

MEDIA RELEASE

Melbourne
Fringe



17 August 2011

Children of War

Powerful musical storytelling by Levi McGrath

'Children of War' mixes the evocative sounds of thumb piano and African percussion with western instrumentation in a compelling multimedia experience about Levi's journey working alongside World Vision rehabilitating former child soldiers in Northern Uganda. Featuring percussionist Andrew Horneman and award winning photography by Heather McClintock (USA), 'Children of War' will be performed at Seraphim Upstairs, Fitzroy.

In 2009 Levi McGrath travelled to Uganda to work with former child soldiers for five months, with World Vision in Gulu. This led to his sophomore, critically acclaimed album Children of War (Small House Records 2010) -- rich in passion for social change and heart-rending stories of suffering and dignity.

Through a powerful and honest collection of songs and first-hand stories, the 'Children of War' show presents an ordinary young Australian's extraordinary journey, as he witnessed the devastating effects of Africa's longest running conflict. This conflict has forced more than two million people into internally displaced people's camps and seen over thirty thousand children abducted to be used as child soldiers.

In 2010 Levi completed a 120+ gig, national tour of 'Children of War', performing in pubs, schools and festivals throughout Australia, Singapore and the US. Levi is excited to bring his show to the Melbourne Fringe Festival in 2011.

Incorporating a range of Ugandan percussion instruments (played by Melbourne drummer/percussionist Andrew Horneman) 'Children of War' transports the audience to a traditional African village setting, surrounded by woven baskets, vivid paintings and goat-skinned drums.

Heather McClintock's award-winning Ugandan photography forms a visual backdrop, work that earned her the Center for Photographic Art Artist Project Award in 2006.

While exploring the pain and hardship of war, each gripping performance speaks a clear and heartfelt message of change and empowerment -- the power of resilience and the beauty of cultural diversity. Levi's stories and songs will inspire you to take a stand against injustice in your world.

"It's impossible to listen to his music and not be stirred into action." - Tim Costello, CEO World Vision Australia
"Children of War is an honest, powerful collection of songs Australians need to hear" - Bunbury Herald, Aug 2010
"Children of War is a compelling album that should not be passed up. 4 stars (out of 5)" - Alec Cunningham,
ARIEL PUBLICITY

<http://www.levimcgrath.com/>
<http://www.myspace.com/levimcgrath>
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xVleIT3XiEY&feature=related>

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VENUE
Seraphim
123 Smith St
Fitzroy, Victoria 3065

DATES: 29 Sept and 1 Oct
TIME: 7.30pm (90min)

TICKETS
Full: \$15.00
Concession: \$12.00
Group: \$10.00
TO BOOK visit melbournefringe.com.au or call (03) 9660 9666

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