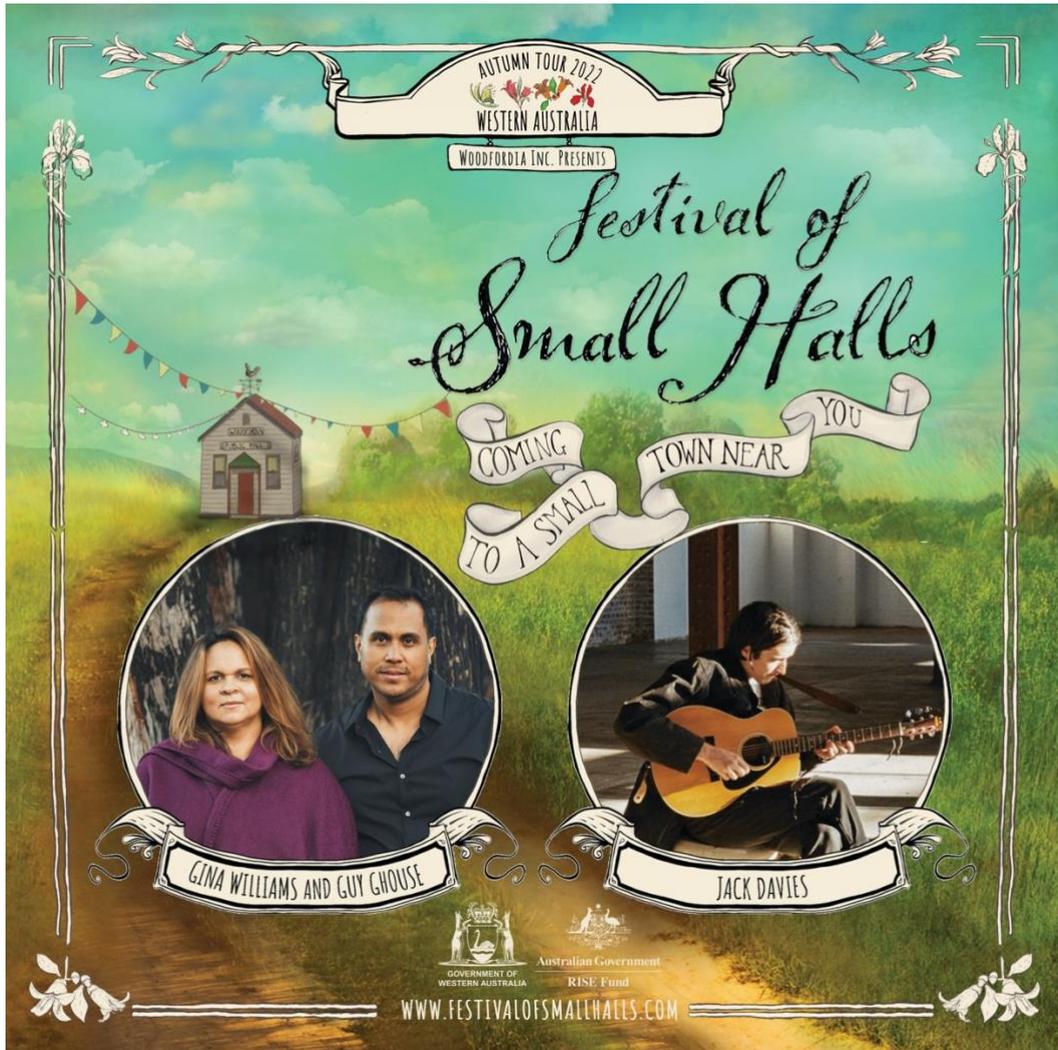




Event	Festival of Small Halls
Presenting Line	Woodfordia Inc presents Festival of Small Halls Autumn Tour 2022 featuring Gina Williams and Guy Ghouse with Jack Davies.
Artists	Jack Davies Gina Williams and Guy Ghouse
Regional Partners	see Locations
Tour Announce Date	31 March 2022
Tickets on Sale	31 March 2022 www.festivalofsmallhalls.com Prices vary by location
Web	www.festivalofsmallhalls.com Handle: @SmallHallsAus #HallsAutumn
Instagram	https://www.instagram.com/smallhallsaus/
YouTube	http://www.youtube.com/user/festivalofsmallhalls
Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/festivalofsmallhalls
Publicity Contact	Isobel Bartlett +61 452 587 947 isobelbartlett@outlook.com



