

The Royal Gazette

Spirit of Australia has audience captivated

By Sarah Titterton

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Concert-goers were spellbound last night by the Australian aboriginal band Yothu Yindi.

Yothu Yindi performed at Victoria Park as a finale to the Family Learning Centre's walkathon Parade day, drawing a crowd of young and old.

"I am enjoying it a lot," said seven-year old Katherine Cook. "I always wanted to dance like that. It's cool, the way they do that. It's amazing too."

The band usually consists of eight members, however in Victoria Park they were joined by Bermudian Keith Caisey on the bongo drums. Multi-percussionist Mr. Caisey lived in Australia for some time and is acquainted with the band leader, who invited him to join Yothu Yindi on stage. He has also performed alongside Mick Jagger and Santana in his professional career.

Using a mix of traditional aboriginal instruments and some modern ones such as an electric guitar and a keyboard, Yothu Yindi performed a variety of songs including one which had been written for the 2000 Olympics and featured the symbol of

Australia, a red kangaroo. One band member awed the audience during that song by prancing around on the grass at audience members' feet in an imitation of the kangaroo.

The band was brought to Bermuda from Australia just for a week by the Isis Foundation and also performed at Saturday night's Fire and Ice concert, as well as performing at schools around the Island and running musical workshops out of Mount Saint Agnes.

More information on Yothu Yindi can be found at www.yothuyindi.com or at www.garma.telstra.com.