



**Art**

**starts**

**HERE**

**2019 SEASON**

**Metro Arts**



**A Message  
from Jo**



**Exhibitions**

**Creative  
Developments**



**Socially  
Engaged  
Work**



**Metro Arts**



# Premiere Performances



Emerging in  
Company in  
Residence

Other Metro Arts' 2019  
Produced  
Artists

## Our Supporters



Image by Matthew Doueal.

# ***A message from our CEO & Creative Director***

It is way past time for change and positive action in our arts sector. It is way past time for remembering our people and reconnecting and reinvigorating. And when I say 'our people' I mean all citizens whose lives can be enriched and reflected through creative thinking, experimentation, art. It is action-time so Metro Arts is on the move.

We recently unveiled plans for a brave new future and we want everyone to move with us. We foster contemporary art and independent contemporary artists here at Metro because we believe in experimentation. You don't discover the new unless you're willing to challenge the old; you can't see what's over the hill by standing still. Brave new futures require experimentation and exploration. And we're in it together, starting with Season 2019!

Ready or not...

A handwritten signature in white ink on a black background. The signature consists of a stylized 'x' followed by 'Jo'.

# Exhibitions

**Do You Hear The People Sing?**



**A Treasured Private Notebook**



**Love Me, Love Me**



**Yaad Karo**



**Paintings**



**This is Pep Too!**



**MARS Video Exchange**



**Life On Earth**



**We Koppel,  
We Dala**



**The Boy Diver**



**Flash Lights In  
Low Visibility**



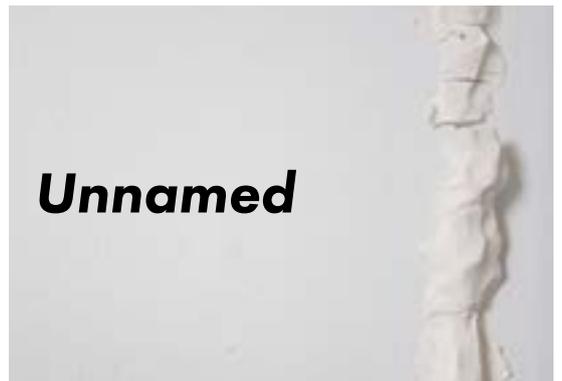
**Silica**



**Gyre**



**Unnamed**



**The Cities,  
They Tremble**



**Shy Love**



History Will Make Wreckage of Us  
by Katy B Plummer, 2018



# Do You Hear The People Sing?

**Liam Benson and Cassandra Bird, Dean Cross, Beth Dillon, George Haddad, Heidi Lefebvre, Daniel Mudie Cunningham, Luke O'Connor, Katy B Plummer, Em Size, Marcia Swaby, Alexander Tanazefi, Athena Thebus, Amanda Wolf and Zoe Wong. Curated by Heidi Lefebvre, Katy B Plummer and Luke Létourneau**

**30 JANUARY – 16 FEBRUARY \ \ METRO ARTS GALLERY**

Inspired by the many versions of *Les Misérables*, this exhibition encompasses a kaleidoscopic range of artistic approaches to subverting and interpreting personal and historical narratives, via high-drama, excess and passion.



This project has been supported by the Kudos Gallery and Arc @ UNSW Art & Design.



80 Ways  
by Ella Sowinska, 2018



# *A Treasured Private Notebook*

by **Ella Sowinska and Thea Jones**

**27 FEBRUARY – 16 MARCH \ \ METRO ARTS GALLERY**

Moving image work by Ella Sowinska and new textile work by Thea Jones come together in this collaborative exhibition, inspired by the secret writing practices of the artists' mothers.



Confetti  
by Olivia Lacey, 2018



# Love Me, Love Me

by Olivia Lacey

27 FEBRUARY – 16 MARCH \ \ METRO ARTS GALLERY 2

Combining appropriated lyrics and party decorations, *Love Me, Love Me* plays with the intertwined representations of romantic narratives in pop music with personal expressions of love.



