Arts House, as a key program of the City of Melbourne, is Melbourne's contemporary centre for performance and interactive art forms. We support innovative responses to the changing nature of our cities through creative interdisciplinary practice, curated through a balance of provocation, responsiveness and collaboration with artists, communities and audiences.

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## **Arts House**

## Season 1, 2018





ARTS House

#### Acknowledgement of Country

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

#### Message from the Lord Mayor of Melbourne and Councillor Leppert

Bold, risky and vibrant: Season 1 2018 presents a thought provoking program of works designed to enthral, entertain and challenge.

Don't miss the third iteration of the Festival of Live Art, the perfect event for curious audiences. Developed in partnership with Theatre Works and Footscray Community Arts Centre, the festival brings together some of our city's boldest practitioners in a celebration of performance art at its experimental best.

Melbourne is one of the world's great creative cities and Arts House

plays a vital role in nurturing our artistic community. It's our city's home of independent arts and supports artists to develop new works and test ideas. The works presented as part of this new season cement Arts House's reputation as one of Australia's most exciting contemporary arts venues.

Arts House Season 1 2018 is sure to challenge and inspire and if the purpose of art is to provoke critical discussion, then it will do just that.

 Robert Doyle AC, Lord Mayor & Councillor Rohan Leppert

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## Season 1, 2018

## It's what you make of it

As we go to print, foyer renovations are underway at North Melbourne Town Hall, where for months we've been negotiating the myriad decisions that go into revitalising a heritage-listed building. The metaphor hasn't escaped us: as our beloved, outgoing Artistic Director Angharad Wynne-Jones leaves for new adventures, we enter a time of renovation, flux and new solutions.

So for 2018 we embrace the year of the hack, doing what we do with what we have – the ultimate creative skill.

For the third Festival of Live Art we invite you – actually we need you – to help us make the work: there are onesies to sew, topics to be debated, trinkets to assemble and landscapes to be painted. It's all about getting your hands dirty! All this art takes elbow grease and every vote counts. This festival is entirely up to you.

For Next Wave in May we welcome a bunch of brilliant artists exploring identity, gender and colonisation. Selina Thompson (UK) presents her Edinburgh Fringe hit, *salt.*; we premiere a new work by Sydney duo, Black Birds; and Roberta Rich creates a compelling new video installation.

Like the mortar between our festival experiences, works like Personal -Jodee Mundy's autobiography as a KODA (Kid of Deaf Adults) – reveal ideas of perception and perspective. In June, we see two unique installations about privacy, secrets and spectatorship: LONE by THE **RABBLE and St Martins, and a new** version of The Naked Self by Michele Lee and Tanya Dickson. Finally, and perhaps as an augury of Season 2, Melbourne gets to meet Carrion - a macabre, post-human spectre from a truly unique performer, Justin Shoulder.

Not least, we're also planning our third *Refuge*, scheduled for September 2018, on the theme of pandemic. Artists and other collaborators will wrestle with our biggest challenge in a pandemic: how we bring the community together when, in a contagious health crisis, we would need to be kept apart.

So be prepared: it's time to embrace the chaos, to change, to hack, push up our sleeves and have a crack at figuring out what's next. And we'll need your help!

 Josh Wright Acting Artistic Director





### Festival of Live Art

13—25 March 2018

### Vote. Move. Act. Witness. Unite. Risk. Revolution. Real. Adventure.

The Festival of Live Art's third edition springs you out of your comfort zone and into everything from onesies to whisperings and from 'twerkshop' to truckstop. Play and be challenged, find your pleasure and soak up all the experimental, participatory and interactive experience you can between 13 and 25 March. From the epic to the microscopic, the Festival of Live Art is all about curiosity, encounter and making it happen together!

4–8pm, Wed 14 – Sat 17 Mar & Wed 21 – Sat 24 Mar 12–4pm, Sun 18 & 25 Mar FREE to attend

Mar Arts House North Melbourne Town Hall

## Wowzzzeee





Wowzzzeee unites people through the making and wearing of onesies! Become part of the wowzzzeee universe with a wowzzzeee of your own – a onesie with the WOW factor!

During the Festival of Live Art, 500 wowzzeees will be released into the world. Racks full of wowzzzeees sized from baby to adult will accumulate around an inspired and dedicated wowzzzeeemaking team. These intrepid treadlers will sweat to the humming beat of their machines, in order to keep up with demand throughout the Festival.

These must-have wowzzzeees come at a price, and wearers will be encouraged to keep them on until they go to bed that night. Be part of the pack and contribute to a common goal – join us to create the work, become the work, and take the wowzzzeee stance into the world!





Presented by Arts House for Festival of Live Art

## Worktable

4–8pm, Wed 14 – Sat 17 Mar & Wed 21 – Sat 24 Mar 12–4pm, Sun 18 & 25 Mar Allow 45 mins \$20 | \$15 Warning: 16+ Arts House North Melbourne Town Hall

## Kate McIntosh



Active, meditative, creative or destructive, *Worktable* is a live installation with you at the centre. Over several days, *Worktable* unfolds in a series of rooms. Enter alone and stay as long as you like. Once inside you'll find instructions, equipment and safety goggles so you can get to work. It's up to you to decide how things come apart, and how they hang together.

New-Zealand-born and Brusselsbased Kate McIntosh (*All Ears*) is guided by her ongoing fascinations with the misuse of objects, playfulness with audiences and offbeat humour. *Worktable* is no exception. We provide the hammer – you do the rest. Sign in and get to work!

▲ Uncanny Valley, Girl 7pm, Wed 14 – Sat 17 Mar 4pm, Sun 18 Mar 50 mins \$30 | \$20 | \$15

**Angela Goh** 

**Arts House** North Melbourne Town Hall **World Premiere** Presented by Arts House for Festival of Live Art

## Let's Go Up Here

6pm, Wed 14 - Sat 17 Mar 1pm, Sun 18 Mar 180 mins \$30 | \$20 | \$15 Warning: Partial nudity and haze effects Arts House North Melbourne Town Hall

Slown, Smallened & Son



Uncanny Valley, Girl plunges into the depths of the uncanny valley, where borders blur between living and inanimate, real and unreal, pleasure and horror. The female body meets the machine, in a hybrid performance that unsettles erotic fantasies and technological utopias alike.

