

Black Robin brings unique sounds of The Chatham Islands to the Indian Ocean Territories

The Australian Government and Regional Arts WA are excited to bring Black Robin to Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands (CKI) this June.

Audiences across the Indian Ocean Territories are set to experience the raw beauty and cultural richness of The Chatham Islands through the music of Black Robin.

Hailing from a remote archipelago off New Zealand's East Coast, Black Robin's frontman Ajay Ataera, draws inspiration for his raw and often haunting sounds from the rugged landscapes and wild weather of his homeland.

Now based in Western Australia, Black Robin's unique blend of music fuses rock, blues, soul and reggae with indigenous sounds influenced by Ajay's Moriori, Māori and Rarotongan culture.

Black Robin have graced the stage with many Australian and New Zealand music legends including Mental As Anything, Diesel, Sons of Zion and Tiki Taane.

Ajay said Black Robin are excited to be visiting the communities of the Indian Ocean Territories for the first time:

"The band and I so excited for the upcoming tour and to share my culture and the stories from my small island home with the communities of both Christmas and Cocos Islands. Thank you for this amazing opportunity. Me Rongo (in peace)"

For more information visit <https://regionalartswa.org.au/presenting/iot-touring-2023/>

The Australian Government, through the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts, 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.

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Australian Government



Department of
Local Government, Sport
and Cultural Industries



REGIONAL
ARTS WA



SUPPORT MATERIAL**Black Robin Tour Dates**Christmas Island

Friday 16 June, 11am
Christmas Island District High School

Sunday 18 June, 5:30pm
Christmas Island Cricket and Sporting Club

Cocos (Keeling) Islands

WEST ISLAND
Wednesday 21 June, 5pm
Scout Park

HOME ISLAND
Saturday 24 June, 6:30pm
Foreshore at Pondok Indah

Biography

Hailing from the Chatham Islands, a remote archipelago off New Zealand's East Coast, Black Robin's frontman Ajay Ataera draws inspiration from the rugged surroundings, which has shaped his sound and identity as an artist. Born and raised on the Chatham Islands, Ajay has a deep connection to the land, people, and community, which is reflected in his music.

A unique blend of mixed genre infused with the spirit of Ajay's island home, Black Robin's music is a testament to the power of community and the importance of cultural heritage. The songs and stories are a window into the world of the Chatham Islands, offering a glimpse into a way of life there that is both contemporary and traditional.

As Moriori, Maori and Rarotongan, Black Robin are proud to celebrate their cultural heritage through their music and share it with the people. Their lyrics often touch on themes of ancestral connections, stories, and all things integral to being from a small place and tight knit community. The wild weather of the Chatham Islands has also influenced Black Robin's music, which can be both raw and haunting.

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 representing 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, Communications and the Arts

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