



Debut album Ratja YaliYali

Released and distributed by CAAMA Music on Friday 8th April

Stream the album >> <https://soundcloud.com/caamamusic/sets/gawurra-ratja-yaliyali>

Gawurra aka Stanley Gawurra Gaykamangu is an extraordinary singer and engaging performer hailing from East Arnhem Land. He releases his debut album **Ratja YaliYali** [pronounced Rart-ja yarl-i yarl-i] on Friday 8th April as his debut single of the same name starts to gain momentum across ABC and CRN radio networks.

"I've heard your music, it's glorious." **Clare Bowditch ABC 774**

With a beautiful voice and musical sensibility comparable to *Gurrumul* **Ratja YaliYali** has been produced by *Broadwing*; a young award winning electronica musician from the NT who has given the album an unexpected edge while soulfully blending a traditional & contemporary sound. A veritable match made in heaven this unlikely coupling has created an album of seamless diversity. The instrumentation in the title track is built around a resonant vocal, atmospheric guitar, simple drums and a string section that slowly swells throughout the song. It features a more traditional acoustic instrumentation with an honest folk sound. On *Guwak*, a song that highlights the fragility in Gawurra's voice there's a delicate electronica with samples taken of 'found sounds' and heavy layers of production. Opening track *Burala* has an almost Nordic Post-Rock vibe and is a good example of a more powerful and robust style. Several songs have a fuller sound coupled with subtle electronic textures soaked in reverb.

"It's not a sound that you generally hear from an Indigenous musician but it's a really solid marriage of styles. Having said that, many of the tracks morph from one style to another. The final track 'Warrarra' almost sounds like four different songs in one. But Gawurra's voice ties everything together." says

Broadwing

With this year's NAIDOC Week theme being *Songlines* - Gawurra's debut syncs in perfectly with the cultural climate. **Ratja YaliYali** translates to *Vine of Love*. A well-known traditional Yolgnu Songline coming from a 'long way'; it is the thread of love that keeps everything connected. Ratja YaliYali is a spirit, like the wind. A beautiful melody that Yolgnu listen to when they want to feel spirit in their hearts. If they have a problem or feel gloomy, they listen to *Ratja YaliYali* as it touches them and builds their spirit making them stronger. A bonus CD featuring these traditional Songlines comes only with the physical copy and is not available



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digitally.

[SNAPSHOT BACKGROUNDER]

Gawurra was born on the Gove Peninsula and spent time as a child on his Grandmother's land of Yathalamara, before moving to Milingimbi Island. He has recently moved to live in Melbourne with his family, in order to further his musical career. His culture, songlines, stories and history are deeply embedded in his resonant voice and soulful blend of traditional and contemporary songs.

Gawurra is a gentle and genuine young leader. He is to be an Elder in his community; the Old people gave him this knowledge and power. It is important for him to teach his kids, brothers and sisters the 'right way'. Gawurra is passionate about keeping his *Gupapungu* language strong.

Gawurra won the 2015 NT Song of the Year Award in the Pop category for the song Ratja YaliYali.

DISC ONE: RATJA YALI YALI – as produced by *Broadwing*

DISC TWO RATJA YALI YALI – Traditional Yolgnu Songlines [Bonus CD only available in physical copy]

Relevant Links:

www.gawurra.com

www.onepagelink.com/gawurra

www.caamamusic.com.au

Broadwing <https://www.triplejunearted.com/artist/broadwing>

Available on physical copy via CAAMA Music and digitally via

<https://itunes.apple.com/au/album/ratja-yaliyali/id1089386578?ls=1&app=itunes>

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ALBUM CREDITS

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY GAWURRA ALL SONGS ARE IN THE GUPAPUYNGU LANGUAGE OF EAST ARNHEM LAND TRANSLATED FROM GUPAPUYNGU TO ENGLISH BY ROSEMARY LANYBALANYBA GAWURRA.

Executive Producer MICHEAL MIKO SMITH Producer
BROADWING Tracking/Engineering ROHAN CARMODY & BROADWING Mixing
BROADWING Mastering MATT BYRNES.

AUM

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