

Drum Drum Will Stage Upbeat Program at SWOSU

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Drum Drum, one of the most innovative contemporary groups in Australia and the South Pacific, will perform at Southwestern Oklahoma State University on Thursday, April 7, as part of the university's Panorama series.

The production will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center on the Weatherford campus.

Tickets are \$5 for SWOSU students in advance and \$10 for non SWOSU students in advance. All tickets at the door will be \$15. Advance tickets are available in the SWOSU Public Relations & Marketing Office in Room 205 of the Administration Building and the SWOSU Business Office in Room 109 of the Administration Building. Tickets can also be purchased with a credit card by calling 580.774.3019.

Brian Adler, chair of the Panorama Committee, said the band is made up of some of the South Pacific's best musicians and dancers, predominantly from Papua New Guinea, Fiji and Australia. The choreography and traditional dance is a strong feature of the show, and the group's log drumming is spectacular, with costumes and body painting evoking their traditional ritual origins.

Drum Drum's music is unique because it has developed in both the Islands and in Australia over the past seven years.

One of the most spectacular elements about Drum Drum's performance is the fusion of invigorating Island chants with highly energetic log drumming and dance with a strong influence of Hip hop and Dub.

With over 800 languages and 3,000 dialects, Papua New Guinea is one of the most diverse countries in the world. From this rich cultural diversity has developed a truly unique style of contemporary performance. The traditional music and dance that Drum Drum performs come from various regions of Papua New Guinea. Some of these include: bird dances and kundu drumming of Morobe province; rain dances and chants from Gaba Gaba coastal village—Central Province; log drumming (garamut) of the Manus Islands; and fertility and festive dances from the Trobriand Islands.

The name Drum Drum is the English translation of Gaba Gaba which is the name of a village found on the southern coast of Papua New Guinea, the birth place of lead singer Tau Ingram and heritage of musical director Airi Ingram. Ingram has been recognized internationally as one of the most important up and coming figures in contemporary South Pacific music.

For additional information about the Drum Drum performance on April 7, call the SWOSU Public Relations & Marketing Office at 580.774.3063.