



FROM GOAT ISLAND TO ROZELLE - ACOUSTIC LIFE OF BOATSHEDS SOUNDS UP SYDNEY HARBOUR

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

Acoustic Life of Boatsheds begins this Thursday 20th January at Sydney Festival, transforming boatsheds into sublime aquatic sound shells.

Beginning at the Maritime Museum, audiences will discover Sydney's working harbour, journeying on a historic ferry to forgotten boatsheds around the harbour. This includes a visit to two sheds on Me-Mel (Goat Island), the vast workshed and shipyard of Sydney Heritage Fleet in Rozelle, and to a timber boat-builders shed on Lavender Bay.

Media are invited to a special Media Showing on Thursday 20th January at 11am.

- Lauded percussion powerhouse Claire Edwardes will create a spellbinding performance with unusual instruments at Me-Mel.
- Crooner, troubadour and raconteur Michael Simic AKA Mikangelo will team up for some folk, swing and Balkan flavours with Trent Arkley-Smith.
- Encounter a hidden boatshed amongst archways with theatrical sound designer Jim Atkins with young Coonabarabran artist Nathan Cox, vocalist Sabine Bester and shipwright Locky Rankin.
- Be immersed in a new kind of magic as composer and multi-instrumentalist Paul Cutlan joins with virtuoso accordionist and composer Gary Daley and young animator Jordan East.
- Finally, encounter a genre-defying moment as the electric guitars, synths and dreamy vocals of Jess Green aka Pheno collides with Bree van Reyk, drummer and composer extraordinaire, who mashes up contemporary classical, exploded rock and improvisation.

This is the first time Big hART's award-winning, much loved work Acoustic Life of Boatsheds has been presented on the mainland. It began in NW Tasmania in farm sheds and sold out at three Ten Days on the Island Festivals and enchanted audiences at Mona Foma on the Tamar River in Launceston last January (sold out within 48 hours). In 2018 it won the Best Regional event at the APRA/AMCOS Awards.

Acoustic Life of Boatsheds at Sydney Festival is proudly presented in association with the Australian National Maritime Museum, Noakes Group and Sydney Heritage Fleet. Acoustic Life of Boatsheds is a COVID safe event and adheres to NSW Government Public Health Orders and health advice.

Big hART is renowned for co-creating large scale works in unusual locations through diverse collaborations. 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. The media showing is at 11am on Thursday 20th January, please RSVP to Bettina Richter.

More info: <https://www.sydneyfestival.org.au/events/acoustic-life-of-boatsheds>



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