



INDOJAZZ National Tour Launch 20 September 2003

The next group from Western Australia to tour Australia through Kultour is Indo jazz, whose tour will take in Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney, Hobart, Lismore, Byron Bay and Brisbane. Indo jazz is comprised of world-renowned guitarist Arthur Gracias, who has scored music for award winning Indian films *Guida*, *Beyond the Himalayas*, *Patang*, and *Dekha*, and played with international artists including Herbie Hancock, along with master tabla player Vicky Ramakrishnan, a disciple of Ustad Hanif Mohammed Mirajkar. Together, they play a spicy blend of traditional and contemporary Indian harmonies, rhythms and melodies in a jazz fusion performance that has mesmerised audiences throughout the world.



Indo jazz
Arthur Gracias and Vicky Ramakrishnan



Performer Alirio Zarvace

***Fronteras Americanas* 7 - 9 August, 2003**

In the second theatre performance for the year, *Fronteras Americanas*, a play based on work by Guillermo Verdecchia, opened at KULCHA to appreciative audiences. A fast-paced, hilarious, and often moving show, *Fronteras* was ably performed by actor Alirio Zarvace, who skilfully navigated his way through an array of characters and scenes aimed at depicting the difficulties of building a life and identity whilst straddling two cultures. Directed and designed by Sam Haren, the play made use of a multi-media display and sophisticated lighting to convey its message, and to explain and highlight much of its bilingual wordplay.

Fronteras Americanas was produced by Adelaide's Nexus Multicultural Arts Centre, Inc.



Writer, director & performer
Yumi Umiumare

***Tokyo DasShoku Girl* 24-26 July, 2003**

Award-winning Butoh expert Yumi Umiumare exploded onto the KULCHA stage in the first Kultour performances for 2003 with *Tokyo DasShoku Girl*. This cabaret-style performance aimed to expose the seedy side of some of the predominant stereotypes of Japanese society and question the treatment of women within a culture that overwhelmingly demands that they be submissive or cute. Supported in this task by performers Ben Rogan and Matt Crosby, Yumi created a show that was compelling, at times disturbing, and always highly charged.

Tokyo DasShoku Girl was produced by Multicultural Arts of Victoria.



Ben Rogan and Matt Crosby

Kultour is a national multicultural arts touring network and is an initiative of the Arts in a Multicultural Australia policy of the Australia Council.

KULCHA, Multicultural Arts of Western Australia

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General Manager's Foreword

on 11 August 2003. The President and I have been active through the City of Perth's Future Directions workshops in advocating for the value of cultural activities to regenerate the precinct and progress the City of Perth's Northbridge Action Plan.

KULCHA has also had the pleasure of organising multicultural artists to visit the regional WA. This program is funded by the Office of Multicultural Interests and Healthway. The program is presented in partnership with African group Dunumba who have visited Tom Price and Margaret River and will shortly be traveling to Northam and Pinjarra. The group takes a structured and intense program of skills development workshops to the regions where they tutor youth and the local community. I would like to thank Ms Peta Homer of the Nintirri Centre in Tom Price and Ms Sally Hayes

Ms Naomi Godden, Shire of Augusta-Margaret River for supporting the residencies and cultural exchange.

I would like to congratulate members Shangara Jive for their performance to celebrate Nelson Mandela's birthday in July and the Australia Cuba Friendship Society for the annual Santiago de Cuba Festival in August. I would also like to thank the touring shows that visited KULCHA through KULTOUR. We thoroughly enjoyed presenting both theatre performances, the tongue in cheek kitsch of Tokyo DasShoku Girl and the provocative critiques of Fronteras Americanas. Thank you to the producers, our interstate colleges at NEXUS in Adelaide and Multicultural Arts Victoria and Australia Council for the Arts.

Walter Gomes

There are several important developments occurring at the moment which will be of interest to members. The WA Charter of Multiculturalism is being completed and this is a new step forward for Western Australia. We congratulate the Premier and Minister for Multicultural Interests, Hon. Dr Geoff Gallop MLA and the Office of Multicultural Interests for the high level of leadership and commitment they have demonstrated to our diversity.