Yaad Karo  
by Shivanjani Lal, 2017



# Yaad Karo

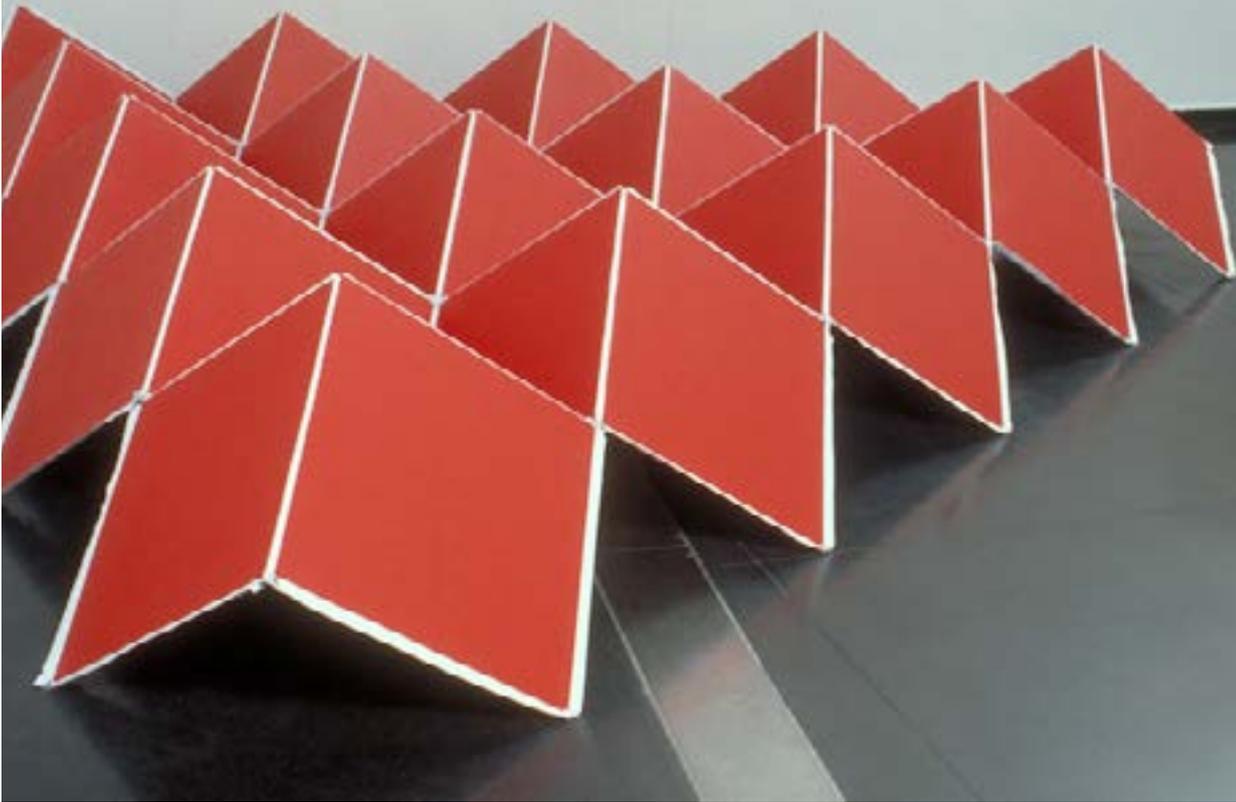
by Shivanjani Lal

27 MARCH – 13 APRIL \\\\ METRO ARTS GALLERY

Through practices of hand-stitching, *Yaad Karo* considers the history of migration that links the artist's personal history to the indentured labour communities of India and the Pacific.



*The best moves on the dance floor*  
by Christine Morrow



# *Paintings*

by Christine Morrow

**27 MARCH – 13 APRIL // METRO ARTS GALLERY 2**

Christine Morrow will exhibit new work that aims to complicate the traditional relationship between painting and architecture. The artist uses a new technique of creating structures out of paintings which zip together, constructing walls and partitions to occupy a space between painting, sculpture, installation and architecture.



*Trophy for potato*  
by Hailey Atkins, 2018

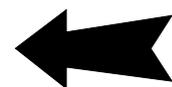


# *This is Pep Too!*

by Hailey Atkins

8 – 25 MAY \ \ METRO ARTS GALLERY

*This is Pep Too!* is a new body of sculptural work that explores a revised meaning of 'pep' – found in the ambivalent spaces between failure, doubt and defiant enthusiasm.



Postcard eXotica  
by Diego Ramirez, 2016



# **MARS Video Exchange**

**by Stephen Haley, Hannah Raisin, Diego Ramirez**

**8 – 25 MAY \ \ METRO ARTS GALLERY 2**

As part of an exchange with Melbourne-based gallery MARS, Metro Arts will present the work of three innovative Melbourne video artists. In November, a selection of Brisbane artists, curated by Metro Arts, will be exhibited in the Black Box, the dedicated video projection space at MARS, Melbourne.



