ARTS HOUSE Season 2009 March-May

LOOK OUT March - May Program

Simultaneously a warning and an instruction, Look Out turns our collective gaze outwards, beyond local boundaries of artform, geography, politics and culture to connect adventurous local audiences to a prevailing global cultural meltdown. In 'looking out' we must inevitably examine the ground on which we currently stand, the values and beliefs that inform our gaze and colour what we see.

The artists presented here assist us to navigate this territory and question our understanding.

The March to May Arts House program is drawn from fearless artists living in Australia and overseas but all working in the context of an international cultural landscape. An extraordinary array of diverse works - works where the boundaries between high, low, fringe, mainstream art and popular culture are irretrievably blurred and increasingly irrelevant.

In 2009 Arts House continues its commitment to boldly nurturing the development of new arts practices, works and audiences and to engaging with challenging contemporary arts practices and provocative ideas.

2009 also sees the arrival of the first Dance Massive.

This collection of work is a visually spectacular series of sensory and physical experiences that range in style and scope, from the energetic and playful to the contemplative and intimate. Enjoy this first edition of Dance Massive.

Steven Richardson

Artistic Director, Arts House

3 - 15 March	Inert
5 - 7 March	No Success Like Failure - The Fondue Set
5 - 8 March	roadkill - Splintergroup
8 March	180 Seconds in (Disco) Heaven or Hell
10 - 15 March	Morphia Series - Helen Herbertson and Ben Cobham
11 - 14 March	Untrained - Lucy Guerin Inc
18 - 22 March	Floating - Hoipolloi Theatre
24 - 29 March	Night Garden - My Darling Patricia
3 and 4 April	Three Landscapes - John Surman and Genevieve Lacey
15 - 19 April	Controlled Falling Project - ThisSideUp
13 - 16 May	Teuila Postcards - Polytoxic

Dance Massive is an initiative of Arts House, Malthouse Theatre and Dancehouse in conjunction with Ausdance Victoria and with the support of the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body and Arts Victoria.





INERT

- '...an intimate, intricately made work' The Australian

INERT

Arts House, North Melbourne Town Hall 521 Queensberry Street North Melbourne Tickets: \$22.50 Bookings: dancemassive.com.au or 03 9639 0096

Tuesday 3 - Sunday 15 March Tuesday 3 - Friday 6 and Tuesday 10 - Friday 13 6pm, 6.30pm, 7pm, 8pm, 8.30pm, 9pm Saturday 7 and Saturday 14 4pm, 4.30pm, 5pm, 6pm, 6.30pm, 7pm Sunday 8 and Sunday 15 4pm, 4.30pm, 5pm, 5.30pm

20 minutes no interval Warning: Audiences will be moved

skellis.net/inert

Two performers. Two viewers. Love in two parts.

How close is too close?

Inert is a performance experience that delves into the psychology of love and loss when one is heard and seen-or not-by an intimate other. Small in scale, yet broad in its sensory scope, Inert offers a boutique performance experience immersing its audience in a subtle and moving world.

Presented by Arts House for Dance Massive

Choreography and Performers: Simon Ellis, Shannon Bott. Sound Design: David Corbet. Environment: Scott Mitchell. Video: Cormac Lally.

Inert was first developed with the support of Arts Victoria, Dancehouse and the University of Northampton.

Image: Natalie Cursio











NO SUCCESS LIKE FAILURE The Fondue Set

'Failure never looked so good, so silly, so successful...and so intelligent as The Fondue Set achieve a new level of wit in a bizarrely coherent show that is as carefully paced as it is manic...'

NO SUCCESS LIKE FAILURE The Fondue Set

Arts House, North Melbourne Town Hall 521 Queensberry Street North Melbourne Tickets: Full \$25 Conc \$18 Bookings: dancemassive.com.au or 03 9639 0096

Thursday 5 – Saturday 7 March 7.30pm

70 minutes no interval Warning: Smoke effects

thefondueset.com.au

Part talent quest, part educational forum and part cabaret, **No Success Like Failure** is an hilarious 'how-to' show that expertly leads dance in to new and playful territory.

With the help of UK director and performer Wendy Houstoun, (Desert Island Dances and Happy Hour, Melbourne Festival, 2008), The Fondue Set embark on a post, post-modern exploration of loss, emptiness, giving up, giving in and letting go.