In cinematic history, the female cyborg has portrayed a double dread. Technology rising up to destroy the world is all the more horrifying when the bots are feminine – it's as if the ultimate terror isn't just technology, but the rising up of the female as well.

Uncanny Valley, Girl merges seduction and simulation, cracking through the screens to channel the darkest powers of mechanisation and feminisation. Machine and body move one another and with each other, inventing a new narrative for the fembot.



Come and enjoy a fun and accessible painting workshop with the artistes of Slown, Smallened & Son - Alice Dixon, Caroline Meaden and William McBride. A peaceful and fulfilling evening with the live arts, *Let's Go Up Here* provides each workshop participant with a chance to purge their thoughts of the life they knew before, and manifest a new landscape for their remaining days. Our technique will have you painting beautiful landscapes in just three hours!

Featuring enchanting dance interludes and a sumptuous musical composition, this is live art with alive parts.

All skill levels welcome, from your average Jolene to the next Margaret Olley, with turps, refreshments and supplies provided. Presented by Arts House for Festival of Live Art 6–8pm, Wed 14 – Sat 17 Mar 2–4pm, Sun 18 Mar One-on-one for 10 mins \$20 | \$15

Mar Arts House North Melbourne Town Hall Presented by Arts House for Festival of Live Art

## A Rest Area

4–10pm, Wed 14 Mar – Sat 17 Mar 12–6pm, Sun 18 Mar One-on-one for 15 mins \$20 | \$15

S. J. Norman

**Arts House** North Melbourne Town Hall

## Twerkshop





I want you to come in, to lie down – to hold me, just for a minute.

Rest Area is the invocation and repetition of a familiar desire and a familiar gesture. In the back of a stationary truck, discover an unlikely bedchamber, where you're invited into a stranger's embrace. In a moment of fleeting closeness, audience member and performer enact a fundamental human desire: to hold and be held in the arms of another. A much-loved signature work originally performed by Norman themself, *Rest Area* enters its second decade of life re-scored for a cast of diverse bodies. Simple and profound, *Rest Area* is a one-toone meditation on longing, comfort, and the melancholy eroticism of loneliness.



Sign up to *Twerkshop* and learn the cultural history behind the ass-shaking phenomenon. Performance artist Caroline Garcia instructs you in the bootylicious basics of dancing with your pelvis while taking you through twerking's history within the African diaspora. A moving, jiggling critique of twerking's mainstreaming as a form of colonisation, this intimate one-onone performance is for those who don't mind getting physical. No dance experience necessary – but in the last 60 seconds, prepare to twerk it! Presented by Arts House for Festival of Live Art

Theory

**Stone Tape** 

4–10pm, Wed 21 Mar – Sat 24 Mar 12–6pm, Sun 25 Mar Enter and leave as you please FREE

Warning: Adult themes Arts House lease North Melbourne Town Hall

S. J. Norman

World Premiere Presented by Arts House for Festival of Live Art



6.30pm & 7.30pm, Wed 21 - Sat 24 Mar 2.30pm & 3.30pm, Sun 25 Mar 30 mins \$20 | \$15

**Arts House** North Melbourne Town Hall

## The Letter String Quartet



Taking its title from an obscure paranormal hypothesis, *Stone Tape Theory* mines the haunted terrain of memory, mediated through sound. In a darkened space for six hours a day over five days, a relay of performers utters an unedited stream of their own associative memories, recorded onto multiple cassette tapes. These thoughts range from descriptions of ordinary events to detailed reconstructions of painful, traumatic life experiences. As one tape plays, another is erased and re-recorded, creating loops of increasingly layered feedback.

Visitors find and lose their bearings in the darkness; fragments of narrative surface and disappear in a seething wash of sound. From flesh to speech, *Stone Tape Theory* is an audio palimpsest; an evolving sonic landscape of disembodied voices, continually rewound.



ASMR. Autonomous. Sensory. Meridian. Response.

"...a static-like or tingling sensation on the skin that typically begins on the scalp and moves down the back of the neck and upper spine ... commonly triggered by soft voices, personal attention, ambient sounds or watching people work quietly..."

Do you get ASMR? Wanna try?

Enter into a short, intense, intimate performance of quiet sounds and gently triggering music. Specially designed using string quartet, voices, electronics and visual stimuli, *TLSQ x ASMR* immerses you in the strange and subtle world of online ASMR whisper-videos and TLSQ's musical responses to this mysterious feeling. Let TLSQ get you (quietly) euphoric.

▲ Slippage 12–3pm, Sun 18 & Sun 25 Mar Participate at any time FREE

Louise

Lavarack

**Warning:** 16+ **Arts House** North Melbourne Town Hall **World Premiere** Presented by Arts House for Festival of Live Art



## Everything is Blak & White I'm Afraid!

#### 8.30pm, Wed 14 Mar & 4.30pm, Sun 25 Mar 10 mins FREE

**Arts House** North Melbourne Town Hall

## Mariaa Randall



Work and play are in progress on an improvised assembly of lightweight wooden battens. The task is open-ended, the activity cooperative. Structures of tenuous stability evolve and collapse; battens knock, slide and fall. Come and go as you please – step in and participate or stand back and observe. Gradually, depending on gravity and the ingenuity of its builders, a delicate and ephemeral creation emerges... Slippage appears simple, but for those who join in, it's a reconnection to the value and joy of play. Time slips away. Objects, bodies and space begin to merge. Directly involved with the effects of change and challenge, audiences are both choreographers of, and choreographed by, an unpredictable yet absorbing process, both liberating and transformative.



Everything is Blak & White I'm Afraid! documents history through the words of protest: words containing sentiments of the past that are still very relevant in the fight for equality today. Alongside the work of independent choreographer Mariaa Randall (HA LF; Divercity), collaborators James Henry and Keith Deverell create and amplify the sound of protest as part of a performance installation that is ready for action.

