



**QMF 2009 JUL17–AUG 2**  
**QMF.ORG.AU**

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
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## **QUEENSLAND MUSIC FESTIVAL LAUNCHES 2009 PROGRAM**

Queensland Music Festival's Artistic Director, Deborah Conway today announced a stellar line-up for the 2009 program. Over 17 days from 17<sup>th</sup> Jul to 2<sup>nd</sup> August, the Festival will host performances from the tip of our State on Thursday Island, west to Mount Isa and down to the Great South East.

Featuring 44 events in over 20 regions throughout the State, the Queensland Music Festival program will inspire and surprise with new and refreshing combinations of artists and styles including musical theatre, jazz, new opera, classical, contemporary, experimental, country and rock.

"The Queensland Music Festival is unique in its commitment to achieving a State-wide reach, and in creating new works that reflect Queensland's own identity," Ms Conway said.

"In Queensland's 150<sup>th</sup> year, birthdays are a good time to reflect on the past and consider the future. This July we will lovingly put Queensland under the historical microscope while also aiding and abetting some adventurous notions of an imagined future in musical form.

"Queensland Music Festival brings many performers from opposite sides of the globe together for the first time. We will experience the exchange, the collision of old and new and the similarities of sonic worlds that have developed so far apart and yet share a commonality both surprising and moving."

The Festival launches spectacularly into life with a landmark Q150 event on Thursday Island (and to the centre of Brisbane in a live webcast) - a stirring celebration of joy presented by The Black Arm Band in *Hidden Republic*.

In Winton, Blackall and St. George, the Finnish musical Maestro Kimmo Pohjonen will take the raw sounds of live farm machinery and turn them into an electrifying live concert in *Earth Machine Music*.

At historic Jimbour House, Queensland's musical royal family, The Noonans, perform together on stage for the very first time.

In Townsville, Rockhampton and Brisbane, world renowned composer Michael Nyman will perform with special guest, didgeridoo virtuoso, William Barton.

In Brisbane, the Festival will host a tribute to a legendary Queensland songwriter Kev Carmody with the star-studded concert *Cannot Buy My Soul* featuring Bernard Fanning, Paul Kelly, John Butler, Clare Bowditch and many more.

The full program is available at [www.qmf.org.au](http://www.qmf.org.au).

The Queensland Music Festival is a state-wide biennial celebration of musical excellence that makes the joy of music accessible to all. The Festival ignites artistic potential throughout Queensland. Working in collaboration with local councils and regional communities, QMF inspires participation in music-making and performance that reflects local culture and tells local stories.

Whether your primary interest is in serious contemporary music, world music, regional cultural development or just taking in fantastic entertainment, QMF 2009 truly offers something for everyone.

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***This festival has received financial assistance from the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland.***

*This project is supported by the Australia Council, the Australian Government's arts funding and advisory body, through its Community Partnerships Section.*



*Dedicated to a better Brisbane*

For further media information and images go to [www.qmf.org.au/media](http://www.qmf.org.au/media) or please contact Tracey Whealey, The Shock Factor Pty Ltd (07) 3847 5358, 0417 146 552, [info@theshockfactor.com.au](mailto:info@theshockfactor.com.au)

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## **SUMMARY LISTING OF QUEENSLAND MUSIC FESTIVAL EVENTS JULY 17 – AUGUST 2**

### **HIDDEN REPUBLIC – THURSDAY ISLAND & LIVE WEBCAST TO BRISBANE - Fri 17<sup>th</sup> July**

The 2009 Queensland Music Festival will launch spectacularly into life with the largest concert ever to be performed on Thursday Island, webcast live to a big screen in the centre of Brisbane. The Black Arm Band, twenty-five of Australia's leading singers, songwriters, musicians and performers, will be backed by thirty-three members of the Queensland Youth Symphony to create an exhilarating concert in the heart of the Torres Strait.

### **CANNOT BUY MY SOUL – BRISBANE RIVERSTAGE – Sat 1<sup>st</sup> August**

The Songs of Kev Carmody

Paul Kelly, Bernard Fanning, John Butler, Clare Bowditch, Tex Perkins, The Herd, The Drones and many more join forces in a special twilight concert at Brisbane Riverstage to celebrate the unique Australian talent of Kev Carmody

### **THE MICHAEL NYMAN BAND – ROCKHAMPTON Fri 24<sup>th</sup> July , BRISBANE Sat 25<sup>th</sup> July, TOWNSVILLE Thur 30<sup>th</sup> July**

with special guest William Barton

Prepare yourself for a pulse-racing musical encounter between one of the world's greatest contemporary composers, Michael Nyman, the virtuosity of Australia's William Barton and a 12-piece band that is the closest thing to rock n' roll classical music has yet produced.

