

# ***Vitalstatistix***

*Contemporary art and community life*

## **Program**

**20.  
19**



*Vitalstatistix acknowledges that we, and our home Waterside, are on Kurna Country, its sovereignty never ceded. We acknowledge Kurna people as the continuing custodians of the Adelaide Plains who have a spiritual relationship with this land. We respect their cultural authority. We pay our respect to Kurna Elders, past, present and emerging, and through them to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.*

In 2019 Vitalstatistix fills our home, the beautiful Waterside Workers Hall in Port Adelaide, with immersive and thought-provoking theatre, dance and live art experiences throughout the year; as well as co-presenting a couple of significant performance projects in the city of Adelaide. We are thrilled to be working with many creative partners including the Adelaide Festival, Country Arts SA, Insite Arts, Performance Space, South Australian Maritime Museum, TARNANTHI and Zephyr Quartet.

## *Welcome to Vitalstatistix's 2019 program of performances, exhibitions, residencies, and initiatives for artists.*

This year's diverse offering includes performances and artworks that touch at the heart of contemporary Australian politics, as well as playfully and provocatively drawing on popular culture to explore the performance of gender. A number of works see South Australian artists return home, and some bring local and national artists together in new collaborations. Some are just so stunningly in tune with our Port River home that we just had to make sure our audiences could enjoy them!

2019 marks the tenth anniversary of our national experimental arts hothouse Adhocracy - to celebrate we will announce new opportunities for artists and curators (plus keep an eye out for other new opportunities for artists throughout the year). As always, our Incubator and Shopfront Studio residency programs support some incredible new works in development; and after completing our five-year Climate Century program in 2018 we are cooking up our next long-term research project for 2020 and beyond.

And this year you can join our new Vital Friends initiative, enabling you to become a special part of the Vitalstatistix community. We look forward to seeing you throughout the year.

Emma Webb  
*Director, Vitalstatistix*

Welcome to a tropical island full of palm trees, phosphate mines, coconut water and kids. Set against a backdrop of handmade costumes and colonialism, this is an absurd, true story about Leonardo da Vinci, seagull shit, and Australia's ongoing relationship with Nauru.

Part school musical, part history lesson and part political probe, *We All Know What's Happening* sees people too young to vote reveal powerful truths about childhood, human rights, privilege and social change.

Made in collaboration with seven child activists, who perform this deeply affecting theatrical intervention into the Australian zeitgeist, *We All Know What's Happening* brings us right up to the present day and into the future. As we move into the final sitting of the current Australian parliament, do not miss this important and timely show for adults and kids alike.

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*Winner, Best Production, Contemporary and Experimental Performance, 2018 Green Room Awards*

**2PM & 7PM, 9 & 10 FEBRUARY**

**Waterside: 11 Nile Street, Port Adelaide**

**Tickets: \$15 – \$30 at [vitalstatistix.com.au](http://vitalstatistix.com.au)**

**Kids under 12 free**

**Co-creators:** Samara Hersch and Lara Thoms; **Show director:** Cassandra Fumi; **Sound design and composition:** Marco Cher-Gibard; **Pianist and collaborator:** Grace Ferguson; **Lighting design:** Jen Hector; **Design:** Romanie Harper; **Performed and created with:** Allegra Di Lallo, Lazar Feldman, Finn Owen, Tove Due, Venu Elisaia, Casper Plum and Theo Boltman; **Stage manager:** Tennessee Mynott-Rudland

*We All Know What's Happening* premiered at Arts House, supported by Creative Victoria and Save the Children.

# We All Know What's Happening

**Samara Hersch  
and Lara Thoms**

THIS IS A  
SHOW FOR  
ADULTS  
AND  
CHILDREN



**PERFORMANCE**

Image: Bryony Jackson

Passionate and political, affecting and entertaining, *We All Know What's Happening* throws down the gauntlet to the adults in the audience.

