

Le Carnaval Spirituel Summer 2009/10 Australian Tour – Press Release

Following on from the success of their 2007 and 2008 concert tours, Le Carnaval returns to Australia this summer to entertain us with their colourful “joie de vivre” performances. With spectacular flair they bring the stage to life with a rich tapestry of music, dance, tribal drum acts, yoga, martial arts and surreal theatre evoking the timeless wisdom of India’s ancient spiritual culture.

Established in 1979 in France, the troupe has toured extensively throughout the world enthraling audiences with their “out of this world” performances.

“Le Carnaval” has been described as a “spiritual Cirque du Soleil” in it’s presentation of the traditional culture and theatrical arts of mystic India.

Thanks to the generous sponsorship of Govindas Restaurant and Theatre in Darlinghurst the concerts are being offered free to the public enabling everyone, regardless of their economic situation, to take part in these inspiring events.

Tony Kaye, owner of Govindas said: “The troupe literally bring the stage to life with their rich tapestry of modern and traditional theatre”. He added: “They use jungle drum beats and sacred chants to evoke the timeless beauty of India’s ancient spiritual culture, and it really is spectacular to watch”.

“The show involves a colourful mix of high-energy music and dance interspersed with yoga and martial arts performances. Kaye said, “Le Carnaval Spirituel offers people an unforgettable evening of extraordinary and dazzling theatrical entertainment”.

A spokeswoman for Anita’s theatre in Thirroul (which hosted the show last year to a near capacity 750 audience) said “The show was just amazing, particularly the elaborate and colourful costumes, the sword dancing and acrobatic martial artists” She also praised the music. “The whole thing was just alive - such a colourful, cultural, wonderful thing,” she said.

Eighteen concerts (listed below) will be presented free to the public this summer throughout Sydney and surrounds.

Showtime is 7:30pm with a vegetarian dinner being served from 6:00pm onwards.

“Le Carnaval” will also tour Queensland & Victoria and the show is being featured as one of the main attractions on the entertainment calendar at the “Parliaments of Religions” being held in Melbourne this December.

Media page: To download high resolution images and a pdf of the text go to the media page - <http://www.spiritualcarnival.com.au>

For interviews with tour organiser or performers
Contact: Tony Kaye 0425 333 086/ sita@govindas.com.au

Details at <http://www.spiritualcarnival.com.au>

Some of last years headlines in the Australian print media -

“It’s exotic, unusual and a free night out” - The Manly Daily, Fri, Dec 5th, 2008.

“Stage comes to life” - Blue Mountains Gazette, Wed, Dec 10th, 2008.

“Carnivale in town” - Front page, Wollongong & Northern Leader, Thu, Nov 27th, 2008.

What European host cities and countries have to say about Le Carnaval Spirituel performances....

“...a cultural and artistic undertaking on a very high professional level...”

“...the festival is splendid, and the people presenting it are full of kindness and grace.”

“...a wonderful atmosphere, delivering a great cultural experience.”

“The dance theatre, pantomime and concerts executed by artists representing the united cultures of both West and East caused bliss and enchantment among the festival’s participants.”

“so many unforgettable experiences from this wonderful event”

“This astonishing event will be long remembereda tremendous experience of getting in contact with Indian culture, lifestyle and philosophy”.

Sydney and Region Concert Venues

Newcastle - Sat Nov 21st	Conservatorium of Music, Harold Lobb Concert Hall, Laman St
Bondi - Wed 16th & Thu 17th Dec	Bondi Pavilion Theatre
Randwick - Fri 18th & Sat 19th Dec	Town Hall, Corner Avoca & Frances Streets
Kiama - Sun Dec 27th	Showgrounds Pavilion
Erina Centre - Sat 2nd & Sun 3rd Jan	Erina Fair shopping centre (next to library) Terrigal Drive
Mona Vale - Wed Jan 6th	Mona Vale Memorial Hall 1606 Pittwater Road
Manly - Fri Jan 8th	Star of the Sea Theatre, Corner Collingwood & Iluka Avenues
Cronulla - Sat 9th & Sun 10th Jan	Gunnamatta Pavilion, Gunnamatta Park
Berowra - Wed Jan 13th	Berowra Community Centre, Berowra Park (Gully Road)
Wentworth Falls - Fri Jan 15th	School of Arts, 217 -219 Great Western Highway
Springwood - Sat Jan 16th	Civic Centre, 106-108 Macquarie Road
Newtown - Tue Jan 19th	Coronation (Subud) Hall, 95 Lennox Street
Balmain - Fri Jan 22nd	Town Hall, 370 Darling Street
Leichardt - Sat Jan 23rd	Town Hall, 107 Norton Street

"Le Carnaval" Performance elements

Celestial Dance Performances:

"Bharat Natyam" is an ancient form of divine dance from South India, performed thousands of years ago in the seclusion of the temple's inner chambers, not for the "public eye". Le Carnaval performs the divine dance in its traditional style and later in a stunning contemporary East meets West fusion dance.

"Katak," a dance native to North India, is divinely graceful. An enchanting spectacle - each movement imbued with deep spiritual significance designed to elevate our consciousness and put us in touch with our "inner self." The classically trained ballerinas from Moscow's Rasika Dance Company add a very special magical touch.
Rajasthani village folk dance

"The Shyam Dance", a Rajasthani village folk dance performed by the "Le Carnavale" Dance Troupe is a dazzling and colourful representation of the soul's search for spiritual fulfillment.

The Tribal Drummers of Manipur

The unique dancing Manipur drummers is one of the highlights of the evenings entertainment. Renowned for their exotic, athletic dancing, this troupe captures the stage as they perform acrobatic feats and martial arts movements while flying through the air playing on their drums.

Code of the Ancient Warriors

"The dance of the warrior" Choreographed and put to music, this performance is mesmerising with its ballet of slight of hand and speed of sword. The audience is once again taken back through centuries, to a time when warriors developed martial arts to protect lands from marauding invaders. Though lethal, these martial arts were amazingly artistic and graceful in their style.

Yoga Spectacular

The enthralling "Yoga Spectacular" transports us to a subliminal space with its beautiful stylised yogic movements set to a celestial musical score.

The Bhagavad-Gita Play

A surreal, contemporary rendition of this great classic of Indian literature performed by the "Le Carnaval Players". Highly stylized, the philosophical essence of the Gita is presented for us to ponder.

Kirtan - Pure Musical Magic

This ancient meditative genre of singing was virtually unknown in the West until the 1960s. Since then it has been growing in popularity and enjoying ever greater interest and recognition. Kirtan can range from the quietly meditative to the joyful and energising. Its distinctive feature is immersive audience participation: everyone feels part of the performance.

Three of the world's most popular Kirtan performers will be taking part in the show. Indradyumna Swami, an enigmatic traveling monk who founded Le Carnaval Spirituel in Paris France in 1979, has been performing kirtan before around the world for over three decades, often to Woodstock-like crowds and has performed for many world leaders like Nelson Mandela. New Zealand-born Sri Prahlad catapulted to fame as a child prodigy in the late 1980s when his debut album "Through the Eyes of a Child" topped the Australian and world music charts. Since then his evolving distinctive style of Kirtan has brought him the love of audiences worldwide. Tribhuvaneshvar, affectionately known as Tribi, has enchanted music connoisseurs with his soft, melodious European style Kirtan.