

## King Stingray



When **King Stingray** burst onto the scene with their self-titled debut in 2022, they didn't just make waves, they stirred a movement. Hailing from **Northeast Arnhem Land**, the Yolŋu surf-rock band arrived with a sound that felt both fresh and familiar, a rhythm etched into the Australian coastline itself. Singing in **English and Yolŋu Matha**, the ancient language of the Yolŋu people, King Stingray's music bridges worlds — electric guitars meet ancestral songlines, and the result is pure alchemy.

Their arrival was met with instant acclaim. The band took home the **Australian Music Prize** for Album of the Year, while Milkumana — co-written by **Roy Kellaway** and **Yirrŋa Gotjiringu Yunupijŋu** — claimed the prestigious **Vanda & Young Global Songwriting Competition**. Soon after, King Stingray were

crowned **Best New Artist** at the 2022 Rolling Stone Australia Awards, a sign that their fusion of surf-rock joy and cultural pride had struck a deep national chord.

By 2024, their follow-up album *For the Dreams* only amplified that energy — a record brimming with light, optimism, and the communal spirit that defines their live shows. Their songs aren't just made to be heard; they're meant to be felt — barefoot on red dirt or dancing on the sand.

In 2025, King Stingray will carry that spirit across oceans as they embark on a major **UK and European tour**. It's a bittersweet moment, following the departure of lead singer **Yirrya Yunupingu** earlier this year, but the current still runs strong. King Stingray's music has never been about one voice — it's about the harmony between cultures, the pulse of Country, and the enduring joy of connection.

In every riff, every chorus sung in *Yolŋu Matha*, King Stingray remind us that the future of Australian music is deeply rooted in its oldest stories — and it sounds absolutely alive.

