

**Multi-award winning Australian  
“Took the Children Away” musician  
Archie Roach –  
ONLY 2 UK dates  
at The Famous Spiegeltent,  
Edinburgh Fringe, Tue 16 & Wed 17 Aug**

*The Famous  
Spiegeltent*



In a voice rich with humanity, filled with joy, pain, love and longing, the multi award winning Aboriginal singer songwriter Archie Roach traces the journey of his people, and gets to the heart of what it means to be human. He is one of Australia's most treasured performers. His single – the powerfully emotional “Took the Children Away” – from his certified gold, double ARIA award winning debut album “Charcoal Lane” - won an international Human Rights Achievement Award (the first time ever awarded for a song).

When “Charcoal Lane” was released in 1990 the impact was immediate. Critics were quick to realise Archie's soulful vocals and heartfelt lyrics heralded the emergence of a major new artist. The album's centrepiece, “Took the Children Away”, shone a spotlight on the impact of the forcible removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples from their families and brought it to the attention of the global community.

Since then he has released a further 5 albums with the 7<sup>th</sup> due for release in Sep 2016. His work continues to be relevant, winning many awards, as he toured extensively round the world. He was made a Member of the Order of Australia in 2015, for his services to music and his support of social justice.

The release of “Charcoal Lane” also introduced audiences to Archie's own extraordinary story. As one of the Stolen Generations removed under these government policies, Archie grew up in foster homes and met his partner, Ruby Hunter, while living on the streets. The pair, who shared a deep love of music, formed a lifelong bond. The couple had two sons, turned their lives around and went on to foster and raise an extended family of homeless children, while their musical partnership took them to stages across Australia and around the world.

Ruby's sudden death in 2010 left Archie struggling to cope with the loss of his soul mate. He suffered a massive stroke that left him temporarily paralysed along his right side, unable to talk, walk or play his guitar. After intensive rehabilitation Archie briefly returned to performing. In 2011 he was diagnosed with cancer and was facing an operation to remove half of his lung.

Any one of these obstacles could have been career ending, but a year later, Archie returned with a new album, “Into the Bloodstream”. It did not dwell on tragedy nor lean on the impressive legacy of his career. Hailed in many quarters as a rebirth, the album proved Archie was as relevant in 2012 as he was when “Charcoal Lane” first propelled him into the national spotlight.

Musically, his work continues to be recognised locally and internationally. He has collaborated with the finest musicians in Australia, including Paul Kelly (performing at the Famous Spiegeltent 22 & 23 Aug) and has toured with some of the world's most iconic artists, including Leonard Cohen, Rodriguez, Bob Dylan, Tracy Chapman, Billy Bragg, Paul Simon, Joan Armatrading, Suzanne Vega and Patti Smith.

His latest album, his seventh, “Let Love Rule” is released on 23 September 2016.

His 2 dates at The Famous Spiegeltent – 16 & 17 Aug – are his first ever in Scotland and the only UK dates of his European tour. In the warm, intimate, bejewelled surroundings of the Famous Spiegeltent – with didgeridoo player Russell Smith - this promises to be a very special and unmissable event.

**For more press information, interviews, hi res photos, CDs, MP3s, press tickets etc please call Morag Neil on 0771 288 0965 (email [info@scarybiscuits.com](mailto:info@scarybiscuits.com))**

**Web site** [www.spiegeltent.net](http://www.spiegeltent.net)

**Twitter** @FamousSpiegel

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## Archie Roach

### Discography

Charcoal Lane (1990) – double ARIA Award winner  
Jamu Dreaming (1993)  
Looking for Butter Boy (1997) - ARIA Award nominated  
Sensual Being (2002) – ARIA Award nominated  
Journey (2007)  
Into the Bloodstream (2012)

Let Love Rule – Released 23 Sep 2016

### Film

Rolf De Heer film “The Tracker” – Archie’s vocals on the soundtrack

### Awards

- Human Rights Achievement Award (the first time ever awarded for a song) for “Took the Children Away”
- ARIA Awards (for Charcoal Lane, 1990)
- Deadly Award for Male Artist of the Year (1997, 1998 and 2002)
- Deadly Award for Outstanding Contribution to Indigenous Music
- Sidney Myer Performing Arts Award (with Ruby Hunter) (2008)

Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for his services to music and his support of social justice (2015)

“Took the Children Away” was added to the National Film and Sound Archive in Canberra, acknowledging its significance in Australian cultural and social history in 2013

### Tickets

[www.outstandingtickets.com](http://www.outstandingtickets.com)

<https://tickets.edfringe.com/whats-on/archie-roach>

**The Famous Spiegel tent**  
St Andrew Sq Garden  
Edinburgh  
EH2 1AF

**Box Office**  
In person at St Andrew Square Garden  
Phone 0131 558 9005  
Online [www.outstandingtickets.com](http://www.outstandingtickets.com)