



Artistic Notes

When my son was three years old he came across a fly on the floor. A dead fly lying on its back. I picked it up by its little wing, opened the back door and threw it out into the winter night. My son, concerned about the welfare of the fly asked, ‘Mum, why did you throw the fly out the back?’.

I said, ‘Because it was dead.’

‘Won’t it be cold?’ he asked.

I said, ‘No it won’t be cold because it’s dead.’ And I laughed.

Then later, after climbing into bed: ‘Mum, will I feel the cold when I’m dead?’

I said, ‘No you won’t feel the cold because... ’

He said, ‘Mum, will I be able to see when I’m dead? How will I be able to speak? Where will you be when I’m dead? Mum? How will I find you when I’m dead?’

For my young son, the idea of death, of life ending, was beyond imagination. Embedded in his questions lies the very human desire to stay connected to loved ones. Always. In some ways **Endings** is an extension of that, and subsequent conversations with my son, my father and others. The work is built in part from a series of recorded conversations or interviews that revolved around the general theme of endings and, in particular, that of life ending. The interview participants, many of whom are personal friends, entered into the

process with enormous generosity, trust and grace. I thank each and every one of them. It was a genuine privilege to hear their stories.

In **Endings**, fragments of these conversations emerge from the old analogue technologies of tape and vinyl. In working with these vintage players, we hope to embrace the qualities of unpredictability, fragility and decay that they bring to the piece and so resonate with its overarching themes. In a culture where death is rarely discussed candidly, **Endings** creates a collective holding place for this most inevitable of shared experiences – a place within which multiple stories and perspectives can be voiced and evoked. **Endings** is a homage to loved ones no longer living.

Tamara Saulwick

Insite Arts

Insite Arts is an Australian independent producer working with artists to initiate ideas, develop and create art, and take art to audiences. As a producer, Insite Arts provides key artistic support and management to artists’ projects and practices, collaborating with them from concept through to realisation.

Thank You

Tamara Saulwick expresses heartfelt thanks to Angharad and the team at Arts House for the continued support of her work, and to Freya and Insite Arts. Thanks also to James Savage, Miles O’Neil, Brienna Macnish, David Murphy, Yoni Prior, John Cummings, Helen and Peter Murdoch, Milly, Chunky Move, Erin Milne, Vanessa Chapple, Jo Talia, David Ricardo from Cut Record, Rachel Hatherley, and Max at Footscray TV & Hifi Service. And thanks to Michelle Heaven for her keen outside eye in these last days.

Dedicated to Irving Saulwick, 25.4.1930 – 1.8.2012

Arts House

Arts House presents contemporary arts in programs encompassing performance, festivals, 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. Approximately half of this work is selected through an 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 the details below.

521 Queensberry Street
North Melbourne VIC 3051
(03) 9322 3720
artshouse@melbourne.vic.gov.au
artshouse.com.au

ARTS HOUSE **M CITY OF MELBOURNE**

Presented by Arts House, Tamara Saulwick and Insite Arts

Tamara Saulwick Endings

**Arts House,
North Melbourne Town Hall**

Wed 13 – Sun 17 March 2015

1hr, no interval

Post-Show Q&A Thu 14, 8.40pm

Endings has been supported by the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, its arts funding and advisory body; Besen Family Foundation; Creative Victoria; and the City of Melbourne through Arts House. Commissioned by Performance Space and Arts House.

artshouse.com.au
tamarasaulwick.com

f artshousemelbourne **t** @artshousemelb **in** @artshouse

ARTS HOUSE **M CITY OF MELBOURNE** Australia Council for the Arts **CREATIVE VICTORIA** **Victoria** **Besen Family FOUNDATION** **insite arts**

