

PAN International Draft Program Shortlist 2015 “Compass” Theme Yarra City Council Fairfield Amphitheatre Summer Series

PAN International will develop an annual program with a specific theme each year built around a diversity of artforms prevalent in the community. For 2015 it will be focused on the notion of a compass with art, music, dance, performance and spoken word grounding the community. Every performance will have a Welcome to Country ceremony by a storyteller, Steve Delaney. From this selection below, only 3 – 4 acts will be profiled each week. This is a preliminary proposal that is not finalised as we are open to suggestions and alterations of the program based on discussions with council. This document is confidential as all artists mentioned below are subject to availability.

NORTHERN SOUNDS

Local, homegrown talent from northern regions.

- **(Music)** INDIE SINGER – Al Parkinson
- **(Performance)** POETRY SLAM - Slamalamadingdong
- **(Music)** INDIGENOUS MUSIC – Yirmal and the Yolngu Boys
- **(Fashion and Music)** AJAK KWAI BAND AND FASHION SHOW – Ajak Kwai
- **(Music)** ABBIE CARDWELL - With The Chicano Rockers



EASTERN MOVES

Engage in artistic expression and interactive sessions from the east.

- **(Music)** MULTI-PERCUSSIONIST – Sergei Golovko
- **(Visual Art)** SAND ANIMATION – Pooja Harischandra
- **(Music)** THROAT SINGER – Bukhu
- **(Dance)** BOLLYWOOD DANCE – Dianne Algate
- **(Circus)** ACROBATICS – Lee Mohtaji



SOUTHERN CONNECTION

Sounds of the deep south with energetic fast steps to impress.

- **(Music)** BLUEGRASS TUNES – Mustered Courage
- **(Dance)** HIP HOP – The Black Jesus Experience
- **(Music)** JAZZ POP VOCAL QUARTET – The Nymphs
- **(Dance)** LATIN AMERICAN SALSA – Simona Grippi
- **(Music)** ROCK N' ROLL – The Bluebottles

