

TUESDAY 5 JULY, 2011

INDIGENOUS ICON TO TELL HIS STORY FOR THE FIRST TIME IN QUEENSLAND

Renowned Aboriginal theatre company Ilbjerri is bringing Indigenous icon Jack Charles and his powerful performance *Jack Charles v The Crown* to Brisbane Festival for its Queensland Premiere from 7 – 10 September 2011.

The founder of the first Aboriginal theatre company in Australia, Jack Charles is an actor, musician, potter and gifted performer, but in his nearly 70 years he has also been homeless, a heroin addict, a thief and a regular in Victoria's prisons.

As an Aboriginal elder who was also a member of the Stolen Generation, Jack Charles has spent his life between acting gigs, caught in the addiction/crime/doing time cycle.

In 2008, the award-winning documentary based on Jack's life, *Bastardy*, was released and Jack was inspired to turn his life around.

For four nights during Brisbane Festival, the charming Jack Charles will take the stage to tell his extraordinary story with humour, warmth, song, truth and forgiveness.

Brisbane Festival Artistic Director Noel Staunton said it was a privilege for Brisbane Festival to bring the living legend to a local stage where he will share his colourful past for the first time in Queensland.

"Jack's constant and unswerving optimism, his generosity of spirit and his humanity really shine through in the show. He is a truly admirable human being.

His story is inspiring, and at times confronting, but the audience will certainly leave with a deeper world perspective and greater goodwill towards humanity," Mr Staunton said.

Jack Charles v The Crown is a very special theatre experience full of sensitivity, pathos and plenty of Jack's own cheeky sense of fun.

EVENT DETAILS

WHEN: Wednesday 7 – Friday 9 September at 7pm
Saturday 10 September at 5pm

WHERE: Powerhouse Theatre, Brisbane Powerhouse

TICKETS: Adult \$40, Concession \$32, Groups \$32, Schools \$25, (includes all fees and charges)

BOOKINGS: 07 3358 8600 or www.brisbanefestival.com.au

EVENT SPONSORS: QFleet, 612 ABC

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