



MULTICULTURAL  
ARTS VICTORIA



2019  
PROGRAM



Multicultural Arts Victoria (MAV) acknowledges that Indigenous Australians are the first people of this land – the Wurundjeri, Boonwurrung, Taungurong, Djajawurrung and the Wathaurung- which make up the Kulin Nation.

We pay our respects to all Indigenous people, past and present, and recognise their continuing spiritual connection to the land.

We live and work on Aboriginal land and acknowledge that sovereignty has never been ceded.

Today, we are proud of our multicultural state and Melbourne is one of the great multicultural cities of the world.

MAV is committed to reconciliation, and we have a strong commitment to respect Indigenous beliefs, values and customs as we learn and share and build a future together.



# WHO WE ARE

Multicultural Arts Victoria (MAV) has played a critical role in promoting cultural diversity and challenging the dominant cultural narrative, by facilitating pathways into systems of cultural production, dissemination and consumption, for and with artists from diverse cultural backgrounds. Our deep roots into diaspora communities and engagement with newly arrived refugees and migrants have made MAV a nexus for participation, creation and self-determination.

Our multi-disciplinary and cross artform capability has attracted artists from around the globe to collaborate in artmaking that subverts traditional concepts of classical versus contemporary, professional versus community, to produce new works that have inspired, provoked and entertained millions of audience members. MAV has positioned art and artists centrally in its advocacy and capacity building, so that the journey towards cultural equity is shaped, first

and foremost, by the talents and contributions of culturally diverse artists. Each year we work with approximately 2,000 culturally diverse artists, across all artforms, to facilitate cultural participation and the creation of new work, enabling cultural expression as a fundamental human right, and strengthening community cohesion by responding creatively to the experiences of migration and settlement.

Our role is not to dictate the terms of our cultural engagement, but to dismantle structures that prevent artists and communities from directing their engagement with us, through self-determination and agency. As such, our annual program is in constant evolution. We aim to be nimble and responsive, sourcing and applying resources from government, philanthropy, education and community partners to realise artists' creative visions.



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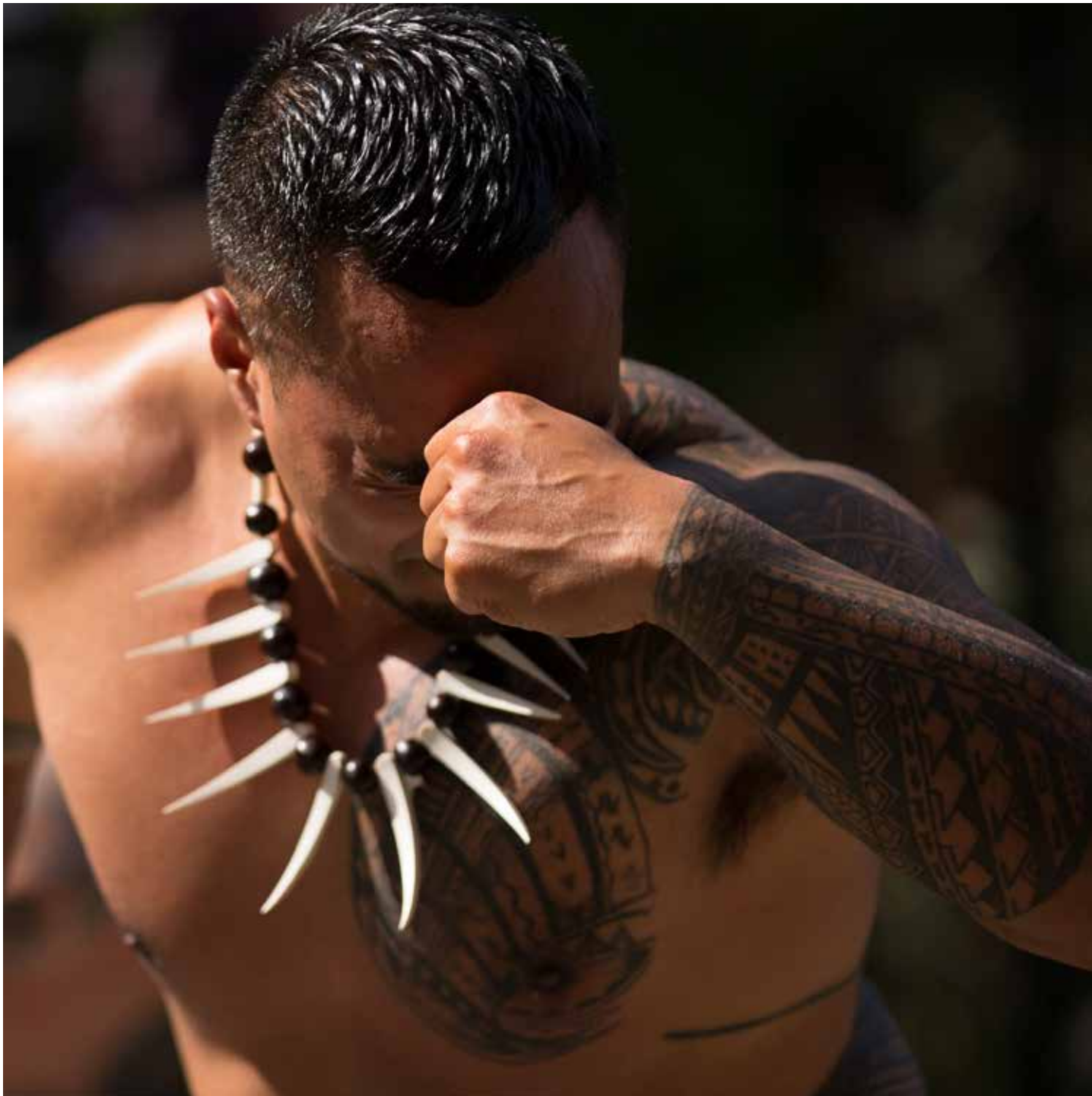


