



## THE SECOND WOMAN

Nat Randall & Anna Breckon

AUSTRALIA

*'Randall's daring 24-hour durational performance work was ambitious, expansive, intellectual and joyous, constantly changing shape over the day.'* *The Guardian*

In a 24-hour performance, Nat Randall repeats a single scene inspired by John Cassavetes' American meta-theatrical drama *Opening Night*. Starring opposite Randall are 100 different men ranging in age, background and acting ability. The scene is captured on multiple cameras and projected live alongside the staged performance. Through the repetition of an intimate exchange, *The Second Woman* explores the generic and gendered conventions of emotionality, as well as the affective and relational nature of gender identity. *Opening Night* concludes with improvisation and play as the happy alternative to lines of dialogue and relationships gone stale, that have begun to feel like work. *The Second Woman's* repetitive structure points not only to the labour of immobile relational dynamics but to the labour of improvisation, emotional spontaneity, and the appearance of contingency. *The Second Woman* speaks to a history of women's work as emotion work. Shot on digital video and edited live, the melancholic structure of *Opening Night's* celluloid is replaced by a hyper-present. *The Second Woman's* remediation of *Opening Night* transforms its 1977 antecedent's theorisation of being in time to offer a contemporary take on what it can feel like to be in and endure the contemporary moment.

### **Nat Randall**

Concept, Performance, Script and Direction

Nat Randall is a Sydney-based artist and a core member of collectives Hissy Fit and Team MESS. She makes work across performance and video experimenting with interdisciplinary practices. Nat has presented work at Dark Mofo, Perth Institute of Contemporary Art, Museum of Contemporary Art, Kaldor Public Art Projects, Canberra Contemporary Art Space, Next Wave Festival, Performance Space, Duckie (UK) and Latitude Festival (UK) among others. Nat Randall is

currently the presenter on FBI Radio's weekly arts program, Canvas. Nat is a recent recipient of City of Sydney's Creative Live Work Studio residency program. In 2017 she will present a new solo project, EXCLUSIVE as part of Proximity Festival, Perth.

## **Anna Breckon**

Script and Direction

Anna Breckon is a writer, director, editor and producer. She has produced, written, edited and directed three independent features films. She has worked as a technical supervisor, first assistant, director, art-director, editor and actor on a numerous music videos, short films and advertisements. In 2010 Anna completed a Masters dissertation on the early works of John Waters. In 2017 Anna completed her PhD dissertation at the University of Sydney in the English department. Her thesis focused on queer art-house cinema since 2000. She also tutors and guest lectures on screen at the University of Sydney.

## **EO Gill**

Video Direction and Camera Operation

EO Gill is an artist working in video and performance. Her practice advocates a rethinking of the body and desire as informed by corporeal feminist and queer theory and the sciences, particularly entomological theory. EO Gill completed her Honours year in Performance & Theatre Studies at the University of New South Wales at the end of 2013 graduating with first class and winning the Philip Parsons Prize for her thesis. She is currently undergoing a Masters of Time Based Art at COFA. EO Gill is a core and founding member of performance collective Hissy Fit. She has completed internships with the entomology department at CSIRO, Canberra and the Museum fur Naturkunde, Berlin. She has completed residencies at the National Film & Sound Archive, Canberra, NES Residency, Skagaströnd, Iceland, Vitalstatistix, Adelaide, Bundanon Trust , NSW and Performance Space, Sydney. Emily is currently completing a Research led Masters of Fine Art at UNSW Art & Design.

## **Nina Buchanan**

Sound Composition

Nina Buchanan is a musician and audio-visual artist, also working in sound design and composition for film and performance. Her work incorporates electronic and industrial sounds, improvisation and experimentation. She is interested in independent and underground music cultures, how queerness operates in music and the areas between sound design and popular music. She has shown work at MIX NYC Queer Experimental Film Festival, International Symposium on Electronic Art, Tiny Stadiums, Firstdraft ad MCA Artbar. Nina has a Bachelor of Visual Arts in Film and Digital Art from Sydney College of the Arts, and a Diploma of Sound Production from North Sydney Tafe.

