Greenpop launches its 9th annual Platbos Reforest Fest
March 15-17 (Family Fest) and March 22-24 (Friends Fest)

Greenpop is launching its 9th annual Reforest Festival which will take place in March 2019 in the indigenous Platbos Forest, a rare botanical marvel with trees of over 1000 years of age. This isn’t just an ordinary festival, it is a mutual pledge for action - the largest and most incredible citizen-led tree planting mission in the African continent. More importantly, it is an opportunity for you to get active (not anxious) about the future of our beautiful planet while experiencing how greening can be POPular, creative and fun! This festival brings enormous long-term ecological improvements, especially with the water crisis that the Cape is currently confronting with. Embrace the opportunity to plant thousands of trees, bond with awesome people, dance under the stars to the rhythm of sensational live bands and artists, enjoy delicious vegetarian meals, learn from eco-workshops, have morning yoga sessions and… grow along with forests. Last year Greenpop proudly planted 8,300 trees but this year aims at doing even better by reaching 10 000 trees planted.

Reforest Fest

Each year in March, an increasing number of people find their way to Platbos Forest to join Greenpop for an amazing tree-planting mission. Located 2.5 hours drive away from Cape Town in the Overberg region, Platbos Reserve is a unique indigenous South African forest jewel- home to a world of ancient tree specimens (many of which are over 1000 years old). Up to date, there have been almost 50,000 trees planted during the Family and Friends weekends. This year celebration of planting, music, heart and soil is going to be even further-reaching, with more trees to plant and incredible live music on offer. The Reforest Fest 2019 lineup includes several of the most incredible local bands and artists such as Grassy Spark, The Steezies, Toby 2 Shoes, Don’t Poke The Bear and many more.

Family Weekend

Family Fest (March 15-17) is dedicated to parents and kids who are willing to get their hands dirty by planting thousands of trees and enjoy family-friendly entertainment and
participate in plenty of kids’ activities (body art, games, crafting, talent show and much more) and kid-friendly catering. Experience a getaway into nature and unplug for some unforgettable quality family time in the forest.

The line up this year is full of engaging activities, informative talks and incredible music to get you up and dancing!

**Music Line Up:**

Nomadic Orchestra  
Jeri Silverman  
Mazula  
Brian Ernst (Intl)  
Khoisanboy.Man  
Colorfields  
Jason Barty  
DJ Crashlove

**Nomadic Orchestra:**

Nomadic Orchestra is a five-piece instrumental brass dance band, based in Cape Town. The primary goal of the Nomadic Orchestra is to get people moving. The band plays an infectious kind of high-energy dance music guaranteed to get feet tapping and limbs flailing. The Nomads, as they’re affectionately referred to, are strongly influenced by traditional music from the countries of South-Eastern Europe: Macedonia, Romania and Serbia. We are so excited that they will be headlining Reforest Fest Family Weekend.

**Jeri Silverman:**

Born and raised in the Cape, Jeri defines herself as delicate, raw and unapologetic. Her music is a mix of these characteristics, as well as being influenced by her experience in New York City, leading to soul-stirring melodies with a percussive folk-pop edge.

**Brian Ernst (Intl):**

We are excited to announce that Brian and Katie Ernst - a full-time music/non-profit duo from Ohio (USA) are playing at Reforest Fest Family Weekend 2019. On stage, Brian live loops open tuned and lap guitars with didgeridoos and beat-boxing to create uplifting acoustic, soul roots music. In the last 11 years, they have played over 1500 shows in 49 states and 35 countries. Together (with their fan base) they have raised over $120,000 for various causes - now they are joining us with their music and message.

**Mazula:**

We welcome Mazula to the Family Fest 2019 line-up! Zoe and Vusa collaborate with accomplished musicians to form a constantly changing line-up of original music. They
connect on stage with each other tuning into the music and creating improvised magic! We can’t wait to hear their unique blend of Funky, Bluesy African Folk.

**Talks and Activities:**

**Activity: Reunion Yoga**

The talented team from Reunion Yoga bring us a variety of yoga styles to get us ready for tree planting and stretch our limbs and limits. Expect Vinyasa, Budokon and sunset sessions, among others.

