



SONGS OF RESILIENCE & STRENGTH SING OUT IN ROEBOURNE

On **Saturday 19th September**, the songs and stories of Ieramugadu (Roebourne), a small town in the Pilbara composed of eight language groups, will be celebrated with leading WA artists in **Songs for Peace**, to mark the International Day of Peace.

The town has been surrounded in song the last few weeks. Songs in language, songs from the heart, songs about community, songs about love and loss and despair, songs written in the prison. These songs have been developed with the support of professional WA artists and on the 19th September the local community will see their songs soar on stage.

The 2020 Songs for Peace, now in its third year, will feature WA and local artists under the musical direction of Grammy award-winning Lucky Oceans. Performing the songs of Roebourne will be Broome singer-songwriter Naomi Pigram, The Waifs' Vikki Thorn, Ngarluma jazz artist Lois Olney, award-winning Bidyadanga artist John Bennett, emerging artist Tehya Jamieson, multi-instrumentalist and composer David Hyams, local artists Tyson Mowarin, Angus Smith, Patrick Churnside, Josie Samson and Rachel James Mason performing alongside the Roebourne community.

This year's event will also feature an exclusive video appearance from Paul Kelly and will be a small, COVID-safe community event, and also live streamed for those who cannot attend, through the support of Ngaarda Media.

There has been a vibrant and multi-layered workshop program in Roebourne throughout August and September to craft the songs and content for Songs for Peace. Young people and community members, Elders at the Yaandina Aged Care Centre and prison inmates in the nearby Roebourne Regional Prison have worked with leading artists featuring at the concert to develop their music, song writing, movement, lyrics, recording and beat-making skills. Every Thursday at sunset, community members are also gathering at the John Pat Peace Place for fire, music, laughter and food.

Songs for Peace is proudly supported by Wiru-murra Yindjibarndi Aboriginal Corporation, Mawarnkarra Health Service, Ngarliyarndu Bindirri Aboriginal Corporation, Fortescue Metals Group, Roebourne District High School, Ngaarda Media, PCYC, Yaandina Aged Care Services, Telstra Foundation, Restore Hope Foundation, the National Indigenous Australians Agency, The Tony Foundation, COINS, City of Karratha, Regional Arts WA, The Australia Council, Foundation for Rural and Regional Development, the Government of Western Australia, the West Australian Police, Ngarluma Yindjibarndi Foundation Limited and the Westpac Foundation. Big hART also would like to acknowledge the generous support of the Blacket Family and Mr Paul Barnett.

Above all, Songs for Peace is a celebration of strong community, resilience, pride and deep culture and creativity. Join the community at this family-friendly event on Saturday 19th September, with food from 4:30pm and music from 5pm, or watch it from your home via the live stream on the Ngaarda Media Facebook page.

Follow us on Facebook to keep up with the latest news & artist announcements.

Big hART focuses on what is strong, working with communities to make art, build community and drive change. Founded in 1992, Big hART is a charity which has worked in over 50 communities in urban, rural, regional and remote Australia and won over 45 awards.

To find out more about Big hART's New Roebourne project, visit our new website: <https://newroebourne.bighart.org>



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