

MULTICUTURAL ARTS VICTORIA  
& MELBOURNE FESTIVAL  
IGNITING IMAGINATION 2017  
AMBASSADORS

4 ——— 22  
MELBOURNE  
FESTIVAL  
OCTOBER  
2017



**GREGORY LORENZUTTI** is a Brazilian-Australian artist based in Melbourne working in between the spaces of photography and dance. His practice spans across a vast range of performances from ballet and contemporary dance to work on television, film and even the Rio de Janeiro Carnival parade. He has worked as a dancer and rehearsal manager in Brazil, Australia and Europe for companies such as Renato Vieira Cia de Dança, Cia Nós da Dança, Niteroi City Ballet, Chunky Move and BalletLab; collaborating with numerous independent dance makers. As a photographer, he has worked for major dance companies, artists and independent performers documenting and developing exclusive visual concepts that explore ideas of continuum in-and-out of the frame. His work has been extensively published and exhibited in art galleries, as well as specialised media outlets in Australia and abroad. His current projects focus on cultural exchange and international collaboration between artists from Australia and Brazil. Gregory holds a degree in Theatre at UniRio (Federal University of Rio de Janeiro) and in Digital / Analog Photography at SENAC and Atelie da Imagem (Rio De Janeiro), specialising in contemporary narratives in photography at the

International Centre of Photography in New York.

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**KALYAN KY** is an award-winning entrepreneur, writer, musician and social activist. She is currently the Director of the Trade Partnership and Cooperation Centre – Angkor Exchange (TPC-AE) that fosters and facilitates economic and societal connections between Cambodians and the rest of the world. She also has her own consulting firm; Sparrow International Group. Kalyan is President of the Cambodia Australia New Zealand Exchange Mission (CANZEM) and an ex-advisor of the Australian Chamber of Commerce, Cambodia (AusCham). She currently serves as an advisor on International Trade & Affairs for various organisations. Kalyan's family fled Cambodia to New Zealand as refugees after the rise of the Khmer Rouge and the civil war, before finally migrating to Australia but remain passionate in promoting her native Cambodia. This sparked her long-time advocacy for refugee rights and multiculturalism, as well as support for Cambodian schools and child welfare organisations. Originally working through the Multifaith Multicultural Youth Network and the Ethnic Youth Council, Kalyan was awarded the Young Achiever of the Year (Australia Day Award) in 2011 for the City of Greater Dandenong. She was previously

appointed to the Victorian Multicultural Commission's Regional Advisory Council, and served as an Australia Day Ambassador. She is the author of several short stories and a book of poetry and is a regular speaker at events including writers' festivals in Australia and Cambodia, namely the Emerging Writers Festival, Melbourne Writers Festival and the Kampot Writers and Readers Festival.

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**KAREN BERGER** is a freelance director, performer, composer and teacher. Her longest running position is as musician and diversity officer with Melbourne Playback Theatre – a company that hears stories from its audiences and improvises them in return. Karen’s award-winning M.A. in performance studies saw her delving into the history of the part of Melbourne where she lives, very near where Wurundjeri elders reputedly met with John Batman to ‘sign a treaty’. This led to a site-specific performance that explored our relationship to the earth, which was also profoundly influenced by her experience of visiting the mass grave of some of her ancestors in Lithuania. Last year Karen directed the prize-winning show *Deceptive Threads*, which explores the history of Australia’s racist immigration policies through the stories of performer David Joseph’s two grandfathers; an early Lebanese immigrant and a Tivoli singer turned ASIO spy, respectively. Karen was born in England to South African parents with Lithuanian Jewish ancestry, which has shaped her deep and vested interest in Australia’s multiculturalism. Her talents have taken all around the

globe; working and studying in Europe, Asia and four memorable years in Africa where she ran a theatre-in-education company in Namibia and taught theatre at the University of Ghana.