**Workshop: Anna Breytenbach/AnimalSpirit**

We are very excited to have the incredible Anna Breytenbach of AnimalSpirit giving a workshop at Reforest Fest Family Weekend. Anna is an interspecies communicator, animal activist, conservationist, and in-demand public speaker who will be giving an introduction to the principles and practice of telepathic animal communication. Anna’s goal is to raise awareness and advance the relationships among human and non-human animals, on both personal and spiritual levels. In her communication and conservation work, she guides people to deepen their connection with all species in an honouring manner and is inspired by being a voice for the animals and natural environments. This is not to be missed!

**Talk: Yan Golding / Extinction Rebellion**

Hailing all the way from the Netherlands, Yan Golding is deeply involved in the important citizen-led Nonviolent Direct Action that is rising up around the world right now. His practical and heartfelt call-to-action needs to be heard.

**Activity: Nicola Jackman & Friends / Soul Circus**

HEARTist, joy coach, facilitator and dynamic story-teller, Nicola Jackman and her Soul Circus team encourage everyone to live joyfully! Expect all sorts of fun in the PopUPTheatre & on the main stage!

**Talk: Carlo Randall / First People Indigenous**

This interactive workshop explores the science and spirituality of indigenous plant medicines.

**Activity: Nature Play Arts n Crafts / Blooming Good Kids**

Playtime in nature for the whole family - Blooming Good Kids helps us make natural masks, wands and crowns and more creative magic.

**Talk: Francois Krige / Platbos Forest**

As custodian of this ancient relic forest, Francois shares his in-depth knowledge of the trees, how they communicate and why we must protect them.
Talk: Zeke Murphy (Sustainable.co.za)/ Moving Towards Living Off-Grid

Based on personal experience running sustainable.co.za, Zeke will cover products and systems that will help you to become self-sustainable in your home. He will discuss solar power, solar water heating, water saving solutions and other innovative products for off the grid living in and around the home and office.

Talk: Rowan Pybus//Biochar

Can altering the carbon level in the soil of the farms upstream make a difference? If so how can we all help the process? This talk is about getting stuck into big problems and finding a way to use your skills to help those that have a viable solution.

Friends Weekend:

**Friends Fest (March 22-24)** is meant for people of all ages who want to make a positive impact on the environment. Aside from tree planting, festival-goers are invited to a fun-filled weekend of camping, great tunes, forest walks and, of course, cool vibes! Friends Fest activities and talks are primarily tailored to adults, but all ages are welcome at both festival weekends!

**Music Line Up - Friends Weekend**

Grassy Spark
The Steezies
Jews for Techno
Toby2Shoes
Vukazithathe
DJ Ali B
Jason Barty
Don't Poke the Bear
DJ Crashlove
Frances Clare
Devin Harmer
Live Lounge
Bobzyouruncle

**Grassy Spark:**

Grassy Spark has always made it their mission to evolve outside of their comfort zone. Their latest direction, as a newly-cemented 5 piece, is all about a fresh perspective while honing in on what Grassy Spark is all about. Essentially, Grassy Spark is more of an idea than simply a band or a genre and in many ways they’ve now become Genre Neutral, owing mostly to the multiple genres they’ve indulged in since formation in 2012.
Throughout their evolution, they have always kept crowds entertained and up on their feet. We can’t wait for their energetic set!

**The Steezies**

The Steezies are a full force energy train of Afro-ish/Funk-ish/Indie-ish vibe straight from Hout Bay, South Africa. The Steezies are a product of South Africa’s multicultural musical paradigm. Their songs have been forged in the melting pot of a country that does not have a single consolidated culture, but rather exists as a chimaera of various histories, traditions, and practice.

**Toby2shoes**

Capetonians of all types know and love the sounds of renowned beatmasher, music-collector and lover of good times, DJ Toby2shoes. He blends tech house with swing with dub and breakbeats and his party sets always contain bits and pieces of assorted tech, swing-tech, chill, Afrobeat and Afrohouse. A set not to be missed!

**Frances Clare**

Frances Clare is an up and coming South African singer/songwriter. Her sets are mainly acoustic and she has been described as having an "indie/folk/alternative" sound. Besides performing regularly at prominent venues including Cafe Roux Noordhoek, The Alma Cafe and The Barleycorn Music Club; Frances is a full-time Music Performance student in Cape Town. Her sets are a mixture of originals and reworked covers on the guitar and ukulele.

**Jews for Techno**

Jews for techno are DJs that will bring an electric sound and a lot of dancing in the Platbos forest. They are well known for keeping the dancefloor going late into the night.

