



KULCHA IS BACK IN FREMANTLE



WITH A NEW GENERAL MANAGER

There have been huge changes at KULCHA with the move back to Fremantle. We think it is a good time to introduce the newly appointed General Manager, Loretta Martella, and the new staff.

GENERAL MANAGER – Loretta Martella

Loretta has extensive experience and knowledge of the arts industry, having been the Events and Operations Manager at Fremantle Arts Centre for nine years. In this position she was responsible for programming the annual and much-loved *Courtyard Music* series of performances, as well as a diverse program of multi-arts events, including large-scale concerts from artists such as Paul Kelly, Vince Jones, Lucky Dube, The Waifs and John Butler. Loretta has also worked on event management for arts organisations and coordinated the inaugural ARTS MART in 2004 which brought arts organisations together with the education sector. Of Italian descent, Loretta has a keen interest in multicultural issues and is looking forward to developing an understanding and recognition of Western Australia's cultural diversity through the work KULCHA does.

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

The multicultural future?

It is interesting that only last week I spoke at the annual Federation of Ethnic Communities Council's Conference in Wollongong and addressed the very issue that is the title of this message. In addressing the issue, I came to the view that the appropriate location of the concept of multiculturalism has to be within our culture. We then need to develop cultural indicators to facilitate the measurement of our successes in achieving a strong level of sustainable development in multiculturalism. The location of multiculturalism in a cultural context is a fundamental part of the charter of groups such as KULCHA. It is important that we fulfil the dual function of informing the wider and mainstream community about the celebratory aspects of other cultures but that we also use our charter to develop and enhance some of the Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) communities. In particular, the emphasis of the government in recent times has been in the provision of settlement services to the 'New and Emerging Communities (NECs)'. These NECs have been mainly from the Horn of Africa and the Middle East. The satisfaction of the cultural needs of these NECs is a role that KULCHA is hoping to perform at a far higher level than it has in the past. We will be refocussing our organisation on these groups and we hope that governments, both Federal and State will see us an integral part of the 'settlement' of these newer communities in our society.

In doing the type of work that is alluded to above, it is entirely appropriate to say that were it not for two vital ingredients, none of this would be possible. These two ingredients are a very good sponsorship arrangement and exceptional staff and Board resources. We are fortunate that at KULCHA we have both of those vital ingredients. We are grateful to ArtsWA, Office of Multicultural Interests and Australia Council for the sponsorship and funding arrangements that we have in place with each of them. There are also a host of other sponsors, such as Jubilee Mines, that have involved themselves with us in the past and no doubt will in the future. We thank them all.

In relation to staff, we welcome on board our new General Manager, Loretta Martella. Loretta is a dedicated and energetic addition to our outstanding staff resources and she brings with her a huge amount of experience in the arts network. We embrace her vision, passion and commitment. The future for KULCHA is as assured as the future of multiculturalism in Australia. We continue to use the medium of the arts as an effective policy and advocacy tool and the effectiveness of this will be measured in years to come.

Suresh Rajan
President, KULCHA Board



Shangara Jive

INTRODUCING THE KULCHA ADMINISTRATION STAFF

FINANCE OFFICER – Alison Doran

Alison is a Chartered Management Accountant. Her expertise lies in the areas of budgeting and cash flow analysis. Alison has accounting and associated experience which she has accumulated through working and living in many different countries throughout the world. Alison's more recent position was one working as the treasurer for 'The Indonesian Heritage Society' in Indonesia, a non-profit organisation whose mission was to learn and experience the different cultural aspects of the Indonesian Society. Alison's exposure to different cultures enables her to contribute to KULCHA as an organisation not only on a financial level but also from a multicultural base as well.

PROGRAM & EVENTS OFFICER – Rosie Johnstone

Rosie brings an extensive experience in event coordination and community music programming. She is also a professional performing musician as a bass player, singer and songwriter. She recently completed the Advanced Diploma in Contemporary Music and Jazz at WAAPA. Rosie's most recent community project was as Chorus Director for the 1000 voice Journey Choir as part of the opening ceremony of the 2004 and 2005 Perth International Arts Festival. She has worked on community projects for Bandyup Women's Prison, Denmark Festival of Voice, Co-existence Choir and she is the musical director for the long running Band of Angels Gospel Choir.

MARKETING AND PROMOTIONS – Melissa Callanan

Melissa has worked for Barking Gecko Theatre Company, the WA Fringe Festival and the Perth International Arts Festival. She was a founding member of Steamworks Arts Productions, a consultant writer for ArtsHub round table digest and sat on the Board of Stages (WA Playwright Consortium) as Chair for two years. She currently sits on the Board of FPWA (Family Planning WA). She will complete an MBA (Master of Business Administration) at the University of WA in 2005. Her experience is broad-based having worked across the spectrum of arts practice from community projects to professional artists developing contemporary work.

ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT – Pascale Street

Although better known as a French cabaret singer, Pascale brings an extensive knowledge of the arts industry to KULCHA. Having immigrated from Paris 20 years ago she has a great interest and first-hand knowledge of multicultural arts. Producing and performing in her own musical productions, embracing a love of Edith Piaf, she is much-loved as a performer and now an administrative supporter to artists. She has performed at numerous venues and festivals including Fairbridge Festival, French Chamber of Commerce and Industry, His Majesty's Theatre, and the Art Gallery of Western Australia.

VENUE MANAGER – Bo Janmaat

Previously Bo worked as the Manager of a photo and film studio in Amsterdam, Holland. There he was responsible for strategic and daily planning, financial accountability and general operations. He managed 15 employees and the logistics of a fleet of vehicles. He was a volunteer night manager in the Utrecht Jazz club, the Sju Huis. Bo plays saxophone and is also pursuing an artistic career as a professional photographer. He has works hanging in various cafes around Fremantle. Bo immigrated to Western Australia from Utrecht in 2003 and has a long held keen interest in multicultural arts.

EDUCATION PROJECT OFFICER (consultant) – Cathy Sutherland

Cathy is a highly regarded specialist music teacher and is currently also lecturing in education and community services at Edith Cowan University. She has worked with a variety of progressive organisations to provide consultancy for interfacing with community groups. Her consultancy specializes in positive outcomes through community development. Cathy plays the piano and guitar and has sung in the Queensland State Choir. She is passionate about the place of the arts in a multicultural society.

The staff at KULCHA are happy to receive any feedback or ideas you have that will strengthen the place of multicultural arts in Australia. These ideas and suggestions can be emailed to mawa@kulcha.com.au and will help us be in touch with key artists in the multicultural arts community.



TOURING

The Tin Whistle – Bunbury District Regional Tour

KULCHA is touring the Tin Whistle Project to the Bunbury District in July. The Australian cultural group *Federation Dance Duo* is teaching the use of traditional Australian dance and music.

The workshop begins.... *Imagine that you were alive 100 years ago instead of now. There was no TV, no electricity, no videos or computers, no Play School or Sesame Street and no cars. You might have been friends with your Grandads' mum and dad and your Grandma's mum and dad. They used to have fun by dancing and listening to music but it was a different kind of dancing and a different kind of music than what you hear today, played on instruments that people don't play much anymore...* and children are taken on a journey back in time.

The project will familiarise children with aspects of their musical cultural heritage which is on the verge of extinction in Western Australia. Children will be made aware that the traditional Australian tunes are multicultural in origin, having evolved from the folk music of Great Britain, Austria, Germany, Poland and Bohemia. It is important that KULCHA plays a role in building the influence of multicultural artists through touring. These projects are developed in conjunction with artists and alternative sources of funding. We are interested to hear any touring ideas you have. Please email Rosie on programming@kulcha.com.au.



Doug de Vries Artwork by Simon Neville

FAIRBRIDGE FEEDBACK by Steve Barnes

The 2005 Fairbridge Festival was a raging success. KULCHA presented a special feature concert on the Dance Stage on the Saturday afternoon, featuring Kukuleczka Polish Folk Dancing Group, The Joys of the Women Italian women's choir, the Hora Shalom Israeli dance group, tango group Cuarteto Farol with some fantastic dancers, and the wonderful quintet Xenos, from Tasmania via Melbourne, playing their authentically stirring Macedonian Roma music. Xenos were joined over the whole weekend by one of Perth's finest traditional musicians, Macedonian reed player Petre Gjorgjievski. Xenos and Petre provided one of the highlights of a fantastic festival at the Dance Stage Final on Sunday, in collaboration with the exuberant young 'gypsy jazz' sextet Doch, from Brisbane. The feature concert was funded by a special allocation from KULCHA's OMI funding, part of which also went to pay the RaggaBeats who rounded off the dance stage celebrations on the Saturday night with a rousing set of reggae, sega and east African grooves. The partnership of Fairbridge Festival and KULCHA is a natural one, and it worked like a charm this year.

WORKSHOPS

GET THAT GIG - ARTIST WORKSHOP

Steve Barnes is one of our Board members, the Artistic Director at Fairbridge Festival and an artist. He will be giving the benefit of his experience to help performers put together successful festival applications. Tips will include ~ what to put in to your promotional pack, what to leave out, what to put on a demo, how to approach festivals, what kinds of things festivals want from their artists, and how to get asked back. He is generously offering his time for free in a workshop format on Thursday 28 July, 8pm at the KULCHA venue. Let your artistic community know. We look forward to seeing you there. The advantage of understanding these processes is that as an artist you create a broader audience for your work. The next thing you know we will be launching your CD. In this regard we take the opportunity to congratulate Khin Mynt, of Burmese heritage, for his successful CD launch that was possible due to funding support from the Australia Council.



