



MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

Brisbane Festival announces its heaviest hitting music line-up to date!

Following the announce of the two huge book-end opening and closing night mini-festival Riverstage concerts for Brisbane Festival 2018, the full line-up of home grown and international greats has now been announced.

Venue by venue, blow by blow:

The opening extravaganza at Riverstage sets the pace with **Ball Park Music** and **San Cisco** joined by fast-rising stars **Ruby Fields & Tia Gostelow** before the mammoth closing night mini-festival where **Violent Soho, Meg Mac, Methyl Ethel & WAAX** will rip through the Riverstage to take Brisbane Festival out in style against the night-sky backdrop of *Sunsuper Riverfire*.

Festival central at **Treasury Brisbane Arcadia** on South Bank Cultural Forecourt offers music fans an unrivalled immersive entertainment playground with multiple performance venues, bars and food stalls. In the hallowed awesomeness of **The Courier-Mail Spiegelent** a breath-taking music program will see **Destroyer** (Canada), **Rolling Blackouts Coastal Fever, Jen Cloher, The Teskey Brothers, Tkay Maidza** and **Touch Sensitive / CC : Disco B2B** perform live. Brisbane ONLY sees the Courier Mail Spiegelent when Brisbane Festival brings it to the city each September.

Taking over The Tivoli will be concerts by New Zealand come Portland's psych-rock band **Unknown Mortal Orchestra**; Cat Empire frontman **Harry James Angus** with his celebrated solo project "Struggle With Glory"; Brisbane's famed and much-loved **Pub Choir** as well as **Yothu Yindi and The Treaty Project** with their reinvigorated, electronic formation.

Also at The Tivoli, but in a brand new 'in the round' set-up (watch this space for more details), fans will be able to see some of Australia's greatest, most influential musicians up close and personal in a way they've never been able to before. Headlining these intimate concerts are none other than **Sarah Blasko, Gareth Liddiard** (The Drones) and **Polish Club**.

And in true Brisbane Festival style, QPAC sets the stage for two of the festival's most exciting and unconventional musical collaborations. Featuring **Katie Noonan's Elixir, Michael Leunig** and **Camerata**, the emotive musical production "Gratitude & Grief" will be performed on Sept 9. Then on Sept 28 rock and orchestra will meet face-to-face when **Eskimo Joe** team up with **Camerata** to perform live.

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ALL TOGETHER BRISBANE





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Brisbane Festival's Artistic Director David Berthold says "Brisbane loves music and Brisbane Festival reflects that spirit with a line-up of some of our greatest local bands alongside other top Australian and international acts. We're thrilled that we can offer two, brilliant mini-festivals at Riverstage to mark our opening and closing, each led by bands that make Brisbane proud. And between those two concerts we have a mix of great music, often in energising one-of-a-kind presentations such as our 'In The Round' at The Tivoli, the Touch Sensitive / CC : Disco B2B and the Camerata collaborations."

Brisbane Festival aims to connect artists and audiences in ways that lift the spirit, disrupt the conventional and open our city to the world. Keep an eye on brisbanefestival.com.au for all details. All Together Brisbane.

PREVIOUS CONTEMPORARY MUSIC PRESS RELEASES – BRISBANE FESTIVAL:

[OPENING NIGHT CONCERT – BALL PARK MUSIC/ SAN CISCO W/RUBY FIELDS & TIA GOSTELOW](#)
[CLOSING NIGHT PARTY – VIOLENT SOHO / MEG MAC / METHYL ETHEL / WAAX](#)
[UNKNOWN MORTAL ORCHESTRA](#)
[DESTROYER](#)
[ROLLING BLACKOUT COASTAL FEVER](#)

ENDS

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Riverstage:

Right in the heart of the city, between the beautiful Botanic Gardens and the mighty Brisbane River, Riverstage is internationally recognised as one of the greatest outdoor entertainment venues to grace a major city.

The Festival:

For three weeks every year, Brisbane Festival draws the eyes of the world to its sun-daubed streets, as it summons the city's indefatigable spirit of fun and wonder through unparalleled music, art and theatre experiences that erupt in the face of convention.

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Bringing artists and audiences together for a mind-bending, curated experience unlike any other city sees, Brisbane Festival is the biggest party of the year.

2018 will be the heaviest hitting Brisbane Festival music lineup yet, with national, local and international greats making the bill.

