

# LIVING ROOM 2010

A WEEK OF GOODNESS

9-17 APRIL

PERFORMANCE ART IN THE CBD

## PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

Celebrate the notion of giving and kindness on the streets of Auckland CBD from Friday 9 – Saturday 17 April with an exciting programme of live performance art, and moving image that brings together local and international artists and choreographers.

Living Room 2010 is a free Auckland City Council event curated around the theme of surrealist artist Max Ernst's book of collage, *Un Semaine de Bonte*, from which this year's event derives its name: 'A Week of Goodness'.

## FILM PROGRAMME

The Living Room film programme will screen in three shipping containers at two different sites over the week-long event. Two programmes will be shown: the Living Room (LR) programme, curated by Pontus Kyander, which features work by local and international artists; and the MIC Toi Rerehiko programme, which features a selection of short New Zealand films.

Friday 9 April,  
8pm – 10pm, MIC

Saturday 10 April,  
7pm – 10pm, LR

Sunday 11 April,  
7pm – 9pm, MIC

Monday 12 April,  
6.30pm – 8.30pm, LR

Tuesday 13 April,  
6.30pm – 8.30pm, MIC

Location: QEII Square

Wednesday 14 April,  
6.30pm – 8.30pm, LR

Thursday 15 April,  
6.30pm – 8.30pm, MIC

Friday 16 April,  
7pm – 10pm, LR

Saturday 17 April,  
7pm – 10pm, MIC

Location: Intersection of High Street and Freyberg Place

## ARTIST TALKS

ARTSTATION, 1 PONSONBY RD, PONSONBY

### PHIL DADSON (NZ)

Saturday 10th April, 11am – 12.30pm

Phil Dadson, award winning sound and media artist, composer, performer and instrument builder, will talk about his project *Urban Devas*, created for Living Room 2010. He will also run a short interactive workshop based around the music routines of the project.

Phil is a fulltime artist, whose practice includes solo sound and intermedia performances and installations, music compositions, graphic scores, video and short film, sound sculptures, and improvisations on his instruments. Phil was the founder of New Zealand's most avant-garde performance groups, *From Scratch*. He tours extensively throughout New Zealand and internationally.

[www.sonicsfromscratch.co.nz](http://www.sonicsfromscratch.co.nz)

### PAULA ROUSH (UK)

Tuesday 13th April, 11am – 12pm

Paula Roush is an interdisciplinary artist, researcher and teacher, whose work addresses public culture and urban space. Paula works with the city as a site of investigation and develops ways of intervening in urban space, working in the mode of public art and tactical intervention into public debate. In 1988 she founded msdm, a platform for art research whose projects reveal her interest for mobile strategies of display and mediation, the convergence of network practices and daily life.

Paula will talk about her work and her project for Living Room, a performative installation consisting of live (web) drawing re-enacting sections of Max Ernst's *Semaine de Bonte* book.

[www.msdm.org.uk](http://www.msdm.org.uk)

### LILIBETH CUENCA RASMUSSEN (DENMARK)

Wednesday 14th April, 11am – 12pm

Recipient of the Eckersberg Medal of Honor in 2008 and chosen as 'Artist of the Year' in Denmark 2006, Lilibeth Cuenca Rasmussen works primarily in video and performance art. Taking her own Danish-Filipino background as a point of departure, Cuenca gathers, adapts, and universalizes her narratives in both a critical and humorous approach in regards to issues such as identity, culture, religion, gender and social relations. Her work has been presented internationally at institutions including: Malmo Kunst Museum, Sweden; Museum of Contemporary Art Seoul, South Korea; and at the Tate Modern, London.

Lilibeth will talk about her international multi-media performance work and her collaboration with NZ choreographer, Charles Koroneho on her project for Living Room, *The Future is already way behind the Present doesn't exist in my Mind...*

[www.lilibethcuenca.com](http://www.lilibethcuenca.com)

### MARK HARVEY AND SEAN CURHAM (NZ)

Saturday 17th April, 11am – 12pm

Mark Harvey is a performance artist, choreographer and writer. He lectures at the University of Auckland in dance and interdisciplinary arts related practice and theory. He has presented work in a range of local and international contexts, including: the Govett Brewster Art Gallery; the Parnu International Video and Film Festival, Estonia 2006; Camp X, Denmark 2008; and was awarded 'Most Dedicated Artist' for his performances at the Blue Oyster Gallery, Dunedin Fringe Festival 2006.

