Tower Divas

Surrender to the mesmeric frequencies

“Absolutely stunning and like nothing else I’ve ever seen"
– Natalie O’Driscoll, Blank Street Press

CONTACT

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COMPANY PROFILE

Corrina Bonshek & Collaborators bring artists and audiences together from different cultural backgrounds to celebrate our shared connection to the spectacular, biodiverse ecosystems that sustain us. It is led by award-winning composer & artistic director Corrina Bonshek, and supported by the long-term producing relationship of Bonshek & Greta Kelly who toured *Song to the Earth*, a Bleach* Festival and 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games Arts & Culture Festival co-commission to Flowstate Southbank, Rainforest Fringe Festival Sarawak Malaysia, Boom International Festival of Percussion (Sydney Town Hall), Redlands Performing Arts Centre, Kingston Butter Factory, Rockhampton River Festival 2022. https://www.cbcollab.com

ABOUT TOWER DIVAS

Tower Divas is created by award-winning composer Corrina Bonshek in collaboration with three awe-inspiring and deeply earthed artists: Yolngu songstress Gambirra Illume (NSW), Maori sonic weaver Whaia (QLD), and Korean-born vocalist and improviser Sunny Kim (VIC).

It features three powerful goddess-like singers whose voices call across space and time, and act as a force for healing that unifies and brings people together. Each singer has a different cultural and musical background, which is reflected in their vocal stylings.

Their powerful voices float over a swirling soundscape of transformed underwater sounds, insects, wind, stone and electronics that evoke the elemental building blocks of life.

Dressed in stunning totem-inspired headdresses designed by Whaia, each singer is elevated on a 1m high plinth with a parachute skirt that moves continuously throughout the show. Costume and headdresses transform the singers into Goddess-like figures.

Surrender to the mesmeric frequencies of these three powerful voices as they call out across space and time.

PRODUCTION HISTORY

2023 | Bleach* Festival August 13, 2023.
2024 | New Annual Festival September 27, 2024.
2025 | Uncontained Festival June, 2025.

CB
& COLLABORATORS

VIDEO/AUDIO

Video
Highlights 1: https://youtu.be/QS3SP-aRLFk
Highlights 2: https://youtu.be/OxpbXlS8PaY

Supplementary promo (30s): https://youtu.be/pLu4JQ5sRwQ

Archival video 2025: https://youtu.be/oT8NuyM4PeE

Images

Photo credit: Artworks Agency Bleach Festival

*Photo Credit: Spill Photography*Photo credit: Artworks Agency Bleach Festival

Photo Credit: Spill Photography

Tower Divas at Uncontained Festival Sydney - Street Party Mode

PERFORMANCE SPECIFICS

Duration: Festival mode: 30 minutes with the option of two or three shows per night. Can be performed during the day, at dusk or after dark.

Touring party: 6 pax

Tech Details:
We design the speaker/stage layout for any outdoor or indoor space.

So far we've performed with the singers placed in a line or an L shape layout with audience able to come up 1.5m from the performer to see the incredible detail of the costumes and headdresses.

Photo credit: Artworks Agency Bleach Festival

Photo credit: Artworks Agency Bleach Festival

Sound

- 4 speaker line array with 2 independent subs
- Mixing desk with 24 in/out
- iPad controller
- 3 x Wireless mic headset + transmitters- Sennheiser JAG IMX6A “Countryman” or equivalent for vocalists.
- 3x IEMs for vocalists
- Wired vocal mic / god mic for talkback.

Staging

- 3 x 1m stage risers (square). We put pool noodles on the edge (sliced lengthways and covered in white tape) to soften plinth edges to ensure good shape for the skirts even with wind.
- 30 Sandbags for skirts (10 per skirt with a distance of 1.2m between sandbags)

Lighting

- 16 x 9x15W (or similar) IP65 RGBW Par Cans (RGBWAU preferred) with clamps and safety cable
- 3 x 3m F34 290mm box truss
- 3 x 800mm steel base plates
- Fusion wash fixtures to suit the site.
- 10 x 5m DMX, 10 x 10m DMX, 10 x 20m DMX
- Power: 4 x 10A 240v circuits (3 for lighting, 1 for lighting ops). 10 x 5m 10A 240v piggyback extensions. 10 x 10m 10A 240v piggyback extensions. 10 x 20m 10A 240v piggyback extensions.
- Additional lighting to gradually illuminate nearby architectural OR natural feature in the background.
- Additional lighting for underneath the skirts

Creative team will provide

- 1 x Audio interface, ableton controller & Apple laptop with ableton for sound design(Corrina).

Sample schedule for tech/dress run day

Time	What
3 hours	Bump-in of audio equipment, staging and lighting if outdoors
90mins	Sound check soundscape / speaker routing (Corrina & Sound Operator & Festival team)
45mins	Sound check vocals with effects (15mins per vocalist)
15mins	Group soundcheck
90mins	Evening. Stop/ Start run (with lighting cues etc) and full run.

