

AGSC GENDER EQUITY COMMITTEE AND
CHURCH STREET STUDIOS PRESENT

AGSC



She Plays

International Women's Day 2024
8pm | 8 March | Church St Studios



The AGSC is committed to equality, inclusion and diversity, and is actively working to improve gender diversity in our membership, workplaces, awards, and at leadership/mentor level.

AGSC acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land, the Gadigal people of the Eora nation, on which we meet today, and pay our respects to Elders past and present.

Program Schedule

Caitlin Yeo

Bad Behaviour Suite

What I Would Have Done

Bad Behaviour

Sneaking Out

Miss Constantines Room

Amanda Brown

Into the Sea

Elegy

Andrée Greenwell

Runners

Castle Scene

Me-Lee Hay

The Axe

Showdown

Luna Pan

Great Observers

Bare Intimacy

Journey

Yantra de Vilder

Have We Paid Our Dues

Love Not War (Premier)



Program Notes

Bad Behaviour | Caitlin Yeo

Directed by Corrie Chen | Produced by Amanda Higgs, Matchbox Pictures

Based on the book BAD BEHAVIOUR by Rebecca Starford

Original score by Caitlin Yeo

Bad Behaviour is a Stan Original four-part psychological drama series that premiered in competition at the 73rd Berlin International Film Festival in February 2023. Based on Rebecca Starford's memoir of the same name about her time at an elite outback Victorian boarding school, it's directed by Corrie Chen and produced by Amanda Higgs for Matchbox Pictures. The score had to be chilling, unforgiving and alluring all at once. It's the most exposed and visceral chamber score I have ever written. The concert will include four short pieces from the series:

1. What I Would Have Done
2. Sneaking Out
3. Miss Constantine's Room
4. Bad Behaviour

Babyteeth | Amanda Brown

Directed by Shannon Murphy, produced by Alex White, Jan Chapman Productions & Universal. Based on the play by Rita Kalnejais

Into The Sea – piano & violin

This diegetic cue had to be composed prior to the shoot so Essie Davis (Anna) and Eliza Scanlen (Milla) could learn to mime playing their respective instruments convincingly. The piece is simple, dignified, and heartfelt – it represents a reconciliation of sorts – a healing moment between mother and daughter.

Elegy – string ensemble

A lament for the dead, this cue runs under the final scene of Babyteeth and into the credits. Until this point there has been no sentimentalising what could have been a cliched story of a dying girl. The piece has an ethereal, calm quality - it floats by without distracting too much from superb performances by the actors.

Runners and Castle Scene | Andrée Greenwell

'Runners' and 'Castle Scene' were composed in 1995 so they are quite old pieces but cinematic, and work for the ensemble line up of the concert. I was at AFTRS when I wrote them, for a score for Sidetracks Theatre's production of 'Fright' at the Enmore Theatre. I thought it could be great to especially create some visuals for the concert. These visuals come from my film school besties with whom I have collaborated throughout my career and were made very quickly with a no budget DIY approach – Katerina Stratos, who shot and processed the footage for 'Runners' and a series of photos for 'Castle Scene', (which really needs a new name) by the wonderful cinematographer Justine Kerrigan. In house editing comes from James Manché.

The Axe and Showdown | Me-Lee Hay

The Axe (from the documentary artist biopic Heretic)

Directed and Produced by Christina Conrad

Heretic which is an unusual autobiographical documentary that lifts the lid on the mysterious life of Christina Conrad - painter, poet, sculptor whose life-long struggle with convention, prejudice and the art world's respectability, reminds us of our own personal dramas and the hidden strengths.

This piece was written in reflection of when the artist, in a state of terrible realisation and catharsis, she takes an axe and destroys her collection of artworks and the awakening that ensues after.