**KAREN CASEY** is a Melbourne-based interdisciplinary artist who explores intersections between the arts, science and society. As one of a vanguard group of urban indigenous artists she quickly gained prominence as a painter and printmaker, however later shifting direction towards installation, new media and public art. She has extensively worked with a broad range of traditional and new media, which has been exhibited widely in both Australia and overseas since the 1980s. Karen has received several public Art commissions and awards and has worked with architects, urban planners and developers on various corporate and public projects as both collaborative consultant and commissioned artist. In 2003, she was appointed Artist-in-Residence for the City of Melbourne, Urban Design Branch. Regularly presenting at symposiums and conferences, Karen also has a keen interest in art education. In 2008, she took part in the Australia 2020 Summit at Parliament House, Canberra, and has also been involved in arts curriculum development and contributed towards government arts strategies. In 2007, she initiated Let’s Shake, a public art participation project for peace and

reconciliation that has held numerous events in Australia and overseas. She is currently the creative director of Global Mind Project, an ongoing arts and cognitive neuroscience initiative launched in 2010 at Federation Square, which has since been presented in various forms at venues including Gallery of Modern Art (Queensland Art Gallery, Queensland) and Museum of Old and New Art (MONA, Tasmania).

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**NAKARIN JAIKLA** has been fascinated by different forms of art his entire life. He first learned how to do arts and crafts from his grandmother, who he credits as his first teacher. He regularly performs his work in festivals all around Australia and overseas, securing selected artist residencies & art grants, globally. These include the arts grants program by City of Melbourne for *Believe in Believe* Project in 2014, MAPFest 2014 in Malaysia, artist residency for *Between World II: Spirit Across Borders* in 2015 at Chiang Mai University in Thailand, and more recently, secured an artist residency in The 11<sup>th</sup> International Art Workshop 2016 in Bangkok, Thailand. For the last four years he has been involved in Multicultural Arts Victoria's *Mapping Melbourne* festival, which celebrates contemporary Asian artists. Nakaran has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Fine Art with a major in Thai Art from Chiang Mai University in Thailand. He then moved to Australia in 2006 where he completed his qualification in Dance Teaching and Management. In early 2012, Nakaran founded and is the current director of SILP

Productions Inc., which promotes Thai art and culture in Melbourne through modern Thai productions. He is also a dance teacher and ballet coach for gymnastic athletes.



**SUN HEE** is a Korean artist who has lived and worked in Korea, Japan, Singapore and Australia; sharing her artistic talents with the world. Born in Seoul, Sun started painting and finding expression through art in the 1990s when she was living in Japan and Singapore. In Singapore, she studied Western Arts at Nanyang Fine Arts Academy, where she became a member of the Life-Art Society. Sun married an Australian and migrated to Australia in 1991, and since then has made an impact to the intercultural connection between East and Western art philosophies in Australia. She is the president of the Korean Artists Association and a member of the Brighton Artist Society. Sun has participated in many exhibitions with her paintings and calligraphy in Japan, Singapore, Melbourne and Sydney, including two solo exhibitions. She has greatly contributed to the multicultural vibrancy of Victoria through art since calling Australia home. In 2015, she received an award at the Bayside Art Show and a series of her paintings are proudly displayed at the Korean Consulate on St Kilda Road. Sun is proud of her most recent portrait painting of WH

Cumming, now displayed in the Edgar Lounge at the Heritage Committee of the Commonwealth Golf Club.



**MARA SISON** is an Asian contemporary visual arts curator and writer. She has managed Indonesian contemporary art exhibitions such as *SHOUT! Indonesian Contemporary Art* in 2015 and co-curated *Crossing: Beyond Baliseering* in 2016. She has also been an active participant of Multicultural Arts Victoria's annual Asian contemporary arts festival *Mapping Melbourne*. She gained her experience in the private and not-for-profit sectors as a Gallery Manager and Exhibitions Coordinator for MiFA Asian Contemporary Art and Melbourne Fine Art Galleries, and has worked as an Administration Officer for Australia China Art Foundation. Mara is currently a Registrar in one of Australia's leading fine art auction houses, Deutscher and Hackett.