THE AGE

PRODUCED BY PERFORMING LINES  
PRESENTED BY ADELAIDE FESTIVAL AND VITALSTATISTIX

In an astonishing feat of endurance performance and live cinema, a performer repeats a single scene inspired by the 1977 John Cassavetes film *Opening Night*. 100 times over a 24-hour period, she performs over and over a scene between a man and a woman in a relationship that has lost its romance and vitality. Starring opposite her are 100 different men drawn from the South Australian community.

A female and non-binary team capture, direct and mix each scene live from five simultaneously recording cameras, highlighting minute details of expression and variations in performance, while the gendered conventions of emotionality and intimacy are writ large in a compelling spectacle.

Nat Randall and Anna Breckon's *The Second Woman* is a cult hit, not to be missed. Whether you choose to stay for an hour or a day, the accumulative impact of this work of performance and cinematic art will be deeply etched in your mind.

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*Vitalstatistix are seeking 100 men to participate in The Second Woman.*  
See [vitalstatistix.com.au](http://vitalstatistix.com.au) to register to be a part of this extraordinary event.

**4PM, 10 MARCH – 4PM, 11 MARCH**  
**Space Theatre, Adelaide Festival Centre**  
**Tickets: \$25 – \$59 at [adelaidefestival.com.au](http://adelaidefestival.com.au)**

**Co-creators:** Nat Randall and Anna Breckon; **Performer:** Nat Randall; **Script and direction:** Anna Breckon and Nat Randall; **Video direction:** EO Gill and Anna Breckon; **Camera operation:** EO Gill; **Lighting design:** Amber Silk; **Sound composition:** Nina Buchanan; **Set design:** FUTURE METHOD STUDIO; **Hair and makeup design:** Sophie Roberts

**ADELAIDE  
FESTIVAL** **AF**  
1-17 March 2019

**PERFORMING  
LINES**

*The Second Woman* was originally supported by Next Wave in 2016

# The Second Woman

**Nat Randall and  
Anna Breckon**



Image: Heidrun Lohr

**PERFORMANCE**

One of the finest examples of  
independent Australian theatre in years.

THE GUARDIAN



*Progress Report* is a new solo dance performance about consumerism and waste. The work puts real world, every day decisions under the microscope to reveal seemingly contradictory, at times hilarious and often unbearable truths. In this show, watching garbage can change its value and wasting waste is a waste.

This new work in development brings together long-time collaborators, dance-makers and multidisciplinary artists Alison Currie and Alisdair Macindoe, and their mutual interest in the place of objects and subjects in performance.

Through their work they investigate human dependency on and intimacy with objects and how interactions between performer and object can convey tenderness, loneliness and isolation. The objects in *Progress Report* are friends, strangers, clothing, and environments, that can instantly be reduced back to packaging or rubbish.

- 6 *Progress Report* will feature several cubic metres of industrial plastics that have been intercepted midway through their recycling process. The work will mirror a dynamic state of change, reflecting this intercepted process, where objects, performer, text and choreography are in flux.

## WORK-IN-PROGRESS SHOWINGS

7PM, 26 & 27 APRIL

Waterside: 11 Nile Street, Port Adelaide

**FREE**

**Co-creators:** Alison Currie and Alisdair Macindoe; **Design:** Meg Wilson;  
**Sound design:** Sascha Budimski; **Performer and collaborator:** Kialea-Nadine Williams

