

Arts House Program Guide

Season 2, 2015

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# A message from the Councillor Rohan Leppert, City Of Melbourne

Since 2005, Arts House has been delighting audiences with innovative and experimental works that stretch and challenge the imagination. Over the last ten years, Arts House has grown steadily through bold and vibrant programs such as Dance Massive, the Festival of Live Art and curated seasonal works.

Arts House plays a pivotal role in Melbourne’s contemporary arts scene, serving as an incubator for independent artists and emerging arts practices not only by presenting works but also by developing artists through the acclaimed CultureLAB program. By supporting Arts House, the City of Melbourne fosters the cultural lifeblood of the city and cements Melbourne’s status as one of the world’s great arts cities and a destination of choice for visitors and residents.

As a result of the ongoing success of Arts House, in February 2014 the City of Melbourne endorsed a new vision and commitment to grow Arts House as a centre of contemporary and experimental performance arts. Developed via a comprehensive engagement process with the arts sector and community, the Arts Strategy 2014–17 outlines the City of Melbourne’s commitments in relation to the arts over the next three years.

The new direction and vision for Arts House will see us engaging new audiences, developing independent artists through a new Artist in Residence Program and working with communities in new ways by providing support, spaces and collaborative opportunities.

This is the first season of this new phase for Arts House and includes a collection of works that will entertain, surprise and entice you. I encourage you to enjoy and immerse yourself in this season’s performances.

**Rohan Leppert**

Chair, Arts and Culture portfolio

# Arts House, wide awake

We are celebrating the start of our second decade with an artistic program as deep as it is wide; one that hums with the vibrancy of our relationships with artists, audiences, communities and organisations both in Melbourne and across the world. The work, the voices and the passions of these relationships (and some incredible City of Melbourne staff, advisers and Councillors) have raised Arts House from an idea into a reality. We stand tall and proud of our purpose as an international centre of contemporary art, located in the best part of the city, North Melbourne – a perfect cultural counterpoint to the Southbank precinct.

Our doors are wide open.

To the artists who consistently engage, provoke and stimulate us with boldly experimental, brilliantly executed work, exploring imaginative terrain that opens up entire new views of the world…welcome! To the co-experimenters and collaborators – formerly known as the audience – who engage, witness, participate and reflect, enabling artists to take risks that unearth the future…welcome!

To our surrounding communities, who bring their culture, capacities and insightful critiques to the table: thank you for so generously offering new ways and showing us the well-worn paths that enable our connections with each other…welcome!

And to our colleagues and friends in organisations and institutions across Melbourne, Australia and the globe, with whom we collaborate daily to make this work resonate fully: in partnership we are strong, able and sustainable…welcome!

Arts House profiles independent artists and companies who do it their own way. We build long-term national and international collaborations (PS122 and Melbourne Festival, Taipei Arts Festival, Experimenta), reinvigorate old friendships (Melbourne Fringe, Spring Fling), and continually seed the development of new ideas through CultureLAB. We are deepening our local connections by commissioning (with Arts and Participation, City of Melbourne) a participatory work to be presented at the Festival of Live Art in 2016.

Development of the independent arts sector is crucial to the arts ecology as a whole: The Supper Club, Time\_Place\_Space: Nomad (with Performance Space) and the Peer Learning Program (with Theatre Network Victoria), are just some of the ways we do that. We are thrilled to announce new initiatives: our Artist in Residence Program, enabling extraordinary artists to further develop their practice; 4 Walls, giving artists access to much-needed space for experimentation, rehearsal and play; and Future Past, a living archive and exhibition program that opens the magnificent North Melbourne Town Hall building to the public, documents its history and projects its future.

Because it’s our birthday and we want to celebrate with you all, this season begins with our birthday bash Future Future, and ends with a Summertime Party! Come one, come all – welcome to Arts House!

**Angharad Wynne-Jones**

Artistic Director

**Presented by Arts House**

# Future Past

Ten Years of Arts House

This season celebrates ten years of Arts House, and looks to the future with enthusiasm, commitment and excitement. As we move boldly into our second decade, we’re also casting our gaze back at where we’ve come from, with an exhibition/installation of videos, images and written documentation from our first ten years, open to the public throughout the season.

As a presenter and through initiatives like the CultureLAB development program, Arts House has championed and supported the most contemporary of the contemporary, the most excellent of the experimental, the creatively ambitious, the hybrid, the participatory, and the art that shakes our thinking into new formations.

From July, artists, audiences, locals and researchers, the nostalgic, the committed and the curious alike, are invited to spend some time in the vault. Search, explore or revisit. Catch that show you always regretted missing, and discover things you never knew were there.

**Ticket Price:** Free

**Times and Dates:** Fri 3 July – Fri 18 December

Tue – Fri 10am – 4pm

Closed public holidays

Open during performance seasons

(refer to individual show pages for times)

**Location:** Arts House,North Melbourne Town Hall, 521 Queensberry St, North Melbourne

**Curated by:** Leisa Shelton

**Exhibition Designer:** Stephen Banham

**Designer:** Romanie Harper

**Presented by Arts House and Mobile States**

# SDS1 – Ahil Ratnamohan (AU/BE)

Creator, performer and former soccer player Ahilan Ratnamohan draws from the sweaty, skilled physicality of ‘the beautiful game’ in a startling, dance-inspired work. Described by Ratnamohan as a kind of ‘football dance theatre’, SDS1 immerses audiences in the surreal, visceral, momentous and poetic experience of the match.