*Borderlines*  
by Emma Lindsay, 2018



# *Life On Earth*

by Emma Lindsay

5 – 15 JUNE \ \ METRO ARTS GALLERY

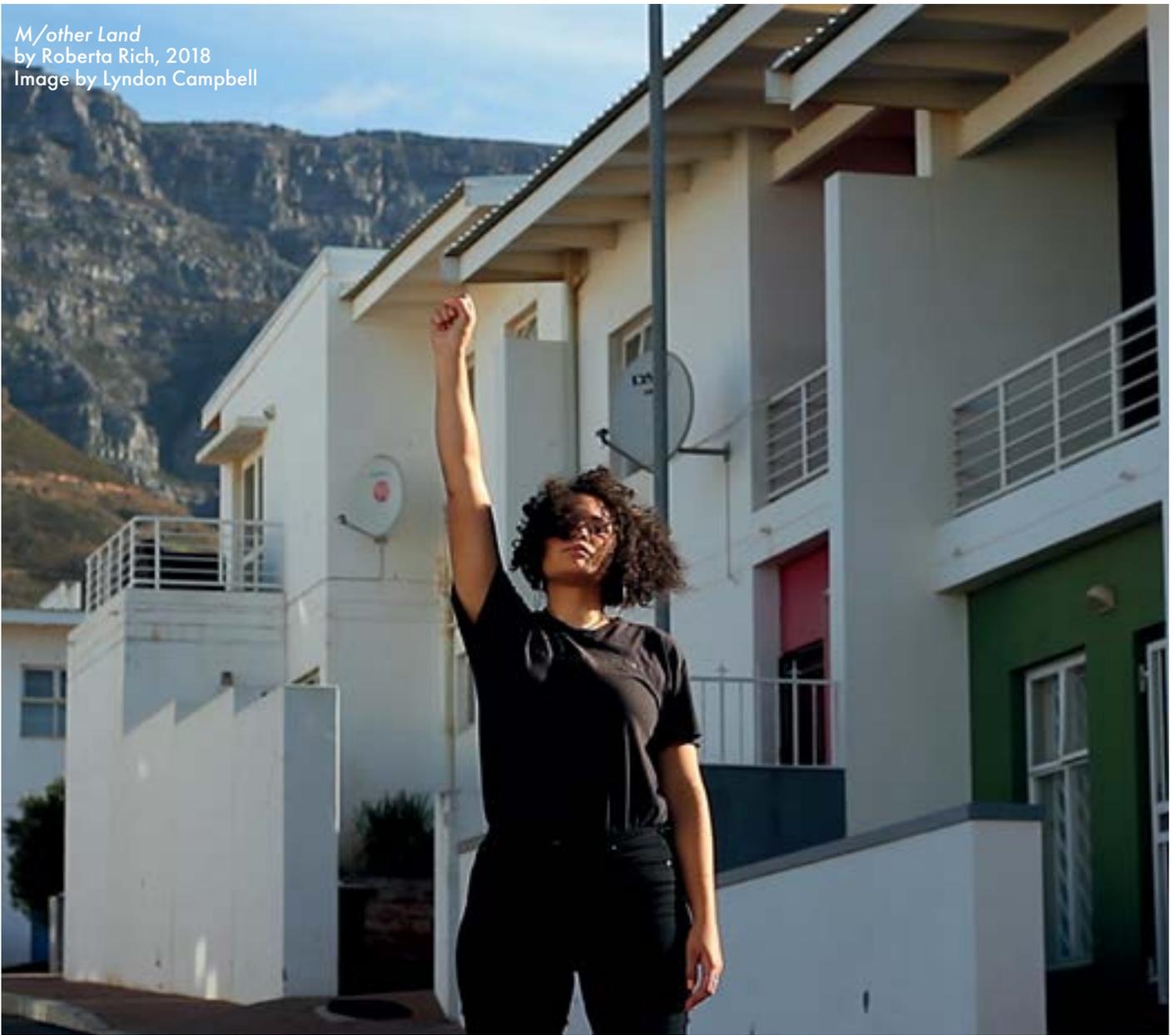
*Life on Earth* presents a selection of intense encounters with wild animals, plants and landscapes, reflecting on the ongoing impact of human activity on our environment.

THE DEAN COLLECTION

This project has been supported by The Dean Collection.



*M/other Land*  
by Roberta Rich, 2018  
Image by Lyndon Campbell



# ***We Koppel, We Dala***

**by Roberta Rich**

**26 JUNE – 13 JULY \ \ METRO ARTS GALLERY**

*We Koppel, We Dala*; Restitution and Reclamation.  
An exhibition addressing representation, land and identity in the  
context of South Africa's Apartheid history and its ongoing impacts.

*M/other Land* is supported by Next Wave and the City of Melbourne through Arts House. *M/other Land* premiered at Arts House as part of Next Wave 2018. This project was assisted by The Freedman Foundation Travelling Scholarship. The program is administered by the National Association for the Visual Arts (NAVA).



*The Boy Diver*  
by Alex Pyren, 2018



# *The Boy Diver*

**by Alex Pyren**

**26 JUNE – 13 JULY \ \ METRO ARTS GALLERY 2**

It is December 1999 and Alex's 10th birthday party at Temora public pool. A moment of hope is embraced as they dive for a treasure at the bottom of the pool.



