

CAAMA Music

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Sunshine Makes Way for Tjintu

One of Central Australia's favourite bands now has a new name, and is spreading the word with a tour incorporating eleven performances over four states. Sunshine Reggae Band, originally from Haasts Bluff, 250km west of Alice Springs, is changing their name to Tjintu Desert Band in the lead up to the launch of their new album this October at the Mbantua Festival.

"We chose our new name because it's our traditional word for the sun and we're from the desert, which is our home" says lead guitarist, Jeffrey Zimran.



The new name of Tjintu Desert Band pays tribute to their former one by including the word 'tjintu', the word for sunshine in the Luritja language of their homeland, while allowing them greater freedom to expand their music. The new album released in October will feature a different direction for this band into funk/rock, while still recognising their desert reggae roots.

Since their first performance together at The Battle of the Bands in Papunya 2002, they've gone on to perform at festivals such as Green Fest, Sandtracks Tour, Dreaming Festival, Bush Bands Bash and were the opening act for this year's Wide Open Space Festival.

No matter where the band tour, the importance of family and the belonging of home always remains strong with all five band members, especially Jeffrey Zimran, who says *"We've been to Melbourne, Darwin, South Australia, Brisbane and lots of other places...but we always miss our home."* For this reason the band are proud to include a Luritja word in their new band name, and hope that it will spark interest and conversation in fans keen to know more about the culture of their homeland in Central Australia.

They are busy recording their new album with CAAMA sound engineer Tim Cole, who has worked with many indigenous Australian artists such as Archie Roach, Frank Yamma, Iwantja, Warren H.

Williams, Shelley Morris and the recently released Song Peoples Sessions. The new album will be called Tjamuku Ngura (Grandfather's Country) and be launched this October at the Mbantua Festival in Alice Springs.

[ArtbackNT: Arts Development and Touring](#) is coordinating the 'Desert to Saltwater Tour' featuring **Tjintu Desert Band** and supported by **Radical Son**, leaving Alice Springs and bound for the coast of Australia to perform from 29 June - 21 July at eleven concerts throughout NSW, VIC, QLD and ACT.



The band: Joseph Zimran (Keyboard) **Aaron Sharpe** (Bass) **Kieran Multa** (Drums) **Jeffrey Zimran** (Lead Guitar & vocals) **Terry Marshall** (Vocals & rhythm guitar)

TOUR DATES:

29 June	Sydney	NSW	Casula Powerhouse
3 July	Cessnock	NSW	Cessnock Performing Arts Centre
6 July	Mackay	QLD	Mackay Entertainment Centre
7 July	Mackay	QLD	Mackay Regional Pinnacle Playhouse
9 & 12 July	Bathurst	NSW	Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre
17 July	Upwey	VIC	Burrinja Cultural Centre
18 July	Moorabin	VIC	Kingston Arts Centre
20 July	Canberra	ACT	Rock for Reconciliation - The Street Theatre Centenary of Canberra Event

INTERVIEWS AND PHOTOS AVAILABLE

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