KULCHA is a financial member of the newly formed Business Interest Group of Northbridge (BIGN) and I congratulate our President, Mr Keith Saggars on being elected to the Executive Committee at the AGM held

KULCHA welcomes ABMUSIC Aboriginal & Islander Music College



Thalia Skopellos

KULCHA is glad to announce a new partnership with ABMUSIC, aimed at providing more performance and skills development opportunities for young Indigenous musicians. ABMUSIC Indigenous Liaison Officer Kathleen Toomath says:

"ABMUSIC is pleased to have taken on membership with Kulcha. With the shared aim of promoting and supporting culturally rich and diverse artistic expression, ABMUSIC and Kulcha have much to gain from a close relationship. ABmusic students are looking forward to experiencing the music of other indigenous cultures as well sharing their own unique Aboriginal musical heritage.

In August, a group of ABMUSIC students will be attending the Ziggy Bey Jan performance and a student from the Certificate III Music Industry Skills course, Thalia Skopellos will be performing as a support act for the Kavisha Mazzella concert. As the only Indigenous Music College in Australia, ABMUSIC provides culturally appropriate, industry standard, nationally accredited training with a contemporary music focus specifically for Indigenous musicians. ABMUSIC College students are justifiably proud of their culture and the developing musical prowess and are looking forward eagerly to sharing it with the KULCHA audience."

Look out for ABMUSIC's first headline show at the KULCHA venue on September 5th at 8pm, featuring a selection of their promising emerging artists.

Abmusic is located at 295 Manning Road, Waterford, Ph. 9458 9077

Nelson Mandela's Birthday Celebration July 12 @ KULCHA

KULCHA's annual celebration of the birthday of Nelson Mandela saw an enthusiastic capacity crowd enjoying the spirit of South African culture. The evening commenced with a drumming display on the balcony for the earlybirds. Then the night went into overdrive with the sounds of Shangara Jive, whose dynamic rhythms and energetic dancing kept people on their feet. This event celebrated Mandela's 85th birthday and was the fourth time in as many years the event has sold out.

"We must ensure that colour, race and gender become only a God-given gift to each one of us and not an indelible mark or attribute that accords a special status to any" Nelson Mandela



Dancers at KULCHA's Nelson Mandela celebration



Santiago de Cuba Festival August 9 @KULCHA

KULCHA's second annual celebration for 2003, the Santiago de Cuba festival, was presented by the Australia Cuba Friendship Society.

This event's reputation as an evening not to be missed guaranteed a full house. Music for the evening was performed by local Latin band Sabroson, with a dance lesson provided by Dessie Kovan to get the audience on its feet and enjoying some of the hottest rhythms in town.

Nelson Mandela's Birthday and Santiago de Cuba proudly supported by the Office of Multicultural Interests



Dance teacher Dessie Kovan and Latin band Sabroson kept the audience dancing!



Artist Profile: Jorge Barbosa Raymundo



Performer and Teacher of Capoeira, Afro-Brazilian Music & Dance

Jorge has an extensive knowledge and passion for Afro-Brazilian dance, music and Capoeira gained from an immersion in his Afro Brazilian Indian cultural heritage. He is a Mestre (Master) of Capoeira, with thirty years experience and has pioneered the professional development of Capoeira in Western Australia. Capoeira is a Brazilian multi-disciplinary art-form incorporating music, dance, acrobatics and self-defence. Jorge is also an artistic producer and musician with Ogum Brasil Band and has experience in teaching and performing in Afro-Brazilian dance and music including, samba, forro, olodum, batucada and bossa nova. Capoeira as a martial art form evolved out of African people escaping slavery in Brazil. Jorge said, 'Capoeira has changed my life and the process of growth and evolution to being a better person does not stop once you become a Master.' Capoeira is a powerful tool for self-discovery, empowerment, good health and fun. Jorge said, "The knowledge and energy of Capoeira is passed down orally from the Master and it is important the person teaching is qualified to teach. Furthermore there are many challenges in translating Capoeira across language and culture and this is the exciting challenge for me teaching Capoeira here in Western Australia. Jorge is the director of Brasil Espectacular, a unique show that brings to Western Australia an authentic and world class Afro-Brazilian music, dance and Capoeira extravaganza, which will be presented on September 6th, 2003 at the Embassy Ballroom"

For Capoeira classes or shows phone 9272 3895.