### **PRESIDENTSLAND – BRISBANE CITY HALL - Wed 29<sup>th</sup> July**

A contemporary concert in three parts, commissioned by the Queensland Music Festival, with collaborations between Australia's most innovative composers and authors: jazz maestro Paul Grabowsky with Paul Keating's speech writer Don Watson; avant-garde composer Erik Griswold with poet and novelist Rodney Hall; and The Saints' guitarist Ed Kuepper and novelist Venero Armanno.

### **THE COURIER MAIL LOUD IN THE VALLEY – BRISBANE TIVOLI - Fri 17<sup>th</sup> July – Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> August.**

This eclectic collection of musical practitioners is ultimate proof of the dazzling and endless variety that music is – echoing Loud In The Valley. Featuring: Dan Hicks and The Innocent Bystanders

[USA], Monsieur Camembert/ VulgarGrad/ Frock, An evening of AMP - Jack Ladder/Tom Cooney/Ross McLennan, Iiro Rantala/Kimmo Pojohinen [Finland], FourPlay String Quartet, João Rabello [Brazil]

**LESLIE HOWARD – BRISBANE QPAC - Fri 24<sup>th</sup> July**

Australian born, Leslie Howard is known internationally as much for his musicality as for his record-breaking recordings of the complete music for solo piano by Franz Liszt; some ninety four CDs.

**THE PINK TWINS – BRISBANE QPAC - Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> July – Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> August**

Queensland artists Sue Rider (writer/director) and John Rodgers (composer/ musician) celebrate the rose-coloured lives and good works of identical twins Dorothy and Moyia O'Brien in an original work of music theatre. They dressed in pink, accessorised in pink, lived in a pink house, and drove a pink car and they made a difference to the lives of thousands of people with disabilities through their long-term commitment to the Sunshine Welfare and Remedial Association (SWARA),

**DIRTY APPLE – BRISBANE QPAC Sat 18<sup>th</sup> – Sat 25<sup>th</sup> July**

A compelling tale about the explosive issue of cyber bullying bursts onto the stage as Dirty Apple makes its premiere as part of Queensland Music Festival and Q150 celebrations.

**REMEMBER ME – BRISBANE POWERHOUSE - Wed 29<sup>th</sup> July – Sat 1<sup>st</sup> August**

This powerful Australian work by Dancenorth merges live music by renowned composer Iain Grandage with film, theatre and dance to create a work of great tenderness and nostalgia. Documenting a lifestyle of weekly ballroom dancing that has largely disappeared from modern Australian life, *Remember Me* is a meeting place for two different generations and an insight into the differences and similarities of people.

**QUEENSLAND AT HOME – BRISBANE POWERHOUSE & POMONA – Sat 1<sup>st</sup> & Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> August**

A time capsule of vintage film, photos and audio with live music by Topology. Queensland at Home intertwines contemporary music performance with footage and oral histories from the State Library of Queensland archives dating back to the early twentieth century.

**OPERA AT JIMBOUR – JIMBOUR (OUTSIDE DALBY)- Sat 25<sup>th</sup> July**

Featuring Maggie, Katie, Brian and Tyrone Noonan - Join the Noonan family in this special event at historic Jimbour House. The ever-popular *Opera at Jimbour*, a regular feature of Queensland Music Festival's program, will this year highlight the extraordinary contribution made by the Noonan family to Queensland's arts and cultural landscape.

**EARTH MACHINE MUSIC – WINTON – Sat 25<sup>th</sup> July, BLACKALL Tue 28<sup>th</sup> July & ST. GEORGE Fri 31<sup>st</sup> July**

Lock up your tractors! An electrifying live concert by Finnish adventurer and accordion virtuoso Kimmo Pohjonen using the raw sounds of live farm machinery.

**THE ROAD WE'RE ON – CHARLEVILLE - Thur 30<sup>th</sup> July – Sat 1<sup>st</sup> August**

An unforgettable outdoor musical event under the magnificent night sky in Charleville, *The Road We're On* brings together a world class team of creators to celebrate Charleville's rich vein of stories and talent in an evening of explosive, levee-bursting, stargazing, ground-breaking entertainment.

**STRETCH N' THE TRUTH – MORANBAH - Thur 23<sup>rd</sup> July**

From city to country the stories, the poetry and the raucous music hall atmosphere will have you clicking your fingers, tapping your toes and singing out loud. A rollicking night of music, fun and frivolity, *Stretch 'n' The Truth* features an impressive line up of entertaining Australian musicians that will take you on a musical journey.