Image courtesy of the artist



# *Flash Lights in Low Visibility*

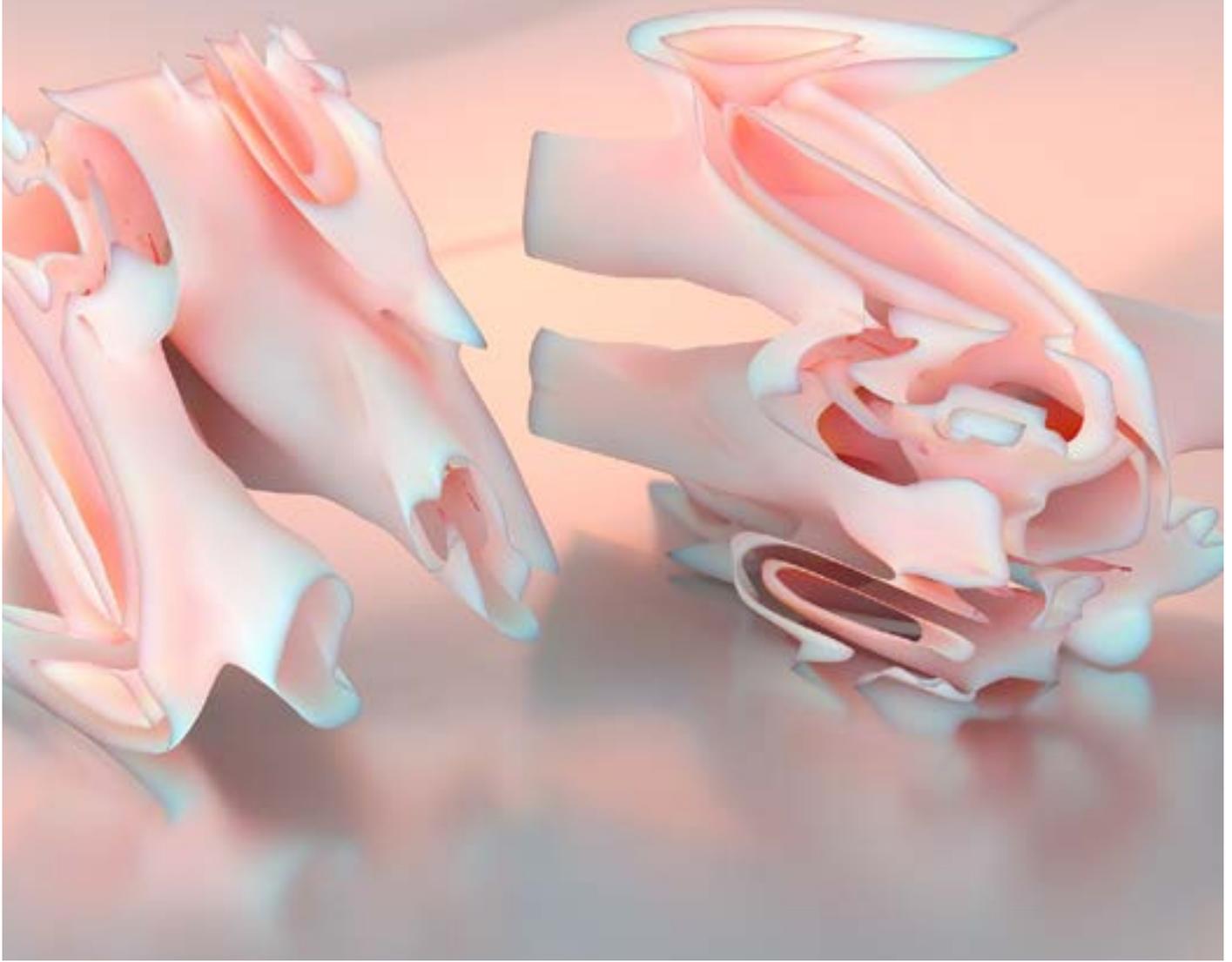
by **Nicholete Brocchi**

**24 JULY – 10 AUGUST \ \ METRO ARTS GALLERY**

*Flash Lights in Low Visibility* investigates current frameworks of justice, which reinforce isolation and removal as punishment. The exhibition is concerned with the way that the legal framework and isolation of prison reproduces specific individualizing and moralizing systems.



Cuts 2  
by Grace Blake, 2018



# *Silica*

by **Grace Blake**

**24 JULY – 10 AUGUST // METRO ARTS GALLERY 2**

Grace Blake's exhibition will be comprised of predominantly new work that considers a future dominated by non-human and hybridised beings.



Span  
by Torin Francis, 2018



# Gyre

by Torin Francis

**21 AUGUST – 7 SEPTEMBER // METRO ARTS GALLERY**

Across installation, sculpture and moving image, this exhibition repurposes weather instruments in order to experiment with our perception of spatio-temporal experience, and its orders and structures.



*Unnamed*  
by Priscilla Beck, 2018

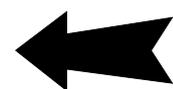


# *Unnamed*

**by Priscilla Beck**

**21 AUGUST – 7 SEPTEMBER // METRO ARTS GALLERY 2**

Priscilla Beck enacts a series of repairs to an empty gallery, which then break apart over the course of the exhibition. The installation is first made of making, and then unmade.



*Listening with the river*  
by Alexandra Spence, 2016  
Image by Lukas Engelhardt



# *The Cities, They Tremble*

by **Alexandra Spence**

**18 SEPTEMBER – 5 OCTOBER // METRO ARTS GALLERY**

*The cities, they tremble* is a three-part audio-visual installation, that traces the connections between place, identity and sound, through an examination of resonance and vibration in everyday life.