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Artist Biographies

Gina Williams and Guy Ghouse



Short Biography

Ancient language, contemporary music, stunning vocals, poignant stories and guitar brilliance. With Gina's stunning vocals performed in the beautiful and rare Noongar language, accompanied by Guy's fingerpicking brilliance on acoustic guitar, the audience will be taken on a journey of love, loss and joy.

They are a multi-award-winning duo, but don't let that fool you – they'd much rather allow their performances and the power of the music they create speak for itself. Because even though there are less than 400 speakers of Noongar language left, their work has always been about what connects us. You don't need to understand the words; love, loss, joy all means the same things no matter how you say it.

Full Biography

Ancient language, contemporary music, stunning vocals, poignant stories and guitar brilliance.

Gina Williams and Guy Ghouse use their music and performances to highlight one of the most beautiful and rare languages on the planet; the Noongar language of the southern corner of Western Australia.

As conduits of a fractured past, they have made it their mission to become agitators for a hopeful future, by rewriting the script through song. Because the only way to address intergenerational trauma is to bring healing and invite everyone back to the campfire.

They are a multi-award-winning duo, but don't let that fool you – they'd much rather allow their performances and the power of the music they create speak for itself.

Because even though there are less than 400 speakers of Noongar language left, their work has always been about what connects us. You don't need to understand the words; love, loss, joy all means the same things no matter how you say it.

<http://www.ginawilliams.com.au>

[Facebook](#)

[Spotify](#)

Media Quotes:

“Williams and Ghouse excel in writing songs that instantly feel familiar, despite being sung in an unfamiliar language. Williams is out to change that. Only 400 people speak Noongar fluently, and she told the audience of her passionate plea for us all to learn five Noongar words – #fivewords.”

- Bourby Webster, Seesaw Magazine 2020

“Songs in Noongar language transposed into English, and vice-versa (Moon River) show that Williams is a transcendent artist in any language, and her friend and collaborator Guy Ghouse's generous, serene presence and fingerstyle acoustic guitar playing (often reminiscent of James Taylor, with the thumb taking the place of a pianist's left hand) is a show in itself.”

- David Zampatti, From the Turnstiles (Koorlangka: Reimagined review)

“Composers Gina Williams and Guy Ghouse have created a tuneful and engaging hour-long score for the youthful cast, with jazzy rhythms blending with the strings and winds of the orchestra...this latest venture...has demonstrated a welcome deepening of links between the Australian arts industry and Indigenous culture.”

- Marilyn Phillips, Limelight Magazine (Koolbardi wer Wardong review)

Approved Quote

“We are thrilled and honoured to be included in the Festival of Small Halls, it is something we have wanted to be part of for a really long time. We love the intimacy of smaller performances and being able to visit towns and communities and make friends where we otherwise may never get to is a wonderful thing.”

- Gina Williams and Guy Ghouse

Jack Davies



Short Biography

From singing about seagulls to mumbling poems of sorrow, Jack's songs like to laugh, poke and longingly stare at the world. Regarded as one of WA's finest up and coming songwriters, the young singer cut his teeth busking in cafes and busy streets, before rising to prominence with his indie-folk rock band "Jack Davies and The Bush Chooks".

After touring nationally with the band and returning home to a fully sold-out solo residency in 2021, Jack is excited to return to the stage solo with his unique blend of spoken word, folk picking, sad singing and indi-acoustic weirdery.

Full biography

From singing about seagulls to mumbling poems of sorrow, Jack's songs like to laugh, poke and longingly stare at the world.

