

tura
2025
program
report





Tura acknowledges Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and recognises the connection and continuum to lands, waters and communities. We honour and pay our deepest respects to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders past and present.

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Who We Are

Operating since 1987, Tura has been a leading producer and supporter of new music and sound art in Australia for over 38 years. Widely recognised for excellence and deep engagement, Tura collaborates with artists, communities, festivals and major cultural institutions to present, produce, commission, exhibit, publish and advocate for Australian cultural development.

Tura creates cultural experiences that connect us in meaningful and surprising ways. Through the art of sound – in its many forms and crossovers across old and new practices – we explore Australian identity and push the boundaries of expression.

Across everything we do, Tura supports artistic risk, innovation and cultural exchange, creating diverse, unexpected and boldly ambitious projects.

A key focus of Tura’s work is celebrating and supporting Western Australia’s First Nations peoples and cultures. We work with and for Indigenous artists and communities through long-term relationships grounded in intercultural learning and creative collaboration. Alongside this commitment, Tura collaborates with First Nations and non-First Nations artists across Australia and with international partners, nurturing talent at all stages and strengthening cultural connections within our region and the wider world.

Our Reach



Communities Tura has produced programs in and collaborated with

- Ardyaloon/One Arm Point
- Bidyadanga
- Boorloo/Perth
- Djarindjin
- Garramilla/Darwin
- Goonoonoorang/Kununurra
- Gwoonwardu/Carnarvon
- Jakarta
- Jarndunmunha/Tom Price
- Kakurrka/Yule River
- Karratha
- Kunawarritji
- Lombadina
- Makalamayi/Timber Creek
- Marapikurrinya/Port Headland
- Martuwarra/Fitzroy Crossing
- Munjina
- Naarm/Melbourne
- Ngambri/Kamberrri/Canberra
- Ngarlun Burr/Beagle Bay
- Ngukurr
- Nullagine
- Nitmiluk/Katherine
- Nyinggulu/Exmouth
- Parnngurr
- Parnpajinya
- Punmu
- Rubibi/Broome
- Tarndanya/Adelaide
- Wangkatjunga
- Warmun
- Warrane/Sydney
- Yirramagardu/Roebourne
- Yogyakarta



projects

**"[Buga Yanu Junba] is a dream come true.
It was a dream but it's now reality."**

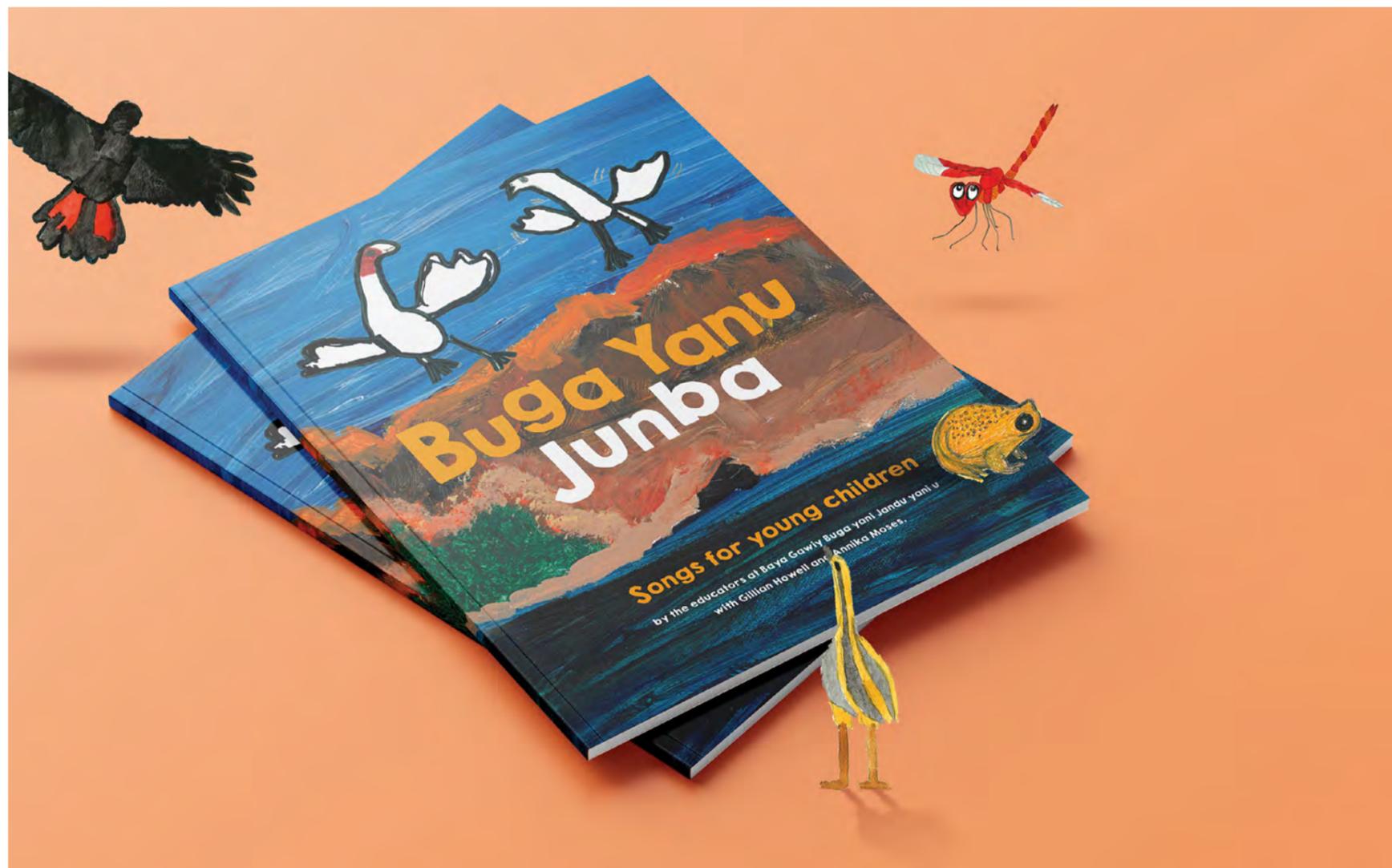
Patsy Bedford, Senior Bunuba Language custodian

