



Sean Choolburra

Live & Deadly

Charming, captivating, cheeky, clever and charismatic, Sean Choolburra has carved his niche as Australia's No 1 indigenous entertainer.

The Performance

Sean's comedy is uniquely & truly Australian. His is a fresh new voice in a comedy scene inundated by white fellas. He blends pop culture, dance, comedy and hip hop in a high energy, feel good show.

"Part of my shows look at my Aboriginal and Australian identity, that is becoming very Americanised. My old grandfather says "Look at you kids, dressing up like Americans" without noticing he himself wearing cowboy hat and boots just like John Wayne. He likes to jibe us about wearing hip hop clothes and LA hats, "You kids have never been to LA", and I say LA doesn't stand for Los Angeles it stands for 'Love Aboriginal', then I break into a bit of didge hip hop rap." – **Sean Choolburra**

Sean gives audiences a chance to get in on many hilarious 'Black Fella Yarns'. Perhaps it is his ability to share the naivety of a small town aboriginal boy, still coming to grips with the big city lights, that makes him all that much more inviting and engaging as a performer.

Sean is a dynamic and versatile comedian, rap singer, dancer, storyteller, actor & hip-hop didge player. He is a rising star of not only the comedy world, but also as an all-round entertainer, and is guaranteed to raise your spirit while splitting your spleen.

Check out Sean on YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dfCLF3pifFA>

About the Performer

After winning the NSW Raw Comedy final in 2002, Sean headlined the Dreaming Festival 2005–2008, and has performed at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, the Scottish Storytelling Festival, and the Adelaide Fringe Festival. He appeared on TV in the NRL Footy Show, Thank God You're Here and the Melbourne International Comedy Festival Gala. He has hosted and recently performed at Deadly Funny in Melbourne, Adelaide & Perth.

He has previously performed at the Sydney Opera House and the Melbourne Comedy Festival with his one man show Oil of my Land, which drew on his life experiences as an aboriginal growing up and gave perfect opportunity for blending his skills as a dancer and didge player.

Hailing from Townsville, Sean has an established career as a dancer: he created the Ngaru Dance Company, and performed all over the world with the Bangarra Dance Company, including by invitation for the Dalai Lama, Hale & Pace and Prince Charles. But these days, Sean is in constant demand as an MC and Comedian for official functions, corporate events, theatre shows, comedy clubs, workshops, openings & festivals.

"Think Will Smith meets Skippy the Bush Kangaroo, a thoroughly entertaining show of infectious energy & hypnotic tales" - **3 Weeks Daily, Edinburgh Festival Review 2008**

"A winning formula of stand up, funny stories & DEADLY dancing" - **Adelaide Advertiser 2008**



Price: \$5.00 +GST per student **Minimum:** 140 students **Suitability:** Secondaries
BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES: Nexus Arts www.nexusarts.com.au
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Reviews of Sean Choolburra

"I wish we could bottle the performance.

I have never seen the students sit so still and pay attention... except when they were rolling around laughing! – Very funny. Great Dancing.

The students were very well behaved, and enjoyed the presentation and getting photos and chatting with Sean after the show. The two boys that got to be part of the show were thrilled."

- Kirwan State High School, VIC

"The show was amazing and Sean is incredible. We'll be getting him back."

- Kelso High School, NSW

"Students asked, "Can we get to come back and speak at our end of year leavers' dinner?"

It was the **most enjoyed performance in years**. Like nothing the students had ever seen before, Awesome!"

- Triabunna District School, TAS

"Everyone loved Sean; he was highly entertaining, educational and hilarious."

- St Clares College, ACT

"Thanks again for the booking, Sean was **FANTASTIC!!!**"

- Clontarf Aboriginal College, WA

"Year 10 **Loved** it! Sean was terrifically entertaining – very funny, with jokes appropriate to the age group; a fantastic dancer, accomplished didgeridoo player – good mix of traditional and contemporary entertainment."

- Scotch College, VIC

"**Excellent**. Sean's jokes as well as his performance of various dance moves and aboriginal cultural show kept the students **enthralled**." - Nossal High School, VIC

"Thank You Very Much! Sean was A BIG/Huge Success. Community loved him and Sean did A **Sensational** Job. He is a truly wonderful performer and always gives such a lot to the community at these events. Look forward to working in the future."

- Solid Mob, Bullinah Aboriginal Health Service, NSW



Kids delight in cultural performance

■ Talitha Wolfe

The eyes of St Joseph College students were lit up with wonder and the flicker of flames as the indigenous comedian amused audiences with his cultural blend of entertainment last Wednesday.

The cheeky and charismatic Sean Choolburra provided a comedic pack show for the Years 7-10 students, complete with "didgie hip-hop rap" and "black fella" yarns and gags, while the junior school experienced a more traditional performance.

Mr Choolburra, who was visiting Albany for the first time, said he used comedy as a secret ingredient to show students they could overcome adversity and to promote an understanding of culture.

"I find what works is comedy. They learn better if it stays with them longer," he said.

"I hope this reflects on the kids." But Mr Choolburra said the main message was about fun.

"I'm here to promote indigenous culture, but I'm also here to have fun," he said.

"I just want them not to take anything seriously, and at the end of the day I want them to have fun and smile."