# Progress Report

Alison Currie and  
Alisdair Macindoe

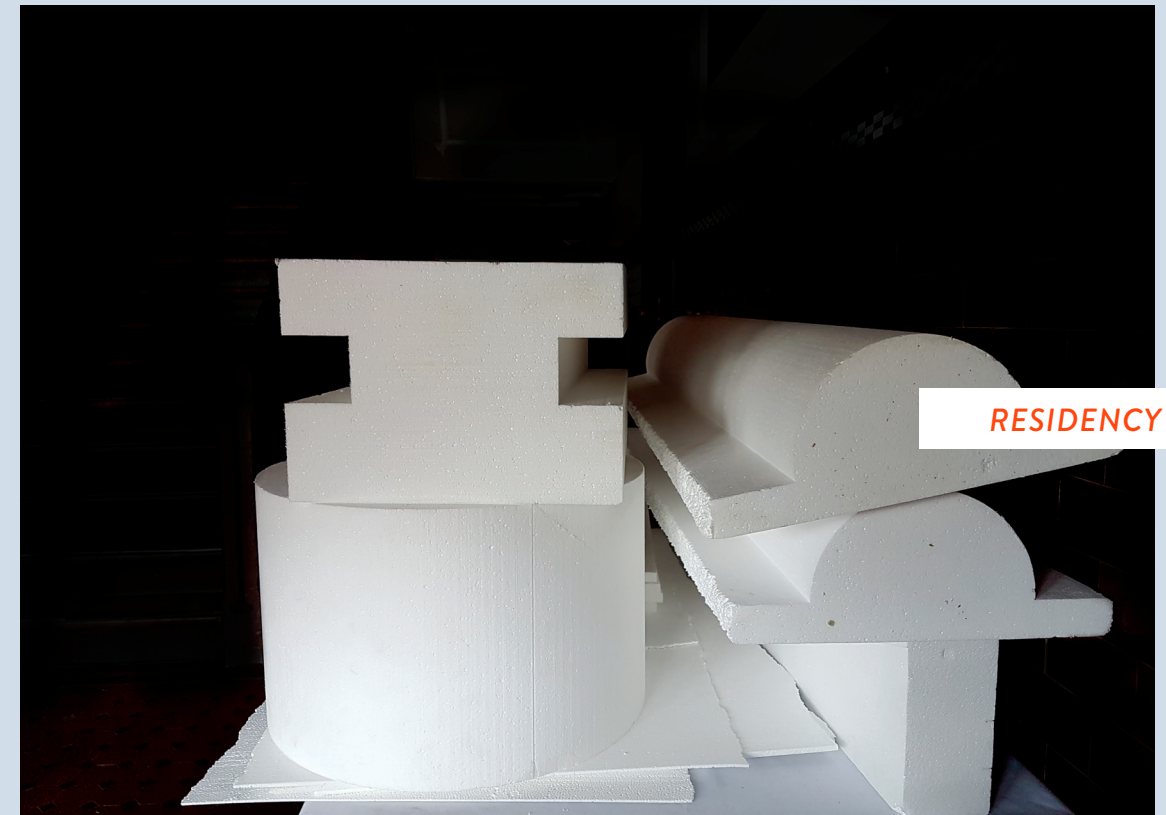


Image: Alison Currie and Alisdair Macindoe

Wasting waste is a waste

# Cher

Larissa McGowan

Contemporary dance takes on camp and cabaret in this solo tour de force inspired by ultimate pop chameleon, Cher.

Choreographer, dancer and fan, Larissa McGowan uses Cher's iconic figure as a totem for exploring the reinvention of the universal aging female artist.

*Cher* is an inspired mash-up of gender, power and popular culture; a self-discovery of epic proportions; a headfirst dive into the artist's path to immortality.

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*Created by an all-star team of South Australian artists, this Australian premiere is not to be missed.*

**19 & 20 JUNE**

**Space Theatre, Adelaide Festival Centre**

**Tickets available in April**

**Creator, choreography and performer:** Larissa McGowan; **Co-creator and sound design:** Steve Mayhew; **Co-creator and dramaturgy:** Sam Haren; **Set and costume design:** Jonathon Oxlade and Renate Henschke; **Lighting design:** Chris Petridis; **Rehearsal director:** Kialea-Nadine Williams; **Movement consultant/outside eye:** Roz Hervey

*Cher was commissioned by Performance & Art Development Agency and Vitalstatistix with support from Arts South Australia.*



PERFORMANCE

*Image: photo - Tom Roschi; illustration - Jonathon Oxlade*

After a nuclear holocaust,  
all that will be left are cockroaches and Cher.

