

A L B U M

C O N C E R T

F I L M

O N L I N E

Small Island big Song



w e s h a r e - o n e o c e a n - o n e i s l a n d



There's a chapter of Earth's history few know.

5,000 years ago people of the Pacific designed ocean going outrigger canoes and from a beach in Taiwan they crossed the horizons, voyaging the expanse of the Pacific and Indian Ocean, those few brave seafarers are now 400 million people.

A unique cultural lineage which stretches over half the Earth's surface from Rapa Nui (Easter Island) to Madagascar, Taiwan to Aotearoa (New Zealand). This vast heritage is separated by distance and time, imposed languages and borders but united through culture and music. Small Island Big Song reunites this ancient ancestry on record and in concert.

Just before Christmas 2014 we drove out of Alice Springs, central Australia, a project manager and a music producer, our world packed away in storage. We had 5,000 dollars between us and a vision of creating a landmark album with the most respected and profiled artists of Asia and the Indian and Pacific Oceans, sharing the seafaring ancestry.

We were concerned about the steady loss of nature and culture throughout the oceans, so we approached those who speak for the trees, those who sing for the oceans, artists whose communities have lived in that place the longest, artists who identify with and practice their cultural heritage.

We discovered such committed, big-hearted artists right across the vast oceans. We found ourselves in tearfully beautiful places recording instruments we could never have imagined. We learnt of the incredible ancestry they all shared, from Madagascar to Rapa Nui (Easter Island) and Aotearoa (New Zealand) to Taiwan. This is the wisdom of the ancient seafarers carried through the music of contemporary artists continuing their cultural lineage.

We also found plenty of laughter, a deep lived love for the land and an uplifting appreciation for all the people across the world who believe we are a part of nature's delicate web and not the masters of it.

In the end, it's all about the music, contemporary and traditional, poignant and playful. This music is a gift from these artists to you. As we all share the one ocean the one island.

Small Island Big Song producers Tim Cole & BaoBao Chen.



A N O C E A N I C S O N G L I N E



Artists visited and their homelands.

Over three years Small Island Big Song visited 16 Island Nations, working with over 100 artists, solo artists, elders, community groups and grass roots musicians, all recorded on their homelands in nature using traditional instruments and languages, with each contributing to each others songs, mixed and produced in the field and mastered at Real World Studio's UK. The result is a suprising stunning musical collaboration reuniting the distant yet interconnected musical traditions of the Pacific and Indian Oceans.





**Sammy
Merina - Madagascar**

Sammy is a luthier, multi-instrumentalist and music director of the globally successful Madagascar band Tarika Sammy, Time magazines top 20 music acts of the year. He has performed onstage with peers such as Ali Farka Touré & Youssou N'Dour. His one man band solo show layers the sounds of Madagascar and will have the crowd stomping and singing along, and his instrument making workshops will leave a trail of Valihia's.

Malagasy - French - English



**Ado Kaliting Pacidal
Pangcah - Taiwan**

Ado is a singer-songwriter, actor, TV host/producer and activist known for playing the lead role in the award winning Taiwanese indigenous film 'Panay', her hit Pangcah language single and her TV presence. Concerned about the fading Pangcah culture, she infuses her song writing with storytelling and traditional chants. She releases her third studio album in 2019, featuring the other members of SIBS, which is bound to feature in her solo shows.

Pangcah - Mandarin - English



**Poemoana
Tahitian - Tahiti**

Poemoana began dancing at a young age, and now dancing is central in her life. She was the co-choreographer Tahiti's internationally renowned "O Tahiti E" and voted best dancer of the group in 2009. She then went on to make the podium in the "Ori Tahiti Nui Solo" competition and came in vice-world champion at the Ori Tahiti world Championship in 2015. Her workshops are well attended throughout Asia and will add a graceful touch to the festival.

Tahitian - French - English.



**Jerome Kavanagh
Maori - New Zealand**

Grammy award winning featured soloist and Maori musical instrument specialist Jerome Kavanagh has become part of a movement introducing Maori music, art and culture to the world. Over his career he has performed in a variety of different genres which range from Hip Hop to Classical. His collaborations include The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra (U.K) & Moana and the Tribe (N.Z). His ambient solo show will take the audience away to Aotearoa..

Maori - English



Charles Maimarosia
Are'Are - Solomon Islands

Former lead singer, choreographer and songwriter of the globally renowned Narasirato Pan Pipe Band, Charles is no stranger to festival main stages. Master of Bamboo Instruments, such as the Awaa and Au-Rerepi (Pan pipes). His arresting voice from the depth of his culture will sing out across the festival, transporting people to other realms. true! His solo show and flute making workshops will bring a inspiring musical spirit to the festival.

