

LIVEWORKS 2018 ACCESS PROGRAM

At Performance Space we're dedicated to making Liveworks an accessible and inclusive event for all! For our 2017 festival we've continued our commitment to accessibility and included

- **Auslan interpreted performances**
- **Tactile Tours**
- **Audio Described works**
- **Kinaesthetic Tours**

Carriageworks is a wheelchair accessible venue and most shows can accommodate access needs – please get in touch should you have any queries about your access needs:

+61 2 8571 9111

access@performancespace.com.au

Wheelchair accessible works

All of the works in Liveworks are wheelchair accessible with the exception of *Rest Area*, which is a site-specific work. If you would like to attend this work please contact our team to discuss your access requirements.

If you would like to book accessible seating to one of the works in the festival please contact our team at least 24 hours before the session.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO COUNTRY

Performance Space acknowledges the Gadigal people of the land we work on as the traditional custodians of this place we now call Sydney.

We acknowledge the significance of Redfern as a place of change, resistance, resilience, and refuge for many communities, and as the birthplace of Blak theatre in his country, and that we hold that history and honour it in what we do at Performance Space.

We pay respect to all First Peoples Elders (past, present and emerging) and recognise their strength, wisdom and creativity.

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ARTISTIC DIRECTOR'S WELCOME

Welcome to the 2018 Liveworks Festival! Our annual celebration of experimental art is an open invitation for you to connect with some of the most visionary artists and ideas of our time, from across Australia and the Asia Pacific.

This year, many works we're presenting focus on bodies at the edge—or bodies that push edges. Whether bridging ancient traditions with radical new perspectives; challenging national or cultural boundaries; or transcending narrow definitions of gender, sexuality and identity; they remind us that the performing body remains a powerful agent of change.

More than ever, this year's Liveworks program invites you inside the work: to immerse yourself, to dance, embrace a stranger, play games, contemplate mortality, engage in conversation and wonder at the vastness of the universe. Come with us, and discover the infinite possibilities that performance reveals. See you at the festival.

Jeff Khan, Artistic Director & CEO

CHAIR'S WELCOME

On behalf of the Performance Space Board, I extend a warm welcome to Liveworks 2018. This is Liveworks' fourth year and we're thrilled to see the festival growing in reach and ambition.

The international community around Liveworks is also growing: this year we present our largest-ever program of Asia Pacific artists including major new commissions. We have not forgotten our roots, and the Festival is brimming with local artists whose bold new visions are reshaping our idea of Australia.

Our work wouldn't be possible without the support of myriad partners. First and foremost, the Australia Council for the Arts and Create NSW provide the bedrock funding that ensures we thrive. Philanthropic foundations, corporate partners, visionary individual supporters and artistic collaborators are pivotal to the success of our work and we thank them all for being an essential part of our story.

As Liveworks flourishes, we especially thank you — our brilliant and engaged audience — for coming on this journey with us.

Jonathan Casson, Chair

ANGELA GOH

UNCANNY VALLEY GIRL

Thursday 18 October, 8pm

Friday 19 October, 7pm

Saturday 20 October, 7pm

Sunday 21 October, 5pm

**Kinaesthetic Tour and Audio Described Performance –
Friday 19 October, 6pm (Tour) and 7pm (AD)**

The fembot—hybrid of woman and machine—embodies our deepest anxieties. Our dread of being destroyed by technology becomes more horrific when feminised, as though our ultimate fear is not only the rise of the machine, but the rising up of the female body. *Uncanny Valley Girl*, by trailblazing Sydney artist Angela Goh, merges live performance, text, and a razor sharp soundtrack to reclaim the fembot icon and imagine it anew.

Lead Artist and Performer: Angela Goh

Composer: Corin Iletto

Text Collaborator: Holly Childs

NICOLA GUNN

WORKING WITH CHILDREN

Thursday 18 October, 8pm

Friday 19 October, 7pm

Saturday 20 October, 3pm & 7pm

Auslan Interpreted Performance – Saturday 20 October, 3pm

Imagine a woman who works with children, but has a secret she's incredibly ashamed of. Now imagine a man who works with children, but says and does things in private he wouldn't want made public. Created by internationally-acclaimed performance artist Nicola Gunn (*Piece for Person and Ghetto Blaster*, Liveworks 2016), *Working With Children* explores the moral and ethical minefield of working with children, and the moral ambiguities it raises. This trailblazing new performance is filled with Gunn's distinctive humour and unflinching social commentary.