JIMMY JAMES



Kaurna, Narungga and Ngarrindjeri performer and choreographer Taree Sansbury returns home with her first full length dance work *mi:wi*.

'mi:wi' refers to the invisible ties we have to our past and future, people and land. Drawing on contemporary Indigenous dance technique and the Ngarrindjeri cultural practice of weaving, this arresting dance work evokes the impact of climate change on coastal communities and the importance of the passing on culture to future generations.

With one eye on the future and the other on the past, *mi:wi* sees three First Nations women intertwine their connection to country, ancestry, each other and their future, in a powerful performance.

Presented during NAIDOC Week, in partnership with Country Arts SA, the creative team will also perform and run workshops in Murray Bridge.

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**8PM, 11 & 12 JULY**

**Waterside: 11 Nile Street, Port Adelaide**

**Tickets: \$20 – \$30 available in June**

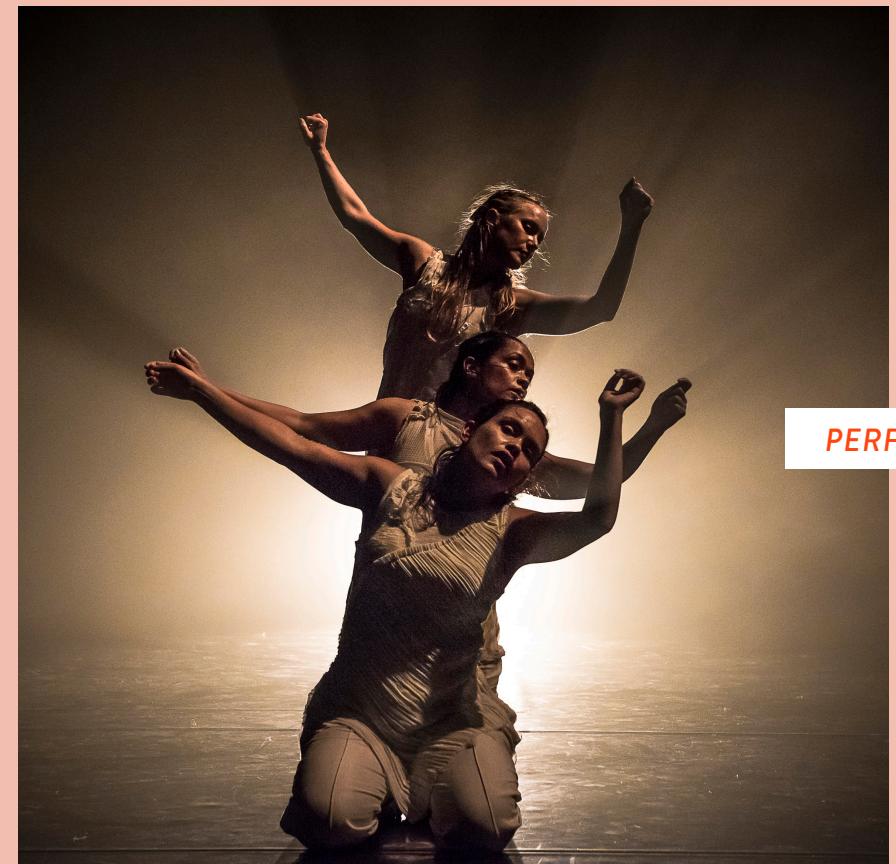
**Choreographer:** Taree Sansbury; **Composer and sound design:** Alyx Dennison; **Lighting designer/ Stage manager:** Cheryn Frost; **Costume designer:** Peta Strachan; **Ngarrindjeri consultant:** Phyllis Williams. **Performers:** Katina Olsen, Caleena Sansbury and Taree Sansbury



*mi:wi* was originally supported by and premiered with Next Wave in 2018.

