

10 GLORIOUS DAYS OF MUSIC IN SEPTEMBER

DESERT SONG FESTIVAL

ALICE SPRINGS • 6-15 SEPTEMBER 2019

2019 PROGRAM



SOWETO GOSPEL CHOIR

Find yourself @ **DSF**

Central Australian Aboriginal Women's Choir



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DESERTSONGFESTIVAL



Desert Song Festival 2019 - Proudly presented by Central Australian Singing

FRIDAY 6 September

SATURDAY 7 September



NOON - 2PM 'PLAY ME!'

Desert Song Festival invites you to excite 'ebony and ivory' and enliven the CBD with harmony and melody...Public street art – the piano!

Todd Mall Alice Springs

5.30PM PARADE OF PERFORMERS

Choirs, singers and musicians ignite Todd Mall with sound, colour and harmony in creative movement towards the Flynn Lawns for Aperture the festival opening event.

Todd Mall Alice Springs

\$ Free event



6.00PM APERTURE - FESTIVAL OPENING EVENT

Celebrate the International Year of Indigenous Languages at Desert Song Festival 2019 in a rousing community celebration in the heart of the Alice Springs. Be captivated by the kaleidoscope of talent awaiting festivalgoers over the next ten days. The Central Australian Aboriginal Women's Choir, Asante Sana, Soul Harvest and Navataparop from Vanuatu, Aurora, the Arafura Collective, Eric Avery, Q and so much more.

Flynn Church Lawns Todd Mall Alice Springs

\$ Free event

8.00PM FESTIVAL CLUB - WATERTANK CAFÉ

Find yourself amongst DSF's finest acts in an upcycled industrial garden café.

Featured Artists: King Marong and Safara. UKE Nomad.

Watertank Café: 16 Wilkinson St, Ciccone

\$10 door entry

BYO wine & beer. Vegetarian, vegan and gluten free friendly



All day from 10.30AM - 4.00PM SOIREE AT WHITEGUMS

Connect to country and the NIMA Award-winning Central Australian Aboriginal Women's Choir. Watch them paint, make bush medicine and cook traditional Central Australian bush tucker. Indulge in vibrational yoga, music, bush walks and food stalls.

Site Entry: \$10 Adult/\$20 Family

White Gums, Lot 4012, Bullen Road,

Honeymoon Gap

\$10 Shuttle Bus Alice - White Gums return.

Book your Shuttle Bus ticket:

trybooking.com/BCWWX

SATURDAY 7 SEPTEMBER NOON - 2.00PM 'PLAY ME!'

Public street art – the piano!

Todd Mall Alice Springs

5.30PM DESERT VOICE AT WHITEGUMS

As the sun sets through Honeymoon Gap, revealing the magic of the milky way, soothe your soul with the sounds of choirs from Central Australia and interstate at the signature choral concert staged at the base of the Yeperenye Range, Aranda country.

Featuring: The Central Australian Aboriginal Women's Choir; Zimbabwe Outback Melodies

Soul Harvest and Navataparop from Vanuatu; Aurora, Asante Sana, and much more.

White Gums, Lot 4012, Bullen Road, Honeymoon Gap

\$30 Adult /\$15 Concession /\$10 Child /\$70 Family:

Bookings: trybooking.com/BCVNY

\$10 shuttle bus Alice - White Gums return:

Book your Shuttle Bus ticket:

trybooking.com/BCWWX

8.00PM FESTIVAL CLUB - WATERTANK CAFÉ

Featured Artists: Fiddlesticks, Barry Skipsey, Malarkey. Find yourself amongst DSF's finest acts in an upcycled industrial garden café.

Watertank Café 16 Wilkinson St, Ciccone

\$10 door entry

BYO wine & beer. Vegetarian, vegan and gluten free friendly.





9.30AM

THE ECUMENICAL FESTIVAL SERVICE

The churches of Alice Springs welcome any festival-goers, especially interstate visitors to join them in an interdenominational service. Join in a celebration of songs of inspiration with the Central Australian Aboriginal Women's Choir, Soul Harvest and Navataparop from Vanuatu and the Alice Springs Samoan Choir.

Venue Details: Alice Springs Baptist Church, 1 Crispe St, Alice Springs NT 0870

2.00PM - 4.45PM PENTATONIC

A feast of musical virtuosity! Pentatonic is a promenade concert in five iconic heritage venues: the Stuart Town Gaol, the Old Law Courts, Flynn Memorial Uniting Church, the Hartley St Schoolroom and the Residency. Complimentary canapés to finish.

