
**Archipelago Productions, Beaker St Festival
and Detached Cultural Organisation Present**

Winterreise

Franz Schubert led a short, but intensely creative life. By the time he composed Winterreise, he had been living with syphilis for six years. He was prone to fits of rage and bouts of mania, followed by depressive episodes, and self medicated with nicotine and alcohol. He wrote:

"I feel myself to be the most unhappy and wretched creature in the world. Imagine a man whose health will never be right again, a man whose most brilliant hopes have perished, to whom love and friendship have nothing to offer but pain, whose enthusiasm for all things beautiful is gone, and I ask you, is he not a miserable, unhappy being? Each night, on retiring to bed, I hope I may not wake again, and each morning but recalls yesterday's grief"

Syphilis treatments of the day involved sealing the patient in a room and smothering their body with mercury. Two weeks after the publication of Winterreise, and aged only 31 he was dead. He left behind a huge amount of original music, though much of his personal writing was destroyed to protect his reputation from the stigma associated with the disease and treatment that killed him.



Director Note:

The Winterreise poems encapsulate the sensations of loneliness, grief, impossible hope, and rage that Schubert experienced, and his musical settings of these poems added extraordinary dimensions of beauty, defiance and transcendence to the images.

The song cycle is a revered work, which is traditionally presented in concert form, with no reference to the composer's condition or life circumstances. In creating this English setting of the lyrics, we strove to view the poems through the lens of Schubert's state of mind at the time of writing. The music is an extraordinarily detailed emotional map that guided our understanding of the words. We have tried to preserve the directness and simplicity of the original.

In order to connect the work to the audience, we have created a visual portrait of nivaluna/Hobart as viewed through the protagonist's experience.

Ben Winspear 2021

Artists

Nicholas Tolputt - Countertenor

Nicholas graduated from the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music in 2014. Since then, he has firmly established himself nationally and internationally as one of Australia's leading young operatic voices. In 2015 and 2016, he became the first countertenor to be accepted into the prestigious Melba Opera Trust as their Wright-Smith Scholar. He is the recipient of a Glover Music Trust Scholarship for overseas study and was also a 2016 Young Artist for Pacific Opera. In 2016, Nicholas became the first singer to ever win both the Australian Singing Competition and the Sydney Eisteddfod Opera Scholarship in the same year. He regularly tours in Italy, New Zealand and Asia performing recitals to acclaim and has sung in some of the world's most famous operatic venues. Nicholas has studied with several of Australia's most accomplished operatic performers including Rosamund Illing, Susan Johnstone, Peter Coleman-Wright and Andrew Dalton. He currently studies in Italy with Sherman Lowe, one of the world's greatest technicians and vocal experts.



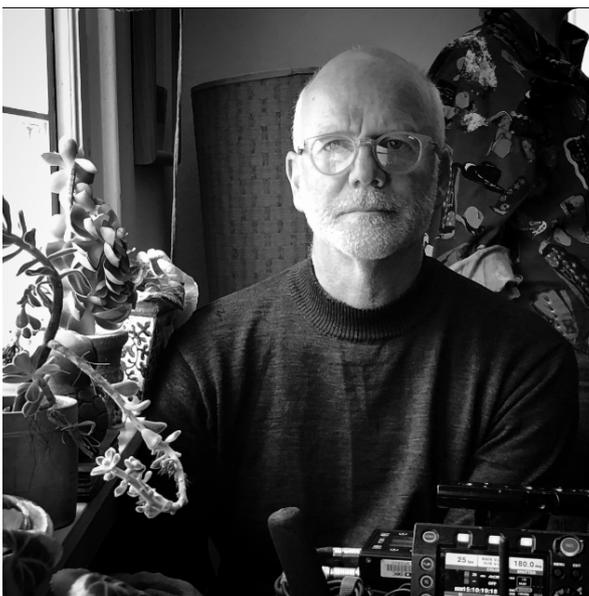
Amanda Hodder - Pianist

Described as "magic" by esteemed pianist and accompanist Malcolm Martineau, Amanda has worked as pianist, vocal coach and music director with Opera Australia, OzOpera, Opera Queensland, VCA, Sydney Philharmonia Choirs, Gondwana Voices, University of Tasmania and Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra. While completing her Master of Music at the Victorian College of Arts with Dr Donna Coleman, she won the Geoffrey Parsons Award, The Mietta Song Recital Award, the Accompanist Award at Liederfest, and the Lady Hamer Scholarship at VCA. A keen collaborator, Amanda has co-created new works for Festival of Voices, Adelaide Cabaret Festival, Melbourne Cabaret Festival, Melbourne Comedy Festival, St Martins Youth Arts and Junction Arts Festival. In recording, Amanda has appeared on Monique Brumby's latest album Closer To The Truth, Hush Vol. 20, and regularly appears on Classic FM performing the music of Tasmanian composer Jabra Latham. Having recently left her role as Co-ordinator of Classical Voice at the Tasmanian Conservatorium of Music, Amanda has spent the first half of 2021 performing at Mona Foma, Ten Days On The Island, Adelaide Cabaret Festival, Australian Musical Theatre Festival, and Festival of Voices. A passionate advocate for community group singing, Amanda runs the Hobart Glee Club, a zero-obligation choir that meets once a week.