At times both hilarious and poignant, **No Success Like Failure** returns for a strictly limited Melbourne season. Presented by Arts House for Dance Massive

Creators and Performers: Emma Saunders, Elizabeth Ryan, Jane McKernan. Collaborating Director: Wendy Houstoun. Outside Eye: Julie-Anne Long. Original Lighting Design and Production Manager: Neil Simpson. Collaborating Designer: Agatha Gothe-Snape. Producer: Rosalind Richards, Artful Management.

No Success Like Failure has been assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body and by Arts NSW.

Image: Iren Skaarnes















ROADKILL Splintergroup

'Fuelled by a collective creativity and inventive stagecraft, it is dark, primitive and very exciting.' - Daily Express

ROADKILL Splintergroup

Arts House, Meat Market 5 Blackwood Street North Melbourne Tickets: Full \$25 Conc \$18 Bookings: dancemassive.com.au or 03 9639 0096

Thursday 5 - Sunday 8 March Thursday 5 - Saturday 7 7.30pm Sunday 8 6pm Post show artist talk, Friday 6 March

75 minutes no interval Warning: Cigarette smoke, smoke effects

dancenorth.com.au

A couple is stranded in the in the middle of nowhere with a car that won't start next to a phone box that doesn't work. This is a road trip into the agoraphobia and desolation of the Australian outback: a place of dreams and dust and ghosts. A land where backpackers disappear and tragedy strikes the vulnerable.

roadkill is stunning, edge of your seat dance theatre: highly physical, and ultimately intensely unnerving.

Produced by Brisbane Powerhouse and Dancenorth.

Presented by Arts House and Mobile States for Dance Massive.

Choreography: Splintergroup. Performers: Gavin Webber, Grayson Millwood, Sarah-Jayne Howard. Dramaturgy: Andrew Ross. Sound Designer: Luke Smiles. Lighting Designer: Mark Howett. Rehearsal Director: Michelle Ryan.

roadkill is toured by Performing Lines for Mobile States: Touring Contemporary Performance Australia with the assistance of the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body.

Image: Tim Page









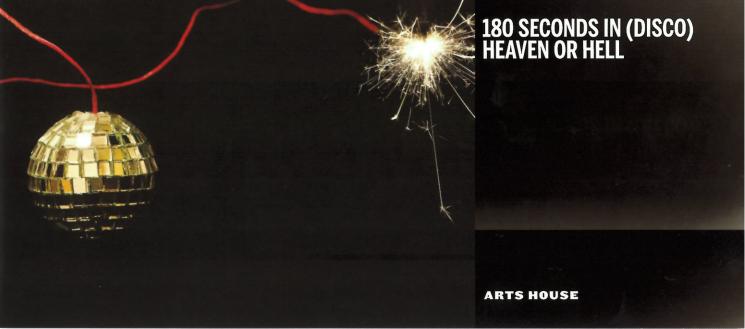












180 SECONDS IN (DISCO) HEAVEN OR HELL

Arts House, Meat Market 5 Blackwood Street North Melbourne Tickets: \$10 Bookings: dancemassive.com.au or 03 9639 0096

Sunday 8 March 7.30pm - till late with intervals

Warning: Strobe lighting, smoke effects, possible nudity, over 18 only

dancemassive.com.au

Infusing a little 'Night Fever' into Dance Massive, **180 Seconds in (Disco) Heaven or Hell** presents a night of choreographic speed-dating meets po-mo disco.

Hosted by the glamorous and calamitous, The Fondue Set, 180 Seconds in (Disco) Heaven or Hell puts the TEMPO back in to contemporary dance with three-minute showcases of solid gold. In six arranged marriages, a handful of red-hot local choreographers add their signature groove to the likes of ballroom, breaking and bhangra.

It's the bomb, it's time limited, it's disco, it's crazy - **180 Seconds** of SOLID GOLD.

Presented by Arts House for Dance Massive

Guest Artists: The Fondue Set: Emma Saunders, Elizabeth Ryan, Jane McKernan. Panther, WickidForce Breakers, Byron Perry, Kelly Ryall, Moss Design and many more.