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# STATE OF CULTURE





## STATE OF CULTURE

MAV strengthens the musical ecology of Australia by creating pathways for artists from refugee and Indigenous backgrounds into band-rooms, recording studios, radio stations and onto stages - linking them with top musicians and producers and providing the tools to create new music, establish an online presence and begin their journey in the Australian music industry. State of Culture is a professional-development music program that challenges and creates new Australian music.

Examples of the State of Culture 2019 program include:

### **Assembly (Cultural Diversity Week)**

Bringing the areas of Multicultural Affairs and the Creative Industries together, Assembly is a commissioned artistic centrepiece of the key events during Cultural Diversity Week (16-24 March 2019). Through an innovative 11-piece ensemble, this work in collaboration with a range of prominent high-calibre instrumentalists - will be an outstanding example of innovative inter-cultural creative collaboration.

### **ReMastered Myths**

ReMastered Myths brings together artists from Victoria's richly diverse communities highlighting rare and under-represented musical styles and generating some of the most exciting musical creations to-date in a range of showcase events.

### **Multifuturism - January - December**

Multi-Futurism highlights the interaction of tradition and technology, identity and culture, creating experiential events in the spirit of innovation and inclusivity.

**Tempo Sessions - 16 & 30 June - Ballet Lab, Temperance Hall - 199 Napier St, South Melbourne**  
Tempo Sessions, coordinated by local musician Oscar Jimenez, invites and encourages emerging artists to present their work, collaborate and network.

### **Cool Out Sun + The Senegambian Jazz Band- 22 March- Esplanade Hotel**

Senegambian Jazz Band and Cool Out Sun fuses Afro jazz, deep-world music beats and funk to create some truly awe-inspiring rhythms and melodies.

### **A Night with Purbayan Chatterjee, Jay Dabgar, Amadou Suso and Julius Sackey - 18 May - South Melbourne Town Hall**

MAV is proud to present legendary sitar player Purbayan Chatterjee on his first ever Australian tour. He will be playing for one-night only with the local maestro of the tabla, Jay Dabgar along with Senegambian Jazz Band front man, Amadou Suso, in a first time collaboration of Indian and African sounds.

### **Sonidos del Norte - 1 June, Darebin Arts & Entertainment Centre.**

Curated by Oscar Jimenez, Sonidos del Norte is a program of latin sounds from some of Victoria's best musicians.