The Stuart Town Gaol 8 Parsons St, Alice Springs

\$30 Adult / \$15 Concession, students and children / \$60 Family

Booking: trybooking.com/BCVOB

5.15PM

SACRED SONG

Sacred Song celebrates sacred music from Vanuatu, Samoa, Africa, Pitjantjatjara, Western Arrarnta, Maori, Buddhist Kirtan, Christian Traditions and many others. Have a picnic on the lawn and experience the moving music of local communities as the sun sets on another beautiful Centralian spring day.

Flynn Church Lawns, Todd Mall

\$ Free Event





8.30AM-5.30PM

NTARIA/HERMANNSTADT CULTURAL VISIT

Immerse yourself in ancient and contemporary Indigenous Art, Culture and Language at Ntaria/Hermannsburg, the location of thousands of years of occupation by the Western Arrarnta people and the oldest post-settlement town in the Northern Territory. Ntaria is the birthplace of the iconic artist Albert Namatjira and the home of the celebrated Hermannsburg Potters.

This remote community tour to Ntaria includes – comfortable transport, morning tea - the best Apple Strudel in Central Australia - lunch, Precinct tour, Heritage Lecture by local archivist and a short performance by the Ntaria Ladies' Choir.

\$70: A package includes roast chicken salad lunch

\$65: B package includes sandwich lunch

Booking: trybooking.com/BCVOG

11.00AM to NOON

'PLAY ME!'

Public street art – the piano!

Todd Mall Alice Springs



NOON - 2.00PM

MIDDAY IN THE MALL

Live Vibrational Yoga with Sunshine and QVLN

Todd Mall Alice Springs

\$ Free Event

A gentle contemporary Vinyasa meditation flow guided by international instructor Sunshine Zerda together with live looping electric violin improvisations by international performing artist QVLN.

6.00PM

YOUNG FIDDLESTICKS

A boutique concert with QVLN and Young Fiddlesticks, a specially created Desert Song Festival workshop ensemble under the guidance of QVLN tutored by Karen Jackson.

Hartley St Schoolroom -

39 Hartley St Alice Springs

\$20 Adult / \$10 Concession / \$7.50 Child /

\$50 Family

Bookings: trybooking.com/BCWQO



8.00PM

"BAGGAGE CLAIMS" - A spoken word + music work presented by Rusty and the Infidels

Rusty and the Infidels, this desert town's own klezmer band, with Russell Goldflam weaving into their performance the story of the two sides of his Jewish family and how it has led to the music the band plays. The story-telling was beautifully judged, with the right weight given to its tragic strand (the murder of most of his father's extended family in the Holocaust) and to the wry observations about, for instance, the prejudices held onto by family members, even against their own. The story was brought right up to the present, to Goldflam's own work as a criminal lawyer here in the Centre, and the way that the music has offered him a refuge from its anxieties... the sound rich and clear, given such meaning by the story, so full of loss and longing, resilient humour and joy." (Kieran Finnane, Alice Springs News)

Hartley St Schoolroom -

39 Hartley St Alice Springs

\$25 Adult / \$15 Concession / \$12.50 Child /

\$60 Family

Bookings: trybooking.com/BDPKN

8.00PM

MEDITATION IN THE MALL

Under the stunning lighting effects incorporating patterns, colours and Arrernte words, experience the calming effect of a guided meditation under the direction of international instructor Sunshine Zerda together with live looping electric violin improvisations by international performing artist QVLN.

Flynn Lawns, Todd Mall Alice Springs

\$ Free Event



TUESDAY 10 September

WEDNESDAY 11 September



NOON - 2.30PM
MIDDAY IN THE MALL
12.00pm-1.00pm: DRUM HAPPY with Gambian Master Djembe drummer, Percussionist and Cultural Ambassador King Marong.
Flynn Lawns, Todd Mall Alice Springs Todd Mall Alice Springs
\$ Free Event

1.00pm - 2.30pm: THE UKULELE CAFE, presented by Anu Grace
 Learn 3 songs on Ukulele with chord progression and Lyrics by memory. No need for sheet music. A Desert Song Festival opportunity: Bring your own Ukulele for 3 consecutive workshops, building skills and embedding the 3 songs by heart for a public performance. Please try to come to all 3 if you want to perform.
 Get the music under your fingers and perform as 'The Pop Up Ukestra'.
The Verandah, Adelaide House Todd Mall Alice Springs
\$ Free event