The Show:

Catch Ball Park Music and San Cisco with special guests Ruby Fields and Tia Gostelow + their friends and you + your friends at the spectacular opening concert of Brisbane Festival 2018 on Saturday, September 8 @ Riverstage. All Together Brisbane!

TICKETS:

Tix on sale now from brisbanefestival.com.au

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Brisbane Festival Opening Night Lineup Announcement Ball Park Music & San Cisco w/ Special Guests Ruby Fields and Tia Gostelow Saturday 8 September at Brisbane Riverstage

Setting the tone for what is already shaping up to be the biggest music lineup Brisbane Festival has ever brought to our river city, two of Australia's most-loved indie bands - **Ball Park Music** and **San Cisco** have been announced as this year's opening festival headline acts.

Announced as part of their Spring co-headline national tour today on triple j, the Brisbane and Perth indie bands, will be joined by fellow rising indie alternative artists Ruby Fields and Tia Gostelow. A mammoth mini-festival, the whole shebang officially kicks off Brisbane Festival's music lineup @ the city's legendary outdoor venue – Riverstage, on Saturday 8 September.

2018 has been another bumper year for **Ball Park Music**. January saw their feel good hit 'Exactly How You Are' land at #18 on triple j's Hottest 100 Countdown and their critically acclaimed album *GOOD MOOD* debuted at #5 on the ARIA chart in February. Not to mention a sold-out national tour and headline slot at Groovin' The Moo. Last week, they released a new bizarre and erratic video for their single 'Hands Off My Body'.

San Cisco cemented themselves as festival favourites playing at Splendour In The Grass, Beyond The Valley and Lost Paradise. Their breezy summer jam 'Hey, Did I Do You Wrong' off their celebrated 2017 album release *The Water* placing at #79 in the Hottest 100.

Don't miss your chance to be part of history and catch these fast-rising Australian greats program their own mini-festival!

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Brisbane Festival announces first music act for 2018! Unknown Mortal Orchestra, Saturday 15 September at The Tivoli

Brisbane Festival is thrilled to announce its first music act for 2018: hailing from Portland, USA, pshyc R&B outfit Unknown Mortal Orchestra will return to Australia this September for a run of national dates, including Brisbane Festival, Saturday 15 September at The Tivoli.

The first to be announced in what will be Brisbane Festival's heaviest hitting line up of Brisbane Festivals to date, Unknown Mortal Orchestra are a force to be reckoned with on stage. With a brand new forthcoming album *Sex & Food* out April 6 on **Jagjaguwar** through **Inertia**, Brisbane Festival presents the first opportunity for Queensland fans to hear the debut tracks from *Sex & Food* live in Australia for the very first time at an iconic Brisbane music venue.

Last in Australia for a string of sold-out headline shows in 2015, fronted by visionary **Ruban Nielson** (formerly *Mint Chicks*), the *Sex & Food* live show will no doubt deliver something otherworldly, with the band's live performances often descending into hypnotic psychedelic jams. "I wanted to embrace this abandoned genre of rock music", says Nielson of their unique sound.

The band's latest single, 'Everyone Acts Crazy Nowadays', was unveiled last week and is the third single to be taken from the forthcoming album, *Sex & Food*. The hard-hitting first single, 'American Guilt', was described by **triple j** as, "Prince doing stoner rock", and was followed by the brooding, 'Not In Love We're Just High', which premiered on **Beats 1 World Record**. *Sex & Food* follows the critically acclaimed album *Multi-Love* (2015), which was described by **NPR** as "The sweetest, catchiest, most impeccably crafted music Unknown Mortal Orchestra has made."

Catch Unknown Mortal Orchestra at Brisbane Festival, Saturday September 15 @ The Tivoli. Tickets on sale from 11AM AEST Monday April 9th from brisbanefestival.com.au.

More Brisbane Festival line up announcements to come at brisbanefestival.com.au.

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MEDIA RELEASE

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Brisbane Festival announces second music act for 2018! Destroyer, Saturday 23 September at The Courier-Mail Spiegeltent

Following the first announcement of Portland's Unknown Mortal Orchestra, Brisbane Festival continues to deliver on its promise of a world class 2018 music line up with its second artist announcement.

Hitting Brisbane Festival solo Canadian musician Dan Bejar (The New Pornographers, Swan Lake & Hello, Blue Roses) will be bringing his revered indie guitar project **Destroyer** to The Courier-Mail Spiegeltent Saturday 23 September. Coming off the back of the release of his 12th studio album 'Ken', this is Destroyer's *first time* ever on Australian shores.

