
ANTARCTICA
MUSIC FESTIVAL
& CONFERENCE
25-29 JUNE 2011
ANU SCHOOL OF MUSIC



Inuksuit by John Luther Adams



SATURDAY 25 JUNE, DAWN
Australian National Gallery, James Turrell Skyspace



Inuksuit is inspired by the stone sentinels constructed over the centuries by the Inuit in the windswept expanses of the Arctic.

The word “Inuksuit” translates literally: “to act in the capacity of the human”. This work is haunted by the vision of the melting of the polar ice, the rising of the seas, and what may remain of humanity’s presence after the waters recede.

Inuksuit is a concert-length work for percussion, in which the performers are widely dispersed and move throughout a large, open area. The listeners, too, may move around freely and discover their own individual

listening points. This work is intended to expand our awareness of the never-ending music of the world in which we live, transforming seemingly empty space into more fully experienced place.

Each performance of *Inuksuit* is different, determined by the size of the ensemble, the specific instruments chosen, and by the topology and vegetation of the site. There is no master score. Rather, this folio contains a collection of musical materials and possibilities for musicians to use in creating a unique realization of the work.

Inuksuit invites exploration and discovery of the relationship between the music and the site, as well as the musicians’ interactions with both. The musicians are encouraged to consider carefully the selection of instruments, the distribution of performers, and the acoustical properties of the performance site.

The experience of preparing, performing and hearing *Inuksuit* may raise larger questions: What does it mean to act creatively with and within our environment? Can we listen and hear more deeply the field of sound all around us? How does where we are define what we do and, ultimately, who we are? And how do we understand the brevity of our human presence in the immensity of geologic time.

John Luther Adams, Composer

Gary France, Artistic Director

International Guests: **Dr John Lane**, **Professor Allen Otte**

Synergy Percussion (Sydney)

Speak Percussion (Melbourne)

DRUMatiX Percussion

Performers:

John Lane (Sam Houston State University, USA)

Allen Otte, (Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music, USA)

Timothy Constable, **Bree van Reyk** and **Josh Hill**, (Synergy Percussion, Sydney)

Gary France, **Veronica Walshaw**, **Bryce Leske**, **Cary Finlay**, **Charles Martin**, **Christina**

Hopgood, **Jonathan Griffiths**, **Stephen Fitzgerald**, **William Jackson**, **Yvonne Lam**,

Caitlin Ayres, **Eliza Sheppard**, **Reuben Lewis**, **Aiden Lowe** (ANU, Canberra)

Leah Scholes, **Matthais Schack-Arnott**, **Peter Neville** (Speak Percussion, Melbourne)

Matthew Horsley, **Anna Ng**, **Louis Sharpe**, **Zela Papageorgiou**,

Hannah Schachte (Melbourne)

GARY FRANCE

is a native of Syracuse, New York, USA. Now living in Australia, France performs in a wide range of musical genres. He received his Bachelor of Music degree in Music Education in 1979, from the Crane School of Music, SUNY Potsdam, and his Master of Music degree in Orchestral Performance and Jazz in 1988 at the University of North Texas. While at UNT, A/Prof France became the first drummer/percussionist in the fifty-year history of the program to direct one of the prestigious Jazz Lab Bands. Since settling in Australia in 1987, as the inaugural Lecturer in Percussion at the WA Conservatorium of Music, A/Prof France did much to significantly raise the profile of percussion playing in Australia. He is regularly employed by peak music bodies such as the Australian Youth Orchestra and the Australian National Academy of Music to tutor developing percussionists. His former students now hold prominent positions as performers, educators and executives in the music industry both here in Australia and abroad.

A/Prof France has performed with the West Australian Symphony Orchestra, the Nova Ensemble, the West Australian Opera and Ballet Orchestras, the Dallas Brass, the Doddworth Saxhorn Ensemble, the Australian Chamber Orchestra the Canberra Symphony with whom he performed William Kraft's Concerto for Timpani and Orchestra in 2001. A/Prof France's list of recent world premiers include works by Larry Sitsky, Sir Michael Tippett, Roger Smalley, Ross Edwards, Peter Sculthorpe, Robert Cucinotta, Edward Applebaum and Robert Casteels.

France is the director of the ANU DRUMatiX. Under his direction, the ANU percussion program hosted the first Australian National Marimba Camp in 2001, and the Australian National Percussion Symposium in October 2003. He was also the Lead Principal Investigator in the ANU New Media Laboratory (NML), a research team that explored the multifaceted relationships between acoustic instruments.

ALLEN OTTE

is Professor of Percussion at the University of Cincinnati. He came to the University of Cincinnati in 1977 with The Blackearth Percussion Group; in 1979 he founded Percussion Group Cincinnati. Appearances in their national and international touring schedule have included the major cities, festivals, concert halls and schools of America, Europe and Asia. Over the past 30 years, many young composers from around the world have created a large body of new and often experimental music for the trio. The first CD in the group's contribution to the series of Mode Records' integrated set of the complete music of John Cage will be available this year. In addition to percussion, Otte teaches eurhythmics, composition, various literature seminars and coaches and conducts traditional and contemporary chamber music. He has presented his own creative work in solo concerts and guest presentations throughout the U.S., Europe and Asia.

DR JOHN LANE

is an active percussion soloist, chamber musician, composer, educator, and has performed throughout the Americas and Japan. Recent credits include performances with his percussion trio (with Christopher Deane and Brian Zator), Pulsus, at the Hokuto International Music Festival in Japan, a concerto performance with the National Symphony of Panama, an appearance on the Van Cliburn Foundation's concert series, Modern at the Modern, at the Fort Worth Museum of Modern Art, and presentations at the Percussive Arts Society International Conventions in 2003, 2004, 2008 and 2009.

Currently, John is Director of Percussion Studies and Assistant Professor at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas where he teaches applied percussion and directs

the Sam Houston Percussion Group and SHSU Steel Band. Prior to his appointment at SHSU, John taught as a lecturer at the University of Wyoming and as a teaching fellow at the University of North Texas and the Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music.

Commissioning new works for percussion and creative collaborations are an integral part of John's work. Over the last few years, he has been connected with a number of composers including Peter Garland, Emiliano Pardo, Mara Helmuth, Michael Fiday, Christopher Deane, John Luther Adams, Kyle Gann, Michael Byron, Wen Hui Xie, Jude Traxler, Kazuaki Shiota and Alex Kotch.

With thanks to Katie Russell and Michelle Fracaro | Public Programs
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