

WYSING ARTS CENTRE



RAVIOLI ME AWAY THE VIEW FROM BEHIND THE FUTURISTIC ROSE TRELLIS

An opera and exhibition by artist-musicians, Ravioli Me Away
10 February to 14 April
Wysing Arts Centre

5.30–7.30pm, 9 February, performance premiere
8–10pm launch of exhibition and party with DJs

Complimentary tickets and travel from London for press available

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The View From Behind The Futuristic Rose Trellis is an ambitious new immersive exhibition and live work by Ravioli Me Away (Sian Dorrer, Rosie Ridgway and Alice Theobald).

The exhibition, which will transform Wysing's gallery in its entirety, will act as a set for the performance and will include new sculptural works and costumes alongside a three-screen video installation. The live work, described by the artists as an opera, features sixteen new multi-genre musical compositions across three acts. The artists have located the work within a gallery setting to enable a closer interaction with audience members who will also be able to engage with costumes and objects.

The View From Behind The Futuristic Rose Trellis is a colourful, virtuous comi-tragic take on greed, freedom, individual and collective aspiration and the cycle of life, taking the audience through a multidimensional journey as 'the trapped soul of humanity' searches for a body that can give it meaning.

To accompany the exhibition and performance, a limited-edition vinyl record of the soundtrack, with an accompanying songbook, will be released on the Wysing Polyphonic record label.

"We are thrilled to be launching Wysing's 30th anniversary programme with this ambitious exhibition and live production. We have known Ravioli Me Away since 2014, when they performed in our annual music festival, and have been working with them ever since. It's a great start to a year in which we will be seeing a lot of familiar faces and old friends, including the partners for this ambitious project, and I can't think of a better way to get the celebrations started." Donna Lynas, Director, Wysing Arts Centre.

The View From Behind The Futuristic Rose Trellis is produced by Ravioli Me Away and Wysing Arts Centre, Cambridge. Touring and commissioned in partnership with BALTIC Centre For Contemporary Art, Gateshead; The Box, Plymouth; Block Universe, London, with additional support from the Albany, London; Heart n Soul, London; Nottingham Contemporary and The Barbican Theatre, Plymouth. The project is supported with a Grant for the Arts using public funding by Arts Council England.

Image credit: *The View From Behind The Futuristic Rose Trellis (The Chorus)*, 2018, courtesy of Ravioli Me Away HQ, image: Jack Barraclough.

For press information and images contact Rhiannon Moxham on info@wysingartscentre.org
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Notes for Editors

National Tour Dates:

9 February 2019, 5.30–10pm, performance premiere and launch, Wysing Arts Centre, Cambridgeshire

10 February to 14 April 2019, exhibition open daily, 12 noon–5pm, Wysing Arts Centre

30 March 2019, performance, 6–8pm, Wysing Arts Centre

11 May 2019, performance, The Box at the Barbican Theatre, Plymouth

18 May 2019, performance, BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art, Gateshead

1 June 2019, performance, Block Universe at the Albany, London

Ravioli Me Away

Un-defined by genre, Ravioli Me Away's high energy, dangerously ambitious and delusional jazzy-post-pop-punk-hip-funk sound with stylistically erratic motifs span all-known past, present and future human cultures and sub-cultures. This is social realism soaked through with a heady dose of fantasy, idiosyncratic poetics, keyboard flurries and vocal vicissitudes described as "vintage drag-queen Bananarama Youtube footage played with twice the sass and in double time with an incredulous broadband connection reflected in the eyes of a much overworked and downright exhausted Julie Burchill on acid".

Ravioli Me Away are Sian Dorrer, Rosie Ridgway and Alice Theobald. Since forming in January 2013, they have performed extensively at various events, venues, festivals and galleries in the UK, France, Switzerland, Germany, Czech Republic and Holland. In 2015 they supported The Fall at Brixton Electric and have also appeared on radio shows on 6 Music, Resonance FM and NTS Radio. In 2014 Ravioli Me Away released their first 12" LP *The Inevitable Album* on God Job Records and a Limited Edition tape of live recorded material produced by Ben Wallers of The County Teasers/The REBEL on Neen Records. In 2016, they released their second album *Living Is A Myth* with Upset The Rhythm.

Theobald, Dorrer and Ridgway have each been heavily involved in the UK DIY post-punk and electronic music scenes for over a decade and formed through a mutual absurdist humour and approach to exploring identity, politics, human relationships, love, gender, class and current affairs. Using performance, art and music, their lyrics and stage presence are loaded with pop references, metaphor, satire and cliché. To date they have together written and produced up to 30 songs and have performed over 80 concerts, each high-energy and curated to reflect a different theme inspired by everyday life eg, City workers, beauty queens, sportsmen and beatnik poets to more abstract interpretations of everyday life such as luggage, snacks and e-bay. More recent performances have been iterations of their own individual alter-ego/characters.

Project Collaborators

Tom Hirst is a musician based in London and currently the sole practitioner behind Design A Wave, his electronic synth-pop music project.

Dean Rodney Jr. the songwriter and vocalist for the band The Fish Police, who formed at Heart n Soul, a creative arts charity who provide opportunities and support the talents of people with learning disabilities and help share their art widely.

Onyeka Igwe is an artist filmmaker and researcher using dance, voice, archive and text exploring physical body and geographical place as sites of cultural and political meaning.

Eothen Stearn is a Feminist Queer artist interested in craft, memory, emotions and modalities of speech. They work with performance, sound, sculpture and costume. They are in the Rotterdam based band Difficult.

