

Presented by Arts House

WE ARE LIGHTNING!

Joseph O'Farrell (JOF) & Sam Halmarack

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Image: Pia Johnson

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7pm, Wed 6 – Fri 8 Dec
2pm, Sat 9 Dec
7pm, Sat 9 Dec
5pm, Sun 10 Dec
65 mins

Warnings:
Smoke effects,
some loud music,
strobe effects,
strong language

2

artshouse.com.au

Creative Team

Writer, Composer & Producer:

Sam Halmarack & Joseph O'Farrell (JOF)

Director:

Ian Pidd

Designer:

Danielle Brustman

Lighting Design:

Jenny Hector

Production Manager:

Ethan Hudson

Project Manager:

Bindi Green

Production Assistant:

Sunny Youngsmith

Choir Director:

Ruth Kennedy

Musical Advisor, Arranger & Bassist:

Tamara Murphy

Living Music Director:

Andrew McSweeney

Living Music Band Wrangler:

Chloe Sanger

Photographer:

Pia Johnson

Pythagoras and the Field:

Maddie Farquhar – Vocals

Robbie Lang – Lead Guitar

Tilly McCarthy – Bass

Zoe Petch – Percussion

Musicians:

Alex Barrowman – Guitar

Beth Dahlsen – Tenor Saxophone

Ellie Lamb – Trombone

Gianni Marinucci – Trumpet

Lukas Seum – Sousaphone

Sue Tyrrie – Alto Saxophone

Rob Vegas – Guitar

Jim Williams – Soloist

Eliza Black – Trumpet

Harmony for Humanity:

Deborah Burke

Thea Calzoni

James Caulfield

Sharyn Clarke

Maxwell Clarke

John Coutanche

Tony Creedy

Audrey Davies

Catherine Devereaux

Christina Doyle

Marie-Louise Drew

Julia Earley

Ruben Figueroa

Beth Hawkins

Liz Kianidis

Erica Lacorcia

Thomas Lambert-Johnston

Nola Miller

Len Miller

Anton Nall

Adarsha Paudel

Hoa Nguyen

Thai An Nguyen

Anne Patterson

Annabel Sharkey

Judith Simpson

Sydney Smith

Nanette Sullivan

Jo Wallace

Jim Williams

Steven Wilson

Artist Statement

*“When you walk onstage tonight
to bring the noise, treat it like it’s
all we have”*

— Bruce Springsteen,
SXSW Keynote Speech, 2012

When we first started to make this show, the venue where I played my first gig, the “Arty,” (Arthouse Hotel- Queensberry Street, Melbourne) had just been closed down. It was a place where I spent my formative years in the punk/hardcore scene and a place that allowed me to first experience what it was like to play in a band.

As Sam and I started to become friends and collaborators we noticed that all around us, in the UK and Australia, we were being inundated with stories of music venues closing down due to neighborhood complaints and gentrification as well as mounting council and governmental pressures such as what we are seeing in Sydney with the lock out laws.

We started to think about what it would look like if all the music joints in town were closed down and what that final gig might look like. At the same time, we wanted to engage with a process that sought out collaboration and input from the local community and asked what if the creation of an artwork could be just as valuable to the community as the final presentation?

We wanted to create a show that offered an opportunity for musicians of all ages to share their songs with an audience while creating a framework that celebrates the diverse groups that get together purely for the joy and love of music.

This show is one of the most ambitious things we’ve ever done, it’s about friendship, the power of community and with the help of an incredible team and cast, we can’t wait to bring the noise!

Thanks for coming.

X JOF and Sam

Sam Halmarack

Writer, Composer & Producer

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Sam Halmarack's shows move between live art, music performance and theatre, blurring the lines between the personal and the fictional. Sam has toured extensively both at home (UK) and abroad, winning over audiences and critics from both the national and international press.

He often asks for genuine interaction from his audience, making them feel an essential part of the performance. Through music, comedy and video, he finds stories of failure and redemption, celebrating the underdog in all of us.

Sam's shows are often playfully spectacular, which contrasts with the awkward vulnerability of his performance. He sings with unashamed conviction, charging the world that he creates with startling authenticity.