MARKETING COPY

Surrender to the mesmerising frequencies of the Tower Divas. This soul-stirring performance seamlessly blends the awe-inspiring talents of Yolngu songstress Gambirra Illume, Maori sonic weaver Whaia, and Korean-born vocalist Sunny Kim. Directed by Gold Coast contemporary composer Corrina Bonshek, this original production is part ritual, part sound healing, and all heart.

CREDITS

Creative Team
Singer and co-composer: Gambirra Illume
Singer and co-composer: Whaia Sonic Weaver
Singer and co-composer: Sunny Kim
Concept, co-composer, soundscapes and collaborative direction: Dr Corrina Bonshek
Costume Design & Creation: Whaia Sonic Weaver
Lighting design & operation: Local operator
Sound engineer: Aaron Mason

Acknowledgements

Tower Divas was commissioned by Bleach* Festival, and supported by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland. Hero photo by Claudio Kirac, Art-Work Agency.

BIOGRAPHIES

Residing on Awabakal & Worimi Country, **Gambirra Illume** A.K.A. *Mamma G* is a Yolŋu woman from the Gumatj Clan of Northeast Arnhem Land, N.T. She has over 30 years as a multidisciplinary artist; Gambirra is a performer, exhibiting visual artist, producer, facilitator, cultural arts educator, and clinical mental health coach.

She is a key Ceremonial vocalist of *Dream Drone*, First Nation's vocalist for Richard Petkovic's *Sydney World Music Chamber Orchestra*, a member of the *ILLUME Girls*, and leader of the 12-piece band '*Gambirra MOB'*.Gambirra has composed and produced music works for Catapult Dance Company, NAISDA Dance Company, Legal Aid NSW, Bowerbird Collective and of late Australian Geographic: '*Our Country'* Immersive.

WHAIA (Aotearoa / NZ) is a Sonic Weaver, Vocalist, Multi-instrumentalist, Designer/Stylist, Creative Producer. Whaia works with Taonga Puoro/Traditional First Nations Instruments and Singing Crystal Bowls creating her own unique cradle of embedded healing phonics. She activates an ancient primordial voice that calls beyond the veil of this earthly world.

A Ngati Kahugnunu woman raised in the outback of Western Australia, the land and her Aboriginal grandmother shaping her story from age 6. Touring with the band 'Bunna Lawrie & The Whaledreamers' in 2012 for 4 years, she has sung the whale songlines across Australia.

Her debut album WHAIA & WATER is 1st part of her ‘Sacred Sonic Sessions’ honouring the waters of the planet and our first home of water, the womb. With a depth of ochre in her skin and mana in her bones, she’s a true warrior woman with a soft yet powerful delivery, entwining one’s heart, body and spirit.

Sunny Kim is a Korean-born vocalist, improviser, composer and educator based in Melbourne, Australia. Drawing from her life journey as a global nomad - Seoul, Kuala Lumpur, Bangkok, Denver, Boston, New York and now Melbourne - Sunny’s artistic practice seeks to find meaningful connections to people, culture and place through a dedication to self-discovery, deep listening and collaboration. A two-time winner of Jazz People’s Magazine’s Reader’s Poll Awards in the Best Vocalist category (2012-13) and the recipient of the LIG Artist grant (2011), Sunny Kim has released five albums as a leader, three of which have been nominated for the Korean Music Awards in the Best Jazz Record category. Sunny has worked with hundreds of musicians, dancers, poets and visual artists and has performed internationally. Invited by the Australian Music Centre, Sunny delivered the Peggy Glanville-Hicks Address in 2020. https://www.sunnykimmusic.com/

With 20 years of composing across concert halls, and festivals to her name, composer and director **Corrina Bonshek** (PhD Western Sydney University) has a deep passion for crafting music-led experiences that provoke wonder at the beauty of nature, the cosmos and each other. Her works have been performed all over the world with recent recordings by Bowerbird Collective, Alex Raineri, Jason Noble, Ady Ensemble.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Photo opportunities with the divas after each show with special emphasis on connecting with children. For street festivals, the divas walk through the crowd pre show to galvanise the crowd.

OPTIONAL WORKSHOPS

AWAKEN YOUR INNER GODDESS
Awaken your Inner Goddess in this playful, hands-on workshop. Using feathers, flowers, glitter, headbands, and bold colour blocking, you'll craft your own radiant crown. Guided by Whaia Sonic Weaver, explore creativity and self-expression with a surprise box of materials—leave shining with a unique wearable artwork that celebrates your power.
Capacity: 12 people. Fee: $100AUD per person includes materials.

UNLEASH YOUR SINGING VOICE
Free your voice and sing with confidence! In this uplifting workshop, you'll explore breath, sound, and vocal play to unlock your natural resonance. No experience needed—just curiosity and joy. Connect with others, discover your unique tone, and unleash the singing voice that's waiting within you.
Capacity:100 people. Facilitated by Sunny Kim, Gambirra Illume and Whaia Sonic Weaver

NATURE SOUND MEDITATION
Immerse yourself in the healing rhythms of nature. Guided by live soundscapes and gentle meditation, this workshop invites you to relax, breathe deeply, and attune to bird calls, flowing water, and elemental tones created in the moment by composer Corrina Bonshek. Experience calm, clarity, and connection as you journey inward through sound and stillness.

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