A Song to Change the World Launch Event: 8.30pm, Wed 14 Mar The Song: 4.30pm, Sun 25 Mar FREE

Ang

Warning: May include coarse language Arts House North Melbourne Town Hall

Jason Maling

& Song-Ming

Presented by Arts House for Festival of Live Art Soft Money: 8.30pm, Thu 15 Mar Hard Labour: 8.30pm, Thu 22 Mar 120 mins \$20 | \$15 **Arts House** North Melbourne Town Hall

## Supper Clubs: Asha Bee Soft Money Abraham & // Hard Labour Dan Koop



Our much-loved tradition of deliciously nourishing *Supper Club* events continues over two nights for the Festival of Live Art. Curators Asha Bee Abraham and Dan Koop bring together artists, audiences and experts to discuss the economic and social themes arising throughout the Festival of Live Art program.

We'll provide you with a scrumptious dinner and feed your mind as well, over two distinct evenings of discussion on the themes 'soft money' and 'hard labour'. In Soft Money you'll hear from experts and everyday people involved in black market economies, bartering, share economies, cottage industries or artisanal practice, as well as some who argue for a universal basic income. In *Hard Labour* we'll talk manual labour, industry (does this include the 'creative industries'?), the production line, wealth creation and ownership.

Ever done an unpaid gig 'for exposure'? Cared for your family without pay? Wondered where the boundary of the neoliberal market economy lies? These two events are for you!



A public program, a social question, and a band continually reinventing itself, A Song to Change the World takes on the perpetual performance of the impossible. Using whatever strategies and approaches are at hand, it tries to answer the seemingly simple yet fiendishly complex question: What would that song be?

With earnest ambition constantly thwarted by ever-expanding possibilities, Maling and Ang are not deterred. Resisting the pressure, they embrace doubt and offer it as a solution. But how? Lists, lots of lists. Lots of YouTube watching. Some drawing. Definitely t-shirts, stickers, posters. If they're feeling brave, some playing of instruments but probably minimal singing. Most likely they'll find other people to do that. Oh, and PowerPoint presentations, because they make things feel important.

8.30pm, Wed 21 Mar 60 mins \$20 | \$15

Warning: Coarse language Arts House North Melbourne Town Hall Presented by Arts House for Festival of Live Art 8.30pm, Fri 16 & Fri 23 Mar 90 mins \$20 | \$15 **Arts House** North Melbourne Town Hall

## Never Trust a Creative City

## Emma McManus & Maria White

Kill Climate Deniers

David Finnigan & Reuben Ingall



A little bit TED talk, a little bit buddy comedy and a little bit dystopian science fiction, *Never Trust a Creative City* untangles the complex relationship between artists and gentrification. Laugh, rail and weep with protagonists Emma McManus and Maria White (Too Rude), as they embark on a comedic journey through rising rents and social dislocation, arts-led urban renewal, pop-up galleries and 'really dumb things on the internet'. Disillusioned with the state of arts funding, the dismantling of public services and art history's problematic narratives, McManus and White inject a healthy dose of feminist chutzpah and attempt to unravel the terrible formula: art + city = gentrification. Inviting audiences into both circular reasoning and ethical quandaries, *Never Trust a Creative City* steps beyond the creative precinct to expose the gentrification of our minds, bodies and behaviours.



What happens when the unstoppable force of climate change meets the immovable object of Australian federal politics?

As Fleetwood Mac takes the stage at Canberra's Parliament House, 96 armed eco-terrorists storm the building and take the whole crowd hostage, threatening to execute everyone unless Australia ends global warming. Tonight. *Kill Climate Deniers* asks the simple question: What would it take to actually stop climate change dead in its tracks?

First written as a play in 2014, *Kill Climate Deniers* attracted rightwing fury without even being produced. Taking on this second story, it's evolved into an ebook, a film script, a walking tour of Parliament House and a dance party – and for the Festival of Live Art, a performance-lecture-cum-DJ-set, delivering the explosive, actionheavy journey into climate politics you've been waiting for! Presented by Arts House for Festival of Live Art 8.30pm till late, Sat 17 & Sat 24 Mar \$20 | \$15 **Arts House** North Melbourne Town Hall Presented by Arts House for Festival of Live Art

Shell Game

10am, 11am, 12pm, 2pm & 3pm weekdays, Tue 13 – Wed 21 Mar 45 mins \$20 | \$15

Martyn Coutts

Warning: Involves walking in the city – please wear appropriate shoes and clothing CBD, with location provided at booking

## Black Sonic Futures





Celebrating the 21st anniversary of one of hip-hop's all-time classic releases – Fugees' *The Score* – Still Nomads curates a formidable assembly of black artists to riff off its ideas and themes, across two inspiring nights of live performance and readings. Approaching *The Score* in its entirety – its lyrics, sounds and visuals – *Black Sonic Futures* passionately and rigorously reconsiders the album's complex intersections of blackness, immigration and survival, alongside

current themes of state borders and diasporic citizenship. From projections, video and visual art to poetry, music and live performance, *Black Sonic Futures* promises a rich, multi-art-form response to *The Score's* political, racial, historical and gendered motifs – surging with the heart, thought and creative energy of this dynamic team of collective creators.



An intimate artwork for one audience member, *Shell Game* places you at the nexus of the Spratly Islands, a geopolitical flashpoint where international shipping, mango exports and the odd K-pop star have all been caught up in the maelstrom. A barren assortment of rocks, shoals, cays and reefs in the South China Sea, these 100-odd islands have received little attention to date – but now several countries with overlapping territorial claims are

realising their strategic importance. Using tarot-like cards to represent each island, participant and artist together explore and predict possible futures for the disputed archipelago. Along the way, you'll traverse personal territories, public spaces, and geopolitical zones alike.

A personal model for divining the future, *Shell Game* is for those who seek safety and surety in an uncertain world.

