

## Arts House

Arts House is a City of Melbourne contemporary arts initiative which offers producing and presentation support, funding, brokers international and national opportunities for artists, hosts and partners festivals and other agencies, provides creative development residencies and commissions, develops and realises new artistic work.

Each year Arts House presents a curated program of contemporary art featuring performances, exhibitions, live art, installations and cultural events which are programmed to inspire dynamic community engagement.

The 2008 program, Beyond Bread and Circus, celebrates artists who are questioning artistic boundaries and challenging all of us to think and see in new ways. Beyond Bread and Circus continues a commitment to contemporary arts practices which question our values and preconceptions. In a complex global context, Arts House in 2008 reflects a growing dissatisfaction with short term cultural, social and political fixes and the fleeting emptiness of high availability entertainment.

[www.artshouse.com.au](http://www.artshouse.com.au)

Sue Beal	Team Leader, Arts House
Steven Richardson	Artistic Director
Kate Ben-Tovim	Associate Producer
Jude Gun	Program Producer
Adrian Aderhold	Production Supervisor
Tom Howie	Technical Supervisor
Brian Horder	Business Coordinator
Sarah Ernst	Artistic Administrator
Lexie Wood	FOH and Technical Coordinator
Lauren Anderson	Bookings Officer
Genine Romagnoli	Administrator
Mike Mullins	Venue and Operations Manager
Bruce Douglas	Building Supervisor

**Arts House, North Melbourne Town Hall**  
521 Queensberry Street, North Melbourne 3051  
**Arts House, Meat Market**  
5 Blackwood Street, North Melbourne 3051

**Donations from today's performance of Passion are being collected for The Fred Hollows Foundation**



The Fred Hollows Foundation is inspired by work of the late Professor Fred Hollows, whose vision was for a world where no one was needlessly blind.

Working to continue Fred's vision, The Fred Hollows Foundation in Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom, have come together to form a global network to increase our collective impact in eradicating avoidable blindness around the world. Through this new network, together, we will be able to enhance Foundation operations and programs in the countries where we work and bring funding bodies and program entities in a truly equal partnership.

Collectively working in over twenty countries world-wide, with the help of our supporters, we hope to build on our record of restoring sight to well over one million people.

Please see one of the staff for information.  
[www.hollows.org.au](http://www.hollows.org.au)



# PASSION

**AUSTRALIAN ART ORCHESTRA WITH SPECIAL  
GUESTS ARCHIE ROACH AND RUBY HUNTER**

**Adaptations of J S Bach's Passion  
According to St Matthew  
Good Friday, 21 March 2008  
Arts House, North Melbourne Town Hall**

## Australian Art Orchestra

**Ms. Ruby Hunter** Vocals

**Mr. Archie Roach** Vocals

**Mr. Eugene Ball** Trumpet

**Mr. Scott Tinkler** Trumpet

**Mr. Phillip Slater** Trumpet

**Mr Tim Jones** Tuba

**Mr. Adrian Sherriff** Bass Trombone

**Mr. James Greening** Trombone

**Mr. Nikolaus Schäuble** Drums

**Mr. Lachlan Davidson** Reeds

**Mr. Julien Wilson** Reeds

**Mr. Sandy Evans** Reeds

**Mr. Paul Cutlan** Reeds

**Mr. Elliott Dalglish** Reeds

**Mr. Alex Pertout** Percussion

**Ms. Vanessa Tomlinson** Percussion

**Mr. Paul Grabowsky** Piano

**Mr. Alister Spence** Keyboards

**Mr. Philip Rex** Double Bass

**Mr. Carl Dewhurst** Guitar

**Mr. John Rodgers** Violin

**Mr. John O'Donnell** Production Manager/Sound

**Ms. Veronica Kent** Project Coordinator

**Ms. Ann Moir** General Manager

Arts House acknowledges and respects the customs and traditions of Indigenous Australians and their special relationship with the land.

The artists and organisers respectfully acknowledge that this program takes place on the land of the traditional owners of the Kulin Nation.

**Passion is proudly presented by Arts House and Australian Art Orchestra**



## The Program

**Come Daughters** - Composed by Paul Grabowsky

**Sweet Love** - Music & lyrics by Archie Roach

**No Justice** - Music & lyrics by Paul Grabowsky, sung by Ruby Hunter

**Captive / The Raven is Hoarse** - Composed by Doug de Vries

**Love Me Once** - Music & lyrics by Paul Grabowsky, sung by Ruby Hunter & Archie Roach

**For Love** - Composed by Alister Spence

**Fire & Ice** - Music & lyrics by Paul Grabowsky, sung by Archie Roach

**Romantic Thing to Do** - Music & lyrics by Ruby Hunter

**Crucifixion** - Composed by Niko Schauble

**Finalé** - Composed by John Rodgers

**Musical Director**  
**Paul Grabowsky**

## Passion

The great *St Matthew Passion* of J S Bach covers the extremities of musical emotion in a depiction of the final days of Christ. The new compositions commissioned for the Australian Art Orchestra's *Passion* draw on the emotional nuances of the original while employing the language of contemporary music.

Five movements from Bach's masterpiece were assigned to five composers from within the Orchestra. Their task was not to arrange or adapt the original music, but to draw inspiration from it, and write new music that would address the same themes.

In 2005 in preparation for a tour to Festival of Mexico, the AAO commissioned Archie Roach and Ruby Hunter to write three new songs to be performed on *Passion* tour. These new 'love songs' join Grabowsky's existing chorale passages to give audiences one of the most extraordinary musical experiences available in modern music.

*Passion* is a cornerstone of the AAO's body of work; it marks the first occasion on which the ensemble looked to its own wealth of writing talent, to produce a fully integrated major work. It was natural that musicians who had worked so closely together over the years, and come to know each others work intimately, could write works able to fully exploit the skills of each individual performer.

In previous performances *Passion* has enjoyed success in premier venues around Australia and internationally: Castlemaine State Festival 2007, Sydney Opera House concert hall 2001, Melbourne Town Hall 1999, Adelaide Festival 1998, Mexico City for the *Festival de Mexico en el Centro Historico* 2005 and Auckland Festival 2007.

Ruby Hunter and Archie Roach join this group of innovators, bringing their own unique talents to bear upon a pre-existing work dramatically revised to incorporate their individual contributions. Both artists, and particularly Archie Roach, have worked in a variety of performing arts contexts and musical styles.

*Passion* provides them with the opportunity to work with an ensemble which contains a wider range of instruments than they have previously used and allows radically different interpretations of their music. Very positive sentiments have been expressed by these artists regarding their involvement with *Passion* and the collaboration with the AAO.

AAO recordings will be available in the foyer following today's performance.