The Artist:

A celebrated Vancouver based anomaly of musicality and lyricism overturning genres such as glam MIDI, yacht rock, and even underground Spanish independent, Destroyer (Bejar) was proclaimed "Rock's Exiled King" by The Fader. His is a body of work that consistently flouts convention in favour of musical leaps of faith, statements of purpose cloaked in subterfuge, and the joyous refrain of an optimist's heart cloaked in cynicism.

- Check it out: <https://pitchfork.com/artists/1068-destroyer/>
<https://www.facebook.com/Destroyer/>
- Tune it up: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=puu3lvKnSb4>
<https://consequenceofsound.net/2015/08/destroyer-in-10-songs/>

ENDS

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The Venue:

Destroyer is the first act to be announced for The Courier-Mail Speigeltent – an intimate, peerless and fearless cocoon of wood, and velvet. A transportable spectacle of stagecraft that travels the world, Brisbane ONLY sees the Speigeltent when Brisbane Festival brings it to the city each September.

You'll find The Courier-Mail Speigletent at Treasury Brisbane Arcadia, Brisbane Festival's electrifying outdoor entertainment precinct.

A brilliantly eclectic and indefatigable playground of multiple performance venues, bars and delectable eats, the unmatched splendour that is Treasury Brisbane Arcadia takes over the South Bank Cultural Forecourt for the entirety of Brisbane Festival September 8- 29. Entry to Treasury Brisbane Arcadia is FREE.

The Festival:

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The Show:

Sponsored by QUT, Destroyer hits Brisbane Festival Saturday September 23 at The Courier-Mail Speigeltent. Tickets on sale now from brisbanefestival.com.au.

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Brisbane Festival announces third music act for 2018! Rolling Blackouts Coastal Fever, Saturday 27 September at The Courier-Mail Spiegel tent

Hot on the heels of the announcement that Brisbane Festival is bringing Canadian indie guitar project Destroyer to Australia for the first time ever, organisers have unveiled the third music act for their ever expanding world-class 2018 line up.

Just days away from the release of their hotly-anticipated debut album *Hope Down* – out on Friday 15 via Ivy League Records – indie Melbourne 5-piece **Rolling Blackouts Coastal Fever** have leapt onto the music line up for Brisbane Festival 2018.

ENDS

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The band:

With their distinctive "tough pop / soft punk" sound, **Rolling Blackouts Coastal Fever** have spent the last 12 months capturing the attention of audiences around Australia and the world.

Between taking out the coveted Levi's Music Prize last month and being announced on this year's Splendour in the Grass line up, they've been making appearances at some of the world's biggest music festivals from Coachella and The Great Escape to Primavera and more.

The first show of their biggest headline world tour to date, the bands performance at Brisbane Festival on Thursday, 27 September in the mystic, opulent wonderland that is The Courier-Mail Spiegel tent will be the official Brisbane album launch of *Hope Down*.

The Courier-Mail Spiegel tent:

You haven't seen a show till you've seen it at The Courier-Mail Spiegel tent. Lavishly decorated in velvet, brocade, stained glass and mirrors, The Courier-Mail Spiegel tent is a transportable spectacle of stagecraft that travels the world, lending her spirit of magic, legend and imagination to some of the world's most significant festivals and events.

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Brisbane ONLY sees the magnificent Spiegeltent when Brisbane Festival brings it to the city each September. You will find The Courier-Mail Spiegeltent at **Treasury Brisbane Arcadia**, Brisbane Festival's electrifying outdoor entertainment precinct.

Southbank comes alive. An enchanting adult playground of river lights, unconventional performance venues, stages, eateries, pop up bars, performers, a house of mirrors, burlesque and séance, the unsurpassed splendour that is Treasury Brisbane Arcadia takes over the South Bank Cultural Forecourt ONCE A YEAR for the entirety of Brisbane Festival 2018 – September 8 to 29. Entry is free.

The Festival:

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The Show:

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BRISBANE FESTIVAL CLOSING PARTY **Violent Soho - Meg Mac - Methyl Ethel - WAAX** **Saturday 29 September at Brisbane Riverstage**

As Brisbane Festival wraps up three weeks of epic Sunshine State celebrations in September, organisers are teaming up with Secret Sounds to throw a closing night bash for the ages, bringing together a massive line-up of Australia's brightest talent headlined by home grown heavyweights **Violent Soho**.

