

# **BEST OF BANGARRA**

## **DIDJERIDOO QUARTET**

### **OCHRE DREAMING**

This dance is inspired by the essence of traditional Aboriginal movements. The ochre spirits emerge from the earth at dusk when the land is still. The spirits take great delight in their imitation of the different native animals as they play. The growing light of the dawn disperses the spirits back into the earth where they rest and patiently await the soft rays of the coming sunset.

Music : David Page  
Choreographer : Stephen Page  
Duration : 6 mins

### **TRADITIONAL YIRRKALA (live)**

Traditional Keepers : Djakapurra Munyarryun, Banula Marika & Yapuma Gurruwiwi  
Duration : 6 mins

### **THEY TOOK THE CHILDREN AWAY**

Based on the removal of aboriginal children (the stolen generation) from their families and communities, from 1884 through to 1967, under the "Aborigines Protection Act". This Act was part of the cultural and genetic breakdown within Aboriginal Australia. During the Great Depression the economic demand for domestic labour resulted in the highest number of Aboriginal children being removed from their natural parents and communities. Still today, those children who were taken away continue the search for their families.

Music by Australian singer / song writer Archie Roach  
Choreographer : Stephen Page  
Duration : 4 mins 30 secs

### **TRADITIONAL YIRRKALA**

Traditional music from Yirrkala (pre-recorded)  
Duration : 4 mins

### **NO, NO, NO**

Protesting to the destruction of our mother earth.

Music by Australian singer / song writer Archie Roach.  
Choreographer : Stephen Page  
Duration : 4 mins

## **PRIDE**

Contemporary piece projecting cultural dignity.

Music : David Page

Choreographer : Stephen Page

Duration : 3 mins

## **TRADITIONAL YIRRKALA**

Traditional Aboriginal Dances draw on over 40,000 years of culture expressing the origins of aboriginal life and the mystic quality of the "Dreaming". These traditional dances are from Yirrkala, North Eastern Arnhem Land.

The dances and their accompanying songs and rhythms are one, and are often short but are part of larger cycles performed for a variety of ceremonies which can sometimes last for many days. Many of the dances pertain to spirits in their natural settings, the dancers merge with the spirits in their portrayals.

There are many clans all over Australia and each has its own style of dance and different languages / dialects.

Music: Traditional music from Yirrkala (pre-recorded)

Full cast

Duration : 10 mins

## **DJAPANA - FAREWELL SUNSET**

At evening the clan would meet on the sands at the ocean, to bid the sunset farewell. Picking up the sand that has been warmed by the sun's rays, they rub their bodies and sing praises to the sunset. In this dance you will experience the traditional and contemporary styles being danced in unison.

Music: Yothu Yindi

Contemporary Choreography : Roula Kantaroglou & Stephen Page

Full cast

Duration : 5 mins

## **KA TURUMYA**

Music : Mill Sisters (pre-recorded)

Musical interlude, sound and lighting only

Duration : 2 mins

## **KAR DEBA NERKAP**

Contemporary Torres Strait Island women's dance.

Music : Mill Sisters

Choreographer : Stephen Page

Duration : 4 mins

## **CRAYFISH**

Based on the traditional lifestyle of the Torres Strait Island men diving for crayfish.

Music : David Page

Choreographer : Stephen Page

Duration : 4 mins

## **TRADITIONAL TORRES STRAIT ISLAND**

The Torres Strait Islands are the most northern part of Australia and are situated between mainland Australia and New Guinea. The Torres Strait Islands are divided into three regions Eastern, Western and Central. Dances from these Islands are usually celebrations of birth, marriages, feast days, returning sailors or the departure of loved ones. As with the mainland culture, each Island has its own traditional dress, language and style of dancing.

Dances performed are from Saibai Island (Eastern) and Murray Island (Western).

Music : Traditional music from Murray & Saibai Island (live and pre - recorded)

Dance Keepers : Jenssen Warusam & Lama Ghee

Full cast

Duration : 20 mins

## **FINALE - "TREATY"**

Inspired by the unique fusion of traditional and contemporary sounds from Yothu Yindi, Australian rock band from Yirrkala, North - East Arnhem Land.

Music : Yothu Yindi

Choreographer : Stephen Page

Full cast

Duration : 6 mins

**ARTISTIC DIRECTOR**

STEPHEN PAGE

**DANCERS**

JIMMY GAGAI

PINAU GHEE

PATRICIA HANDY

DJAKAPURRA MUNYARRYUN

BANULA MARIKA

RUSSELL PAGE

MONICA STEVENS

ILLONA TIM

JENSEN WARUSAM

YAPUMA GURRUWIWI

SUE-ANN WILLIAMS

MADONNA HEARL

LEWIS LAMPTON

**PRODUCTION STAFF**

**MUSICIAN/ COMPOSER**

DAVID PAGE

**COSTUME/WARDROBE TRAINEE**

LINDA BOBONGIE

**PRODUCTION MANAGER**

JIM MANN

**RODUCTION MANAGER TRAINEE**

BRENDAN READ

**SOUND TECHNICIAN**

JOHN LOCKE

**TRAINEE**

TRICIA MORTON- THOMAS

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