

MORE THAN 60 GROUPS!

ANDA UNION

China

Anda Union is a stunning 10-piece ensemble that unearths bygone music from across the ancient Mongolian tribes. Digging deep into Mongol traditions, this acoustic group combines the morin huur, or horse head fiddle, with a range of traditional instruments and the majesty of throat singing.

THE BOMBAY ROYALE

Australia

Funky, bizarre and mysterious music from 1960s and 1970s Bollywood soundtracks has been revived by The Bombay Royale.

Fronted by Parvyn Singh and Shourov Bhattacharya, who sing largely in Hindi, the band features key members of leading Melbourne groups including LABJACD, The Public Opinion Afro Orchestra, San Lazaro, Mr Savona and Vulgargrad.

CHAPELIER FOU

France

Louis Warynski is the 21st century one man band. The 26-year-old violin virtuoso, in the guise of Chapelier Fou (The Mad Hatter), embraces samplers and digital delay loops to create intricately-layered sound textures. It's a rare balance between formal classical structure and sweet, quirky electronica, with an air of romantic grandeur.

BAABA MAAL

Senegal

Since the eighties, Baaba Maal has been an icon of African music. His distinctive voice, exhilarating live shows and willingness to experiment with different sounds, while always retaining the beauty of the Senegalese traditions he grew up with, have seen him headline events from the BBC Proms to Damon Albarn's Africa Express.



THE BARONS OF TANG

Australia

Self-described as "gypsy deathcore", this mad musical experiment lashes together the wild fury of disparate influences – tango, rockabilly, Latin and gypsy music with breaks, hard-hitting guitar riffs, blast beats and massive horn arrangements. The resulting untamed dance music has made The Barons of Tang darlings of the international touring circuit.

BONOBO

UK

Hailed as a pioneer, Simon Green has taken trip-hop to the masses. An accomplished musician, producer and DJ, he explores diverse sounds in the recording studio as Bonobo, sourcing a wide variety of samples built around complex bass lines - then brings them to life on stage with a lush live band.



CHIC

USA

Since 1976, Nile Rodgers has been defining funk, soul, R&B and disco, producing for Sister Sledge, Diana Ross, Grace Jones and Madonna - and co-founding Chic. From the huge dancefloor hits Le Freak and Everybody Dance to the much-sampled Good Times, Chic's bass-driven grooves have left a lasting impression on music.

CHRIS FINNEN

Australia

The raw honesty of the blues courses through Chris Finnen's music. A guitar virtuoso, Chris has been an icon of Adelaide's music scene for 40 years. His original blues songwriting always exhibits a wry humour and embraces a startling tapestry of cultural influences, from Indian and Celtic traditions to African flavours.

DIEGO GUERRERO Y EL SOLAR DE ARTISTAS

Spain

His voice and guitar carries the raw, grainy expressiveness that characterises the passion of true flamenco, yet Diego Guerrero is a bold innovator. He fuses Afro-Cuban rhythms of tango and copla, salsa and jazz into flamenco – a blend reflected in his septet, drawn from Spain, Cuba and Mauritius.

THE BEARDED GYPSY BAND

Australia

From the Adelaide Hills, four gifted young musicians (without beards) have embraced the feisty spirit of the gypsy muse. Channelling the verve of Django Reinhardt, their tearaway original tunes embrace Celtic, jazz, blues, gypsy and roots influences, coming together as a furious dancefloor pulse reminiscent of VulgarGrad and Paprika Balkanicus.

BUNNA LAWRIE

Australia

Bunna Lawrie declared his black pride in 1984, when his Western Desert band Coloured Stone released Black Boy, a rocking, ground-breaking track which sold 120,000 copies. Bunna is a highly respected elder, songman and storyteller of the Nullabor's Mirning Aboriginal people and is a whale dreamer songman, medicine man and storyteller.

DIRTY THREE

Australia

Violinist Warren Ellis, guitarist Mick Turner and drummer Jim White are a raw instrumental tapestry of sparseness, melancholia, tension and menace. Ironically, as Dirty Three's acclaim has risen, they have performed and recorded with PJ Harvey, Marianne Faithful and Nick Cave and many more, yet they rarely come together for their own shows.

BLUE KING BROWN

Australia

Hailed by Carlos Santana as "The voice of the street and the band of the future", Blue King Brown defines urban roots music empowered with fiery social messages. Built on a rock-steady foundation of reggae, their distinctly original sound unites Afrobeat, world and Latin influences with Natalie Pa'apa'a's fiery vocals and political lyrics.

