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Arts House at
North Melbourne Town Hall

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Anicca Matthias Schack-Arnott & Speak Percussion

Image: Rebecca McCauley

Arts House

Season 2



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Wed 2 – Sun 6 November
50 minutes

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Creative Team

Director, Composer, Performer:
Matthias Schack-Arnott
Performer:
Eugene Ughetti
Creative Engineering:
Richard Allen
Video System:
Pete Brundle & James Sandri (PDA)
Production Manager & Lighting:
Richard Dinnen (Megafun)
Artist Interns:
Jonathan Griffiths & Hamish Upton
Producer:
Michaela Coventry



Artist Statement

Anicca = impermanence.

All physical and mental events come into being and dissolve.

All temporal things, whether material or mental, are compounded objects in a continuous change of condition, subject to decline and destruction.

Time is a component quantity of various measurements used to sequence events, to compare the duration of events or the intervals between them, and to quantify rates of change of quantities in material reality or in the conscious experience.

— *Matthias Schack-Arnott*

Biographies

Matthias Schack-Arnott

Director, Composer and Performer

- Matthias Schack-Arnott's work explores ambitious approaches to percussive performance, often involving the development of new instrumental set-ups built in collaboration with architects, engineers and technicians. He has won multiple Green Room Awards including 'Outstanding Work by an Emerging Artist' for his 2014 work Fluvial, and is a finalist for the 2016 Melbourne Prize for Music in the 'Development' category.

At the age of 21 Schack-Arnott was invited to be the Artistic Associate of Speak Percussion. He recently won the 2016 Art Music Award for Excellence in Experimental Music.

As a guest artist Schack-Arnott appears with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, Australian Art Orchestra, Malaysia Philharmonic Orchestra, ELISION, and has worked with luminaries including Steve Reich, John Zorn, The Necks, Ilan Volkov, Liza Lim, Michael Pisaro and Oren Ambarchi.

Performance highlights include Berliner Festspiele (Germany), Roullette (New York), Barbican (London), CONNECT Festival (Sweden), Komunitas Salihara (Indonesia) & SPOR Festival (Denmark).

Eugene Ughetti

Performer

- Eugene Ughetti is the Artistic Director of Speak Percussion, his practice spans performance, composition, conducting and direction. From solo experimental works through to large scale collaborations, Eugene is known for tackling complex and ambitious art music projects.

He has worked with some of the world's guiding lights in new music including Pierre Boulez, Steve Reich and John Zorn.

Eugene has given international solo performances at MaerzMusik (Berlin), Roulette (New York), Lucerne Festival (Switzerland), National Museum (Singapore) and was concerto soloist with the Melbourne and Adelaide Symphony Orchestras.

He has composed works for Speak Percussion, The Australian Ballet, Melbourne Symphony Orchestra and ABC.

Eugene has conducted ELISION in the Huddersfield Festival and for multiple international labels.

He won the inaugural Sidney Myer Creative Fellowship (2012), MCA/Freedman Fellowship for Classical Music (2011) and various Art Music Awards for his work with Speak Percussion including Excellence in Experimental Music (2016).

Richard Allen

Creative Engineer

- An engineer and musician, Richard has been creating custom musical instruments and physically interactive sculptural works with sound for the past 18 years whilst also working commercially as an animatronics engineer and animator for stage, TV and gaming. Richard has a passion for creating new modes of expression and experience through technology and uses playful environments and objects to encourage exploration and collaboration often exploring confrontational themes.

Creative partners include: Matthias Schack-Arnott, Robbie Avenaim, Robin Fox, James Hullick and the Amplified Elephants, Michaela Davies, Rene Wooler, Global Creatures, Fed Square Light in Winter crew, Maribyrnong Council, Electrofringe, the Rainbow Serpent Festival and Atari/Melbourne House.

Studio PDA

- Studio PDA is operated by designer/coders Pete Brundle and James Sandri. Known for an ability to cross disciplines, PDA focus on designing elegant digital systems for a range of contexts including web, installation, video and performance.

Clients and collaborators include Lynette Wallworth, The Design Files, Jacky Winter, National Gallery of Victoria, Chunky Move, Jardan, Tin & Ed, Genevieve Lacey, Meredith Music Festival, Dumbo Feather, The Wheeler Centre, David Pledger, Bluebottle, Windmill Theatre, Oom Creative, Nat Cursio, The Flaming Beacon, Projects of Imagination, A Friend of Mine, Seesaw, Studio Round and Speak Percussion.

Megafun

- Megafun has over 18 years of experience providing creative and technical services to the arts, exhibitions, major events and entertainment. The company has provided services throughout the world to a huge number of companies, artists and exhibitions.

Megafun's staff cover a broad range of disciplines, from interactive exhibition and theatrical project concept and design through to lighting design, set design, multimedia development, production and stage management, technical direction, administration and project co-ordination.

The company specialises in delivering quality theatre and events and creating intriguing experiences which are highly interactive and engaging.

Speak Percussion

- Speak Percussion has defined the sound of 21st century Australian percussion music through the creation and presentation of ambitious arts projects. Internationally recognised as a leader in the fields of experimental and contemporary classical music, Speak are constantly seeking to redefine the potential of percussion.

Over it's sixteen-year history, Speak Percussion has engaged in world-class, risk-taking and innovative projects with many of the world's leading exponents of experimental and new music including Steve Reich (USA), Ilan Volkov (ISRAEL), The Necks (AUS), Liza Lim (VIC), Oren Ambarchi (VIC), Mark Applebaum (USA) and Richard Barrett (UK).

International appearances include Maerzmusik (Germany), SONICA (UK), Barbican (UK), Tage für Neue Musik, Zurich (Switzerland), TIPC (Taiwan), Salihara (Indonesia), CONNECT (Sweden), ARENA (Latvia), GAIDA (Lithuania), Batteries IV (Switzerland) and Café OTO (UK).

Speak has accumulated many accolades, including three APRA/AMCOS & AMC Art Music Awards, most recently for Excellence in Experimental Music for it's 2015 program.

Angharad Wynne-Jones and Arts House, Hamish Upton, Jonathan Griffiths, Thomas Burless, Niharika Senapati, Karin Schack, Robin Fox, Andrew Arnott & Freya Schack-Arnott. And of course to the incredible team behind Anicca, especially Richard Allen, who was able to realise an artist's impossible request.

Supported by the federal government through the Australia Council, it's arts funding and advisory body; the Victoria State Government through Creative Victoria and the Department of Education and Training; City of Darebin; The Substation, Megafun and Arts House through the City of Melbourne.

Arts House is a program of the City of Melbourne and our home is North Melbourne Town Hall. Melbourne's centre for contemporary and experimental performance, Arts House provides a nexus for cultural expression and social connection in a city environment. Arts House is committed to championing independent artists' practice, developing contemporary, experimental and participatory work and engaging audiences. Locally engaged with the diverse communities that surround it and a collaborator across the city, Arts House engages not just an arts audience, but a broad spectrum of audience and participants.

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

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