Image: Byron Perry













MORPHIA SERIES Helen Herbertson and Ben Cobham

MORPHIA SERIES Helen Herbertson and Ben Cobham

Arts House, North Melbourne Town Hall 521 Queensberry Street North Melbourne Tickets: \$22.50 Bookings: dancemassive.com.au or 03 9639 0096

Tuesday 10 - Sunday 15 March 7 Tuesday 10 - Saturday 14 7.30pm, 8.15pm, 9pm Sunday 15 5.30pm, 6.15pm, 7pm

18 minutes no interval

Described as one of the quietest, smallest dance pieces ever seen. yet one of the bravest and most compelling.

Another remarkable work from the award-winning creative partnership behind Sunstruck (Melbourne Festival 2008). This intimate boutique performance transports the audience through a series of sensory experiences. Inspired by Morpheus. the Greek god of dreams, the piece is a vivid encounter with image, sound, text and movement, which will surprise and enchant.

The highly acclaimed Morphia **Series** has been performed for Melbourne and Adelaide audiences. and internationally; in Dublin, Glasgow. Zurich, Singapore and Portland.

Presented by Arts House for Dance Massive

Artists: Helen Herbertson and Ben Cobham.

Morphia Series has been assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body.

Image: Rachelle Roberts















UNTRAINED Lucy Guerin Inc

UNTRAINED Lucy Guerin Inc

Arts House, Meat Market 5 Blackwood Street North Melbourne Tickets: Full \$25 / Conc \$18 Bookings: dancemassive.com.au or 03 9639 0096

Wednesday 11 - Saturday 14 March Wednesday 11 and Thursday 12 7.30pm Friday 13 6.30pm and 9.30pm Saturday 14 4pm and 7.30pm Post show artist talk Thursday 12 March

60 minutes no interval

lucyguerin.com

A new work by **Lucy Guerin Inc** which questions our ideas about what is worth watching in a performance. This casual theatrical exploration presents four men in a humorous and courageous examination of themselves and their art.

Two of these men are highly skilled, experienced dancers and two are acclaimed visual artists with no movement training whatsoever. The complex, refined movements that one man can do with ease, another can only approximate. But there are things that an untrained body can do that a trained one can't.

All performers are given the same instructions. How they execute them constructs an individual portrait of each man and also an unavoidable comparison between them. This evolution of information, built up through units of action, points out what they have in common and where their physical histories set them apart.

Presented by Arts House for Dance Massive with Lucy Guerin Inc

Concept and Direction: Lucy Guerin.
Performers: Ross Coulter, Antony
Hamilton, Simon Obarzanek, Byron Perry.
Producer: Michaela Coventry.

Lucy Guerin Inc is supported by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body. Untrained was developed in the CultureLAB.

Image: Untrained artists



















FLOATING Hoipolloi in association with Hugh Hughes Productions

'Mesmerising an extraordinary sight, hilarious yet touching in the human fragility it conveys.'

- The Guardian

FLOATING

Hoipolloi in association with Hugh Hughes Productions

Arts House, North Melbourne Town Hall 521 Queensberry Street North Melbourne Tickets: Full \$25 Conc \$18 Bookings: artshouse.com.au or 03 96390096

Wednesday 18 - Sunday 22 March 7.30pm

75 minutes no interval Warning: Smoke effects

hoipolloi.org.uk

1 April 1982. The Isle of Anglesey is hit by an earthquake, the Menai Bridge collapses and the island is torn from the mainland of Wales and swept into the terrible storms of the north Atlantic. Trapped on board is Hugh Hughes, desperate to escape and discover life outside his small island.

Internationally acclaimed theatre company **Hoipolloi** are proud to welcome you to the wonderful world of Hugh Hughes. Hugh and his collaborative partner Sioned Rowlands colourfully reconstruct the island's journey across the Atlantic, up to the Arctic and beyond.

Floating is a comic and beautiful tale of the island that floated away.

Created and performed by: Hugh Hughes, Sioned Rowlands. Artistic Associates: Alex Byrne, Shôn Dale-Jones, Stefanie Müller, Guy Myhill, Jill Norman.

Floating has been supported by the British Council and is presented by Arts House in association with Ten Days on the Island and Sydney Opera House.