CAMBODIAN SPACE PROJECT

Cambodia/France/Australia

Conjuring psychedelic Khmer-rock from the jungles of Cambodia, The Cambodian Space Project is built around the unique voice of Srey Chanthy. Encouraged by expat Australian music producer Julien Poulson, she fronts a cross-cultural Phnom Penh band faithful to the spirit of 1960s and 1970s Cambodian pop music that fuses traditional Khmer songs with rock'n'roll.



DJ KRUSH

Japan

The pioneer of Japanese hip-hop has already enjoyed a masterful 25 years behind the turntables. Forming Krush Posse in 1987, DJ Krush became the first DJ in Japan to use turntables as live instruments. Having released nine solo albums, he has performed before millions of people in 296 cities in 49 countries.

DOBET GNAHORÉ

Ivory Coast

Dobet Gnahoré stands at the frontline of West African music as a complete artist – singer, dancer, percussionist and songwriter. She merges African roots with the European influence of her French guitarist, partner and co-writer Colin Laroche de Féline, capturing a rare power in the delivery and purpose of her songs.

EDDI READER

Scotland

A singer-songwriter of rare ability, Eddi Reader brings beauty to all forms of song, from the traditional to the contemporary. Her voice – the signature of 80s band Fairground Attraction – has propelled her stellar solo career, crowned by the classic album *Songs of Robert Burns*, for which she was awarded an MBE.



ELECTRIC WIRE HUSTLE

New Zealand

This is 'future-soul' at its finest, with big looping grooves and slow-creeping sweet synth lines echoing hip-hop and psychedelica. The Wellington trio conjures a deep sound, thick with drums and layered with Fender Rhodes, nylon-stringed guitars and the uber-cool, evocative vocals of Mara TK, son of legendary rock-bluesman Billy TK..

FIRST AID KIT

Sweden

As standard-bearers of the new folk idiom, young Swedish sisters Klara and Johanna Söderberg strike clean harmonies atop simple guitar, autoharp and keyboards. Their debut album, *The Big Black & The Blue*, released when Klara was aged 17 and Johanna 19, earned inclusion on several influential 'best of 2010' lists.

FRIGG

Finland/Norway

Fearless fiddlers drive this exciting new strain of acoustic 'Nordic powerfolk'! Emerging in 2002 with a debut album that set the folk world on its ear, Frigg has redefined Nordic string bands. Its distinctive 'Nordgrass' playfully melds Nordic traditions with Americana, a grassroots attitude and enormous energy and humour.

GRACE BARBÉ

Seychelles/Australia

This fresh sound is what Seychelles singer/songwriter Grace Barbé calls "Afro-Kreol". Pop, reggae, funk and Afrobeat are blended with Moutya and Tinge rhythms specific to the Seychelles. Now living in Western Australia, Grace sings in Kreol, English and French, retelling ancient tales to present her culture to the wider world.

GRAMOPHONE MAN

UK/Australia

With his genuine His Master's Voice wind-up gramophone player and a stack of classic 78 discs, Gramophone Man resurrects great songs from the 20s to the 40s. Combined with over-excited boogie-woogie dancing and suave patter, he plays songs you didn't know you love, and some you wish you'd never heard.

GROUNDATION

Jamaica/USA

Capturing the essence of true roots reggae, Groundation also blends jazz and dub into their sound. Since 1998, singer Harrison Stafford, keyboard player Marcus Urani and bass player Ryan Newman have steered a floating nine-piece line-up through nine albums of collective improvisation with a dip into funky horns and Afro-Latin polyrhythms.

GURRUMUL

Australia

His soaring, pure voice is the most distinctive and important in Australian music today. Geoffrey Gurrumul Yunupingu captivated the world with his debut, *Gurrumul*, an album of immense poise and beauty. Sung in his native Yolngu tongue atop sparse acoustic accompaniment, his mesmerising sound is captured afresh on his multi award-winning 2011 album, *Rrakala*.

JAY HOAD BAND

Fiji/USA/Australia

Multi-instrumentalist Jay Hoad pulls together an eclectic sound of global proportions. Born in Fiji, Jay left Adelaide six years ago on an international music odyssey. Following the sun, he has toured the Caribbean, South East Asia, Fiji, Canada and North America and Australia, absorbing reggae, Latin, Celtic and tribal influences.