2.30PM - 3.30PM
'PLAY ME!'
 Public street art – the piano!
Todd Mall Alice Springs

5.30PM - 6.30PM
THE CHORAL WORKSHOP
 Join Morris Stuart for an exciting hour of singing. A choral hors d'oeuvres for your dinner! Be part of a performance at 'A cappella in the Gorge'.
Hartley St Schoolroom - 39 Hartley St, Alice Springs
\$10

7.30PM
THE FESTIVAL SHOWCASE
 The Festival Showcase is an exhibition of artistic brilliance and virtuosity featuring the Festival Headliners: Q, Eric Avery, Aurora, the Arafura Collective and more.
CSC Theatre Grevillea Drive, Alice Springs
\$45 Adult/\$25 Concession/\$15 child/\$100 Family. Booking essential!
Booking: trybooking.com/BCVNQ



NOON - 2.30PM
MIDDAY IN THE MALL
 Pop-up performances to accompany your lunch in the CBD.
12.00pm-1.30pm: THE UKULELE CAFE, presented by Anu Grace
 Learn 3 songs on Ukulele with chord progression and Lyrics by memory. No need for sheet music. A Desert Song Festival opportunity: Bring your own Ukulele for 3 consecutive workshops, building skills and embedding the 3 songs by heart for a public performance. Please try to come to all 3 if you want to perform.
 Get the music under your fingers and perform as 'The Pop Up Ukestra'.
The Verandah, Adelaide House Todd Mall Alice Springs
\$ Free event

1.30pm-2.30PM LIVE VIBRATIONAL YOGA with Sunshine and QVLN
 A gentle contemporary Vinyasa meditation flow guided by international instructor Sunshine Zerda together with live looping electric violin improvisations by international performing artist QVLN.
Flynn Lawns, Todd Mall Alice Springs Todd Mall Alice Springs
\$ Free Event

5.30PM - 6.30PM
THE CHORAL WORKSHOP
 Another special hour, this time with one of our Festival Headliners AURORA and their accomplished Musical Director Christie Anderson.
Hartley St Schoolroom - 39 Hartley St, Alice Springs
\$10

7.30PM - 9.30PM
THE ALICE SPRINGS WORLD CHAMBER ORCHESTRA: Musical Director Markus Kuchenbuch
 Fresh from their appearances at the 2019 Darwin Festival, the Alice Springs World Chamber Orchestra is excited to present parts of its new program at Desert Song Festival 2019.
 The core Quintet of the 10 player strong WCO, presents their hallmark cross-over of styles and genres from Händel, Mozart, Schubert to Vaughan Williams and Piazzolla, Australian composers Elena Kats-Chernin and Peter Sculthorpe to Michael Nyman, Arvo Pärt, Radiohead and Coldplay. Don't miss this opportunity to witness the early beginnings of this emerging cross-over chamber music initiative becoming Alice Springs first Orchestra.
The Church of the Ascension 18 Bath St, Alice Springs NT 0870
\$20 Adult / \$10 Concession / \$7.50 Child / \$50 Family
Bookings: trybooking.com/BDPII
trybooking.com/520060





**NOON - 2.30PM
MIDDAY IN THE MALL**

12noon-1.00pm: Pop-up performances to accompany your lunch in the CBD.

Flynn Lawns, Todd Mall Alice Springs Todd Mall Alice Springs

\$ Free Event

1.00pm-2.30pm THE UKULELE CAFE , presented by Anu Grace of Uke Nomad

Learn 3 songs on Ukulele with chord progression and Lyrics by memory. No need for sheet music. A Desert Song Festival opportunity: Bring your own Ukulele for 3 consecutive workshops, building skills and embedding the 3 songs by heart for a public performance. Please try to come to all 3 if you want to perform.

Get the music under your fingers and perform as 'The Pop Up Ukestra'.

The Verandah, Adelaide House Todd Mall Alice Springs

\$ Free event

2.00PM - 3.00PM

'Play me!' Public street art – the piano!