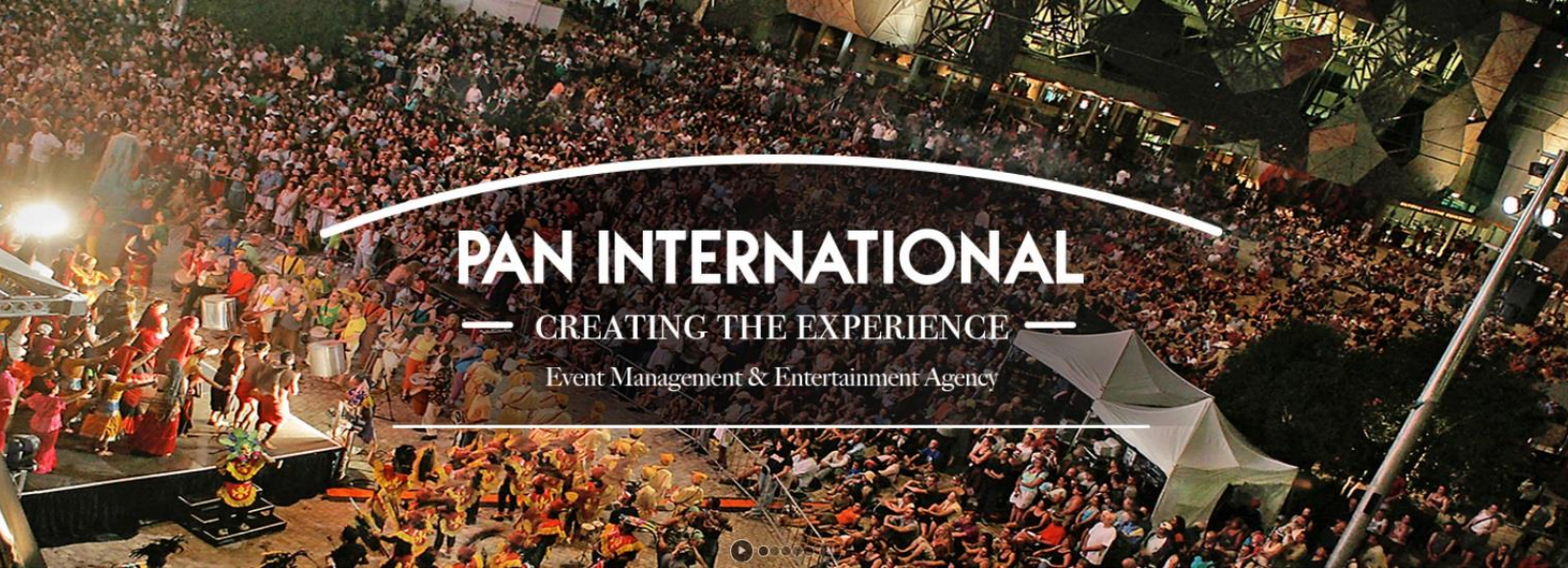


WESTERN FLAVOUR

The west with a twist and a new take on folk and country.

- **(Visual Art and Dance)** LIVE ART PAINTING & DANCE – Western Creation
- **(Music)** PIRATE ORCHESTRA – Sforzando
- **(Performance)** COMMEDIA DEL'ARTE – Adam Jackson and Joshua Mitchell
- **(Music)** COUNTRY MUSIC – Ravenswood
- **(Dance)** INTERACTIVE DANCING – Manasis School of Greek Dance





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NORTHERN SOUNDS

INDIE SINGER – Al Parkinson



Simply watching Al Parkinson perform, you immediately feel like she is an old friend. Her relaxed presence and hilarious on stage banter is the perfect complement to her soulful voice and wonderfully constructed songs of love and loss.

Al has shared the stage with some of Australia's most highly regarded acts including Matt Corby (Communion Melbourne), Liz Stringer, Bonjah and Jordie Lane. She has also secured international supports with David Ryan Harris (USA) and Ryan Keen (UK), to name a few. Al made her festival debut at Queenscliff Music Festival in 2012 followed by Apollo Bay Music Festival in April 2013. Since then she has been busy performing all around Melbourne, along the East Coast and South Australia performing at distinctive nights such as 'High Tea' (Sydney), The Reading Room Sessions and Band on A Boat (The Jam Room, SA).

[YOUTUBE LINK HERE](#)

POETRY SLAM - Slamalamadingdong



Slamalamadingdong is a cross disciplinary platform and event series for performance based artists, poets, storytellers and community practitioners working towards a spoken word revolution.

Hosted by Melbourne Spoken Word, the connection to the Melbourne poetry and spoken word scene.

INDIGENOUS MUSIC – Yirmal and the Yolngu Boys



New gen Indigenous Australian artist Yirmal, from North-East Arnhem Land, is making a refreshing entrance into the music scene. Inspired by heroes Yothu Yindi, as a carrier of the legacy, Yirmal fuses tradition and contemporary with class and passion.

Performing as a solo artist, and with group Yirmal & The Yolngu Boys, Yirmal is related to Geoffery Gurumul Yunupingu on his mother's side, and his father, Witiyana Marika, was a singer and dancer in

Yothu Yindi. The Yolngu boys, Dion, Jerol and Seviro Wunungmurra have extensive knowledge of traditional Yolngu “Manikay” songs, and are excellent singers, dancers and didgeridoo “yidaki” players.

AJAK KWAI BAND AND FASHION SHOW – Ajak Kwai



Singing in Arabic, Sudanese or English, witness the depth and richness of Ajak's Dinka heritage. Music has been the vehicle for her stories of extraordinary life experiences as a refugee, exiled from her hometown.

Successfully fusing her African roots with the grassroots of Australian music, she has collaborated with musicians including Sarah Blasko, Nicky Bomba, Martin Tucker and Chris Basile.