*The Longing*  
by Sophie Bottomley, 2018

# *Shy Love*

by Sophie Bottomley

18 SEPTEMBER – 5 OCTOBER \ \ METRO ARTS GALLERY 2

*Shy Love* explores how the physical body experiences desire. Each sculptural form delves into shared experiences of bodily pleasure and anticipation.



# *Socially Engaged Work*

## ***The Waitress***

by Georgia Banks

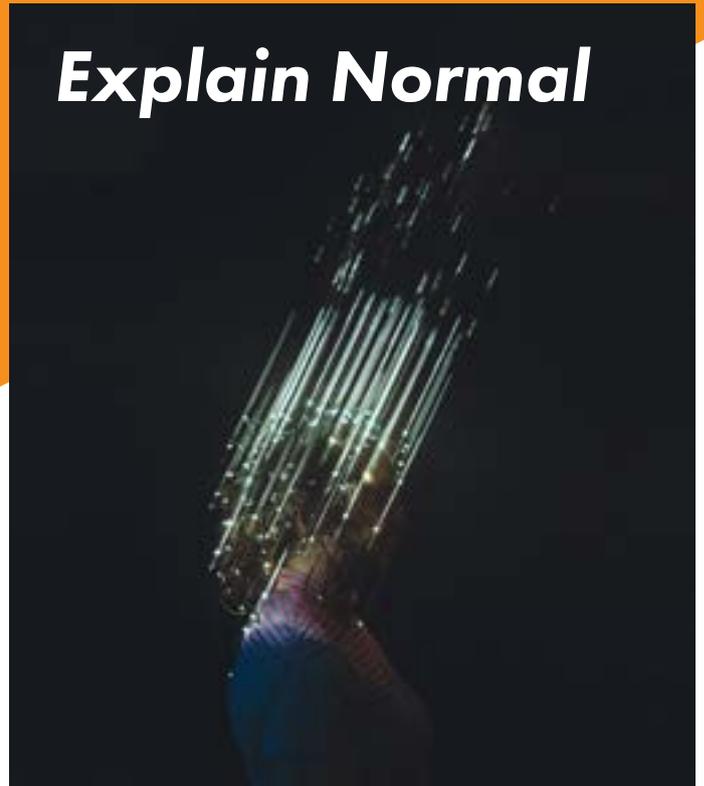


**13 – 30 NOVEMBER \ \ METRO ARTS GALLERY**

In the 1970's, performance collective The Waitresses explored the sexualisation and harassment of waitresses. Although they did amazing work, sadly in 2019 Georgia Banks feels not much has changed. She revisits this problem opening a dialogue around sexual harassment in the hospitality industry. This research informs a body of work to be created and presented in Metro Arts Gallery in November 2019.



# Performance Premieres





# Magpie

**by Elise Greig**

**A Metro Arts, Playlab and EG production**

**30 MAY – 8 JUNE \ \ BRISBANE POWERHOUSE**

Mordecai, a novelist dealing with a bad review, returns to her family's Brisbane home for the first time in decades following the death of her father. The home conjures echoes from her distant past: the muggy summers, the smell of rotting mangoes, and the perpetual arguments between her Romani mother and father.

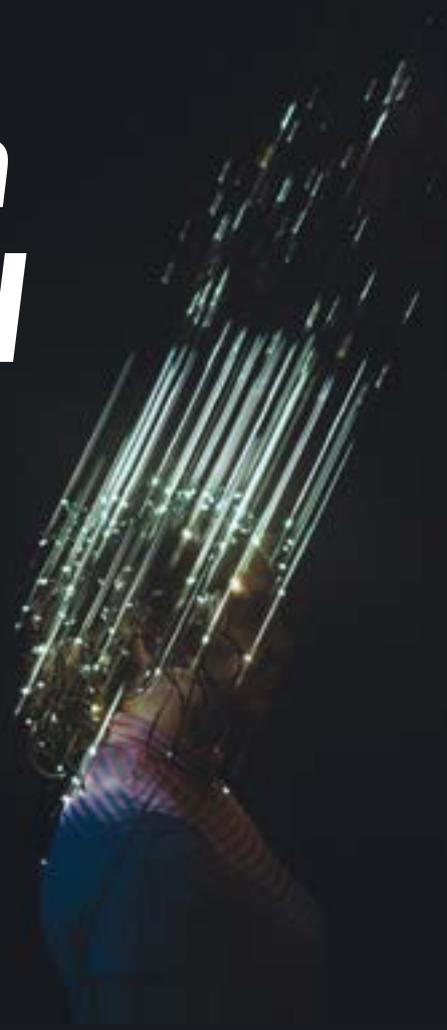
Spanning from young love to aging cynicism, *Magpie* is a coming-of-age story that will thrill and delight like lemonade ice-blocks and a swim on a hot day.



*Magpie* is supported by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body. *Magpie* is supported by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland, part of the Department of Environment and Science. *Magpie* is supported by Creative Partnerships Australia through MATCH Lab. Developed by Playlab.



