

MEDIA RELEASE: Wednesday 31 January

## FREE SHOWS SET TO SHINE AT FESTIVAL TIME

**Book tickets now for Free Lotterywest Closing Event on 2 March**



*Supreme Court Gardens awaits for Under the Same Sun. Image: Rodrigo Branco Matsumoto*

The countdown is on for **Perth Festival** to return in spectacular style to energise another summer shared under the same sun.

A diverse range of special free events awaits audiences across a 2024 Festival program radiating with light and joy from **9 February to 3 March** under the theme of **Ngaangk**, our sun and mother. Check out our [Festival 2024 video](#) here.

Two sun-kissed free events open and close the Festival, starting with **Rebecca Baumann's Light Event** bathing audiences in coloured sunlight beneath the atrium of **Carillon City**, where **Linda Tegg's** planted **Wetland**, developed in collaboration with **Vivienne Hansen**, reclaims the food court in the abandoned shopping mall's basement.

The sun sets on Festival 2024 with our free **Lotterywest Closing Event Under the Same Sun** at **Supreme Court Gardens** on Saturday, 2 March. *Under the Same Sun* is a special free ticketed event and we encourage people to **book [tickets early](#)** for this intimate concert with a star-studded cast.

This creative collaboration between leading Aboriginal musicians and international greats includes **Angélique Kidjo, Emma Donovan, Lior, Sampa The Great, Mama Kin, Maatakitj, Paul Kelly, Flewnt, Shane Howard** and **Stephen Pigram**. Picnics and low chairs are welcomed but capacity limits apply so you must book tickets to attend.

Dozens of other free events range from the inclusive **Ngaank Talks** series at **UWA Somerville** to the all-ages **Prom Night** party at **Leederville HQ** – think *Heartstoppers Season 2* meets *Sex Education Season 4* – and **STRUT Dance's** extensive **Perth Moves** dance hub spanning movement, music and community from morning mediations and workshops to dance battles and late-night DJs.

The entire **Visual Arts** program is also free, including iconic US artist **Joan Jonas'** first Australian exhibition **Sun Signals** at **Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts**, the biggest Australian showing of **Yhonnie Scarce's** glass and mixed media works in her solo show **The Light of Day** at the **Art Gallery of WA** and Thai artist **Rirkrit Tiravanija's** poetic provocations across public spaces around the city.

Celebrate the opening of the Festival with free entry to our international contemporary music hot spot in Northbridge, **The Rechabite**. Perth's trailblazing ballroom house, **House of Reign** joins two of the country's most audacious MCs, **Vv Pete** and **JULAI** – for a high-energy extravaganza to kick off the 2024 Festival in style.

An exciting new talent joins the Rechabite line-up later in the season in the sonic form of Botswana-born, Perth-raised artist **xmunashe** on Friday March 1. Now based in Sydney, xmunashe will make it a night to remember with **Jonti** and **Joshuah** plus special guest **Mali Jo\$e** and DJ **Santamaria Brothers**. **Flewnt's Boorloo Block Party** extends its Rechabite line-up with talented First Nations hip hop trio **3%** joining **Flewnt MC**, **INKABEE**, **JK-47** and NT rapper **J-MILLA** for a party filled with good times.

Four new authors have been added to the Perth Festival line-up as part of the [Writers Weekend](#) from 23-25 February. Talented wordsmiths **Amal Awad**, **Sarah Ayoub**, **Mabel Gibson** and **Raihanaty A Jalil** will add their voices to enrich an exciting and varied program rolling out at the **State Library of WA**.

With less than two weeks to opening night, many Festival shows are selling fast. Tickets are still available for such amazing acts as award-winning performer **Sampa The Great**, **Akram Khan's** dazzling **Jungle Book reimagined**, acclaimed string quartet **Brooklyn Rider**, the exhilarating dance, music and art experience **Wayfinder** and the musical artistry of **Lou Bennett**, **Lior** and the **Australian String Quartet** in **Ngapa William Cooper**.

On the back of his acclaimed new album **Lahai**, UK soul-pop sensation **Sampha** will close out Festival 2024 in blissful style at **Supreme Court Gardens** on March 3. The Mercury Prize winner will be supported by magnetic triple-Grammy Award nominee **Nai Palm**, from **Hiatus Kaiyote**.

**Perth Festival runs 9 February to 3 March.**

**Lotterywest Films is currently running through to Sunday 31 March.**

Find Information and tickets for Under the Same Sun [HERE](#).

**BOOKINGS AND FESTIVAL INFO: [perthfestival.com.au](https://perthfestival.com.au)**

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Perth Festival acknowledges the Noongar people who continue to practise their values, language, beliefs, and knowledge on their kwobidak boodjar. They remain the spiritual and cultural birdiyangara of this place and we honour and respect their caretakers and custodians and the vital role Noongar people play for our community and our Festival to flourish.

***Perth Festival***

*Founded in 1953 by The University of Western Australia, Perth Festival is the longest running international arts festival in Australia and Western Australia's premier cultural event. The Festival has developed a worldwide reputation for excellence in its international program, the presentation of new works and the highest quality artistic experiences for its audience. For 70 years, the Festival has welcomed to Perth some of the world's greatest living artists and now connects with hundreds of thousands of people each year.*

*Iain Grandage is the Artistic Director 2020 – 24.*





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