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Presented by Arts House for Festival of Live Art

# Intercourse with the Artist

Tue 13 - Wed 14 Mar FREE **Artist Talk:** 4.30pm, Sun 18 Mar FREE Warning: Artist talk may include nudity, coarse language and loud effects Arts House North Melbourne Town Hall

## Georgia Banks



Intercourse with the Artist is available from 12.01am, Tue 13 until 11.59pm, Wed 14 Mar Phone number to be announced at artshouse.com.au

Would you give your number to a stranger? What about hundreds of them? In Intercourse with the Artist, Georgia Banks does just that, making herself available to you as friend, confidante and intimate.

Merging the private and the public, Banks transforms her life into autobiographic theatre for 48 hours, through a series of conversations with strangers. You are given a phone number. You can call whenever you want during those two days. An opportunity to 'eavesdrop' on Banks's daily life, this performance leaves nothing off limits. Making herself as vulnerable with strangers as she would be with her closest friends, Banks also becomes confessor: an anonymous, faceless receptacle for your hopes, desires, fears and regrets. You can tell her anything. Your secret's safe with her.\*

\* Terms and conditions apply.





## Capitalism Works for Me! Lambert

Tue 13 – Sun 25 Mar Specific times and locations to be announced FREE

Capitalism Works for Me! will begin an Australian journey that starts at Festival of Live Art and continues to Melbourne Fringe in September.

Steve



Prompted by a cheerful retro billboard sign, cast your vote on whether capitalism works for you! Boldly capitalising on the language of advertising, US artist Steve Lambert creates a space to evaluate and talk about 'the system' and how it might be better. Wired for instant update, Lambert's electronic scoreboard registers visitors' votes via a nearby panel with two buttons: True and False.

We talk about capitalism constantly using terms like 'job creation' or 'the business climate', and discussing whatever 'crisis' is at hand - housing, financial, employment or whatever... We focus on the symptoms - but why not take the leap and discuss the problems themselves?

**Optimistic or downbeat? Confident** or cynical? Ideas for reform? Capitalism Works For Me! is both a provocation and a conversation. Now's your chance to have a say.

## SQUASH!

8pm till late, Sat 17 Mar \$10 entry to Melbourne City Baths

**Meg Wilson** 

Warning: Coarse language, haze effects, strobe lighting, loud music and loud effects, violence Melbourne City Baths 420 Swanston St, Melbourne World Premiere Presented by Arts House for Festival of Live Art

## Landing

8pm till late, Sat 17 Mar \$10 entry to Melbourne City Baths

Tanya Lee

**Melbourne City Baths** 420 Swanston St, Melbourne



It's more than a hobby – more than a game – more than a sport. I am WILSON. I love WILSON. Almost as much as you love WILSON. Squash is my life. This is WILSON vs THE WORLD.

Ricocheting off all four walls for one spectacular night only, *SQUASH*! is a grand tournament like no other – a series of exhibition(ist) squash matches between the athlete and her public challengers. Fast-paced and unapologetically violent, *SQUASH*!

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smashes egos, conflicts and rivalries around the court, as contestants struggle in a bizarre cavort of politeness, tension and aggression.

SQUASH! is a fiery showdown that lays all bare for public consumption. Think bright lights, glitter cannons, cheer squads and pure EXCESS!! Don't miss this epic opportunity to be there when it all goes down.



An absurd swimming carnival, a desperate endurance act and a continuous relay in which the distance between Manus Island and Australia will be collectively swum. Through the murky waters of past and present immigration policy, participants will move both towards and away from the idea of home.

Landing invites you to physically experience distance and participate in a policy of exile – which both underpinned Australia's colonisation and is repeated today

at offshore detention sites. Swimmers wearing island-shaped hats will plunge into the Melbourne City Baths main pool, attempting to swim a distance equivalent to the ocean stretch between Manus and Australia's mainland.

Sign on and suit up – a range of performers and speakers, and those new to swimming, will guide you and cheer you on, in a collective contemplation of home and histories of Australian immigration.

Image: Sarah Eastick

Sat 17 & Sun 18 Mar Specific times and location to be announced FREE

## The New Cigdem National Sport Aydemir

Presented by Arts House & West Space for Festival of Live Art 6.30pm, Fri 23 Mar 2pm & 4pm, Sat 24 Mar 30 mins FREE **West Space** Level 1/225 Bourke St, Melbourne

## Rhythm and Blues

### Edward Thomasson



In this live endurance performance, Cigdem Aydemir must return serves sent from a tennis-ball throwing machine, which ejects a ball whenever the word 'terror' is tweeted. With tweets appearing around every 15 seconds, *The New National Sport* questions the stamina of a society inundated by – and desensitised to – the news of terror.

On a specially designed court, Aydemir ducks and weaves to negotiate the unpredictability and relentlessness of the machine, which is connected to an iPad that displays the emerging tweets. Resembling a macabre tennis game, *The New National Sport* reflects the constant vigilance experienced by the artist – a Muslim woman – and the larger Muslim community, regardless of whether a new act of terror occurs or is committed by a Muslim.

Terror – if it doesn't kill us, will it make us stronger?



A group of gay men meets once a week to learn to sing a song together. Their individual parts will combine beautifully – if they can get it right. Harmonies are tricky, and staying in time isn't easy! They get to know each other's ways. But will the song be a celebration of cooperation or an exercise in conformity?

Performed by six singers sourced from local gay choirs, *Rhythm and Blues* considers what it means to be gay today: divisions and unifications, otherness and togetherness. A visual artist by training, Edward Thomasson explores the tensions and joys of harmony, disharmony and synchrony in a simple gallery setting – one that ultimately surprises as words and music build to their final crescendo.





World Premiere Presented by Arts House

## Personal

#### 7.30pm, Tue 24, Thu 26, Fri 27 & Sat 28 Apr 2pm, Sat 28 Apr 5pm, Sun 29 Apr 60 mins \$35 | \$30 | \$25

Warning: Some adult themes; 10+ Arts House North Melbourne Town Hall

## Jodee Mundy Collaborations



It wasn't until Jodee Mundy was five years old and lost at Kmart that she realised the rest of her family was Deaf. She didn't see 'disability' – only the love and protection of those closest to her. In *Personal*, she conveys her experience as the only hearing person in a Deaf family, through a captivating blend of performance, storytelling, multimedia and animation. Mundy delves into the contradictions of inhabiting two worlds: living in a Deaf family, where using sign language is natural; and living in a society that sees only the family's disability with voyeuristic curiosity.