Sean Curham has an ever-changing practice - movement and performance in the broadest sense continue to be of interest. His most recent works include: *Speedy legs, slow arms - speedy arms, slow legs* at Glitch, Auckland in 2009; *One* an event which Sean both curated and performed as part of the Heritage Festival, Auckland 2009; and *Four Legs Better Than Two*, a 'dog walking' art in the community work created as an Otago University Fellow in 2009, which will be presented in Sydney in 2011. Sean is currently developing *She's a Sensation*, a suite of new works, with the support of Creative New Zealand.

Choreographers Sean Curham and Mark Harvey will talk about their own work practice, and the collaborative process of working with invited Living Room artists et al. and Isobel Dryburgh.



# PROGRAMME OF EVENTS



## URBAN DEVAS

**Artist: Phil Dadson (NZ)**  
**Choreographer: Carol Brown (NZ)**

Fri 9 April, 6.15pm (starts at Pier 3, Quay St)

Sat 10 April, 2pm

Thurs 15 April, 2pm

Location: QEII Square

Tues 13 April, 12.30pm

Sat 17 April, 12.30pm

Location: Intersection of High Street and Freyberg Place

Duration: 20 minutes

Phil Dadson and Carol Brown have collaborated to create *Urban Devas*. In this piece a roving chorus inhabits a series of civic spaces within Auckland's CBD through body movement, voice and sonic props. Informed by Max Ernst's graphic novel and an artist's book *Une Semaine de Bonté* (A Week of Kindness), these performers appear as surreal figures – devas - between reality and myth - who occupy spaces in-between and in the gaps and cavities of dominant civic spaces. Arriving unannounced and 'out of the blue' at pre-determined times and places, they perform short choreographic interventions (tableaux vivant; sculptural moves) and loud, sonic interjections that resonate through the public site.

## THE FUTURE IS ALREADY WAY BEHIND THE PRESENT DOESN'T EXIST IN MY MIND...

**Artist: Lilibeth Cuenca Rasmussen (DK)**  
**Choreographer: Charles Koroneho (NZ)**

Sat 10, Wed 14 & Thurs 15 April, 7pm

Location: St Patrick's Square, between Albert Street and Hobson Street (behind St Patrick's Cathedral).

Duration: 40 minutes

A performance inspired by the writings of Valentine de Saint-Point and Mina Loy that reflects on lust, romanticized sexuality, and the subjugation of women. Collaborating with composers Pete Drungle and Brian Bender, motion graphic artist Brian Close, and costume designer Lise Klitten, Cuenca Rasmussen merges choreography, song, architecture and costume in a multi-media performance.

New Zealand choreographer Charles Koroneho is working in collaboration with Lilibeth Cuenca Rasmussen to re-contextualize the performance *The Future is already way behind the Present doesn't exist in my Mind...* The new work will be presented in collaboration with production designer Brad Gledhill, utilizing the existing Cuenca Rasmussen performance and incorporating production and design elements created specifically for St Patrick's Square.

(Note: artists will be rehearsing in the Square in the days leading up to this event).



## THE COLLECTION III

**Artist: Sarah Jane Parton (NZ)**  
**Choreographer: Megan Adams (NZ)**

Wednesday 14 April, 2pm

Friday 16 April, 2pm

Saturday 17 April, 2pm

Location: QEII Square

Duration: 1 hour

The third and final installment of a three part performance series by Wellington based artist Sarah Jane Parton, *The Collection (III)* will feature multiple elements that shape a non-linear narrative about tomorrow.\*

Incorporating a large ensemble cast performing a series of seemingly unrelated, but ultimately inter-related, movements and actions, *The Collection (III)* will be a tragi-comical take on everything and nothing, on hope and despair, on dreams and failure. Set in an arctic-tropic urban middle-space, it will be a dysfunctional model for a harmonious future that is both familiar and disconcerting.

*The Collection (I)* took place in August 2009 on Nikao Beach in Rarotonga, with a delayed broadcast to Victoria University's Adam Art Gallery. It was swiftly followed the next month by *The Collection (II)*, which was organised by The Physics Room in Christchurch's Mona Vale Fernery.

