



SONGS FOR PEACE RETURNS IN SEPTEMBER

In September the festival of music, song, peace and social harmony returns to light up Roebourne, joining the community with local and national artists to work towards a bright new future for Roebourne.

Songs for Peace premiered in 2018 and saw 40 youth workshops, 25 community songwriting workshops, 21 artists, 12 community dinners, 5 Roebourne Regional prison songwriting workshops, 3 new songs written in the community and 500 audience members gather under a Pilbara moon to celebrate hope, peace and renewal.

This year, the event will be an intergenerational program of events leading up to Saturday 21st September, the International Day of Peace and will once again be curated by Lucky Oceans, spotlighting the music and the songs of the local Roebourne community. Leading the artist line-up will be acclaimed Indigenous Australian singer and songwriter **Emma Donovan**. Best known for her work with soul bands, The Putbacks and The Black Arm Band project, Emma has also toured and recorded with Archie Roach and Ruby Hunter, Spinifex Gum, Christine Anu, Yothu Yindi, Jimmy Little and Paul Kelly among others.

The program will also include community music workshops at the Ngurin Cultural Centre, and youth workshops with hip hop artists and producers Ham and Stirling Blacket in the new Digital Lab at the Centre, which proved extremely popular in 2018. Community can look forward to singing and gathering around the fire at the John Pat Peace Place and nights of feasting. More artists and event details to be announced shortly.

“Songs for Peace brings a good sense of belonging and togetherness, bringing everyone together, singing together, laughing together and yarning together about stories and songlines”, said Tootsie Daniel, Yindjibarndi Elder. “Roebourne is a peaceful place and we as Elders want to keep it that way. We want to pass the peace onto our families, into our homes and into the community; be the ones shaping our community.”

Songs for Peace is proudly supported by the Blacket family, Wirilu-Murra Yindjibarndi Aboriginal Corporation, the WA Police, the Ngarluma Yindjibarndi Foundation, Fortescue Metals Group and Restore Hope Aus Foundation.

Big hART is Australia's leading campaigning arts organisation, working with all language groups of the Roebourne community for 9 years, including 80% of the young people in the town. To date Big hART has worked in over 50 communities, alongside over 8000 individuals in urban, rural, regional and remote Australia and won over 45 awards.



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