# *mi:wi*

**Taree Sansbury**



**PERFORMANCE**

Image: Gregory Lorenzutti

This dance work evokes the impact of climate change on coastal communities and the importance of the passing on culture to future generations.

Two women travel a section of the road between Broken Hill and Sydney; we do not see the women leave the city — nor arrive, but instead experience the thirteen-hour liminal journey between. A new live performance and cinematic event, *Rear View* will build on a 90-minute durational video work of the same name exhibited at the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art from December 2018.

*Rear View* is shaped from the archive of women in cars across Australian and Hollywood cinema. Referred to as the ‘Hollywood of the Outback’, Broken Hill signifies the intersection of Australian cinema and Hollywood, and also has significance within queer film history. Its surrounds are known internationally for the Mad Max productions and their hyper-masculine depictions of the road. This project does not aim to counter or undermine this history, but contribute to it, to draw on and add to its lineage.

- 12 *Rear View* explores the vehicle and the road as a rich cinematic site for the embodiment of female emotion – where the expression of the character (or the performer) transcends the objectifying tendency of the screen.

**WORK-IN-PROGRESS SHOWINGS**  
**7PM, 16 & 17 AUGUST**

**Waterside: 11 Nile Street, Port Adelaide**

**FREE**

*Creative team: Anna Breckon and Nat Randall*



# Rear View

**Anna Breckon  
and Nat Randall**

*Image: Anna Breckon and Nat Randall*



**RESIDENCY**

*Rear View* is shaped from the archive of women  
in cars across Australian and Hollywood cinema.



Adhocracy is Vitalstatistix's national hothouse, supporting the creative development of new experimental and multidisciplinary arts projects. Artists from around Australia join us to create and converse over the first weekend of Spring.

Selected artists spend time in an open studio environment developing new works, which can span theatre, live art, dance, sound, installation, visual art and more. All in the early stages of the process of making, they are experimenting with ideas and art forms, as well as how audiences experience their works. Audiences engage with the artists and their creative process through a public program of artist talks and work-in-progress showings.

This year's tenth anniversary edition of Adhocracy will be preceded by a national experimental art exchange, and will include some new opportunities for artists and curators – stay tuned for details!

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## **PUBLIC PROGRAM**

**6 – 8 SEPTEMBER**

**Waterside: 11 Nile Street, Port Adelaide &**

**Hart's Mill: Mundy Street, Port Adelaide**

## **ADHOCRACY CALLOUTS**

**Details released early April, applications close 27 May.**

**Stay tuned for details.**

**Curators: Emma Webb and Paul Gazzola**

# **Adhocracy**

*Adhocracy is a festival of ideas meets intense art camp meets magic house party. Get amongst some of Australia's most exciting established and emerging makers of Australian contemporary culture, art, performance and commentary.*

A girl meets a half-man-half-kangaroo in her dreams, and falls in love. Obsessed by his reality, and the idea of becoming a part of it, she takes desperate measures to spend more time with him. This obsession leads her into the darkest depths of the human psyche.

After sell-out shows in Melbourne, Slovenia and The Netherlands, South Australian artist Fleur Elise Noble returns to her hometown with her exquisitely textural visual performance that beautifully weaves puppetry, projection, drawing and dance. Like a low-tech hologram or a high-tech paper pop-up book, *ROOMAN* transports us inside worlds of animated universes as they unfold upon a giant, three-dimensional paper set.

Heart-warming and heart-breaking, *ROOMAN* is a visual-musical extravaganza about following your dreams, waking up, and living. Port Adelaide locals, you will recognise your hometown in this fable.