Image: John Baucher













NIGHT GARDEN My Darling Patricia

'A powerful, immersive experience - sense drenched, creepy and full of atmosphere.' - The Australian (for *Politely Savage*)

NIGHT GARDEN My Darling Patricia

Arts House, Meat Market 5 Blackwood Street North Melbourne Tickets: Full \$25 / Conc \$18 Bookings: artshouse.com.au or 03 9639 0096

Tuesday 24 - Sunday 29 March Tuesday 24 (Prev) - Friday 27 7.30pm Saturday 28 5pm and 7.30pm Sunday 29 6pm

Approx 70 minutes no interval Warning: Smoke effects, some coarse language

mydarlingpatricia.com

Acclaimed ensemble My Darling Patricia's new show Night Garden traces the destruction and reparation of a woman and her son in an Australian backyard. Using puppetry, film, sculpture and performance this dark suburban tale builds on their award winning work Politely Savage.

Outstanding Production & Best Design Melbourne Fringe Festival 2006 **Best Independent Production** Sydney Theatre Critics Award 2007 **Best Theatre Act** Adelaide Fringe Festival 2007

Presented by My Darling Patricia in association with Arts House and Performance Space.

Artists: Clare Britton, Halcyon Macleod, Katrina Gill, Bridget Dolan, Sam Routledge, Margaret Cameron, Declan Kelly, Chris Ryan, Sam James, Bryony Anderson, Tim McGaw, Neil Simpson, Wandjina.

Producer and Manager: Marguerite Pepper.

Night Garden has been assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body, and by Arts NSW and Arts Victoria.

Image: Clare Britton

















THREE LANDSCAPES John Surman and Genevieve Lacey

'John Surman is perhaps the most gifted British jazzman of this generation.' - The Times

THREE LANDSCAPES John Surman and Genevieve Lacey

Arts House, North Melbourne Town Hall 521 Queensberry Street North Melbourne Tickets: Full \$25 / Conc \$18 Bookings: artshouse.com.au or 03 9639 0096

Friday 3 and Saturday 4 April Friday 3 - Program One 7.30pm Saturday 4 - Program Two 7.30pm

120 minutes with interval

serious.org.uk

Three Landscapes is a new musical commission that brings together cult British jazz saxophonist and composer **John Surman** with Australian recorder virtuoso **Genevieve Lacey** and UK bassist Chris Laurence.

An architect of the European improvising scene and ECM stalwart, **John Surman** has recorded prolifically for the label since the 1970s collaborating with an astonishingly diverse range of artists including Jack De Johnette, Gil Evans, Bill Frisell and now award-winning contemporary musician **Genevieve Lacey**.

The enduring pleasure of **Surman**'s art is the contrast of simple, haunting melody, lush orchestral textures and intense improvisation.

Friday Program - Part One with Andrea Keller on piano
Various works for saxophone, double bass and piano
Saturday Program - Part One
In the Distance for solo recorder
5 Pieces for saxophone, double bass and string quartet
Friday and Saturday Programs - Part Two

An Illusive Shadow for saxophone, double bass and string orchestra
Three Landscapes for recorder, saxophone, double bass and string orchestra

Presented by Serious in association with Arts House

Saxophones and Composition: John Surman. Recorders: Genevieve Lacey. Double Bass: Chris Laurence. Piano (Friday only): Andrea Keller. Conductor: Marco von Pagee. Strings: VCA Music String Ensemble.

Image: Elizabeth O'Donnell







SERIOUS



CONTROLLED FALLING PROJECT ThisSideUp acrobatics

CONTROLLED FALLING PROJECT ThisSideUp acrobatics

Arts House, North Melbourne Town Hall 521 Queensberry Street North Melbourne Tickets: Full \$25 / Conc \$18 Bookings: artshouse.com.au or

Wednesday 15 - Sunday 19 April Wednesday 15 - Friday 17 7.30pm Saturday 18 2pm and 7.30pm Sunday 19

03 9639 0096

6pm

65 minutes no interval Warning: Strobe lighting, smoke effects

thissideupacrobatics.com

Resembling a classic silent adventure film, the latest work from **ThisSideUp** proves that actions speak louder than words with a physically compelling narrative in **Controlled Falling Project**.

Controlled Falling Project is a thrilling creative and physical experiment, flaunting the agility and ability of acrobats James Brown, Christian Schooneveldt-Reid and Casey Douglas with drummer David Joseph.

With live percussion accompaniment, **ThisSideUp** strike a seamless balance between impulsive energy and systematically planned action, combining physical theatre and dance with a sophisticated and contemporary approach to traditional circus disciplines.

