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Local talent to shine at Coogee Live

The City of Cockburn is home to a wide range of talented performers who will have a chance to shine in their own backyard as part of a new festival next month.

Full programming for Coogee Live has now been released and features intriguing works of art, interactive activities, community group demonstrations and musical interludes at four central hubs, linked by an event trail along the Coogee coast.

Multi-award winning aerial dance and circus arts company Natural Wings will perform Tandem, a visually spectacular and intimate story exploring the notion that we can work in tandem while being very different, on the Coogee Beach shoreline each evening of the festival.

Natural Wings artist and Spearwood local, Ruth Battle, says she can't wait to perform at her local swimming spot.

"We're down at the beach constantly with my son," Ruth said.

"I'm really looking forward to seeing our aerial rig set up on the beach and I think it's going to be a very special show."

Ross Vegas is a seasoned circus and street performer who has taken his spectacular acrobatic, fire juggling and physical comedy around the world but says Coogee hold a special place in his heart.

"I love coming down to Coogee Beach for a swim and I can't wait to see the coast buzzing with arts and culture," Ross said.

"The area's becoming much more dynamic and this festival will really showcase that to people who don't know it's here...it's still a bit of a hidden gem."

Local artists Sandy Gaskett and Peta Ciraolo will be live painting beneath the trees overlooking the Coogee Marina on the Sunday of the festival, demonstrating their techniques and chatting to passersby while creating original artworks that will be on sale at the end of the day.

Members of the Aboriginal, Serbian, Indian and Chinese communities will each showcase traditional cultural dances before coming together to perform a group Harmony dance as part of the Coogee Live official launch on the Friday evening.

Coogee Live is a three-day celebration of the diverse and family-friendly lifestyle Cockburn has to offer and is set to delight locals and visitors alike.

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Coogee Live will run from Friday 23 to Sunday 25 March. Full program details at <u>coogeelive.com</u>

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