# THE CROOKED FIDDLE BAND



These Sydney-based chainsaw-folk vigilantes deliver high energy future-folk. Through their furious live shows *The Crooked Fiddle Band* have built a reputation as one of the most exciting acts in Australia. In 2010 they toured the UK and Ireland, delivering 28 shows included Shambala Festival and the Edinburgh Fringe. They return to Europe in mid-2011 for the summer festival season.

This mesmerising 4-piece have stormed the stages of Australia's major festivals, including Woodford Folk Festival, The National Folk Festival, Blue Mountains Folk Festival, Port Fairy, Sydney Festival, Brisbane Arts Festival, Peats Ridge and Bellingen Global Carnival.

Brian Eno selected the band for his Luminous Festival at the Sydney Opera House. They spent February 2011 recording their debut album in Chicago with Steve Albini who has gained notoriety for his work with Nirvana, The Pixies, Joanna Newsom, Gogol Bordello and the Dirty Three.

Intertwining folk traditions with modern evolutions, this fiery acoustic four-piece (double-bass, violin, drums and guitar/bouzouki) spurs dance floors into a post-apocalyptic hoedowns. They are equally at home in the latenight revelry of The Famous Spiegeltent, an underground warehouse party and in the Concert Hall of the Sydney Opera House.

Celtic energy . swamp-stomping hoedown . dance-inciting mayhem . hardcore gypsy passion

http://www.crookedfiddleband.com http://www.myspace.com/thecrookedfiddleband

#### **BAND MEMBERS:**

Jess Randall – violin, nyckelharpa, vocals Gordon Wallace – bouzouki, guitar, banjo, mandolin Mark Stevens – double bass, charango Joe Gould – drum kit, hand percussion, garbage bin, vocals



### **QUOTES:**

"The Crooked Fiddle Band are completely surprising: the music is original and quixotic, and yet has the strength of some deep and strong roots. I can't say I've ever heard anything else like it!" : Brian Eno

"This band really is a national treasure and testament to the infinite talent that keeps manifesting in our backyard... this group have re-invented folk music as it is known... The Crooked Fiddle Band charmed the audience into submission."

: Vanessa Lahey, Australian Stage (Oct 2009)

"...a short fast slab of hardcore gypsy passion... a fiery blend of various violin traditions with punk intensity and the raw finesse of crazed street virtuosos."

: Bradfield Dumpleton, indie-cds.com

"...I'm taken by how effortlessly it appears that they are masters and mistresses of the mood, playing with and for dancers as if we are flexible puppets – willing eager recipients of the ebbs and flows... They are so totally in charge of the audience in the most generous way..."

: Severin, Cuturazi.com

"So this is what Sepultura sound like in a parallel universe where they're a travelling gypsy band. It's the soundtrack to a hyperactive version of 'O Brother, Where Art Thou?' Awesome!"

: Dom Alessio, Triple J Home and Hosed

"Wild mash up of styles. Jess is giving the violin a solid workout. Which is a good thing. It deserves a flogging at times that bloody instrument. And a bouzouki in the line up! I'll be there at your next show if you shout the ouzo."

: Richard Kingsmill, Triple J Radio

#### **TOURS AND FESTIVALS:**

Woodford Folk Festival, QLD (2010/11)

National Folk Festival, ACT (2008, 2011)

Port Fairy Folk Festival, VIC (2010)

Blue Mountains Folk Festival, NSW (2010)

Peats Ridge Festival, NSW (2006/7, 2008/9, 2009/10)

Sydney Fringe Festival (2010)

Brian Eno's Luminous Festival, Sydney Opera House, NSW (2009)

The Famous Speigeltent, Sydney Festival, NSW (2009)

High and Dry Festival, NSW (2007/8, 2009, 2010)

The Bosco Theatre, Sydney Festival, NSW (2009)

Speigeltent, Brisbane Festival, QLD (2009)

Newtown Festival, NSW (2007, 2009)

Balmain "Acoustica", NSW (2009)

La Festa, Griffith, NSW (2009)

National Multicultural Festival, ACT (2009)

Westbury Festival, TAS (2009)

Bellingen Global Carnival, NSW (2008)

Brunswick Festival, VIC (2008)

Corinbank Festival, ACT (2008, 2009)

Between the Bays, VIC (2008)

Earthdance Festival, NSW (2008)

Tamworth Country Music Festival (2007)

Illawarra Folk Festival (2006, 2007)

Coastfest, NSW (2006)

#### **INTERNATIONAL TOURS:**

July-September 2010: UK tour

#### **EP / ALBUMS :**

The Crooked Fiddle Band (2006)

Rise (2008)

New album due for release: September 2011.

## **WEBSITES:**

www.crookedfiddleband.com www.myspace.com/thecrookedfiddleband

## **YOUTUBE LINKS:**

"The Rom Rebellion":

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ex-D9 TmRVg

"The Milkman" (filmclip):

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dq 4LYohOf0

Bohemian Masquerade Ball (live):

http://www.vimeo.com/15417327

Tropnalo Oro (Live at The Red Rattler, Sydney) http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cVWpNB8NJV4