

3RD ANNUAL CAIRNS BLUES FESTIVAL

ARTIST ANNOUNCEMENT – ERIC BIBB, IAN MOSS, PHIL MANNING & MORE...

SATURDAY 7TH MAY 2011

Cairns Blues Festival is proud to announce the line-up of the 2011 festival! The 3rd annual festival – to be held on Saturday 7th May – will feature Eric Bibb, Ian Moss, Phil Manning, Chase the Sun, Mason Rack Band, Claude Hay, Jules Boulton and Shaun Kirk, as well as local Far North Queensland bands Johnos Blues Band, Moondog Gypsy Blues Band, The Derringers and Albatross.

Celebrating its third year in 2011, the Cairns Blues Festival (held in Cairns, Far North Queensland) has gone from strength-to-strength and this year brings forth its strongest line-up yet. With international blues sensation, Eric Bibb (USA), headlining the event along with Ian Moss (Cold Chisel), Australia's own blues legends, Phil Manning (Chain) and Ian Moss (Cold Chisel) as just three of the amazing artists on the 2011 bill, the festival is continuing to cement itself as a formidable force on the national festival scene.

Eric Bibb is a world renowned bluesman who has music in his soul and a swag of awards to his name. This international troubadour has played at some of the world's most legendary venues in his time including Glastonbury Festival (UK), BB Kings in New York (USA) and an Aussie icon the Port Fairy Folk Festival (Victoria). No stranger to North Queensland, Eric Bibb has previously performed to sold-out audiences at Tanks Arts Centre and at Johno's Blues Bar – his reputation in Cairns precedes him.

Ian Moss needs no introduction to Australian music lovers. As a renowned guitarist and songwriter, he has had an extensive solo career (with hits like *Tuckers Daughter* and *Telephone Booth*) as well as being one of the key members of iconic rock band Cold Chisel. It doesn't get much better than to be in the musical company of the likes of Ian Moss. An undisputed guitar legend, Moss has not only traversed his way through the rock side of the industry, but also put his feet firmly into the blues realm. His performance at the 2011 Cairns Blues Festival is a clear indication the best in the business are adding the up-and-coming festival to their touring line-up.

Phil Manning is one of the legendary musicians and vocalist behind Chain, Australia's answer to the blues phenomenon. Dubbed as the originators of 'Oz blues' Chain is the only blues band in the world – to date – to reach #1 on the Australian charts (with their track *Black'n'Blue*). They also reached #2 (with *Judgment*). Add to that Matt Taylor's #1 with *I Remember When I Was Young* and a gold album *Towards the Blues* and Chain has an awesome reputation. Chain performed at the inaugural Cairns Blues Festival and Phil Manning returns as a solo performer to the third year event.

Cairns Blues Festival is not just your standard blues event, but an incredible mix of rockabilly blues, blues rock, swamp blues, funky blues, rootsy blues, a little bit of country blues as well as good old down and dirty blues. As well as music the 2011 event will also play host to a parade and display by Cairns Hot Rod Club. There will also be a vibrant and spacious children's area, food and community stalls, a licensed bar and more.

Cairns Blues Festival is run by volunteers. With a large membership base and extensive fundraising schedule, as well as an impressive volunteer program, there are many opportunities for members in the community to be involved with the 2011 event, and be part of the 'behind the scenes' action.

Application forms for volunteers are available from the Cairns Blues Festival website. Site applications are also available from the website now.

Don't miss the 11-hours straight of non-stop music across two stages at the 2011 Cairns Blues Festival.

Cairns Blues Festival will be held on Saturday 7th May at Fogarty Park, The Esplanade, Cairns. Tickets are available from www.ticketlink.com.au from March 1. Gates open at 10am, for a 11am start, with the festival wrapping up at 10pm.

For more information, please visit www.cairnsbluesfestival.com.au

