



Hush by Rubiks Collective

6pm Wednesday 3 July 2019

Primrose Potter Salon, Melbourne Recital Centre

Presented by the Melbourne Recital Centre's 2019 Local Heroes Series



Don't Say a Word by Annika Socolofsky

(Australian Premiere)

*"Hush now, baby. Don't say a word.
Now it's time for the women's turn."*

"When I look around myself for an idea, when I feel as though I have nothing to work with, when I feel as though I am nothing, when I've been made to feel that I am nothing, I look to the strong women who surround me. Women's stories are tales of strength, perseverance, fire, and drive. And as the tides of history churn, gaining momentum, it's no longer dangerous to declare: now it's our turn."

- Annika Socolofsky

Mouthpiece 28 by Erin Gee

(Australian Premiere)

Erin Gee's series of pieces, entitled 'Mouthpiece' incorporates singing and playing to create extremely intimate, unique and often haunting sound worlds.

"I notate the vocal sounds using the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) in order to accurately transcribe both the type of sound and the place of articulation in the mouth. The sounds that I use are often remnants or artifacts of phonemes, however when placed in a non-semantic context, they float in a liminal space with no overt connection to a language.

[In Mouthpiece 28], the articulatory possibilities of the mouth are often mapped onto the instruments, mirroring and expanding the vocal sounds to form a kind of 'super-mouth' that can move beyond the physical limitations of a single vocal tract."

- Erin Gee

The thin air between skins by Annie Hui-Hsin Hsieh

"My composition interests of late focuses on the bodily communication between the performers engaged in an ensemble arrangement. Influenced by the Spinozan belief that the body is capable to be affected and modulated upon encounters with other bodies. I am keen to explore the scenario in which the inter-pre personal interactions between the duo of musicians are exaggerated and reacted upon.

Seigworth and Greggs in 'The Affect Theory Reader' refers to this intuitive, pre-personal articulation as *shimmers* that hovers between skins- the 'determinate organ of perception'. Such thought, if tracing back to that of Barthes' who calls *shimmer* as an 'exhaustingly nuanced space' whose meaning is 'subtly modified according to the angle of the subject's gaze', led to an impetus to write a piece addressing such description of the inter-personal relationship between the individuals."

- Annie Hsieh

World Under Glass No. 2 by Amy-Beth Kirsten

(Australian Premiere)

'World Under Glass No.2' is inspired by the works of New York artist Thomas Doyle. His astonishing 'scenes-in-miniature' are displayed in what might be described as over-sized snow globes. Far from beautiful snowscapes recalling holiday cheer, they portray disturbing (even depraved), secret human moments painstakingly arranged and preserved. From afar, the spectator initially delights in these tantalising objects resembling a holiday toy. Carefree curiosity slowly draws us near. Upon closer inspection, delight turns to sudden horror. This emotional whiplash stunned, horrified and eventually inspired me. I didn't know if I should laugh at how I was fooled or cry for the little tragedies under glass that somehow felt even more extreme expressed this way."

- Amy-Beth Kirsten

Ghosts by Dmitri Tymoczko

(World Premiere)

"Ghosts is the first instalment in what I hope will be a longer work focusing on the residue of the past. The work alternates between found recordings and remixes of classic English-language poetry. The found recordings speak with the voice of faded authority, 1960s confidence and enthusiasm now faded into something different and strange.

(I have carried the LPs around with me for decades as I moved from house to house, always planning to do something with them but never having found the right moment until now.)

The poetic ghosts speak through a haze of cut-and-paste reordering, the rhymed couplets of 19th-century poetry shrouded in confusion, the spirit no longer able to communicate in a straightforward way. "

- Dmitri Tymoczko