The role children of Deaf adults play in paving the way for their family – as interpreter, authority, conduit – is central to this very intimate story. Created with a talented team of collaborators and presented in two languages via a virtual interpreter, *Personal* is a smart, touching and deeply personal work exploring dis/ability and how we perceive one another.

### Next Wave Festival 2018 at Arts House

World Premiere Presented by Arts House for Next Wave Festival 2018 6–9pm, Tue 8 – Sat 12 May Exhibition also open during business hours FREE

**Arts House** North Melbourne Town Hall

## M/other Land Roberta Rich



In *M/other Land*, multi-disciplinary artist Roberta Rich inserts, engages and navigates her diaspora African identity within her 'mother land' context of Southern Africa. Traversing sites of memory, history and empowerment, Rich momentarily ruptures the colonial structure in the place where Arts House lies.

Screens show the artist oscillating between sites of historical significance, memory, residence, empowerment and struggle, relating to her South African family's 'Coloured' experiences and what this construction of 'Coloured' was/is prior to, during and after the Apartheid regime. Constructing legacies from memory and histories, this process of re/ connection and self-determination tellingly highlights the nuances and complexities of contemporary African diaspora identity.



Australian Premiere Presented by Arts House for Next Wave Festival 2018 8pm, Wed 9 – Sat 12 May 75 mins \$30 | \$20 | \$15 Warning: 14+ Arts House North Melbourne Town Hall

salt.

### Selina Thompson Ltd



Two artists got on a cargo ship and retraced one of the routes of the Transatlantic Slave Triangle – from the UK to Ghana to Jamaica, and back. Their memories, their questions and their grief took them along the bottom of the Atlantic and through the realm of an imaginary past. It was a long journey backwards, in order to go forwards.

This show is what they brought back.

salt. is about grief, ancestry, home, forgetting and colonialism. It's about where colonial history exists in the everyday, the politics of grief, and what happens inside Selina's head whenever someone asks 'Where are you from?' and won't take Birmingham or her mum's uterus for an answer. It's about being part of a diaspora.

salt. creates a space for us to talk about all of these things, to see where we fit and to think about the changing and healing that is still to come. World Premiere Presented by Arts House for Next Wave Festival 2018

6.30pm, Wed 9 - Fri 11 May 5.30pm, Sat 12 May 50 mins \$20 | \$15

Arts House North Melbourne Town Hall

**Black Birds** 

### **Exhale**

How do we find the light within the dark? How do we cultivate beauty out of trauma and begin to heal, for ourselves and one another?

Both interdisciplinary and intercultural, Exhale is about Indigeneity, accountability and trauma. It explores the relationships and boundaries forged between Indigenous cultures on foreign lands; negotiations between environmental and urban lifestyles; and the ability to heal through storytelling.

*Exhale* is the creation of Black Birds – a Sydney collective fast gaining kudos for energetic, uplifting performances that astutely dissect the female Black and Brown experience in Australia. Incorporating art forms including spoken word, movement, dance, song and story, Black Birds' work is at once intimate and unexpected, challenging and empowering.





World Premiere Presented by Arts House

Thu 14, Fri 15 & Sat 16 Jun From 3pm, Sun 10 & Sun 17 Jun Allow 30 mins \$35 | \$30 | \$25

From 7pm, Fri 8, Sat 9,

This work is created for adults Arts House North Melbourne Town Hall

## LONE

## THE RABBLE & St Martins

Created by an ensemble of children, LONE offers glimpses into their privately constructed worlds. A series of short fictions presented within live dioramas, LONE places safety, privacy, authority and the adult gaze under thoughtful investigation.

LONE's young artists create a hidden chamber – a room where they can conduct a performance of their own making, beyond the sovereignty of adults. Looking in from the outside, audiences are privy to these worlds of passionate dreams, vivid imagery and dark secrets.

As adults, how do we see our own childhoods? What is it about childhood that we want to protect? *LONE* explores interior places, time alone, and the effect of secrets on the body. Looking in, we're invited to recall our own experiences of childhood, our own loneliness and secrets, in a unique experience that is both distanced and intimate. 4–8pm, Fri 8, Sat 9, Fri 15 & Sat 16 Jun 12–4pm, Sun 10 & Sun 17 Jun FREE **Warning:** 18+ **Arts House** North Melbourne Town Hall

## The Naked Self

## Michele Lee & Tanya Dickson

There could be thousands of pictures of you online: photographic 'selfies' contrived to capture your best angles and features. How many really show how you feel about yourself and your body?

In a gallery setting, you're invited to hear the audio portraits of strangers, who reveal the stories and the secrets of their bodies. As an additional option, you can step into a private booth, undress and confess – contributing your own self-portrait to the growing archive.

Honest, generous and affecting, *The Naked Self* was first seen at the Festival of Live Art in 2016. Don't miss out on this specially created new season for Arts House in 2018.



Presented by Arts House

8pm, Wed 27 - Sat 30 Jun 60 mins \$35 |\$30 | \$25

Warning: Contains

and loud music Arts House North Melbourne Town Hall

nudity, smoke effects

Carrion

## Justin Shoulder



Melding flesh, costume and a robo-primordial aesthetic, this stunning new solo performance by Justin Shoulder (V, The River Eats) introduces the figure of Carrion - a shape-shifting, posthuman spectre that speaks in multiple forms and languages. Darkly sensuous, dancerly and dreamlike, Carrion conceives an imaginary world that is hauntingly and brilliantly animate.

Driven by nostalgia, Carrion wanders an archaeological site, uncovering objects. As the journey unfolds, startling new truths are

revealed about simulation. consumption and worship in an age of excess and acceleration. What does it mean to be human, at a time when our destructive influence is redefining nature itself?

Drawing on gueer and ancestral mythologies, Carrion collides distant past with far future, heralding the changes that lie waiting inside us. Mesmerising and tender, elemental and fantastical, Carrion is a rite, a birth, a speculation - morphing the 'natural' in a unique vision of what performance can be.