He has recently performed at the National Theatre in London and will end the year on tour in Shanghai as Musical Director and performer for the production *Of Riders and Running Horses*.

JOF (Joseph O'Farrell)

Writer, Composer & Producer

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Joseph O'Farrell (JOF) is a multi-art performer, producer, curator, musician and visual artist making work between Melbourne and London.

JOF creates large-scale installation/theatre works with, and for, community that celebrate our diversity and brings people together in hilarious and unlikely situations.

Recent commissions include the Tate Modern and The Southbank Centre, London. Anti Festival Finland and Darebin Music Fest, where he assembled 60 guitarists to play Metallica's ENTER SANDMAN.

Special thanks goes out to the band members PROCEDURE 286 - JOF's first band who have all contributed in some way to making this show happen.

Ian Pidd

Director

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Ian Pidd is a theatre and festival director with a practice that aims to combine the highly theatrical with the everyday. He has directed and devised major works for companies as diverse as Snuff Puppets, Polyglot, Men Of Steel, MRPG, and a plethora of self-initiated works. Much of this work has toured nationally and internationally.

Ian has held the artistic directorships of Moomba, Junction Arts Festival, The Falls, and The Village, has a multi decade relationship with Melbourne Fringe and is the founding Artistic Director of the new family oriented music and arts festival, The Lostlands.

His current projects include a suite of participatory social dance works in many parts of Australia (with Everybody Now), a three-year multi-arts project with Rumbalara Football Netball Club in Shepparton and The Boomerangs Rugby League Club in Moree (for Polyglot), and the large-scale ceremonial Ogoh Ogoh ritual which closes Dark Mofo each year. Ian's projects tend to be playful, participatory and large in scale.

Jenny Hector

Lighting Design

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Jenny Hector has designed the lighting for Fraught Outfit's *Exodus II*, collaborated with Madeleine Flynn and Tim Humphrey on *The Higher Ground* installation for in extremis and is currently in development with choreographer Jo Lloyd for *Overture* and Jodee Mundy for *Personal*.

She designed the Hub for 2017 Yirramboi- The First Nations Arts Festival and both her set and lighting designs for *Blood on the Dance Floor* and Jodee Mundy's *Imagined Touch* were part of this year's Sydney Festival, having both premiered as part of 2016 Artshouse season.

Jenny developed the residential light installation *How Are You?*; and designed lighting and collaborated alongside the likes of Aphids, Chamber Made Opera, Dark Mofo, Maddy and Frankie Dance, Nat Cursio, Back to Back Theatre Company and Rimini Protokoll.

Jenny is the recipient of two Green Room awards and received the 2017 Green Room Award for Technical achievement.

Ethan Hudson

Production Manager

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Ethan Hudson is a UK-based production manager, sound engineer and designer. His main focus is on mid-to-large scale theatre and dance work in unusual and challenging settings. Credits include *Of Riders and Running Horses* (stillhouse), Battersea Arts Centre's Touring Programme, Birmingham European Theatre Festival, The World Festival of Theatre for Young Young Audiences, *The Legend of Mike Smith* (Soweto Kinch) and a host of London theatre shows. Ethan also founded a production company, Frontseat Media, which supports hundreds of performances a year across the UK and Europe.

Danielle Brustman

Designer

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Danielle is a freelance designer whose work encompasses a broad spectrum of practice, from residential interiors and commercial design for the hospitality and retail sectors through to set design for theatre and exhibitions.

Danielle has done stage design, installation and interior design work for *Wild Bore*, Malthouse Theatre / Edinburgh Festival 2016; *The House of Dreaming*, Arena Theatre Company, 2012; The Unconscious Collective / Dark Mofo, 2014); *Wild at Heart* The Unconscious Collective / Dark Mofo, 2015; *The Salty Dog Hotel*: Brustman + Boyde 2015; Amelia Shaw Bar 2012 ; *The Bakehouse Project*: Brustman + Boyde , 2014.

Danielle's work was shortlisted in the Eat Drink Design Awards for *The Salty Dog Hotel*, 2016 and nominated for a Green Room award, *Black Swan Trespass*, 2016. Her work has been featured in Artichoke Magazine, Casa Vogue, Urbis, and Broadsheet.