# ***Explain Normal***



**by Daniele Constance**

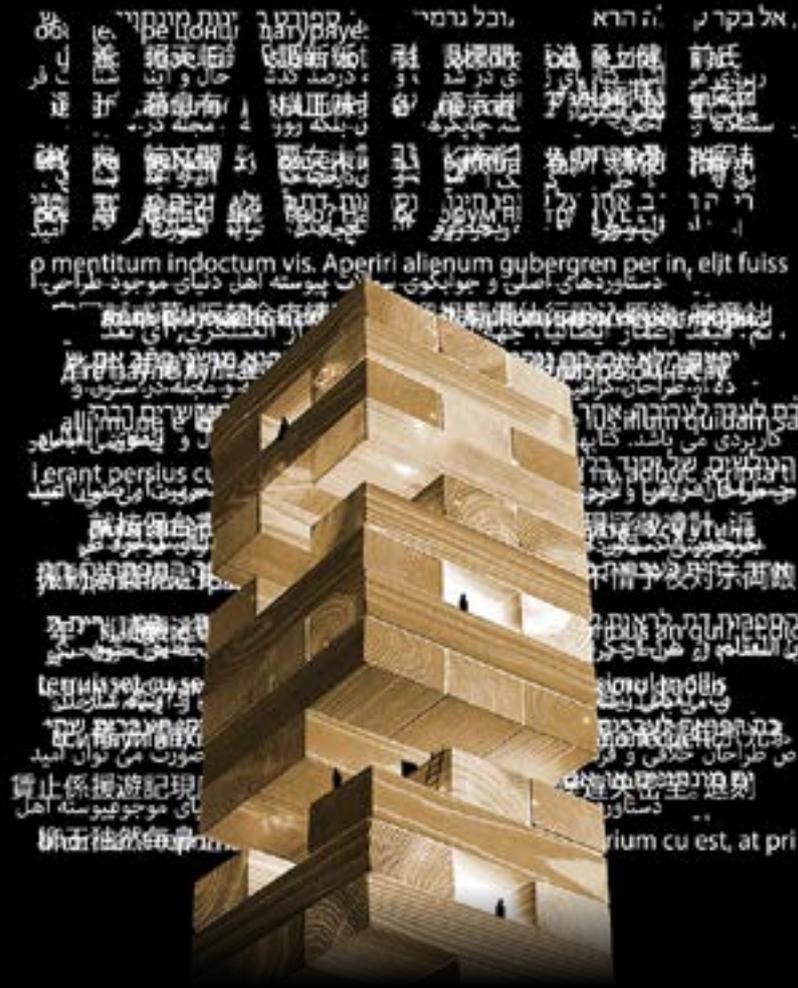
**16 – 26 OCTOBER \ \ SUE BENNER THEATRE**

There are normal ways to eat, walk, sit, speak and die.

There are also ways for everything that is not normal. Not normal ways to love, to dance, to start a conversation, to cry. There are not normal ways to live.

*Explain Normal* is a new dance theatre work directed by participatory artist Daniele Constance. It is a new and exciting artistic collaboration between the Aha Ensemble who identify with disability and artists from Phluxus2 Dance Collective. *Explain Normal* explores how these artists define perceptions of normalcy, through the lens of their diverse experiences.





# Tower of Babel

by Baran Theatre

20 NOVEMBER – 7 DECEMBER \ \ SUE BENNER THEATRE

“Let’s build a city with a tower that reaches to the heavens so that we may make a name for ourselves.”

An ancient story that begins with one language,  
Is told in a country that began with many languages.  
In the Tower of Babel you meet people.  
You sense that you will be scattered.

This interactive contemporary performance echoes slaves, royals, poets,  
priests, Venus and gods in our own war time.



