



# **Arts House Large Print Program**

## **Virtual Season 2020**

## **Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners**

The City of Melbourne respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land, the Boon Wurrung and Woiwurrung (Wurundjeri) people 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.

## **Message from Arts House**

Like everyone, Arts House has been housebound lately, but that doesn't mean we've been quiet. We've been talking to artists, curators, programmers and thinkers (and enjoying the occasional cameos by pets/toddlers/semi-naked housemates) and we're just about set to go all digital on you.

Our Virtual Season comprises a banquet of online treats to relish, as we share learnings from our Refuge program, and support the artistic community through Makeshift. From late June, we'll be launching a much bigger suite of programming in BLEED, a six-year project exploring the relationship between live and digital. We've had the pleasure of working on this project with our friends at Campbelltown Arts Centre since late 2018, with the support of the Australia Council for the Arts. We never quite anticipated how relevant this work would become, but we are super excited to share it with you nonetheless.

And whether you're an artist or an audience member or something in between, we think you'll find plenty to enjoy in this Virtual Season.

Stop holding your breath. We're in this together.

Emily Sexton

Artistic Director, Arts House

## Contents

Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners .....	2
Message from Arts House .....	3
How to book .....	5
Accessible Performances .....	5
Refuge Talks Series .....	7
MakeShift Digital Gatherings.....	14
BLEED.....	17
About Arts House .....	19
Come On In .....	19
Logos .....	20

## **How to book**

Book tickets at

<http://www.artshouse.com.au>

## **Accessible Performances**

We are committed to ensuring that our program is as accessible as possible for everyone to enjoy. We have Auslan interpreted and audio described events and we support the Companion Card program.

Arts House venues are wheelchair accessible, there are accessible toilets on every floor of Arts House and you can access all levels via a lift. If you're attending a show at Arts House or have an appointment to meet us, you can enter via our Errol Street accessible entrance. Due to the unusual presentation of some shows certain performances may be restricted.

Please check online for details or call us on (03) 9322 3720 to discuss your access requirements.

## **Auslan Interpreting**



Auslan interpreters will stand to the side of the speaker of performed action and translate the text and dialogue into Auslan while signing live. Check the 'Accessibility' section on each event page for dates of Auslan interpreted performances.

## Visual Ratings



If you are Deaf or hard of hearing, or if English isn't your primary spoken language, this three-tiered rating system will help you decide if an event is suitable for you.

- 100: these events contain no music or dialogue
- 75: these events may be fully subtitled or have minimal dialogue, and have some background music or sounds
- 50: these events have background music or sounds, or may be partly subtitled

## Closed Captions



Captions are on-screen text descriptions. They display words (dialogue), tell us who the speakers are, and describe sounds. Captions fit with the images or action taking place on stage, on the screen, or in lectures. This means that the people watching who are Deaf or hard of hearing can understand the speech and other sounds. Closed captions can be turned on and off by the viewer

## **Refuge Talks Series**

**All events live-streamed on Zoom  
Midday on Thu 21 May, 28 May, 4 June  
Free  
60 mins**

This is no longer a drill.

Every year since 2016 Arts House has brought together artists, experts and emergency services to explore the biggest climate What Ifs? of our time.

Now the unimaginable is our daily reality, and we know a few people who saw it coming.

From practical survival skills to tips from pandemic and medical experts to new writing and people on the front line, this three part series takes you beyond the headlines and into the worlds (and living rooms) of those who know what counts most in a time of crisis.

Hosted by antidisciplinary artist and Refuge alumni Lee Shang Lun, each instalment will feature a different panel of guests plus performances of new work, live music and domestic rewilding demos from artists' homes to yours.

This is not the new normal.

There was never a normal to begin with.

But let's choose what our future looks like together.

## **Refuge Talks Series: Preparing for a Pandemic**

Preparedness is the long game. It doesn't end once the unthinkable is underway. The first instalment of this three-part series dives into the minds of thinkers who knew this was coming.

From the insights gleaned during the fictional pandemic of Refuge 2018 to the fascinating things disease experts get up to behind closed doors, episode one will help you to feel prepared during the catastrophe, separating the knowledge from the noise.

Hear from artist Latai Taumoepeau, whose practice connects the realities of today with the deeper conditions of our past; learn how the translation of data is crucial to how a crisis unfolds with Health Informatics Specialist Priyanka Pillai; and uncover what levers community can pull to enact political change with Beth Eggleston of Humanitarian Advisory Group.

