

Bowie in Boorloo

00:00:00 Auggie: Hello there. I'm Auggie. My pronouns are he him, and this is Bowie in Boorloo David was here. When David Bowie was real small, about twelve years old he bought a record. Stravinsky, the Rite Of Spring. It wasn't because anyone had told him he just had to hear this fantastically dramatic classical piece. No, he picked it out purely because he'd been starstruck by the cover. Center frame was a beautiful red glowing structure lit up by the low sun. It was certainly not like anything he'd seen growing up in the south of London. After examining the sleeve notes of the record, David discovered that the album cover was in fact shot in the very centre of Australia. And so this land quickly became one of his many lifelong fascinations. The Stravinsky album cover was Ularu, which David would see many times in his future. But in this episode, I'm here to chat about David Bowie's time in Perth Boorloo, where he came to perform during three very different eras in his career. The first was November fourteen and fifteenth of nineteen seventy eight. The Isola II tour, when David, for the most part, had gotten over his extreme fear of flying. Both concerts were held at the old Entertainment Center when it was new, a huge white circular venue just about where the RAC arena lives today. It held over eight thousand people. I like to point it out to strangers on the train. Hey, that's where the Entertainment Center once stood. David Bowie performed there. The supporting act was The Angels from Adelaide. The opening track was Warsaw, followed by Heroes, which is quite typical for this tour. You can listen to these two songs recorded here during the second night on YouTube posted by Bowie Down Under. Isn't that fab? Thanks, Bowie. Down under. After the first gig, David went along to Hernando's Hideaway, the iconic punk club that was in East Perth, and after the second, David Bowie went to Connections. Yes, our David hungout and Connie's the queer nightclub in Northbridge, which is currently celebrating its 50th year open. We've also got a picture of DB and some of his crew sailing down the Swan River on their day off, just east of King's Park and Narrows Bridge area, so pretty much Elizabeth Quay. Ooh. Subtle foreshadowing. David's next world tour, and certainly his biggest, was nineteen eighty three the Serious Moonlight Tour, which, yes, he did bring back to our entertainment centre once again in November the fourth, fifth and sixth. That's three concerts. Twenty three thousand and sixty three people attended over these three days. That is so many people. We all need to go home. Well, Auckland, New Zealand was ninety thousand. The opening track for these shows was look Back in Anger from Lodger. And you know what? We have a bootleg of the entire concert recorded on the Friday by Steve. Thank you Steve. You can also listen to this on YouTube. It's called Let's Dance in Perth. Bowie fanzine Star Zone mentions a moment of panic. David was missing.

00:03:33 SFX: Oh, no.

00:03:35 Auggie: Turns out he spent his day wandering around the Perth Zoo and hired a car and drove out to the bush. I wonder how far out he got. Maybe the Mundaring coals. It's a real shame Perth didn't make it into the film Ricochet. The incredible insight to this tour, a hybrid between live performance footage, scripted dialogue and just David wandering around South East Asia that was filmed a month later. We also have a few interviews that were held here. The first is a press conference held in an unknown building with the usual terrible, terrible questions regarding his past drug usage, sexuality, that kind of thing. Come on guys, ask him what his favorite color is. He did, of course, handle it all gracefully. Speaking

of how he'd like to bring positivity into the world via his pop star status. The second interview is with Ian Meldrum on Countdown, where David discusses his two new political music videos for Let's Dance and China Girl. They were filmed over in New South Wales. I strongly recommend finding this interview and watching it. It really is a great watch. Now I have an issue of nightlife from nineteen eighty seven, the year of False Bowie News, and it announces it's going to be a hot winter because David Bowie is coming to Perth. Mm. Except no he didn't. He didn't come dragging along his theatrical sets and, uh, teeth, did he? Well, you never know. Maybe he did come for everyone in Perth. Disliked the Glass Spider tour so very much that the decision was made to collectively forget all about it. David actually wouldn't return for over twenty years. When he brought with him a Reality tour Labour Day, Monday first of March two thousand and four, seven p m. Isn't that a nice time for a show to start? Seven p m nice and early. Why wait? Right. I've got some unfortunate news, my friend, The Entertainment Centre has closed down due to financial struggles. So our final Bowie concert was in fact held outside at the Supreme Court Gardens last year. That's where the pride Fair Day was held. So, of course, I made it my life goal to tell as many people as possible. Well, what you are hearing now. I did get a few funny looks back to two thousand and four. The stage was west, just in front of that shrub of palm trees that are still standing tall today. The opening act was Something For Kate from Melbourne. Exciting news. My second favourite artist and friend Carla Geneve. She's actually going on tour with Paul Dempsey from Something for Kate. So do look out for that. Bowie's opening track was Rebel Rebel, which is typically an encore song, but this tour was special because every set list was unique. The band rehearsed over fifty tracks. Midway through, they performed Sunday than Heaten and wow. That sounded incredible. How did I hear it all along the bell tower? That's the brilliant title of this. Performances. Bootleg recorded anonymously. You can listen to it on YouTube. And of course, because it's two thousand and four, we do also have some sneaky video recordings up on YouTube as well. He said so many funny things during this concert. For example, I wrote this song specifically for that person there. This is true. Pointing at a member of the audience. And then he proceeded to perform Quicksand from Hunky Dory nineteen seventy one. A reality tour was described by guitarist Earl Slick as the happiest I've ever seen that man in forty two years that I spent on and off with him was that tour. Gerry Leonard, also guitarist, says that there was this sense that David looked as young and as youthful as ever on that tour. Like the Serious Moonlight Tour, I've got lots of wonderful behind the scenes footage that can be found on YouTube, although it's unclear if any of it was filmed here. This was David's last ever tour, so I think it's really special that we got to be a part of it. Okay, I personally didn't make it here in time to see David perform live, but if you did. I hope this brought back a few Bowie memories. And of course, there's like forty seven details I left out. And the best place to find more would be the greatest website of the Southern Hemisphere. Bowie Down Under. Also, if you're wondering, David stayed at the Sheraton Hotel, which is now the Pan Pacific. Well, this has been Bowie in Boorloo David was here. I'm Auggie, and I'd like to say a very big thank you again to where I did the majority of my fact checking and research Bowie Down Under. And thank you, Steve, who took the photo cover here in Perth in two thousand and four. There are some truly fantastic Bowie fans in WA. All the cats. You know who you are. This has been a Breaking Sound Barriers production. Ta Ta.