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**8PM, 26 – 29 SEPTEMBER**

**Waterside: 11 Nile Street, Port Adelaide**

**Tickets: \$25 – \$35 available in August**

**Creator and director:** Fleur Elise Noble; **Designer, projection artist and puppet maker:** Fleur Elise Noble; **Sound design:** Missi Mel Pesa; **Production and stage manager:** Niccolo Gallio; **Contributing performers:** Fleur Elise Noble and Daniel Fels; **Contributing composers and musicians:** Zaachariaha Fielding, Sarah Reid, Tim Bennett, Peter Knight, Mal Webb, Missi Mel Pesa (AKA Melbient) and Opiuo; **Time-lapse photography:** Simon Carroll; **Drawer and animators:** Fleur Elise Noble, Tim Bennet and Isobel Knowles; **Costume creators:** Bryony Anderson, Kasia Tons and Sara Yael/Lily Castel



*Rooman* has been funded and supported by Arts South Australia, Australia Council for the Arts, Arts Queensland and Windmill Theatre. It premiered with Arts House.

# ROOMAN

*Fleur Elise Noble*



PERFORMANCE

Image: : Bryony Jackson

Noble and her team bear comparison to the British company 1927, crafting – from a bespoke, noir-like surrealism – a dark, whimsical style of visual theatre that dominates the imagination.

Rooman is a must for anyone interested in the possibilities of cinema in theatrical space, and will fire the imagination of older children and adults alike.

THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD

PRESENTED BY VITALSTATISTIX AND TARNANTHI

*how do you feel now?* is a process-driven exploration by Wiradjuri conceptual artist Amala Groom and Wajarri/Yamatji/Dutch/English trans disciplinary creative Nicole Monks.

Throughout this work the artists seek to document, dissect and reflect upon the deeply profound experience of accessing their ancestral cultural materials held in Australian institutional collections, including the South Australian Museum that holds the largest collection of Aboriginal cultural and ethnographic materials in the world.

Amala Groom and Nicole Monks' multidisciplinary and collaborative practice acts as the performance of their cultural sovereignty; expressed through the meetings of contemporary mediums and ancient knowledges. Their work is focused on the embodiment of the 'living mirror' that exists within the human experience.

*how do you feel now?* will be presented as an experimental installation accompanied by a public program including a featured conversation between the artists and curators.

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17 – 27 OCTOBER

Waterside: 11 Nile Street, Port Adelaide

**FREE**

Creative team: Amala Groom and Nicole Monks

AGSA

TARNANTHI

BHP



TARNANTHI Principal Partner

# how do you feel now?

Amala Groom and  
Nicole Monks



INSTALLATION

Image: Amala Groom and Nicole Monks

The artists acknowledge Kurna sovereignty was never  
ceded. We pay our respect to the Kurna community; their  
Ancestors, their Elders, their Kin and their Country who hold  
Lore, Language, Land and Custom.

We are all in this together.



*Semaphore* is a compelling and intriguing exploration of signalling, communication and miscommunication.

Using physical, visual and aural encoding systems – Semaphore, Morse code, pennants, lights and binary code – dancers and musicians synchronise in a complex choreography of bodies, music and illumination. Animations and archival recordings of World War II signalmen further augment *Semaphore*'s rich visual and aural composition.

Regimented physical formations, outbreaks of cascading melody, intricate interplays of light and sound abound; *Semaphore* is an ingenious visual and sonic experience created by award-winning composer Kate Neal, re-choreographed by Gabrielle Nankivell for Vitalstatistix's home, the Waterside Workers Hall, and featuring Adelaide's leading experimental string ensemble, Zephyr Quartet.