**Vukazithathe**

Considered a veteran of the south coast KwaZulu-Natal music scene, Vukazithathe is a multi-instrumentalist, composer and singer with powerful energy and a great knack for improvisation. With a strong will and ability to differentiate himself and be unique, Vukazithathe sings, plays the bass guitar, guitar, concertina, and improvises on violin and harmonica.

**Ali B**

As a former resident DJ at London’s Fabric, Ali B doesn’t really need any more introduction. He has a very deep and eclectic approach to music and dance floor. His sets always range from blues and funk to rock, soul, dub, disco and beyond, which allows him to get in touch with every taste.

**Talks and Activities:**
Talk: Ian McCullum/ Rediscovering Ourselves in Nature

Ian McCallum is a well known and respected lecturer and keynote speaker. Drawing on his experience as a sportsman, psychiatrist and specialist wilderness guide, he brings to his audience a wide range of selected topics on human psychology, the beauty of evolutionary thought and Ecological Intelligence - what we can learn about ourselves from the wild. As a result of his recently completed 5000k - Tracks of Giants – expedition: walking, cycling and kayaking across southern Africa he brings a new perspective to the concepts of identity, ecological leadership and the significance of keystone individuals in society.

Activity: Reunion Yoga

The talented team from Reunion Yoga bring us a variety of yoga styles to get us ready for tree planting and stretch our limbs and limits. Expect Vinyasa, Budokon and sunset sessions, among others.

Talk: Claudia Waller/Africa by Bicycle

A female solo-adventurer traversing Africa, slowly, on a bicycle, Claudia’s talk discusses experiences cycling her way through nine countries in Southern & East Africa, the importance of adventure in life, and why choose a bicycle? She tackles the questions of fear and safety, especially those fears surrounding solo-female travelers, and shares her ambition of cycling the entire circumference of the continent.

Talk: Petco/This T-shirt is made from Plastic Bottles

I bet you didn’t know that recycled PET plastic could be used to make a t-shirt? Join Kara Levy to learn about PETCO’s (the PET Recycling Company NPC) mission is to grow the collection and recycling of PET bottles, after consumer use. The talk will show attendees how PET forms the basis for synthetic fibres like polyester and is also recognised in the packaging industry as the rigid plastic commonly used as beverage bottles for many types of drinks, jars, punnets, tubs and trays for food items, bottles for household, personal care, pharmaceutical products, and sheet/film for general packaging.

Activity: JOY MOVEMENT

HEARTist, joy coach, facilitator and dynamic story-teller, Nicola Jackman and her JOY MOVEMENT team encourage everyone to live joyfully! Expect all sorts of fun in the PopUPTheatre & on the main stage!

Workshop: Carlo Randall / First People Indigenous

This interactive workshop explores the science and spirituality of indigenous plant medicines.

Walk: Francois Krige / Platbos Forest
As custodian of this ancient relic forest, Francois shares his in-depth knowledge of the trees, how they communicate and why we must protect them.

**Workshop: Jess Tyrrell / Wilderdom**

Outdoor adventurer, facilitator and foraging fundi, Jess brings us a practical workshop where we learn to use the natural medicines that the Western Cape's Fynbos Kingdom is blessed with.

**Talk: Camila Lopez / Impact0**

Joining us all the way from Mexico, Camila shares her expertise on how festivals are being used as a platform for social and environmental change across the globe.

**Talk: Sarah Kennan / Leonista**

Taste the smoothness of Sarah's 100% Karoo Agave Spirit and learn about her journey with this sustainable local brand.

**We are so thankful to all of the below sponsors and partners:**


**Who is Greenpop?**

Greenpop is a social enterprise on a mission to (re)connect people with the planet. They plant trees through urban greening and reforestation projects, spread environmental education, and activate people through green workshops and events.

Greenpop was founded in 2010 and has since planted 80,000 indigenous and fruit trees at schools and other urban sites, community farms as well as forests across South Africa, Zambia and Tanzania. More than the number of trees, Greenpop is inspired by the hands that have helped to plant the trees and the further thousands that have joined Greenpop’s eco-education programmes and made a commitment to be custodians of our beautiful planet.

Website: [www.greenpop.org](http://www.greenpop.org)
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/Greenpop](http://www.facebook.com/Greenpop)
Reforest Fest:

You can check out our video of last year's event at: https://youtu.be/xojSwwgibXI
Please see more on our website at www.reforestfest.com
See the Facebook event pages here: