

Arts House
Arts House, North Melbourne Town Hall
521 Queensberry Street
North Melbourne 3051
artshouse.com.au

Arts House is a City of Melbourne contemporary arts initiative which offers producing and presentation support, funding, brokers international and national opportunities for artists, hosts and partners festivals and other agencies, provides creative development residencies and commissions, develops and realises new artistic work.

Each year Arts House presents a curated program of contemporary art featuring performances, exhibitions, live art, installations and cultural events which are programmed to inspire dynamic community engagement. The 2008 program, Beyond Bread and Circus, celebrates artists who are questioning artistic boundaries and challenging all of us to think and see in new ways.

Beyond Bread and Circus continues a commitment to contemporary arts practices which question our values and preconceptions. In a complex global context, Arts House in 2008 reflects a growing dissatisfaction with short term cultural, social and political fixes and the fleeting emptiness of high availability entertainment.

Artistic Director Steven Richardson
Associate Producer Kate Ben-Tovim
Program Producer Jude Gun
Artistic Administrator Sarah Ernst
Production Supervisor Adrian Aderhold
Technical Supervisor Tom Howie
FOH and Technical Coordinator Lexie Wood

For media Enquiries please contact:

Chryss Carr PR
+61 2 66 809 871
+61 417 800 869
aum@aum.net.au

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info@skinnyfishmusic.com.au
PH: +61 8 8941 8066

GEOFFREY GURRUMUL YUNUPINGU

GURRUMUL

Arts House, North Melbourne Town Hall
21 + 22 October 2008

'...The Greatest voice this continent has ever recorded...'
SYDNEY MORNING HERALD APRIL 2008



**BEYOND
BREAD AND CIRCUS**
SEASON 2008



**ARTS
VICTORIA**



MELBOURNE
INTERNATIONAL
ARTS FESTIVAL



ARTS HOUSE

Presented by Arts House in association with
the Melbourne International Arts Festival

Michael Hohnen

Michael Hohnen was educated at the Victorian College of the Arts and played double bass through Australia and Europe in classical, jazz and pop(The Killjoys) ensembles for the first 10 years of his professional career. He then moved to Darwin where he started an independent record label – Skinnyfish Music, and has since worked with some of the finest indigenous musicians in the NT. His collaboration with Gurrumul Yunupingu (his now close friend) is his latest project where he has produced and released ‘Gurrumul’ the CD to extraordinary praise.

Francis Diatschenko

Francis Diatschenko started playing the guitar at the age of five. He was born in Sydney of Argentine and Ukrainian heritage and was raised in the Northern Territory. He studied South American and classical guitar styles as a child which gave him the technical and theoretical skills to embrace jazz and popular styles throughout his career. In 1996, Francis took formal studies in classical guitar at the Charles Darwin University (CDU). As a performer, Francis has given entertaining performances as a soloist, and in ensemble, with recitals in Australia and abroad. These venues include: Darwin International Guitar festival, Bali Arts Festival (Indonesia), Coolart, Ozmanouche, New Music West (Canada), Eltham Jazz Festival, Bellingen Flamenco and Jazz festivals, Garma, Mundial Festival (Netherlands).

Erkki Veltheim

Finnish-born violist, violinist, improviser and composer Erkki Veltheim has worked with ensembles including the Australian Art Orchestra, Australian Chamber Orchestra, Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, Ensemble Modern, Ensemble Musikfabrik and ELISION. He has devised and performed multimedia and experimental music theatre works and exhibited as a mixed media artist. He regularly works as an improviser and performer of experimental music, and also plays in a country punk band, Roadkill Rodeo.

Musical Background

1989 to 1992	Member of Yothu Yindi & featured on Tribal Voice album
1999	Yothu Yindi One Blood album – musician
2002	Yothu Yindi Garma album – musician
1999 – present	Member of Saltwater Band with the following CDs:
1999	Gapu Damarrung album – musician/composer/ singer/songwriter/ co-producer.
2003	Djarridjarri/Blue Flag album – musician/composer/ singer/songwriter/ co-producer
2009	New Saltwater album – musician/composer/ singer/songwriter/ co-producer

Live Performance Highlights

1989 to 1992	Toured nationally & Internationally with Yothu Yindi
2005	Darwin Entertainment Centre – First Solo performance
2006	Darwin Festival – First Headline Solo performance
2006	Performed for HRH Queen Elizabeth 2 St Andrews Cathedral Sydney.
2008	Darwin Tour support for Elton John
2008	The Pope – World Youth Day [Sydney]
2008	Sydney Opera House – Two sell out shows

Geoffrey Gurrumul Yunupingu is one of the most outstanding musicians in Australia. He is a multi-instrumentalist playing guitar, drums, keyboard and yidaki (didgeridoo) and he has a beautiful singing voice. It is said he has the voice of an angel, and best performs in a venue where you can hear a pin drop. Gurrumul [his traditional name] is a member of the Gumatj clan of north east Arnhemland and it is the songs and stories of the Gumatj clan that Gurrumul sublimely adapts into contemporary song styles. At the age of 15 he was identified as a young and extremely talented multi-instrumentalist and joined the ARIA Award winning band Yothu Yindi where he played an integral role until 1992. Currently a member of the hugely talented Saltwater Band he has contributed greatly to the Indigenous

music industry which was recognised again this year at the NT Indigenous Music Awards where he was awarded the Album of the Year and Song of the Year 2008. Recently he has earned the attention of the mainstream music scene in Australia and has been nominated for several 2008 ARIA Awards including the coveted Male Artist of the Year and Album of the Year. His debut self-titled album Gurrumul released in February 2008 has received exceptional worldwide reviews and is set to attain GOLD status in Australia before the year ends. Gurrumul has come onto the international music industry radar where he has received an abundance of media interested and recently the album entered the European World Music Chart at number 8 – September 2008.

Gurrumul’s solo performances are a rare treat for music lovers and should not be missed. Geoffrey Gurrumul Yunupingu’s solo excursions highlight his amazing talent and his beautiful voice that will never leave you as he sings the songs of his Gumatj country.

gurrumul.com
skinnyfishmusic.com.au
myspace.com/gurrumul
youtube.com/user/gurrumul

Industry Awards

2008	ARIA Awards Nominations for Gurrumul :-
	Male Artist of the Year
	Album of the Year
	Independent Release
	World Music
	Producer of the Year [Michael Hohnen]
2008	Northern Territory Indigenous Music Awards :-
	Act of the Year Album of the Year for Gurrumul
	Song of the Year for Wiyathul [track one from self-titled album Gurrumul]
	Artwork of the Year for Gurrumul
2005	Northern Territory Indigenous Music Awards – Male Musician of the Year
1992	ARIA Awards for Yothu Yindi :-
	Best Indigenous Release for Tribal Voice
	Song of the Year for Treaty Single of the Year for Treaty, Filthy Lucre Remix
	Engineer of the Year
	Best Cover Art