The Warlpiri People of Lajamanu welcome you to:

milpirri

Conceived by **Steve Jampijinpa Patrick**
Directed by **Tracks** with the **Lajamanu Elders**

Milpirri: "Invitation to join in"

(Jampijinpa, Jangala / Nampijinpa, Nangala custodians - Blue)
In the desert, it is only through the coming together of the cool and the warm air that milpirri, ***the rainstorm cloud***, is formed. A key to our future and our survival, milpirri is the promise of better things to come; the rain, new growth and nourishment of our culture. The ***lightening dance*** is an important feature of the milpirri concept.

'Pilapakarnu' Waterbirds Dance: "Celebration"

(Jampijinpa, Jangala / Nampijinpa, Nangala custodians - Blue)
With the coming of the rain, floodplains provide a feast of colour, activity and ***celebration***.

- Traditional Warlpiri warriors' purlapa
- Traditional Warlpiri women's yawulyu
- Young women's story interpretation
- Young men's story interpretation

'Warlawurru' Wedge-tail eagle Dance: "Protection"

(Jungarrayi, Nungarrayi / Japaljarri, Napaljarri custodians - Yellow)
A strong, wind-tamer, the wedge-tail eagle ***protects*** his country, inspiring the Warlpiri nation, our families and our community to learn how to care for everything that is precious to us.

- Traditional Warlpiri warriors' purlapa
- Traditional Warlpiri women's yawulyu
- Young women's story interpretation
- Young men's story interpretation

'Wardapi' Goanna Dance: "Guidance"

(Japanangka, Japangardi / Napanangka, Napangardi custodians - Green)
At the time of a young man's initiation ceremony, mothers exhort their son to ***be guided*** along the straight track, following in the footsteps of those who are proven to be wise. They are not to be distracted and deceived by goanna holes, which seem to promise good tucker, but actually may hide great danger.

- Traditional Warlpiri warriors' purlapa
- Traditional Warlpiri women's yawulyu
- Young women's story interpretation
- Young men's story interpretation

'Wampana' Wallaby Dance: "Unity"

(Jupurrurla, Jakamarra / Napurrurla, Nakamarra custodians - Red)
The journey of a wallaby joins paths with that of an emu. Because the two travel together in ***unity***, with a common direction, their travelling is blessed with rain that provides all their needs in abundance.

- Traditional Warlpiri warriors' purlapa
- Traditional Warlpiri women's yawulyu
- Young women's story interpretation

Jarda-warnpa Dance & Ceremony: "Atonement and Reconciliation"

The preceding song cycles culminate in a selection of parts of the Jarda-warnpa ***atonement and reconciliation*** ceremony. This ceremony enables the four major groupings of the Warlpiri skin system to settle disputes and work out their differences. It is often called the "Fire Ceremony". This ceremony has been revitalised and updated after nearly 30 years of being absent from community life. The ceremony allows the community to start afresh, with strength and hope and a renewed commitment to the traditional Warlpiri values that are embedded in the song cycles that have been performed this evening.

This project was assisted by: the Commonwealth Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body; the Northern Territory Government through the Department of Community Development, Sport and Cultural Affairs; Tracks Inc.; The Meyer Foundation; Lajamanu Community Government Council; and Lajamanu Community Education Centre

- Song: ‘Desert People’, a fusion of songs sung by the North Tanami Band and Elders of the Lajamanu Community, and performed by the Lajamanu Community.
- Atonement and Reconciliation Ceremony performed by the four main skin group leaders

One night only performance: Saturday 12 November 2005

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