Creative Team

Concept, Text & Performance
Tamara Saulwick
Sound Design, Composition & Operation
Peter Knight
Songwriting & Performance **Paddy Mann**
Set & Lighting Design **Ben Cobham (bluebottle)**
Dramaturgy **Margaret Trail**
Costume Design **Harriet Oxley**
Technical Management, Audio Engineering & Operation **Nick Roux**
Production Management & Operation
Emily O'Brien
Producer **Freya Waterson (Insite Arts)**

Interviewees **Christine Grace, Carolyn Hanna, David Wells, Faridah Whyte, Neil Cameron, Jane Hall, Hanspeter Horner, Maryanne Caleo, Annie Edney, Irving Saulwick, Lorraine Culross, Meri Vitas**

Photos **Jeff Busby** (cover), **Heidrun Löhr** (below)



Biographies

Tamara Saulwick
Concept, Text & Performance

Tamara Saulwick creates contemporary performance works for theatres and public spaces. Building on over 20 years experience, her individual practice has coalesced in recent years into a singular and compelling voice. Utilising digital, mobile and analogue technologies, with a particular emphasis placed on the role of sound in live performance, her works reflect on how we as individuals connect, confront and interact with one another.

Tamara Saulwick’s work has toured nationally and internationally, been adapted for radio, received numerous nominations and awards, and is produced by Insite Arts. Her solo work, *Pin Drop*, presented by Arts House (2010) received critical acclaim, was nominated for four Green Room Awards and won the Outstanding Production Award (Theatre – Hybrid Performance). *Pin Drop* was later presented at the Malthouse Theatre (2011), toured nationally with Mobile States (2012), was adapted for ABC Radio National (2013) and was presented at Tramway in Glasgow (2014). Other recent works include two Big West Festival commissions for public spaces, *Seddon Archives* (2011) and *PUBLIC* (2013).

Appointed as Artistic Associate for Chamber Made Opera in 2014, Tamara Saulwick is currently developing a new theatre/music work in collaboration with composer, Kate Neal. Also in development is a new digital theatre work commissioned by Arts House for the 2016 Festival of Live Art. Tamara Saulwick is the recipient of a 2015 Australia Council Theatre Fellowship.

Peter Knight
Sound Design, Composition & Operation

Multidisciplinary musician, Peter Knight, has gained wide acclaim for his eclectic integration of jazz, world music and experimental approaches. His work as both performer and composer is regularly featured in a range of ensemble settings. He also composes for theatre and creates sound installations. In 2013 he was appointed Artistic Director of the Australian Art Orchestra. Perpetually curious, his practice defies categorisation – indeed, he works in the spaces between categories, between genres and between cultures. He has developed an international following for his work with nine albums in as many years, showcasing a diverse range of ensembles and approaches.

Peter Knight is the recipient of numerous awards and nominations including an Australia Council Music Fellowship, two Bell Jazz Awards, and APRA/AMC Art Music, Green Room Theatre (Sound Design) and AIR Independent Music awards. He holds a doctorate from the Queensland Conservatorium/Griffith University, and was named the University’s 2013 Alumnus of the Year.

Paddy Mann
Songwriting & Performance

Under the moniker Grand Salvo, singer/songwriter Paddy Mann has created six albums of songs that are not easy to categorise but which can perhaps be described as contemporary folk. He is recognised by many as one of Australia’s finest songwriters, and Grand Salvo has a steadily growing and loyal following. He has staged two album launches

at Melba Hall, with a 20-piece ensemble, and has played at the Fairfax Studio, Arts Centre Melbourne; the Famous Spiegeltent; the Meredith Music Festival; the Guggenheim Museum in Metz; and the ‘Music Apartment’ festival in Fukuoka, Japan. His albums have been selected as album of the week on radio stations PBS, RRR, Radio National, 3CR and RTR. In 2013, his most recent album, *Slay Me in My Sleep* (Preservation), recorded in Berlin with Nils Frahm, was shortlisted for the Australian Music Prize.

