

**Panopticon**

by Simona Castricum

Presented by Arts House and Midsumma Festival

Thursday 31 January 2019

6pm

$15

Warning: Smoke effects

Artist Statement

An emotive collection of songs about the fear of missing out, Panopticon is set between contradictions of intimacy and self-reflection.

Simona uses music to delve into issues around scrolling, surveillance and isolation, exploring the body’s transition between the physical and the emotional. Simona’s signature percussive pop is highlighted by provocative text projected as part an immersive live experience.

Panopticon is a biographical allegory about gender nonconforming visibility. Upon the quaking borderline thresholds between real-world and online contexts, Simona searches for a liminal space outside binary vacuum chambers of affirmation and feedback loops of self-reflection, bought and sold as the body, identity and community.

Simona’s empathetic dialogue interprets this through Panopticon; a centrifugal construct of entrapment between first hand isolation and envy at the mercy of second-hand experience. Alone yet connected, desperately looking to be reflected, so close yet so far away — crunching the numbers of friends and followers only to find no deep connection.

Can you imagine being there?

Artist Credits

**Simona Castricum**

Vocals, Drums, Programming, Projections, Typography

**Raquel Solier**

Percussion

**Cultra**

Vocals

About Arts House

Arts House, a key program of the City of Melbourne, is Melbourne’s centre for contemporary and experimental performance and interactive artforms, providing a nexus for cultural expression and social connection in a city environment. We support new and diverse ways to make and experience art. We produce and present art which is participatory and experiential, interdisciplinary and trans-disciplinary, curated through a balance of provocation, responsiveness and collaboration with artists and audiences.

Acknowledgement of Country

Arts House respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land, the Boon Wurrung and Woiwurrung (Wurundjeri) peoples of the Kulin Nation and pays respect to their Elders, past and present.

For the Kulin Nation, Melbourne has always been an important meeting place for events of social, educational, sporting and cultural significance.

Today we are proud to say that Melbourne is a significant gathering place for all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

**For more information, please contact us on the details below.**

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