

# Performer Bios

## Isaac Compton (Headline act)

Isaac Compton is a proud Munanjali, Minjungbul and Wiradjuri man born in Griffith NSW. Isaac has deep cultural and community connections to Dubbo, Peak Hill, Sydney and Tweed Heads – and now calls Newcastle home.

Isaac's love for music and performing saw him self-learn guitar and vocals at a young age. Connections to various bands and groups in his local communities assisted Isaac to begin his career as a professional solo artist in 2013, which has seen him go on to have many career highlights. Most notably, Isaac performed as the opening act for Justice Crew and again for Troy Cassar-Daley and Paul Kelly for the 50th Anniversary of the Freedom Rides – an experience very special to Isaac for many reasons.

Isaac's Cultural connections has seen him link with his mob, the well-known Muggera Cultural Dance Group. Muggera, along with Isaac performed at the launch of the 2019 NRL season and were successful in winning the famous Dance Rites competition the same year.

In 2023, Isaac has returned from trekking The Summit on Channel 9's hit reality TV show of the same name – where he won the ultimate cash prize and the hearts of viewers across the nation.

Isaac is also an experienced MC and guest speaker, and has hosted events such as the Yabun Festival, Treaty Day Out & the launch of the Powerhouse Museum in Castle Hill in 2024 alone.

Today, Isaac is a professional musician, First Nations Activist, popular social media phenomenon, reality TV personality and self-proclaimed comedian – using humour to bring important issues to the surface.

<https://eao.com.au/artist-roster/isaac-compton/>

## Djaarmby Band

Indigenous rock band with traditional lyrics. Warren Gunggari Saunders (vocals, guitars and yidaki), Darren Rix (vocals, rhythm guitar and clack stix), Goo Calligeros (lead guitar), Rohan Anderson (bass) and Richard Ploog (drums).

Regulars at Kangaroo Valley Folk Festival. Also performed at Cooma Roots and Blues, Corinbank Festival, Perisher Mountains of Music, Numeralla Folk Festival, ANU Earth week and reconciliation events. Can be heard on JJJ Unearthed and Bandcamp.com

## Ozy Youth Choir

OYC brings music and history together to inspire and develop young leaders while providing veteran families with a sense of belonging no matter where they are posted. Over the past ten years, OYC has expanded into a national organisation with international partnerships, supporting veterans, their families, and First Nations young emerging elders in regional, rural, and remote communities.

Members practice online and travel to perform for local, national, and international events, infusing their performances with the spirit of the Aussie bush. For 2023/24, the Choir's theme is "Making Peas/ce." Collaborating closely with First Nations people and their partner, "Making Peasce" Founder Hazel Davies, they aim to walk both the Peace Poppy and Desert Pea (an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flower of Remembrance) together to sing to remember those who have died for our country and on our country.

<https://www.ozyyouthchoir.org.au/>

### **Project Dust**

Project Dust is a First Nations contemporary dance group. We come together from many Tribes to dance, share, and perform. Project Dust aims to bring our young mob up strong in their culture and confidence in a safe dance and culturally safe environment.

### **Richard Luland**

RICHARD LULAND | Born in Nowra with strong family ties to the Yuin Nation through his mother's people. Richard Luland's music is a way to express how he feels, and also what has influenced him as a Koori man.

Richard is one of the artists on South East Arts' compilation album that will be launched and available at the festival! 🎸

His style of music is Koori, Rock & Roll and Blues, and everyone will love his originals.

<https://www.facebook.com/giiyongfestival/posts/richard-luland-born-in-nowra-with-strong-family-ties-to-the-yuin-nation-through-/1015691259200535/>

### **Wallabindi Monica Moore**

Wallabindi is a proud Wardandi Noongar and Burmese mother of 2, a singer-songwriter, visual artist and TEDx speaker. While she has called Ngunnawal Country home for over 20 years, she is originally from Boorloo (Perth), with many other family connections along the West Australian coast. Her soulful and powerful vocals have weaved throughout many genres, lineups, festivals and events - both in Australia and the UK - for almost 20 years.

Wallabindi has supported artists including Casey Donovan, Bumpy, Busby Marou, Icehouse, Frente, Joe Camillieri, Dan Sultan and most recently performed with Coloured Stone at the 2024 National Multicultural Fest.

She released her debut EP Wallabindi Dreaming in 2023, which won the MusicACT Independent Debut of the Year. Her songs explore her experience as a daughter of the Stolen Generations and poignant reflections on our shared history. Wallabindi will be sharing story and song accompanied by Rob Campton and John Coates.

<https://bmamag.com/2023/12/18/wallabindi-is-dreaming-of-country/>