Ajak Kwai has also curated a fashion show with local designers based in Melbourne that will accompany her performance.

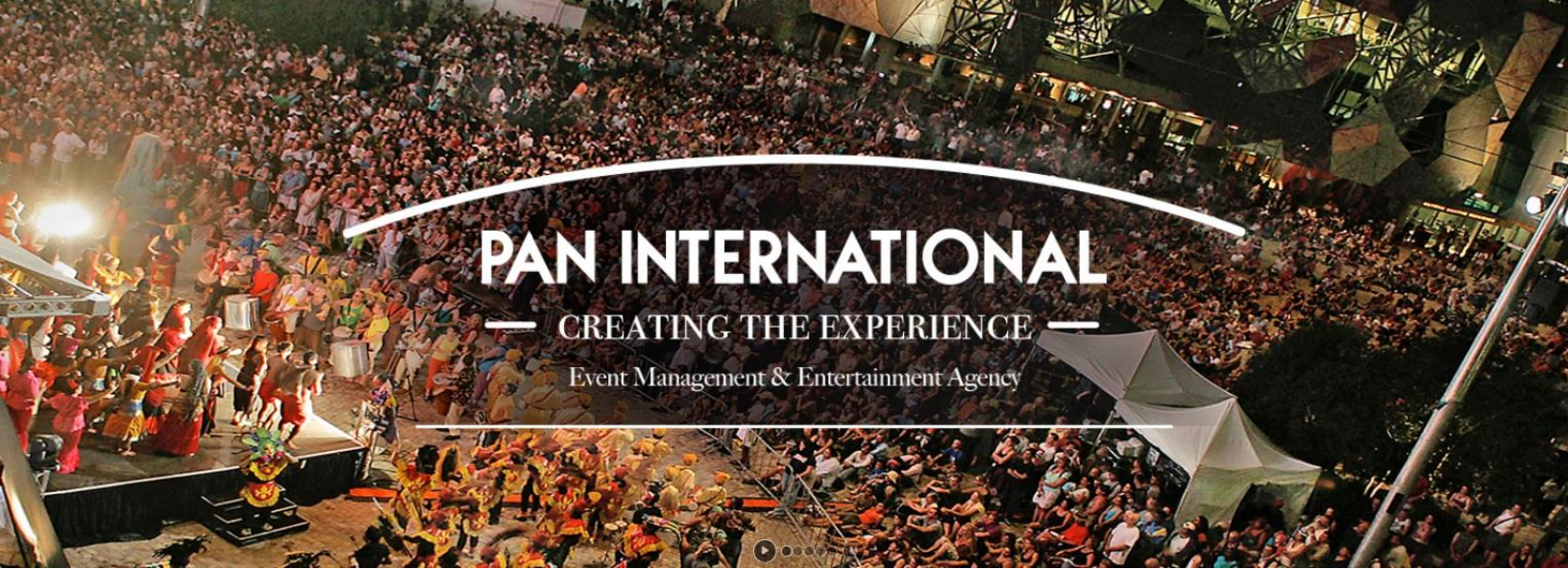
ABBIE CARDWELL - With The Chicano Rockers



Armed with her banjo, guitar, ukulele, harmonica and voice Abbie Cardwell is a multi-award winning artist with a truly versatile approach to her craft and artistic expression. Abbie loves creating music from acoustic roots, Americana, rockabilly to vintage Mariachi rock, spaghetti western and haunting Mexican boleros (sung in English and Spanish) and keeps herself busy performing solo or with one of her several bands from Australia and Mexico.

With a few 'pats-on-the-back' like Triple J Unearthed Winner, BMI USA Song Winner, ABC Music Award Winner and featuring on Keith Urbans' team on The Voice Australia Abbie has still managed to slip under the mainstream radar by continuously exploring and experimenting with her creative expression and slipping in and out of the public eye.

Aside from the accolades, albums and achievements Abbie is a seeker, a troubadour and devourer of adventure with a finely tuned gut-instinct.



