



King Marong has performed and conducted workshops at Kingston's Globe to Globe Festival for a number of years. Each time he has never failed to weave his special brand of magic, imparting his deep love and knowledge of West African culture.

This year we were treated to his afrobeat-jazz-funk-reggae outfit, Afro Mandinko.

And what a treat it was! Traditional songs from The Gambia and Ghana were modernised and reworked into tight funky dance arrangements. Combined with their energetic stage presence and lots of audience participation, their set was a standout.

Afro Mandinko combines traditional African instruments with modern electric instruments and the result is mesmerising. The brass section and keyboards provide funky riffs, the rhythm section of drum kit, electric bass and guitar is rock solid and the traditional African instruments of shakers, drums and harp (or bora) float over the top to create a hypnotic wall of sound that inspires people to get up and dance from the very first song.

Will we have them again at Globe to Globe?

Try telling our regulars that we won't!

Daryl Langford
Committee Member
Globe to Globe Festival



King Marong & Afro Mandinko performed at the 2009 St Kilda Festival Launch night to a delighted crowd of VIPs, Festival goers and fellow musicians. The band was incredibly well received – very energetic, fun and all excellent musicians. King Marong & Afro Mandinko had the crowd dancing from beginning to end.

They were perfect for our event and a highlight of the St Kilda Festival.

Amber Harris

St Kilda Festival

Glen Eira City Council



King Marong and Afro Mandinko performed at Allnut Park during our 2009 'Party in the Park' season.

The onstage performance by King Marong and Afro Mandinko was sensational with vibrant crowd pleasing rhythms and a highly professional show presentation, perfectly suited to our free community festival.

The percussion workshops were also very well received with dozens of children and adults alike participating. For us it was an ideal activity for the whole family.

The whole Afro Mandinko crew was a pleasure to work with and we would have no hesitation inviting them back should the opportunity arise.

Alex Francis
City of Glen Eira



Taste of Tasmania Festival

King Marong and Afro Mandinko were a fantastic attraction at the 08-09 Taste Festival. Their wonderfully infectious sounds and beats totally engaged the crowd and their high energy and colourful performance created a thoroughly enjoyable Festival experience.

I look forward to working with them again and over many years to come.

ros abercrombie

Taste Festival Director
www.tastefestival.com.au



At the recent Port Fairy Folk Festival in March, the Melbourne based group “Afro Mandinko” led by King Marong played to very appreciative audiences on a number of Port Fairy’s large stages. The band’s music and their performances were exciting, dynamic and passionate – and they had audiences moving along to the rhythms, singing and yelling their appreciation. The band certainly was a crowd favourite. I very much enjoyed their performance as did the crowd.

King Marong and Afro Mandinko would be a wonderful addition to any music festival.

Yours Sincerely,

Paul Petran

Producer/Presenter

Music Deli

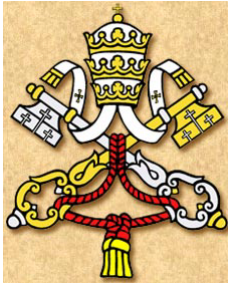
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GPO Box 9994

Melbourne 3001

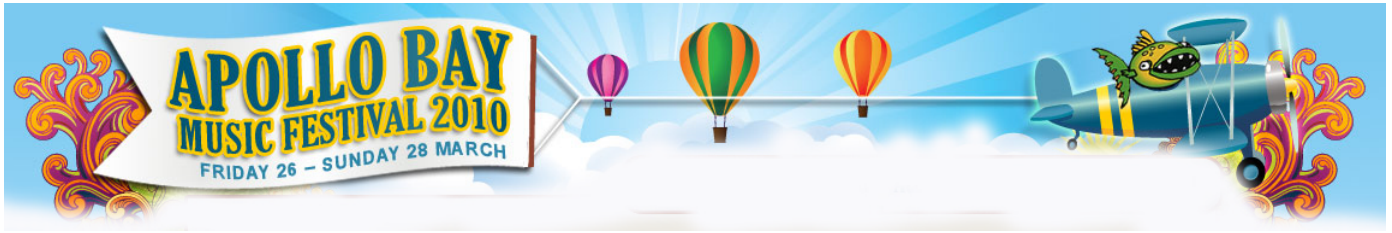
AUSTRALIA

E mail : petran.paul@abc.net.au tel : 03 9626 1623



No self respecting music lover's library is complete without King Marong and Afro Mlandinko's new CD. Highly recommended, I never leave the Vatican without it!

Pope Benedict



King Marong and Afro Mandinko are an incredibly talented collective of performers who have many strings to their bow. For the 2009 Apollo Bay Music Festival they captivated audiences. Their concerts are nothing short of a dynamic exposé of incredible musical and rhythmic talent which truly engulfs the audience - every concert they performed was a musical and dance event - in short they present a spectacular stage show. On top of the concerts King Marong also presented some fantastic workshops engaging and motivating young and old. They were without a doubt one of the 2009 festival highlights.

Caroline Moore

Director

Apollo Bay Music Festival

It was a great pleasure to again collaborate with King Marong. The performance of Afro Mandinko with slide guitarist Jeff Lang as part of the Mix It Up concert in Hamer Hall on April 8 was terrific. The fusion of contemporary and traditional sounds was exactly what we were looking for in the performance, and the cheers and applause from the audience was an accurate reflection of the quality and energy of the performance

Rob Gebert

Program Manager

Mix It Up, Festivals and Community

Programming

the Arts Centre

PO Box 7585

StKilda Road

Victoria 8004

ph +61 3 9281 8188 fax +61 3 9281 8080