## Refuge

## 2016-20

## Refuge: Pandemic

**Refuge** examines different potential disasters that might occur in our city and across the world due to climate change, and maps how we might respond. With artists and emergency services as key collaborators, Arts House brings together thinkers, artists, first responders and cultural leaders

to explore social and community resilience and creative approaches to preparedness.

Each annual Refuge cycle includes a laboratory, artist residencies, and a program of public events including an emergency exercise simulation.

#### The scenarios:



#### 2016: FLOOD

King tides, rainfall upstream, storms and rising sea levels combine to cause a flooding event in the North Melbourne area. How will the community respond?



#### **2017: HEATWAVE**

A heatwave is predicted for the city - with six consecutive days of extreme heat over 40 degrees. Who is most vulnerable in the heat?



Enforced social isolation, health alerts, with national hospitals impacts of climate change mean and morgues at capacity. How mass displacement of peoples is relief provided when the risk of contagion means no public Islands. How do we respond to mass arrivals and care for our regional neighbours?



The unmanageable city; an international convergence of people and knowledges, an from across our region, the Pacific urban camp, a conference and temporary shelter in public space. What complications and opportunities will arise?

#### **Mapping the Pandemic Public Workshop**

Diseases like HIV. H1N1. influenza. Ebola, SARS, cholera and Zika virus are affecting people globally and change the way we live. Climate change, global connectedness, population density and rapid virus mutation exacerbate the threat of pandemics and our capacity to respond.

What happens in a pandemic? How do we survive and support each other when we can't come together and contact is forbidden? How can we learn from past pandemics and strategise for the future?

Step into the control room with artists, experts and emergency services to help us build an imaginary scenario as we map out how a rapidly spreading infectious disease might affect Melbourne.

2pm, Sat 28 Apr **120 mins** FREE. Bookings required.

Designed with Lee Shang Lun (PlayReactive) and supported by **Emergency Management Victoria**, experts from the health sector. emergency services and Refuge artists.

#### Other *Refuge* key dates:

**Refuge LAB** (invitation only) 30 April – 4 May

**Refuge** public program September

gathering?



### Arts House In Creation



#### Arts House takes a holistic approach to supporting the entire life cycle of artistic creation – from great ideas to incubation and development, and from premiere seasons to presentation at international events such as Dance Massive and Festival of Live Art.

Research and development is crucial to the ecology of a strong contemporary arts culture. For this reason, Arts House provides time, space and financial assistance for selected independent artists to explore, experiment, investigate and create. Through our CultureLAB, Develops and Artist-in-Residence programs, Arts House offers dedicated on-site creative developments for artists across all art forms. In 2017–18 we've invited the following artists to spend time with us.

#### **CultureLAB** Artists

Cigdem Aydemir; Lenine Bourke; Angela Goh; Krishna Istha and Mick Klepner Roe; Daniel Jenatsch; Cat Jones and Sylvia Rimat; Jo Lloyd; Tristan Meecham and Nathan Stoneham; S. J. Norman; Raina Peterson and Govind Pillai; Ahmarnya Price; Rani P. Collaborations; Too Rude.

#### **Develops Artists**

Alice Dixon, Caroline Meaden and Will McBride; Katerina Kokkinos-Kennedy/Triage Live Art Collective; Melanie Jame Wolf/Savage Amusement; Mish Grigor.

#### **Artist-in-Residence**

Marco Cher-Gibard

#### **Expressions of Interest**

Arts House's online Expression of Interest (EOI) process is open yearround. Register your EOI and if Arts House is right for you, we'll invite you to tell us about your project. Visit artshouse.com.au for more information. Artists both local and international gather again in 2018 for a unique cross-disciplinary camp-out that makes time, place and space for re-imagining their work. Both closely communal and deeply reflective, *Time Place Space: Nomad* has been hailed by previous participants as a life-changing event. In 2018, participants meet on Wotjobaluk land in the township of Natimuk, and the land of the Gunditjmara people at Lake Condah Mission, near Heywood in western Victoria.

Over ten days, up to 30 independent contemporary and experimental makers will cook, camp, teach, learn, research and connect, focusing on their immediate environment and considering the sustainability of the work they make. Spending time both outdoors and in local spaces, they'll explore the personal and the global, developing relationships, conversations and future plans. Facilitators include First Nations artist Genevieve Grieves; New Zealand First Nations



and Sydney-based choreographer Victoria Hunt; choreographer Antony Hamilton; Taiwanese performance artist River Lin; Arts House Acting Artistic Director Josh Wright; and Performance Space Artistic Director Jeff Khan.

#### **Project Supporters**

*Carrion* was developed with support from Arts NSW, The Myer Foundation, Critical Path and the University of New South Wales; and was commissioned by Performance Space for the 2017 Liveworks Festival.

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

*Everything* is *Blak & White I'm Afraid!* is supported by the City of Melbourne through Arts House.

*Exhale* is supported by Next Wave and the City of Melbourne through Arts House.

*Landing* was developed at the SITUATE Art in Festivals Arts LAB 2016.

*Let's Go Up Here* is supported by Arts House through CultureLAB.

LONE is supported by Arts House through CultureLAB and the Besen Family Foundation. St Martins is assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body; the Victorian Government through Creative Victoria; and the City of Melbourne through the 2018–20 Arts Grant Program.

*M/other Land* is supported by NAVA, the Freedman Foundation, TwilSharp Studios, Next Wave, and the City of Melbourne through Arts House.

Never Trust a Creative City is supported by Arts House through CultureLAB; the ACT Government through artsACT; and Crack Theatre Festival through the Setting the Stages initiative funded through the Australia Council. It was developed as part of Vitalstatistix's interdisciplinary hothouse, Adhocracy, in 2016.

Personal is supported by the Victorian Government through Creative Victoria and the Besen Family Foundation. Its development was supported by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body; the City of Yarra; HotHouse Theatre; Catalyst; Polyglot Theatre; Auspicious Arts Projects; Vicdeaf; and KODA.

*Rhythm and Blues* is presented in partnership with Artspace Sydney.