SDS1 explores a language not only physical, but theatrical and psychological as well. Drawing on his personal experiences as a player, Ratnamohan delves into the psyche of the vulnerable warrior of the pitch – striving, loved, hated, worshipped, scorned or triumphant. Through sheer atheletic prowess, both with and without the ball, he extracts the essences, emotions and gestures of the game to create a work that sees the player caught in the performance, rather than in control of it.

This is soccer as theatre: physically charged, stripped back, extracted, frozen, repeated and abstracted. Beautiful and ugly at once.

**Ticket Price:** Full $30 l Student $15 l Conc $20

**Times and Dates:** Wed 19 – Sat 22 August

Wed & Fri 7.30pm

Thu 6.30pm, Sat 5pm

55 minutes

***Post Show Q&A* Sat 22 Aug, 6.05pm**

**Location:** Arts House,North Melbourne Town Hall, 521 Queensberry St, North Melbourne

**Creator & Performer:** Ahilan Ratnamohan

**Dramaturge:** Kristof Persyn

**Tour Producer:** Performing Lines

**Lighting Designer:** Mirabelle Wouters

**Outside Eye:** Lee Wilson

**Presented by Arts House Jo Lloyd**

# Confusion For Three – Jo Lloyd

In this new work by Melbourne choreographer Jo Lloyd (*Future Perfect*, 2013), hypnotic tension

is generated by three dancers as they negotiate a progressively unravelling system of choreography.

Navigating their physical histories, both recent and distant – from traces of folk dance to idiosyncratic body rhythms – the performers reveal a series of desperate encounters, in a destabilising flood of movement.

The questions remain: can this confusion be sustained, and where does it lead us? Lloyd has brought together some of Melbourne’s finest creatives for this fascinating work – including dancers Rebecca Jensen (*OVERWORLD*, Dance Massive 2015) and Shian Law (*Personal Mythologies*, Next Wave 2014).

**Ticket Price:** Full $30 l Student $15 l Conc $20

*Post Show Q&A* Thu 27 Aug, 8.40pm

*Green Tix for Nix* Sat 29 Aug, 2pm (details page 44)

**Warning:** Nudity

**Time and Dates:** Wed 26 – Sun 30 August

Wed – Sat 7.30pm

Sat 2pm, Sun 5pm

60 minutes

**Location:** Arts House,North Melbourne Town Hall, 521 Queensberry St, North Melbourne

**Choreographer:** Jo Lloyd

**Performers:** Rebecca Jensen, Shian Law, Jo Lloyd

**Composer:** Duane Morrison

**Dramaturge:** Nicola Gunn

**Lighting Designer:** Jennifer Hector

**Producer:** Kara Ward

**Presented by Arts House and SPIN**

# All Ears – Kate McIntosh (NZ/BE)

New Zealand-born, Brussels-based artist Kate McIntosh creates an improvised laboratory for unusual recordings and acoustic experiments, using everyday objects and materials. Chairs are dragged, paper is torn, glasses are toppled; sounds are recorded and played back along the way.

As curious scientist, mischievous questioner and eclectic storyteller, McIntosh creates a distinctive journey made of parables, fragments and jokes: of human and animal behaviour, of crowd control and linguistics, politics and group dynamics, birds an traffic jams, societies and social interactions.

In the silences in between, questions arise about who we are alone and how we are together; about what it might take to change a culture, and what we might miss in the push for self-sufficiency.

McIntosh is fascinated with destruction and creation, sense and nonsense, the whole and the fractured. With both lucidity and off-beat humour, All Ears beautifully balances on the thin line between experiment and entertainment.

**Ticket Price:** Full $30 l Student $15 l Conc $20

**Time and Dates:** Thu 3 – Sun 6 September

Thu – Sat, 7.30pm

Sun 5pm

*Post Show Q&A* Fri 4 Sep, 8.55pm

**Location:** Arts House, North Melbourne Town Hall, 521 Queensberry St, North Melbourne

**Concept, Text & Performance:** Kate McIntosh

**Dramaturge:** Pascale Petralia, Tim Etchells

**Sound Designer:** John Avery

**Lighting Designer:** Chris Copland

**Technical Director:** Akim Hassani

**Production Coordinator:** Ingrid Vranken

**Produced by:** SPIN

***Now* score courtesy:** Tim Etchells

**Presented by Arts House and Experimenta Media Arts**

# A Drone Opera – Matthew Sleeth

A Drone Opera viscerally explores the rapidly developing technology of unmanned aerial vehicles

(UAVs), colloquially known as drones, and theirsocial and cultural impact. Artist Matthew Sleeth directs an experimental multimedia performance featuring drones, their pilots and opera singers, combined with a new sound score, laser light design and moving image.

Feeling the drones’ air displacement and hearing their rotor sound, audiences will experience this robotic technology first hand, shifting their knowledge of drones from political abstraction into embodied experience in time and space. Curious about their potential to reshape our world, Sleeth has designed, built and programmed customize drones specifically for the performance context.

Sleeth’s largest work to date, A Drone Opera also features an inspiring line-up of collaborators, including experimental artists Kate Richards, Robin Fox, Phil Samartzis and Susan Frykberg, lighting designer Bosco Shaw and choreographer Shelley Lasica.

