

Presented by Arts House as  
part of Dance Massive

# Aeon Lz Dunn

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Image: Alex Cuffe and Rebecca McCauley

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Fri 17 Mar, 7pm  
Sat 18 – Sun 19 Mar, 3pm & 7pm  
75 mins

**Warning:** Contains nudity. *Aeon* is an outdoor work involving a significant amount of walking.

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## Creative Team

### **Lz Dunn**

Lead Artist/ Concept/  
Performer

### **Lawrence English**

Sound Artist

### **Shian Law**

Choreographer/ Performer

### **Lara Thoms**

Dramaturg/ Performer

### **Liz Young**

Production Manager

### **Narelle Lewis**

### **Performing Lines**

Producer

### **Local Artists**

Maggie Brown, Debris Facility,  
Romain Hassanin, Janette Hoe,  
Nisha Liyanage, Rachel  
Mackie, William McBride, Carly  
Sheppard, Ioan Wynne-Jones



## Artist Statement

*Aeon* is a question about interactions and intersections; an attempt to activate encounters and shift perception; to assemble a group of moving bodies and hover briefly, dilate slightly, unfix a little.

Movement and sound unfix a body. Movement is electrical currents. It is also the pulsing of blood and air through muscle. Sound enters the body as air – a felt understanding. We respond to internal and external stimuli. We coordinate ourselves relationally in a continuous navigation of moments and positions. Experience accumulates, meaning evolves. We pass through.

*Aeon* has evolved as an experiment of floating together two concurrent interests—urban birds and queer ecology. Queer ecology refers to a range of practices that aim to disrupt dominant ideas around sexuality and nature. It invites us to reimagine evolutionary processes, ecological interactions, and environmental politics from a queer perspective.

We have been especially interested in how these ways of thinking could advocate for living in uncertainty. They could say we are, things are, always simultaneously something more. We are desire, decision, instinct, thought, matter, the individual, the body politic. We are *also*.

Pigeons are *also*. Having lived with humans for thousands of years, they are loved and despised for being so visible, so populous, so fecund. They are genetically diverse and Darwin arrived at his theory of evolution by breeding fancy pigeons. They are decorated war heroes, food, pets and pests. They are fancy, domestic, feral and wild. They are dinosaurs that eat hamburgers and grass. They make shitty nests on concrete and steel cliff faces.

For now, they are here. We are here. All here. Coursing alone and in concert.

— *Lz Dunn*

### Lz Dunn

Lead Artist/ Performer

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Lz Dunn works with movement, sound, participatory, site-responsive and choreographic processes to consider perception, relationality, and interior-exterior experience.

*Aeon*, premiering in Dance Massive 2017, is commissioned by Mobile States and has been developed across Australia. A listening movement through open spaces, it is site-responsive to public parks and engages local artists as co-performers. It expands on the explorations of *Flyway* – a sonic walking meditation on migratory birds and urban cohabitation—that Lz developed with sound artist Lawrence English and dramaturge Lara Thoms. In 2013 *Flyway* won an international Music Theatre NOW award and has toured to the Netherlands, Bulgaria and Lithuania. It tours to Germany in 2017.

Recently Lz has been developing an improvisation-based solo dance practice and created a new work for Lucy Guerin Inc. Pieces for Small spaces 2016.

Lz lives in Melbourne and is also an Artistic Associate with contemporary performance company Aphids.

### Shian Law

Choreographer/ Performer

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Shian Law is an Australian performance artist. He trained in dance at the Victorian College of the Arts and works as a performer, choreographer and dramaturg in dance, live art intervention and trans-media performance contexts.

Working with core collaborative artistic teams, Law's work utilises hybrid forms and new discursive frameworks to investigate the representation of the body and ways we experience dance. Grandeur, intimacy, spectatorship and historicity are recurring motifs. Law has worked closely with choreographer/mentor Jo Lloyd, Phillip Adams, Deanne Butterworth, Mikala Dwyer, Brooke Amity Stamp, Lara Thoms and Lz Dunn.

Law is the recipient of Tanja Liedtke Foundation scholarship, Cité International Des Art residency, Asialink Residency, Menagerie De Verre, Paris and Ian Potter Travel Grant. Recently, he was commissioned for Sydney Dance Company New Breed 2016, Underbelly Arts 2017 and Dance Massive Festival 2017. Law is the inaugural artist-in-residence at the Temperance Hall with Phillip Adams' Balletlab.

### Lawrence English

Sound Artist

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In Lawrence English is composer, artist and curator based in Australia. Working across an array of aesthetic investigations, English's work explores the politics of perception and prompts questions of field, perception and memory. English utilises a variety of approaches including visceral live performance and installation to create works that ask participants to consider their relationship to place and embodiment. Over the past decade, English's sonic investigations have traversed a divergent path within which musical languages and environmental sources are granted equal value. His work calls into question the established relationships of sound, harmony, distortion and structure and is sculpted, colliding overwhelming intricacy with roaring waves of low vibration. The music is evocative and invites the listener to explore their own narratives and impressions shaped by their subjective histories and experiences. His recent albums *Cruel Optimism* and *Wilderness Of Mirrors* revel in 'extreme dynamics and densities' and resolve into an 'overriding aesthetic of harmonic distortion'.

### Lara Thoms

Dramaturg/ Performer

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Lara Thoms recently completed a two year Creative Australia Fellowship from the Australia Council for the Arts to explore site-specific and participatory possibilities in contemporary art. Lara was commissioned to create a large scale public work *Ultimate Vision: Monuments to Us* as part of the Museum of Contemporary Art's C3WEST program, and most recently *Before The Siren* as part of Perth Festival. Other works include *Exposition* for the Melbourne Art Fair with Jason Maling, and *The Experts Project*, (2011- 2013) where she spoke with 150 'unofficial experts' as part of Local Positioning Systems at the Museum of Contemporary Art. In 2015 she was part of *Ancient MSG* at Gertrude Glasshouse in collaboration with Australian and Indonesian Artists. She is an artistic associate with Aphids and part of the artistic collective Field Theory.



Lz Dunn



Shian Law



Lawrence English



Lara Thoms







Angharad Wynne-Jones, Josh Wright, Emma Webb, Kelly Drummond Cawthon, Karilyn Brown, Meri Greig, Becky Hilton, Catherine Ryan, Paris Clare Greig and all the participating artists in Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide and Hobart. The families, the friends, the babes, the birds.

Arts House, as a key program of the City of Melbourne, is Melbourne's contemporary centre for performance and interactive artforms. We support new and diverse ways to make and experience art which is participatory and experiential, interdisciplinary and trans-disciplinary, curated through a balance of provocation, responsiveness and collaboration with artists and audiences.

For more information, please contact us on the details below.

521 Queensberry Street  
North Melbourne VIC 3051  
(03) 9322 3720

[artshouse@melbourne.vic.gov.au](mailto:artshouse@melbourne.vic.gov.au)  
[artshouse.com.au](http://artshouse.com.au)

Bookings:  
[artshouse.com.au](http://artshouse.com.au) or  
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