Refuge is supported by funding from the Australian Government in partnership with the States and Territories under the National Partnership Agreement for National Disaster Resilience; the Victorian Government through the Natural Disaster Resilience Grants Scheme (NDRGS); the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body; and the University of Melbourne.

Refuge supporting partners are Creative Recovery Network; Emergency Management Victoria; Red Cross Australia; Resilient Melbourne; SES Footscray Division; and St Joseph's Flexible Learning Centre.

salt. is funded by Arts Council England; and was commissioned by MAYK, Theatre Bristol and Yorkshire Festival. Selina Thompson's residency in Melbourne is supported by the British Council.

Shell Game's premiere season was commissioned by Field Theory as part of Site is Set 2017. The funding for the premiere season was assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body. Ongoing touring has been supported by the Victorian Government through Creative Victoria.

*Slippage* was developed in a space managed by Creative Spaces, City of Melbourne.

SQUASH! is supported by the Guildhouse LimberUp Mentorship program, and was made possible through a residency with Vitalstatistix.

The Naked Self was commissioned as part of In Your Hands by Arts House; and with support from the Australia Council for the Arts's New Digital Theatre Initiative.

*Twerkshop* was developed by and presented at Proximity Festival 2014.

Uncanny Valley, Girl is supported by Arts House through CultureLAB, and Adhocracy through Vitalstatistix.

Worktable was commissioned in the frame of the event, 'Performance is a Dirty Work', funded by Roehampton University (UK).

*Wowzzzeee* is supported by SITUATE Art in Festivals and RMIT University.





#### Arts House

521 Queensberry Street, North Melbourne VIC 3051

#### **Bookings & General Enquiries:** (03) 9322 3720

#### **Getting Here**

Arts House is located in the North Melbourne Town Hall, at 521 Queensberry Street, North Melbourne.

#### By tram

Route 57 (high-floor trams only) – Stop 12, North Melbourne Town Hall (does not offer a low-floor stop)

#### By train

Arts House is approximately 15 minutes' walking distance from either North Melbourne Station or Flagstaff Station.

#### By foot

Arts House is approximately 30 minutes' walking distance from the Melbourne CBD.

#### By car

There is limited metered on-street parking on Queensberry and Errol Streets, as well as accessible on-street parking on Queensberry Street (150m from our accessible Errol Street entrance).

### Accessibility

We welcome all visitors to Arts House events and are committed to ensuring that our program is as accessible as possible, for everyone to enjoy. We encourage you to call or email us if you have any questions about accessibility or would like to discuss your requirements with us.

You can contact us at artshouse@melbourne. vic.gov.au or on (03) 9322 3720.

### ₿**g**

AUSLAN Interpreting At the following events, AUSLAN interpreters will stand to the side of the speaking performer and translate spoken text into AUSLAN, signing live.

- + **Rest Area** 4-10pm, Fri 16 Mar
- + **Twerkshop** 6-8pm, Fri 16 Mar
- + Wowzzzeee, Worktable 4–8pm, Fri 16 Mar
- + Landing 8pm – 12am, Sat 17 Mar + Personal All performances are in AUSLAN and English

AUSLAN and English 7.30pm, Tue 24, Thu 26, Fri 27 & Sat 28 Apr 2pm, Sat 28 Apr 5pm, Sun 29 Apr

- + Refuge, Mapping the Pandemic Public Workshop 2–4pm, Sat 28 Apr
- + **Carrion** 8pm, Sat 30 Jun



#### **Audio Description**

Audio description enhances the live theatre or film experience for people who are blind or have low vision; and will be available at the following events.

- + **Stone Tape Theory** 4–10pm, Fri 23 Mar
- + **TLSQ x ASMR** 6.30pm, 7.30pm Fri 23 Mar
- + **Wowzzzeee, Worktable** 4–8pm, Fri 23 Mar
- + Refuge, Mapping the Pandemic Public Workshop 2–4pm, Sat 28 Apr

+ LONE 3pm, Sun 10 Jun



Wheelchair Access Arts House venues are wheelchair accessible. However, because of the unusual presentation of some of the shows, certain performances may be restricted. Please call us on (03) 9322 3720 to discuss your requirements.

#### **Companion Card**

Arts House supports the Companion Card program. For patrons who require the assistance of a companion or carer, a second ticket is issued at no cost to the Companion Card holder. To book a Companion ticket, call the Arts House box office on (03) 9322 3720.

#### Accessible Program Guide

You can download the program as an accessible Word document on our website.

#### **Venue Accessibility**

If you are attending an event at Arts House or have an appointment to meet us, you can use our accessible entrance in Errol Street. There are accessible toilets on every floor of Arts House and you can reach all levels via a lift.

#### **Bookings**

#### **How to Buy Tickets**

Tickets can be purchased at the Arts House box office, online at artshouse.com.au or by phone on (03) 9322 3720. Please note there will be a \$1.50 transaction fee per booking when booking online or by phone.

#### **Concession & Student Tickets**

Concession prices apply for persons 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 specified 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.

#### Price points in this guide are as follows:

Full price | Concession | Student

#### **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 with the ticketing team by calling (03) 9322 3720.

#### **Green Tix for Nix**

Get here green and we'll keep the ticket price 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. Subject to availability, you can get Green Tix for Nix for the following performances:

- + Personal
- 2pm, Sat 28 Apr
- + **salt.** 8pm, Thu 10 May
- + Exhale
- 5.30pm, Sat 12 May
- + Carrion
- 8pm, Thu 28 Jun

Although your ticket is free, you will need to book in advance and pay a \$1.50 transaction fee – book 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. 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 3720.