Now regarded as one of Western Australia's finest emerging songwriters, Jack Davies honed his craft busking on Perth's busy streets and in small cafes. After founding Indi-folk group "Jack Davies and The Bush Chooks" he toured nationally and quickly rose to prominence.

After touring nationally with the band and returning home to a fully sold-out solo residency in 2021, Jack embarked on a solo career and through a rich blend of spoken word, song and Indi/folk acoustic guitar playing, takes his audiences on a journey from sorrow to laughter, from rich Western Australian imagery to poking fun and staring at the world. Jack is a true storyteller and is excited to return to the stage solo with his unique blend of spoken word, folk picking, sad singing and indi-acoustic weirdery.

[Facebook](#)

[Instagram](#)

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[YouTube](#)

Media Quotes

"Every so often a voice captures a moment in time. Slow, melodic and deliberate song writing that evokes quintessential West Australian imagery, Jack Davies is the voice of a new generation of Perth storytellers" - RTRFM 92.1

"Jack Davies and The Bush Chooks play sterling folk rock" - Robert Forster (The Go-Betweens)

"I was thinking to myself today, wondering who of the modern Australian songwriters writing gentle, folk inspired songs have what it takes to be remembered in the long term and I reckon Jack might be one of them. His songs cut straight to the core and put you in a time and place you didn't know you were missing" - Tommy Faith (Triple J Unearthed)

Approved Quote

"I'm very excited to get to try out a number of new songs and jokes on unsuspecting crowds. A show each night means you can really play around with it and have some fun with the songs and rambles in between. A dream."

Jack Davies

Tour Location Details

27/04/2022	Gelorup	Gelorup Hall	Tickets available at www.festivalofsmallhalls.com
28/04/2022	Acton Park	Acton Park & Districts Community Hall	Tickets available at www.festivalofsmallhalls.com or locally via the Acton Park & Districts Community Hall
29/04/2022	Wilyabrup	Wilyabrup Community Hall	Tickets available at www.festivalofsmallhalls.com or locally through the Wilyabrup Community Association
30/04/2022	Pemberton	Pemberton Mill Hall	Tickets available at www.festivalofsmallhalls.com or locally at the Pemberton General Store
01/05/2022	Torbay	Torbay Hall	Tickets available at www.festivalofsmallhalls.com
04/05/2022	Beverley	Beverley Town Hall	Tickets available at www.festivalofsmallhalls.com
05/05/2022	Williams	Tarwonga Hall	Tickets available at www.festivalofsmallhalls.com or locally via the Shire of Williams council office
06/05/2022	Hopetoun	Hopetoun Community Centre	Tickets available at www.festivalofsmallhalls.com
07/05/2022	Esperance	Esperance Civic Centre	Tickets available at www.festivalofsmallhalls.com
08/05/2022	Kalgoorlie-Boulder	WASM Graduates Hall Gardens	Tickets available at www.festivalofsmallhalls.com
12/05/2022	Morawa	Morawa Town Hall	Tickets available at www.festivalofsmallhalls.com
13/05/2022	Walkaway	Holy Trinity Anglican Church	Tickets available at www.festivalofsmallhalls.com or locally at the Geraldton Civic Centre
14/05/2022	Lancelin	Lancelin Hall	Tickets available at www.festivalofsmallhalls.com or locally at the Lancelin Community Resource Centre
15/05/2022	Gingin	Granville Civic Centre	Tickets available at www.festivalofsmallhalls.com

General Promo

**Woodfordia Inc
presents**

**Festival of Small Halls Autumn Tour 2022: Western Australia
Gina Williams and Guy Ghouse and Jack Davies**

Festival of Small Halls is a series of tours that takes some of the best folk and contemporary acoustic artists and sends them on the road to halls in communities all over Australia. Each night on the tour is a beautiful occasion for original music, and a chance to catch up with family and friends over cake and tea during a supper break.

