



One of New Zealand's most-loved live acts, The Black Seeds, have spent the last two decades taking the world by storm. In their homeland, they are revered stalwarts of the touring and festival circuit, while abroad they've remained at the forefront of New Zealand's internationally renowned roots movement, alongside the likes of Fat Freddy's Drop.

Described by Clash Magazine as "one of the best live reggae acts on the planet," the band's eight-piece live show infuses raw energy and good vibes wherever they go. With countless sold out tours behind them and performances at many of the world's leading festivals, The Black Seeds live set delivers a soul party on time, every time.

While firmly based in the island grooves that inspired the birth of the band in 1998, The Black Seed's sound casts a wide net, laying funk, soul, Afrobeat and other eclectic elements over their dub/reggae foundation.

With a stash of albums and hits to their name, including 'Dust and Dirt', 'So True', 'Cool Me Down', and 'One-By-One', which became an international hit when it featured in an episode of the award-winning TV series 'Breaking Bad', The Black Seeds have clocked up multi-platinum sales and streams.

Having released their sixth studio album FABRIC in 2017 to critical acclaim, the band are planning to return to Europe in the summer for the first time in 5 years on the back of a new single.

BIOGRAPHY

Since 1998, vocals led by Barnaby Weir and Daniel Weetman have been the driving force behind expressing The Black Seeds message. Conscious lyrics convey personal triumphs and failures, relationships good and bad, and are underpinned by a constant optimism.

The Black Seeds released their debut album ***Keep On Pushing*** in 2001, which despite a minimal marketing budget, went on to reach platinum sales in New Zealand.

In 2004, the next album, ***On The Sun***, added a heavy dose of funk and soul to the band's characteristic dub/reggae sound for the first time. The album reached triple-platinum sales in New Zealand and included one of the band's biggest singles to date 'So True', which was accompanied by a beautifully shot video that captured the essence of summer life at the bottom of the South Pacific.

The third album, ***Into the Dojo***, signaled the beginning of The Black Seeds introduction to the rest of the world after it was released by European label *Sonar Kollektiv*, garnering critical acclaim and airplay, particularly in Germany and France. The album's hit single, 'One By One' was written by ex-band member and co-founder of **Flight Of The Conchords** Bret McKenzie, and was featured in AMC's smash hit ***Breaking Bad*** and included on the show's Official Soundtrack. The Black Seeds' music has also been featured in numerous other TV shows and movies including *Weeds*, Disney's *Eight Below*, and *The Inbetweeners II*.

The Black Seeds first began making inroads into North America with the 2008 release of their fourth album ***Solid Ground*** through **Easy Star Records**. The album debuted in the top 15 of the Billboard reggae charts and was named Soul Album of the Year by *jambase.com*'s Dennis Cook. The *Huffington Post* called it "a damn fine record...thick, bottom-heavy, and melodic." The album was also supported by a successful U.S. tour with John Brown's Body.

A live album (*The Black Seeds Live: Vol 1*) and 2nd remix album (*Specials: Remixes and Versions from Solid Ground*) followed before the release of 5th studio album, 2012's ***Dust And Dirt***. *Jambands.com* described it as "breaking barriers in the bestest of ways with it's unique blend of funk with a reggae backbone." The album also received strong reviews in Europe, with *Rolling Stone* Germany heralding the group as "the best reggae band on the planet right now." The album was supported by an 80 show tour with performances across three continents, and slots at festivals such as *Rock en Seine*, *Lowlands* and *Sziget*.

2017 saw the band continuing to push the boundaries of reggae with the release of their **6th studio album 'Fabric'**, featuring new guitarist Ned Ngatae and Francis Harawira on bass. The album, which included the hit single "Better Days", reached the #3 spot on the Billboard Reggae Charts and was described by *Clash Magazine* as "a broad, vastly creative return...matching low-end weight against some mature, soulful songwriting."

Around the recording sessions of ***Fabric***, The Black Seeds still found time to tour Brazil for the first time - playing four shows in Sao Paulo, Curitiba and Porto Alegre, followed by another successful US / Canadian tour.

Overall the band's six albums show The Black Seeds' limitless creative energy for what it is - always progressing without compromising the soul of who they are, while remaining conscious of the world around them. But the band stresses that they focus a lot of energy on their live show. Weir says, "We've got our own specific South Pacific flavor that you wouldn't have heard before." If that's true, you're sure to hear it now, as The Black Seeds continue to reach new audiences the world over the same way they always have - by doing it their own way.

The Black Seeds Live are:

Barnaby Weir (Vocals/Guitar)
Daniel Weetman (Vocals/Percussion)
Jarney Murphy (Drums)
Nigel Patterson (Keyboard)
Ned Ngatae (Guitar)
Francis Harawira (Bass)
Barrett Hocking (Trumpet)
Matthew Benton (Saxophone)

Follow The Black Seeds online:

[Official Website](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Instagram](#)

[Twitter](#)

[YouTube](#)

For all enquiries, please contact:

matt@theblackseeds.com

craig@theblackseeds.com