Sound FX: Buga Yanu Junba (Songs for Young Children)

Ongoing | Fitzroy Valley,
Kimberley, Western Australia

Sound FX is Tura's flagship, long-term initiative exploring how music-making can support language continuation and revitalisation, strengthen cultural knowledge, and contribute to wellbeing and healing within communities across the Kimberley region.

Celebrating its ninth year in 2025, *Sound FX* continued to create space for participants to expand their musical skills and collaborate in diverse and meaningful ways. This was achieved through Tura working closely alongside education and community partners including Baya Gawiy Buga Yani Jandu Yani U and Marninwarntikura Women's Resource Centre, to co-design and deliver workshops, skills development activities, performances, and larger-scale cultural projects.



Scan to access
Buga Yanu
Junba Album

A major milestone in 2025 was the publication of the *Buga Yanu Junba (Songs for Young Children) songbook*, by the Indigenous Literacy Foundation in partnership with Tura, alongside the release of the accompanying album developed and produced by Tura.

This significant achievement marked the culmination of years of collaborative songwriting, recording, and community engagement. The album and songbook feature original songs in three endangered languages; Bunuba, Gooniyandi and Walmajarri, alongside Kimberley Kriol and English. These songs were written and recorded by early childhood educators, Elders, language educators, musicians and school students from Fitzroy Crossing and surrounding communities.

Created for young children yet resonant for all ages, the songs, stories and illustrations reflect the rhythms of daily life in the Fitzroy Valley. The songbook was distributed nationally and the album is available via streaming platforms and through the Tura website in a bespoke digital format featuring playful animations and karaoke functions.

Another key milestone in 2025 was the *Buga Yanu Junba Roadshow*, a three-week community tour celebrating the project's launch. It featured performances and workshops led by songwriters and educators at community centres and schools across the Fitzroy Valley, including Bayulu, Wangkatjungka, Yungngora and Junjuwa.

With *Buga Yanu Junba* now launched, *Sound FX* enters its next chapter: the *Kimberley Song Muster*. This new phase will support songwriting, recording and language education initiatives across the region, expanding our work to Derby, Halls Creek and beyond.