The tour commences about 180km south of Perth in the village of Gelorup, in the Bunbury region. Circling the southwest with visits to Wilyabrup, Acton Park and Pemberton in the south western corner, the tour then hops over to Torbay, near Albany before heading due north to the charismatic Wheatbelt town of Beverley. Week 2 of the tour takes the tour from rippling wheat fields across to red dirt and the Goldfield, being welcomed into halls in Williams, Hopetoun, Esperance and Kalgoorlie. Continuing anti-clockwise in an impressive circuit of the south-west, the tour will finish up in the Mid-Western towns of Morawa, Walkaway, Lancelin and Gingin.

ABOUT THE AUTUMN TOUR 2022

- This is the 27th Festival of Small Halls Tour in Australia
- Fourteen regional tour stops
- Jack Davies has been lauded for his imaginative, clear and personal songwriting. As a busker who cut his teeth as a youngster, one doesn't have to be too imaginative to wonder why he ended up with a lot of early songs about food. However, the prodigious songwriter recently confessed to not liking hot chips!
- Gina Williams and Guy Ghouse's recent releases have been part of a four-part Noongar song cycle titled Kalyakoorl – which translates to 'forever' in English – with each sub-section focusing on a specific principle close to their hearts, and close to the hearts of their communities: Koort (Heart), Moort (Family), Boodja (Land) and the recently-arriving opening, Koorlangka(Children/Legacy).

Producer Quote

"Festival of Small Halls has enjoyed more than eight years of success as touring model, bringing the highest quality of musicians to small towns who are looking to access excellent music, and all the benefits it brings, in their own local area. In that time we've been inspired, humbled and moved by the strength and spirit of the hundreds of remarkable communities who have invited us in. We've been chatting with our friends in the west since 2018, and after a disappointing false start in April 2020, we're ecstatic to finally have the opportunity to be hosted by these fifteen wonderful small halls in Western Australia"

- Eleanor Rigden, Producer

FROM PREVIOUS ARTISTS

(specific artists available on request)

This was the most enjoyable working experience of my touring life. The team were amazing and the entire machine ran like clockwork. I felt supported, valued and the whole experience gave me hope for a bright future after what have been some strange and difficult times. The Small Halls concept is truly wonderful and I am so glad I was able to take part. I saw first-hand how it changes for the better the lives of people in the community and had the pleasure of sharing so many poignant and intimate moments that filled the cup of both myself and the audience. Music heals, it brings people together and it we are all better for it. Bloody lovely.
Paddy McHugh, AUSTRALIA, Resilience Tour 2021

We played the Festival of Small Halls 2020 Spring tour through regional Queensland and it was a totally unique touring experience for us. We played in some really remote, small towns, playing in gorgeous old halls to communities who rarely get to experience live music events. This tour is a really special and important connector between musicians and regional audiences, and we made lifelong friendships and a swag of memories that will stay with us forever.
Hussy Hicks, AUSTRALIA, Spring Tour 2020

"The Festival of Small Halls is a real one of a kind. As a touring artist I have been lucky enough to visit many countries over the years but only as part of Small Halls did the band and I manage to get a real understanding of the more rural areas and the beautiful people from each of the communities we visited. It's an experience that I will not forget and hope to be part of again."
Paul McKenna Band, Festival of Small Halls Autumn Tour 2020

"The Festival of Small Halls was like a dream. The music, venues, adventures, towns and friendships I experienced will stay with me always. The instant sense of community each show creates was only rivalled by the camaraderie that grew within the confines of the tour van with every kilometre, ocean swim, new town and broken string."
Jack Carty, Festival of Small Halls Summer Tour 2020

"When it comes to music, community and your sense of where you fit in the world, the Festival of Small Halls knows what your heart and soul truly needs more than you do. It was an epic journey filled with boundless music, laughter and memories. If asked to do it again, we would gladly make the 17000 + km trek. Because it's worth it."
Geraldine Hollet, The Once, Festival of Small Halls Autumn Tour 2019

