

# Last show ever: DJ Optimus Gryme departs

DIANA WORTHY

Dub-step drum 'n bass fans will be bidding farewell to a popular DJ as he 'kills' alter-ego Optimus Gryme and moves off Waiheke.

Charlie B (Brown) has announced that his final concert as DJ Optimus Gryme will be on October 28, seven days before he and his family move to the South Island.

It marks the climax of his 15-date Australasian tour, *The Death of Optimus Gryme*.

And the end of a chapter in his life.

"I have so many mixed emotions about it - sad, excited, blessed, happy - it's been such an amazing career, such a good run.

"Very few people get the opportunity to experience what I have over the last decade.

"Over the last three months, I've played to thousands of fans and no-one can understand why I'm giving it up.

"But I've achieved everything I've wanted in that space.

"I'm ready to move on with the next project," he said.

Brown said the concert would run over five hours starting at 7pm, with a line-up that would include local DJs, Sam Owen, and Optimus Gryme with Billy Fluid.

Visit [optimusgryme.co.nz](http://optimusgryme.co.nz) to

buy \$20 tickets and for information about the venue, which is yet to be decided.

Brown created his alter-ego in 1998, producing cutting edge break beats and massive bass lines and, in 2002, founded Offbeat Records.

He promoted some of New Zealand's first ever hip hop and drum 'n bass fusion gigs.

He said he was also proud to have worked with artists such as Shihad, 660, Tike Taane, Double Fix, Shapeshifter, Rhombus and Minuit.

As Optimus Gryme, he has performed all over Australasia and at some of New Zealand's largest gigs, including CoroGold, where he played to 15,000 people.

Now he will be leaving Waiheke after 28 years.

Travel to the mainland was expensive for families and the island had changed, he said.

He and wife Penelope will be heading with their children, Te Maania, 8, and Anaia, 5, for the South Island on November 4.

But the music will go on.

Brown and Waiheke-based business partner Henri Smith will be writing and performing as The AnXIents.

Smith will continue working with Brown on travel app, Go!

See [www.optimusgryme.co.nz](http://www.optimusgryme.co.nz).



Charlie Brown is saying goodbye to Optimus Gryme - and Waiheke.