Creative Team

Dr Gillian Howell | Creative Director, Facilitator
Annika Moses | Project Coordinator, Facilitator
Patricia Cox | Songwriter, Co-researcher
Sue Loughlin | Co-researcher
Amy Menzies | Co-researcher
June Nixon | Songwriter, Co-researcher
Patsy Bedford | Songwriter, Advisor
Maria Marmingee Hand | Songwriter, Advisor
Susan Hoad | Songwriter, Advisor
Joyce Hudson | Advisor
Lola Jones | Advisor
June Oscar AO | Songwriter, Advisor
Eirlys Richards | Advisor
David Bullen Rogers | Songwriter, Advisor
Brenda Shaw | Songwriter, Advisor
Cissy Nugget | Songwriter
Irene Bent | Songwriter
Samantha Frank | Songwriter
Jayedene Green | Songwriter
Robyn Long | Songwriter
Eva Nargoodah | Songwriter
Amarillo Oscar | Songwriter
Lorraine Milne | Music Transcriber
Lee Burgermeestre | Designer
Samantha Mansell | ILF Project Editor
Breanna Blundell | Proofreader

Acknowledgements

This project has been made in partnership with Baya Gawiy Buga Yani Jandu Yani U, Bunuba, Gooniyandi, and Walmajarri custodians, Fitzroy Valley District High School, Guwardi Ngadu Residential Aged Care, The Indigenous Literacy Foundation, Kulkarriya Community School, Marninwarntikura Women's Resource Centre, and The University of Melbourne.

This project has been made possible with the support of The Australian Government's Indigenous Languages and Arts Program and The Minderoo Foundation.

Sound Connections: Kai Jawa

7–13 Dec 2025
Yogyakarta, Indonesia

***Sound Connections* is Tura's multi-year initiative exploring how music and storytelling can foster deeper cultural dialogue and exchange throughout the Indo-Pacific.**

In the coming years this significant program will spark new artistic collaborations spanning the Kimberley, Indonesia, Timor-Leste, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea and across the Pacific. The initiative includes the commissioning of new work, artist residencies, international performances, symposia, documentary outputs and academic partnerships.

The second major activation of *Sound Connections* is *Kai Jawa*, which brings together First Nations Australian and Indonesian artists to explore deep-rooted cultural ties through music, story and ceremony. Building on the success of Tura's *Kimberley-Indonesia Project* (2018-19), *Kai Jawa* again draws inspiration from the centuries before colonisation, when Makassan traders sailed between Indonesia and northern Australia, exchanging language, knowledge and cultural practices. *Kai Jawa* – the term used by Indonesian traders to describe the Kimberley – re-engages these cross-cultural legacies and reimagines them through contemporary music-making.

A milestone of *Kai Jawa* took place in December 2025, when Tura brought together four leading artists; Chris Griffiths (Miriwoong), Mark Atkins (Yamatji), Nya Ina Raseuki (Ubiet) (Indonesia), and Septina Layan (Papua) for a one-week residency at SaRang Art Centre, Yogyakarta, Indonesia. During this intensive creative development period, the artists generated new contemporary intercultural music blending ancestral songlines, Indonesian traditions and bold experimentation. Work-in-progress performances offered Indonesian audiences an early glimpse of the collaboration in motion.

Future activations will see *Sound Connections* expand through regional tours across Southeast Asia and the Pacific, showcases of archival material illuminating the Marege/Kai Jawa histories, premieres of new large-scale cultural commissions, and annual Kai Jawa/Marege symposia hosted across Australia and the region.

"Sound Connections makes me feel like we are part of one another"

Chris Griffiths
Miriwoong Songman and Composer

Kai Jawa | Image by Agung Prasetyo

Creative Team

Chris Griffiths | Miriwoong Songman and Composer
Mark Atkins | Yamatji Composer, Songman and Didgeridoo Artist
Nya Ina Raseuki (Ubiet) | Composer, Singer and Songwriter
Septina Layan | Composer, Singer and Songwriter
Kate Ben Tovim | International Producer

Acknowledgements

Venue partner: SaRang Arts Centre, Yogyakarta
This project has been made possible with the support of the Australian Government through Music Australia and Creative Australia, its principal arts investment and advisory body, and the Western Australian State Government.



Mungangga Garlagula (Yarning By the Fire)

1–2 May 2025 | The Street Theatre
Canberra, Ngambri and
Ngunnawal Country, ACT

11 Aug 2025 | Heath Ledger Theatre
Boorloo/ Perth, WA

Mungangga Garlagula (Yarning By the Fire) is a new theatrical music work commissioned by Tura and co-created by Yamatji musician and storyteller Mark Atkins and Finnish-Australian composer and performer Erkki Veltheim.

Framed as an intimate gathering around a campfire, Atkins performs live as storyteller and musician, with Veltheim providing live accompaniment alongside a recorded score. Together, they create an immersive sound world in which didgeridoo, breath, voice, strings, and electronics intertwine, blurring the boundaries between day and night, dream and reality, and past and future. The work unfolds as a landscape of memory and echo, evoking the rustle of branches, the play of shadows, and the deep quiet beyond the fire.



Atkins is widely recognised as Australia's leading virtuoso of the didgeridoo and a powerful spoken-word artist. In collaboration with Veltheim, he crafts a shifting sonic environment that transforms listening into a full-body experience. Intimate and visceral, *Mungangga Garlagula* invites audiences into a shared space of reflection, belonging, and renewal.

In 2025 the work was presented at The Street Theatre, Canberra and Heath Ledger Theatre, Perth, where it received critical praise for its emotional depth and immersive power, and was affirmed as a production of rare cultural and sonic resonance.

In 2026, the work will be presented at major venues including the Sydney Opera House and Bunjil Place. Each presentation offers new audiences the opportunity to experience this unique and moving work.

Creative Team

Mark Atkins | Co-creator & Director
Erkki Veltheim | Co-creator
Ruth Little | Dramaturge
Niklas Pajanti | Lighting Design
Emily Barrie | Design

Recorded Musicians

Genevieve Lacey | Recorders
Vanessa Tomlinson | Percussion
Stephen Magnusson | Guitar
Anthony Pateras | Piano & Analogue Synth
Scott Tinkler | Trumpet

Production Team

Guy Smith | Sound Engineer
Mark Haslam | Lighting/Production Manager

Acknowledgements

This project has been presented in partnership with the Canberra International Music Festival and The Street Theatre Canberra.

This project's commission has been made possible with the support of the Australian Government through Creative Australia, its principal arts investment and advisory body, and Ulrike Klein AO. This project's development has been made possible with the support of Ukaria Arts Centre and Finding Our Voice Festival.

"This show richly deserves a wide reception within and beyond our borders, as a contemplation of place and connection to Country."

Victoria Laurie
(SeeSaw Magazine)

Revivification

Co-production | 5 Apr–21 Sep 2025
Art Gallery of Western Australia,
Boorloo/Perth

Revivification was an immersive exhibition combining experimental sound art and cutting-edge biotechnology to bring to life the musical genius of a deceased composer, fundamentally reimagining artistic immortality.

Delivered as a world first: the in-vitro (external) 'brain' of late experimental music pioneer Alvin Lucier (1931–2021) generated a new composition in real time, functioning as a live performance across the full duration of the exhibition.

Presented over five months in 2025 at the Art Gallery of Western Australia, and produced in association with Tura, the exhibition marked the culmination of four years of intensive research and development. *Revivification* was developed by artists Guy Ben-Ary, Nathan Thompson and Matt Gingold, working with neuroscientist Stuart Hodgetts at the University of Western Australia, bringing together decades of expertise in biological arts and neuroscience.

The physical realisation of *Revivification* began in 2020 when Lucier, one of the first artists to use brainwaves to make and perform music in 1965, donated his blood to the project one year before his death. It was sent to Harvard Medical School, and using Induced Pluripotent Stem Cell (iPSC) technology, his white blood cells were reprogrammed into stem cells and then differentiated into cerebral organoids, three-dimensional structures resembling a developing human brain.

At the centre of the installation was a sculptural incubator housing Lucier's living brain organoid, surrounded by 20 large curved brass plates forming both the visual architecture and the sound source. Neural signals from the organoid were translated through transducers and actuators to strike the brass, creating complex, sustained resonances that filled the space with evolving sound. Critically and internationally praised for its ambitious concept and state of the art execution, *Revivification* reinforced the impact of Tura's ongoing commitment to championing experimentation and boldly ambitious artistic practice.

Creative Team

Guy Ben-Ary | Artist
Matt Gingold | Artist
Nathan Thompson | Artist
Stuart Hodgetts | Neuroscientist
Alvin Lucier | Collaborator and Cells
Robert Cook | AGWA Curator of Contemporary Art

Acknowledgements

This project has been presented by the Art Gallery of Western Australia in association with Tura.
This project has been made possible through the support of Impact100 WA.



Revivification
Image by Rift
Photography

"The exhibition demonstrates what possibilities can emerge from a creative practice that deviates from traditional institutional structures of art making, and the crucial need to fund alternative institutions...Revivification is a compelling example of how risk-taking, material-led art can still happen in mainstream galleries."

Angus Bowskill
Dispatch Review



Kulininpalaju (We Are Listening)

13–17 Oct 2025
Martumili Arts, Newman,
Niyaparli Country

***Kulininpalaju (We Are Listening)* is a long-term creative partnership between Tura and Martumili Artists, established in 2019. Grounded in collective listening and recording as cultural practice, the project has generated hundreds of hours of field recordings in collaboration with Martu artists, forming the *Kulininpalaju Sound Archive*.**

Recordings have taken place across the communities of Parnngurr, Jigalong, Punmu and Kunawarrtiji, with contributions from more than 29 Martu artists. Together, these recordings create an evolving sonic record of Country, holding stories, language and lived experience across place and time.

In 2025, as part of the Martumili Wellbeing & Empowerment Project, Tura delivered a week-long workshop engaging Martu artists in creative exploration of the *Kulininpalaju Sound Archive*. This new model of engagement introduced tactile electronic instruments and hands-on controller systems, enabling participants to explore digital arrangement and audio editing in an intuitive and accessible way. Artists were able to physically manipulate and transform archival recordings, experimenting with a wide range of digital effects while building skills in contemporary music technologies.

New evolutions of the *Kulininpalaju* program continue to prioritise Martu-led creative exploration, paid skills development, and the expansion of the archive into new artistic forms and mediums.

Kulininpalaju

Image by Annika Moses

Creative Team

Annika Moses | Lead Facilitator

Philip Samartzis | Creative Advisor

Kodi Graham | Martumili Project
Producer

Sarah Jones | Cultural Advisor

Gladys Kuyu Bidu | Cultural Advisor

Marlene Anderson | Archive Contributor

Owen John Billjabu | Archive
Contributor

Dean Brookes | Archive Contributor

Rianne Burton | Archive Contributor

Mayika Chapman | Archive Contributor

Corina Jadai | Archive Contributor

Alana Patch | Archive Contributor

Anya Samson | Archive Contributor

Bianca Simpson | Archive Contributor

Kimeal Simpson | Archive Contributor

Alysha Taylor | Archive Contributor

Corban Clause Williams | Archive
Contributor

Acknowledgements

This project has been made in partnership with Martu and Niyaparli custodians, and made and presented in partnership with Martumili Arts, and the Martumili Wellbeing & Empowerment Project.

Supported by the Newman
Youth Hostel.

Yinkarni-la Jijikajaku (Singing with the Kids)

20–31 Oct 2025

Punmu and Jigalong Communities

Building upon the success of *Kulinpalaju* and *Buga Yanu Junba*, Tura was invited by the Kanyirninpa Jukurrpa (KJ) Rangers to collaborate on an album and songbook with the Martu communities of Jigalong and Punmu.

In 2025, the pilot program was launched and Tura facilitated songwriting and recording workshops across both remote communities. Martu women composed and recorded six new songs in Martu wangka (language) created specifically for children and focused on sharing vital cultural knowledge through language and music.

In 2026 the songs will be distributed digitally alongside an accompanying songbook to be used by the Kanyirninpa Jukurrpa Women and Children Program, RAWA schools, and families at home in Jigalong and Punmu.

The new songs reflect not only the continuation of age-old Martu traditions, but also the adaptability and contemporaneity of Martu culture and lifestyle. They stand as a testament to the dedication of Martu educators working to strengthen and revitalise heritage languages for younger generations.

"This is dedicated to all the little ones. We hope that when [they] grow up they will keep singing it to their children and keep language strong."

Martu songwriters
from Jigalong community

Creative Team

Songwriters from Punmu and Jigalong communities

Annika Moses | Lead Facilitator & Producer

Kristen Jeffery | KJ Project Producer

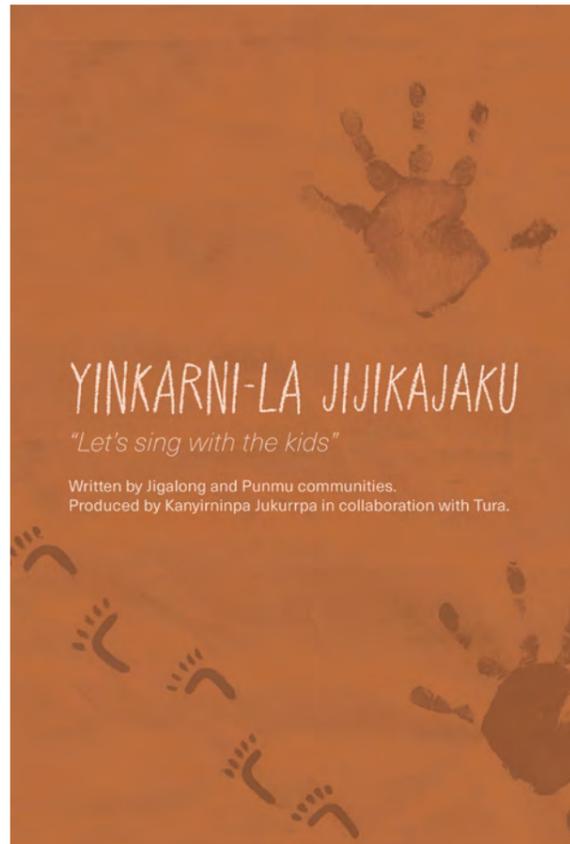
Beatrice Fagan | KJ Linguist

Jacqui Battin | KJ Linguist

Acknowledgements

This project has been made in partnership with the Kanyirninpa Jukurrpa Wantikajaku Jijikajaku (For Women and Children) Program, and RAWA Community School, Punmu.

This project has been made possible with the support of The Australian Government's Indigenous Languages and Arts Program.



Speechless

Album release | Aug 13 2025

In 2025, Tura reached a major milestone in the life of *Speechless* with the international release of the live recording on European label Hat Hut Records. Originally commissioned and produced by Tura for its 2019 Perth Festival premiere, the album – also produced by Tura – extends the impact of this ambitious work beyond its original season, sharing it with new audiences globally and ensuring its ongoing legacy.

Created by composer Cat Hope, *Speechless* is a graphically notated, wordless opera performed by the Australian Bass Orchestra, solo vocalists and a community choir. Inspired by the Australian Human Rights Commission report, 'The Forgotten Children: National Inquiry into Children in Immigration Detention', the work is Hope's personal response to the plight of refugees worldwide. Through sound rather than text, it employs extended vocal techniques, low-frequency instrumentation and immersive spatial design to deliver a powerful sonic protest and a plea for humanitarian values in the face of ongoing global crises.



Creative Team

Cat Hope | Writer

Caitlin Cassidy | Soloist

Judith Dodsworth | Soloist

Sage Pbbbt | Soloist

Karina Utomo | Soloist

Decibel New Music Ensemble and the Australian Bass Orchestra

Guy Smith | Live Capture

Kieran Kenderessy | Mixer

Acknowledgements

This project has been made in partnership with Decibel New Music Ensemble, Hat Hut Records, and Monash University.

Speechless

Image by Toni Wilkinson



Nightscapes

In development | 2025

Creative Team

Natalie Davey | Lead Artist
Bernadette Trench-Thiedeman | Animation
Petris Torres @ wawili Sound Solutions | Sound Design
Sohan Hayes | Artist Mentor

Acknowledgements

This project has been commissioned by the Biennale of Sydney with assistance from Tura.

Natalie Davey

Image by Edify Media

Building on previous collaborations, Tura was invited by Natalie Davey, a multidisciplinary artist from Fitzroy Crossing, with Bunuba, Walmajarri, Scottish, and English heritage, to support the development of a major work for the 2026 *25th Biennale of Sydney: Rememory*.

In 2025, Tura supported Davey through mentorship and technical assistance in Perth and online in Fitzroy Crossing to expand her award-winning 2024 short film *River Report* into an immersive three-screen video installation. The new work, titled *Nightscapes*, incorporates newly developed surround sound and animation, transforming the original one-screen film into an immersive experience.

River Report documents the catastrophic flooding of Fitzroy Crossing in early 2023. Occurring during the traditional Yitilal (wet season), the floods were intensified by unprecedented rainfall linked to climate change, resulting in widespread devastation, including submerged homes, livestock losses and community displacement.

Conveying the emotional and physical toll of climate disaster from an Indigenous perspective, this new iteration deepens the intimacy and urgency of the work. Presentation at the Biennale of Sydney will significantly amplify its reach, bringing Fitzroy Crossing stories to one of Australia's leading international contemporary art platforms.

