



Many Hands International
culture based community development

MEDIA RELEASE

19.1.11

TOKA BOOT: *The Big Jam* in Lospalos, East Timor Saturday 22 January 4 pm, Old Market, Lospalos

The tiny regional town of Lospalos, East Timor, is alive this week with the sounds of music. Australian musician Gillian Howell has been sharing musical experiences with Timorese locals in Lospalos since November, on a residency supported by Asialink in Australia. This week she has been joined by Tony Hicks from the Australian Art Orchestra and young musicians Lina Andonovska, Rachel Cashmore and Doug Coghill from the Australian National Academy of Music. The Australian musicians have been jamming and performing with local people all over the town: on the front verandah of their house, in an orphanage, a kindergarten, English language classes and a mountain village.

Gillian's residency culminates this weekend in a *Toka Boot (Big Jam)* when Lospalos musicians and community members will come together in the ruins of the Old Portuguese Market to jam up a musical storm.

This program was co-ordinated by NGO Many Hands International, who will continue cultural development activities in Lospalos, working together with local people, community organizations and government.

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Gillian's blog: musicworkpress

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