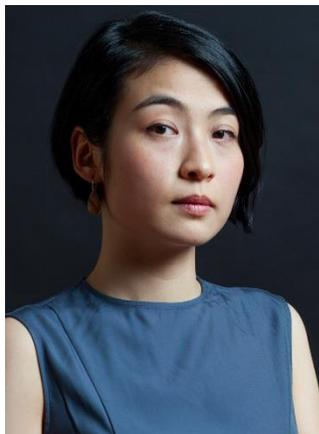
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**CLAUDIA SANGIORGI DALIMORE** is a visual and performing artist working primarily in the mediums of video and dance. Claudia is widely recognised as one of Melbourne’s most dynamic, multidimensional artists. Her passion for dance and movement has led her to teaching and performing dance throughout Melbourne and around Australia for the last 15 years. She has made appearances at major festivals and events and has facilitated a long list of community workshops and youth dance programs. Her work as a creative filmmaker has led her to producing, writing, filming, directing and editing music videos for a wide range of Australian musicians including numerous collaborative works with artists such as Diafrix, Sietta, 360, Mantra, Gosling and Blue King Brown. Claudia has been commissioned to create video pieces for not-for-profit organisations including World Vision Vanuatu and Multicultural Arts Victoria. Alongside her project partner, Michelle Grace Hunder, she launched *Her Sound, Her Story* in 2016; a multi-faceted art project celebrating women in the Australian music industry. She is currently working on the completion of this documentary scheduled to be premiered late 2017.

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**FELIX (CHING CHING) HO** is a Hong Kong-Australian theatre director based in Melbourne. She has worked as a director, assistant director, dramaturgy, artistic liaison and company interpreter for various companies including: Union House Theatre, Melbourne Theatre Company, Malthouse Theatre, National Theatre of China, Black Swan State Theatre Company, Chamber Made Opera and Circus Oz. In 2016, Felix curated and directed *Approximate Translation*, which explored the multiplication of languages in performance-making for Malthouse Theatre as part of their ‘Artist Curated Event’. She initiated Trans Collective in 2013, creating and producing two hybrid multilingual performances for Mudfest and the Hong Kong People’s Fringe. In 2015, Felix co-created *7412 Kilometres of Relations* with Natasha Phillips for Big West Festival. She was part of the Women Director’s Program at Melbourne Theatre Company in 2015, and her solo site-specific performance in 2014 was part of Melaka Art and Performance Festival and Mapping Melbourne festival. Her stage credits include *The Sovereign Wife* (Sisters Grimm/MTC NEON 2013) and *Grave* (Dewey Dell/Next Wave 2012). She is currently a member of the New Working Group, and sits on the judging panel for the Green Room Association Awards’ Contemporary and Experimental Performance Panel.

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**LISA HILLI** is a contemporary artist based in Narm, Melbourne. Born in Rabaul, Lisa is a descendent of the Makurategete Vunatarai (clan) Tolai / Gunantuna people of Papua New Guinea. Her diverse background sparked her great passion for Pacific-Australian intercultural art and collaboration. She has co-founded culturally creative spaces such as the Pacific Women's Weaving Circle, and has co-produced and co-directed films engaging with Pacific youth in Melbourne and Honiara, Solomon Islands. Lisa was a participant in the Emerging Leaders Dialogue 2016 for the Aus-PNG Network, Lowy Institute and is a member of the Pacific Advisory Group for Museums Victoria. She received a Masters of Fine Art by Research from RMIT University in 2016, where several of her artworks created during her degree were presented at the Queensland Art Gallery in the *No. 1 Neighbour: Art in Papua New Guinea 1966-2016* exhibition. Lisa was also a participating artist for *a Bit Na Ta: Source of the Sea*, an audio-visual installation commissioned by the Queensland Art Gallery for the same exhibition. She was an artist-in-residence at the Australian

Tapestry Workshop in 2015 and was awarded a photographic prize for the Centre for Contemporary Photography Salon exhibition in 2016. Lisa is currently a Museums Victoria 1854 Scholar undertaking a research project within Australian museums and public archives.