Showdown (from the feature film Suka)

Directed by Heidi Lee Douglas | Produced by Wise Goat Productions | Written by Lily Cheng and Tsu Shan Chambers | Orchestrated by Fiona Hill

The film SUKA is the story of two generations of warring families in Sydney's west. Suka gained Me-Lee Hay's debut AACTA nomination for Best Original Score 2024. This piece is when the main woman protagonist decides to make a bold decision to end the war on the streets of Chinatown once and for all.

Sonically the SUKA soundtrack explores orchestral meets modular electronic sounds whilst featuring Me-Lee's electric cello, run through synthesiser oscillators which duets with her acoustic cello. The 2 different cellos represent our women hero and villain's journeys.

Great Observers, Bare Intimacy and Journey | Luna Pan

Great Observers

Directed and Produced by: Ben Ferris | Produced by Sydney Film Studios

The documentary follows five celebrated Australian artists – Tim Allen, Peter Stevens, Mary Tonkin, Alison Coates and David Collins, accompanied by renowned Art Critic John McDonald – as they find creative inspiration at Australian Wildlife Conservancy's Mt Zero-Taravale Wildlife Sanctuary in North Queensland. The documentary captures the artist's response to experiencing the dramatic landscapes and the state-of-the-art conservation program being implemented on the ecologically important site.

The score was inspired by the artists' stunning works and the dying nature they try to capture and reserve.

Bare Intimacy

Directed and written by Jennifer Karlsson

The short film is about a woman stuck in a destructive lifestyle who uses meaningless sex with strangers to compensate for her lack of true intimacy and connection. Through a metaphor filled world we explore the similarities of her destructive loop to a planet crumbling under the careless feet of humanity. Only if balance can be found will there be room for healing and regrowth.

The score is reflecting the inner world of the woman and her struggle with the addiction. Eventually, she makes peace with herself while embracing a new life.

Journey

This is a piece I wrote recently about my Journey of being a composer and a new mother. I have found profound growth amidst both the tender and challenging moments. Through the intertwining paths of life and music, I have discovered a deeper connection with myself, evolving into what I believe to be the most authentic and fulfilled version of who I am.

Have We Paid Our Dues and Love Not War | Yantra de Vilder

Have We Paid Our Dues

Winner Women's International Film Festival, Munich New Wave Short Film Festival, Accolade Global Film Competition and LA Independent Film Channel Festival and finalist at Paris International Awards, Tokyo International Short Film Festival and Montreal Independent Film Festival.

"This film is dedicated to understanding our fragile place in this eco system of our planet earth and examining our place as a thread of humanity.

Created during lockdown 2021 -this piece is my reflection on these challenging times that we are going through."

Love Not War

Premiering tonight at She Plays.

This is dedicated to the peace makers. "We are the same inside We all still bleed We all want love not war We all want peace"

CURRENT ENERGIES

PRESENTED BY CHURCH STREET STUDIOS
IN COLLABORATION WITH THE AGSC

SATURDAY MARCH 9
11AM - 10PM

CHURCH STREET STUDIOS
CAMPERDOWN

A MINI-FESTIVAL OF CONTEMPORARY ELECTRONIC MUSIC TO CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

WITH SISTERS WITH TRANSISTORS (DIR. LISA ROVNER)

A SCREENING OF

Performers

Véronique Serret (Violin 1)

Stephanie Zarka (Violin 2)

Beth Condon (Viola)

Rowena Macneish (Cello)

Elsen Price (Bass)

Annie Burbank (Piano)

Fiona Loader (Piano)

Yantra de Vilder (Piano)

Ephemera Community Choir



Composer Biographies

Caitlin Yeo

Caitlin Yeo is a multi award winning Australian screen composer with over 70 film and TV credits. She is well known for her bold and inventive scores including *Every Little Thing* (Sundance 2024), *Bad Behaviour* (Berlinale 2023), *New Gold Mountain* (SBS), *Playing with Sharks: The Valerie Taylor Story* (Sundance 2021, Nat Geo), *David Stratton: A Cinematic Life* (Festival de Cannes 2017, ABC), *The Rocket* (Tribeca winner 2013), and *Danger Close: The Battle of Long Tan* (Sydney Festival 2019).