**A season  
of three plays  
presented by  
Metro Arts and  
the best and  
brightest theatre  
makers in Brisbane.**

**Reagan Kelly**  
by Lewis Treston

**Kill Climate  
Deniers**  
by David Finnigan

**Love and  
Information**  
by Caryl Churchill

**METRO  
ARTS  
LOCAL.**





# Reagan Kelly

by Lewis Treston

20–30 MARCH \\ SUE BENNER THEATRE

DIRECTOR: Timothy Hill

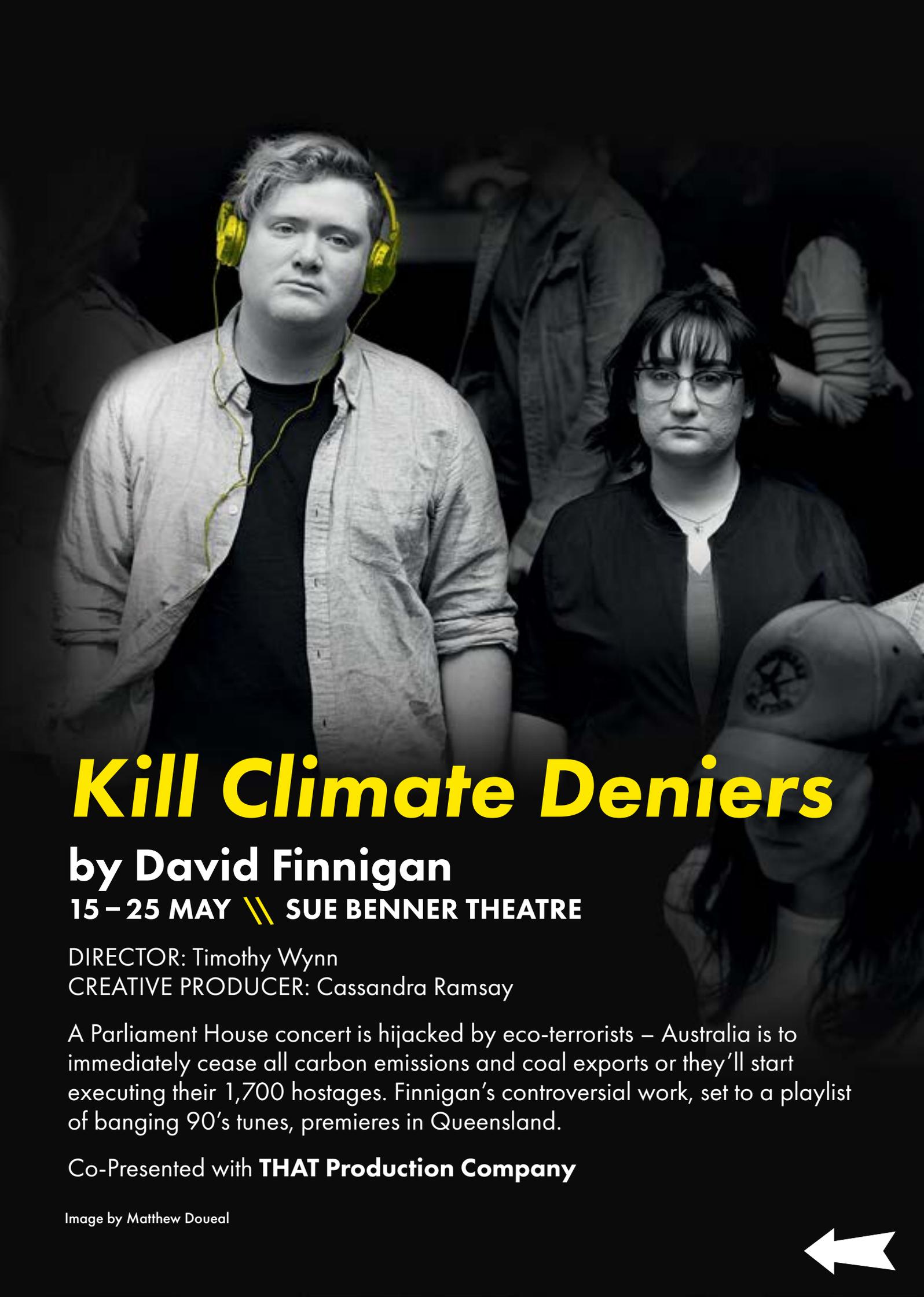
PRODUCER: Danielle Carney

A high achiever fallen from grace chases oblivion like a punk rock dynamo. Is it better to start playing by the rules or to set the things that 'matter' ablaze?

Co-Presented with **Rocket Boy Ensemble**

Image by Matthew Doucal





# ***Kill Climate Deniers***

**by David Finnigan**

**15 – 25 MAY \ \ SUE BENNER THEATRE**

DIRECTOR: Timothy Wynn

CREATIVE PRODUCER: Cassandra Ramsay

A Parliament House concert is hijacked by eco-terrorists – Australia is to immediately cease all carbon emissions and coal exports or they'll start executing their 1,700 hostages. Finnigan's controversial work, set to a playlist of banging 90's tunes, premieres in Queensland.

Co-Presented with **THAT Production Company**

Image by Matthew Doucal



# Love and Information

by Caryl Churchill



**31 JULY – 10 AUGUST** \ \ **SUE BENNER THEATRE**

DIRECTOR: Lisa O'Neill

DIRECTOR: Anatoly Frusin

A theatrical tour de force looking at how we process information, how we remember, create meaning and seek love and understanding.

Co-Presented with **Robert The Cat**

Image by Matthew Doucal





# Robert The Cat

## COMPANY IN RESIDENCE 2019

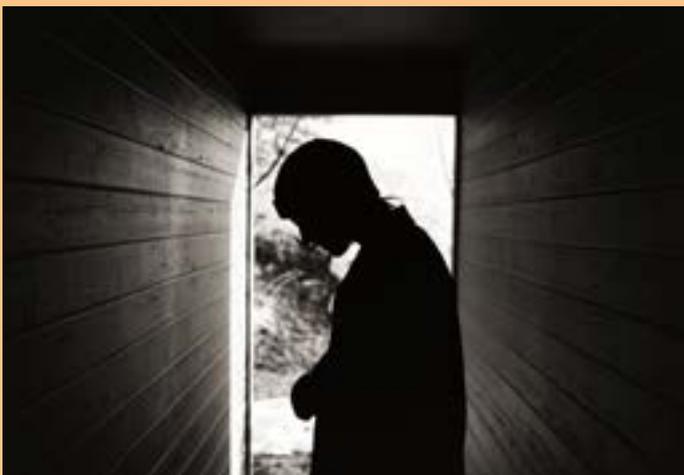
Metro Arts proudly supports Robert the Cat, as our emerging Company in Residence, featuring alumni from TAFE Queensland and Co-Directors Lisa O'Neill and Anatoly Frusin.