Commissioned and originally produced by Melbourne Theatre Company and supported by CAMPO

Text, Direction, Design and Performance Nicola Gunn

AV and Spatial Design Nick Roux

Music and Sound Design Kelly Ryall

Lighting and Spatial Design Bosco Shaw

Costume Design & Co-set Realisation Eugyeene Teh

Artistic Associate Sarah Aiken

BRANCH NEBULA

HIGH PERFORMANCE PACKING TAPE

Wednesday 24 October, 7pm

Thursday 25 October, 7pm

Friday 26 October, 7pm

Saturday 27 October, 3pm & 7pm

Audio Described Performance – Thursday 25 October, 7pm

In *High Performance Packing Tape*, celebrated Australian company Branch Nebula employ readymade materials—stationery and disposable hardware items—to place performer Lee Wilson in a series of mind-bending planes and predicaments. The tension of cheap materials pushed to breaking point, inevitable equipment failure, and imminent physical demise lead to horrific scenarios. Safety and wellbeing are de-prioritised in new and liberating ways. *High Performance Packing Tape* faces fear, self preservation and risk management to create enthralling new possibilities for physical performance.

Commissioned by Performance Space

Collaborating Artists: Lee Wilson, Mickie Quick, Mirabelle Wouters, Phil Downing

Producer: Harley Stumm for Intimate Spectacle

JOHN A DOUGLAS

CIRCLES OF FIRE: THE AMPHITHEATRE

Wednesday 24 October - Saturday 27 October

Including a video installation, virtual reality experience, annulation performance and amphitheatre performance

Audio Described Performance - Friday 26 October, 8pm

Inspired by the artist's experience of a life-saving kidney transplant, this visually rich four-part work explores the transformative experience of chronic illness, treatment and recovery. Combining John A Douglas' signature science fiction-inspired imagery with stunning footage of landscapes and ancient architecture around the world *Circles of Fire: The Ampitheatre* brings together video installation, virtual reality, medical procedures and live performance to invite us inside Douglas' physical experience, witnessing the wonder and terror of the medicalised human body.

Lead Artist and Performer: John A Douglas

Performance Director: Sue Healey

Producer: Bec Dean

Composer: Justin Ashworth

Costumes: Michele Elliot, Alejandro Rolandi

Live Performers: Justin Ashworth, Tina Havelock-Stevens, Stella Topaz

Lighting Design: Fausto Brusamolino

VR Design: Josh Harle

Stage Design: Alejandro Rolandi

110%

SWEATING THE FOUNDATIONS

Wednesday 24 October, 7pm-10pm

Thursday 25 October, 7pm-10pm

Friday 26 October, 7pm-10pm

Saturday 27 October, 7pm-10pm

Sunday 28 October, 4pm-7pm

Tactile Tour - Saturday 27 October, 3pm

Drawing on Carriageworks' industrial history, 110% rezone the precinct's public space as a site of active art vocation. Unfolding throughout Liveworks, this parasitic performance installation creates porous and leaky architectural forms that receive ongoing support and attention from highly disciplined workers. Come and wander the wetness as 110% sweat the foundations of minimal sculpture and reimagine the practice of collaborative labour.

Commissioned by Performance Space.

Lead Artists : 110% (Kieran Bryant, Beth Dillon and Lachlan Herd)

DANIEL KOK AND MIHO SHIMIZU

XHE

Friday 19 October, 8pm – 1am

Sunday 21 October, 2pm-7pm

Wheelchair Accessible – all performances

Experience a remarkable collision of dance, sculpture and live electronic music with *xhe*. Unfolding over the length of an evening, this immersive performance envelops the audience in search for the elusive *xhe*: a figure that is not “he”, not “she”, nor “it”. Moving within a kaleidoscope of shifting patterns, moving objects, syncretic sounds, uncanny forms and enchanting moments, the artists will create a shared space of imagination and collective daydream in which to summon, receive, discover, and even become *xhe*.

Commissioned by Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay (Singapore) and Performance Space (Sydney, in association with the Naomi Milgrom Foundation).