Are'Are - English



Alena Murang
Kelabit - Borneo

Singer-song writer, Sape' player and visual artist, Alena is one of the first women to openly perform and teach the Sape'. She is actively preserving the disappearing music of Sarawak's, Kenyah and Kelabit tribes, bringing the songs and themes to her contemporary music practice. Her solo shows are much in demand across Asia, as she shares her Sarawak heritage, through song stories and dance. Her insights into cultural maintenance would add to a panel talk.

Kelabit - English - Bahasa



Yoyo Tuki
Rapa Nui - Easter Island

Yoyo is regarded as one of today's leading Rapa Nui musicians, a regular at festivals across the Pacific. Yoyo's captivating voice and innovative world sound blends contemporary roots feels with his ancient Rapa Nui heritage. A cultural activist, Yoyo is proud to present his Rapa Nui ancestors as custodians of their homeland rather than destroyers, contrary to western beliefs. A powerful solo act, his show in Spanish and Rapa Nui will win over the festival.

Rapa Nui - Spanish - English.



Siao-Chun Tai
Paiwan - Taiwan

With a critically acclaimed album debut album and numerous shows, already under her belt, Siao-Chun is a young performer building a strong future. Grounded in her Paiwan village life, her songs have a strong sense of heritage. which she carries proudly into her stage presence, a spirit which will stay with audience. Active in maintaining traditional Paiwan instrumnets such as the nose flute and jawharp, she will share-fresh and ancient sounds.

Paiwan - Mandarin - English

SMALL ISLAND BIG SONG LIVE - A TOURING VILLAGE

Small Island Big Song seeks to connect the audience with the personal story of the artists Island homelands, so we have put together a variety of festival experiences, to develop personal and genuine relationships with the festival and audience. Whilst delivering the classic festival experiences of call and response, singalong and uniting the crowd through a dynamic dancable set.

SOLO SIDE SHOWS - WORKSHOPS - PANELS

Each Small Island Big Song artists is a headlining act in their own right, able of delivering full sets featuring the unique voice of their heritage, music and regions still to be fully explored at festivals outside of Oceania. Each artists too is a respected cultural voice for their traditions and able to give workshops and share their enlightening cultural perspectives in panels.

SHARING CIRCLE

In the tradition of village heart, where story tellers and musicians sat to share culture into the evening, so too would like to create an intimate acoustic space where the artists and audience can meet at the same level, sharing songs, stories and cultural knowledge in a timeless organic exchange.

CINEMATIC CONCERT - MAIN STAGE SPECTACULAR

With up to ten artists standing strong across the front of stage, backed by huge panoramic images of their homelands and supported by elders, community groups and other musicians on screen. The show is unique and uplifting, framed with a playful but poignant narrative taking the audience across the oceans visiting each artists islands, singing along, dancing, sitting by the river then being taken to the heights of a powerful main stage concert without a drum kit or guitar amp insight, as the artists mastery over their traditional instruments raise the audience to a thumping climax. Taking both the artists and audience beyond the bounds of the live show. A powerful, organic, authentic experience with a contemporary message. We share an Island too precious to loose.