**Ticket Price:** Full $30 l Student $20 l Conc $15

**Warning:** Laser effects, loud music, smoke effects

**Times and Dates:** Thu 10 – Sun 13 September

Thu – Sun 7.30pm

45 minutes

**Location:** Meat Market,Enter 36 Courtney St, North Melbourne

**Director:** Matthew Sleeth

**Producer & Dramaturge:** Kate Richards

**Opera Composer:** Susan Frykberg

**Laser Set Designer:** Robin Fox

**Sound Designer:** Phil Samartzis

**Lighting Designer:** Bosco Shaw

**Drones:** Lloyd Hassell, Matthew Sleeth, Matthew Tynan

**Technical Manager:** Bosco Shaw

**Choreographic Consultant:** Shelley Lasica

**Video Documentation:** David McKinnar

**Soprano:** Judith Dodsworth

**Alto Tenor:** Hamish Gould

**Presented by Arts House and Astra**

# Dance of the Bee – Martin Friedel & Michael Kieran Harvey

The signs are there: over the past few decades, humanity’s 5000-year collaboration with the honey

bee has been building toward a grim conclusion. If we fail to heed their warning, could we be casually

swept into the fossil record alongside them?

Dance of the Bee is a remarkable interspecies musical collaboration: a work performed by three pianists, the vocalists of the Astra Choir and a live swarm of bees, housed inside a sculpted, transparent hive.

Woven through the mysterious song of the bees, the pieces range from soundscapes to intense virtuosic arrangements, punctuated by semi-improvised sonic excursions.

As the bees sing, live video allows us to observe the marvel of the hive at work – and to ponder on the

fragile connection between our world and theirs.

**Ticket Price:** Full $30 l Student $15 l Conc $20

**Times and Dates:** 7pm, Tuesday 14 March – Saturday 18 March

90 minutes

*Post Show Q&A* Sat 12 Sep, 6.40pm

**Location:** Arts House,North Melbourne Town Hall,521 Queensberry Street, North Melbourne

**Composed by:** Martin Friedel

**Piano/Prepared Piano:** Michael Kieran Harvey, Peter Dumsday, Joy Lee

**The Astra Improvising Choir Directed by:** Joan Pollock

**The Astra Choir Directed by:** John McCaughey

**Sound:** Michael Hewes

**Video:** Mim Whiting

**Sculptural Consultation:** Robert Bridgewater

**Beekeeper:** Martin Friedel

# Melbourne Fringe at Arts House

***16 September – 4 October***

The 2015 Melbourne Fringe Festival will see artists from every creative discipline come together in

the city’s most vital celebration of independent art. In hundreds of shows, exhibitions and events, the Festival exposes the collective energy of the independent arts sector and weaves the aesthetic with the social – making every Fringe event something to be shared.

From Friday 18 September Arts House will become the centre of the Melbourne Fringe Festival’s Fringe Hub precinct in North Melbourne. Expect a curated program of some of the country’s most vibrant contemporary theatre, dance, comedy, cabaret and music across six spaces.

You’ll also find the Fringe Club’s fourteen nights of free programming and entertainment, bringing music, dancing and a unique Fringe party atmosphere to Arts House both above and below ground.

Arts House have invited Rinske Ginsberg and Shian Law to curate the first Fringe Club night, The Side Part, on Saturday 19 September to bring the live art party vibe.

We are also delighted to join organisations from across the country, as we offer the inaugural Arts House Evolution Award.

The 2015 Melbourne Fringe Festival program will be released Tuesday 11 August; tickets and full program details available via melbournefringe.com.au.

# The Supper Club

*Join your peers in the arts around the dinner table at The Supper Club, enjoying a delicious meal and a lively discussion to stimulate creative thinking and doing.*

*The Supper Club is a place to share thoughts and exchange ideas, to speak up or listen in, with topics curated by some of the sharpest minds in our contemporary arts scene. It’s an invitation to contribute, respond and grapple with the questions, challenges and responsibilities that makers across disciplines face.*

*This season, we’re setting the table for 40 participants at each of three unique Supper Club events: along with ample food for thought comes nourishment for the belly and the soul, with delicious provisions prepared with love by ‘feeding experts’ Firecracker.*

*Come and be wined, dined, entertained and provoked at The Supper Club – touching base with colleagues, making new connections, and contributing to the ever-richer array of ideas circulating in our resilient contemporary arts community.*

**Hosts:**

**Georgie Meagher, Artistic Director/CEO, Next Wave Festival**

**Tue 14 July, 7pm – 10pm**

**Wesley Enoch, Playwright and Director**

**Tue 18 August, 7pm – 10pm**

**Antony Hamilton, Choreographer and Dancer**

**Tue 10 November, 7pm – 10pm**

**Guest speakers for each night to be announced.**

**Check the website for details.**

**All tickets $10, includes supper artshouse.com.au or (03) 9322 3713**

# New York/Melbourne Exchange

This year sees the inauguration of a rich, international exchange between two of the world’s premiere arts cities – and two of those cities’ vital contemporary arts venues – as Melbourne’s Arts House and New York’s Performance Space 122 (PS122) share a program of cutting-edge local works.

Premiering in October 2015, the first iteration of the eXchange is presented in partnership with Melbourne Festival, and has been co-curated by Arts House, Melbourne Festival and PS122. Staging works by some of New York theatre’s fresh, experimental voices, this program gives Melbourne audiences the chance to get a taste of New York’s provocative contemporary performance scene.

And in 2016, the roles are reversed: New York samples Melbourne’s exceptional arts scene through a program of works co-curated by Arts House and PS122.

Alongside two exceptional New York shows, *Bronx Gothic* and *YOUARENOWHERE*, Arts House, PS122 and Melbourne Festival are presenting an eclectic program of films, installations and talks to further explore the relationship between Melbourne and New York – two exceptional arts cities that share a passion for pushing performance to its limits. This program will be announced by Arts House and Melbourne Festival on 4 August.