Created and performed by ThisSideUp acrobatics: Christian Schooneveldt-Reid, Casey Douglas, James Brown.
Musical Director/Drummer: David Joseph.
Circus Director: Robin Laurie. Production
Coordinator: Aneke McCulloch.

Image: Michael Whiteman





TEUILA POSTCARDS Polytoxic

'Teuila Postcards beautifully seams the kitsch with the intellectual, the erotic/ exotic fantasy with the real and mundane, colonial history with retro pop.' Scene Magazine

TEUILA POSTCARDS Polytoxic

Arts House, North Melbourne Town Hall 521 Queensberry Street North Melbourne Tickets: Full \$25 / Conc \$18 Bookings: artshouse.com.au or 03 9639 0096

Wednesday 13 - Saturday 16 May 7.30pm

60 minutes no interval

polytoxiclovesyou.com

Three tourists journey to a fantasy island expecting an exotic, blissful and dreamlike holiday.

Behind the glossy tourist brochure façade **Polytoxic** unveil the cultural reality of Polynesia with an episodic ride of postcard-like vignettes through the past and present.

In a captivating fusion of traditional Polynesian and contemporary dance theatre, **Teuila Postcards** is a playful look at the oppression and evolution of an island. Amplified colours and glamorous costumes frame a seemingly simple yet clever and creatively inspired performance.

Presented by Arts House and Kultour with support from Footscray Community Arts Centre.

Artists and Creators: Efeso Fa'anana, Leah Shelton, Lisa Fa'alafi. Costume Design and Construction: Leah Shelton, Lisa Fa'alafi. Lighting Design: Andrew Meadows. Sound: Efeso Fa'anana, Leah Shelton. Visuals: Jaxzyn Stage Manager: Justin Marshman. Set Design: Lisa Fa'alafi with Polytoxic. Set Consultant: Jonathon Oxlade. Set Construction: Troy Gilliland.

This tour is supported by Kultour - a proud initiative of the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body, and through Playing Australia, the national performing arts touring program.

Image: Dallas Blackmore















ARTS HOUSE

Australia is home to the oldest living culture on earth. Respect and engagement with this ancient culture and its contemporary lineage continues to make a unique contribution to creativity in this place and inspire our collective consciousness and understanding. Arts House acknowledges and respects the customs and traditions of Indigenous Australians and their special relationship with the land. The artists and organisers respectfully acknowledge that this program takes place on the land of the traditional owners of the Kulin Nation.

Arts House develops, produces and presents dynamic cultural experiences, which enable people to make meaningful connections on a local, national and international level.

Presented across two sites, Arts House, North Melbourne Town Hall and Arts House, Meat Market, the Arts House program values arts and culture that can help create a world where people are actively engaged, aware and willing to participate, politically and culturally, to make change. Each year Arts House presents a curated program of contemporary art featuring performances, exhibitions, live art, installations and cultural events, which are programmed to inspire dynamic community engagement.

Arts House has made every effort to offer wheelchair and limited mobility access throughout the program. Please contact Arts House on 03 9322 3720 for further information.

Arts House is a City of Melbourne contemporary arts initiative.

SUPPORTERS









MALTHOUSE THEATRE



BYONEYOPERA HOUSE



DANCEHOUSE D







Arts House Reference Panel

Rinske Ginsberg - Chair Sue McCauley Siu Chan Robin Laurie Samantha Comte Martin Brennan

Christabel Harvey - Arts Victoria representative for CultureLAB Stuart Koop - Arts Victoria representative for CultureLAB

International Advisors

Helen Cole - Arnolfini, Bristol UK Gyorgy Szabo - House of Contemporary Art, Budapest Hungary

Arts House People

Sue Beal - Team Leader Steven Richardson - Artistic Director Kate Ben-Tovim - Associate Producer Jude Gun - Program Producer Kara Ward - Associate Producer Sarah Ernst - Artistic Administrator Deanna Smart - Project Producer Eleni Arbus - Creative Spaces Project Coordinator Brian Horder - Business Coordinator Adrian Aderhold - Production Supervisor Tom Howie - Technical Supervisor Mike Mullins - Venue and Operations Manager Lexie Wood - FOH and Technical Coordinator Genine Romagnoli - Administrator lim Stenson - Technical & Maintenance Officer Angela Calderwood - Bookings Officer