Artists

Ben Winspear- Director

As a director Ben has steered a number of new productions for Sydney Theatre Company, where he was Resident Director for three years including *Morph*, *These People*, *This Little Piggy*, *Metamorphosis* and *Thyestes*. He also co-directed *Victory* for STC, ran numerous play readings and developments and judged for the Patrick White Award and Young Writers Award. Other productions include *Saved* (NIDA), *Insect!*, *Pantagleize*, and *Monkey* (UNSW), *Macbeth*, *King Lear*, *The Tempest* (STC) and *Monkey* (Big Monkey), *The Gardens Of Paradise* (Ten Days on the Island), *Silver* (Downstairs Belvoir), *The Bluebird* (Cranbrook School), *Gruesome Playground Injuries* (Tas Theatre Co), *12 Times He Spoke* (Blue Cow), and *Perfect Stranger* (UTAS). As Associate Artist for Griffin Theatre he was Associate Director on *Gloria*, directed *Feather In The Web* and for three years was responsible for running the artist development programmes there. For Archipelago Productions, of which he is co-artistic director, he has directed *Venus and Adonis*, *The Bleeding Tree*, *The Masque Of The Red Death* (MONA FOMA) and adapted, directed *Past The Shallows* as an arthouse film which was presented in the Ten Days On The Island Festival this year and provided audio content for TMAGs *Paradise Lost* for Dark Mofo.



Martin McGrath - Cinematographer

Martin is one of the most experienced Directors Of Photography in Australia with over 30 movies to his credit. His First feature, *Proof* won the AFI for best film, repeating that success three years later with the release of the iconic *Muriel's Wedding*, one of Australia's most loved movies. The ground-breaking miniseries *Blue Murder* was released the following year. Many AFI/ACCTA and ACS awards and nominations have followed in their wake: *Children of the Revolution*, *On the Beach*, *The Sound of One Hand Clapping*, *Blackrock*, *The Broken Shore*, *Swimming Upstream*, *Operation Buffalo*. <https://martinmcgrathacs.com/about/>

Artists

Peter Brennan – Editor

Peter started his screen career as a Sound Designer and Mix Engineer, honing his skills on countless productions for National Geographic, The Discovery Channel and many other broadcasters, both local and international. Ten years later he moved into production for TV and has since spent several years working as a writer, field producer, camera operator, editor and post producer. In 2020 Peter moved from Sydney to Hobart, seeking new creative collaborations. At the 2021 Mona Foma Festival, he wrote, directed and performed the live fantasy music event, Guitar Wars. More recently, he was editor and story consultant on the (sadly postponed) Rising Festival 2021 film project Deep Throat Drive-In.



Jason James - Lighting

Jason James works with electricity to make art. He has had several artworks presented in festivals, and galleries, around Tasmania. He has designed lights, and or projection, for dozens of professional productions. He has a strong focus on new Australian works, and projects with social benefit. He won two Tasmanian Theatre Awards for lighting design: Terrapin's Big Baby, and Hobart Repertory's Speaking in Tongues.

Selected recent credits include design for Bleeding Tree for Archipelago Productions 2020, On Memory 2021 Sonia Heap, Dark Path Dark MOFO 2019, F*ck Invisible Practice 2020, Seven Deadly Sins 2020, Belvedere Ballroom 2021 Mature Artist Dance Ensemble. Let Me Dry Your Eyes Second Echo Ensemble 2021 MONA FOMA. Till It's Gone Exhibition MONA FOMA 2021. Full list of works at jasongarethjames.com



Artists

Eliya Cohen – Second Camera

Eliya is a cinematographer, documentary director and photomedia artist. Eliya is especially passionate about stories that give a voice to those usually unheard and unseen in society. As well as collaborating with artists and musicians. Since graduating from AFTRS in 2017 (Cinematography) Eliya's recent credits include 2nd unit Cinematographer on feature film Emu Runner, which was nominated for Best Indie Film at the 2019 AACTA Awards. Cinematographer on feature documentary Picturing Home (ABC Compass, 2021). And in 2019 Eliya directed and shot Sidelines, a short documentary commissioned for SBS, which was nominated for Best Short-Form Documentary at the inaugural AIDC Awards (2021).



Finn McGrath – Camera Assistant

Finnegan McGrath graduated with a BA (Fine Arts) from Australia's National Art School in 2020.

As a student he was awarded the Waverley Art Prize in 2016 and was selected to have his drama film screened as part of Onstage 2017.

During his time at NAS he explored various mediums including charcoal, oils, digital and film animation.

Finnegan has been commissioned for a number of digital works including a series of portraits capturing people in their home and work environments.

He has had experience working as a storyboard artist on a number of TV productions including the soon to be released Wakefield for the ABC and also NBC's Young Rock.

Detached Cultural Organisation

Detached Cultural Organisation responds to the challenges, complexity, and resonance of Australian and international contemporary art and society.

Fostering a culture of curiosity, as expressed through art, science, education, and democracy, Detached offers an autonomous platform for the development, presentation, and preservation of artworks and cultural projects.

It provides opportunities and support for artists, curators, critics, and scholars to contribute to contemporary society, through the questioning of, and engagement with, our cultural heritage.

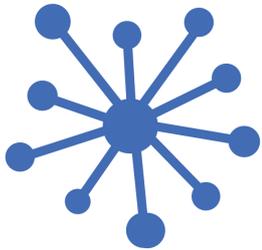
Established in 2008, Detached continues to be independent, elusive and perpetually renewing.

This project is supported by

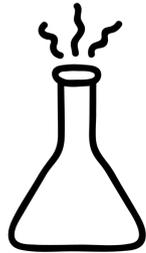
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Also supported by Darklab

Our personal thanks to Penny Clive, Michael Bugelli, Margo Adler, Jude Gunn, Ralph Myers, Caley Pearce, Nyrstar and Anthea Pritchard

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