

MEDIA RELEASE



"A spectacular show of incredible intensity." -Le Republican Lorrain (France)

STARTING IN FEDERATION SQUARE THU 06 – SAT 08 OCTOBER 8.30PM 50 minutes, no interval FREE

For route details visit www.festival.melbourne #melbfest

Spain // Free

Australian Exclusive

LES TAMBOURS DE FEU

Deabru Beltzak

This year's Melbourne Festival opens with a major and free outdoor spectacle from one of the world's most renowned street theatre companies, **Deabru Beltzak**, as they take to Melbourne's CBD for three nights across the opening weekend to cause a disruption like no other with **Les Tambours De Feu**.

The drums set your pulse racing. The flames blur your vision. The smell of burning might be the fireworks, or maybe the devil walks the streets of Melbourne tonight.

An extravaganza of live music, pyrotechnics and extraordinary special effects, this huge free event driven by ceremonial percussion and fountains of fire will propel thousands on a dizzy parade through the city streets.

The tradition of the correfoc ('fire-run') is one of the world's most ecstatic sensory bombardments, and for 20 years this Basque company have been setting the world ablaze with ritualistic percussion and extravagant costumes loaded head to foot with pyrotechnics. As the hard and fast drumming seems to conjure exploding fountains of fire, bestial energies induce a pagan frenzy that can't be contained. This will be a Festival opening for all of the family like nothing Melbourne has seen.

Established in 1996 in the Basque country, Deabru Beltzak have performed more than 3000 times including 80 special events and 50 urban celebrations, and they have collaborated with over 35 theatre companies worldwide across five continents, earning themselves a name as one of the biggest street theatre companies in the world.



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