**Presented by Arts House and Melbourne Festival in association with Performance Space 122 (New York), as part of PS122 GLOBAL**

# Bronx Gothic – Olwui Okpokwasili (US)

A solo creation at the intersection of theatre, dance and visual art installation, Bronx Gothic gives palpable force to the charged relationship between two girls on the verge of adolescence in 1980s outer-borough New York City – where Newport cigarettes are bought in singles at the corner bodega, sex-saturated notes are passed in class and Orchard Beach erupts in flames.

Created by New York–based writer, performer and choreographer Okwui Okpokwasili in collaboration with director and designer Peter Born, Bronx Gothic is a performance of psychic and physical collisions that threaten to break the body. Collecting a prestigious ‘Bessie’ award during its New York run, this powerhouse work takes an unflinching look into the exquisite turbulence of one woman’s memory, drawing inspiration from both Victorian-era novels and West African *griot* storytelling.

Bronx Gothic unfolds as a dark and powerful tale of sexual awakening and the body in transformation – and the humour, love, strangeness, and even terror, that accompany it.

**Ticket price:** Full $39 l Student $15 l Conc $25

**Warning:** Adult concepts, coarse language, loud music

.

**Times and Dates:** Thu 8 – Mon 12 October

Thu – Sat 7.30pm

Sun 5pm, Mon 6.30pm

90 minutes

**Location:** Arts House,North Melbourne Town Hall,521 Queensberry Street, North Melbourne

**Written & Performed by:** Okwui Okpokwasili

**Director/Scenic & Lighting Designer:** Peter Born

**Original Songs:** Okwui Okpokwasili

**Music:** Peter Born, Okwui Okpokwasili

**Presented by Arts House and Melbourne Festival in association with Performance Space 122 (New York), as part of PS122 GLOBAL**

# YOUARENOWHERE – Andrew Schneider (US)

Award-winning creator/performer Andrew Schneider (The Wooster Group) presents YOUARENOWHERE, a rapid-fire existential meditation in live performance. Blending physics lecture, pop culture and personal revelation, YOUARENOWHERE exposes cracks and anomalies in the cosmos, dissecting subjects from quantum mechanics and parallel universes to missed connections and AA recovery steps.

YOUARENOWHERE conjures a fluid, shifting landscape of sensory overload, incorporating an array of visual and aural effects, creative coding, interactive electronics and wearable sensors. Battling glitchy transmissions, crackling microphones and lighting instruments that fall from the sky, Schneider transforms physical space, warps linear time and short-circuits preconceptions of what it means to be here, now.

YOUARENOWHERE imagines the awe and discomfort of meeting oneself. What happens when you view yourself from the outside? How do you hold on to yourself when confronted with an exact replica? Which one is real? Which one is you? And what happens next?

**Ticket Price:** Full $39 l Student $15 l Conc $25

**Warning:** Coarse language, haze effects, strobe lights

**Times and Dates:** Thu 15 – Mon 19 October

Thu – Sat 7.30pm

Sat 2pm, Sun 5pm

Mon 6.30pm

60 minutes

**Location:** Arts House,North Melbourne Town Hall,521 Queensberry Street, North Melbourne

**Created by:** Andrew Schneider **Co-Creators:** Alessandra Calabi, Bobby McElver, Peter Musante

**Produced by:** Sandra Garner (Lingua Franca Arts)

**Presented by Arts House and Antechamber Productins**

# EDMUND. THE BEGINING – Antechamber Productions

EDMUND. THE BEGINNING is both an exercise in distorted biography and a confessional torrent. Brian Lipson summons a disordered array of characters from the impatient past and the murky present: some are familiar, some are famous, some are known only to Lipson. None are comfortable.

Fifteen years ago Lipson’s acclaimed solo show, A Large Attendance in the Antechamber, won two Green Room Awards before touring the world for the next seven years. Brian is now considerably older and considerably less wise, but he can still talk very fast.

EDMUND. THE BEGINNING is even more complex than its predecessor, and each of its many characters is both a real person and an imaginary figure. But who imagines whom? Who is Whom? Who is Alive? Who is Dead? And Why?

In EDMUND. THE BEGINNING, literary giants, sirens, reprobates and infants cavort in existential quadrille. A few you will recognise, others you won’t

All will ring bells.

**Ticket Price:** Full $30 l Student $15 l Conc $20 l Preview $15

**Warning:** Coarse language

**Times and Dates:** Tue 10 – Sun 22 November

*Preview* Tue 7pm

Wed – Sun 7pm

90 minutes

*Post Show Q&A* Fri 20 Nov, 8.40pm

**Location:** Arts House,North Melbourne Town Hall,521 Queensberry Street, North Melbourne

**Direction/Choreography:** Nat Cursio

**Collaborating Performers:** Alice Dixon, Melissa Jones,Caroline Meaden, FrancescaMeale, Rae Franco, AmelieMansfield, Pyper Prosen,Pixel Willison-Allen

**Creative Contributors:** Travis Hodgson, TamaraSaulwick, Byron Scullin, Eugyeene Teh

**Presented by Arts House and Mobile States**

# Piece for Person and Ghetto Blaster – Nicola Gunn/SANS HOTEL

Piece for Person and Ghetto Blaster is the story of a man, a woman and a duck. It is about the excruciating realms of human behaviour. It is an attempt to navigate the complexities of trying to become a better person.

Preoccupied by how social conventions obstruct the possibility of personal liberation, Piece for Person and Ghetto Blaster is a duet between physical action and spoken language, setting up a space for dialogue. Calling into question our capacity to make moral judgments and relate to others in an ethical way, the work faces a difficult conclusion: there’s little hope for the future, unless we confront our own responsibilities to make it better.

So what if, all together in the auditorium, we create conflict? And what if we create conflict just so we can practice transformation? Commissioned by Mobile States, this riveting new show from subversive creator/performer Nicola Gunn tries to understand how we can all get along.