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EASTERN MOVES

MULTI-PERCUSSIONIST – Sergei Golovko



Sergei Golovko is one of the world's best 'tuned' percussionists. He completed his studies at the Moscow State Conservatory and the Russian Academy of Music. He is a highly skilled, gifted musician with a brilliant technique for playing various percussion instruments. Sergei's inexhaustible energy combined with his immense creative potential has made him one of the world's most revered percussionists.

Sergei's performances and interpretations of famous compositions have attracted tremendous public appeal. He has been awarded prizes and honorary diplomas at domestic and international festivals such as the 'National Percussion Contest', the 'International Festival' in Korea and the 'Vienna-Music' and 'Radio France' festivals in Europe.

SAND ANIMATION – Pooja Harischandra



Sand art is an innovative type of live performance art which guarantees to excite and entertain. Audiences will be taken on an enchanting visual journey allowing for a storytelling experience that is unlike any other. Artist Pooja Harischandra has performed across the country including for the National Museum of Australia and at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre.

Rocsanne Putri will also feature as an artist in sand animation. Rocsanne has a Bachelor of Art in Visual Communication Design majoring in Animation from Multimedia Nusantara Indonesia where she won Best Comic Designer in 2011. Previously she worked as a Digital Artist for Caravan Studio in Jakarta. She was responsible for illustrations for children books, designs, coloring comic books, created concept game, coloring art for an IOS game, made digital both for card games and concept art, and other media.

[VIEW VIDEO LINK HERE](#)

THROAT SINGER – Bukhu



Bukhu will showcase his instruments from Mongolia, which are the horse head fiddle and throat singing. The horse head fiddle is the symbol of Mongolia, and throat singing derives from Shamanism (the old

Mongolian religion). Bukhu demonstrates the various ways to create sounds such as that of a camel, horse, and many other interesting sounds. He also enjoys mixing these traditional instruments with contemporary devices, such as a loop pedal, and iPod touch application, to create a very interesting and modern beat and sound.

[VIEW VIDEO LINK HERE](#)

BOLLYWOOD DANCE – Dianne Algate



Bollywood dancing is a high-energy dance form, made wildly popular by films, fusing rap and raga, Latin and hip-hop into lively and heady mixtures – which cheerfully disregard the boundaries between folk and classical, global and local traditions. Experience and performance and workshop with the crowd.

ACROBATICS– Lee Mohtaji



Ms Lee is a former leading acrobat from Nanjing Acrobatic Troupe with world class experience in performing. Lee's performances are lively and exciting. Through using the Diabolo – an ancient Chinese spinning instrument she provides you with an insight into traditional Chinese culture. Audiences will be in awe of her remarkable talent that makes even the most complex moves seem effortless.



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SOUTHERN CONNECTION

BLUEGRASS TUNES – Mustered Courage



Based in Melbourne, Mustered Courage bridge the gap between traditional bluegrass and modern roots music. The quartet – consisting of three Aussies and a Texas expat – has risen to the top of Australia’s folk and roots scene on the strength of their energetic live shows.

Mustered Courage’s quick ascent has not gone unnoticed in music industry circles, both in Australia and abroad. Like the Avett Brothers and Infamous Stringdusters, the group breathe new life into the bluegrass scene with a style that appeals to both traditionalists and newcomers alike. They are a band on the rise that, as Rhythms contends, is “guaranteed to soon be on to bigger things”.

[VIEW VIDEO LINK HERE](#)

HIP HOP – The Black Jesus Experience



In the 18 months since The Black Jesus Experience formed, the band has played at the Melbourne International Arts Festival, the Big Day Out, Emerge Festival and WOMADEelaide.

With a spot booked at the Brisbane Festival and an overseas tour to Switzerland, Germany, Dubai and Ethiopia to begin in October, it has been a busy start for the Collingwood-based band's composer and saxophonist Peter Harper.

