
UNCLE BOB RANDALL
TJILPI ELDER OF THE YANKUNYTJATJARA ABORIGINAL NATION

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WHO IS BOB RANDALL?

Uncle Bob Randall is an elder, a “Tjilpi” of the Yankunytjatjara Aboriginal Nation, and listed traditional owner of Uluru, the great monolith in the Central Australian Desert.

He is the subject of the award-winning documentary film, Kanyini, and the author of several books, including his autobiography, Songman.

Bob Randall is a visionary educator, story-song writer, and bridge between the spirit and science of ancient indigenous and modern, non-indigenous cultures.

A living legend, Bob Randall articulates the wisdom, lore, and traditions of the Aborigines’ way of living sustainably, in environmental, social, and spiritual harmony with All Things.

WHAT IS “THE STOLEN GENERATION” and WHAT IS “BROWN SKIN BABY?”

In the early 1970s, his song “Brown Skin Baby” became an anthem for Aboriginal Australians, bringing international attention to the truth of the “Stolen Generation.”

Like thousands of other Aboriginal children, Bob Randall was forcibly taken away from his family by white authorities at about the age of seven and placed in a mission institution. Early in life he began the long process of searching for his family and Aboriginal identity.

Watch Uncle Bob singing “Brown Skin Baby” outside his home in Mutitjulu in the Northern Territory of Australia: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v3ytJioxKzI

WHAT ARE THE TEACHINGS THAT UNCLE BOB SHARES?

Uncle Bob’s experiences and a diverse education in both the ancient ways and the modern ways gave him a unique perspective of two divergent cultures. This has led to a life of service and leadership, working tirelessly for equality, reconciliation, and peace through collaborative, cross-cultural education and sharing.

Bob Randall lives and teaches the practical application of “Kanyini,” the Aboriginal principles of unconditional love, responsibility, and Oneness with the creative consciousness of the world.
“We have one Mother, this land we’re living on… that makes us brothers and sisters!”

**A HUMOROUS AND HEART WARMING STORYTELLER AND SINGER/SONGWRITER**

Bob Randall invites us all to consider what we can learn about living sustainably from Aboriginal culture, knowledge and spirituality.

**Uncle Bob’s story is part of him, and part of his presentation.** Uncle Bob will share with us his story of loss of homeland and family, and how these losses and subsequent reconnection have given him a perspective on the importance of land and community for self-identity and belonging.

**Bob Randall’s story is also our story!** He will ask us to consider how the stories and principles of Indigenous wisdom challenge and invert our conventional modern notions of ‘progress’.

- ‘The colonisers couldn’t stand anything different from them and for some reason they had this false assumption that theirs was the only culture worth having.’
- ‘The English attitude is one of ‘mine-ness.’ Our way of life is “ours-ness…no one is without in that way of thinking…if you have things it belongs to everybody.”
- ‘I suppose they just didn’t have the minds to know that everything you do today affects tomorrow. They didn’t think apart from the selfishness — “I’ll get as much while I can and leave nothing for nobody”.’
- ‘I don’t know where that kind of thinking and living comes from. I really don’t, but to me today I think it’s the worst possible way of living.’

Uncle Bob’s presentation provides the means for all of us to consider the ways in which we have all been disinherited from the land and how we might re-engage with the natural world.

And, in this same spirit of Kanyini, Uncle Bob will point out that spirituality is the ultimate answer to true reconciliation — a vision in which ‘reconciliation’ is regarded as an expression of hope of what we can achieve together.

Above all, we will be asked to re-consider what it means to be fully human and what we need to do to open ourselves to the possibility of making new choices.
PROGRAM OFFERINGS WITH UNCLE BOB RANDALL

• **Kanyini**: Aboriginal philosophy of life including screening of the Documentary Film “KANYINI” starring Uncle Bob Randall followed by discussion / Q&A:
  o Overview of the Film: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NOdnHKOkQTA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NOdnHKOkQTA)

• **Storytelling Through Song**: Uncle Bob shares Aboriginal teachings about Creation and our relationship to the land and each other through song:
  o Song “Where We Come From”: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u5infho-6nQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u5infho-6nQ)

• **Caretakers Of Mother Earth**: The Aboriginal connection between Man and Earth is sacred. Uncle Bob leads discussions on how to be caretakers of our planet bringing ancient wisdom to today’s concepts of Sustainability and Climate Change.
  o Interview: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IZmcRp6XbkA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IZmcRp6XbkA)

• **The Stolen Generation**: Uncle Bob shares his own personal story of being taken from his mother around the age of 7 to be raised along with other mixed-race children in a mission never to see his mother again. It is the story of too many Aboriginal peoples around the world.
  o Song “Brown Skin Baby”: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v3ytJioxKzl](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v3ytJioxKzl)

• **Aboriginal Wisdom For Our Modern Age**: Uncle Bob shares Aboriginal ways regarding the Role of Men vs. Women, Parenting, Relationships, Raising Our Children, Death, Birth, Traditional Medicine, Caring for the Land & Environment, Legal System, Education

• **“Oursness” – Creating Community**: How do the Aboriginal concepts of community differ from how we think about OURS and MINE in modern society? What can we as leaders of communities and teams learn about how to create a stronger collective?
  o Interview: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a8zAh3irMYo](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a8zAh3irMYo)

• **The Plight of Aboriginal Peoples**: What do all Aboriginal peoples have in common around the world? Hear Uncle Bob share his stories of contact with other Aboriginal communities and the common topics of concern and interest that bring them together.

• **Aboriginal Spirituality**: What is “The Dreamtime?” What are “Songlines?” Join Bob Randall for deeper understanding of the richness of Aboriginal spiritual tradition including the importance of stories, art, dance, ceremony, and the vital significance of sacred sites.

• **Custom Workshops**: Uncle Bob is eager to engage with any communities—adults and children alike—of all religions and cultural backgrounds—who wish to understand more deeply the ancient wisdom and customs of Aboriginal Peoples. Please let us know what you have in mind and we will create it together.

**CONTACT FOR BOOKING:**

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