**Ticket Price:** Full $30 l Student $15 l Conc $20

**Times and Dates:** Wed 11 – Sun 15 November

Wed – Sat 7.30pm

Sat 2pm, Sun 5pm

70 minutes

Post Show Q&A Thu 12 Nov, 8.50pm

Green Tix for Nix Sat 14 Nov, 2pm

**Location:** Arts House, North Melbourne Town Hall, 521 Queensberry Street, North Melbourne

**Creator & Performer:** Nicola Gunn

**Choreographer:** Jo Lloyd

**Sound Designer & Composer:** Kelly Ryall

**Tour Producer:** Performing Lines

**Presented by Arts House and Ridiculusmus**

# Give Me Your Love – Ridiculusmus (AU/UK)

In a kitchen, somewhere in West Wales, a war veteran called Zach has withdrawn into a box. A friend called Ieuan arrives, offering recovery in the form of dialogue and a capsule containing 3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine. He’s participated in trials for treating chronic PTSD with psychedelic drugs, and says he’s cured.

What follows soars into a psychoactive dream of delirium, trauma and supermarket shopping as the two men are parachuted into their own fractured pasts – their symptoms expressing the pathologies of a disturbed world.

Give Me Your Love is the second instalment of Ridiculusmus’s three-pronged investigation into innovative approaches to mental health. Informed by the latest scientific research, it explores the healing potential in altered states of consciousness.

**Ticket Price:** Full $30 l Student $15 l Conc $20

**Times and dates:** Wed 18 – Sun 22 November

Wed – Sat 7.30pm

Sat 2pm, Sun 5pm 70 minutes

*Post Show Q&A Thu 19 Nov, 8.50pm*

*Green Tix for Nix Sat 21 Nov, 2pm*

**Location:** Arts House, North Melbourne Town Hall, 521 Queensberry Street, North Melbourne

**Written, Directed & Performed by:** David Woods and Jon Haynes

# SUMMERTIME PARTY!

Come help us celebrate summer and see out the year in style, with a great big party at our house. There’ll be incredible artists to amaze and entertain you, swingin’ musicians to get you swingin’ too, and plenty of other stuff to have fun doing. Everyone is invited! We’ll announce details in the coming months but one thing is guaranteed – it’ll be like no house party ever before.

Arts House is proud of our diverse community – our artists, our audiences, our friends and our neighbours – so dress up in your finest and let’s have some footloose fun together!

Thanks for spending another great year with us – come and hang out at Arts House one last time as the days get longer, and get in some practice for a long, hot summer.

**Ticket price:** All tickets $10

**Times and dates:**

Sat 5 December, 6pm – late

**Location:** Arts House, North Melbourne Town Hall, 521 Queensberry Street, North Melbourne

# 4 Walls: Space for Developing, Testing and Rehearsal

Do you want to develop or present work at Arts House?

4 Walls is a new venue support program enabling 24-hour access to Arts House venues for selected independent artists and small-to-medium companies. What you get is four walls at no cost – the program doesn’t include technical equipment or support. Application is by an Expression of Interest process – we’ll be announcing details of how to apply in July. Set dates will be offered each season based on venue availability, with the maximum time offered capped at four weeks.

The 4 Walls program supports the testing of new ideas, or the development or rehearsal of new work, that aligns with the Arts House artistic policy – see the Arts House website. There is no obligation to present finished work at Arts House.

Public events (including development showings to an audience), commercial projects and non-arts projects are not supported by 4 Walls.

4 Walls has been trialling since January 2015. Artists supported so far include Ashley Dyer, Sheep Knuckle (UK), Mari Lourey, The She’s Have Forgotten, Sisters Grimm, All the Queens Men, Lee Serle, Chi Vu, Amelia McQueen and ILBIJERRI Theatre Company.

Arts House is calling for Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to develop new work that imaginatively and skilfully enriches and extends contemporary arts ideas and practice. This round of EOIs will have a focus on dance for Dance Massive, with project developments taking place at Arts House between July 2016 and June 2017. EOIs open on Monday 28 September 2015 and close at midnight on Monday 26 October 2015.

If you have presentation-ready work and you’d like to present it at Arts House from August 2016 onwards (including Dance Massive in March 2017), you can submit your EOI at any time throughout 2015 – there is no closing date.

Visit ‘Opportunities for Artists’ at artshouse.com.au.

# CultureLAB

**Natalie Abbott**

**LIMITLESS**

LIMITLESScelebrates the potential and beauty in failure and fallibility, looking at how these concepts might be performed authentically in collaboration with lights, sound and staging. It attempts to pull apart attachment to the preconceived, allowing and celebrating something that is imperfect, and exploring the choreographic potential within it.

**Liz Dunn**

**Aeon**

*Aeon* is an outdoor sound-and movement project that ‘queeries’ ecology, flocking and adaptation. Experimental, site-responsive and participatory, it interrogates what’s ‘natural’ and ‘unnatural’, and our experience of collective here-ness in the Anthropocene epoch. Artists Liz Dunn, Lawrence English, Lara Thoms and Shian Law will engage with queer seniors and research human–pigeon relationships.

**Jodee Mundy Collaborations**

**Museum of Imagined Touch**

*Museum of Imagined Touch* is a multi-sensory live art project exploring Deafblind culture. Is touch our most important sense? Touch is the main way Deafblind people navigate the world and connect

with family and friends. Working with deafblind collaborators, a new creative form emerges, combining interactive performance, tactile design and touch.