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*Winner, Performance of the Year and Instrumental Work of the Year,  
Art Music Awards 2016*

**8PM, 27 NOVEMBER – 1 DECEMBER  
& 2PM, 30 NOVEMBER**

**Waterside: 11 Nile Street, Port Adelaide**

**Tickets: \$25 – \$35 available in October**

*Composer: Kate Neal; Director: Laura Sheedy; Film and animation: Sal Cooper;  
Choreographer: Gabrielle Nankivell; Musicians: Zephyr Quartet and guests;  
Dancers: Gabrielle Nankivell and dancers*



# Semaphore

**Kate Neal**



**PERFORMANCE**

*Image: Kate Neal*

Neal draws on visual and auditory codes such  
as Semaphore and Morse code and refigures  
them in extraordinary ways...  
a consummate feat in sound and dance.

REALTIME

Take a boat ride up the Port River and listen to the story of your body's afterlife - dissolving and disintegrating, as it is borne over time and place, through a widening river and out to sea.

*Waterborne* is the story of micro-inhabitations, decay and the flow of matter. Forensically researched, stunningly lyrical and deeply life affirming, this audio artwork brings science and imagination together in a surprising, beautiful meditation on our watery bodies and the cycle of life and death.

*'It's a uniquely unnerving experience but for some reason, as we disembark all those who have been through it appear uplifted. Perhaps thankful they haven't drowned, but definitely enriched by what is a genuinely remarkable piece.'* Caught by the River

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**6PM & 7:30PM, 4 – 8 DECEMBER**

**On board the Archie Badenoch, Port River, Port Adelaide**

**Tickets: \$20 – \$25 available in October**

**Creators:** Rebecca French and Andrew Mottershead; **Science advisers:** Dr Carolyn Rando and Prof. Shari Forbes; **Voice:** Sarah Kants; **Audio post production:** Pascal Wyse; **Host:** Alexis West



*Waterborne* was initially funded by The Wellcome Trust and Arts Council England.  
The Australian adaptation was supported by and premiered with Dark Mofo in 2018.

# Waterborne

French &  
Mottershead



Image: Briony Campbell

PERFORMANCE

It's an experience that mixes the putrid and the poetic,  
and manages, by bringing the participant face-to-face with  
death, to be wonderfully life-affirming.

ABC

Feminist theatre makers THE RABBLE are developing an epic, multi-part durational performance event inspired and repulsed by James Joyce's *Ulysses*.

Joyce's *Ulysses* is a seminal modernist text divided into eighteen episodes, each radically different in narrative style. It is a retelling of Homer's epic poem *The Odyssey*; Joyce takes Homer's epic and translates it to the banal, where we follow Leopold Bloom over the course of one day. THE RABBLE'S ULYSSES will reimagine this story again.

Rejecting the idea of the 'everyman', the modernist canon, and the large amount of space *Ulysses* takes up in it. Instead THE RABBLE will invent a series of experiments that investigate the intersections between intellectualism and femininity, to be performed over 10 hours.

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*This new work is being created through a partnership between THE RABBLE and Vitalstatistix, in collaboration with a team of South Australian artists, for presentation in 2020.*

## IN DEVELOPMENT IN 2019

*Stay tuned for updates and opportunities*

**Creative team:** Emma Valente and Kate Davis, with South Australian collaborators

# THE RABBLE

# ULYSSES

THE RABBLE



Image: David Paterson

IN DEVELOPMENT

Inspired and repulsed  
by James Joyce's *Ulysses*



In 2019 we welcome writer, poet, activist and academic Dr Natalie Harkin. A Narungga woman, Natalie is a writer who has performed and published her works widely. Her archival-poetics are informed by blood-memory, haunting and grandmother stories. She is a member of the Unbound Collective and the First Nations Australia Writers Network; and has worked in the Aboriginal higher education sector in South Australia since the mid-1990s.

Natalie is undertaking a three-year Australian Research Council-funded project entitled *Resistance Poetics and Decolonising the Archive: Aboriginal Domestic Labour Stories from South Australia*. Through this project she is tracing a history of Aboriginal women's domestic labour and servitude. This includes working with community to share stories and develop transformative and healing ways to creatively engage with, respond to, and physically transform the colonial archive. Community engagement and research, including around local sites such as Glanville Hall, will be the focus of her time at Vitalstatistix in 2019.