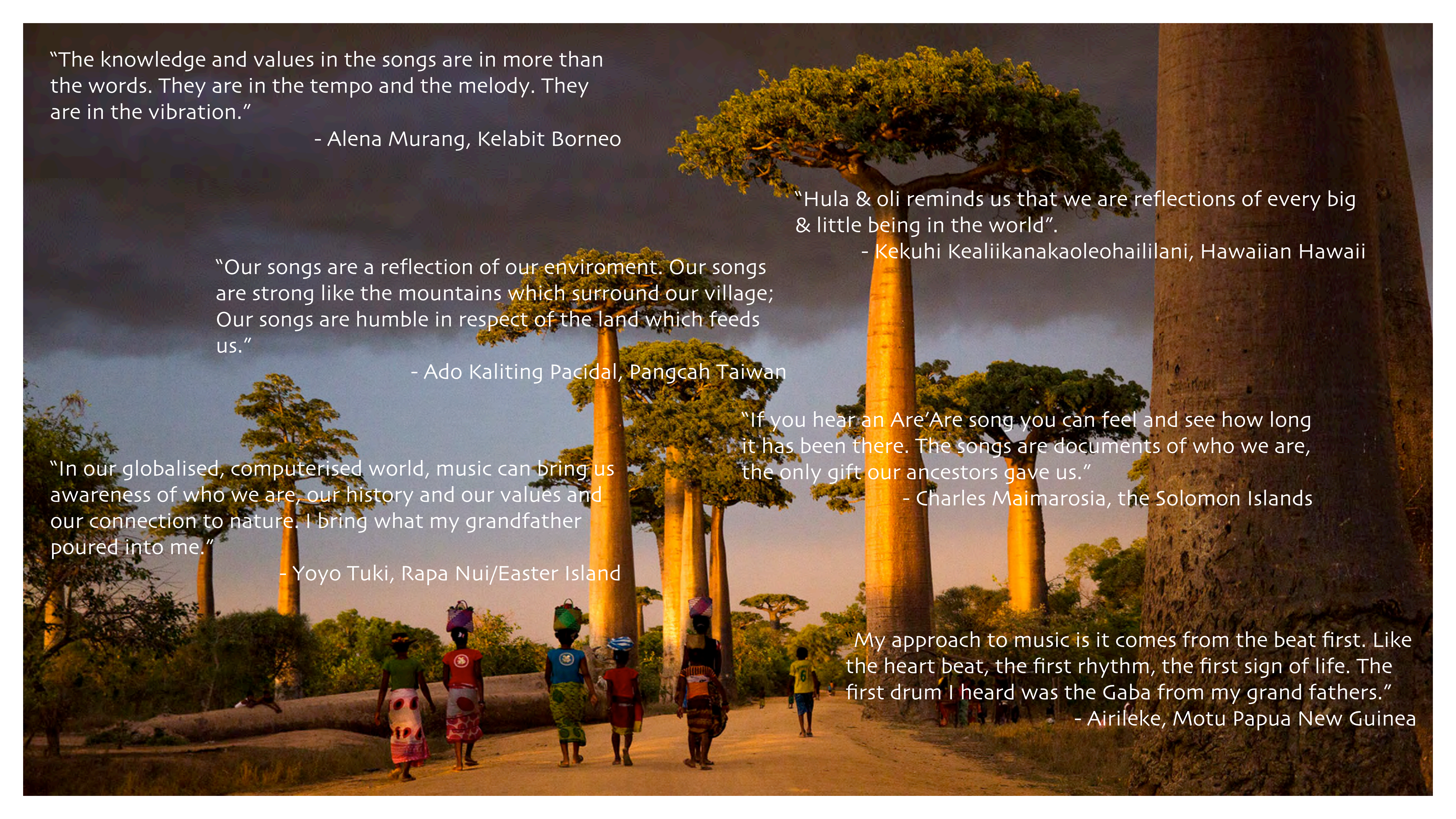
POP UP PROJECTIONS - SOUND SYSTEM

Village lifestyle and environmental films from the Small Island collection, can be projected around the festival site, bringing some of the island vibe to enliven dark festival corners, blank tent walls etc. We also built up a collection of grass roots dance music unique to the region, covering such styles as Sega, Jawaiian Reggae, Kanak Beats, Samoan Hip Hop, Tsapiky music of Madagascar, supported by the local music clips we have a 90 minute DJ/VJ soundsytem to share, proving the home of groove is truley Island culture.

background image **TAOYUAN FESTIVAL**



Small Island Big Song Live premiered at SXSW (South by South West) 2018 in Austin, TX, USA. Other performances include WSD (World Stage Design, Taipei), Indigenous Celebration (Bali), Førde Festival (Norway) and headlining at Etnosur Festival 2018 in Spain featuring 13 musicians playing live on stage with cinematic film projections. With the touring village now established, the show is being developed to the next level, with a dedicated lighting and audio designer/operators, improved visuals and further dramaturge elements. This will be an unforgettable show embedding the artists love and passion for their island homes into the hearts of all that are fortunate to experience it.



“The knowledge and values in the songs are in more than the words. They are in the tempo and the melody. They are in the vibration.”

- Alena Murang, Kelabit Borneo

“Our songs are a reflection of our environment. Our songs are strong like the mountains which surround our village; Our songs are humble in respect of the land which feeds us.”

- Ado Kaliting Pacidal, Pangcah Taiwan

“In our globalised, computerised world, music can bring us awareness of who we are, our history and our values and our connection to nature. I bring what my grandfather poured into me.”

- Yoyo Tuki, Rapa Nui/Easter Island

“Hula & oli reminds us that we are reflections of every big & little being in the world”.

- Kekuhi Kealiikanakaoleohaililani, Hawaiian Hawaii

“If you hear an Are’Are song you can feel and see how long it has been there. The songs are documents of who we are, the only gift our ancestors gave us.”