Concept and Choreography: Daniel Kok

Visual Art and Design: Miho Shimizu

Performance: Daniel Kok, Karol Tyminski, Chloe Chotrani

Music: Filastine & Nova

Graphics: Currency

Textiles: Viktoria-Helena Binger, Margaux Gilbert

Dramaturgy: Lilia Mestre **Technical Co-ordination** Yap Seok Hui (ARTFACTORY)

Production: Goh Ching Lee, Hoo Kuan Cien, James Tay (CultureLink Singapore)

RIANTO

MEDIUM

Friday 19 October, 8:30pm

Saturday 20 October. 2pm & 8:30pm

Sunday 21 October, 7pm

Wheelchair Accessible – all performances

Extraordinary Indonesian dancer Rianto (*Softmachine*, Liveworks 2016) returns to Performance Space with his first full-length solo performance. *Medium* is a powerful contemporary take on Lengger: the traditional, cross-gender Javanese dance developed over hundreds of years and taught to Rianto by masters of the form. Combining movement with live vocals and music, *Medium* is Rianto's universal call for freedom, opening the space between manhood and womanhood; customs and religious principles; conscious control and trance.

Co-commissioned by Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay (Singapore), Performance Space and Keir Foundation (Sydney), National Kaohsiung Center for the Arts (Weiwuying), deSingel Internationale Kunstcampus, Staatstheatre Darmstadt

Choreographer: Rianto

Dramaturg: Garin Nugroho & Tang Fu Kuen

Sceneography: Iskandar K. Loedin

Vocals and Percussion: Cahwati

Sound Design: Yasuhiro Morinaga

Production Coordinator: Putri Pramesti Wigaringtyas

Producer: Jala Adolphus

ASUNA

100 KEYBOARDS

Thursday 18 October, 8pm

Friday 19 October, 8:30pm

Saturday 20 October, 8:30pm

Wheelchair Accessible – all performances

Created by pioneering Japanese sound artist Asuna, *100 Keyboards* is a captivating site-specific listening experience. One hundred cheap plastic keyboards play the same key, generating an undulating sonic harmony both mesmerising and mysterious. Sound waves on the same frequency multiply and bounce off in myriad directions, creating a complex sonic field of interference and reverberation that swells and changes over time. Don't miss the Sydney premiere of this internationally acclaimed experimental music performance.

Lead Artist Asuna

HANNAH BRONTË

FEMPRE\$\$: WISHWITCH

Saturday 20 October, 9pm-late

Wheelchair Accessible – all performances

Witness the power of a visionary future in this club night turned immersive installation celebrating women of colour. Drawing on First Nations cultural practices of empowerment and trance, *Fempre\$\$: WISHWITCH* will transport you to an alternate universe where societal structures are challenged and matriarchal futures manifest. Blending hip hop, video art, installation and performance, Brontë places women on the mic, the decks and the dancefloor.

Concept and Direction: Hannah Brontë

Musicians: Jesswar, Aywin, Sezzo Snot, Dameela

Conductors: Amrita Hepi, Aurora Christie, Pleiades Christie, Perry Mooney

Costuming & Stage Design: Matthew Stegh & Justin Shoulder

Videography: Jaen Collective

INFINITY MINUS ONE

SU WEN-CHI

Wednesday 24 October, 8:30pm

Thursday 25 October, 8:30pm

Friday 26 October, 8:30pm

Wheelchair Accessible – all performances

Against a backdrop of pulsing music, multiplying lasers and super-precise choreography, *Infinity Minus One* explores our place as humans in the vast scale of cosmic time and space. Created through research at CERN, this hypnotic new work emulates the behaviour of cosmic rays and the scientific devices used to detect them. Acclaimed Taiwanese choreographer Su Wen-Chi has created *Infinity Minus One* with a phenomenal team of artists, unravelling some of science's biggest questions about the nature of our universe.

Creator and Choreographer: Su Wen-Chi

Live Music: Senyawa (Rully Shabara & Wukir Suryadi)

Performers: Danang Pamungkas & Luluk Ari Prasetyo

Lighting Design: Ryoya Fudetani

AV and Set Design: Chang Huei-Ming, Chiu Chao-Tsai & Liao Chi-Yu

Installation Design: Chiu Chao-Tsai, Chang Huei-Ming & Liao Chi-Yu

REST AREA

SJ NORMAN

Wednesday 24 October, 6pm-10pm

Thursday 25 October, 6pm-10pm

Friday 26 October, 6pm-10pm

Saturday 27 October, 6pm-10pm

Sunday 28 October, 4pm-8pm

Duration of 15 minutes – bookings essential

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, *Rest Area* enters its second decade re-scored for a cast of bodies. Simple and profound, *Rest Area* is a one-to-one meditation on longing, comfort, and the melancholy eroticism of loneliness.