\* Snow, Hope, Flora, Debutantes, Giant fruit, Despair, Children, Free running, Song, The future, Disinterest, Failure, Meditation, Harmony, Mysticism, Dreams, Discord, Concrete, The end, The beginning



## BEIGE

**Artist: Isobel Dryburgh (NZ)**  
**Choreographer: Mark Harvey (NZ)**

Sat 10 April, 12.30pm

Sun 11 April, 2pm

Wed 14 April, 12.30pm

Fri 16 April, 12.30pm

Location: Intersection of High Street and Freyberg Place

Duration: 15 minutes

In *Beige* dancers perform in an almost trance like state, physically connected by their DIY beige costume that warps haphazardly around the dancers bodies to make a strange bodysuit. Each dancers' movement affects the others, creating a clumsiness and a cause and effect within the group. The colour of the costume echos the palette of the urban environment. They move as one to the hypnotic rhythm of a song like an organism and a primary school dance troupe gone wrong. "I love watching people dance, the sort of dancing that comes under the cliché "to dance like no ones watching". Isobel Dryburgh

## A NIGHT OF GOODNESS

**Direction: Charles Koroneho (NZ)**

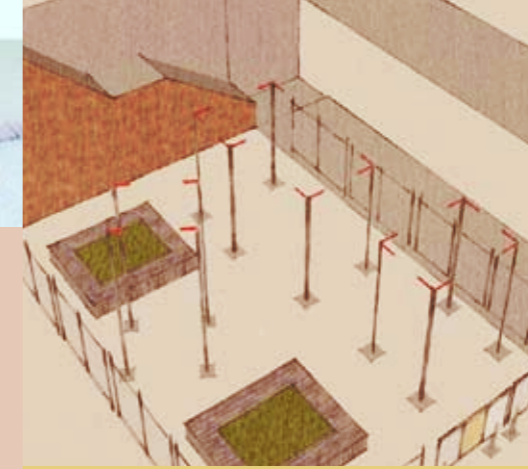
**Performers:** Graduates and students (dance programme), School of Performing and Screen Arts, Unitec NZ

Sat 17 April, 7pm

Location: St Patrick's Square. Between Albert Street and Hobson Street (behind St Patrick's Cathedral).

Duration: 35 – 40 minutes

A performance created and performed by dance graduates and students, exploring the theme for Living Room 2010, 'A Week of Goodness', using ideas gathered from working with Lilibeth Cuenca Rasmussen and Charles Koroneho. St Patrick's Square will host a new expression of collaboration and emergent performance making in *A Night of Goodness; dance, music and design*.



## ONE-TO-MANY AND MANY-TO-ONE

**Artist: et al. (NZ)**  
**Choreographer: Sean Curham (NZ)**

Tues 13 – Sat 17 April, 9am – 9pm  
Temporary installation on site throughout the week

Location: Khartoum Place, between Lorne Street and Kitchener Street, beside the Auckland Art Gallery

Et al. and Sean Curham seek to define a space for exchange without expectation of specific benefits in return, but where motivation in itself can make the difference between 'good' and 'bad'. The project explores issues of altruism and reciprocity as expressed through actions of 'good' purpose. Motivations for individual and social giving, and the manifestations of unselfish concern for others is a core aspect of loyalty and duty. In public good experiments, behavioral economists have demonstrated that the potential for reciprocal actions by individuals increases the rate of contribution to the public good, providing evidence for the importance of reciprocity in social situations.

## PIECE WAR

**Artist: Tina Pihema**

Fri 16 April, 8pm

Location: Khartoum Place, between Lorne Street and Kitchener Street, beside the Auckland Art Gallery

Tina Pihema, Piece War vocalist, performs *Seven Jerusalem Children*, a play for Gaza by Caryl Churchill. Any donations will go to Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP).

Piece War write how they see and play how they feel on the inside.

<http://www.myspace.com/piecewar>



## A FIELD OF INTERCONNECTED REALITIES

**Artist: Paula Roush (UK)**

Friday, 9 April, 6.15pm  
(starts at Pier 3, Quay St)

Sat 10 April, 3pm

Sun 11 April, 12.30pm

Mon 12 April, 2pm

Tues 13 April, 2pm

Location: QEII Square

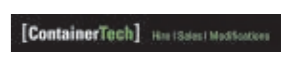
Duration: 1 hour

*A field of interconnected realities* is a performative installation consisting of live drawing re-enacting sections of the *Semaine de Bonte* book, leading to the production of an artist's publication.

Two artists in different locations collaborate through webcam in the development of an interconnected drawing inspired in revised bio-tech versions of Max Ernst's 1934 collages. Each session is performed live, mixing hand drawing with the use of sketch-a-graph, a machine that can both enlarge and reduce an image whilst copying it and is networked with webcams and streamed live on the net and projected at QE11 Square.

After the performance the audience will be invited to participate and experiment drawing using the sketch-o-graph.

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