And the winner is..... Congratulations to:

- Myles Ferguson of Scarborough, winner of a pack of Amberley wines. *Members - remember to put your name in the box at the bar when you next attend a performance to go into the draw for this fantastic prize.*
- Chris Tarr of Wembley Downs and Brian Balen of Embleton, who both win day passes to Keturah day spa. *Join KULCHA or renew your membership throughout September or October to be included in the draw for more Keturah passes*



The Secret Life of KULCHA's IT provider.....

Here's proof of the talent that KULCHA attracts: even our IT guru, Gino Premici of Highway 1 spends time behind a microphone! Citsooka was formed at a dodgy Perth pub in October 2001, and features the uncommon blend of acoustic guitar and cello. Nick Carpenter (guitar, vocals), Kate McNamara (cello, vocals) and Gino Premici (vocals) have created a unique sound, definitely acoustic, not rock, not folk, but somewhere in between. With a background that encompasses drumming for Perth Band Squidfinger, classical cello and piano training and ...karaoke (Gino!), Citsooka has considerable musical depth, guaranteeing their reception on the Perth music scene. Go Gino!

For more information, visit www.citsooka.com



Citsooka: Nick, Kate and Gino

Postcards from Margaret River and Tom Price



Workshops at Margaret River 16 - 20 June

Throughout June, African drumming group Dunumba undertook residencies in the Shire of Augusta-Margaret River and at the Nintirri Centre, Tom Price. In both regions, Alistair, Martin and Michael held workshops for primary and secondary schools, as well as the wider communities. and as the pictures above and below show, were enthusiastically welcomed by all participants. The organisers of both residencies had extremely positive feedback to offer:

"In the week 16-20 June, African drumming trio Dunumba visited the Shire of Augusta-Margaret River for workshops for local students and community members. The project was sponsored by Healthway, the Office of Multicultural Interests, Kulcha and the Shire of Augusta-Margaret River. The staff and students were very happy with the workshops. Alistair, Michael and Martin worked really well with the children. They were personable, fun and kept the children interested throughout the workshops. They explained everything clearly, being sensitive to the students ages and experiences. ...The workshops involved a brief performance of African drumming and song, followed by interactive dancing and drumming. Dunumba taught the students about drums, including how to play them and some history of their origins. They also connected the dances with different tribal stories and practises....The workshops with the high school dance and music students were specialised towards their curriculum. ... the students were taught several different dances, giving the class a myriad of dance movements to incorporate into their African dance component of their course. The class was also able to do some comprehensive drumming, experiencing the rhythms and beats of Africa. ...Similarly, the music class had a specialised percussion/voice lesson. Dunumba taught the class an African song in three-part harmony, and focussed strongly on cross rhythms and percussion techniques. This also aided their course, as the students worked on listening, pitch and rhythm."

Naomi Godden, Community Development Project Officer, Shire of Augusta-Margaret River.

"The project was, I feel, very successful. At most venues the participants enjoyed themselves and gained through having the ability to ask questions and learn something. Dunumba were always very obliging and worked well with all age groups. It was good to see groups of children and groups of adults and children who did not know each other working together as a team at the sessions. Often at workshops getting all involved is difficult. The sessions seemed to overcome such issues and build teamwork and participation. This was particularly good to see with school aged children....Feedback I have had from parents, (and) participants has been very positive. Some of the children I am told still talk about the drums."

Peta Homer, Nintirri Coordinator.

Both projects were sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Interests, Healthway, the Shire of Augusta-Margaret River and the Nintirri Centre., Tom Price.



Workshops at Tom Price 9 - 13 June