# EMERGE

EMERGE is MAV's ongoing response to consultations with emerging and refugee communities wanting to increase participation in the arts. Through the process of community cultural development, the arts build discourse and understanding of issues surrounding refugee migration and resettlement alongside increasing the social and economic contributions from our diverse communities to the wider society.

Emerge plays a pivotal role in reflecting and articulating community ideals, identity and talent from emerging and refugee artists and communities throughout Victoria.

Image: Within the Outline art exhibition, Emerge in Yarra 2018, photo by Damian W. Vincenzi





### **Emerge in the West (Conversations)**

Founded in 2011, this annual 'Emerge' event is an outcome of MAV's Community Cultural Development program for emerging and refugee artists and communities. In June, MAV will be holding a set of events around Footscray's Nicholson Street Mall. Other Emerge in the West initiatives include: Smartphone Stories, Mobile Music Sessions, Unearthed Wyndham Women's Magazine and Mutuashi in the Streets.

### **Emerge in Yarra**

In 2019, Emerge in Yarra brings together artisans and communities from across the Emerge program at the Abbotsford Convent with a multitude of live-music and theatre performances, arts workshops, language, storytelling and cooking classes - celebrating the arts, culture and positive contributions of artists and communities from refugee and emerging community backgrounds in Victoria.

### **Emerge in the North**

MAV is working with the Cities of Whittlesea and Hume and the Brotherhood of St Laurence in a series of events that brings the community together to celebrate and share the cultures of Indigenous and newly-arrived communities in Melbourne's outer north. This year's program follows on from community gatherings in three municipalities and includes: Open Mic at Mama Africa Café in Glenroy, Soul Magazine, Lamine Sonko and the African Intelligence, Emerge in the North Art Exhibition: Broadmeadows Global Learning Centre, 22 August – 9 October 2019

Left: Joshinder Chaggar, Emerge in Yarra 2018, photo by Damian W. Vincenzi  
Above: Liberian Boy, Emerge in the North 2018, photo by Mahla Karimian



### Emerge in Bendigo

A thriving network of artists and cultural leaders from refugee, First People's and diverse cultural backgrounds in Bendigo working together creatively and expressing Culture in Visual Arts, Fashion, Dance and Music. In partnership with City of Greater Bendigo, Loddon Campaspe Multicultural Services, Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation. Projects in 2019 include Zinda festival, Mother Tongue at Bendigo Easter Festival, Cultural Dance Fusion, Imagine Peace, Pavilion project, and Interwoven exhibition at La Trobe Arts Institute.

### Emerge in Shepparton

Emerge in Shepparton hosts a multitude of projects, gatherings and events in the Goulburn Valley in partnership with local artists and communities, Yorta Yorta, cultural groups and partners. Emerge in Shepparton celebrates the arts, culture and positive contributions of people from First Nations and refugee and emerging communities living in Victoria's north east. Projects for 2019 include: Nowroz Celebration, Emerge Group Exhibition, Troy Firebrace Exhibition, Know Your Roots and Pasifika Festival, Ignite Sound Sessions, Ignite Youth Showcase, The Mooroopna River Flats Yakapna Loitjpati (Family Talk), Pacific Creative Leadership Camp and Heard Instinct Open Mic Nights.

### Emerge Ambassadors & Cultural Gatherings

For the past decade, MAV's Emerge program has cultivated strong relationships with local community members, artists and leaders, many of whom contributed significantly to the success of the Emerge Festivals and development of the program over its course. MAV has formally acknowledged and appointed over 60 artists with a fresh call-out planned for 2019. Emerge locations are: Wyndham, Maribyrnong, Brimbank, Yarra, Bendigo, Shepparton, Whittlesea and Hume. A regular series of Emerge Gatherings is held in each Emerge Hub to connect artists and communities, to explore mutual opportunities and to facilitate intercultural dialogue and program planning.

### Emerge Cultural Leadership

With the continued generous support of Gandel Philanthropy, MAV is working with emerging artists and communities, local governments and cultural organisations in outer-metro and regional Victorian local government areas, Wyndham, Outer North, Shepparton and Bendigo to collaboratively develop and deliver a cultural leadership program that responds to local needs and builds on community strengths.

