

C O R R O B O R E E

PROGRAM

To be held at the Northcote Town Hall on 11th July, 1969.

Produced and Directed by ERIC ONUS

Narrated by BRUCE McGUINNESS

CAST

John McGuinness.....	Jika Jika (Chief)
Wally Cooper.....	Goonyala
Andy Smith.....	Baroga
Herbert Patten.....	Mirri
John Mathews.....	Wirrewah (Didjeridoo)
Ray Jarrett.....	Moolbung
Lin Onus.....	Halfcast
Gary Smith.....	Makia
Les Cooper.....	Boori
Myra Atkinson.....	Murrano
Pam Lampton.....	Yamak
Judy Him.....	Narida
Bert Williams.....	Btjinga
Daryl Smith	Bickler.

AND INTRODUCING

Harry Williams (Jambi) of Alcheringa Burst of Summer
and Woobinda T.V. Films.

Stage Lighting
Sound Effects

By ALAN ILIAN

Stage Manager
Script

By BOB MAZA

Wardrobe
Costumes

By MYRA ATKINSON

Script Assistant

SUE McLEAN

Sponsored by the Victorian Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs.

CORROBOREEES

CAST: AS PER 3
POSITION: AS PER 3
WARDROBE: AS PER 3
LIGHTING: AS PER 3

INTRODUCTION: Bruce McGuinness

--ooOoo--

HALF-CASTE DREAM:

Narator:

This is the story of the Half-Caste's dream.

Many years ago an Aborigine left his people and his tribal grounds and ventured into a large city. He wanted to learn all about the white man's way of life.

After many years of bitter struggle and disillusionment, he returned to the place of his childhood. But he has returned to what? Nothing! Nothing but sadness and loneliness.

He glances all around with a deep feeling of despair. He looks and sees the old camp site. After much searching he finds an old ash heap where once he had had sung and danced with his playmates and listened to the tales of corroborees.

He decides to make a fire for he is cold and hungry. He reaches for his matches and finds that he has only one left. He strikes the match but it is blown out by the breeze. Looking around he sees two sticks and vaguely remembers how once years before he had started a fire by rubbing them together but to no avail for he has forgotten the age old art. Still cold he decides to lie down rest. He stretches himself out on his swag and falls into a restless slumber and dreams of the corroborees he once knew so well.

As he lies there dreaming he feels an urge to rise and join in the tribal dances with his people.

But the days and nights of travelling have taken their toll and he lies in a state of sheer exhaustion filled with a strange sense of hopelessness, growing weaker and weaker with each passing moment until at least all that remains is an empty shell for even as his last thoughts leave his body so too does his spirit, to rise and once more be with his people to dance, sing and at last corroboree.

CAST: AS PER 3
POSITION: AS PER 3
WARDROBE: AS PER 3
LIGHTING: AS PER 3

KOIM AND BARAIMAL (Kangaroo and Emu)

NARRATOR:

1. This corroboree shows the warriors telling the Chief Elder of the tribe where they had seen a place abundant with kangaroo and emu. It also tells of how they had watched the emu and kangaroo feeding. This can clearly be seen in the corroboree.

DANCERS: Goonyala, Barogo

BARIMARU (Parrot)

NARRATOR:

2. They also described a brilliantly coloured parrot; his flight, pattern and habits.

DANCERS: Group

MAKAI (Devil-Devil)

NARRATOR:

3. The next dance clearly depicts how Makai and Goonyala escape from the Devil-Devil man. (This dance is enacted by most tribes throughout Australia.)

DANCERS: Goonyala, Makai

BAANTH (Running Water)

NARRATOR:

4. Here we see the dancers telling of the swift waters of the big Victorian rivers and how they, by standing on the banks, had caught the fish, which were there in abundance. It also shows of how they saw the white man catching the fish with large nets.

DANCERS: Group

BOOMERANG (Boomerang)

NARRATOR:

5. The most prized possession of the Victorian Aborigine was, and is, the boomerang. Here Goonyala shows how the Aborigine would go to a lonely part of the bush and do the sacred boomerang dance.

DANCER: Goonyala

BURRUNGAH (Bee Hive)

NARRATOR:

6. The Aborigine is known throughout Australia as a good storyteller. He is also accredited with having a unique sense of humour which becomes very apparent in the next dance. Goonyala interpretes the fun and games which took place when he saw the white man cut down the tree that belonged to the Burrungah or bee hive.

DANCER: Goonyala

GOOMANDOCK (Warriors Dance)

NARRATOR:

7. Contrary to popular belief the Aborigine was a fierce war-like warrior who would fight to the death any man who dared to venture onto his tribal ground, for the land was where he hunted for food and his very existence.

DANCERS: Barogo, Makai

KOORONG (Canoe Dance)

NARRATOR:

8. The Koorong or canoe dance shows the warriors row their canoes across the great lake to collect Goonyala's bride. You will see how they fight against strong currents and winds. And how they return with great enjoyment and singing.

DANCERS: Croup

After completion of this dance all dancers leave stage leaving only Goonyala.

--ooOoo--

BLACK SNAKE DANCE (Brinja)

CAST: GOONYALA, MURRANOH AND BAROGO

POSITION: AS PER 6

WARDROBE: AS PER 6

LIGHTING: AS PER 6

cont.....

BLACK SNAKE DANCE (BRINJA)

CAST: GOONYALA, MURRANOH AND BAROGO.

POSITION: AS PER 6 WARDROBE: AS PER 6

LIGHTING: WHOLE STAGE IN ORANGE

SCENARIO:

Many years ago there lived in a beautiful mountain setting beside a clear rippling stream, Goonyala, a very handsome warrior and a fine hunter. There also lived Murrano a young girl whom he loved and hoped to marry. Murrano was a very beautiful girl and looked upon Goonyala with favour.

But into the picture came one Barogo from a neighbouring tribe who also fell in love with Murrano

.....
MURRANO AND GOONYALA ARE COURTING: BAROGO ENTERS FROM BACK STAGE AND HE IS MOVING TO AND FRO ACROSS THE STAGE BUT REMAINING IN THE BACK GROUND
DIDGERIDOO AND STICKS BECOME LOUDER

..... One day seeing Goonyala and Murrano courting, Barogo, who was also a great hunter, swore that he would marry Murrano.....

DIDGERIDOO AND STICKS GETTING LOUDER, MOANING VOICES IN BACK GROUND GETTING LOUDER, LIGHTS FLUCTUATING.

..... He followed the lovers and as they were together, rose from his position, and fixed his woomerah to his spear ready to strike Goonyala, when a terrific clap of thunder followed by a bolt of lightning struck.....

A LOUD DRUM BEAT, DIDGERIDOO AND STICKS VERY LOUD, STOP VOICES BECOME SILENT
LIGHTS FLASH ON AND OFF, THEN GO BACK ON

.....and paralyzed him so that he could not walk again.....

GOONYALA AND MURRANO QUICKLY LEAVE AND RETURN WITH THE TRIBE, THEY STAND AROUND LOOKING THEN THE CHIEF SIGNALS THEM TO PICK HIM UP, THEY CARRY HIM TO THE FRONT OF THE STAGE.

.....The rest of the tribe found him and brought him to the camp. The witch doctor who knew of the treachery of Barogo calls him to judgement and pronounces that hence he become the black snake and enemy of the tribe.....

BAROGO DANCES. MUSICAL EFFECTS.

.....Barogo then does the dance of the snake squirming, wriggling to the rhythm of the tribal chant.

The warriors appear in the dance and try to kill the snake. Barogo senses this and his movements become more and more hysterical, but the warriors get nearer and nearer, eventually slaying him. (CLASH OF SPEARS)
Murrano and Goonyala get the blessing of the Chief of the tribe and then he marries them. (CHIEF
JIKAJIKA RAISES HIS ARMS GIVING HIS BLESSING.)

MOOMBA

CAST: FULL TROUPE
STAGE: BRIGHTER LIGHTING

NARRATOR:

There is much festivity and happiness among the whole tribe as they now gather for the Corroboree to end all Corroborees - The MOOMBA, the Get Together, the time to meet old friends and swap tales..... to settle old grievances and to talk over old times. This is the time of the year when the Aborigine puts on his best dancing gear and tries to outdo the rest of the tribe in his dancing. Here now is MOOMBA....

ENTIRE CAST PARTICIPATE IN INDIVIDUAL ACTS TO THE ACCOMPANIMENT OF THE CHANT, DIDGERIDOO AND STICKS. ENDING IN A LOUD FINALE, WHERE EVERYONE FREEZES IN HIS POSITION UNTIL CURTAIN FALLS.

BRUCE McGUINNESS will then call every one on stage and introduce them individually, first their Tribal name and then their real name.

Note: The last three to be introduced will be BAROGO, MURRANOH and GOONYALA.

Then introduce Lighting and Audio ALAN ILIAN
Then scriptwriter and Stage Manager BOB MAZA

Comments:

Vote of thanks again to Ministry and wishes that everyone enjoyed themselves!