JINJA SAFARI

Australia

Two months after performing their first show for friends in a coastal forest, Jinja Safari became one of Australia's hottest bands. Their infectious song *Peter Pan* won the Triple J Unearthed competition in July 2010, earning singer/guitarists Marcus Azon and Cameron "Pepa" Knight a gig at *Splendour In The Grass* – and a springboard to national acclaim.

JOE BATAAN & THE I LIKE IT LIKE THAT ORCHESTRA

Phillipines/USA/Australia

The 'King of Latin Soul' from NYC has set dance floors alight for four decades. With his heady mix of salsa and pop, Latin jazz and R&B, Joe's eclectic sound has stretched from 1980 Rap-O Clap-O (possibly Europe's first rap hit), to recent recordings with hot Barcelona nu-boogaloo group *Los Fulanos*.

JUMPS

Australia

Influenced by hip-hop as he grew up in Melbourne, JUMPS joined *The Cat Empire* on decks and percussion in 2001. After over 800 shows in the past decade, he has nurtured his passion for funk, Latin and African rhythms and will be the first Australian DJ to grace the *Speakers Corner* stage.

JOHNNY CLEGG

South Africa

Long before Paul Simon went to Graceland, Johnny Clegg flouted apartheid laws in South Africa by forming seminal mixed-race band *Juluka* in the 1970s. Establishing the template for fusing Western pop and English vocals with Zulu rhythms, Johnny has sold more than five million albums through 30 years of performing.

KIMMO POHJONEN

Finland

It's accordion, but not as we know it; Kimmo Pohjonen presents sonic theatre, punctuated by a visual image that evokes high Gothic drama. He pushes the sound of his electronic-treated accordion to extremes: freewheeling musical exploration from Zappa-tinged technical epics to folk, classical, black noise and disturbingly primeval sounds.

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LA VOCE DELLA LUNA

Italy/Australia

These sassy Italian women who have made Australia their home sing joyful and raucous songs drawn from a 500-year-old repertoire that traverses the length and breadth of Italy. Formed in Melbourne during 1996 as an inter-generational group, this huge choir is led by Kavisha Mazzella, who accompanies the group with guitar and accordion.

LE TRIO JOUBRAN

Palestine

The oud holds outstanding importance in Palestinian culture, and three gifted brothers – Samir, Wissam and Adnan Joubran, hailing from Nazareth – bring new life to this ancient instrument. The trio now performs with the superb percussionist Yousef Hbeisch and their magnificent improvisations are rich, subtle and beautiful.

LO'JO

France

When French poet Denis Pean and violinist Richard Bourreau formed Lo'Jo, they looked far beyond their homeland for inspiration. With gypsy fiddle, chanson, Berber desert music, African talking drums and even elements of Caribbean groove, Lo'Jo's exotic and bewitching songs flit between griot fables and humanist musings, mingling French, Spanish, Arabic, Creole and English.

MAD PROFESSOR

UK

Dubbed by schoolmates 'Mad Professor' for his fascination with electronics, Guyana-born Neil Fraser has become dub music's king of engineering and production. He has contributed to almost 200 albums, from Lee "Scratch" Perry to Sly and Robbie, Sade and Horace Andy, and found international fame for remixing Massive Attack's Protection.

MAHALA RAI BANDA

Romania

Gypsy campfire tunes distilled into the raucous din of Balkan Mafia clubs – this is the essence of the racy Romanian roots-rockers, Mahala Rai Banda. The 11-piece band kicks serious brass with fierce 21st century gypsy funk, hints of dub and soul, Turkish and Arabic assimilated into a roaring dance mix.

MASTER DRUMMERS OF BURUNDI

Burundi

The vibrant power and precision of 20 hand-carved drums played in complex rhythms has mesmerised western audiences since Burundi's former royal drummers started touring internationally in the 1960s. Considered among the world's best percussion ensembles, the drummers gyrate and leap as they play, heightening the intensity and spectacle.

MELBOURNE SKA ORCHESTRA

Australia

The golden period of ska music is revived by the 26-piece Melbourne Ska Orchestra, embracing 1963 Skatalites and Wailers hits through to British Two-Tone. Nicky Bomba, livewire drummer with John Butler Trio, brings together Australia's best ska and reggae musicians in a big band experience that celebrates this uplifting music in high style.

MO'HORIZONS

Germany

Adding a cocktail of bossa nova, soul and boogaloo to his DJ sets, Hanover-based producer-DJ Ralf Droeemeyer has created a signature sound as Mo'Horizons. Having appeared on more than 500 compilation CDs, his brilliant nu'club mix of sunny songs with jazzy attitude is like a dancefloor introduction between Maceo Parker and Tito Puente.