Left: ECH Bendigo Cultural Facilitators Bu Gay Pah Thei, Hyra Usman, Dabora Dout, Fatima Qurbani photo by Diana Domonkos. Above: Ignite 2018, photo by Jean Michael Batakane

# COMMON GROUND

**Locations: Brimbank/ Hume/ Casey/ Shepparton/ Melbourne  
April- December**

Common Ground is an inter-faith spoken-word program of workshops and performances driven by young people, which explores the role faith and identity play in our lives. It has provided young people with opportunities to connect with each other, to develop new creative ideas around their diverse faiths and identities, and to promote social cohesion and mutual understanding.

Image: Common Ground Shepparton 2017, Photo by Liz Arcus



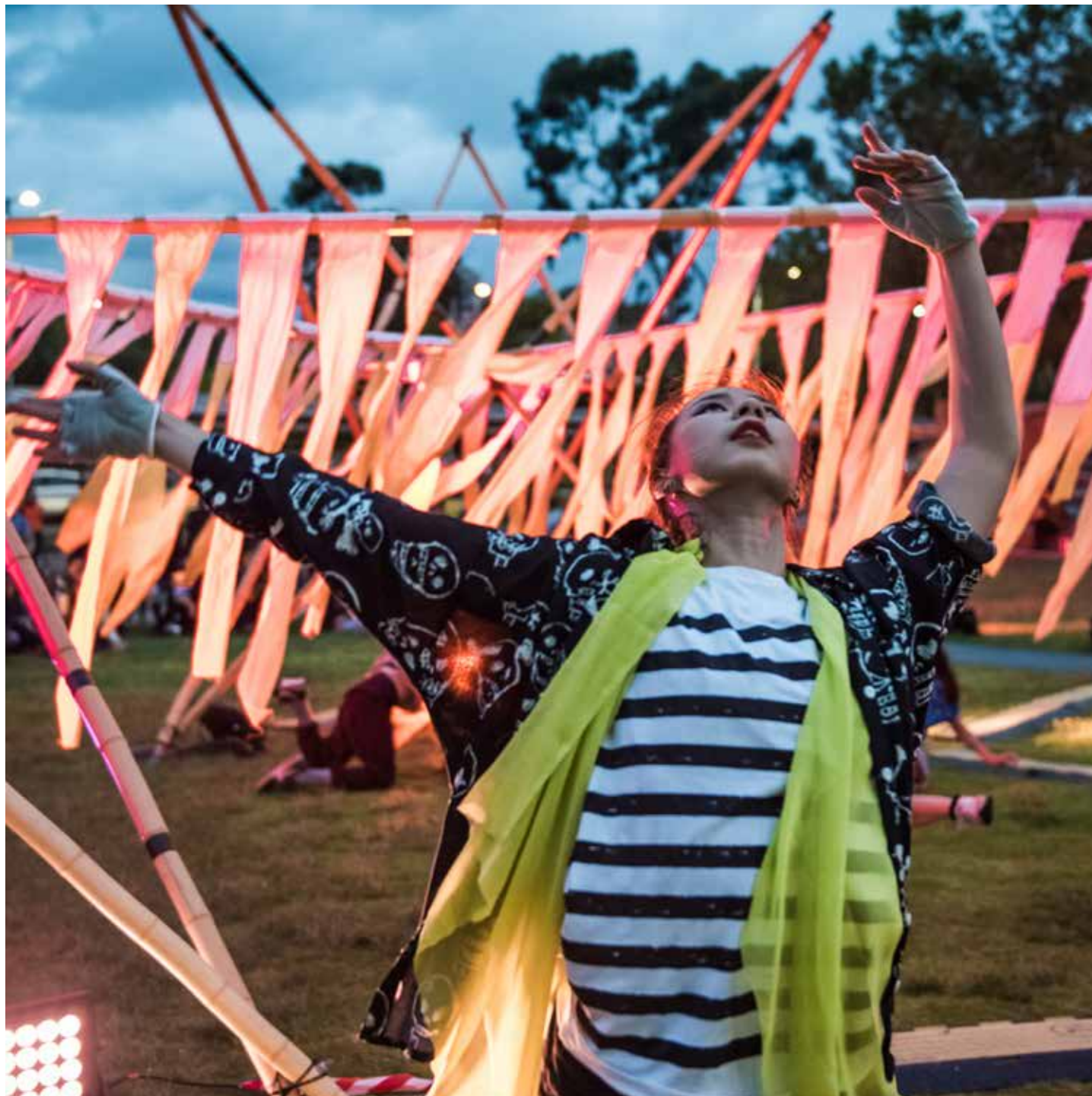




# GLOBAL CONNECT

MAV recognised that we need to more fully recognise that our multicultural character also gives us a competitive edge in a globalised world. Culturally diverse societies have the advantage of being connected to the world through diaspora networks. With this in mind, the untapped potential of our newly-arrived communities to bring about gains in economic terms is an area where we continue to focus our investment.

