



THE HON PAUL FLETCHER MP
Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts

MEDIA RELEASE

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More than \$2 million to support regional performing arts tours

The Morrison Government has announced almost \$2.5 million in funding to support 29 tours spanning music, theatre and dance to more than 250 locations around the country supported by the Australia Council's Contemporary Music Touring Program and Playing Australia.

Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts, the Hon Paul Fletcher MP said that the vast majority of the performances take place in regional and remote communities spanning every Australian state and territory.

"It is very important that people in regional and remote Australia can see high quality performances from outstanding artists," said Minister Fletcher.

"The Australian Government is committed to supporting the growth of a national arts sector that is accessible and able to be enjoyed by all Australians regardless of where they live."

Four Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander works will receive funding through Playing Australia including HIT Production's tour of *The Sapphires* to 12 Indigenous communities in the Northern Territory, South Australia and New South Wales and Bangarra Dance Theatre which will tour its acclaimed contemporary dance performance *Ochres* to regional South Australia and Victoria. Four works for children and young people will also be supported by Playing Australia.

The Contemporary Music Touring Program will support a range of music practice from country and folk, to Indigenous music, pop and rock.

The Ripple Effect Band, an all-women group from Maningrida, a remote community in the Northern Territory, will tour to south east Australia to perform in five Aboriginal languages and English, including at Mona Foma in Tasmania.

For more information and to view the full lists of recipients visit: www.australiacouncil.gov.au/funding

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