



***THE KUMPNEE*** are an unpredictable blend of urban funk, soulful harmony and hip hop, combining electro synth, live instrumentation and a raw feel to split genres and form a new sound, think Outkast thrown into a cauldron mixed with a dash of Gnarlz Barkley and a sprinkle of The Black Eyed Peas.

This Sydney based band consists of members – [Ronnie Lavender](#) (vocals, keys, guitar), [Josh Gage](#) (Vocals, keys, turntables), [Gino Hawkins](#) (bass, guitar, vocals), [Stevie Taylor](#) (drums) and [Huia Ratapu](#) (bass).

With over 30 years combined on stage experience **THE KUMPNEE** bring their confidence to the stage with high-energy performances at all their shows. They draw on experience at large festivals including the *Ngati Awa Festival 2011*, *Ngati Awa Te Toki 2010 Festival*, *NZ Hip Hop Summit*, *Bring it On*, *Roc The Blok* and *The Burbs* along with club gigs like *On the Real* and *Stars of Night & One Community*.

With the stage presence, audience participation and lyrical flow of front men MC's Ronnie and Josh, backed by live instruments and tight vocal arrangements, **THE KUMPNEE** always get the crowd rocking!

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***The Kumpnee are poised to burst onto the scene in a big way with the release of their self funded debut album 'The Kumpnee Ball' a 17 track CD featuring harmonic melodies, soulful lyrics and a unique sense of humour.***

*'The Kumpnee Ball' is distributed through Green (MGM) Distribution (Australia) and available in all major music retail outlets JB Hi-Fi, Sanity, Leading Edge and online iTunes, BigPond, Vodafone...*

For all booking, media, sponsorship and other enquires please contact:  
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## PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS

- **NGATI AWA FESTIVAL 2011**  
Whakatane, New Zealand
- **DOONSIDE FESTIVAL**  
Doonside, Australia
- **LIVE @ THE BASEMENT**  
Headline band, Blacktown, Australia
- **WAITANGI DAY FESTIVAL**  
Merrylands, Australia
- Flown to Whakatane, New Zealand to perform at **KO NGATI AWA TE TOKI** performing alongside Maisey Rika (NZ Recording Artist) & MC Hazaduz (Batucada Sound Machine)
- **WAITANGI DAY FESTIVAL**  
Merrylands, Australia
- **SYDNEY MOTOR CARNA**  
Bankstown, Australia
- **ON THE REAL**  
Kings Cross, Australia
- **BRING IT ON**  
Sydney Youth Festival
- **U18s Youth Party**  
Max Webber function center
- **FUSION**  
Music Festival
- **ROC THE BLOK ENTERTAINMENT**  
K1 Kickboxing
- **THE BURBS FESTIVAL**  
Sydney Olympic Park
- **FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION**
- **VERBAL ASSAULT SYDNEY RSL**
- **LOWDOWN DIRTY RAP**
- **NEW ZEALAND HIP HOP SUMMIT**



Interviewing the crowd at Sydney Motor Carna

Interviewing International UFC MMA Fighter James Te Huna

**THE KUMPNEE** demonstrated their natural born abilities as entertainers by interviewing the crowd at SYDNEY MOTOR CARNA. Quick on their feet, they draw on previous experience as MCs, battle competitions and hosting radio show interviews with artists such as *Michael Franti (Spearhead)*. They have also started KUMPNEE TV, taking a lighthearted approach to interviewing celebrities, sports personalities and entertainers in Australian and New Zealand.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

'The Kumpnee Ball' album nominated at the 2011 New Zealand Maori Music Awards in Best Urban, Rap, Hip Hop RnB category

Performing at the 2011 Ngati Awa Festival in New Zealand and headline band at the after party in Paroa

Securing a distribution deal with Green (MGM) Distribution, Australia. Album to be made available in all major record stores throughout Australia. Sign Publishing deal with Centrifuge Music Publishing

'Under A Spell' put on rotation at FBI Radio Sydney and playing on Iwi radio in New Zealand.

GRIMY PIRATE debuted on RAGE in October 2009 and quickly earned the respect of well-established hip hop artists, with Hyjak n Torcha proclaiming, "Grimy Pirate is off the chain, we want more!".

Over 16,000 views of GRIMY PIRATE video on YouTube

GRIMY PIRATE video nominated in the Top 50 MusicOz Awards 2010

THAT GIRL video debuted on Channel V in 2009

Backstage at Waitangi Day Festival, the TV Show "HAA" interviewed THE KUMPNEE about their live track "Chur Bro". The interview aired on Maori Television in New Zealand

Waitangi Day Festival Performance of Chur Bro featured on KiwiTV

Entire band flown to Whakatane, New Zealand to perform at KO NGATI AWA TE TOKI 2010 performing alongside Maisey Rika (NZ Recording Artist)

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