental ensembles!

\$20 Adult/\$10 concession/\$5 Child/\$30 Family

Booking: trybooking.com/QZAT

Featured Artists: Splinter Sisters, Shavings

**TUESDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 11.00AM**

**The Piano on Todd Mall**

Venue Details: Todd Mall Alice Springs

'Play me!' Desert Song Festival invites you to excite 'ebony and ivory' and enliven the CBD with harmony and melody...

**TUESDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 12 NOON - 2PM**

**'Midday in the Mall'**

Venue Details: Todd Mall Alice Springs

School groups, buskers, pop-up choirs and musicians: main course performances to accompany your lunch in the CBD

**TUESDAY 12 SEPTEMBER**

2pm - 3pm

**The Piano on Todd Mall**

Venue Details: Todd Mall Alice Springs

'Play me!' Desert Song Festival invites you to excite 'ebony and ivory' and enliven the CBD with harmony and melody...

**TUESDAY 12 SEPTEMBER**

**7.30PM - 9.30PM**

**THE FESTIVAL RECITAL CSC THEATRETTE**

Venue details:

CSC Theatre Grevillea Dr, Alice Springs NT 0870

\$40 Adult/\$20 Concession/\$15 child/\$75 Family

Booking: trybooking.com/QZBC

Featuring two exceptionally gifted artists: the talented Argentinian pianist Joaquin Hour,

whose sophisticated piano songs evoke a sense of vast landscapes with hints of nostalgia. His minimalistic style is influenced by the likes of Philip Glass, Yann Tiersen and Erik Satie.

Quetzal Guerrero the 2017 festival 'Artist in Residence' –

One of the world's most exciting electric violinists. Also known as QVLN, Quetzal is a prodigious, genre-hopping artist whose virtuosity on his trademark electric-blue violin reflects his Mexican/Brazilian and Native American Indian roots.

The night concludes with nibbles and more entertainment in the foyer of the CSU Theatre: a concert-ending party!

**WEDNESDAY 13 SEPTEMBER**

**11.00AM**

The Piano on Todd Mall

Venue Details: Todd Mall Alice Springs

'Play me!' Desert Song Festival invites you to excite 'ebony and ivory' and enliven the CBD with harmony and melody...

**WEDNESDAY 13 SEPTEMBER**

**12 NOON - 2PM**

**'Midday in the Mall'**

Venue Details:

Todd Mall Alice Springs

School groups, buskers, pop-up choirs and musicians: main course performances to accompany your lunch in the CBD

**WEDNESDAY 13 SEPTEMBER**

**2PM - 3PM**

**The Piano on Todd Mall**

Venue Details: Todd Mall Alice Springs

'Play me!' Desert Song Festival invites you to excite 'ebony and ivory' and enliven the CBD with harmony and melody...

**WEDNESDAY 13 SEPTEMBER**

**3.00PM**

**TÊTE-A-TÊTE at Flynn:**

Venue details: Flynn Church, Todd Mall Alice Springs

**'Sound Track for a Revolution'**

A conversation with Morris Stuart – the Festival Director \$Free

**WEDNESDAY 13 SEPTEMBER**

**7.30PM**

The Konzerthall Hartley St. Schoolroom

Venue details:

39, Hartley St Alice Springs



\$25 Adult/\$15 Concession/\$7.50 Child/\$45 Family

Booking: trybooking.com/QZBF

Tonight: A beautiful 'concert in the round' presented by 'Confluence Quartet'.

The popular Chamber concert series returns this year in this wonderful acoustic space: The Hartley St Schoolroom. Two concerts are being presented by a talented line-up of world-class local musicians displaying virtuosity across a wide range of instruments.

**THURSDAY 14 SEPTEMBER**

**12 NOON - 2PM**

**'Midday in the Mall'**

Venue Details: Todd Mall Alice Springs

School groups, buskers, pop-up choirs and musicians: main course performances to accompany your lunch in the CBD

**THURSDAY 14 SEPTEMBER**

**2PM - 3PM**

**The Piano on Todd Mall**

Venue Details: Todd Mall Alice Springs

'Play me!' Desert Song Festival invites you to excite 'ebony and ivory' and enliven the CBD with harmony and melody...



**THURSDAY 14 SEPTEMBER  
7.00PM**

**Choral Masterclass - Flynn Church CBD**

Venue details:  
Flynn Church, Todd Mall Alice Springs  
\$5 donation on entry.



Discover your hidden chorister! Join Morris Stuart and Asante Sana in their weekly rehearsal. Experience a choral workout and become a choir in one evening.

