

# Waking the Giants Mount Elephant

Concert at Lismore on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2018



A creative celebration of the volcanic plains

Waking the Giants includes a creative musical interpretation of the volcanic plains with its giant sleeping volcanoes. The volcanoes dominate the physical and cultural landscape, lend their presence to indigenous stories and form community landmarks. They have inspired six composers to write works to give a new perspective of landscape. The excellence and creativity of the work is assured by the engagement of combination of highly acclaimed composers, skilled music educators and enthusiastic establishing composers.

## Composers and Musicians

	<p><b>Stefan Hakenberg</b></p> <p>Stefan Hakenberg's music is performed in Europe, America, Asia, and Australia. In Victoria, more recently, mezzo-soprano Tara Venditti and pianist Sigmund Watty presented arias from Hakenberg's opera <i>Schau nicht zurück, Orfeo!</i> – a re-interpretation of Gluck's work on the Orpheus legend in light of international migration – and vocalist Frauke Aulbert with guitarist Gisbert Watty presented Hakenberg's versions of Greek traditional songs which express a longing to overcome separation. Most recently, Lake Bolac Eel Festival and the Melbourne Composers' League presented the Acacia Gold Wind Quintet with Hakenberg's <i>Lake Winds</i>, celebrating abundance and tradition at Lake Bolac. In Melbourne, Hakenberg taught during two sessions at Monash University.</p>
	<p><b>Jamie Marloo Thomas</b></p> <p>Jamie Marloo Thomas is a respected senior cultural mentor for his Peek Whurrung Gunditjmara and Gunnai Communities. Jamie composes works and performs them using voice, percussion, story-telling and dance. He has used his work with Wayapa Wuurk wellness sessions, at festivals and at workshops (for example the Brolga project at Cressy Primary School 2016 teaching children traditional dance). He understands the pain of disconnection from culture, which is why he has devoted over 20 years to culturally mentoring young men from the Western Districts of Victoria, and more recently from West Metropolitan Melbourne. Jamie created Wayapa in consultation with Elders and Community.</p> <p>Wayapa Wuurk which translated means "Connect Country" in the language of the Gunditjmara &amp; Gunnai Peoples respectively, to provide ReConnection programs based on a contemporary version of traditional culture and knowledge – Respecting Country, Culture and Community</p>
	<p><b>Johanna Selleck.</b></p> <p>Johanna Selleck is a composer, flautist, and musicologist. She completed a PhD in composition at the University of Melbourne in 2006 studying under Brenton Broadstock, and she is currently an honorary fellow at the university. Her compositions have been performed by some of the most renowned performers in Australia and internationally including the Queensland, Tasmanian, and Melbourne Symphony orchestras and at the Asian Composers' League Festivals and concerts in Singapore (2013), Israel (2012), Vietnam (2016) and Japan (2017).</p> <p>Her work has been featured at festivals including the Port Fairy Spring Music Festival, the Castlemaine State Festival, and the Fourth CHOMBEC conference in Bristol, UK. Her research has been published by Cambridge Scholars Press, the <i>Australasian Musicological Research Journal</i>, and Lexington Books, among other publishers. She also worked for 5 years as a music critic for Melbourne's <i>Herald Sun</i>.</p>



#### **Dindy Vaughan.**

Dindy Vaughan is a writer, educator and composer; she has held tertiary lectureships at RMIT, and VUT, as well as being an Academic Assessor for Deakin University. Her music compositions range widely, encompassing vocal, choral, chamber, keyboard and orchestral works, as well as youth music and music for theatrical productions. In 2006 she was commissioned by music Glenelg to write a symphony, *Discovery*, now on CD/DVD, and with her CD *Up the Creek* she was a finalist in the Australian Classical Music Awards, 2006. [www.dindyvaughanmusic.com](http://www.dindyvaughanmusic.com)



#### **Holly Caldwell.**

Holly has enjoyed an exciting early career as a music educator, conductor and composer. Her compositions have appeared in various projects, including *The Melbourne Fringe Festival* (2012), *Re-Group, music by Women Composers* (2012), *Asylum* (2013), *Melbourne 60x60* (2014), *What it is to be human* (2015) and the 2011, 2012 and 2018 *Lake Bolac Eel Festivals*; her musical arrangements have been performed by several groups across Melbourne. Holly is currently living in Hobart where she is completing a Master of Music degree at the UTAS Conservatorium of Music.



#### **Gene Holland**

Gene Holland is a composer, improviser, pianist and educator based in Eastern Melbourne. He graduated from an Honours Degree in Composition at Monash University in 2015, in which his research project concerned 'extramusical' elements within group creation. Gene was able to explore this concept further in an improvisatory work at HillsceneLIVE 2016, a live a festival, and he continues to pursue this area of research, having been accepted into HillsceneLIVE 2017 to further explore these concepts. Gene regularly records and publishes his piano improvisations, and writes for various ensembles. His recorded works range from various solo instruments to brass ensembles, concert bands, many chamber ensembles, and freeform group playing. He loves interacting with artists from other disciplines and reimagining his sound in different performance environments. He has been influenced by a wide array of modern composers but has always retained a love for melody. The Victorian Volcanic Region has been of particular interest to him over the past year or two, and he has visited several times to discover more about the land and gather ideas.

**Sonus Wind Quintet.** Sonus wind quintet is an innovative group of Geelong professional musicians with Suzanne Moodie (Flute) Stephen Moschner (Oboe) Vicki Hallett (Clarinet) Barney Ellis (Bassoon) Emilie Wendt (French Horn).

**Tarella string quartet.** Tarella string quartet with freelance musicians and teachers Rosalind Burns (Violin 1), Marianne Rothschild (Violin 2), Cora Teuwen (Viola) and Lore Burns (Cello).

**Peter Hagan.** Peter Hagan, on harpsicord. Peter lives on a Trust for Nature property at Broadford, and from there has run a series of concerts over seven years featuring top artists in Australia. He has performed as a harpsichordist in Europe, the United States, Canada and Australia. He has given recitals and worked as a continuo player with numerous ensembles. While interested mainly in baroque repertoire, he has worked with contemporary pieces and in many different fields ranging from folk to opera.

Waking the Giants is a project of Mount Elephant Community Management Inc. (MECM)  
Mount Elephant is a Trust for Nature property

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[www.mountelephant.com.au](http://www.mountelephant.com.au)