**Shian Law**

**Vanishing Point**

*Vanishing Point* is a hybrid performance project exploring the ambiguity of authorship by

juxtaposing two artistic mediums: portraiture and choreography. Shian Law employs a range of(un)orthodox strategies including documentary, archiving and theft, to unsettle the question:‘Whose show is this?’

**MKA: Theatre of New Writing**

**The Blatant Jokes**

It’s a killer track. Literally. Mum’s dead. Everyone at the funeral’s dead. Millions of people who’ve watched it on YouTube are dead. The Blatant Jokes are the biggest thing to happen to pop music since... Developed by Tobias Manderson-Galvin (MKA), Ben Ely (Regurgitator), Liam Barton (Black Lung) and more.

**Joseph O’Farrell (JOF) & Sam Halmarack**

**WE ARE LIGHTNING!**

JOF and Sam are setting out to discover adventure, and what it means to you. This exciting international collaboration will involve teen garage bands from the UK and Australia, creating a model where developing the artwork is as important as the outcome. Part documentary-theatre, part Battle of the Bands.

**Mariaa Randall**

**Divercity**

Originally a 4-minute dance film, *Divercity* is now envisaged as a 60-minute dance performance. This development brings together women from three Aboriginal Nations to explore their different movement vocabularies. Each dancer/ kooriographer offers unique skills, contributing to the depth of a work that challenges assumptions about Aboriginality and captures the diversity of Aboriginal Australia.

**Sisters Grimm**

**MANOR**

Taking inspiration from the manor-house mysteries of Agatha Christie, Sisters Grimm’s *MANOR* examines contemporary modes of production and consumption through the prism of TV ‘bingewatching’. A durational work, *MANOR* will unfold as a 24-hour event, live-directed by its creators.

**Alicia Talbot & Richard Gregory (Quarantine UK)**

**Acts Of Generos ity Or Let Me Tell You What I Reckon …**

Part life coach, part personal assistant, part trusted friend, *Acts Of Generosity Or Let Me Tell You What I Reckon…* is a highly personal exchange between each audience member and a director, exploring the complexities of the everyday. This work is about kindness, strong opinions and hope.

**Yumi Umiumare**

**The Pop -Up Tearoom Series**

Inspired by the Japanese notion of *ma* (space) and the rituals of tea ceremony, *The Pop-Up Tearoom Series* harnesses simple rituals and embraces deeper narratives of social and cultural perspectives. Collaborating with dancers, visual artists, sound artists and interdisciplinary artists, Yumi Umiumare will explore this unique, reflective space, creating a participatory performance installation

# Exchange 2015

**A cultural and practice exchange between artists, audiences and their cities, eXchange 2015 brings together three dance-based artists from Taipei and three from Melbourne, in a collaborative residency with components in two locations.**

Participating artists gathered in Melbourne in March for an initial residency during Dance Massive, exploring each other’s practices along with the sites and histories of the city, and undertaking the first development of six new works for solo performance.

This August, eXchange 2015 continues in Taipei, where the artists will take part in an intensive three week residency followed by a performance season. Continuing a dialogue between cities, artists and cultures, their works will be presented in a single performance program, inviting reflection on what makes us uniquely separate and what draws us inevitably together.

**eXchange 2015** is initiated by Fragment31/Leisa Shelton (Melbourne) with Century Contemporary Dance/Shu-Fen Yao (Taipei), in collaboration with Arts House and Taipei Arts Festival. Participating dance artists are Natalie Abbott, Peter Fraser, Melanie Lane, Lee Tsung-hsuan, Tien Hsiao-Tzu and Wu Yu-Hsien.

**The Guangfu Auditorium, Taipei Zhongshan Hall, Taipei, Taiwan**

**Date and time:** Fri 28 – Sun 30 August

Fri & Sat, 7:30pm

Sun, 2:30pm

**Bookings and more information via eng.taipeifestival.org.tw.**

# Artist in Residence Program

**Arts House is thrilled to announce our inaugural Artist in Residence Program.**

This curated program is for multidisciplinary artists, and is designed to allow them to spend longer and more flexible periods of time working at Arts House.

As well as developing their own work, our artists in residence will contribute to the development of contemporary art practices more broadly, by engaging with other areas of the Arts House program. This may include guest-curating festivals, speaking at our Supper Club series, presenting workshops, connecting with the local community or advising on particular projects.

This season’s artists in residence are Megan Cope, Mariaa Randall and Isaac Drandic; Jason Maling and Song-Ming Ang (supported by the National Arts Council, Singapore); and Antony Hamilton.

# Hotel Obscura LAB

**3 – 8 August 2015**

Twelve Australian artists meet at Arts House in August to take part in the Hotel Obscura LAB, the final stage of the EU/Australian collaborative project, Hotel Obscura 2014–16. This two-year international project is led by Triage Artistic Director Katerina Kokkinos-Kennedy, with collaborators in Austria, France and Greece. Hotel Obscura focuses on creating intimate, interactive and immersive performance events that invite audiences to explore their identities, dreams and alternative worlds.

Throughout a week-long residency with Triage, the Hotel Obscura LAB artists will design, develop and test two works: a 15-minute intimate work for a hotel room; and a second work designed to activate the wider Hotel Obscura context. Building on participants’ current practices as well as ideas tested during the *Live Art Camp* in 2014, the Hotel Obscura LAB will provide artists with a strong framework in which to develop a suite of fascinating, risky and diverse live art works. Hotel Obscura will be presented by Arts House as part of the Festival of Live Art in 2016.