Lead Artist: SJ Norman

RETURN TO ESCAPE FROM WOOMERA APPLESPIEL

Wednesday 24 October, 7pm-10pm

Thursday 25 October, 7pm-10pm

Friday 26 October, 7pm-10pm

Saturday 27 October, 7pm-10pm

Sunday 28 October, 4pm-7pm

Wheelchair Accessible – all performances

Fifteen years ago, a group of Australians made *Escape From Woomera*: a politically explosive video game that put players in the shoes of a refugee held in immigration detention. Applespiel invite you to play *Escape from Woomera* in this specially commissioned live gaming and performance experience. Each night, the artists create a live commentary to accompany the gameplay alongside human rights advocates, refugees and the creators of the original game, exploring the contemporary significance of this cultural intervention.

Commissioned by Performance Space

Lead Artists Applespiel (Nathan Harrison, Nikki Kennedy, Emma McManus, Rachel Roberts, Mark Rogers, Simon Vaughan)

Dramaturg Paschal Daantos Berry

Technical Director Solomon Thomas

REALTIME IN REAL TIME

Sunday 21 October, 1pm-6pm

Wheelchair Accessible – all performances

Celebrate the legacy and vision of Australia's much-loved arts publication in this extraordinary discussion and performance event. Unfolding over five hours, this continuous, informally facilitated open conversation will evolve via chat, micro-performances and improvisations. *RealTime in real time* charts the remarkable transformation of the art experience over the last quarter of a century and how we've responded to it as practitioners, audiences and writers. Join in this all-too-rare opportunity to slow down and reflect on where we've been and where we might be heading.

Featuring: Virginia Baxter, Keith Gallasch and writers, artists and writer-artists from across Australia

KEYNOTE LECTURE: CURATING CONTEXTS, ONG KENG SEN

Sunday 26 October, 4pm-6pm

Wheelchair Accessible – all performances

Performance Space is thrilled to welcome the visionary artist, curator and festival director Ong Keng Sen to deliver the 2018 Liveworks Keynote Lecture. Known for his transformative Artistic Directorships of TheatreWorks (Singapore) and the Singapore International Festival of Arts, as well as his groundbreaking work as a performance maker and theatre director, Ong's approach to interdisciplinary and cross-cultural performance has been a leading influence shaping how Asia-Pacific practice is received internationally. Join us for an evening of insight into the rich and ever-changing performance landscape through the eyes of this landmark artist.

DAY FOR NIGHT

Saturday 27 October, 12pm-late

Artists include

William Yang with Stereogamous

Koco Carey

Bree van Reyk

Rhada La Bia

plus more to be announced!

Bringing the best of the club together with Australia's finest queer artists, *Day for Night* returns to close out Liveworks with a bang. This edition of Sydney's hottest and most diverse queer art party brings some of our most trailblazing senior artists together with a new generation of performers, DJs and troublemakers. From stories of Sydney's secret history of queer underground parties to probing the intersection of race, culture and sexuality, *Day for Night* will make you think and sweat in equal measure!

CONVERSATIONS

Wheelchair Accessible – all conversations

Each weekend of Liveworks join us for coffee and chat with the festival artists and a range of special guests. Liveworks Conversations will offer insights into the ideas and processes behind the works of the festival. Join our artists for an exchange of idea and stories, as they reflect on their works and discuss the themes, inspirations and influences that inform them.

If you would like to attend any of the conversations throughout the festival, and have any specific access needs, please don't hesitate to contact us at Performance Space to discuss access options.

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Su Wen-chi in conversation with Sara Reeves and Professor Geraint F Lewis

1:30pm – 2:30pm, Saturday 20 October

Su Wen-Chi's work *Infinity Minus One*, is an attempt to consider the vast scale of the universe. Joined by astrophysicist Professor Geraint F Lewis (University of Sydney), and curator Sarah Reeves (Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences), this multidisciplinary conversation will examine how science and art grapple with the troubling concept of infinity.

Supported by Inspiring Australia, NSW and MAAS

Angela Goh in conversation with Anna Davis

3pm-4pm, Saturday 20 October

Join Anna Davis (Curator, Museum of Contemporary Art) in conversation with dancer and choreographer Angela Goh to discuss the creation of Goh's ambitious performance *Uncanny Valley Girl*. Drawing on Goh's research into the fembot, this conversation will unpack the intersections of the feminine body, art and technology.

Supported by Naomi Milgrom Foundation and Sydney Dance Company

Daniel Kok in conversation with Jeff Khan, Rafael Bonachela and Antony Hamilton

5pm-6pm, Saturday 20 October, Offsite at Roslyn Packer Theatre

This special event brings together artists and Artistic Directors from Performance Space and Sydney Dance Company to explore new frontiers of interdisciplinary dance. Daniel Kok and Antony Hamilton have created new works that fuse dance with visual art, experimental sound and other media, which they will discuss with commissioners and curators Bonachela and Khan.