Caitlin has won three AACTA awards (*New Gold Mountain*, *Playing with Sharks*, and *The Dark Emu Story*), 8 APRA AGSC Screen Music awards (including best feature twice for *The Rocket* (2013) and *The Butterfly Tree* (2017)), 2 Film Critics Circle Awards, amongst many others. Caitlin's music is often described as captivating, intuitive and emotional. She was the 2022 recipient of the prestigious Sydney UNESCO City of Film Award (an award that recognises a trailblazing screen practitioner whose work stands for innovation, imagination, and high impact), and the 2023 Australian Women's Film Festival Groundbreaker Award. Both awards are a great honour for Caitlin as she is the only composer to have received them.



Amanda Brown



Amanda Brown is a screen music composer, musician and songwriter from Sydney, Australia. She has been writing music for stage and screen since graduating from the AFTRS in 2000 and before that enjoyed a career as a multi-instrumentalist in several bands, playing violin, guitar, mandolin and oboe. She was a member of The Go-Betweens, with whom she recorded two albums and toured the world. In 2023 Amanda released her debut solo album of songs *Eight Guitars*.

Amanda's screen music credits include feature films *Here Out West*, *A Sunburnt Christmas* (with Damien Lane) and *Babyteeth*. Feature documentaries include *Psychedelics*, *Stepping into the Unknown*, *Step Into Paradise* and *Brazen Hussies*. Amanda has scored drama series *Prosper* (with Antonio Gambale), *Deadloch*, *One Night*, *RFDS* series 1-2 and *The Secrets She Keeps* series 1-2 among others.

Amanda is a writer director board member and screen composer ambassador for APRA (Australasian Performing Right Association) and in 2021 she became a member (music branch) of The Academy of Motion Pictures, Arts and Sciences.

Photo credit Daniel Boud



Andrée Greenwell

Andrée Greenwell is multi-award-winning composer with a catalogue of over 100 scores for performing arts and screen.

As artistic director of Green Room Music, Andrée is a leading creator of independent music theatre and multidisciplinary work, frequently involving screen projections, including *The Villainelles*, *Laquiem*, *Gothic*, *Dreaming Transportation* and *The Hanging of Jean Lee*.



Her acclaimed chamber opera *Three Marys* premiered in 2023, presented by Sydney Opera House as part of the 50th anniversary celebrations. Filmed by SOH the opera streams [here](#).

Following her postgraduate studies in composition at the VCA, and studies in sound at AFTRS - *Medusahead* and *Laquiem* - the two short films she composed and directed - altogether screened at 23 film festivals worldwide, and were purchased for television broadcast by Kunst Kanal Holland, Arts France and SBS Australia.

Andrée has scored feature-length documentaries, documentaries and short dramas. She composed and sound designed John Janson-Moore's film *Contact Trace*, narrated by Uncle Jack Charles, awarded Best Experimental Film, Solaris Film Festival, Nice, 2022.

Awards include the prestigious Australia Council for the Arts Music Fellowship and the NSW Ministry for the Arts Women in Arts Fellowship. Andrée holds a DCA from the University of Wollongong.

<https://www.andreegreenwell.com/>

<https://andreegreenwell.bandcamp.com/>



Luna Pan



Luna Pan is an award-winning screen, advertising and game composer from Sydney, Australia. She studied piano and music theory for a decade from a young age, now armed with Master of Arts degree in Orchestration for Film, Games and Television from University of Chichester.

Luna has created soundtracks for feature films, TV programs (The Block, The Traitors, Food Stars, Bondi Rescue, The Traitors, Bluey, The Mole, etc.), commercials (Dermalogica, YD, Coo-E, etc.) , documentaries, games and web productions.

