George Kara
Perfumer
With a background as a self-trained antique botanical perfumer, George Kara began working with the scenting of public performance and exhibition spaces in the late 1990s in association with an arts collective producing Global Warming, a legendary alternative-arts Sunday night club which thrived for many years in Melbourne. The intense impact of designed scent delivery on the dance floor and on the energy of the proceedings at Global Warming soon led to demand for this unique art by local rave and niche concert promoters. Since then Kara has also featured this radical sensual enhancement in many dance productions, art installations and theatre shows to great effect with demand for everything from the scent of ‘heaven’ to that of ‘blood and rust’.

George Kara’s palette is primarily contained within the materials of perfumery and incense creation in European and Eastern traditions. In SONG he hopes to help transport the audience to a transcendental place, where the memory of nature’s many wondrous scents fills the mind and the heart with awe and exhilaration.

Raimondo Cortese
Writer
Raimondo Cortese graduated from the VCA in 1993. He was a founding member and Director from 1992–2000. Ranters Theatre has been regularly programmed in international performing arts festivals and venues since 1999, including developments and residencies. He has written over 30 plays and texts for theatre, including Features of Blown Youth, Roulette, St Kilda Taxis and The Wall. His most recent works are Undone, which won a 2007 Green Room Award for Best Australian Writing, The Dream Life of Butterflies and Global Warming in 2011. His most recent works are The Indestructible Corpse, an Urban Theatre Projects, Belvoir St and Sydney Festival co-production, and Murder for Erth in Sydney, Adelaide, and Tasmania (10 Days on the Island). 2013. His fiction includes a collection of short stories, The Indestructible Corpse (Text Publishing, 1996). He has also written for film, most recently The Boy Castaways, as well as television and radio, and visual and experimental texts. He teaches screenwriting master classes both in Australia and overseas, and lectures in the Masters of Writing for Performance at VCA School of Theatre, Melbourne University.

Ranters Theatre thanks Amanda Lewis, Anne Tonks, Antonio Moreira, Beth Buchanan, Bianca Charleston, Byron Scullin, Chloe Hale, Clementine Walker, Colin Dick, David Everist, Deanna Smart, Deb Hennessy, Grace Godfrey, Heather Bolton, John Kaldor, Kerry Saxby, Lucinda Strahan, Marcus Pugh, Michael Janike, Neil Barker, Paul Lam, Raimondo Cortese, Ruth Bain, Sarah Walker and Tony Albers; Angharad Wynne-Jones and all the staff at Arts House, Andrea Fleming and Nicole Grundy at the Mission to Seafarers, Victoria, Andrew McKay and Mary McKay at Easy Turf, Kelvin Gedey at System Sounds, Michael Tucak at Creative Legal, Nick Ilton at Onset Arts Workshop, Jacqueline Doughty at Gertrude Street Gallery, Jared Pither at Event Equipment, Joe Iacono at Design Sense Pty Ltd, also The Barstow Institute (Melbourne), Bluebottle, Event Equipment, Zappa Theatre (Canada), Chapter Arts Centre (Wales) and Ben Starick at Stirling PR. Special thanks to Ranters Theatre Board members: Fiona McLeod (Chair), Anna Plenc, Bruce Berryman, Callum Morton, Natasha Prendergast and Sarah Squire.

Laura Lima would like to thank her galleries in Brazil for their support: A Gentil Carioca (www.agentilcarioca.com.br) and Galeria Luisa Strina (www.galerialuisastrina.com.br).

Creative Credits
Concept/Producer: Adriano Cortese
Visual Concept/Designer: Laura Lima
Music: Paul Lum, Patrick Moffatt, James Tyson
Sound Designer: David Franke
Lighting Designer: Stephen Hennessy
Performer: George Kara
Text: Raimondo Cortese with James Tyson
Lighting: Phil Leithian
Foyer Footnotes: Sophie Takáč
Production Management: Geordie Baker and Govin Ruben, from Rubix Cube
General Manager: Sara Austin

SONG has been supported by the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts; its arts funding and advisory body, the Victorian Government through Arts Victoria; Monash University; the City of Melbourne through Arts House; Wales Arts International; Arts Council Wales; Zappa Theatre, Halifax, Chapter Arts Centre, Wales, and Canada Arts Council. SONG has been developed in the CultureLAB. Special thanks to the Mission to Seafarers, Victoria.

Image from design by Tony Albers, photography by Stephen Hennessy, inside photo by Sarah Walker.

Arts House, North Melbourne Town Hall
Fri 12 – Sun 21 April
60 minutes
Post-show Q&A Tue 16 April

Arts House
northmelbournetownhall.com.au
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(03) 9322 3720
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Arts House presents contemporary arts in programs encompassing performance, exhibitions, live art, residencies and other activities that nurture, support and stimulate cultural engagement. We value work in which artists at different stages of their careers, as well as our diverse audiences and communities, are actively involved in creating an imaginative, just and environmentally sustainable global society.

Arts House’s programs include two curated public seasons of multidisciplinary work each year. From 2013, approximately half of this work will be selected through a new Expression of Interest process. We seek artists who are responding to the urgent issues of our time in imaginative and surprising ways, taking artistic risks and offering multiple ways for audiences to engage with or co-author their work. For more information, please contact us on (03) 9322 3720 or visit artshouse.com.au.

Arts House is a City of Melbourne contemporary arts initiative

Sponsors
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Presented by Ranters Theatre in association with Arts House and Monash University
About Ranters Theatre

Established in 1994, Melbourne’s Ranters Theatre has created 15 productions and numerous smaller works, premièring at six Australian festivals and, since 1999, touring to over 30 international venues and festivals, in 11 countries. Recognised internationally as a pioneer of hyper-realist performance, Ranters Theatre’s previous work includes Features of Blown Youth (Melbourne Festival, 1997; Federation Festival, Melbourne, 2001); The Wall (Melbourne Festival, 1997); Intimacy, with Raimondo Cortese, writer; Cortese, Patrick Moffatt; and the Jammed (Arts House, 2007; Malthouse, 2008; Griffin Theatre, Sydney, 2009; Noorderzon Festival, 2012). Television and video installations as well as the production of numerous albums, both as solo works and in collaboration with other composers and sound artists. He has worked with many of Australia’s preeminent theatre directors, including and Raimondo Cortese, with whom he has collaborated with Cologne-based composer Bernfried; his works have received wide critical acclaim and toured both nationally and internationally.

Ranters Theatre has received numerous smaller works, premiering at major theatre companies including the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, the Melbourne Opera House, and the Sydney Opera House. Recent group exhibitions include The Smithsonian Institution, Washington DC; Dunlap; Art Gallery, Ontario; and 550 Bourke Street.

Stephen Hennessy is a Melbourne-based artist and designer. His works include sculpture, painting, large-scale architectural glassworks and video. He has produced large-scale public artworks and is an award-winning lighting designer with extensive experience in design, manufacturing and consultancy. He has undertaken major lighting design projects for the Supreme Court of Victoria, ANZ Bank, the University of Melbourne, Crown Towers Hotel, Port Melbourne Library, Monash University, Australia. Vaughan, the Melbourne Poetry Centre, and the Jammed (Arts House, 2007; Malthouse, 2008; Griffin Theatre, Sydney, 2009; Noorderzon Festival, 2012). Television and video installations as well as the production of numerous albums, both as solo works and in collaboration with other composers and sound artists. He has worked with many of Australia’s preeminent theatre directors, including and Raimondo Cortese, with whom he has collaborated with Cologne-based composer Bernfried; his works have received wide critical acclaim and toured both nationally and internationally.

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