Guan Buru

In development | 2025

***Guan Buru* is a major new music production commissioned by Tura, led by Broome icon Stephen Pigram, a Yawuru musician and songwriter, and created in collaboration with the Narli Ensemble and filmmaker Bernadette Trench-Thiedman.**

Following more than two decades of collaboration between Tura and Pigram, formal development for this project began in 2025. However, Pigram has been shaping the songs and stories at the heart of this work across his lifetime. Blending live music, storytelling, historic film and animation, *Guan Buru* reflects the histories of Broome and the western Kimberley through Pigram's multicultural family story – one shaped by resilience, humour and a deep connection to Country. Drawing on Pigram's extensive musical legacy, the production offers a powerful selection of songs and stories brought to life through an ambitious multi-artform format.

Guan Buru will premiere through a Tura-produced tour to six remote Kimberley communities in August 2026, before touring nationally. The tour will include concerts, workshops, school programs and community radio engagement across Kununurra, Warmun, Halls Creek, Wangkatjungka, Fitzroy Crossing and Broome.

Creative Team

Stephen Pigram | Lead Artist and Director
The Narli Ensemble | Collaborators
Bernadette Trench-Thiedman | Animator

Stephen Pigram

Image by Edify Media



Recognition

APRA AMCOS/AMC 2025 Art Music Awards

Work of the Year: Electroacoustic/Sound Art for *Tactus*

21 Aug | City Recital Hall, Gadigal land

Tactus by Kate Milligan received Work of the Year: Electroacoustic/Sound Art at the 2025 Art Music Awards, presented by APRA AMCOS in conjunction with the Australian Music Centre. Produced by Tura and performed by Jonty Coy, *Tactus* is an evocative audio-visual work for renaissance flute and electronics, commissioned through the APRA AMCOS Art Music Fund and created in collaboration with video designer Olivia Davies.

The Art Music Awards recognise achievement in the composition, performance, education and presentation of Australian music, across contemporary classical music, jazz, improvised music, experimental music and sound art.

Baya Gawiy Research Presentation at KLRC AGM

14 Aug | Ngumpan Community

The songwriting action research outcomes from *Sound FX: Buga Yanu Junba* were presented as part of the Kimberley Language Resource Centre's (KLRC) AGM. Tura is incredibly grateful that our work with Marninwarntikura Women's Resource Centre was included in this milestone cultural meeting, celebrating 40 years of the Kimberley Aboriginal Law and Culture Centre (KALACC) and KLRC.



Kate Milligan | Image by Jess Gleeson

Tura People & Partners

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Rod Campbell
Julian Tompkin
Darren Grondal

TEAM

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Tristen Parr | General Manager
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Annika Moses | Project Coordinator
Rachel Davison | Social Media Manager
Pauline Sikweti | Finance Manager
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Bruna Aguiar | Administration & Communications Coordinator
Ben Taaffe | Archive Development Officer

GOVERNMENT FUNDING PARTNERS

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The Australian Government through Music Australia and Creative Australia, its principal arts investment and advisory body.

The Australian Government's Indigenous Languages and Arts program.

COMMUNITY AND ORGANISATION PARTNERS

Art Gallery of Western Australia
Baya Gawiy Buga Yani Jandu Yani U
Biennale of Sydney
Bunuba, Gooniyandi, and Walmajarri Custodians
Canberra International Music Festival
Decibel New Music Ensemble
Edify Media
Finding Our Voice Festival
Fitzroy Valley District High School
Gija Custodians
Guwardi Ngadu Residential Aged Care
Hat Hut Records
Impact100 WA
Jigalong Community
Kanyirninpa Jukurrpa
Wantikajaku Jijikajaku (For Women and Children) Program
Kulkarriya Community School
Marninwarntikura Women's Resource Centre
Martu and Nyiyaparli Custodians
Martumili Arts
Martumili Wellbeing & Empowerment Project
Mirriwoong Custodians
Monash University
Newman Youth Hostel
Punmu Community

RAWA Community School, Punmu
SaRang Arts Centre, Yogyakarta
The Indigenous Literacy Foundation
The Street Theatre Canberra
The University of Melbourne
Ulrike Klein AO, Ukaria Arts Centre

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tura

culture
through
sound

tura.com.au

