

Nick Haywood, Hobart Liberation Orchestra featuring Petra Haden



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HOBART LIBERATION ORCHESTRA FEATURING PETRA HADEN
A TRIBUTE TO CHARLIE HADEN [AUS/USA]

Friday 19 January, 12.30pm Nolan Gallery, Mona
Sunday 21 January, 2.45pm Main Stage, Mona
*World premiere

A free-wheeling tribute to the Liberation Music Orchestra, the international protest band from the sixties led by jazz icon, Charlie Haden. With award-winning Tassie bassist Nick Haywood at the helm, the Hobart Liberation Orchestra features the best improvisers from near (Hobart) and far (the so-called 'mainland'), plus Petra Haden - singer, violinist and Haden's daughter (she's collaborated with everyone from Beck and Suro Oji) to Foo Fighters and Violent Femmes).

Friday 19 January, 5pm The Yard, Mona
Friday 19 + Saturday 20 January, 12pm Sunday 21 January, 11am Hobart

These woodwind improvisers and instrument makers will present spontaneous compositions inspired by water, the great outdoors and the free music theories of composer Percy Grainger.

Friday 19 January, 12.30pm Nolan Gallery, Mona
Saturday 20 January, 3.15pm Nolan Gallery, Mona
A bonus performance by Petra and a select group of her pals from the Hobart Liberation Orchestra.

Image: Steven Phillips



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MOFO 2018

PRINT SARAH WALKER PHOTOGRAPHY
EMAIL The length and breadth of the festival in words and pictures.



Hobart Liberation Orchestra; photo by Jesse Hunniford

Arriving at MONA necessarily involves a certain sense of ritual - whether by walking the long driveway, flanked by vineyards, or catching the ferry, windswept, eyes fixed on the gallery's rusted exterior. The descent down the narrow staircase from the building's ground floor feels like crossing a threshold. One can't help but feel a little tug of nervous energy.

We entered the museum to find the Hobart Liberation Orchestra in the Nolan gallery, a space beautifully suited to sound, catching it and bouncing it off the huge snake on the wall. People sat on the floor between Jannis Kounellis' hooks and sacks of coal as jazz noodling meandered into a cover of Midnight Oil's 'Beds are Burning'. The room took the wall of brass sound and echoed it back at the band, creating a beautiful legato slip after the staccato notes. Looking upstairs to the next level of the gallery, you could see *Pulse*, the artwork whose ceiling of light globes synched to the heartbeats of the visitors. For one glorious moment, the lights flashed perfectly in time with the song - a heart beating in perfect rhythm with the music.

Throughout MOFO, the sounds of the gallery's works bled into performances, making the whole space feel like one huge performed entity. As Maxine Beneba Clarke seared the air with her poetry, the crash of the water in *bit,fall* filled the silence between a suite of poems, lent voice to the line 'cold grey lungs, salt-logged, like a Genesis curse'. Applause echoed through the gallery like a sigh, lending a tin-foil percussive roll to music performances.

<http://www.artshub.com.au/festival/news-article/reviews/festivals/sarah-walker-photography/mofo-2018-255149>



FESTIVALS / INTERVIEWS

Nick Haywood: "Charlie Haden and the Liberation Music Orchestra have been an inspiration"

By Nikos Fotakis on Tuesday, January 16, 2018

The news that Nick Haywood - one of the most highly acclaimed bassists in the Australian jazz community - is setting up a Charlie Haden tribute, would hardly qualify as a news; if anyone is suited for this kind of thing, it is him. But there's more to it. Because the project in question is a celebration of the legacy of Liberation Music Orchestra, Haden's battalion for musical activism (which he co-led with the brilliant Carla Bley), and the music will be performed by an outfit that goes by the name 'Hobart Liberation Orchestra' - and it features Petra Haden, an adventurous spirit and singer extraordinaire who is much more than Charlie's daughter. All this will take place this weekend at the **MONA FOMA**, one of Australia's greatest music festivals. So, listen to Nick Haywood playing a Charlie Haden tune...

...and read what he has to say about all this.

How did this project come to be?

I had spoken at length with Brian Ritchie (MONA FOMA artistic director) about the music of Charlie Haden. We decided that it would be great pay homage to his Liberation Music Orchestra (LMO) music and to present some Australian songs of protest alongside LMO music, all done in our own way.

Why Charlie Haden?

Charlie Haden is a significant figure in 20th Century music and has been a huge influence on me throughout my career. The theme of songs of protest that we are presenting at the festival also fits well with Haden's music we will be performing - LMO music inspired by the Spanish Civil war and the Cuban revolution amongst others, as well as some Australian songs of protest by the likes of Midnight Oil and Archie Roach. We are doing Archie Roach's 'Took the Children Away' and Midnight Oil's 'Put Down That Weapon' and 'Beds are Burning', which are all great songs and fit the theme of the concerts really well.

Which is your favourite Charlie Haden album?

I can't really pick a favourite. There is obviously all of the Ornette Coleman music, LMO, albums with Keith Jarrett, Paul Motian, Quartet West, etc. I love many of his tunes, including 'Song for Che', 'La Passionara', 'There in a Dream' and many others. We are doing those three in the festival gigs.

<http://australianjazz.net/2018/01/nick-haywood-charlie-haden-liberation-music-orchestra-inspiration/>