



BOATSHEDS OF SYDNEY HARBOUR BECOME AQUATIC SOUND SHELLS AT SYDNEY FESTIVAL

"A sublime musical adventure...a nautical serenade." -The Age

Big hART is delighted to announce that its award-winning **Acoustic Life of Boatsheds** will set sail in Sydney Harbour for the **2022 Sydney Festival**.

Setting off from the Australian National Maritime Museum, Acoustic Life of Boatsheds is a nautical adventure which sees boatsheds of Sydney Harbour transformed into sublime aquatic sound shells. Board a historic Rosman Ferry, enjoy a gourmet picnic box, hop from one boatshed to the next and tune up to the ebb and flow of the working harbour. Spend a day out on the water encountering captivating new site-specific music composed by musicians, sound artists, shipwrights and boatbuilders.

Don't miss out on this once-in-a-lifetime sonic journey across Sydney Harbour. Running from 20-23 January 2022, audiences will embark on a three hour round trip encountering working shipyards and weathered boatsheds west of the Sydney Harbour Bridge, normally closed to the public. Expect the unexpected as the times and tides of these remarkable hidden gems are reimaged by leading Sydney artists.

Created in Tasmania, Acoustic Life of Sheds is an award-winning event which has wowed audiences in Tasmania for 7 years and will be presented on the mainland for the first time for Sydney Festival. Since 2015 Acoustic Life of Sheds has engaged 88 composers, musicians, visual artists, audio artists and filmmakers and produced 22 new works. The event enchanted the Tamar River at Mona Foma in January 2021, selling out within 48 hours of tickets opening and sold out at three consecutive Ten Days on the Island festivals.

Acoustic Life of Boatsheds at Sydney Festival is proudly presented in association with the Australian National Maritime Museum, Noakes Group and Sydney Heritage Fleet.

Big hART is renowned for co-creating large scale works in unusual locations through diverse collaborations. Previous works for the Sydney Festival include the much loved *Stickybricks*, co-created with public housing tenants in Surrey Hills, and *Junk Theory* performed around Sydney's coastline after the Cronulla riots. The acclaimed Namatjira - co-created with the family of Albert Namatjira - premiered at Belvoir Street, and Ngapartji Ngapartji sold out at the Sydney Opera House, before touring nationally. Currently, *Songs for Peace* is a fixture in the Pilbara, and new works such as *When Water Falls* are emerging from long term work in rural Tasmania. 2022 is Big hART's 30th year, and after working in 55 communities and garnering 45 awards from theatre, music, screen, digital and hybrid works, the company returns to the Sydney Festival with the Acoustic Life of Boatsheds.

Acoustic Life of Boatsheds will be on 20-23 January with 4 shows per day. Ticketing opens 17 November. More information at www.sydneyfestival.org.au



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