Image: Murti, Mapping Melbourne 2018, photo by Damian W. Vincenzi  
Previous: Sound of Shadows, Mapping Melbourne 2018, photo by Damian W. Vincenzi



## GLOBAL CONNECT

### **China - Shanghai International Arts Festival**

In 2018 MAV signed a two-year partnership with the China Shanghai International Arts Festival (CSIAF) to provide programming opportunities for emerging artists from China as part of Mapping Melbourne.

### **China - Paperhood 2019**

A continued collaboration of artists working in paper. Presented by MAV and Time of Art.

### **India - Pt. Purbayan Chatterjee and Jay Dabgar - 18th May**

MAV is proud to present legendary sitar player Purbayan Chatterjee on his first ever Australian tour. He will be playing for one-night only with local maestro of the tabla Jay Dabgar along with members of the Senegambian Jazz Band, in a first time collaboration of Indian and African sounds.

### **Confluence: A Festival of India in Australia - October**

MAV is in discussion with Teamwork Arts and Australia-based Gandhi Creations about the development of the fourth chapter of 'Confluence: A Festival of India in Australia' It will be supported by the High Commission of India in Australia.

### **Singapore**

MAV is partnering with Culturelink regarding Mapping Melbourne 2019/2020

### **Havana - Cuba**

MAV has been working with RMIT (CAST) in the development of Intercambio: a conversation between two trains for the Havana Biennale in 2019. MAV will look at building deeper relationships with these entities towards 2021.

### **Indonesia**

MAV is partnering with Project Eleven regarding Indonesian content for Mapping Melbourne in 2019 and 2020.

### **Mapping Melbourne - November-December**

Mapping Melbourne claims the spotlight for diverse and accomplished artists from across the Asian region. It is a unique platform that places artists at the centre of an important dialogue about the role of culture in nation building, place and belonging.

Image: Fire Monkey, Mapping Melbourne 2016, photo by Gregory Lorenzutti



# MAPPING MELBOURNE



## MAPPING MELBOURNE

November - December  
across the City of Melbourne

MAV's Mapping Melbourne is an example of an innovative approach to building links with Asia. It has evolved from a four-day festival of intercultural, multi-artform events in the heart of Melbourne. It is a platform for strengthening arts networks between contemporary independent artists across the Asian region, building connections and establishing collaborative ongoing relationships, and presenting challenging work. We need to strengthen Australia's relationships across the region. Mapping Melbourne emphasizes social and cultural links as much as political and economic. Exhibiting and performing at some of our iconic institutions and public spaces, the festival profiles established and emerging artists from across Australia. Mapping Melbourne is sponsored by Creative Victoria, Australia Council for the Arts and the City of Melbourne.

Left: #Perempuan, Mapping Melbourne 2018, photo by Stefan Berhardt  
Above: Depth of Simplicity, Mapping Melbourne 2018, photo by Damian W. Vincenzi  
Previous: Street Connection, Mapping Melbourne 2018, photo by Damian W. Vincenzi





## INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIPS

### **RMIT - Contemporary Art and Social Transformation (CAST)**

- Intercambio: a conversation between two trains for the Havana Biennale (12 April-14 May);
- The Migration and Mobility Research Network (MMRN) initiative, which brings together a group of interdisciplinary researchers: Tammy Hulbert-Wong, Rhett d'Costa and Kristen Sharp, to focus on issues of migration, mobility, diversity and multiculturalism.

### **Diversity Arts Australia**

Fair Play Symposium: Equity, Inclusion & the Creative Industries - 26 & 27 February - Wheeler Centre  
 MAV is participating in the Fair Play Project with Diversity Arts Australia to platform the knowledge, leading practices and lived experiences of First Nations, Disability, and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse creative practitioners.

