



## CLIMATE, CULTURE AND COUNTRY EXPLORED IN 2022 ACOUSTIC LIFE OF SHEDS IN MEANDER VALLEY

On August 6-7 Big hART's award-winning event **Acoustic Life of Sheds** will explore ecology, cultural justice and climate in the magnificent Meander Valley in lutruwita/Tasmania, as part of agriCULTURED.

Following on from an acclaimed season as part of Sydney Festival, Acoustic Life of Farm Sheds returns to agriCULTURED in 2022 to transform new sheds under the shadow of the Great Western Tiers. This is the unceded country of lutruwita/Tasmania, a land without treaty filled with the relics of colonial rural architecture, which will be interpreted by artists through the lens of water, climate, soil, truth-telling and cultural exchange.

From an old hall at Dairy Plains, to a 19th Century barn and a farm in Westbury, Acoustic Life of Farm Sheds will mesmerise and hold you. Book in for Landscapes of Learning or We Are What We Eat for a curated deep dive pairing music and rustic food with thought provoking discussions on biodiversity, food sovereignty and sustainability, climate, water, First Nations ecologies and soil conservation.

### Announcing the 2022 Artists:

#### “Water” – with Nathan Cox, Sabine Bester, Locky Rankin with Jim Atkins

This performance reunites the artistic team that thrilled Sydney Festival audiences at Acoustic Life of Boat Sheds in January in a magical meditation on water, journey and loss. Old Wesleydale's early 19th Century barn will echo with the haunting sounds of classical organist Nathan Cox and the vocals of Hobart wunderkind Sabine Bester, with shipwright Locky Rankin on found percussion in a collaboration guided by lauded theatrical sound designer Jim Atkins.

#### “Climate” – with Keia McGrady, Maggie Abraham, Jay Jarome + Jordan East

Blending movement, percussion, vibraphone, super smooth vocals and animation, this new work honouring climate and the seasons will transform the Dairy Plains Memorial Hall. Watch the seasons come and go in this performance featuring Githabul, Migunberri-Yugumbeh movement specialist Keia McGrady, lauded Tasmanian-born percussionist and vibraphone artist Maggie Abrahams, and Pinoy/First Nations Artist Jay Jarome on vocals, with Jordan East creating a spellbinding digital media experience to match.

#### “Soil” – with Dewayne Everett-Smith + Patrick Churnside.

In this final shed, we are observers out to Country, soil and fire watching an exchange between two different countries and cultures of strength. Gifted Ngarluma songman and storyteller Patrick Churnside will take you on a journey to Ngarluma ngurra in the Pilbara, with powerful palawa/ Gunai/Kurnai singer-songwriter Dewayne Everett-Smith sharing his songs and stories in the unceded land of lutruwita. This will be a life changing cultural exchange in language and song at the Leith Farm in Westbury where we are an audience without treaty, observing, listening, learning.

Big hART's work in lutruwita/Tasmania is supported by FRRR through the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund, Tasmanian Government, Tasmanian Community Fund, Telstra, Local Jobs Program, and the Australian Government through the Safer Communities Fund.

Since 2015, Big hART's Acoustic Life of Sheds has engaged 99 composers, musicians, visual artists, audio artists and filmmakers and produced 27 new works. Working in over 55 communities across Australia for 30 years, Big hART has won over 46 awards.

