

Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre Performance Details

The Program included performances by:-

Graeme Doyle

Graeme Doyle (a.k.a. Dee) is a Melbourne based visual artist and performer whose poetry is written for performance and generally strives for immediacy that will draw response from a single reading, often using rhyme for that effect. His poems are witty and direct but there still exists an underlying anger felt by people who at times are put "where the broken people go".

Doyle is an original member and co-author of the award winning poetry performance 'mob' *Loose Kangaroos* (also published 1998). Performances include the Museum of Modern Art – at Heide, La Mama Theatre (Melbourne) and the Boroondara Literary Festival.

Graeme Doyle's artworks are included in various public and private art collections including the Cunningham Dax Collection and the National Gallery of Australia.

Sandy Jeffs

Sandy Jeffs lives at Christmas Hills (outside Melbourne) and is author (and co-author) of a number of volumes of poetry. Jeffs was diagnosed with schizophrenia at the age of twenty-three, soon after completing university. Her writing is concerned with diverse subjects including madness, domestic violence and mid-week ladies tennis.

Sandy Jeffs' published works include *Poems from the Madhouse* (1994), *Blood Relations* (2000) and *Confessions of a Midweek Lady: Tall Tennis Tales* (2001). She has also received a number of awards including a 1994 Human Rights Award commendation. In 2001 she was included on the Centenary of Federation's *Women Shaping the Nation* Honour Roll alongside fellow 'legends' such as Dame Nellie Melba, Vida Goldstein, Germaine Greer and Olympians Dawn Fraser and Shirley Strickland.

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Elena Kats-Chernin

Elena Kats-Chernin, one of Australia's celebrated composers, was born in 1957 in Uzbekistan. In 1975, she and her family emigrated from the Soviet Union to Australia. She studied composition with Richard Toop, graduating in 1980, and then studied with Helmut Lachenmann in Hanover, West Germany.

While in Europe she became active in theatre and ballet, composing for state theatres in Berlin, Vienna, Hamburg and Bochum. Her music attracted the attention of the Ensemble Modern and in 1993 she wrote her breakthrough

work *Clocks* for them (a work subsequently performed internationally and in Australia).

Kats-Chernin returned to Australia in 1994. Subsequently she has written three operas, two piano concertos and works for many performers and ensembles, including the Australian Chamber Orchestra and the Sydney Symphony. Her music was featured in the opening ceremonies of the 2000 Olympic Games. In 2004 Kats-Chernin was awarded the prestigious Green Room Award for the ballet work *Wild Swans*. Recently, Kats-Chernin received an Ian Potter Foundation Commission to compose for the Macquarie Trio and was awarded a two-year Fellowship from the Australia Council for 2004-2005.

Elena Kats-Chernin's son Alexander was diagnosed with schizophrenia at age fourteen.

Anthony Mannix

Anthony Mannix is a Blue Mountains based visual artist and writer. Mannix has exhibited extensively in Australia and internationally. Combining searing frankness, sensuality and elegance of line, Mannix's works are featured in many private and public art collections including the National Gallery of Australia.

For a number of years Anthony Mannix has collaborated and recorded with the Sydney based *The Loop Orchestra* and has featured on a number of their recordings including *Suspense* (1991). Mannix has also written and presented for radio and performance (ABC Radio National *The Night Air*, *Outsiders* 2003).

The Loop Orchestra

The Loop Orchestra was formed in 1982 in the studio of Sydney radio station 2MBS by a group of experimental radio programmers using the studio equipment as an instruments. Since 1982 *The Loop Orchestra* performances and recordings include A.F.I. Cinema (1991), Artspace (2000 and 2001), the Big Day Out (2001). *The Loop Orchestra* has collaborated with artist Anthony Mannix on a number of projects including *Suspense* (LP, 1991) and *Profiles* (ABC Radio National *The Night Air*, recorded 2001).

Geoff Prince

Geoff Prince is a survivor of schizophrenia, whose poems reflect a healing vision and the sometimes confusion of altered states. Living in the Dandenongs near Melbourne, with wife Nike and pet Princess, he occasionally teaches poetry.

His first book of poems, *Cartoons of Quietness*, was Highly Commended in the Fellowship of Australian Writers Ann Elder Award in 1994. Other volumes of published poetry include *The Glass Asylum* (Papyrus Press 2005) and *Asides in the seeking of sanity* (Papyrus Press 2005).

Geoff Prince is an original member and co-author of the award winning poetry performance 'mob' *Loose Kangaroos* (also published 1998). Performances

include the Museum of Modern Art – at Heide, La Mama Theatre (Melbourne) and the Boroondara Literary Festival.

Grant James Rowe

Grant James Rowe is a Sydney based filmmaker, visual artist and musician. Since 1993 Rowe, with a range of friends and collaborators, has been responsible for his own (backyard) film studio – *Nar Pictures*.

Rowe's finely crafted short movies reveal his finely tuned cinematic expertise and range (he writes, produces, directs, edits, scores and performs). Widely divergent, 'mess-terpieces' such as *Confessions to Murder* (2001), *Suburban Psycho* (2001), *Dual Departure* (2000) and *Australian Garage Wrestling* (1998) reveal Rowe's prodigious talent as he deftly careers from deeply affecting (not to mention superbly scripted and performed) '*cinema veritae*' to the riotous excess and cheesy humour of '*schlock horror*'.

Under the hip hop persona *Jack Verbals*, with influences ranging from Eminem to Megadeth. Rowe also creates and records his own free-style rap works. Similarly, he has also scored and recorded *Atmospheric Music 1 and 11* under the moniker *Eraser*.