### **Federation Square (New Year's Eve)**

MAV has been contracted to stage New Year's Eve at Federation Square.

### **Premier's Gala Dinner (Cultural Diversity Week)**

- Saturday 16 March - Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre  
 For Cultural Diversity Week 2019, around 1400 members of Victoria's diverse communities annually attend the prestigious event which includes live performances programmed by Multicultural Arts Victoria.

### **Victoria's Multicultural Festival (Cultural Diversity Week) - Saturday 23 March - Federation Square**

Cultural Diversity Week culminates with Victoria's Multicultural Festival at Federation Square, a vibrant celebration of the state's diversity.

### **Peninsula Hot Springs**

MAV has partnered with Peninsula Hot Springs to deliver a series of performances during summer 2019.

### **The Melbourne Portraiture Prize**

MAV is working with The Arts Assembly to develop the Melbourne Portraiture Prize - acknowledging Australia's diversity by encouraging artists to pursue subjects on the basis of community contribution.

### **"Cultural Rights in Victoria - Are we there yet?"**

A forum collaboration with Human Rights Arts and Film Festival (HRAFF)

Other venue partnerships include: The Esplanade Hotel, MPavilion, The Arts Centre, BalletLab, Melbourne Recital Centre, RMIT, City of Boroondara and the Cities of Darebin, Brimbank and Hume, Abbotsford Convent and Melbourne Museum.

### **Dawn Raga Series - Arts Centre Melbourne and VicHealth - April, May and June, Southbank.**

The Southbank Dawn Raga Series is a place-based pilot program that provides consistent opportunities to elevate the mental, physical as well as emotional wellbeing of working communities through blissful, Indian classical music (Ragas) in an open-air area. In partnership with Art Centre Melbourne and VicHealth.

### **Industry Pathways**

MAV provides capacity-building workshops throughout the year aimed at engaging artists and providing them with the tools and information to create opportunities and to navigate the music industry. Representatives from Creative Victoria, Councils, labels, booking agencies, live music representatives and managers form panels for discussions, grant writing-workshops, information sessions and networking. MAV provides grant-aiding and funding-application development working alongside artists throughout the year.



## ARTIST COLLABORATIONS

MAV works with many independent artists to support the development and promotion of new Australian work. MAV provides grant-ausspicing support and advice for our artists and communities.

### **The Embassy**

MAV supports 'The Embassy' – a group of multi-disciplinary artists who are dedicated to assisting each other's theatre collaborations for a residency at the City of Melbourne's Boyd Studios. Evolving from the MTC Connect program, 'The Embassy' is Suhasini Seelin, Shannan Lim, Vidya Rajan and Wahibe Moussa.

### **Lamine Sonko presents 13:12 - Wednesday April 3 - Melbourne Recital Centre**

Presented by MAV, Lamine Sonko's work is a unique synthesis of contemporary and traditional Senegalese music.

### **Lehenda Ukrainian Dance Company**

MAV is supporting Lehenda Ukrainian Dance Company to collaborate with Cheremosh Ukrainian Dance Company of Edmonton Canada to develop 'Razom' - a merging of two companies of the Ukrainian diaspora.

### **Yohai Cohen Quintet - Saturday 16 March - Melbourne Recital Centre**

Internationally renowned oud player, vocalist and percussionist, Yohai Cohen performs Moroccan Andalusian and cha'abi (popular) music in Hebrew and Arabic.

### **Film School Collective - Sat 5 October - Kew Courthouse**

Film School Collective are a rare musical experience incorporating ambient textures, hip-hop beats, experimental improvisation and traditional Chinese music.

### **Ajak Kwai - Saturday 31 August - Kew Courthouse**

Ajak Kwai sings music that is inspiring and soulful, infused with funky afro-beats representing the depth and richness of her South Sudanese roots.

Previous: Hot Topics, Emerge in the West 2018, photo by James Henry Photography  
Left: Suhasini Seelin, The Embassy, courtesy the artist  
Above: Soni Arawan Exhibition, photo by Wild Hardt



## MAV AUSPICE PROJECTS

### **The Sarajevo Haggadah**

MAV is working with Nela Trifkovic and Saray Iluminado music ensemble to bring about The Sarajevo Haggadah - an event for music, theatre, history and activism with Dr Eli Tauber at the Immigration Museum and the Jewish Museum of Australia.