### **LAID IN EARTH – COOKTOWN – Sat 1<sup>st</sup> August**

In 2009, QMF will revisit the Musical Ship (built as part of the 2007 QMF) with *Laid In Earth*, a newly commissioned work from celebrated Australian composer Damian Barbeler, featuring multi award-winning vocalist Sarah Blasko and singers from Hope Vale, Rossville and Cooktown.

### **SONG TRAILS – CENTRAL QLD & SEQ - Mon 27<sup>th</sup> Jul – Fri 31<sup>st</sup> July –**

*Song Trails* is a series of free songwriting workshops in which participants can tap into the wealth of skill and experience of specially selected workshop leaders, learning from them the artistry and techniques required to finally complete that self-penned masterpiece.

**Song Trails 1- Central Queensland:** Moranbah, Emerald, Rockhampton, Bundaberg & Nanango

Peter Farnan (Boom Crash Opera), Rebecca Barnard (Rebecca's Empire), Scott Edgar (Tripod) and Robert Forster (The Go-Betweens)

**Song Trails 2 - South-East Queensland:** Cleveland, Brisbane, Warwick, Ipswich, Logan

Melinda Schneider, Leah Flanagan, Mark Gable (The Choir Boys) and Erik McCusker (Mondo Rock)

### **THE BIG WEEKEND – MT ISA – Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> August**

Over 120 musicians from Birdsville to Karumba, Julia Creek to Barkly come together to form a massed community all-ages symphonic orchestra. Three days of intensive rehearsals, tutorials and instrumental workshops culminate in a concert performance at the Mount Isa Civic Centre. To celebrate the 2009 get-together, the Mount Isa Community Orchestra has commissioned a new work by Ralph Hultgren. Entitled *Wide Brown Land*, it reflects the beauty and mystery of Mount Isa and surrounds.

### **FIDELIO – QUEENSLAND CONSERVATORIUM - Sat 11<sup>th</sup> July – Sat 1<sup>st</sup> August**

This striking new production of Beethoven's sole opera makes its Australian première on the Conservatorium Theatre stage. When love and justice triumph. Director and designer Marthinus Basson gives this powerful opera a contemporary new edge.

### **FRANCISCO LOPEZ – BRISBANE & CAIRNS - Sun 26<sup>th</sup> & Fri 31<sup>st</sup> July**

Over the past 25 years, the concerts and installations of Spanish sound-artist Francisco López have generated astonishing sonic universes. Performing first in Brisbane, López will deliver a trademark performance in which audience members are offered blindfolds to focus their ears. In Cairns, López will undertake a residency, conducting field trips to collect sounds and explore the breadth of the sonic environment.

### **MUTANT THEATRE & INSIDE MUSIC– BRISBANE. QUEENSLAND CONSERVATORIUM - Wed 29<sup>th</sup> July**

One of Australia's truly innovative composers, Anthony Pateras has created his own sound universe – maximalism drowning in minimalism, buoyed by rich orchestration and elastic tempo.

### **SCORE IT**

A film-scoring competition for Queensland's young composers.

*Score IT!* throws down the gauntlet to young composers between the ages of 12 – 18 to create a unique and original composition to accompany a scoreless short film.

### **AIRPORT CITY MUSIC – Fri 17<sup>th</sup> & Sat 18<sup>th</sup> July**

Airport Music has a long and fine tradition of easing a traveller from one destination to another; call it a musical interface, call it a comfort creator; we call it *Airport City Music*.

**MUSIC IN THE STREETS – BRISBANE Fri 17<sup>th</sup> July, Sun 26<sup>th</sup> July & Sat 1<sup>st</sup> August & ROCKHAMPTON Sat 25<sup>th</sup> July 1pm**

Step outside your front door during Festival time, and you're likely to be stepping in time to Music In The Streets. Over the three Festival weekends, visitors, travellers, residents and shoppers in Brisbane and Rockhampton will be stumbling over music in unexpected places.

**BATTLE CITY – BRISBANE – Fri 24<sup>th</sup> July**

Once again the Turbot Street Overpass will become a battle ground as Australia's premier dancers invade the city to compete in this annual battle of the willing.

**ACOUSTIC IN THE PARK – SOUTH BANK – Sun 19<sup>th</sup> July**

Local artists showcase their talent within the relaxing setting of the Rainforest Green at The Parklands, South Bank. This outdoor musical event provides local original artists and emerging songwriters with a chance to showcase their talent to the wider community.

**BRISBANE'S BANDS! BIG, BOLD & BRASSY – SOUTHBANK – Sat 25<sup>th</sup> July**

Over two huge days, *Big Bold and Brassy* will showcase the amazing talent of Brisbane's local band scene with a massive weekend of FREE music at Suncorp Piazza.

**RELEASE ENDS**