



MELBOURNE RECITAL CENTRE

Media Alert

Melbourne Recital Centre & the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra present

METROPOLIS NEW MUSIC FESTIVAL 2019



Metropolis Festival has for more than a decade been introducing music-lovers to new and contemporary music by the brightest local and international composers. Presented by Melbourne Recital Centre and the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra (MSO), this year Metropolis celebrates the 80th birthday of Dutch composer Louis Andriessen over three days of energetic performances.

In an Australian exclusive (Fri 3 May), **Ralph van Raat** performs eight new compositions by Andriessen, including a piece written especially for him. Van Raat completes his solo recital with the mighty *Phrygian Gates* by John Adams - 25 minutes of rippling waves of smooth and surging sound. Ralph additionally performs with the **Melbourne Symphony Orchestra** in Metropolis Night One (Thu 2 May), featuring works by Andriessen, Graeme Koehne, and a world premiere by Barry Conyngham.

Ralph van Raat says:

'I am more than excited to return to Melbourne for a performance with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, and for an additional solo recital. The very playful and energetic piano concerto by Graeme Koehne shares its similar energy with some of the solo piano works by Dutch composer Louis Andriessen. Indeed Koehne counts Andriessen among his teachers, and as a Dutch performer I look very much forward to interpret the works of both masters in two evenings! During these evenings, Melbourne and Amsterdam stand side by side!'

Acclaimed vocalist **Lior** joins the MSO on the final Metropolis evening (Sat 4 May), performing a newly commissioned piece written with the MSO's 2018 Young Composer in Residence, Ade Vincent. This



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work follows the world premiere of the MSO's 2019 Young Composer in Residence Mark Holdsworth's *Cri de Coeur*.

Additional ensembles and artists performing across the Festival are **Anna McMichael** (Thu 2 May) who takes her violin into uncharted territory with a ball of wool used as a violin bow; **Cat Hope** from W.A. and her **Decibel New Music Ensemble** (Fri 3 May), champions of new Australian acoustic and electronic music which work side-by-side; three generations of Australian female composers who are celebrated with a rich kaleidoscope of music brought to life with **Six Degrees Ensemble** (Sat 4 May); and **MCM New Music Ensemble** performs Andriessen's virtuosic works *Hoketus* and *Hout* (Sat 4 May).

Always popular at Melbourne Recital Centre, pianist and narrator **Lisa Moore** (Sat 4 May) collaborates with the **Australian National Academy of Music** (ANAM) in a dramatic combination of radical works from the 1970s, revolutionary classics including the Australian Premiere of Andriessen's poem 'Langzame Verjardaag' (Slow Birthday). Plus, come along to **Free Music** with renowned ensemble **PLEXUS** (Fri 3 May).

Marshall McGuire, Director of Programming, Melbourne Recital Centre, says:

'Melbourne Recital Centre looks forward to the 2019 Metropolis New Music Festival, our annual joint venture with the MSO, this year with a focus on Louis Andriessen, and a celebration of vibrant new music from Australia and around the world.'

CONCERT DETAILS

Metropolis Festival 2019

Thursday 2 May - Saturday 4 May

Melbourne Recital Centre

Presented by Melbourne Recital Centre & Melbourne Symphony Orchestra

For more information and to book tickets visit: melbournerecital.com.au | 03 9699 3333

INTERVIEWS & MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

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