Interspersed with live music by Allara Briggs-Pattison, sonic artwork by Ellen van Neervan and lessons from Jen Rae's Future Proof Survival Guide, this instalment will equip you with a new kit of ideas to prepare you for tomorrow.

**Hosted by:** Lee Shang Lun

**Featuring:**

Latai Taumoepeau, Refuge Lead Artist

Priyanka Pillai, Health Informatics Specialist, APPRISE, the Doherty Institute

Beth Eggleston, Humanitarian Advisory Group



Ellen van Neerven, Writer  
Jen Rae, Artist  
**Live music by:** Allara Briggs-Pattison

Ticket Price: FREE

Accessibility:



This event will have live captioning  
Auslan interpreted on request. Email  
[artshousersvp@melbourne.vic.gov.au](mailto:artshousersvp@melbourne.vic.gov.au) by Thu 4 June.

Times and Dates:  
12pm, Thu 21 May  
60 mins

Event will occur on Zoom, Registration required

This episode will commence with a live Wurundjeri  
Welcome to Country

## Refuge Talks Series: Living in a Pandemic

This is how we live now.

Time comes off its axis in a crisis, as days blur together, the future shrinks, and even nostalgia feels dangerous. We're drowning in the present, but we can do more than just survive. Whilst some of us are working this out for the first time, others have been here before. We don't need to do it alone.

This session looks at how we collectively connect when we can no longer gather, and how a crisis forces us to reframe how we care for each other. What we can learn from First Nations people who have survived waves of colonialism, and the chronically ill who live in these conditions daily?

Join Laureate Professor Peter Doherty and community organiser Lorna Hannan OAM as they reflect on the past whilst living in the pandemic.

Interspersed with new writing and live music by Alice Skye, musings and comics from HTMLflowers (aka Grant Gronewold) and demos from Jen Rae's Future Proof Survival Guide, this instalment is a pick-me-up for getting through the day-to-day.

**Hosted by:** Lee Shang Lun

**Featuring:** Laureate Professor Peter Doherty, Patron of the Doherty Institute

Lorna Hannan, OAM Community Organiser  
HTMLflowers, Artist

Jen Rae, Artist  
**Live music by:** Alice Skye

Ticket Price: FREE

Accessibility:



This event will have live captioning  
Auslan interpreted on request. Email  
[artshousersvp@melbourne.vic.gov.au](mailto:artshousersvp@melbourne.vic.gov.au) by Thu 4 June.

Times and Dates:

Thu 28 May

60 mins

Event will occur on Zoom

Registration required

## **Refuge Talks Series: Living in a Pandemic**

There's no going back.

In this final instalment of Refuge Talks Series we face forward. From seismic shifts in government and communities to the relief of finally hugging a friend, there will come a time when we blink and adjust our eyes to the world around us and sweat amongst many on dance floors again.

Recovery in all of its intricacies will be the subject of episode three: the psychology of disasters, the importance of caring for Country and the opportunity to radically open up inclusion, with guests including Damien Moloney of Red Cross Australia, artist/writer Fayen d'Evie and writer/researcher Cassie Lynch.

Justin Shoulder and Matt Stegh will share their thoughts on coming together through spaces of catharsis; Jen Rae will provide her weekly Future Proof Survival Guide while the rotating lineup of musicians this week features Kee'ahn Bindool..

**Hosted by:** Lee Shang Lun

**Featuring:** Damien Moloney, Red Cross Australia

Cassie Lynch, Writer

Fayen d'Evie, Writer/Artist

Justin Shoulder & Matt Stegh, Artists

Dr Jen Rae, Artist

**Live music by:** Kee'ahn Bindool

Ticket Price: FREE

Accessibility:



This event will have live captioning  
Auslan interpreted on request. Email  
[artshousersvp@melbourne.vic.gov.au](mailto:artshousersvp@melbourne.vic.gov.au) by Thu 4 June.

Times and Dates:

12pm, Thu 4 Jun

60 mins

Event will occur on Zoom

Registration required

## **Makeshift Digital Gatherings** **11 June & 18 June**

### **Makeshift Digital Gatherings: Stop, Collaborate and Listen. Hosted by Mish Grigor**

Are you still there?

For many artists, isolation means they can't practise, while for others the day-to-day work of creation hasn't skipped a beat. How can they learn from one another?