### **reciproco/RECIPROCAL: A celebration of Italian cultural heritage and cultural identity - March/April**

The reciproco/RECIPROCAL project recognises the contribution of Italian culture to Australia through migration. Five internationally renowned Italo-Australian artists have been paired-up with five internationally established artists from Italy to collaborate on the creation and presentation of new work informed by a personal stories of the journey to Australia.

### **Akwaaba Corner Project - St Kilda Festival - 10 February**

Multicultural Arts Victoria (MAV) is pleased to support Akwaaba Corner Project with their cultural activation, Akwaaba Corner Village at the St Kilda Festival.

### **Holi Tribe Festival - St Kilda Beach - Saturday 23 February**

In partnership with IndoMystic, Holi Festival has an ancient origins and celebrates the triumph of 'good' over 'bad'. Also known as the 'festival of colours' or 'festival of love', it is a popular religious festival in India.



## COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

In addition to working with individual artists, MAV aims to strengthen Australia's cultural narrative through direct engagement with the State's diverse diaspora communities.

Community Collaboration examples for 2019 include:

### **Nelson Mandela Commemoration Day Committee**

In 2019 MAV will work with the Nelson Mandela Day Committee in the delivery of The Nelson Mandela Day Celebration; the Nelson Mandela Day Address; and further development of the Nelson Mandela 365 Youth Initiative - an important community development project which promotes engagement with African/Australian young people.

### **Australian African Small Business Association (AASBA) and Emerge in the West**

Founded in 2011, this annual 'Emerge' event is an outcome of MAV's Community Cultural Development program for emerging and refugee artists and communities.

### **Four Corners of Albania - Melbourne Recital Centre**

Diaspora is a Melbourne-based ensemble comprising outstanding exponents of the local Albanian music scene. Performing an array of dynamic and moving traditional Albanian folk songs that touch on the four corners of the region, this unique ensemble presents a window into one of Melbourne's oldest and most diverse migrant communities.

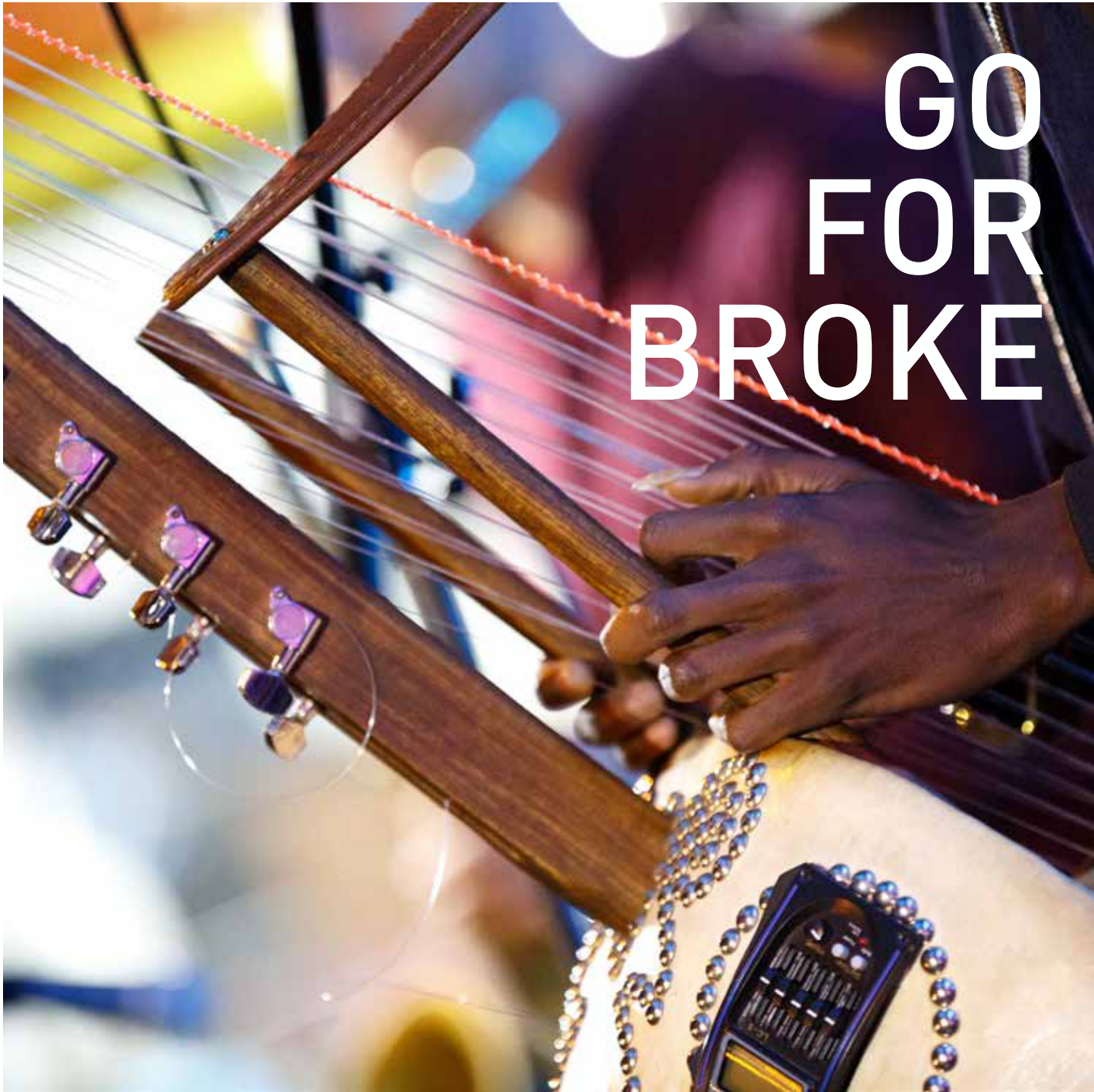
### **Apoorva Krishna and The Australian Sruthi-Laya Quintet - Melbourne Recital Centre**