JAZZ AND POP VOCAL QUARTET – The Nymphs



The Melbourne-based vocal quartet combine influences of 40s jazz, 50s swing and early 60s pop to create their unique and edgy sound. Add to this a dash of matching vintage glamour and you get something akin to The Andrew Sisters drinking single malt with Mae West at a late night blues bar.

After releasing their debut EP in 2010, The Nymphs have attracted acclaim as an ensemble able to turn their hands to a number of genres and work with a variety of performers, including Pinky Beecroft (Machine Gun Fellatio), Henry Wagons, Mikelangelo, and a variety of Australian music luminaries via the Rockwiz Orchestra. With a powerful vocal sound born in the bars of Melbourne, The Nymphs have reinvigorated the a capella genre, entertaining audiences from the Corner Hotel to the Melbourne Recital Centre.

[VIEW VIDEO LINK HERE](#)

LATIN AMERICAN SALSA – Simona Grippi



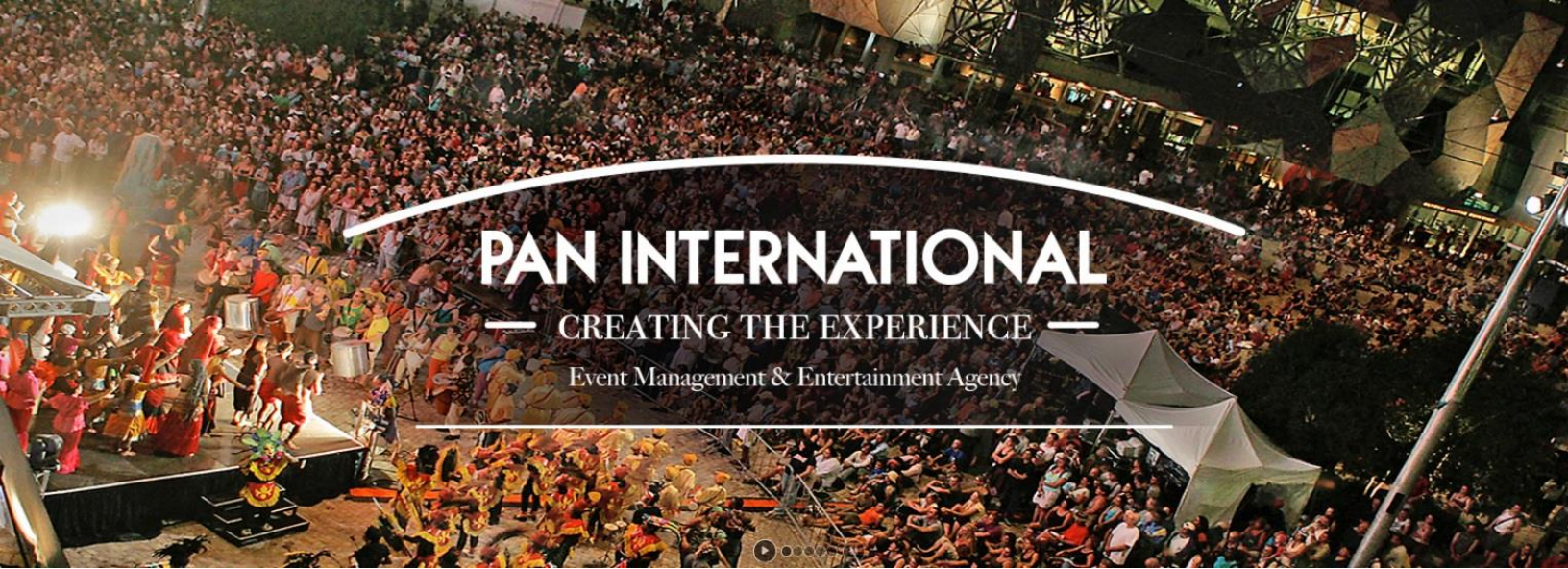
Our leading salsa dance instructor, Simona Grippi has performed for many choreographers such as Ugo DellAra from La Scala in Milan to Isabelle Duick from Opera Theatre in Paris. On her trip to South America, she discovered the tango and travelling in Brazil gave her the opportunity to experience other rhythms of Latin music. The pair present fabulous Latin America dances including Milonga, Salsa and Tango combining traditional and contemporary rhythms from Cuba and Brazil in a high energy dance spectacular. For the City of Yarra she will teach audience members some basic enjoyable steps to show how this dance craze is so infectious in Melbourne.