**Artistic Director:** Katerina Kokkinos-Kennedy (Triage)

**Key Collaborator:** Melanie Jame Wolf (Triage**)**

**LAB Artistic Leader:** Katerina Kokkinos Kennedy

**Australian Executive Producer:** Erin Milne

**European Union Executive Producer:** Mezzanine Spectacles

**Project Curators:** Triage with Arts House

# Time \_Place\_Space: Nomad

**16 – 29 November 2015**

Following on from last year’s Time\_Place\_Space: Nomad, in country New South Wales, Time\_Place\_ Space: Nomad 2015 heads out west through regional Victoria this November. Over two weeks, from Melbourne to the Otways to Natimuk, deep in the Wimmera, emerging and established artists working across disciplines, cultures and media will drive, eat, explore and camp out together, testing and developing their ideas as part of a travelling laboratory for interdisciplinary and experimental art.

This year’s Time\_Place\_Space artists will specifically explore issues of economic downturn, scarcity and transience, of place and nationhood, and of the bare necessities of life and art-making in an unfixed and ever-changing environment. Facilitated by a team of Australian and international artist–facilitators, Time\_Place\_Space: Nomad will provide a forum for exchange, opportunities to scope out more sustainable ways of working, activities and provocations to bust open artistic boundaries, and a supportive and analytical environment in which to walk, talk, think and make.

Time\_Place\_Space: Nomad is a national initiative that aims to challenge, invigorate and strengthen interdisciplinary and experimental arts practice in Australia, emphasising collaborative performancemaking, site-specific practice and artistic resilience. Fourteen Australian artists will take part, along with three visiting Canadian artists supported by The Canada Council for the Arts.

Follow the journey through the Time\_Place\_Space blog: time-place-space.tumblr.com.

# Peer Learning Program

Arts House and Theatre Network (Vic) have joined forces to produce the Peer Learning Program, bringing together artists and arts workers who have worked, or who plan to work, within the City of Melbourne. The program includes three ‘peer learning circles’, which meet regularly throughout winter and spring 2015, with each circle addressing a different theme.

While the peer learning circles are facilitated, they are mostly self-directed, providing an open and comfortable environment for sharing issues, ideas and plans. Participants in the Peer Learning Program have been selected through an Expression of Interest process.

# In Your Hands

In Your Hands continues throughout 2015, supporting selected artists and their digital collaborators to create works that include interactive technologies and active audience participation. Commissioned by Arts House in partnership with the Australia Council’s New Digital Theatre initiative, development of these four new works began in mid-2014 and continues throughout 2015 to be premiered in 2016.

Artists taking part in In Your Hands are performance maker Tamara Saulwick with musician/composer Peter Knight and live artist Martyn Coutts; artist/scholar/teacher Robert Walton with live artist Jason Maling; theatre maker Michelle Lee with director Tanya Dickson; and theatre maker David Finnigan with media artist Keith Armstrong.

# About Arts House

Arts House is well-established as one of Australia’s most exciting contemporary arts presenters. Its dynamic program of activities spans the development and presentation of innovative, multidisciplinary works; stimulating peer and sector development programs; and the curation of adventurous, high-calibre festival seasons. As a City of Melbourne program, Arts House enjoys a stability that allows long-term artistic vision and ongoing investment in new ideas and art forms.

Following a new City of Melbourne Arts Strategy direction in early 2015, Arts House is poised to build on its strengths and to broaden and deepen its impact and reach, locally, nationally and internationally. Its approach is holistic, supporting the various stages in the life cycle of artistic creation: from great ideas to incubation and development, and from premiere seasons to presentation of works as part of internationally significant market platforms such as Dance Massive and the Festival of Live Art.

Skilled curation of innovative work, combined with a vibrant Expression of Interest process, ensures

that new voices are heard and supported within a distinctive and compelling program. With a focus on work that expands and challenges current arts practice, Arts House also enthusiastically invites audiences into an ever-expanding range of arts experiences, as viewers, contributors and participants.

Arts House values an imaginative, diverse, just and environmentally sustainable global society. Respectful and welcoming of all members of our community, we recognise the unique and continuing culture of Indigenous Australians, and respectfully acknowledge that our activities take place on the traditional lands of the Kulin Nation.

For more information please contact us on (03) 9322 3720 or visit artshouse.com.au.

# Project Supporters

**All Ears** is a House On Fire Project, supported by the Culture Programme of the European Union, the Flemish Community, and the City of Melbourne through Arts House.

**Bronx Gothic** was co-commissioned by PS122, Danspace Project, LMCC and the Jerome Foundation, with residency support from the Armory, New York Live Arts and Baryshnikov Arts Center. Additional commissioning support by Le Mallion; Théâtre de Gennevilliers; Theatre Garonne and Zagrebačko Kazalište Mladih; and is supported by Melbourne Festival and the City of Melbourne through Arts House.

**Confusion for Three** has been supported by the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, its arts funding and advisory body; the Victorian Government through Creative Victoria; the City of Port Phillip through the Cultural Development Fund; Lucy Guerin Inc.; Chunky Move; Besen Family Foundation; and the City of Melbourne through Arts House.

CultureLAB has been supported by the Victorian Government through Creative Victoria, and the City of Melbourne through Arts House.

**Dance of the Bee** has been supported by the Victorian Government through Creative Victoria, The Robert Salzer Foundation, and the City of Melbourne through Arts House. In Your Hands has been supported by the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, its arts funding and advisory body; and the City of Melbourne through Arts House.

**Edmund. The Beginning** has been supported by the Victorian Government through Creative Victoria, Bell Shakespeare, and the City of Melbourne through Arts House.

**eXchange 2015** has been supported by the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, its arts funding and advisory body; and the City of Melbourne through Arts House.

**Give Me Your Love** has been supported by the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, its arts funding and advisory body; Victorian College of the Arts, Melbourne University; and the City of Melbourne through Arts House.