Image by Matthew Doucal



# Creative Developments



## ***The Untouched Remains***

**by Chopt Logic &  
Shane Anthony**

**FEBRUARY**

Inspired by a sequence of murders committed in Sydney between the 70's and 90's, *The Untouched Remains* investigates Australia's hidden history of gay hate crimes.

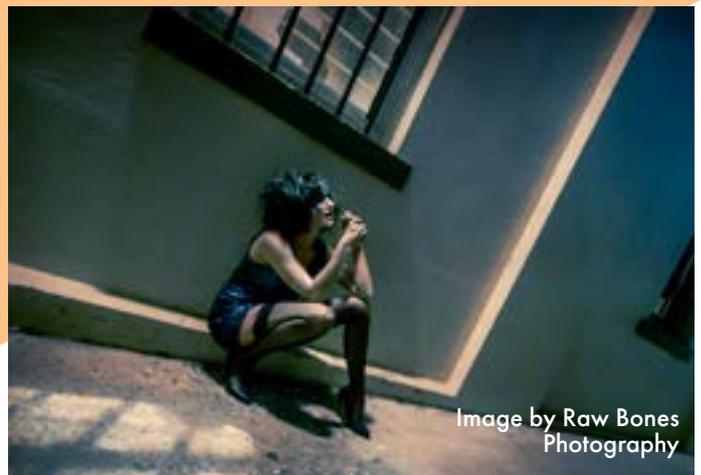


Image by Raw Bones  
Photography

## ***In The Dark***

**by Leah Shelton &  
Mandy Beaumont**

**MARCH**

Come. Take night-time hours as your own. Uncover stories about women and the spaces we inhabit. Explore the projections, imaginings and fantasies by which we are limited and defined.



# Hurricane



by Emma Hall & Vidya Rajan / JULY

Hindu philosophy tells us: life is suffering, the human story is the story of ego and we are living in the end times. Inspired by American playwright Will Eno, the pop star M.I.A. and the swirling mess that is anthropomorphic capitalism in a climate change era, *Hurricane* is a bizarre deconstruction/re-destruction of the night a natural disaster came to town.



Image by Carla Zimble

## SSHIFTT

by Karul Projects

MAY

Shape shifting has been happening since the beginning of time. Karul Projects weave their movement magic exploring ancient practices and identity.



Image by Amber Haines

## White Woman

by Jenni Large

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER

*White Woman* explores through contemporary choreography, the unusual juxtapositions of superiority and oppression, empowerment and objectification inviting audience recognition of prejudice, privilege and equality.



# Other Metro Arts' 2019 Produced Artists

**Nathan  
Sibthorpe**



*Crunch Time* by Counterpilot, 2018  
Image by Greta Costello

**Elise Greig**



Elise Greig in *Poison* by Lot Vekemans, 2018  
Image by Barb Lowing

*Bear With Me* by David Megarrity, 2012  
Image by Grant Heaton

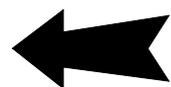


**David  
Megarrity**

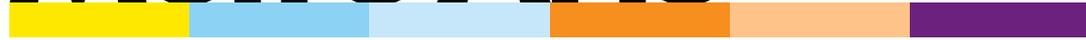
*Wireless* by Lisa Wilson & Paul Charlier, 2017  
Image by Dylan Evans



**Lisa Wilson**



# Metro Arts



Metro Arts acknowledge the Jagera and Turrbal peoples, as the custodians of this land, recognising their connection to land, waters and community. We honour the story-telling and art-making at the heart of First Nation's cultures, and the enrichment it gives to the lives of all Australians.

***Always was, Always will be.***

## Our Supporters

Metro Arts thanks our many donors and supporters who generously donate their time and resources. It is with your support that we are able to continue to nurture Brisbane's artists of tomorrow.

### Art Starts Here



Queensland  
Government



*Dedicated to a better Brisbane*

Metro Arts is supported by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body. Metro Arts is supported by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland, part of the Department of Environment and Science. Metro Arts is supported by Brisbane City Council. Metro Arts is a Venue Partner for BRISBANE ART DESIGN 2019.

## Metro Arts Team

Alex Anderson, Amida Callinicos, Bella Teggin, Bri Ellison, Celestine Doyle, Christine Johnstone, Emma Black, Genevieve Trace, Jo Thomas, Kyle Weise, Matt Seery, Melina Wightman, Nick Seery, Olivia Dean-Jones, Shani Gould, Verity Woodford, Xanthe Peters, + our wonderful volunteers and interns.

