

MEDIA RELEASE: 1 August 2023

NOONGAR SONGS SET TO SOAR

Song Circle, Supreme Court Gardens

October 4-8

FREE EVENT

Boomerang and Spear



Image: Court McAllister


From the extraordinarily imaginative **Boomerang and Spear** team, [*Song Circle*](#) is a celebration of Noongar performance with song and language at its heart.

Song Circle as a central element of EverNow, a festival in Kambarang, and has evolved from the acclaimed *Noongar Wonderland* presented at Perry Lakes during Perth Festival 2022.

This newly imagined Noongar-led futurescape surrounds the audiences with music, dance and light over five nights in Supreme Court Gardens on Whadjuk Noongar Boodjar (Country).

A raised revolving stage sits in the gardens, surrounded by a ring of sand – a performance space in the round. Here, singers and instrumentalists will perform songs in Noongar reflecting on animals and environments from Perth through the Great Southern to Esperance, as dancers respond to the music on a ring of sand surrounding the stage.

With **Dr Roma [Yibiyung] Winmar** as Cultural Advisor, *Song Circle* is theatrically brought to life by lauded director **Kylie Bracknell** (Director of *Hecate*, *Fist of Fury Noongar Daa* and co-director of *Noongar Wonderland*), and the songs emerge from the Restoring on Country Performance research of **Professor Clint Bracknell**. The entire space will be lit by Noongar lighting designer **Mark Howett**.

Dr Roma [Yibiyung] Winmar says: ‘Song circle  no beginning - no end. A continuous celebration of our culture and heritage. Proud to observe dedicated individuals journeying as one to share our amazing culture to the outside world.’

There is a strong community engagement and training aspect to the presentation, where community members are engaged over a long period of time to dance and perform these works.

Performances run for 15 minutes on every half hour from 5.30pm-8.30pm and feature **Maatakitj**, percussionists **Arunachala Satgunasingam** and **Talya Valenti** and a variable cast of singers and dancers, including **Kylie Bracknell**, **Trevor Ryan**, **Rubeun Yorkshire**, **Ebony McGuire**, **Bobbi Henry**, **Jack Collard**, **Janine Oxenham**, **Rachel Collard**. **Della Rae Morrison** and **Charley Caruso**

Other free special presentations over the EverNow weekend are [Boorna Waanginy: The Trees Speak](#) and [Fire Gardens](#).

WHAT: [Song Circle](#)

WHERE: Supreme Court Gardens

WHEN: Wed 4 - Sun 8 Oct. Venue Opens: 5pm-10pm. Performances every half hour starting at 5.30pm. (Each performance about 15 mins duration)

FREE ENTRY, NO TICKET REQUIRED

MORE INFO: evernow.com.au

Media resources including images and video available [here](#).

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We acknowledge Aboriginal peoples as the traditional custodians of Western Australia and pay our respects to Elders past and present. We celebrate the diversity of Aboriginal West Australians and honour their continuing connection to Country, culture and community. We recognise and appreciate the invaluable contributions made by First Nations peoples across many generations in shaping Western Australia as a premier destination.

THANK YOU

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