**The Hotel Obscura** Lab is supported by the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, its arts and funding advisory body; the European Cultural Commission Third Country Funding Program (EEAC); and the City of Melbourne through Arts House.

**Piece for Person and Ghetto Blaster** is commissioned by Mobile States, and supported by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body; Punctum; the Victorian Government through Creative Victoria; Besen Family Foundation; and the City of Melbourne through Arts House.

**SDS1** is toured by Performing Lines for Mobile States; and has been supported by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body; Urban Theatre Projects and CC Luchtbal (Belgium); and the City of Melbourne through Arts House.

**Time\_Place\_Space: Nomad** is an initiative produced by Performance Space and Arts House, City of Melbourne; assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, its funding and advisory body; the Victorian Government through Creative Victoria; and CanadaCouncil for the Arts.

**YOUARENOWHERE** was commissioned by Mass Live Arts and PS122; and supported by the Jerome Foundation; New York State Council on the Arts; and the New York State Legislature; Mass Live Arts; Abrons Arts Center; The Bushwick Starr; Melbourne Festival and the City of Melbourne

through Arts House.

# Venues and Access

**Arts House**

521 Queensberry Street, North Melbourne VIC 3051

General enquiries: (03) 9322 3720

Bookings: (03) 9322 3720

Public transport:

Tram 57 – Stop 12, corner Queensberry & Errol Streets, North Melbourne

**Meat Market**

Enter 36 Courtney St, North Melbourne

# Wheelchair Access

Arts House venues are wheelchair accessible, however certain performances may be restricted. Please discuss all access requirements with ticketing staff when booking.

For access enquiries contact Arts House via artshouse@melbourne.vic.gov.au or on (03) 9322 3713.

# Accessible Program Guide

An accessible copy of the program guide is available online at artshouse.com.au.

# How to Buy Tickets

Tickets can be purchased online at artshouse.com.au or by phone on (03) 9322 3713.

Tickets may be purchased at the venue one hour before the performance, subject to availability.

Please note there will be a $1.50 transaction fee per booking when booking online or by phone.

# Concession & Student Tickets

Concession prices apply to persons who are aged 14 years and under, full pensioners, Victorian Carer Card holders, Seniors Card holders, welfare benefit recipients and the unemployed.

Full-time and part-time students are able to attend specific shows for a discounted price. You must have a valid student card to access this discount. Proof of concession or student eligibility is required at point of sale and upon entering venues

# Multi-Arts Package

Sample three, four or five multi-arts experiences during August and September and save!

Purchase a full-priced ticket to five August/ September shows in one transaction and receive a hefty 25% discount. Buy a full-priced ticket to four shows in one transaction for 20% off, or select three shows at full price in one transaction for 15% off.

Choose from:

• **SDS1** (page 4)

• **Confusion for Three** (page 6)

• **All Ears** (page 8)

• **A Drone Opera** (page 10)

• **Dance of the Bee** (page 12)

This package is available for purchase until Sunday 22 August.

# Performance Package

Purchase a full-priced ticket to each of our three October/November shows in a single transaction and save 15%.

• **Edmund. The Beginning** (page 20)

• **Piece for Person and Ghetto Blaster** (page 22)

• **Give Me Your Love** (page 24)

This package is on sale only until Sunday 15 November

# Multi-Arts Package

See all eight shows for 30% off! Package rules apply as above – offer is for full-price tickets, booked in a single transaction.

• **SDS1** (page 4)

• **Confusion for Three** (page 6)

• **All Ears** (page 8)

• **A Drone Opera** (page 10)

• **Dance for a Bee** (page 12)

• **Edmund. The Beginning** (page 20)

• **Piece for Person and Ghetto Blaster** (page 22)

• **Give Me Your Love** (page 24)

This package can only be booked until Sunday 22 August.

Book packages online at artshouse.com.au or phone (03) 9322 3713.

# Refunds & Exchanges

Arts House regrets it is not possible to refund completed bookings, except as required by the LPA Ticketing Code of Conduct. Exchanges are only permitted for another performance of the same event, and must be arranged via the ticketing team by calling (03) 9322 3713.

# Green Tix for Nix

Get here green and we’ll keep the tickets lean. Arts House is paving the way to a more sustainable future with Green Tix for Nix. For certain performances, if you get here ‘green’ you’ll pay nothing to see the show. We will want to see your bike helmet, freshly touched-off myki or smokin’ sneaker soles when you arrive.

All tickets to the following performances are free if you follow the simple rule – get to the event without using the car:

**Confusion for Three** (page 6)

Sat 29 Aug, 2pm

**Piece for Person and Ghetto Blaster** (page 22)

Sat 14 Nov, 2pm

**Give Me Your Love** (page 26)

Sat 21 Nov, 2pm

**Summertime Party!** (page 28)

Sat 5 Dec, 6pm

Help us reduce our carbon footprint by taking public transport, walking, cycling or using one of the many other ways to travel green.

Although your ticket is free, you will incur a $1.50 transaction fee and will need to book in advance – either online at artshouse.com.au using the promo code ‘GREEN’, or by phone on (03) 9322 3720. Green Tix are limited to two per person and are available two weeks prior to the performance date.

# Locals Discount

If you’re a ‘local’, you can purchase tickets to all Arts House presented events at concession prices.

Locals are also invited to attend the Summertime Party!

You’ll just need to show us proof of residence when you pick up your tickets – all residents of North Melbourne, West Melbourne, Kensington and the CBD are eligible.

Book online at artshouse.com.au using the promo code ‘LOCAL’ or by phone on (03) 9322 3713.