Apoorva Krishna is a star on the rise in the Carnatic traditions. With the Australian Sruthi-Laya Quintet, she performs masterpieces by 18th-century Indian composers and her own compositions.

### **New Springs - 6 September- Hawthorn Arts Centre**

New Springs brings together a group of musicians from two sides of the Indian Ocean who have forged a deep and unique musical connection over several decades. These performers, from India and Australia will bring the best of their respective musical traditions together for this inspiring event.

Above: Studio J, photo by Damian W. Vincenzi  
Right: The Assembly, video still by Osei Owusu banahene



## GO FOR BROKE

Each year MAV provides employment opportunities to hundreds of local artists from diverse cultural backgrounds to a plethora of clients across all industries. This service promotes and brokers opportunities for extraordinary and diverse talent - that is representative of Australia's evolving demographic - into all kinds of events, from small private-functions to large-scale programs.

Above: Oscar Jimenez and Rayhan Sudrajat, MAV Fundraiser Gala 2018, photo by Damian W. Vincenzi  
Right: Senegambian Jazz Band, Emerge in the West 2018, photo by James Henry Photography

No matter how small you think your donation is, it will make a big difference to our artists and communities in promoting and encouraging a more dynamic and equitable society and innovative arts landscape. The wealth of our society is based on the diversity of its people. Multicultural Arts Victoria's work would not be possible without our generous supporters.

There are a number of other ways you can support us volunteer, donate, partner. We also welcome you to contact us to discuss other possibilities such as including leaving a legacy through bequests. Details at [multiculturalarts.com.au](http://multiculturalarts.com.au)

Multicultural Arts Victoria is endorsed as a Charitable Entity under Subdivision 50-5 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 and is a registered Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) in accordance with Subdivision 30-B of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

Image: Metamorphosis & Beyond the Stillness, Mapping Melbourne 2018, photo by Damian W. Vincenzi




# SUPPORT US



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Thank you to all our supporters for your generous contributions that help us build a richer arts landscape.



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This page: Depth of Simplicity, Mapping Melbourne 2018, photo by Damian W. Vincenzi  
Cover and back cover: Enigma, Mapping Melbourne 2018, photo by Damian W. Vincenzi  
Graphic Designer: Deshaní Berhardt



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