

## The Sonoran Dogs

Formed in 2011, the Sonoran Dogs, from Arizona, have exploded upon the American bluegrass scene and is made up of seasoned veterans. They play a collection of traditional bluegrass standards, newgrass, Americana and original compositions. This will be their third visit to Australia, having again been invited to feature at the Mountaingrass Bluegrass Festival in Beechworth and the Australian Bluegrass Conference in Maleny.



PETER McLAUGHLIN - guitar/vocals

Peter took top honors at the National Flatpicking Championship in Winfield, Kansas in 1988, after taking second place there in 1986. In 1991 Peter joined Laurie Lewis, touring nationally and internationally for six years as guitarist and harmony vocalist with her band. In 1995, Peter released his first solo album, a CD entitled "Cliffs of Vermilion", produced by Laurie. Peter is a 2013 inductee to the Tucson Musician's Museum in the Bluegrass/Americana category.



MARK MIRACLE - mandolin/vocals

Award winning mandolinist Mark Miracle has been playing bluegrass/Americana music for over 40 years. Traveling the globe, his stylings and expertise make him a sought after bandmate, guest artist and teacher. Having roots deep in traditional

bluegrass is Mark's foundation but he explores all music - not limiting himself to that genre's forefathers, but embracing the ways of his heroes who have breached the boundaries of jazz, classical and created their own sub-genres, such as Newgrass. Mark continues to pursue his musical adventures without agenda.



TYLER JAMES -banjo, vocals

Tyler comes from a musical family and started young. After experimenting with several different instruments, he received a banjo on his 15th birthday and immersed himself in bluegrass. In 2008, he "came up for air", competing in and winning--the Rockygrass Banjo Championship in Colorado. He also took 1st place in the Arizona Banjo Championship that same year. Tyler did it again, winning the 2010 Huck Finn Festival banjo championship and attaining top 5 finalist status at the Winfield National Banjo Championship.



BRUCE PACKARD – double bass, vocals

Bruce has joined the Sonoran Dogs for all their Australian and New Zealand tours. Based in Melbourne, he is well known both on the bass (Canyon, Straight Ahead) and as a mandolinist (Coolgrass) and touring session musician in many genres.