



THE BLUESLETTER

16TH EDITION

SUMMER 2017

#BBRMF17

9-12 NOVEMBER 2017



GIRL ON THE HILL

BY SHANE WORRELL

In her song, Walk the Road, young singer-songwriter Girl on the Hill poses the question: “Why run away when you have everything to live for?”

It’s a question that quickly sets a tone of maturity in her music, and emphatically declares this singer-songwriter’s willingness to confront the world-weariness of her subjects. Such themes in song writing are not unusual in themselves, but consider that Girl

on the Hill is barely a teenager and the power of this songwriter becomes more striking.

Audiences at the Bendigo Blues & Roots Music Festival will have the opportunity to catch Girl on the Hill, a stage name of 13-year-old Sadie Mustoe, at three Festival shows. This precocious performer has already won awards for her song writing and released a full-length album, which will be showcased over the weekend at The Engine Room on Friday, the Bendigo Art Gallery late on Saturday morning and at the Bendigo Club on Sunday.

GIRL ON THE HILL

ERINSPHERE

BY SHANE WORRELL

One of the international artists performing at this year’s Bendigo Blues & Roots Music Festival is Erinsphere, the brainchild of New Zealand-born artist Erin.

more than just a singer with an acoustic guitar, Erinsphere weaves all aspects of a small band into her live performance, taking you on a live looping journey of slick basslines, smooth rhythms, vocal harmonies and beatboxing. The result is a live show, carefully honed through relentless touring over the past few years, that has been described as “Tracy Chapman meets Dub FX”.

Festival-goers have three chances to catch Erinsphere and her live looping in all its wonder. She will begin her Bendigo Blues & Roots Music Festival weekend at the Cambrian Hotel on Friday, and then play a second gig later that same evening at The Basement Bar. Erinsphere will play a third Festival gig at GPO on the Sunday.



ERINSPHERE

YOUNG LOCALS COMING OF AGE

BY SIMON WOOLDRIDGE

BB&RMF has long supported the development of young musicians. In previous years the Lazenby Young Blues Guitarist Award has seen many young musicians showcase their developing talents.

This year’s Festival again sees that talented cohort of young central Victorians taking the stage at venues across Bendigo. Graciana Holland, Steph Bitter, Sherri Parry, William Alexander, the Watts brothers (Seed), Charlie Bedford, Rhiannon Simpson, Bill Barber, Sean Nudl (Animal Time) and the Rhyley McGrath Band will play a range of blues, folk and rock numbers over the weekend.

Catch them now, and remind your friends in five years’ time where you saw them first.

BENDIGOBLUES@GMAIL.COM

BENDIGOBLUESANDROOTS.COM.AU

[f /bendigobluesroots](#)
[t /bendigoblues](#)
[@ /bendigoblues](#)
[# /bendigobluesandroots](#)

THE 16TH EDITION OF THE BLUESLETTER, THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE BENDIGO BLUES & ROOTS MUSIC FESTIVAL WAS WRITTEN BY SIMON WOOLDRIDGE, SHANE WORRELL & COLIN THOMPSON WITH DESIGN & LAYOUT BY STUDIO INK.



ERICA HAWKEY BAND

BY **SIMON WOOLDRIDGE**

Erica Hawkey's songs are an eclectic mix of blues, funk, jazz and soul.

Erica studied music in Melbourne, and fronted her own original funk bands, 40-piece swing bands, and various jazz and acoustic ensembles.

Re-establishing herself in Bendigo, Erica discovered fellow music graduate David Turpie had also relocated to Bendigo. Having played

in bands together in Melbourne, it was an easy fit - this time though David exchanging drums kit for guitar. Colin Thompson (drums), and Ben Carr (bass) make up the band.

Erica loves writing her original music for the group - song writing her way of telling a story over the canvas of a bluesy funk inspired backdrop. "The joy that then comes with performing is highly addictive!" she says.

The Erica Hawkey Band play three times at BB&RMF 2017. An energetic live act – not to be missed.

COL'S 2 BOB WORTH

COLIN THOMPSON
FESTIVAL DIRECTOR

Here we go again for year seven of Bendigo Blues & Roots Music Festival - Bendigo's biggest home-grown music festival.

Our team have worked tirelessly all year to pack as much punch as possible into the 4-day program, including 140 acts performing at 50 venues over the weekend.

We're honoured to have Australian music legend Shane Howard headlining our Main Event at Ulumbarra on Saturday 11 November, with support from Arnhem Land's Yirmal, along with the mighty Hat Fitz & Cara.

The Capital Theatre on the Friday plays host to Summer Gumbo - a unique opportunity to enjoy Terry 'Harmonica' Bean (USA), along with Jules Boulton & The Redeemers and Iseula Hingano, with an opening set from the incredible Three Kings.

The Festival wraps up again this year at The Metro in Bull Street, with a ticketed after party that's not to be missed. Before then though, there are all the usual venues and artists to

be enjoyed. We continue to bring a strong contingent of artists from all over Australia, as well as a few internationals. You're bound to find some new favourites among them. With around 60 acts who've not played Bendigo before, let alone our Festival, we're confident you'll find this year's program as fresh and exciting as any we've staged before.

Please be sure to check out as many venues as possible – and don't forget to support venues who support live music, all year round. A vibrant live music scene counts on more than venues, promoters, bands and artists, it needs your support and involvement. So get out amongst it.

In the meantime, please check out our program and cover as much ground as possible over the weekend. Reward yourself with as many magical musical moments as you can. Whether you prefer a quiet, acoustic performance in Bendigo's famous art gallery, or a gospel choir sing-along at The Old Church on the Hill, a family friendly concert in the park, workshops, open mics or pub gigs - we've truly got something for everyone at this year's Festival.

LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS YEAR'S FESTIVAL

Our appetites have been whetted throughout 2017, leading up to the seventh BB&RMF.

From a rain-affected but sparkling February Showcase at the Rifle Brigade, through some great Blues Tram performances and numerous gigs at the Golden Vine, Old Church On the Hill and other venues, Bendigo's best weekend of the year is upon us again.

Where do we start with 'highlights' for this year? Shane Howard and Yirmal at the Ulumbarra, the sweet tones and harmonica of Dan Dinnen, the bluesy heavy rock of King Of The North, Catfish Voodoo...? The Andrea Marr Band headlining a stellar line-up on Sunday at The Metro?

There are more than 60 acts making their first BB&RMF debuts – a great opportunity to discover lots of new music. Get your program, get your highlighter pen – there's another great weekend in store.

OUR SPONSORS