**THURSDAY 14 SEPTEMBER  
8.30PM**

**'The Edge' at Watertank Café.**

Venue details: 16 Wilkinson St, Ciccone NT 0870  
\$10 Entry

For one night only 'The Edge' presents outstanding emerging artists 'on the edge' of their musical craft – taking risks in performance and with the audience!

Featured artist: Sisters of Invention and Robby Wirramanda Knight

**FRIDAY 15 SEPTEMBER  
12 NOON - 2PM**

**'Midday in the Mall'**

Venue Details: Todd Mall Alice Springs

School groups, buskers, pop-up choirs and musicians: main course performances to accompany your lunch in the CBD

**FRIDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 6.00PM**

**'Young Desert Voices' – Flynn Church Lawns CBD**

Venue Details: Flynn Church Lawns, Todd Mall, Alice Springs  
\$Free Event

A schools' event – a parade of choirs and dance ensembles from Alice Springs Schools and youth clubs.

**FRIDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 7.00PM**

**Vibrato Bar at Watch This Space**

Venue details: 8 Gap Rd, The Gap NT 0870

\$10 Entry

'Vibrato Bar' is the Festival venue for emerging local artists – taking risks in performance and with the audience! Echo! Echo! The Alice Springs Pop Choir and so much more..

Featured Artist: Echo! Echo!

**FRIDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 7.30PM**

**'Desert Song Central' the Festival Club at The Waterlark Café**

Venue details: 16 Wilkinson St, Ciccone NT 0870

\$10 door entry

Featured Artists: The Wiggle of Judas; The Sisters of Invention. Q

Water Tank Café offers an amazing menu of healthy meals, good coffee and a great atmosphere for gathering after 'main stage' events. The Festival Club - 'Desert Song Central'- offers a great line-up of artists, small ensembles, groups, buskers and aspiring stars. In fact, anyone who would like to sing or be sung to!

**SATURDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 11.00AM**

The Piano on Todd Mall

Venue Details: Todd Mall Alice Springs

'Play me!' Desert Song Festival invites you to excite 'ebony and ivory' and enliven the CBD with harmony and melody...

**SATURDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 10AM - 3.30PM**

**Soiree at Whitegums**

Venue Details: Lot 4012 Bullen Rd, Whitegums, NT 0870

\$20 Adult/\$15 Concession/ \$10 Students / Family \$45

Booking: [trybooking.com/QZBG](https://www.trybooking.com/QZBG)

An all-day workshop with Artist in Residence QVLN and other 'main stage' festival performers illustrating their skill and practice.



**SATURDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2PM - 3PM**

The Piano on Todd Mall

Venue Details: Todd Mall Alice Springs

'Play me!' Desert Song Festival invites you to excite 'ebony and ivory' and enliven the CBD with harmony and melody...

**SATURDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 5.00PM**

**The Public Lamentation for Peace**

Venue details: Anzac Hill, Alice Springs

\$ Free event



A musical event in which choirs will present soliloquies for peace accompanied by readings of poetry and prose. A gentle way of staging a creative Vigil for peace in a fractured world, focusing on love, peace and a welcome for refugees from war-torn places - a small contribution to creating a harmonious and humane society.

**SATURDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 6.00PM**

**Weaving Sacred Song**

**-An intimate concert-**

Venue details: Sound Bath Studios, 79 Bath St Alice Springs NT 0870

Booking: <https://www.trybooking.com/RHGF>

Weaving Sacred Song is a new musical collaboration between Alice Springs-based couple - World-music Multi-instrumentalist "Pin Rada" and Sound Healer and Songstress "Lucia Swift" who weave together deeply rich and meditative musical tapestries with mesmerizing musical instruments and voice. Featuring a 28-string hybrid lute-harp, Turkish Sufi Ney Flutes, a Cretan Lyra, Middle Eastern Frame Drums, a 14 Crystal Sound Bowl set and the Sansula.

**SATURDAY 16 SEPTEMBER  
7.00PM**

**The Konzerthall Hartley St. Schoolroom –**

Venue details: 39, Hartley St Alice Springs

\$25 Adult/\$15 Concession/\$7.50 Child/\$45 Family

Booking: [trybooking.com/QZCQ](https://www.trybooking.com/QZCQ)

Tonight: Mooney and Murphy present a concert in the true Irish Troubadour style.

The popular Chamber concert series continues in this wonderful acoustic space: The Hartley St Schoolroom. The second of two concerts presented by a talented line-up of world-class local musicians displaying virtuosity across a wide range of instruments.

**SATURDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 7.00PM**

**Vibrato Bar at Watch This Space**

Venue details: 8 Gap Rd, The Gap NT 0870

\$10 Entry

'Vibrato Bar' is the Festival venue for emerging local artists– taking risks in performance and with the audience! Echo! Echo! The Alice Springs Pop Choir and so much more...

Featured Artist: Tonight - The Alice Springs Pop Choir



**DESERT SONG  
FESTIVAL**



**SATURDAY 16 SEPTEMBER**

**7.30PM**

**'Desert Song Central' the Festival Club at The Watertank Café**

Venue details: 16 Wilkinson St, Ciccone NT 0870

\$10 door entry.

Featured Artist: Lotus Dante – music evoking a sense of vast landscapes with hints of nostalgia - a minimalistic style influenced by the likes of Philip Glass, Yann Tiersen and Erik Satie.

**SUNDAY 17 SEPTEMBER**

**3.45PM**

A cappella in the Gorge – Ormiston Gorge

Venue details: Ormiston Gorge, Mount Zeil NT 0872

Booking: none required

\$5 suggested donation

A cappella in the Gorge gives the visitor a unique experience of the ancient Central Australian landscape. Featuring Asante Sana and special guests Poco Tutti, The Central Australian Aboriginal Women's Choir, The Australian Boys' Choir, Vocal Consort, Kelly Gang and more... The Festival season-ending outdoor concert set against a Majestic Central Australian backdrop is not to be missed!

**SUNDAY 17 SEPTEMBER**

**8.00PM**

**The Finalé concert CSC Theatre**

Venue details: CSC Theatre, Grevillea Dr, Alice Springs NT 0870

\$35 adult/\$20 concession, student/\$15 child/\$65 Family (includes entry to after-party).

Booking: [trybooking.com/QZCX](http://trybooking.com/QZCX)

The Australian Boys Choir presents a program of 'Masterworks', plus the 'last hurrah' from a selection of Festival 'main stage' artists: 'Q', Joacquin, 'Confluence Quartet' and much more, then finish the Festival with nibbles and a festival ending after-party in the Foyer of the CSU Theatre.





# DESERT SONG FESTIVAL ARTISTS

## POCO TUTTI- FESTIVAL HEADLINE ACT

Poco Tutti Choir - the Headline ACT of the 2017 Desert Song Festival - is an ensemble of 20 singers from Tutti Arts in Adelaide. Comprising the most experienced singers from the larger Tutti Choir that has performed at major festivals (WOMADelaide 2010), numerous national conferences and other high profile events in South Australia since 2002.



## SISTERS OF INVENTION

"The Sisters Of Invention differ from what your average listener or viewer might expect of a 'disabled band': this is no parade of trite ~inspirational anthems~. Rather, they are top notch pop songs that, like any other artists', deal with the emotional truths of life" (Glem Blastow, Daily Life ~ Fairfax Media



## QUETZAL GUERRERO – 2017 FESTIVAL ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

Quetzal Guerrero is the 'Artist in Residence' of the 2017 Desert Song Festival. Also known as 'Q' or QVLN – he is one of the world's most exciting electric violinists. Originally from Los Angeles, but now resident in Sydney, Quetzal is a prodigious genre-hopping artist whose virtuosity on his trademark electric-blue violin reflects his Mexican/Brazilian and Native American Indian roots.



## CENTRAL AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL WOMEN'S CHOIR

The Central Australian Aboriginal Women's Choir (CAAWC) has become something of a musical 'Tour de Force' especially since their historic and highly acclaimed concert tour of Germany in mid-2015. This unique Central Australian ensemble sings sacred music in the Western Arrarnta and Pitjantjatjara languages - two living languages of the Northern Territory and South Australia - together with new music introduced through recent collaborations with other Centralian and international choirs.



## ASANTE SANA

Asante Sana is an Alice Springs community choir. Established as a seasonal choir in 2006 it has reconvened every winter since for an annual season of rehearsals and performances. Since the inception of the Desert Song Festival, Asante Sana has been a regular and popular performer, anchoring 'Desert Voice' and featuring in A cappella in the Gorge - the very popular season-ending concert staged in one of Central Australia's iconic gorges, to the delight of audiences.



The choir has also regularly contributed to the community through its performances at Civic events, conferences, local institutions (the Alice Springs Hospital, the Jail) and other local events (the Old Timers' Fete) to mention but a few!

# DESERT SONG FESTIVAL SPONSORS



Desert Song Festival 2017 - Proudly presented by Central Australian Singing

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