"Small Halls is a brilliant, inspiring tour that brings we musicians and regional communities together in a mutual discovery and celebration of each other. With this awareness Small Halls is helping build respect and sustain a healthy responsibility in the relationship between contemporary musicians work and regional Australian communities. I blinking loved every sweat, soaked, dusty morsel of every show and mile."
Liam Gerner, Festival of Small Halls Summer Tour 2019

"It was a life-changing experience for me, being a part of the Festival of Small Halls Summer Tour. It was amazing sharing my music with communities I wouldn't normally get to visit and to be greeted with such warmth and generosity of spirit. We travelled

through so many beautiful, special places that I will never forget, and I am sure my memories of the tour will filter into some of my songs in the future!"

Lucy Wise, Festival of Small Halls Summer Tour 2018

"Festival of Small Halls seems to do everything right. From mission to community to execution, this roving, nightly festival shares and is made by the same dedication and love as its parent festival—the Woodford Folk Festival. I saw and met amazing people and places I wouldn't ever have dreamed of seeing and visiting and felt able to deliver the best version of myself as an artist over a sustained and lengthy tour thanks to the amazing team. We went to extraordinary places for extraordinary community building and celebratory happenings. Thank you."

Old Man Luedecke, Festival of Small Halls Summer Tour 2018

"Festival of Small Halls breeds new life and culture into Australia's regional communities at a time when it is most needed. A fresh take on an old tradition."

Elwood Gray, Festival of Small Halls Spring Tour 2018

"Festival of Small Halls was easily one of the most rewarding tour experiences I have ever been a part of. I was blown away by the generosity and warmth of spirit of everyone involved and I feel that the bonds I have made along the way will be there for years to come."

Claire Anne Taylor, Festival of Small Halls, Summer and Autumn Tours 2018

The Festival of Small Halls is a unique program, centred around the spirit of community and the role of music and culture in bringing these communities together. This ethos is a central part of my own career, and to that of many other musicians I know, and it's a privilege and joy to be a part of such a unique tour that distills these simple, and incredibly important, ideas so well and with so much dedication and heart.

Liz Stringer, Festival of Small Halls, Summer Tour 2017

"I cannot express how amazing our experience was touring Tasmania with "Festival of Small Halls Australia". A lot of these communities were hurting for entertainment or a reason to come together. As I've seen in other areas where Small Halls has been, it really connects people by celebrating music. They can also forget about the struggle that sometimes happens in small communities. Being from one myself, I know what it's like not having outside culture grace your community... And when it does, you never forget it. The children in these small Tasmanian towns were bursting when it was time to talk at the end of the show. Several kids and a few teenagers told me that they plan on practicing their instruments more or taking up the fiddle (which is cool for me to hear). A real show with real people certainly tops watching one on television or YouTube. Thanks for giving us the opportunity to grace these towns and give back a gift that was given to us."

Tim Chaisson, The East Pointers, Festival of Small Halls, Summer Tour 2016

'My experience with the Festival of Small Halls was nothing short of magical. Coming from the frozen plains of Canada and jumping straight into a hot Australian summer gave me some worry at first, but all that worry quickly slipped away. What I walked into was a well run, well executed traveling show that was imbued with cultural relevance and importance that rivals any show I've taken in as a concert goer or as a performer. The greatest opportunity for me as a writer and performer was the chance to connect with a rural Australian audience. My songs and stories are

agriculturally themed and I was given the chance hear stories from Australian farmers and producers and also people from all walks of life. This traveling festival seems like a model that could and should be implemented wherever possible. It's my belief that people do love music, and those of us who live in out of the way places don't get enough of an opportunity to take it in. It makes the most sense to me to bring a show to these towns. Rather than broadcast a message that music is only a cultural artifact of the urban landscape, we should all be interested in providing solid footing for the arts in the rural as equally as we do in the city.'