Bindi Green

Project Manager

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Bindi Green is a professional freelance production collaborator who has worked across contemporary theatrical productions, arts festivals, live art experiences and community art projects within the Australian and international arts sector.

Bindi is a core company member of Bunk Puppets and has toured with esteemed Australian artists such as Salvador Dinosaur, Tim Humphreys and Madeleine Flynn, Bec Reid and Elbow Room.

She will often work in non-traditional performance spaces, enjoys developing new artistic works and interactive experience and theatrical events that surprise and inspire the audience whilst also celebrating the unique talent and spirit of the community.

Biographies

Tamara Murphy

Musical Advisor, Arranger & Bassist

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Tamara Murphy is an esteemed bassist, composer, arranger and bandleader. She has toured nationally and internationally, performing in New York, the UK, Europe and Asia.

She has a constant performing schedule, covering a wide variety of styles, from cabaret to pop, rock, jazz, RnB and experimental music. Her past performing/ recording credits include: Martin Martini, Ali McGregor, Lanie Lane, Lady Rizo (US), Ben Caplan (CA), Christine Anu, Caiti Baker, Harry Angus and The Dusty Millers along with many others.

In 2011 she was awarded the inaugural PBS Young Elder of Jazz Commission. She has released four albums of original works with her group, *Murphy's Law* and is currently leading her new group, *Spirograph Studies*.

This year she was the musical director and arranger for UNITY: the International Women's Day Concert for the Brunswick Music Festival, featuring Kylie Auldist, Ajak Kwai, Emily Wurramara, Parvyn Singh and Chelsea Wilson.

Ruth Kennedy

Choir Director

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Ruth Kennedy is a Melbourne based singer, songwriter, guitarist, percussionist, Community Choir Leader and Community Cultural Development Worker. She has a strong, soulful voice, an extensive vocal range and has been a musician since 2005.

Ruth's entire life is music. She has facilitated thirty music programs in the past seven years and currently runs seven community choirs. She performs with Queen Bee, an acoustic trio and Sithard Gumar. She sung and recorded original music with Passi Jo and Warako Musica, Ajak Kwai, Kultura Kosmica, Pachamama and La Loba. She also sung with Gospolation, JABULA! and Natty Wailer. She studied djembe in West Africa with Mohamed Bangoura and will study singing in South Africa with Valanga and Andrea Khoza in 2019.

Her choirs performed in the Events (Malthouse), Darebin Music Feast, Brunswick Music, Kensington and Moonee Valley Festivals and Melbourne International Comedy Festival. She ran two radio programs for 3CR including World Women's Beat and Live to Air, featuring live performances by local, national and international artists. She acted in Malibu Barbie Can't Frown with Heather Marsh She was also employed as an artist in Dispersed Belongings a cross-national participatory arts based study with refugee youth of Bendigo.



Sam Halmarack



JOF (Joseph O'Farrell)



Ian Pidd



Jenny Hector



Ethan Hudson



Danielle Brustman



Bindi Green



Tamara Murphy



Ruth Kennedy

Thank You



One Step at a Time
Tom, Miles, Glen
Bec Reid
Clare Bartholomew
Luke Harney
MAYK
Kate Yedigaroff
Bruce Springsteen
Jo Porter
Beau Macafferty
Chris Green
Tim and Maddie
Arts Victoria
Cracker La Touf
Erin Milne
Shamira Turner
The O'Farrell Family
Libby O'Farrell
Alice Molan
Bristol Old Vic
Emma Betteridge
Living Music
Josh Wright
Angharad Wynn-Jones
Tristan Meecham
Ian & Sandy Green
Keith Rees
Neil O'Farrell
Zan Griffith
JP Tansey
Selen Bateman
Irina Agoronyan
Auspicious Arts
Optical Audio

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.

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(03) 9322 3720

artshouse@melbourne.vic.gov.au
artshouse.com.au

Bookings:
artshouse.com.au or
(03) 9322 3720

Arts House acknowledges the traditional land upon which we are located, of the Wurundjeri and Boon Wurrung people of the Kulin nation, and pay our respect to Elders both past and present and, through them, to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

