

MEDIA RELEASE

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Attention: News Editor

Born troublemaker

Nigerian storyteller and London poet Inua Ellams claims to have been a troublemaker even before he was born, and he invites Katanning to hear his tale.

Ellams is the writer and performer of *The 14th Tale*, a Great Southern Festival presentation coming to Katanning as part of the only regional program of Perth International Arts Festival (PIAF) events.

Supported by Royalties for Regions funding of \$225,000 over three years, the Great Southern Festival is a partnership between PIAF and the Great Southern Development Commission (GSDC).

Ellams presents *The 14th Tale* at 8pm at the Katanning Town Hall on Tuesday 28 February and tickets are available at perthfestival.com.au, by phone on 9844 5005 or in person at the Albany Entertainment Centre.

Ellams' story begins with the mischief of his grandfather and his father in their Nigerian village, backing his claim that he is from a long line of troublemakers.

He says his first piece of trickery was to conceal his sister's heartbeat in the womb so the presence of twins came as a surprise.

In a funny, lyrical and touching monologue, Ellams tells of spanning cultures from his Nigerian home to Dublin as a teenager and on to London, his words conjuring up a cast of vivid characters from his mischief and misadventures.

GSDC Board Chairman Peter Rundle said Katanning could look forward to a show with an international reputation.

"*The 14th Tale* won a prestigious Fringe First Award at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in 2009," Mr Rundle said.



Inua Ellams delivers humour and eloquence in *The 14th Tale*.

“Inua Ellams performed a sell-out season in London, and the PIAF performances in Perth are selling fast.

“This is a great opportunity for people in Katanning and surrounding areas to tap into something special that will both entertain and inspire.

“No doubt there will be aspects of Inua Ellams’ story that will resonate with Katanning’s own story of cultural diversity,” Mr Rundle said.

Patrons should note that the printed program of the Great Southern Festival shows the venue as the Katanning Leisure Centre but the Katanning Town Hall is now the confirmed venue for the event.

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