Nicola Gunn in conversation with Vallejo Ganter

12pm-1pm, Sunday 21 October

New York-based Australian curator and producer Vallejo Ganter joins artist Nicola Gunn for a conversation about Working With Children, exploring Gunn's unique research and creation process and the moral and ethical ambiguities talked by this new experimental performance.

Rianto in conversation with Justine Shih Pearson

2pm-3pm, Sunday 21 October

Rianto's new performance Medium explores the traditional Indonesian cultural form of Lengger. In conversation with writer and dance academic Justine Shih Pearson, Rianto will unpack the social, political and spiritual complexities of uniting cultural material with contemporary performance.

SJ Norman in conversation with Jeff Khan

1:30-2:30, Saturday 27 October

Rest Area is the first solo work that SJ Norman created and it has been performed continuously since its inception. After 11 years as a solo work, this intimate and moving performance is now translated across the bodies of multiple performers. Join Performance Space Artistic Director Jeff Khan and SJ Norman as they discuss the ethics of intimacy and the continuing resonance of this simple yet profound work.

John A Douglas in conversation with Bec Dean

3pm-4pm, Saturday 27 October

Curator and academic Bec Dean brings her research in art and medicine to discuss John A Douglas' multimedia work. *Circles of Fire: The Amphitheatre* examines the lived experience of chronic illness through the lens of cinema and science fiction. Join us to hear the incredible stories of life, death and extreme travel that inform this remarkable work.

Branch Nebula in conversation with Frances Barrett

2:30pm-3:30pm, Sunday 28 October

United by an interest in breaking physical limits, Lee Wilson, Mirabelle Wouters and Mickie Quick will join artist and curator Frances Barrett to discuss endurance performance and bodily extremes. This conversation explores the precarious processes behind Branch Nebula's work *High Performance Packing Tape*.

WORKSHOPS

Patrons are encouraged to discuss their access needs with Performance Space before booking into Workshops.

Get hands-on with the artists, educators and collaborators of Livewrks in this series of intimate and interactive classes designed by artists for artists. You'll learn theories and practical skills to apply to your own work and meet a host of other like minded makers. Expand your mind, stretch your muscles and try something new.

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Art/Science Workshop: Experiments between disciplines, Su Wen-Chi

10am-4pm, Monday 15 October
Offsite at Critical Path

Following a residency at CERN in Switzerland, Su Wen-chi was inspired by the similarities that both the arts and sciences shared in their approach to research and conceptual thinking. In this workshop Su Wen-Chi will share her experiences being an artist in-residence at the largest particle physics laboratory in the world and the experimental processes she uses to translate scientific thought into choreographic form.

Supported by Critical Path and Inspiring Australia

Sonic Workshop with Asuna

1pm-4pm, Saturday 20 October

Don't miss this rare opportunity to learn about the use of sound as conceptual practice in the field of contemporary art, with Japanese artist Asuna. Discover subtle acoustic variations in listening points and sound distribution, and learn about Asuna's process using low-fi keyboards.

Navigating the Uncanny Valley: Process, form and embodiment, Angela Goh

12pm-2pm, Sunday 21 October

Join Angela Goh to discover the process for embodying researched movement in her new work *Uncanny Valley Girl*. In this workshop you will explore how fantasy, collaboration and the political come together to influence Angela's experimental choreography. Ways of thinking extend to embodiment – conceptually and physically exploring fembots, science fiction, horror and the cultural engagement of femininity and technology.

Lets Get Physical with Branch Nebula

2pm-4pm, Friday 26 October

Join Branch Nebula Co-Artistic Directors Lee Wilson and Mirabelle Wouters to explore the interaction between the physical body and everyday materials and gain insight into the devising processes that formed their new work *High Performance Packing Tape*. Put your mind and muscle to the test in this session with Sydney's premiere physical theatre company.

Writing for experimental performance Runway Australian Experimental Art

12pm-4pm, Saturday 27 October

Runway Australian Experimental Art Journal and Performance Space present a workshop hosted by Lauren Carroll Harris and Tai Mitsuji to discuss the art of writing about experimental performance. Participants will experience shows in the Liveworks program before coming together for an intimate discussion on strategies to approach capturing a fluid performance on the static page.

Participation in Writing for Experimental Performance is via application. Visit performancespace.com.au for more details.