NANO STERN & THE SINDICATO

Chile

At only 26, Nano Stern is Chile's rising music superstar. His emotive vocals and guitar playing characterise a new Chilean sound, fusing traditional Latin American and European folk music with modern rock and jazz. His songs, sung passionately in Chilean Spanish, are entwined with stories eloquently delivered in English.



NARASIRATO

Solomon Islands

Narasirato play tribal music that has been the main medium for communicating Are'are tradition and culture through 75 generations. Comprising only traditional panpipes, the group's music has an astoundingly modern feel, reminiscent of contemporary dance music – a point very much in evidence during recent shows at the Glastonbury and Roskilde festivals.

PAJAMA CLUB

New Zealand

Neil and Sharon Finn turned evening jam sessions at home in their pajamas into a new band; Pajama Club. A few noodling grooves, with Neil on drums and Sharon on bass, became a rich array of songs with Sean Donnelly and Alana Skyring (The Grates) for an acclaimed debut album, released in September 2011.

PASCALS

Japan

Wacky, playful and frivolous, this unique 16-piece acoustic orchestra taps into our inner child, with music created on a whimsical array of toy instruments. Embracing Western-tinged ballads, toy piano sambas, waltzes, polkas and pop songs, Pascals lace the most unlikely type of ballroom fanfares with whimsy, wit and joy.



PENGUIN CAFE

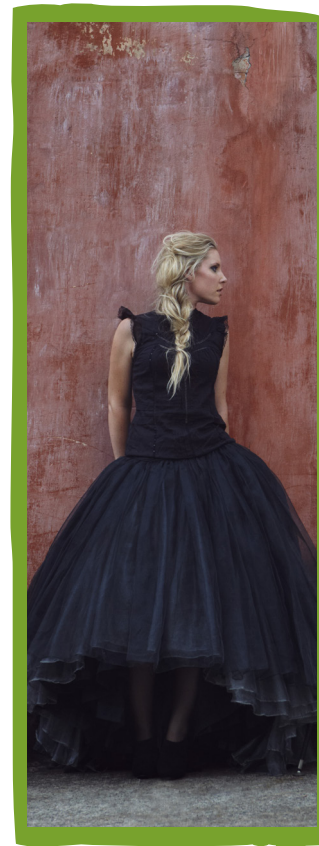
UK

Arthur Jeffes continues his late father Simon's original concept of the Penguin Cafe Orchestra with a new nine-piece ensemble. Ukuleles, strings, percussion, electric bass and piano forge the unlikely blend of African rhythm, folk fiddle and classical cadences. It's a unique musical language built on playful minimalist concepts shot through with whimsy.

THE PICTURE BOX ORCHESTRA

Australia/UK/
Pakistan

Lead by internationally acclaimed composer, producer and violinist Alies Sluiter, The Picture Box Orchestra produce hypnotic, evocative and exquisite music, a virtual cornucopia of sounds from around the world. Combining Indian Classical techniques with Jazz, Hip-Hop and Western Classical influences it's a curious melting pot of musical genres featuring world-class performers from Pakistan, India, Australia and The United Kingdom.



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THE PIGRAM BROTHERS

Australia

Broome's Pigram Brothers have conjured the saltwater country sound that identifies and embodies Western Australia's great Kimberley coast. The seven-piece band of brothers produce an infectious mix of earthy harmonies with acoustic stringed instruments, easing life into songs about their homeland on the albums Saltwater Country, Jiir and Under the Mango Tree.



THE PITTS FAMILY CIRCUS

Australia

Tasmania's brother and sister duo of Cessil and Sandy Pitt, with Incredible Underage Acrobat Wee Pitt, have a rare ability to twist themselves into knots as their audience doubles over with laughter. Fusing highly skilled acrobatics with unusual juggling, bizarre contortion and offbeat humour, this modest circus has wowed audiences in 14 countries.

SHARON SHANNON BIG BAND

Ireland

Sharon Shannon squeezes fresh sounds and new inspiration from the accordion, bravely reaching beyond Irish traditional music to embrace cajun, country and classical. Her collaborators include Bono, Sinéad O'Connor, Steve Earle, The Waterboys, Willie Nelson, Nigel Kennedy and Shane MacGowan – many having featured as guests in her roaring eight-piece Big Band.