Todd Mall Alice Springs

5.00PM - 6.00PM

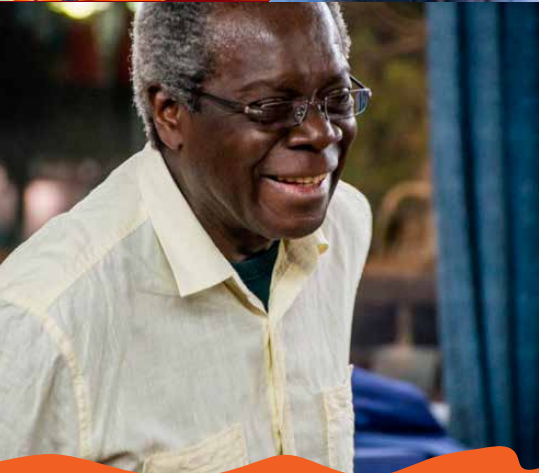
TÊTE-À- TÊTE at Flynn

'Soundtrack for a Revolution'

A conversation with Morris Stuart – the Festival Director

Flynn Church, Todd Mall Alice Springs

\$ Free Event



**6.30PM - 8.00PM
ALCHERA - JUGULBA**

Tonight: A preview of Anne Boyd's new Opera on the life of Miss Olive Pink (Artist, Activist and founder of Alice Springs' Olive Pink Botanic Garden) presented by The Central Australian Aboriginal Women's Choir and the Arafura Collective, a Symphonic ensemble comprising core members drawn from the Darwin Symphony orchestra. A teaser of the 'Headline' act of the 2020 Festival.

**Olive Pink Botanic Gardens Alice Springs
\$20 Adult / \$15 Concession / \$7.50 Child / \$50 Family**

**Booking essential - limited capacity:
trybooking.com/BCVOT**

8.00PM

"MUSIC THAT MOVES US"

A concert by the Chime Choir

Marten Visser – Principal Artistic Director

Chime Choir from Melbourne presents a concert

of works that will move you emotionally. "Music

that Moves Us" is a collection of music from

composers such as Morten Lauridsen, Ola Gjeilo

and Robert Lau together with music from Melbourne

based composers, Daniel Brinsmead and Kevin

Barrell. The program is one full of joy, hope, peace,

moments of reflection and excitement. 'Chime'

is a contemporary community choir that presents

an innovative, and eclectic musical program of

the highest standard, intended to engage a diverse

audience, providing our members and our audiences

with an experience of musical artistry, and the

beauty and power of choral singing.

**The Church of the Ascension 18 Bath St,
Alice Springs NT 0870**

**\$20 Adult / \$10 Concession / \$7.50 Child
/ \$50 Family**

Bookings:

trybooking.com/BDRGY





8.30AM-5.30PM

NTARIA/HERMANNSTOWN CULTURAL VISIT

Immerse yourself in ancient and contemporary Indigenous Art, culture and Language at Ntaria/Hermannsburg. The location of thousands of years of occupation by the Western Arrarnta people and the oldest post-settlement town in the Northern Territory. Ntaria is the birthplace of the iconic artist Albert Namatjira and the home of the celebrated Hermannsburg Potters.

A remote community tour to Ntaria includes comfortable transport, morning tea - the best Apple Strudel in Central Australia, precinct tour, Heritage Lecture by local archivist and a short performance by the Ntaria Ladies' Choir.

\$65: A package includes roast chicken salad lunch.

\$59: B package includes sandwich lunch.

Booking: trybooking.com/BCVRC



10.00AM - 3.00PM

SOWETO GOSPEL CHOIR WORKSHOP

A choral workshop like you've never ever experienced. Spend a day with our Headliners, the three-time Grammy Award-winning Soweto Gospel Choir, in town for two special Festival performances. Open to visiting, local choirs and school choirs.

The Marian Centre of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart School

95 Sadadeen Rd., Sadadeen NT0870

\$ FREE

Register your choir: trybooking.com/BCVQX

11.00 AM - Noon

'PLAY ME!'

Public street art – the piano!

Todd Mall Alice Springs



Noon - 2.00PM

MIDDAY IN THE MALL

Pop-up performances to accompany your lunch in the CBD.

Flynn Lawns, Todd Mall Alice Springs

\$ Free Event

4.45PM-5.30PM

'TÊTE-À- TÊTE at Flynn'

Artists' Talk:

Flynn Church, Todd Mall Alice Springs

\$ Free Event

5.30PM-7.00PM

YOUNG DESERT VOICES

The Desert Song Festival event that showcases the musical talent of Central Australian Youth – a parade of choirs, musicians and dance ensembles from Centralian Schools and youth clubs. Come and be entertained by the best young talent in town!

Flynn Church Lawns, Todd Mall, Alice Springs

\$ Free Event

6.00PM 'til late

'VIBRATO FEST'

Curated by Emma Stuart, 'Vibrato Fest' is the Festival's 'mini-fest': a venue for established local artists – taking risks in performance and with the audience!

