

While You Sleep

Sal Cooper & Kate Neal

Presented by
Arts House

World Premiere
Music, performance &
animation
7 Nov – 11 Nov
60 mins
\$35 / \$30 / \$25

Audio described
7.30pm, Fri 9 Nov



Creative Team

Sal Cooper
Co-Creator / Visual Art and Animation
Kate Neal
Co-Creator / Music and Sound Design
Zachary Johnston
Violin I
Isabel Hede
Violin II
Phoebe Green
Viola
Katherine Philp
Cello
Jacob Abela
Piano
Daniel Schlusser
Director
Wally Gunn
Production and Stage Manager
Bosco Shaw
Lighting and Set Designer
Sam Doyle
Systems Programmer and Operator
Robert Downie
Sound Operator

Claire Portek
Producer
Bureau of Works

Additional music and sound support

Grischa Lichtenberger
Electronic Music (calypso and 1205_10)
Georgie Darvidis,
Andy Wiffler
Vocals
Howard Chaston
Guitar
James Wilkinson
Audio Support

Artist Statement

A fugue can be two very different things: it is at once an expression of ordered precision and complexity; and also an experience of indeterminate absence.

The inherent contradiction and tension between these two very different possibilities is at the heart of this work, as is an exploration of the selective truth of memory, and the compelling possibilities of delusion.

We have been developing material for this show for about 2 years. It began with a discussion about the fugue as a musical form, then led to the discovery that a “fugue” was also a term for a rare and perplexing psychological state. This gave us a rich world of metaphors to explore, and a starting point for a time of deep and interesting research.

What has evolved within this work is an abiding sense of movement, a kind of wandering energy, a constant fleeing from — and return to — self and other; primary and secondary subjects.

The result is a work that is entangled in disbelief, in grief, in joy, in oblivion and in wonder.

– *Sal Cooper and Kate Neal*

“...the happiness of tearing away, of racing, the space of a promised infinite... The strange happiness of the foreigner consists of maintaining that fleeing eternity...”

– Julia Kristeva,
Toccatà and Fugue for a Foreigner

Biographies

Sal Cooper

Sal Cooper is an award-winning animator and artist from Melbourne, Australia. She produces work in theatrical, fine art and cinematic settings and is regularly exhibited both locally and internationally. She also produces screen-based material for the commercial sector as well as undertaking numerous filmmaking and animation projects within the community sector. Sal has exhibited her own work in a number of solo and many group shows. Sal has undertaken several public art projects and has attended residencies in Australia and overseas. She has received commissions to create screen-based work from Screen Australia, The Australia Council for the Arts, and the City of Melbourne. While now placing her practice in the field of visual arts and performative works, Sal has had much success in the past as an independent animated filmmaker. Her animated short films continue to be screened around the world and her film *Song for a Comb* was a prize-winning finalist in the 2009 Tropfest Short Film Festival.

Kate Neal

Kate Neal is an artist with experience as a composer, arranger, artistic director and collaborator. Since 2006 she has been incorporating extra-musical parameters within the notation of a musical score, such as physical gesture, design, light and movement. In 2017, Neal premiered new works for the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, Sound Collectors, Arcadia Winds and SO Percussion. In 2016, Neal won the Beleura Award for Composition as part of the Melbourne Music Prize, as well as Performance and Instrumental Work of the Year at the Art Music Awards for her work *Semaphore*. In 2016, Neal presented *Permission To Speak* in collaboration with theatre maker Tamara Saulwick. In 2014, Neal was the recipient of an Australia Council for the Arts Fellowship, allowing her to compose six substantial works over two years. Neal holds a BMus (VCA, Melbourne); BMus/MMus (RC, The Hague); PGDip (non-western music, SC, Amsterdam); PGDip (RNCM, Manchester) and is a current PhD Graduate Fellow at Princeton University.

Jacob Abela

Australian pianist/keyboardist Jacob Abela is a soloist and chamber musician specialising in new music. Based in Melbourne, Jacob is a co-director and performer in contemporary art music outfit Rubiks Collective, who have enjoyed critical acclaim for their contribution to Melbourne's music scene. As a pianist, Jacob performs regularly with leading Australian ensembles, including performances with Ensemble Offspring, Speak Percussion, Victorian Opera, Argonaut Ensemble (BIFEM), and Synergy Percussion. Festival credits include the Bang on a Can Summer Music Festival (USA), Bendigo International Festival of Exploratory Music, Metropolis New Music Festival, ISCM World New Music Days, Sydney Festival, and Mathemusical Conversations (Singapore). Recent projects include a tour to Europe with Rubiks in July/August performing a program of newly-commissioned and existing Australian works, the world premiere of *TARZAN* with Vienna-based experimental theatre company God's Entertainment, and a solo recital at the Bendigo International Festival of Exploratory Music 2018.

Phoebe Green

Australian violist Phoebe Green is active in her artistic practice as a performer, collaborator, researcher and advocate. Phoebe is passionate about music from our time and place, and its context in broader histories. She explores this passion through an inclusive approach to programming, and in the commissioning and performance of new works. In 2014 Phoebe attended the 47th International Summer Course for New Music in Darmstadt, Germany, and was awarded the Stipendienpreis for Interpretation. She recently participated in the Ensemble Evolution program at the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity with Artistic Directors Steve Schick and Claire Chase.