SHIVKUMAR SHARMA

India

Shivkumar Sharma has reinterpreted the role of the santoor, a 100-string hammered dulcimer, from its Kashmir folk origins into a distinctive Indian classical instrument. Accompanied by heralded tabla master Yogesh Samsi and Takahiro Arai on tanpura, the long-necked lute, Shivkumar strikes the perfect balance between melody and rhythm.

SIVOUPLAIT

Japan

This curious Japanese couple are always talking about love – yet they never use words. Think of mime like Manga and you get the very animated picture behind "A silent couple in humorous white", Nozomi Horie and Takeshi Shibasaki's gentle street theatre satire on the perfect couple in love.

TWO PIANOS

Australia

Elizabeth Drake and Caroline Almonte perform Canto Ostinato by Simeon Ten Holt – a daring minimalist composition for two pianos that has developed a cult following throughout Europe. A hypnotic realisation of a simple theme, no two performances are ever alike, effusively described as the musical love child of Philip Glass and Rachmaninov.

PONYDANCE THEATRE COMPANY "ANYBODY WAITIN"

Ireland

Ponydance is on a mission to deliver unique comic dance. The brash four-member Irish troupe creates site-relevant performances, from stadiums to street corners to floating barges. Their show Anybody Waitin' tries to find a man for Paula – a 30-minute whirlwind of movement and mirth, with a generous pinch of audience participation.



SHANE HOWARD

Australia

For thirty years, Shane Howard has been at the forefront of contemporary music in Australia. His song Solid Rock was a landmark anthem that eloquently and poignantly broached the issues of racism, colonial dispossession and genocide. Shane will celebrate this milestone at WOMADelaide with a brilliant new six-piece band.

STAFF BENDA BILILI

Democratic Republic of Congo

Despite being handicapped by polio and living rough on the streets of Kinshasa, Staff Benda Bilili's singers, guitarists and percussionists have become a global sensation. The pulse of their Congolese rumba echoes the sounds of Havana, Kingston and Harlem, and their energetic live performances are nothing short of joyous and inspirational.

TONINHO FERRAGUTTI & BEBE KRAMER

Brazil

Brazilian culture and popular music is inexorably tied to the accordion. Virtuoso players Alessandro "Bebê" Kramer and Toninho Ferragutti present a comprehensive picture of where the accordion sits in Brazilian music today, from folk traditions, through feisty gypsy festivities to orchestral performance, driving distinctive Brazilian rhythms, waltzes, ballads and polkas.

SHANTALA SHIVALINGAPPA

India

Born in Madras and raised in Paris, Shantala started dancing at 13, working with such greats as Maurice Bejart, Peter Brook, Bartabas and Pina Bausch. Inspired by Master Vempati Chinna Satyam, Shantala has dedicated herself to Kuchipudi, a classical South Indian form that combines abstract pure dance with expressive dance in a vibrant and extremely intricate style.

TENZIN CHOEGYAL & MONKS OF TIBET

Tibet

Tenzin Choegyal draws on his traditional Tibetan roots to create original compositions which uniquely express his cultural lineage. He was born to a nomadic family in southwest Tibet, was raised in the Tibetan refugee community in Dharamsala, India. It was there, where His Holiness the Dalai Lama actively encourages his people to preserve their culture through language, religion and arts, Tenzin first began to explore his musical talents.

TORI ENSEMBLE

Korea

TORI Ensemble's bold improvisation reaches far beyond Korean traditional music. The young and talented quartet play the geomungo (six-string zither), daeguem (bamboo flute), janggu (hourglass drum) and piri (bamboo oboe). Embracing other musical nuances, and featuring the incredible jeongga (Korean classical) vocal stylings, TORI Ensemble has created a new and haunting musical language.

"WEAVING THE WORLD"

Australia/Tibet

A special visual arts project between Anangu artists working with Better World Arts and the Monks of Tibet.

TÉTÉ

Senegal/France

In a mere decade, this extraordinary French-Creole, guitar-toting troubadour has spread his wings to become a director, TV host, artist and actor. Tété's beguiling mix of melodic folk and quirky pop and blues has seen him play 1,000 gigs across Europe, Japan, Australia and the USA and sell over half a million albums.

UKULELE ORCHESTRA OF GREAT BRITAIN

UK

A one-off fun gig in 1985 has grown into an all-singing, all-strumming ukulele collective presenting a collision of post-punk performance with toe-tapping golden oldies. Sitting in chamber group format in evening wear, the orchestra bounds from Tchaikovsky to Nirvana via Otis Reading and Spaghetti Western soundtracks with tongue firmly in cheek.

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