

Media Release

12 May 2022

Grace Barbé Afro Kreol brings tropical sounds to the Indian Ocean Territories

The Australian Government and Regional Arts WA are excited to bring Grace Barbé Afro Kreol to Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands (CKI) this June.

Audiences across the Indian Ocean Territories are set to be wowed by the multi-West Australian Music (WAM) award winning Grace Barbé Afro Kreol.

Hailing from the sunburnt Indian Ocean Island of the Seychelles, Grace's music fuses tropical rhythms and dances with psychedelic rock, afrobeat, reggae and pop.

Now based in Western Australia, Grace has been enticing audiences to get up and shake their coconuts since the release of her debut album Kreol Daughter in 2009, with appearances all over India, East Africa and the Indian Ocean as well as at Australia's leading music festivals, including WOMADelaide, Byron Bay Bluesfest and Woodford.

The Grace Barbé Afro Kreol tour marks the band's second visit to the Indian Ocean Territories, after a successful run of performances and workshops through Regional Arts WA's Indian Ocean Territories touring program in 2015.

Adim Hajat, Community Development Coordinator for the Shire of Cocos (Keeling) Islands said the community is excited to host the band again.

"We cannot wait to invite Grace Barbé Afro Kreol back to the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, as they were such a hit with our community when they toured here in 2015. It is so important for us to have access to quality shows such as these, to enrich our creatives lives, and bring people from all walks of lives together. Thank you to the Australian Government and Regional Arts WA for organising these annual tours to the islands. They are always a highlight of our year."

The Australian Government, through the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications, Territories Division, provides funding to the WA Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, Regional Arts WA, Arts and Culture Christmas Island and the Shire of Cocos (Keeling) Islands to bring arts to the Indian Ocean Territories.

End.

Media Contact

Alanna Kusin, Communications Officer, Regional Arts WA

P: 08 9200 5865 | Regional Freecall: 1800 811 883

E: akusin@regionalartswa.org.au



Australian Government



Department of
Local Government, Sport
and Cultural Industries



SUPPORT MATERIAL

Grace Barbé Afro Kreol Tour Dates

Christmas Island

Friday 10 June, 4pm

Cricket and Sporting Club

Sunday 12 June, 7pm

Police Padang

Cocos (Keeling) Islands

WEST ISLAND

Wednesday 15 June, 5pm

Scout Park

HOME ISLAND

Saturday 18 June, 6.30pm

Foreshore at Pondok Indah

For more information visit <https://regionalartswa.org.au/iot>

About Grace Barbé Afro Kreol

Grace Barbé hails from the sunburnt Indian Ocean islands of the Seychelles, where a colourful history of slavery, pirates, coups d'etat and coconuts have produced a unique Kreol rhythm, language and culture.

Drawing from the diverse culture of the islands, Grace's music fuses the tropical rhythms and dances of the slaves with psychedelic rock, afrobeat, reggae and pop.

In performance Grace's trio conjures a bewilderingly huge sound - Barbé sings over her own complex polyrhythmic bass lines to Mauritian drummer Hardy Perrine's authentic island grooves while guitarist Jamie Searle adds a dense layer of Afro-guitar sorcery.

L1 King Street Arts Centre
357 Murray St Perth WA 6000

PO Box 7012
Cloisters Sq WA 6850

P 08 9200 6200
Regional Freecall 1800 811 883

W regionalartswa.org.au
ABN 81 165 913 876

Regional Arts WA receives core funding from the State Government through the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries and Lotterywest.

Grace has been enticing audiences to get up and shake their coconuts since the release of her debut album Kreol Daughter in 2009, with appearances all over India, East Africa (Sauti za Busara Festival, Zanzibar) and the Indian Ocean (Sakifo Festival, La Reunion) as well as at Australia's leading music festivals, including WOMADelaide, WOMAD New Zealand, Byron Bay Bluesfest and Woodford.

Amongst the numerous accolades under her belt are an ARIA nomination for the third LP FANM:WOMAN and 11 consecutive WAM awards for "Best World Act". Kicking off with performances at WOMADelaide, 2022 will be another huge year.

<https://www.gracebarbe.com/>

About Regional Arts WA

Regional Arts WA is the State's only service organisation delivering a multi-arts program to strengthen and celebrate our powerful regional arts sector. We are a regionally governed, not-for-profit organisation looking after the regional arts sector, meaning every artist, arts worker, arts and cultural organisation, and group with regional programs.

<https://regionalartswa.org.au>

About the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications, Territories Division

The Australian Government, through the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications administers and provides services to the communities of Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands. More information is available at:

<https://regional.gov.au/territories/>