ROCK N' ROLL – The Bluebottles



WILD chicks, HOT cars, BIG waves and FRANTIC Rock & Roll... It's all business as usual for The Bluebottles! Since forming in the Summer of 2011, The Bluebottles have risen to fantastic heights in the Australian rock scene, to become the country's No.1 instrumental group. The band features the guitar slinging Hubbard brothers, Michael and Joe, of Mt. Evelyn, Victoria. They're joined by good buddies Richie 'Rich' Bradbeer on the bass guitar and 'Storm' on the skins.

The sound they're delivering is wild and their performances have to be seen to be believed. Wherever they go kids are shaking their bodies in a crazed, free-wheeling fashion, cutting loose to the unhinged beat! The teenagers are digging it and the old folks had better get used to it because The Bluebottles are here to stay.



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WESTERN FLAVOUR

LIVE ART PAINTING & DANCE – Western Creation



Experience one of the most inspiring Indigenous groups in Australia. Western Creation is one of the nation's leading Indigenous touring groups having performed for the likes of the Dalai Lama and Nelson Mandela. For more than 20 years, they have performed across Australia and toured New Zealand, China, and the USA. Drawing upon the many unique aspects of Aboriginal culture; music, song, dance, art and history, Western Creation bring Australia's Indigenous people into the hearts and minds of their audiences. Western Creation will create a live aboriginal painting involving children in the audience.

PIRATE ORCHESTRA - Sforzando



Sforzando are a band from Melbourne, Australia who describe themselves as an "8-piece pirate orchestra". Their musical style combines elements of punk, Western European folk music and sea shanties to create "a soundscape for the ocean", and there is notable Irish and Balkan influences on their sound.

Current line-up of the band is: Quincy Hall, Raju Sharma, Scott Jansen, Paul Tierney, Dave O'Reilly, Ben Tarpey, Sharon Ryan and Wez Rowe. Sforzando is a word used in musical notation to indicate that the following note should be played loudly, and the band chose this name to match their loud, frenetic punk rock style.

COMMEDIA DEL'ARTE – Adam Jackson and Joshua Mitchell



Commedia dell'Arte duo Mattopancetta take to the stage on a hilarious journey of improvisation influenced by 15th Century Italian classical theatre. It's loud, dramatic, clever comedy with zany characters that will keep audiences laughing for days afterwards and are the perfect MCs.

With this duo they can go anywhere. They have performed as roving characters, at festivals, shopping

centres, parties, sports and corporate events. Roving entertainment gives a festival or fetes a great atmosphere, and your crowd will appreciate it!

COUNTRY MUSIC – Ravenswood



United in celebrating women of country music, Ravenswood is four of Melbourne's country/folk leading ladies, joined together in lyric and song. Crowned by the haunting three and four part harmonies, Ravenswood's balance of elegant songwriting and careful instrumentation has silenced even the rowdiest of Melbourne venues.

INTERACTIVE DANCING – Manasis School of Greek Dance



Led by phenomenal dancer Deon Manasis, the Manasis School of Greek Dance and Culture has set unmatched, unrivalled standards, in execution, choreography and discipline. One of the school's fundamental beliefs is to continuously strive to present a new movement, a new position, a new idea, differing from the customary formation, to show that dance too, just like art, evolves. With professional dance performances, traditional instrumental floorshows and themed events, Manasis is able to create a fun, interactive and energetic program.