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*The Shopfront Studio artist-in-residence invites a selected artist to inhabit our Shopfront Studio (once a workers' cooperative bank at the Waterside Workers Hall) for a year, developing their own projects as well as engaging in a range of discursive and creative tasks with Vitalstatistix.*

**IN RESIDENCE THROUGHOUT 2019**

**ARTIST TALK: 8 DECEMBER**

**Waterside: 11 Nile St Port Adelaide**

**FREE**

**Creative team:** Natalie Harkin

# Shopfront Studio

**Natalie Harkin**



Image: Natalie Harkin

Welcome writer, poet, activist and academic  
Dr Natalie Harkin

# Vitalstatistix

## Contemporary art and community life

Vitalstatistix (Vitals) is a vibrant home on the Port River for Australian artists who are experimenting with and changing the world.

We support the development of new, multidisciplinary art and performance that is distinctive, provocative and informed. Vitals is based at the heritage-listed Waterside Workers Hall in Port Adelaide, South Australia, where we provide a site for big ideas and intimate experiences, for long-term development and hothouse intensity, for contemporary art and community life.

Find out more about how you can [support Vitalstatistix by joining our Vital Friends](#) initiative. It is free to join, with special benefits as well as opportunities to volunteer, donate and participate.

More information at [vitalstatistix.com.au](http://vitalstatistix.com.au)

## The Vitalstatistix Team

Director *Emma Webb*

Production Manager *Emma O'Neill*

Operations Manager *Toby Nevill*

Program and Communications Coordinator *Isobel Moore*

Branding and Graphic Design *Freerange Future*

Board of Management *Narelle Walker (Chair), Jayne Boase (Deputy Chair), Rebecca Fraser (Treasurer), Angela Flynn, Elizabeth Dooley, Kristy Rebbeck, Peta-Anne Louth and Roz Hervey*

Keep an eye out for additional callouts, announcements and events by subscribing to our e-news and following us at:



@VitalstatistixArts



@vitalstatistix\_



@vitalstatistix\_

[vitalstatistix.com.au](http://vitalstatistix.com.au)

# Calendar

20.  
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<u><a href="#">We All Know What's Happening</a></u>	Waterside	9 & 10 FEBRUARY
<u><a href="#">The Second Woman</a></u>	Space Theatre	10 -11 MARCH
<u><a href="#">Progress Report</a></u>	Waterside	26 & 27 APRIL
<u><a href="#">Cher</a></u>	Space Theatre	19 & 20 JUNE
<u><a href="#">mi:wi</a></u>	Waterside	11 & 12 JULY
<u><a href="#">Rear View</a></u>	Waterside	16 & 17 AUGUST
<u><a href="#">Adhocracy</a></u>	Waterside	6 – 8 SEPTEMBER
<u><a href="#">ROOMAN</a></u>	Waterside	26 – 29 SEPTEMBER
<u><a href="#">how do you feel now?</a></u>	Waterside	17 – 27 OCTOBER
<u><a href="#">Semaphore</a></u>	Waterside	27 NOV – 1 DEC
<u><a href="#">Waterborne</a></u>	Archie Badenoch	4 – 8 DECEMBER
<u><a href="#">Shopfront residency artist talk</a></u>	Waterside	8 DECEMBER
<u><a href="#">Vitals end-of-year celebration</a></u>	Waterside	8 DECEMBER

[vitalstatistix.com.au](http://vitalstatistix.com.au)

# VITALSTATISTIX



Government of South Australia  
Arts South Australia



Port Adelaide Enfield



JAMES & DIANA  
RAMSAY  
FOUNDATION

*Sidney Myer*

SIDNEY MYER FUND



Australia  
Council  
for the Arts

**ff** Freerange  
Future

**MaD**  
Promo