This session will explore how an artist's identity is tied to the actual act of making art, and how the changing conditions of today affect us both as individuals and as communities. It's not just artists who are adapting – the very nature of audiences has been forced to evolve, too, and after the mad scramble of the early days of lockdown, new modes of art-making and reception are slowly emerging.

Featuring the thoughts and wisdom of Joel Bray, Susie Dee and Willoh S. Weiland alongside an original essay by Ellena Savage, this Makeshift Digital Gathering will be a rallying call for a splintered community to share their thoughts on making art at this historical moment, and to collectively imagine what comes next

**Host and co-curator:** Mish Grigor

**Speakers:** Susie Dee, Willoh S. Weiland and Joel Bray

**Essay commission:** Ellena Savage

Ticket Price: FREE

Accessibility:



This event will have live captioning  
Auslan interpreted on request. Email  
[artshousersvp@melbourne.vic.gov.au](mailto:artshousersvp@melbourne.vic.gov.au) by Thu 4 June.

Times and Dates:  
12pm, Thu 11 Jun  
60 mins

Event will occur on Zoom

Registration required

## **Makeshift Digital Gatherings: Arts as Escape Hosted by Mish Grigor**

We're all looking for a way out.

Art can be an escape hatch from reality, a portal onto other worlds, a shortcut that quickens our journey. But what happens when real life takes a turn towards the fictional?

This Makeshift Digital Gathering will question the functions of art as a method of escape. From the immersive nature of gaming and digital interactivity to the embodied freedom of dance, we'll take stock of the ways in which different art forms have been redefined by circumstance, and how the priorities of artists and audiences alike have transformed too.

With intelligent contributions from guests including Hanna Cormick, Bhenji Ra and Dan Golding, and an original essay by Claire Coleman, this Makeshift will sharpen our perspective on the value of art in times of confusion, and the things we quite never noticed we were doing all along.

**Host and co-curator:** Mish Grigor

**Speakers:** Hanna Cormick, Bhenji Ra and Dan Golding

**Essay commission:** Claire Coleman

Ticket Price: FREE



Accessibility:



This event will have live captioning

Auslan interpreted on request. Email [artshousersvp@melbourne.vic.gov.au](mailto:artshousersvp@melbourne.vic.gov.au) by Thu 4 June.

Times and Dates:  
12pm, Thu 18 Jun  
60 mins

Event will occur on Zoom

Registration required

## **BLEED**

And introducing BLEED – a Biennial Live Event in the Everyday Digital – a six year project exploring the live experience across platforms, conceived and presented by Arts House (Melbourne) and Campbelltown Arts Centre (Sydney).

BLEED interrogates the digital that exists in our communities, conscious and culture and is a response to the unfolding power shifts in our digital existence. BLEED features art across platforms, that seeks to understand, stretch and respond to these disruptive times. From URL to IRL and back again, these artists greet audiences where they already reside: online, hyper connected and

virtually networked. BLEED will encourage different modes of engagement, asking what does the online feel like? And how has this feeling seeped into our everyday? **BLEED starts online 22 June and runs until the end of August.**

Check out the full program at [bleedonline.net](http://bleedonline.net) from 22 June.

There will be Auslan interpreted events and live captioning at many of the events.

## **About Arts House**

Arts House is Melbourne's home for contemporary performance.

With a year-round program of dance, theatre, music, sound, new technologies and community projects, Arts House is one of the major forces shaping Melbourne's cultural and social landscape. We cultivate diverse new audiences for independent artists' ambitious new work, and we build relationships at both local and international levels.

This is a house where change happens. From the crisis of extinction to the rapid transformations of technology, we know that the futures of humanity and art are entwined. We want to be hopeful.

As part of Melbourne's cultural landscape, Arts House expresses the deep forces that shape that terrain. Our programming pays respect to Traditional Owners and the land on which our work takes place, and reflects Australia's ongoing history of migration and displacement. Arts House also seeks to ask questions about power: who has the power to speak, and what is the power of listening? We explore new ways of distributing curatorial power, and commit to an artistic vision that is transparent and connected.

**Come On In**

Get involved with Arts House throughout the year. Sign up to the e-news, follow us on Instagram, Facebook or Twitter and keep an eye on the website to buy tickets and stay up to date.

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T @artshousemelb

I @artshouse

## Logos

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