Khin Mynt

À LA QUEUE LEULEU - CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP

Stand behind me and follow. The July school holidays are approaching and Pascale, the delightful French cabaret singer, is preparing to mesmerise and inspire the theatrical dreams of children aged 6-12years. Participants will work with Pascale for an hour from 11am on 7 July at KULCHA to make a playful piece of interactive theatre using the French language and a sense of fun. Book now on 9336 4544 as places are limited. The cost is \$5. The Keith Donnelly children's workshop was a huge hit in April and we look forward to seeing you all again.

KULCHA SUPPORT

WAM SONG OF THE YEAR NOW OPEN

This year KULCHA is sponsoring the World Music section of the WAM Song of the Year competition. In doing so KULCHA seeks to support artistic excellence in the multicultural arts community. The event is an annual songwriting contest presented by WAM, the West Australian Music Industry Association Inc. The competition offers up a rich opportunity to songwriters, with over \$30,000 in cash and recording prizes available to the 17 category winners, not to mention the Grand Prize winner! The WAM Song of the Year 2005 also features special Indigenous and Regional Song of the Year prizes and welcomes the World Music and Folk category. Entry forms and full details are available online from wam.asn.au and you can call 9227 7962 (1800 007 962 for regional WA) to have a brochure posted out. Don't delay, you've got until August 8 to make your submission. You never know who is going to win the WAM Song of the Year. Names like Little Birdy, Halogen and Ivan Zar are amongst past winners. So if you have a song you think will work for the world music category get recording now. You could win \$1000 cash prize money and recording time in a studio.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



KULTOUR EVENT – VISUAL ARTS EXHIBITION

23 July – 28 August
EXOTIC BODIES, HEAVENLY BODIES
 by **Nusra Qureshi and Naeem Rana**

Produced by Footscray Community Arts Centre and presented by KULCHA, this touring exhibition draws on South Asian traditions of art and a contemporary take on the Pakistani advertising and film industries. The show comprises paintings, digital prints and mixed media installation by two artists commenting on consumer culture and politics. These issues are addressed with a cultural sensibility not often found in Australia. The artists approach the themes through different but interrelated and reciprocal works and both with a touch of subversion.

Nusra Qureshi - I examine the representation and identities of women in several historical schools of painting. Some of my work refers to the erasure of elements or attitudes that mark a part of south Asian history. Certain figures in my paintings are segmented into, painted over or overlaid by other figures and images in order to examine or obliterate the features that constitute their identity. The layering that occurs as a result refers to a layering of the social and political histories where the roots of those identities lay.

Naeem Rana - My digitally manipulated prints explore consumer culture and our desire to express infatuations with popular subjects or products. I fuse popular Punjabi themes - including film, poetry, phrases, slogans and text - with imagery sourced from Pakistani and global packaging.

Both artists were born in Lahore, Pakistan. **Nusra Qureshi** has shown her work in Pakistan, Nepal, India, Australia, USA., Finland, Singapore, Germany and UK. She graduated in 1995 from National College of Arts in Lahore, Pakistan and completed her Masters of Fine Art at Victorian College of the Arts in 2002. **Naeem Rana** has also exhibited internationally and has Bachelor Degree in Fine Arts (with Honours), majoring in Sculpture from National College of Arts, Lahore, Pakistan and a Graduate Diploma from Victorian College of the Arts, 2001.

Fremantle Arts Centre
1 Finnerty Street
Opening Hours ~ Daily 10am – 5pm
Free Artists' Talk
Saturday 23 July, 12.30pm
Phone: 9432 9555 to reserve a place

MERDEKA: MALAYSIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

Saturday 27 August 2005 at KULCHA venue, 7.30pm

On the 31 August 1957, Allahyarham Tunku Abdul Rahman proudly declared the independence of Malaya (now Malaysia) by shouting out 'Merdeka' seven times at the Merdeka Stadium. The independence of Malaysia is different from that of many other countries, as it was a peaceful resolution achieved by holding talks with the British. Additionally, the Malaysian independence was realised by three people from different cultures and religions. This year Malaysia will celebrate its 48th Independence Day and the party is at KULCHA! The event will feature music and dance, as well as tasty Malaysian treats. Tickets only \$8 for KULCHA members and \$10 for non-members. For more information, call us on 9336 4544.

MERDEKA