Taking place at the iconic Riverstage venue and providing the perfect accompaniment to a spectacular fireworks display, the show will also feature rising superstars **Meg Mac, Methyl Ethel** and **WAAX**.

Held in conjunction with *Sunsuper Riverfire* at one of Brisbane's most picturesque locations, this stand-alone marquee event is exclusive to Brisbane Festival, topping off festivities with a dazzling combination of music and pyrotechnics.

The bands:

Violent Soho

Loved and respected the world over but especially in their home town, Violent Soho have imprinted their 'heavier than a boulder, catchier than ebola' sound into the DNA of Brisbane. Their 2012 record *Hungry Ghost* had a seismic impact on release, propelling them to the forefront of festival stages with massive tunes like *Covered In Chrome* and *Saramona Says*. 2016's follow up *WACO* was no less shattering and resulted in an ARIA #1 and sell out shows at almost every major Brisbane venue, from multiple nights at their very own Mansfield to the Riverstage itself.

Meg Mac

Named one of triple J's Top 5 Unearthed discoveries of the last decade, Meg Mac has firmly established herself as one of the most breathtaking Australian talents to emerge in recent years. With her expansive vocals that move effortlessly between intimate and intense, the Melbourne songstress has accumulated a global following since the release of her highly acclaimed debut EP featuring 'Roll up your sleeves'.

With its raw emotion and searing soul, the song was also playlisted on radio stations across America and featured in the US TV series 'Girls' and 'Grace and Frankie'. On the back of a tour supporting soul legend D'angelo came her first full length album *Low Blows*, which was recorded in the US and released to critical acclaim last year. A breathtaking live performer, Meg Mac was named the number one SXSW act to watch out for on Buzzfeed.

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Methyl Ethel

A band steeped in innovation and quicksilver melodies, Perth's Methyl Ethel have been the act in everyone's ear of late. Led by mad genius Jake Webb, these supernatural sandgropers have mastered their own brand of musical mysticism.

Red hot single *Ubu* recently landed at number 4 in last year's triple j Hottest 100 (you'll know the hook of "why'd you have to go and cut your hair?"), they're signed to prestigious label 4AD worldwide (label mates Bon Iver, Grime, The National) and they share a producer with Arctic Monkeys (James Ford). Methyl Ethel are at the forefront of a worldwide charge in experimental Australian pop music.

WAAX

Brisbane born rockers WAAX set the standard when it comes to pulsating on-stage energy. Lead by bottle-rocket Marie DeVita, they possess a rare blend of power and melody and are garnering a reputation as one of the hardest touring new bands on the Australian circuit. Their latest single *Labrador* only served to cement a burgeoning rep for for snarling, catchy-as-hell punk rock. They have supported the likes of Sonic Youth's Kim Gordon, Fall Out Boy (US), L7 (US) and Biffy Clyro (UK) and have been flat out touring the country of late making sure that they're in tip top shape for what will be an epic homecoming at Riverstage.

ENDS

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The Venue & The Party:

Right in the heart of the city, between the beautiful Botanic Gardens and the mighty Brisbane River, the Riverstage is internationally recognised as one of the greatest outdoor entertainment venues to grace a major city. An audience of approximately 10,000 music lovers will witness the sky above illuminated by Brisbane's spectacular annual fireworks display (*Sunsuper Riverfire*), while Brisbane greets Violent Soho along with Meg Mac, Methyl Ethel & WAAX will provide the perfect soundtrack.

The Festival:

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The Show:

Sponsored by QUT Creative Industries and held in conjunction with *Sunsuper Riverfire*, the spectacular Brisbane Festival Closing Party concert will take place on Saturday 29 September at Riverstage. It's you and your friends, plus Violent Soho and their friends, at a private front-row *Sunsuper Riverfire* party.

"QUT Creative Industries are proud to be a presenting partner to the Brisbane Festival concert. The featuring of several successful Brisbane bands who have forged their own individual artistic identity and pathway aligns perfectly with the philosophies of the QUT Music degree. Our state-of-the-art recording facilities, Skyline Studios, enables world class music creation, recording and production." – Professor Mandy Thomas, Executive Dean: QUT Creative Industries Faculty.

**BRISBANE FESTIVAL CLOSING PARTY W/ VIOLENT SOHO - MEG MAC - METHYL ETHEL - WAAX
Riverstage - Saturday September 29**

Tix on sale now from brisbanefestival.com.au

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