St Joseph College acting principal Sue Alderman said the show, which ties in with reconciliation week and the school's NAIDOC events, helped create cultural awareness with the students.

"He talked about everyday things and the kids responded well to that," she said.



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Reviews of Sean Choolburra

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The Weekender, June 18, 2015

social scene



● Aboriginal comedian Sean Choolburra fires up his routine at St Joseph's.

Comedian brings firey humour to schools

A FIRE was lit in the gym at St Joseph's Albany school last Thursday.

Aboriginal comedian Sean Choolburra showed senior students how fire really can be made by rubbing two sticks together, and then produced a useable coconut husk torch.

He also took students through a variety of useful topics, such as the absorbent qualities of Weet-Bix and how to tell a good boy from a bad boy by the way he danced.

With very little persuasion, he got teacher Mrs Wright up on stage and dance to an old 1980s song from Madonna.

Mr Choolburra moved effortlessly from hip hop to the didgeridoo, and everything in between.

Originally from Townsville, he trained at Sydney's NAISDA Dance College and became a well-known comic when he appeared on the Channel 9 Footy Show.

After two Thursday morning shows at St Joseph's, Mr Choolburra had another performance at Little Grove before driving back to Perth for the midnight flight to Sydney, where he had a Friday gig.

"I am booked out," he said.

"If anybody wants me to perform I won't be able to fit them in until after September."



● Keegan Berry and Randy Nguyen.



● Corey Nelson and Daniel Yuswak.



● Chelsea Harrison and Jess Waldron.



● James Le, Michael Berg and Evan Ransley.

"The man is energetic and in constant motion, sliding back and forth across the stage and beaming at the audience the whole way through his show.

I attended on a day when more than a few audience members were quite young, which Choolburra liked to see, because he performs a set that is totally family friendly. He touches on mature subjects, but never in an inappropriate way or through the use of inappropriate language, which I've come to appreciate over the Festival is something of a rarity.

Another interesting thing about Choolburra's set is that he punctuates his comedy with patches of dancing. Usually, they serve the jokes, but I'm sure some of them are thrown in so he can keep showing off his dancing, because he is pretty damn good at it. And he knows it.

A great young comic with a show for the whole family".

- Review – Sean Choolburra: 50 Shades of Black, www.heckler.com.au, 18/04/2013

Reviews of Sean Choolburra

"Indigenous comedy teaches cultural acceptance

Comedian Sean Choolburra is cracking black fella jokes for all the right reasons, representing Aboriginal people by making light of Indigenous issues and politics.

Since winning the NSW Raw Comedy competition in 2002 Sean has performed around the world with the Bangarra Dance Company, appeared on Thank God You're Here and at the Edinburgh Comedy Festival.

Performing at a community event at Rangeway Primary School this week, the Sydney performer had students moon walking, teachers in fits of laughter and parents praising the young role model.

In an act that is educating, inspiring, and close to weeing your pants hilarious, Sean promotes messages of cultural acceptance by poking fun at racism.

"I have jokes on my own people as well but also reverse it a bit and look at politics, real estate issues or anything that Aboriginal people can relate to," he said.

With the varying humour of today's comedy scene, Sean says that Aboriginal people may not attend comedy clubs or events regularly.

"So it's great for a lot of my people who say 'oh yeah he's doing jokes for us, he's representing you' know, so I can be a bit of an ambassador and get my points across in representing us and also just bettering our situation and causes and all that."

Grandmother of two, Marylyn Papertalk, praised Sean's performance at Rangeway this week.

"He had good messages learnt from his old people. Don't be racial, don't be ashamed, stay at school and get out there and be positive about life," she said.

For Sean, laughter and humour plays a big part in having a healthy outlook on life and creates a positive learning environment.

"It's a good way to learn, an environment where you are just taking the edge off things."

- Jane Kennedy, www.abc.net.au, 15/2/2012

"Sean Choolburra bounds on stage....To his credit, his pacey delivery never flags as he flits from topic to topic... His Aboriginality is his main subject, though he contrives to make this an inclusive experience, wrapping us within the story of his family and career. He loves a bit of wordplay, and it's remarkable how easily he incorporates indigenous words within his routine.

He also likes skating along the edge of racial stereotypes, but manages to do so in a casually disarming way. Whether talking about prejudice, bush medicine, Aboriginal mythology or country music, Choolburra is a funny man with an undeniable warmth. And his skill with dance and the didge is a pure bonus."

- Tim Richards, Reviewer, www.theage.com.au, April 17, 2008

Sean Choolburra – Live and Deadly

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★★★★

Comedy that grooves

Sean Choolburra has the moves, the grooves and very nice shoes. His show is a winning formula of stand-up comedy, funny stories and deadly dancing. Judging from the audience reaction, Choolburra's observations of blacks and whites are spot on, while the situations he portrays are universally recognisable. His ability to deal with sensitive issues without

causing offence is pure genius, and he looks a treat in a wrestling leotard. His past career as a performer with Bangarra Dance Theatre explains his talent for imitating Madonna, and he does a flash turn on didgeridoo. Wicked and wise, he will leave you with sore cheeks and hope for the future. His smile is a gift to the nation.

Louise Nunn

Adelaide Advertiser



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