



## “DIDJINOZ 2005 – AUSTRALIAN MUSIC FESTIVAL”

Locations: [Forlimpopoli - Italy](#)

When: [13-14-15-16 of July 2006](#)

Report by: [Jack Azzarà](#) (*primarily published in Italian on the 'Yidaki News' paper magazine*)

Energizing Circular Continuous Vibrations, this was Didjin'OZ 2006 in a nutshell.

Following the tradition of the prior event this festival took place at Forlimpopoli's marvelous fort, a monument dated back to the 14 century.

Excluding the usual nature embraced location settings, like for example some woods, this fort can certainly be fully considered one of the best places to hold a Didgeridoo festival also thanks to the appealing down to earth surroundings.

The festival opened Thursday night with the screening of "10 canoe". This film was projected against a maxi screen set up behind the stage within the fort.

The film premiered at the "Cannes film festival 2006"; directed by Djigirr e Rolf de Heer and included actors such as: Richard Birrinbirrin, Johnny Buniyira, Peter Djigirr, Frances Djulibing, David Gulpilil, Jamie Gulpilil.

During the two evenings, Friday and Saturday, focusing mostly on the musical components of the event, there was a great range of shows and each and every one upheld the highest standards.

Among the presenting artists Macadamia Music Project, a very well known emerging band, stood out for their enthusiasm and proved very pleasing to listen to.

Another musician well recognized throughout the didgeridoo scene was without doubt Paride Russo, who played with one of his former groups "Tam Tam flute".

The first band to kick off the Friday evening was the German group Aurea: a duo formed by Ilja Sibbor and Alena Leja who presented a spectacular Digeridoo performance accompanied by vocals in Latin.

Regardless of the well arranged combination between the Didge di Ilja and Alena's voice, the overall show was considered too slow and "meditative" for the crowd's expectations.

On the contrary the mix between the argentine sonorities and the didgeridoo proposed by the Del Bario trio and Fiorino Fiorini was very successful, even if at times the unique sound of the Didgeridoo was overwhelmed by the other musical instruments.

Atkins, regardless the many concerts held every year in Italy, managed to surprise for his speed and vocalizations. His performance always manages to amazingly entertain for his on stage personality and technique.





The execution of the Blow Fly (the second track from his CD "Creeper Vines and Time") managed to give me goose pimples.

Wild Marmalade gave the crowd value for their money especially for SI Mullumby's stage presence: a flamboyant red cape complemented by playing the Didgeridoo without the use of his hands and arms, which were left free flowing to emphasize more his original style of playing his instrument.

SI's unique performance, in addition to the energy produced by the two talented percussionists, demonstrated that being wild is the foundation which makes their music unique. The winning formula which really places Wild Marmalade in their own league consists of SI Mullumby, the talent of the two percussionists and the touch of wildness.

A common denominator between the two live performances by Atkins and Wild Marmalade is the fact that both bands are considerably better live compared to their recorded studio CDs. This occurs frequently with other artists, but these two in particular, when playing in front of a live audience, manage to emphasize and add value to their songs in indescribable manner.

Lastly, just before the performance of the bands listed for the second part of the evening took place, "The Digeridoo discovery" book was presented by Andrea Ferroni.

A secondary part of the festival consisting of a series of workshops, took place in the very comfortable Italian farmhouse "La Quercia", which is definitely not to overlook, since it allowed the Didgeridoo participants also to taste some excellent local culinary specialties and to chill by the pool.

Another positive note was the immediate vicinity of Bertinoro, a wonderful small village at the foot of the hills where it was possible to taste an array of local delicacies accompanied by a breathtaking view.

Didjin'OZ 2006 was in short a great success even if it on paper, because of the lack of native aborigines who play using traditional didgeridoo techniques and the scheduled lineup of artists, expectations were not those of same event held the prior year.

I would personally like to thank and congratulate the organization for having put together yet again a fantastic festival, thus I would like to constructively suggest for the next edition to promote proactively in a very energetic manner the schedule of events, workshops and artists, so that the festival can be promoted not only in the major Italian Cities, but also in other European Festivals.

Didjin'OZ definitely has great potential to promote the Didgeridoo art in Italy and it would be a shame not to take advantage of this. Keep in mind that last year the event received personally from the Italian President in person the silver medal for the intent of the event.

I launches an invitation to the Digeridoo lovers but also to who is not to participate in the following





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edition because besides from being an excellent diving board for jumping into this fantastic antique mystical instrumental world you will also experience the pleasure of visiting amazing locations and tasting some excellent local foods and wines.

Goodnight and I hope to see you all next year.

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