#### Calendar

#### MARCH

#### Tue 13 – Wed 14 Intercourse with the Artist Georgia Banks

Phone number to be announced at artshouse.com.au Duration 48 hrs FREE Artist Talk: 4.30pm, Sun 18, Arts House, North Melbourne Town Hall

Warning: Artist talk may include nudity, coarse language and loud effects

#### Tue 13 - Wed 21 Shell Game Martyn Coutts 10am, 11am, 12pm, 2pm & 3pm weekdays 45 mins

\$20 | \$15

Warning: Involves walking in the city – please wear appropriate shoes and clothing CBD, with location provided at booking

Tue 13 – Sun 25 Capitalism Works for Me! Steve Lambert Specific times and locations to be announced FREE Wed 14 **A Song to Change the World: Launch Event** Jason Maling & Song-Ming Ang 8.30pm **FREE Warning:** May include coarse language **Arts House** North Melbourne Town Hall

Wed 14 – Sun 18 Let's Go Up Here Slown, Smallened & Son 6pm, Wed-Sat 1pm, Sun 180 mins \$30 | \$20 | \$15 Warning: Partial nudity and haze effects Arts House North Melbourne Town Hall

Wed 14 - Sun 18 Rest Area S. J. Norman 4-10pm, Wed-Sat 12-6pm, Sun One-on-one for 15 mins \$20 | \$15 Arts House North Melbourne Town Hall

Wed 14 – Sun 18 Twerkshop Caroline Garcia 6–8pm, Wed-Sat 2–4pm, Sun One-on-one for 10 min \$20 | \$15 Arts House North Melbourne Town Hall Wed 14 – Sun 18 Uncanny Valley, Girl Angela Goh 7pm, Wed-Sat 4pm, Sun 50 mins \$30 | \$20 | \$15 Arts House North Melbourne Town Hall

Wed 14 - Sun 25 Worktable Kate McIntosh 4-8pm, Wed-Sat 12-4pm, Sun Allow 45 mins \$20 | \$15 Warning: 16+ Arts House North Melbourne Town Hall

Wed 14 – Sun 25 Wowzzzeee Adele Varcoe 4–8pm, Wed-Sat 12–4pm, Sun FREE to attend Arts House North Melbourne Town Hall

Wed 14 & Sun 25 Everything is Blak & White I'm Afraid! Mariaa Randall 8.30pm, Wed 4.30pm, Sun 10 mins FREE Arts House North Melbourne Town Hall Thu 15 **Supper Club: Soft Money** Asha Bee Abraham & Dan Koop 8.30pm 120 mins \$20 | \$15 Arts House North Melbourne Town Hall Fri 16 & Fri 23 Kill Climate Deniers

All Climate Deniers David Finnigan & Reuben Ingall 8.30pm 90 mins \$20 | \$15 Arts House North Melbourne Town Hall

#### Sat 17

Landing Tanya Lee 8pm till late \$10, includes entry to SQUASH Melbourne City Baths 420 Swanston St, Melbourne

#### Sat 17

SQUASH! Meg Wilson 8pm till late \$10, includes entry to Landing Warning: Coarse language, haze effects, strobe lighting, loud music and loud effects, violence Melbourne City Baths 420 Swanston St, Melbourne Sat 17 & Sun 18 The New National Sport Cigdem Aydemir Specific times and location to be announced FREE

Sat 17 & Sat 24 Black Sonic Futures Still Nomads 8.30pm till late \$20 | \$15

**Arts House** North Melbourne Town Hall

Sun 18 & Sun 25 Slippage Louise Lavarack 12–3pm Participate at any time FREE Warning: 16+ Arts House North Melbourne Town Hall

#### Wed 21 Never Trust a Creative City

Emma McManus & Maria White 8.30pm 60 mins \$20 | \$15 Warning: Coarse language Arts House

North Melbourne Town Hall

Wed 21 - Sun 25 **Stone Tape Theory** S. J. Norman 4-10pm, Wed-Sat 12-6pm, Sun Enter and leave as you please **FREE Warning:** Adult themes **Arts House** North Melbourne Town Hall

Wed 21 - Sun 25 TLSQ x ASMR The Letter String Quartet 6.30pm & 7.30pm, Wed-Sat 2.30pm & 3.30pm, Sun 30 mins \$20 | \$15 Arts House North Melbourne Town Hall

Thu 22

Supper Club: Hard Labour Asha Bee Abraham & Dan Koop 8.30pm 120 mins \$20 | \$15 Arts House North Melbourne Town Hall

#### Fri 23 & Sat 24

Rhythm and Blues Edward Thomasson 6.30pm, Fri 2pm & 4pm, Sat 30 mins FREE West Space Level 1/225 Bourke St, Melbourne

#### Calendar

Sun 25 A Song to Change the World: The Song Jason Maling & Song-Ming Ang 4.30pm FREE Warning: May include coarse language Arts House North Melbourne Town Hall

#### APRIL

Tue 24 – Sun 29 Personal Jodee Mundy Collaborations 7.30pm, Tue, Thu-Sat 2pm, Sat 5pm, Sun 60 mins \$35 | \$30 | \$25 Warning: Some adult themes; 10+ Arts House North Melbourne Town Hall

Sat 28 *Refuge* Mapping the Pandemic Public Workshop 2pm 120 mins FREE bookings required Arts House North Melbourne Town Hall

#### MAY

Tue 8 – Sat 12 M/other Land Roberta Rich 6–9pm Exhibition also open during business hours FREE Arts House North Melbourne Town Hall

Wed 9 - Sat 12 Exhale Black Birds 6.30pm, Wed - Fri 5.30pm, Sat 50 mins \$20 | \$15 Arts House North Melbourne Town Hall

Wed 9 – Sat 12 salt. Selina Thompson Ltd 8pm 75 mins \$30 | \$20 | \$15 Warning: 14+ Arts House North Melbourne Town Hall

#### JUNE

Fri 8 – Sun 17 LONE THE RABBLE & St Martins From 7pm, Fri - Sat & Thu 14 From 3pm, Sun Allow 30 mins \$35 | \$30 | \$25 This work is created for adults Arts House North Melbourne Town Hall

Fri 8 – Sun 17 The Naked Self Michele Lee & Tanya Dickson 4–8pm, Fri & Sat 12–4pm, Sun FREE Warning: 18+ Arts House North Melbourne Town Hall

Wed 27 - Sat 30 Carrion Justin Shoulder 8pm 60 mins \$35 | \$30 | \$25 Warning: Contains nudity, smoke effects and loud music Arts House North Melbourne Town Hall