Ben Cobham (bluebottle)
Set & Lighting Design

Together with its talented and valued staff, bluebottle creates its own design and light-based work, and is fortunate to engage with a diverse range of artists, designers and their projects. bluebottle’s work can be seen in theatres, galleries, museums, found architectural spaces and architecture, through disciplines including music, dance, visual art and exhibitions. bluebottle has designed for theatre and dance projects with artists and companies including Back to Back Theatre, Ilbijerri Theatre Company, Malthouse Theatre, Lucy Guerin Inc, Chunky Move, Jenny Kemp, BalletLab and The Australian Ballet.

Margaret Trail
Dramaturgy

Margaret Trail is a graduate of the VCA School of Drama, and has a Postgraduate Diploma in Art History from Monash University and a PhD in Performance Studies from Victoria University. She has worked extensively in the composition and teaching of performance. Throughout the 1990s and 2000s she made many works for theatre, installation and radio,

investigating relationships between sound, movement and words. From 1998 to 2014 she was a Lecturer at Victoria University, Melbourne, where she supervised numerous MA and PhD investigations in performance and writing.

Harriet Oxley
Costume Design

Harriet Oxley has recently designed costumes for Victorian Opera’s *Into the Woods*, Gideon Obarzanek’s *L’Chaim* for Sydney Dance Company, Dislocate’s *If These Walls Could Talk* for Melbourne Festival, and the VCA music theatre department’s *Li’l Abner*. Her previous costume design credits include *Assembly*, a Chunky Move/Victorian Opera co-production for the Melbourne and Sydney Festivals (2011/2012); Chunky Move’s *Mix Tape* by Stephanie Lake; *A Small Prometheus* by Stephanie Lake and Robin Fox for Melbourne Festival (2013); Ros Warby’s *Tower Suites*; Jenny Kemp’s *Madeleine*; *Floored* by Victoria Chiu; and the big-budget musical, *Moonshadow: The Musical*. For Victorian Opera she has also designed *The Bear*, *Angelique* and *Snow Queen*. Her design for *Angelique* won the Green Room Award for Design in Opera in 2011. She also collaborated with Tamara Saulwick on *Pin Drop* (2010).

Nick Roux
Technical Management,
Audio Engineering & Operation

Nick Roux is an artist who prefers to remain unhindered by the constraints of a medium or toolset. His works manifest themselves through a wide range of formats. As a composer and system designer for live performance he has worked with Luke

George, Tristan Meecham, Chunky Move, Aphids, Nicola Gunn, Dario Vacirca, Ashley Dyer, Torque Show, Tamara Saulwick, Arts House and Kristy Ayre. Together with real-time motion graphics developer, Frieder Weiss, he recently designed and programmed the large scale real-time video graphics system for *King Kong: The Musical*. He has also created video works for gallery installation *Global Creatures*, and for Chunky Move, Not Yet It’s Difficult and Next Wave festival. His short film, *Homemade*, was selected for Flickerfest International Short Film Festival (2009); and *The Palindromist*, a short dance film, was selected for Cinedans dance film festival in the Netherlands (2011).

Emily O'Brien
Production Management & Operation

Emily O'Brien has extensive experience both locally and internationally, working primarily for the performing arts, festivals, and cultural and corporate events. She completed a Bachelor of Dramatic Arts at the VCA School of Production in 2002, and in the same year undertook an internship at the prestigious Performing Garage for The Wooster Group in New York City. She completed a Master of Arts Management degree at the University of Melbourne in 2012. She is a founding member of the production collective, First In Last Out. Her clients, collaborators and projects include All Tomorrow’s Parties, Arena Theatre Co, BalletLab, Boogie Festival, Comedy@Trades, Commonwealth Games Cultural Festival (Melbourne 2006), Federation Square, Film Victoria, Harley Davidson, Harvest Festival, Melbourne Festival, Nat Cursio Co, Next Wave, Polyglot Theatre, Sans Hotel, the Other Film Festival and Westside Circus.