

The Cat Empire

Internationally Acclaimed Musical Outfit

Message to the ASRC



“The Cat Empire are proud supporters of the incredible work of the ASRC. We are Melbourne locals who believe it is critical to foster the unique rich cultural fabric of our city which has helped shape our music over ten years. We strongly believe that all people have a right to sanctuary, respect and safety. We are dedicated to sharing our own good fortune with the individuals and families who have overcome huge adversity by the time they courageously walk up the steps at the ASRC.

“Kon and the staff at the ASRC are humble heroes, holistically helping people in great need into new lives in a new community. They deserve the support of the broader community, and we offer ours whole-heartedly and look forward to making a difference as ambassadors for this cause.”



Biography

Where hip-hop meets reggae, where jazz is played with dirty hands, where a Cuban line meets an Aussie rule, where nothing seems in place but sounds like many places played in one earthy chord. This is the island where THE CAT EMPIRE was born.

The Cat Empire's first Australian tours were undertaken in a convoy of cars handed down from parents, or borrowed from friends. They slept on the floors of friends of friends, putting up their own posters. Word quickly spread about this young band that could deliver a party like no other. Soon they were touring nationally, and borrowing money to make their first album. By the time they signed their first record deal, they were filling 1500 seat venues in every major city in Australia, and had a solid fan base all over the country.

Since the first show at the Commercial Hotel on 5 May 2001, The Cat Empire has sold over three quarters of a million albums and DVDs, headlined global festivals, won ARIAs, and toured the US, the UK, Europe, Japan, Canada as well as Australia. They've appeared on Letterman and Leno, supported James Brown, recorded at the famous Egrem Studios in Havana and, through it all, this 'weird little family' has stayed together.

For the last ten years The Cat Empire, Ryan, Will, Ollie, Harry, Jumps, Felix and the Empire Horns Ross and Kieran, have been trawling across continents in tour buses, playing to audiences night after night. This experience has brought them together as a band, and defined them as individuals.

The Cat Empire have contributed to a range of causes, such as the environment and, more recently, the plight of asylum seekers in Australia.

