

MEDIA RELEASE: 1 August 2024

NOONGAR SONGS SOAR AGAIN

Song Circle, Burswood Park

Thu 3 – Sun 6 October

FREE EVENT

Boomerang and Spear



Song Circle, 2023. Image: Jessica Wyld

‘In every sense, Song Circle was grounded in its place, each Noongar song a tribute to an animal, bird or the groundwater, an “invisible kiss beneath our feet” that lay beneath the manicured lawns.’ – The Saturday Paper

The stunning Noongar performance **Song Circle** that wowed audiences at **EverNow** last year is back, finding a new home in **Burswood Park** on Noongar Boodjar (Country).

The banks of the Derbarl Yerrigan will shimmer with vibrant song, dance and light as singers, instrumentalists and dancers perform a celebratory cycle of Noongar songs reflecting on creatures and Country from Perth through to the Great Southern.

With **Dr Roma ‘Yibiyung’ Winmar** as Cultural Advisor, Song Circle is theatrically brought to life by lauded director **Kylie Bracknell** (*Hecate, Fist of Fury Noongar Daa* and *Little J and Big Cuz*) and Noongar song-maker **Maatakitj**.

At the heart of Song Circle is an outdoor circular revolving stage, on which singer-guitarist Maatakitj and a cast of musicians and singers are encircled by a group of dancers responding to the songs on a ring of sand bathed in a kaleidoscopic sea of light.

The stories of the Woordawort dragonfly, the Yornan bobtail, seasonal rainstorms, stingrays, bull sharks, dolphins and Boodjar itself are beautifully evoked in this joyous celebration of Noongar culture and heritage that everyone is invited to share in.

‘Song Circle is a defiant act of restoration, strengthening connection to the original performance vibration of this place, Noongar Boodjar, our homelands,’ **Kylie Bracknell** says. ‘It immerses performers and audience members in Noongar language and song traditions like nothing else inside the United Nations Decade of Indigenous languages.’

Song Circle is free for all the family to enjoy as the setting sun gives way to a glorious Kambarang evening at Burswood Park. Performances run for 15 minutes on every half hour from 5.30pm-8.30pm.

Maatakitj biography

Maatakitj is Noongar singer and guitarist Clint Bracknell from the south of Western Australia. *Cosmos Magazine* named him one of 50+ Indigenous People Changing the World. He reimagines new songlines as electrified desert blues and dance music. Maatakitj has collaborated with the world-renowned Kronos Quartet, five-time Grammy Award-winner Angelique Kidjo and ARIA Award-winning producer Paul Mac. He is Professor of Music at The University of Western Australia.

WHAT: Song Circle

WHERE: Burswood Park

WHEN: Thu 3 - Sun 6 Oct 5.30pm - 9pm. (Duration: 15mins with performances repeated every half hour)

FREE ENTRY, NO TICKET REQUIRED

MORE INFO: evernow.com.au

Media Contact

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

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.

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