Luna is a two-time finalist and the winner of 2023 APRA AMCOS Professional Development Awards.

She has also won Mentorship for Women in Music award held by APRA AMCOS in TV Composition in 2019, and won the contemporary female composer award and best orchestration from GEMS, Spain 2021. Her composition recorded with the RTVE symphony orchestra- Evolution – has been nominated by Hollywood Music in Media Awards in 2021 and her orchestral piece recorded with Smecky Music Studio- The Masquerade has been nominated by Hollywood Music in Media again in 2022. Luna has recently been awarded the Gold Winner of LIT Talent Awards – Best Original Score for her work on The Carnival feature documentary.

She enjoys composing in a wide variety of genres and styles, as well as recording her own samples.



Me-Lee Hay



Me-Lee Hay resonates with tones that evokes beauty with danger composing for film, TV, dance and theatre. A Malaysian born Chinese-Australian, Hay has been nominated for an AACTA Award for Best Original Score in Film (Suka) in 2024. She has had works shown across multiple platforms including Netflix, Amazon Prime, Free to air TV channels plus mainstream cinemas to 360 degree dome planetariums domestically and internationally.

Pertinent screen credits include composing for the feature film *A Second Chance Rivals!* (Netflix top ten children's category in June 2021 release), SBSOne cooking show series *Luke Nguyen* and Museum Victoria's dome astronomy documentaries *Starlight* and *Capturing the Cosmos* (narrated by Sigrid Thornton and Geoffrey Rush respectively). She also scored for the USA produced, Academy Award qualifying documentary *Finding Her Beat* which was directed by Emmy awarded director Dawn Mikkelson and Keri Picket. The documentary is available internationally on streamers.

Off screen, Me-Lee has been commissioned by leading arts companies of Australia such as Sydney Dance Company's PPY & Sydney Theatre Company as well as touring internationally with UK's Javaad Alipoor Company as composer and live musician on stage including performing recently at the Sydney Opera House as part of Sydney Festival.

Photo by | Emma Rowan-Kelly



Dr. Yantra de Vilder



As a founding member and chair of the Gender Equity Committee for the AGSC, Dr. Yantra de Vilder understands what it means to creatively diversify in our challenging cultural climate.

She navigates across a range of platforms including creative artist, performer, musician, composer, arranger, music producer, sound engineer, film creator, editor, animator, mixed media visual artist, theatre maker, public spaces installation activator, art gallery installation artist, choir leader, and conductor.

Yantra's doctoral degree in Creative Arts represents an ongoing love of research and new ways of thinking about our changing world, contributing to this conversation through seminars, published works and active involvement in policy making.

Yantra has worked consistently for the past three decades both nationally and internationally composing, creating art, performing and film making. As audio consultant and composer for the BBC on projects in London, Bangladesh, Afghanistan and Burma, she's enjoyed a global connectivity in her career.

Yantra is the founder of Pianos for the People a social impact program recycling pianos and installing them in public and private spaces.

Recently film making has become her passion. Winning awards in New York, London, Paris Toronto and Tokyo film festivals with her unique music videos.

“ It all comes from the music first, then the words, followed by the images and story”.

At the moment she is working on 'Credo', a contemporary Song Cycle for her 20 piece choir and music ensemble. This production includes film, choreography and music.



Production Team

Michelle Barry | Technical Manager
Kingston Anderson | Production Manager
Guy Gross | Venue Manager
Sophia Christopher | Front of House
Brontë Horder | Front of House
Joel Burton | PA Hire
Minami Takahashi | Production Assistant

Special Thanks

A special thanks to Guy Gross and the Church Street Studios Team, Kingston Anderson, Yantra de Vilder, Fiona Loader, the AGSC composers, AGSC Gender Equity Committee, Véronique Serret, Michelle Barry, and others for their vision, passion and contributions to AGSC's She Plays Project.