Biographies

Isabel Hede

In her hometown of Melbourne, Isabel Hede completed her Bachelor of Music at the Victorian College of the Arts as a student of Miwako Abe, where she was the recipient of the Kate Flowers Memorial Award and the Athenaeum Soloist Award. She then went on to do a further three years of advanced study at the Australian National Academy of Music as a student of William Hennessy. During this time Isabel performed with various artists such as the Brodsky String Quartet, Anthony Marwood, Pekka Kuusisto, and received master-classes with Midori. She also performed in various festivals including the Huntington Estate Festival, the Melbourne and Perth International Arts Festivals, the Sydney Biennale and played in ensemble tours of China, Russia and Singapore. In the time of her freelance career Isabel has spent time living in Perth, Western Australia, Melbourne and more recently, London. During this time, Isabel has performed all styles of music with various ensembles around Australia and the world.

Zachary Johnston

Australian contemporary violinist, string educator, and random mandolinist, Zachary Johnston is a member of several new music ensembles including Arcko Symphonic Project, 3 Shades Black, Argonaut, and Bolt Ensemble. As part of long-term research (including a completed Masters of Music Performance Teaching) Zac is investigating into how curiosity and contemporary music is integrated into pedagogy, particularly in string studies. He has taken this philosophy into his education work with various ensembles including conducting State Music Camp, MSO Pizzicato Effect, and a variety of improvisation and Exploratory Music workshops for school ensembles. Complementing this, Zac incorporates the live compositional technique of 'Soundpainting', created by Walter Thomson, into education and performances in Australia. Zac has performed with Argonaut for the Bendigo International Festival of Exploratory Music (BIFEM), participated in the 2014 and 2016 Internationales Musikinstitut Darmstadt, and performed as part of the 2015 Bang on a Can Summer Festival at MASS MoCA, Massachusetts. He is a monthly cohost with Bidy Connor for 3MBS' "Classically Kids" Saturday morning show.

Grischa Lichtenberger

Grischa Lichtenberger (born 1983) is an artist and producer/composer of electronic music living in Berlin. Grischa grew up in a withdrawn farmhouse near Bielefeld (Westphalia), and his artistic approach developed from surveying the landscape as reference for the condition of art production itself. Landscape, in this sense, is understood not only as the picturesque or sublime recreational facility of nature, but as an interaction between the traces of biographical history and the material concreteness of the present surroundings.

Two tracks of Grischa's are used in *While You Sleep*: *calipso*, and *1205_10* (short edit) From the 2009 album ~ *treibgut* Strings / editing / arranging by Kate Neal

Katherine Philp

Cellist Katherine Philp performs across a vast range of musical styles and settings, and works for some of Australia's leading arts companies and festivals. She is currently the principal cellist of Camerata – Queensland's Chamber Orchestra, member of new music ensemble Kupka's Piano, performs with Southern Cross Soloists, and appears at festivals and events across the country as both soloist and ensemble member. In 2009 Katherine undertook an Asialink residency at the Tibetan Institute of Performing Arts in Dharamsala, India, where she studied Tibetan classical and folk music. She works closely with Tibetan singer and instrumentalist Tenzin Choegyal, together they have presented numerous concerts and recordings at the Woodford Folk Festival, the Sydney Opera House, the annual Festival of Tibet, performances for HH Dalai Lama's teachings in Australia, and features on ABC Radio National. More recently, Katherine has become increasingly acknowledged for her performance of New Music, and has undertaken study with Rohan de Saram and Lucas Fels (of Arditti String Quartet). She has performed and studied in India, Austria, Germany, Switzerland, taken part in Impuls Academy (Austria) and the International Summer Course for New Music Darmstadt (Germany), and recently received an award for Best Performer, playing Berio's Sequenza XIV at the San Marino New Music Project.

Biographies

Daniel Schlusser

Daniel Schlusser is a director, dramaturg, actor and writer. With Daniel Schlusser Ensemble, he has created *They Divided the Sky* (Belvoir 25A), *M+M* (Theatre Works/ Melbourne Festival), *Menagerie* (MTC Neon), *Ophelia doesn't live here anymore* (Chamber Made Opera/Bell Shakespeare's Minds Eye), *The Dollhouse* (fortyfivedownstairs), *Life is a Dream* (The Store Room), *Poet #7* (Full Tilt at The Arts Centre) and *Peer Gynt* (VCA). Recent projects include *Nest*, a collaboration with Genevieve Lacey and Ben Cobham at the Melbourne Recital Centre, and - as co-writer and performer - the Belarus Free Theatre production of *Trustees* for Malthouse/2018 Melbourne Festival. Schlusser has received an Ian Potter, the George Fairfax Memorial Award, a Besen Family Fellowship and a Goethe Institut 'Key Cultural Personnel' grant. He holds an MA (by research) in Theatre Directing from the Victorian College of the Arts.



Thank You

Clare Britton, Tim Chaston, Alice Chaston, Chunky Move, Natasha Conrau, Trudy Clutterbok, Megan Evans, Ben Keene, Jo Kennedy, Sonya Lifschitz, Rick Matear, Dana Maude, Erin Milne, Dana Miltins, Roslyn Oades, Matthew Quick, Joanne Saunders, James Savage, Bensen Thomas, Emma Valente.

Arts House, as a key program of the City of Melbourne, is Melbourne's contemporary centre for performance and interactive artforms. We support new and diverse ways to make and experience art which is participatory and experiential, interdisciplinary and trans-disciplinary, curated through a balance of provocation, responsiveness and collaboration with artists and audiences.

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

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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.

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