

Barry Jones & Friends Celebrate the Arts

3pm Sunday 11 October 2020



A message from
Mary Lou Jelbart
Artistic Director

Poetry is only one of the many things that Barry Jones is passionate about – but what a happy accident for fortyfivedownstairs that it's a passion he shares with our co-founder, Julian Burnside.

About a decade ago their friendship led to the presentation of an evening of music and poetry, curated by Julian, and memorably contributed to by Barry. It was such a success that for the past eight years we have made his birthday a perfect rationale for music and poetry performed by some of his many friends. They've included friends from academia, science and both sides of politics to musicians, writers and performers from every discipline. The poets have ranged from Cavafy to John O'Brien, author of *We'll all be rooned, said Hanrahan...* (one of his favourites).

Rooned might well be the anthem for the arts in this year of pandemic. Survival for the arts, both the great companies and small organisations like ours, has become perilous. The JobKeeper program has saved thousands of other Australian workers so far, but most artists are freelancers rather than employees, and JobKeeper doesn't include them. They have no safety net.

We had hoped to be able to re-open the theatre and gallery before October, but the second lockdown in Victoria was heartbreaking. This birthday celebration is enormously significant to us, our first performance event since March this year. It symbolizes the dedication and determination of artists and audiences alike. It is also a celebration for one of the most dedicated supporters of the arts we know.

We are immensely grateful to Julian Burnside and all the performers, and to the generosity of donors to this event. And we are especially grateful to Barry Jones for his friendship and support, and never-ending enthusiasm.

Happy Birthday!

PROGRAM

Julian Burnside

Welcome

Arnold Zable

C.P. Cavafy—*Ithaca*

Arnold Zable—*Tongue of the Hidden*

Emily Goddard

Emily Dickinson—*“Hope” is the thing with feathers*

Cr. James T. Goddard (a former miner, 1960s South Yorkshire)—*Here They Come*

Lisa Gorton—*Dreams and Artefacts*

Tony Kushner—Harper’s monologue from *Angels in America*

Paul Kelly

A. D. Hope—*The Death of the Bird*

W.H. Auden—*The Composer*

Jillian Murray

Fyodor Tyutchev—*Silentium!*

Tomos Roberts—*The Great Realisation*

Paul Kelly

Paul Kelly—*Sleep, Australia, Sleep*

Brian Walters

William Wordsworth—*The Prelude* (Book 10)

Brian Walters—*Black Swans*

Max Gillies

Gerard Manley Hopkins—*The Leaden Echo and the Golden Echo*

Simon Armitage—

A Vision

Evening

The Christening

Julian Burnside

Yasaman Bagheri—*The Buried Wish*

Emmanuel Ortiz—*A Moment of Silence*

Zoe Knighton

J.S. Bach—Cello Suite No. 3 in C major, BWV 1009

Sarabande

Bourée 1&2

Gigue

Barry Jones

END OF PROGRAM

Presented by fortyfivedownstairs, *Barry Jones & Friends Celebrate the Arts* is the first in our [Fragments Online Performance Series](#).

fortyfivedownstairs acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land upon which we gather to share art and performance, and pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and future.

Since 2002 fortyfivedownstairs, a not-for-profit organisation, has offered an evocative urban space and a personalised service to an eclectic mix of artists for theatre, visual arts, forum, music and dance. We rely on the generous support of our patrons for our survival. Tax deductible donations to the fortyfivedownstairs *Drive to Survive* can be made [here](#).

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR Mary Lou Jelbart
VENUE MANAGER Philippa Jelbart
PRODUCTION & OPERATIONS MANAGER Andy Turner
CREATIVE PRODUCER Cameron Lukey
THEATRE COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR Katy Turbitt
GALLERY MANAGER Briar Holt
FRONT OF HOUSE MANAGER David Kemp
GALLERY ASSISTANT Livia Kenney

A brief note about each performer's connection to fortyfivedownstairs

Arnold Zable is the author of *Café Scheherazade*, which was adapted for the stage by Thérèse Radic in 2011 and was one of our most loved productions.

Emily Goddard is an emerging star of stage and has appeared in three productions at fortyfivedownstairs, including her own solo show, *This is Eden*.

Paul Kelly performed here in 2014 at the launch of *Little Aches and Pains*, an artist's book by David Frazer with words by Kelly.

Jillian Murray has performed here many times, most recently in a brilliant interpretation of *The Year of Magical Thinking* by Joan Didion.

Brian Walters commissioned Hugh Crosthwaite to compose *The Brittle Dark*, which was premiered by the Curro Quartet in our gallery 10 years ago. The performance was combined with poetry readings from various luminaries, including Barry Jones.

Max Gillies couldn't satisfy audience demand for his performance in *Krapp's Last Tape* – even with two sold out seasons of the production in 2018/19.

Zoe Knighton is one of the founding members of the Flinders Quartet and has performed here many, many times over the years.