- Charles Maimarosia, the Solomon Islands

“My approach to music is it comes from the beat first. Like the heart beat, the first rhythm, the first sign of life. The first drum I heard was the Gaba from my grand fathers.”

- Airileke, Motu Papua New Guinea

ETHICS

Small Island Big Song involves creative contributions from numerous artists and groups, from countries with differing socio-economic conditions, from professional musicians to grass roots communities, involving songs both original and traditional in content and with the possibility of further artists joining. We have endeavoured to follow 'best practice' methods in managing the creative content collected along with our ongoing relationship with the contributors. To this end we have created a guiding document our agreement with the contributing artists, this contract was drawn by respected Media Arts Attorney Eldar Manor.

Small Island Big Song Contract and Business Practice Features

- 1- FAIR TRADE** - 50% of net profits are distributed to the artists & NGOs.
- 2 - RESPECT** - All artists are treated equally on two tiers, feature or session artist.
- 3 - HERITAGE** - We are acknowledging the 'Intangible Cultural Heritage' in the project as defined in 'The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People' by giving selected NGOs (by artists' choice) a share in net profits.
- 5 - OWNERSHIP** - Artists and composers retain copyright of their original-song.
- 6 - CULTURAL PROTOCOLS** - During the recording and production process the contributing artists were regularly contacted for their cultural guidance and input.
- 7 - NO SINGLE USE PLASTIC** - Our CD's are packaged in handmade paper envelopes and we make sustainable environmental choices as a priority.



A group of performers in traditional Pacific Island attire are performing on a stage. The performers are wearing traditional clothing, including skirts, headbands, and some have traditional headgear. They are holding microphones and some are holding traditional instruments. The stage is lit with blue and white lights. In the background, a large screen displays the text "我們共享同一個海洋 同一個島嶼" and "We all share the one ocean the one island." in Chinese and English. The performers are standing in a line across the stage, with some in the foreground and others in the background. The audience is visible in the foreground, looking towards the stage.

我們共享同一個海洋 同一個島嶼

We all share the one ocean the one island.

We all share the one ocean the one island.

This is the subtext and motivation for the project, our global communities relationship to the natural world is single biggest facing the world, the way we respond to this issue is paramount. As artists this is our response, to celebrate culture, to sing out our love for the oceans, for our islands loud, proud and with all our strength. Small Island Big Song is a gift for all the people across the world who believe we are a part of nature's delicate web and not the masters of it.

THE PROJECT PRODUCERS

TIM COLE

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR / MUSIC PRODUCER

Tim is an Australian Music Producer/Filmmaker specialising in cross cultural projects - filmed, recorded and produced in the field. Producing several award winning projects including Not Drowning Waving's 'Tabaran' landmark world music release and the groundbreaking feature film 'Vanuatu Women's Water Music', (5-stars Songlines). A key creative behind countless headlining acts including Sing Sing, Archie Roach, Telek & Circus Oz he is well experienced in delivering powerful shows. A Churchill Fellow Tim has also been invited to speak at the United Nation's NYC, WOMEX15 & FestPac to share his creative perspective.

BAO BAO CHEN

PROJECT PRODUCER / MANAGER / WEB STORYTELLER

Fluent in both Mandarin and English, Project Producer/Manager BaoBao Chen has a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Taiwan and is a well known public speaker in Taiwan including TEDx Taipei, The Taipei Arts Festival, numerous University and Television presentations with a social media following of 150k. As the project manager, BaoBao has brought the project to live from her passion and love of the arts and nature. Besides managing the recording & filmings sessions (being a cinematographer herself), she also managed an extensive world tour in 2018 to SXSW, Fårde festival, EtnoSur festival and a 7-week European/Asia album launch tour, featuring 4 to 12 musicians across the oceans. She also produced an interactive website showcasing the music and stories of Small Island Big Song.

CONTACT

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www.smallislandbigsong.com

Produced by from the grass roots up with the support of the artists and their communities & funded through crowd funding, arts grants and philanthropic bodies & and countless generous souls we met.



& 600 TAIWANESE CROWDFUNDERS (FLYING V)

The background paper in this document has been hand made continuing a family tradition of high quality paper making, they created a special mix for SIBS blending Tapa Bark and Sugar Cane pulp at the Guangxing Paper Mill, Taiwan.





SMALL ISLAND BIG SONG

An ambitious world music project, reaching out to capture the world's attention, with the voice of a region often overlooked or seen in clichés and stereotypes, a region in the frontline of global environmental habitat destruction.

Islands of the Pacific & Indian Oceans.

contact - management@smallislandbigsong.com