## **FUTURE METHOD STUDIO**

Set Design

Future Method is an award winning research and design studio that actively questions and pushes boundaries between the practical and the abstract. Founded by Genevieve Murray in 2013, Future Method works collaboratively with creatives and academics who form their praxis in-between established notions of contemporary architecture & art — seeking to extend and enrich public domain.

## Amber Silk

Lighting Design

Amber Silk is a Lighting Designer and Production Manager who has worked across many forms including small and large-scale outdoor events, site-specific work and multidisciplinary projects. Until recently she was the Venue and Technical Supervisor at PACT Centre for Emerging Artists and has been employed by prominent organisations such as Urban Theatre Projects, The Japan Foundation, Oxfam Australia, The Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Official After Party, Island Vibe Festival, Share the Spirit Festival, Quandamooka Festival, Bankstown Arts Centre, and Blacktown Arts Centre. This year she was the Lighting Designer for Black Birds at The Joan, MCA Artbar, curated by Latai Taumoepeau and The Second Woman at Dark Mofo. Amber is most passionate about making and contributing to work that seeks to engage communities to interrogate existing cultural prejudices, and affect positive social change.

## Jade Muratore

Participant Coordination

Jade is an inter-disciplinary artist, curator and writer based in Sydney. She has presented work at Performance Space, Carriageworks, Arts House (Melbourne), Campbelltown Arts Centre, Fontanelle Gallery (Adelaide) and the Museum of Contemporary Art. Jade is one of the founding and core members of the art collective Hissy Fit, the Manager of AD Space gallery, and currently sits on the Firstdraft Gallery Board of Directors. She completed her Bachelor of Art Theory from UNSW Art & Design in 2012 and is currently completing a Master of Curating and Cultural Leadership also at UNSW Art & Design.

## Sophie Roberts

Hair and Make Up

As one of Australia's most sought-after and most-respected hair stylists, Sophie Roberts' stellar career continues to go from strength to strength. Sophie was twice awarded Australia's prestigious Hairdresser of the Year title, as well as a regular contributor at the international fashion weeks (most recently joining Luigi Murenu's team at both the Milan and Paris prêt-à-porter shows). Her extensive call-sheet list reads like the who's who of blue-chip fashion and beauty: Vogue Australia, Elle, Harper's Bazaar and Porter magazine, Neiman Marcus, Sportsgirl, Paspaley, Country Road, David Jones and Zimmermann, Nicole Kidman, Miranda Kerr, Margot Robbie, Rosie Huntington-Whiteley and Gemma Ward – all of the above comprising just a fraction of the publications, brands, and famous faces to whom Sophie has given her skill as both hair stylist and / or make-up artist. As well as being on call for the industry's key players, Sophie has been responsible for the hair direction at RFW for the country's leading fashion designers since 2007. Her ongoing working relationships with KITX, Chanel Australia, Dion Lee and Camilla & Marc to name a few, are true testament not only of her creative tour-de-force, but also her great personality and integrity.

## Quotes

*"An unstoppable Netflix auto-play, generating a sense of imminent reward – you can't step away"* – Kill Your Darlings

*"What an enthralling, magnificent work. The Second Woman is as first rate as everybody says."* - The Monthly

*"Randall's performance, presented with the aid of a female crew, will be my enduring memory of Dark Mofo 2017 and it was possibly my most profound experience of the festival – perhaps ironically, given I came to seek catharsis through music. I slipped into the theatre for a few hours about 1am and was transfixed."* – Clem Bastow, The Guardian

*“The Second Woman is not only remarkable for the endurance of its lead performer. It’s also a demonstration of the power of formal experimentation and a stunning creative feat, from concept to execution. One of the finest examples of independent Australian theatre in years.” – Stephanie Convery, The Guardian*

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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/nataliekaterandall>

Twitter: [https://twitter.com/nat\\_randall?lang=en](https://twitter.com/nat_randall?lang=en)

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### ***Perth International Arts Festival***

*Founded in 1953 by The University of Western Australia, the Perth International Arts Festival is the longest running international arts festival in Australia and Western Australia’s premier cultural event. The Festival has developed a worldwide reputation for excellence in its international program, the presentation of new works and the highest quality artistic experiences for its audience. For 65 years the Festival has welcomed to Perth some of the world’s greatest living artists and now connects with over 700,000 people each year.*

*Wendy Martin is the Artistic Director 2016 – 19.*

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