Siobhan Moony is a Mezzo Soprano singer who has worked with Grange Park Opera, Pilmico Opera and staged collaborative shows with performance artists Dickie Beau and Lisa Lee.

Dan Mitchell is an artist and performer living and working in London. He is a founding member of Poster Studio (1994 - 1997) and the publisher of *Hard Mag*.

Ben Wallers is a musician and performer who has been releasing music under various guises since 1995 including 'THE REBEL', who have released 31 albums.

Scott Bradbury is the enigmatic frontman of the London band post punk band Chips for the Poor. He is a trained actor and has performed in Alice Theobald's video works since 2014.

Victor Jakeman is a musician and performer and member of Claw Marks, Insecure Men, Whitby Bay and also collaborates with artists Pil and Galia Kollektiv on the performance art project WE.

Adam Sinclair is a 3D animation artist and has made works for Ed Atkins and Tai Shani.

Jack Barraclough is a film director, editor and animator. Jack has made music videos in bands including Sacred Paws and Franz Ferdinand and directed Goblin Town music video for Ravioli Me Away.

Aymie Backler is a Production Manager specialising in performance and durational art works. She has worked with Siobhan Davies, Katie Paterson and John Cale.

Charlotte Poulet is a sound technician, sound artist and performer who has worked with bands including Wire, Suicide, The Liars, Throbbing Gristle, The Pop Group and currently with industrial pioneers Test Department.

Kathryn Gray is a musician from Leeds and makes music as Mia La Metta, Empress Maude and as a member of the bands Sherbert Tripod and Beards. She is also a member of the Lumen Audio Visual Collective.

Patrick Moran plays drums and sings for black metal band WHITBY BAY, he also publishes the metal fanzine *Buried*.

WYSING ARTS CENTRE

www.wysingartscentre.org

Established in 1989 and celebrating its 30th anniversary in 2019, Wysing's large site in rural Cambridgeshire encompasses artist studios, a large gallery, a music recording studio, educational and project spaces, onsite accommodation, ceramics facilities, outdoor space with sculpture, and a café. Through its innovative work, Wysing influences the development of the visual arts sector in the UK. As a respected and well-connected institution operating outside the usual gallery system and urban context, Wysing is uniquely positioned to develop programmes that provide opportunities for the exchange of knowledge and ideas, and which reflect on the role of art, artists, and arts organisations in society; acting as a testing ground for new ideas. Artists who have worked at Wysing in artist residencies over recent years, developing and making new work, include Larry Achiampong and David Blandy, Ed Atkins, Jesse Darling, Michael Dean, Cécile B Evans, Evan Ifekoya, Harold Offeh, Imran Perretta, Elizabeth Price, Charlotte Prodger, Laure Prouvost, James Richards, Florian Roithmayr and Cally Spooner. During 2018 Wysing Arts Centre has offered their site and resources to artists working across a range of practices who wish to develop new work within an atmosphere of collaboration.

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BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art, Gateshead

www.baltic.art

BALTIC has exhibited the work of over 400 different international artists, received over 7 million visitors through the door since opening in 2002 and welcomed 262,000 participants in learning activities last year alone.

BALTIC runs a major commissioning programme of international exhibitions annually delivering up to 12 exhibitions at BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art, 5 at BALTIC 39; a performance programme; residency and associate artist programmes including CONTINUOUS, a new 4 year dance partnership initiative with Siobhan Davies Dance.

In 2017 BALTIC launched the inaugural biennial BALTIC Artists Award, a new model for supporting emerging artists with over £120,000 being awarded for the production of new work. BALTIC has a significant new programme in local communities including B.Local - a new model for collaboration within the heart of some of North East England's most disadvantaged communities. BALTIC's strategic partnership with Northumbria University, the BxNU Institute is led by BALTIC Professor and Director of the Institute Andrea Phillips, who joined the team in 2017.

Block Universe

www.blockuniverse.co.uk

London's leading international performance art festival was founded in 2015 to foster the career of artists working with performance by supporting them in the creation, production and realisation of newly commissioned work at the cross-section of visual arts, dance and music. The festival provides a high visibility platform to highlight interdisciplinary, performance-based practices and encourages institutions to rethink how they engage with the medium long-term.

Presenting an annual curated programme in major institutions, museums, theatres and unique off-site spaces throughout the capital, Block Universe is committed to being inclusive and accessible, inspiring audiences with the introduction of a diverse range of internationally renowned and emerging UK-based artists. Each year, the public programme of talks, workshops and artist-led projects provides an important educational and participatory platform deepening understanding of our artist's practises and providing discursive spaces for the artists that we support.

Over the past four editions Block Universe has produced over 52 productions, supported 25 new commissions and brought 11 international premieres to London with the mission to create a long-term, sustained engagement with performance art in the city and catapulting artists to the forefront of dialogues around performance art.

THE BOX, PLYMOUTH

www.theboxplymouth.com

Set to open in 2020, The Box will be a major cultural and heritage centre for Plymouth, the South West and beyond. The City Museum and Art Gallery, former Central Library and St Luke's Church buildings are currently undergoing a multi-million pound transformation to create this high-profile visitor attraction, which will celebrate Plymouth's role in shaping world history.

The Box will open as part of Plymouth's Mayflower 400 commemorations with permanent galleries filled with art, human history, natural history, archival and media collections, changing exhibition spaces, a lively piazza, food, drink, retail, education and research facilities. While construction work is taking place on site, a range of events, activities and community projects are taking place as part of an 'On Tour' programme.

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