Del Barber, Festival of Small Halls Summer Tour 2014

'Small Halls is a concept we all really believe in. We are big believers in live music as a way of keeping communities and towns connected and alive. It was humbling to realise how unusual and novel live music is for people living in small or remote towns. More often than not we felt like we were participating in town social events and we felt privileged to encounter some really awesome, inspiring communities as well as some truly quirky ones! We taught songs to high school kids who have never been taught music before (they thought it was the weirdest thing they had ever heard of but ended up embracing it and having fun!) We were also gratified by how well people embraced weird folk music they had clearly not encountered before.'

The Mae Trio, Festival of Small Halls, Summer Tour 2014

'Festival of Small Halls is an absolutely brilliant initiative! There are so many winners; from the regional communities who seldom have the chance to engage in live, original music, to the historic, intimate and often unused community halls, to the production crew who make the whole thing happen. The biggest winners, though are the artists. Meeting and sharing our music with the folks who turn out to these shows has been the most profoundly rewarding experience. Their honest appreciation and genuine commitment to supporting the whole concept has filled our hearts with hope!'

Starboard Cannons, Festival of Small Halls, Spring Tour 2014

"Having grown up in a small town, my appreciation for the Small Halls Australia tour was deep. There is something truly special about a community coming together in the centre of town with food and drink and people of all ages, to share in a night of music. There was an element of surprise in each town as they showed their pride and colours. This is probably the most unique and memorable tour I've done and certainly a great introduction to many parts of Australia I may never have seen."

Rose Cousins, Inaugural Festival of Small Halls Tour, Nov/Dec 2013

FROM OUR PATRONS

"I just want to thank Meander Valley Council and particularly Patrick Gambles for the fabulous concert we had on Friday night. Our little community being under siege [from bushfires] for nearly a week and inundated and virtually "taken over" by strangers - I was dispirited, anxious, dog tired and in no mood for this event - it appeared to be just another thing we didn't need right at that moment. What eventuated was that it was EXACTLY what we DID need! The hall looked amazing and we burst with pride. It sounded amazing and we congratulated each other. The crowds were tremendous and we patted each other on the back. The concert was a HUGE success and we felt our spirits lift and our morale soar as we stomped, clapped, yahoo'd and danced with each other. Thank you MVC and Patrick and his team for this moment of light relief in a time of such gloom (literally!). Well done"

- J Lamont, Chudleigh Hall Committee

"This is truly one of the most lovely projects I have seen developed in regional Aus in forever. What a brilliant thing! Big visions and open hearts. These sorts of things sew community back together."

- P Larkins, Girgarre

"Made the four hour trip from Sydney to Grenfell to see these amazing international and local entertainers. What a great night. Can't wait for next year's. Thank you for making my boy exceedingly happy! Kirby exclaimed that Wednesday night at Grenfell Festival of Small Halls Australia was, "the best night of his entire life!" A big call for an 8 year old. Your cd has been on constant rotation, and it seems we'll be making a trip to Canberra, to see you again before you leave Oz. Thank you so very much."

- B Meur, Grenfell

"We live in an isolated area and are very drought-stricken at present. Our community is being hit hard....times are tough for people on our land, and in a micro-community, the effects are felt by all. However, sitting there last night watching such a beautiful and moving performance, all was lost for a while."

- K Sutton, St George

A great experience at Numinbah Valley School of Arts Community Hall. Was invited and really had no idea what to expect. Great concept and a wonderful way to use these halls. Friendly people and wonderful talents on stage.

- R Maguir, Numinbah Valley

IN THE MEDIA

"Once again the good people from the Woodford Folk Festival have hit the nail right on the head... Where in Australia are there promoters thinking of doing a tour featuring such improbable places as Forest Hill, Eulo, Barcaldine, Wallaville?"

Sam Cutler, Rhythms Magazine

"I always thought about the history of the place, the community meetings, the weddings, the dances, the loves lost and found. It always made me a little sad that those spaces were so often locked up and underused. So it cheered me to hear about the Festival of Small Halls..."

Noel Mengel, Courier Mail

"The event is not just an experience for those who watch it, but also for the musos themselves."

Lauren Grounsell, Caloundra Weekly