Featured artists: Tamala Express, Resin Moon, Emma Stuart and Steph Harrison & Co., Caleb Goman & Co, Xavia and Friends and Shavings.

Montes Lounge, Cnrn Todd st and Stott Terrace, Alice Springs

\$20 Door Entry

Pre-booking recommended:

trybooking.com/BCVQR

6.30pm

**UNDER THE SOUTHERN CROSS
A UNIQUE CENTRAL AUSTRALIAN
EXPERIENCE**

A Desert Song Festival special!

A performance of musical and poetic musing like no other. On the night in September when the sun sets in the West as the full moon rises in the East, examine the night sky through three powerful telescopes, then lie in the sand, nestle in your swag, rug pulled up to your chin, eyes focussed on the night sky in the best place on the planet to view our Galaxy. Surrender as you allow yourself to be transported by music inspired by the Celestial dome!

Venue details: Earth Sanctuary, Colonel Rose Drive, Alice Springs NT 0870

\$55 Adult/\$40 Concession, Child/\$120 family.

Booking: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/desert-song-festival-special-tickets-62913087739>

com.au/e/desert-song-festival-special-tickets-62913087739



SATURDAY 14 September

SUNDAY 15 September



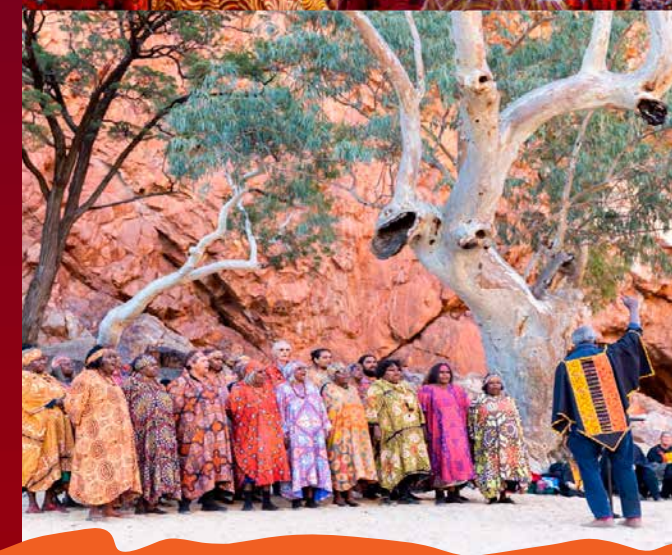
NOON - 2.00PM
'PLAY ME!'
Public street art – the piano!
Todd Mall Alice Springs

3.30PM & 7.30PM
SOWETO GOSPEL CHOIR
'FREEDOM' -
The Finalé Concerts

MAIN ATTRACTION.
The triple award-winning Soweto Gospel Choir is coming to Desert Song Festival this September for two amazing concerts.
The three-time Grammy Award-winning Soweto Gospel Choir has been spreading sheer joy to audiences across the globe for nearly two decades! Hailing from the town of Soweto, the birthplace of South Africa's democratic movement's struggle for freedom, Soweto Gospel Choir continues to inspire audiences around the world with their powerful blend of African gospel, freedom songs, and international classics.
Araluen Arts Centre, 61 Larapinta Drive, Araluen
\$79.90 Adult/\$72.90 Concession/\$49.90 Children/\$230.00 Family
Booking: <https://araluenartscentre.nt.gov.au/whats-on/soweto-gospel-choir-freedom>

9.00PM
FESTIVAL CLUB - WATERTANK CAFÉ
Find yourself amongst DSF's finest acts in an upcycled industrial garden café.
Featured Artists: Katie Harder and the Artful Dodgers; Festival Headliners.
Watertank Café 16 Wilkinson St, Ciccone
\$10 door entry
BYO wine & beer. Vegetarian, vegan and gluten free friendly.

3.45PM
A CAPELLA IN THE GORGE
Take a plunge in the icy waters at Ormiston Gorge at 'A cappella in the Gorge' – the Festival - ending outdoor concert set against this Majestic Central Australian backdrop. Featuring Chime, Zimbabwe Outback Melodies, Soul Harvest and Navataparop from Vanuatu, Aurora, Asante Sana, the Central Australian Aboriginal Women's Choir and much more... this is one for the bucket list.
Ormiston Gorge, Mount Zeil
\$ Free event
(\$5 suggested donation)
\$20 shuttle bus Alice - Ormiston return.
Book your bus ticket here: trybooking.com/BCVMV



SPONSORS



Desert Song Festival 2019 - Proudly presented by Central Australian Singing