

## Parramatta Festival Music

**Reykjavik Calling / Maru Tarang / Matthew E. White / DāM-FunK / Cosmic Cambodia / Birdman (or, The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance)**



Riverside's Lennox Theatre plays host to this year's Parramatta summer of music, with performances ranging from American West Coast funk to Icelandic electro-pop and Australian roots music melded with Indian rhythms.

**Reykjavik Calling, FM Belfast & Hermigervill (Iceland) – Australian Exclusive**  
**Lennox Theatre, Riverside Theatres, 8 January- 8pm (120 mins) \$35 General Admission, Standing tickets only.**

*Two Icelandic Electro-pop titans in a heart-thumping shakedown.*

Iceland may have a rep for its icy, majestic soundscapes and kitschy twee pop, but FM Belfast and Hermigervill are here to set the record straight – and the dancefloor ablaze – in *Reykjavik Calling*. Super-cool hitmakers FM Belfast offer irresistible pop hooks with crisp electro beats and a wicked sense of humour: imagine the gleeful fun of Girl Talk with the bassy drive of Diplo and you're getting close. They're joined by one-man party-starter Hermigervill, whose live shows are the kind that get thousands literally jumping for joy. Think of this celebration as a giant, glittery piñata for your ears.

More information and video: [sydneyfestival.org.au/reykjavik2](http://sydneyfestival.org.au/reykjavik2)

**Maru Tarang (Australia / India)**  
**Lennox Theatre, Riverside Theatres, 10 January – 6pm (75 mins) \$35 General Admission. Standing tickets only.**

*Delta blues and Rajasthani folk music flow together in this unique Indian – Australian collaboration.*

Maru Tarang offer an exquisite fusion of Indian folk and Australian roots, founded in the desert lands of Rajasthan, India. Famed Australian guitarist Jeff Lang and table player Bobby Singh join forces with two leaders in traditional Rajasthani music, sarangi master Asin Langa, and khartal virtuoso Bhungar Manganiyar. The resulting sound is rich, twangy slide guitar snaking its way around elegant string flourishes, hypnotic rhythms and mesmerising vocals.

More information and video: [sydneyfestival.org.au/maru](http://sydneyfestival.org.au/maru)

## MEDIA RELEASE

Level 5, 10 Hickson Road The Rocks  
Sydney NSW 2000 Australia  
Phone 61 2 8248 6500 Fax 61 2 8248 6599  
[sydneyfestival.org.au](http://sydneyfestival.org.au)



### **DāM-FunK (LIVE) (USA)**

**Lennox Theatre, Riverside Theatres, 14 January – 8pm (75 mins)** \$35 General Admission. Standing tickets only.

*“A one-man wrecking crew of thumping beats... and iced-out synths.”* **Rolling Stone**

Are you ready for some seriously golden, breezy West Coast vibes? Enter, on a keytar-shaped sunbeam, Pasadena’s maverick funk hero, DāM-FunK, who earned his chops as a sought-after virtuoso for G-Funk hip-hop artists in the 90s before deciding to go ‘full-funk’ and plough his own, extremely cool furrow. Having signed to Stones Throw Records for his 2009 debut, *Toeachizown*, a handful of tantalising tracks followed, leading up to 2015’s joyous sophomore album, *Invite the Light*, featuring such free-thinking like minds as Ariel Pink and Snoop Dogg. Says DāM: “No matter how old you are, you just keep getting better, if what you do is true.” Damn right.

More information and video at [sydneyfestival.org.au/damfunk2](http://sydneyfestival.org.au/damfunk2)

### **Matthew E. White (USA)**

**Lennox Theatre, Riverside Theatres, 16 January – 8pm (75 mins)** \$35 General Admission.

*“A true musical blessing, extraordinary stuff.”* **The 405**

Trying to resist Matthew E. White’s luscious country soul sound is like trying not to lick your lips while you’re eating an ice-cream, such is its utter deliciousness. On record, his velvet croon matches rock’n’roll, gospel and soul stylings to swoonsome effect: *Big Inner* (2013) and *Fresh Blood* (2015) won international critical acclaim, drawing on such past masters as Ray Charles, The Band and Jorge Ben. But live, White’s incredibly tight quartet perform his songs with hip-shaking grooves and fiery sensuality. Ecstatic crowd singalongs are a big part of the experience.

More information and video at [sydneyfestival.org.au/white2](http://sydneyfestival.org.au/white2)

### **Cosmic Cambodia, The Cambodian Space Project (Cambodia/AUS)**

**Lennox Theatre, Riverside Theatres, 17 January – 6pm (75 mins)** \$35 General Admission.

*Out of this world Cambodian rock psychedelica.*

Blast off and rock out with The Cambodian Space Project in *Cosmic Cambodia*; a high-energy, sci-fi psych rock’n’roll take on a Phnom Penh karaoke bar.

Singer Channthy Kak and musician Julien Poulson (featured in 2015 doco *The Cambodian Space Project – Not Easy Rock ‘n’ Roll*), along with their uber cool band, sing back to life the lost divas and rock legends of Cambodia’s golden age of rock’n’roll, all but wiped out by the Khmer Rouge regime.

Mashing tradition with rock, groove, soul and trippy visuals, they reimagine Khmer classics alongside originals. Get your dancing shoes on and get down with this astonishing revival.

More information and video at [sydneyfestival.org.au/Cambodian2](http://sydneyfestival.org.au/Cambodian2)

### **Birdman (or, The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance) (USA/Mexico)**

**Lennox Theatre, Riverside Theatres, 15 January – 8pm (120 mins)** \$49 General Admission

*“Sanchez’s score functions in the way that the best film music does—which is to say it’s impossible to imagine the work without it”* **Jazz Times**

## MEDIA RELEASE

Level 5, 10 Hickson Road The Rocks  
Sydney NSW 2000 Australia  
Phone 61 2 8248 6500 Fax 61 2 8248 6599  
[sydneyfestival.org.au](http://sydneyfestival.org.au)



In an Australian premiere season, the four-time Grammy award-winning drummer and composer **Antonio Sanchez** performs his fervent score alongside the Oscar-winning movie.

*Birdman (or, The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance)* follows the progress of a washed-up actor, played by **Michael Keaton**, trying to re-establish his career and his sanity. The solo drum soundtrack by this luminary in modern jazz is an essential part of its set-to-stun impact. This is a rare opportunity to see Antonio Sanchez in his element, and witness the frenetic, buzzing energy of *Birdman*.

Sanchez's largely improvised performance offers the audience a truly individual experience of the film. *"If you come to one of these performances, you're going to see a completely different thing every single time,"* the drummer told Time Out New York.

More information and video: [sydneyfestival.org.au/birdman2](http://sydneyfestival.org.au/birdman2)

**Multipacks** are available for all Sydney Festival events. Book 3 or more events and save 10 – 15%. Discounts apply to full price A Reserve or General Admission tickets.



**For interviews and further information contact:**

Jessica Keirle, Publicity Manager, 02 8248 6525 / 0438 805 109 [jessica.keirle@sydneyfestival.org.au](mailto:jessica.keirle@sydneyfestival.org.au)  
Cath Hayes, Publicist, 02 8248 6546 / 0431417112 [cath.hayes@sydneyfestival.org.au](mailto:cath.hayes@sydneyfestival.org.au)  
Julia Barnes, Publicist, 02 8248 6538 / 0402 678 589 [julia.barnes@sydneyfestival.org.au](mailto:julia.barnes@sydneyfestival.org.au)