

Ray Pereira

Ray has established a reputation as one of the leading percussionists in Australia and is a recognised leader in his field of Afro Cuban and African drumming and percussion. His virtuosic playing has thrilled audiences around the world and his individual style of playing draws on Jazz, African, Cuban and Sri Lankan traditions. He has performed and recorded with several of our top artists including Paul Kelly, Kate Ceberano and Renee Geyer, leading indigenous artists Yothu Yindi, Archie Roach, Christine Anu and jazz musicians Vince Jones, Paul Grabowsky and Barney McCall among many others. He has played on many award-winning recordings by many of these artists.

Ray has performed extensively in Australia and also played concerts in North America, Europe, Japan, South America and Africa. He has performed on several television shows backing well known International and Australian singers, been a member of the Logies Band for several years and also performed on television as a featured artist. Ray has also recorded film and television scores.

Ray has also performed at Womadelaide and Womad New Zealand.

As an educator Ray conducts master classes at universities and tertiary institutions around the country, teaches African drumming at his local primary school and runs his own workshops.

Since 1998 Ray has run several study tours to Ghana where his students learn traditional West African drumming and dance styles. He also runs tours to Sri Lanka and Cuba.

Ray currently plays with Djoliba Rattler and also works on his own projects including the Afro Lankan Drumming System.

Ray was awarded an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in January 2021 for services to the Performing Arts.

For more information on Ray Pereira go to raypereira.com