

# Wake Up!

23 March 2011

Ian Hangar Recital Hall

## Program

<i>Wake Up! (2011)</i>	Clocked Out Duo
<i>Three atmospheres disturbing sleep (2011)</i>	Lawrence English & Clocked Out Duo
<i>You Gao (2010)</i> <i>Tension Relieving Action Music 1 &amp; 3 (2009)</i>	Traditional / Arr. Erik Griswold Erik Griswold
<i>Analogue Stress (2011)</i>	Joel Stern & Clocked Out Duo
<i>Every Night the Same Dream (2000)</i>	Erik Griswold
<i>Spill Redux (2011 / 2007)</i>	Jan Baker-Finch & Erik Griswold

## Performers

Clocked Out Duo

Erik Griswold – Prepared Piano, Toys & Percussion

Vanessa Tomlinson – Percussion, Toys and Found Objects

With special guests

Jan Baker-Finch – Movement

Lawrence English – Laptop

Nicholas Ng – Erhu

Joel Stern – Electronics

## Program Notes

In over 10 years of Clocked Out projects, we have never used a clock – either as a sound device, prop, or promotional image. Maybe it just seemed too obvious. But when the idea struck to start this concert with an alarm clock, it seemed to resonate with a lot of themes of our work – using found objects as musical instruments, listening to the sounds of the environment, “waking up” to new possibilities.

In our opening, title piece, we also use the sounds of clocks collected on a recent trip across Australia, adding layers of percussion and piano to the surprisingly menacing clatter of the clocks. The program expands to include ideas of morning music, with Lawrence English’s early morning field recordings from remote locations – including the Antarctic soundscape, and Nick Ng’s poignant erhu explorations of a Sichuan morning street song.

Still other works take us into a more subconscious world, with Joel Stern’s hypnotic intermodal optisonics suggesting perhaps a nightclub more than a concert hall, and then a Clocked Out oldie, “Every Night the Same Dream” alluding to a restless, sleepless night. Finally, Jan Baker-Finch helps to give a new inflection to an existing piece, highjacking the normally serene “Spill.”

## **Artist Biographies**

**Clocked Out Duo** (Erik Griswold – piano, Vanessa Tomlinson – percussion) use prepared piano, percussion, toy instruments and found objects to create "a detailed orchestration of percussive and resonant sounds." (Chris Reid, Realtime85) Their work embraces a range influences from experimental composition (John Cage, Terry Riley, Morton Feldman), to free improvisation (George Lewis), to traditional Chinese percussion. In their playful and adventurous work Clocked Out Duo create links between disparate styles and artistic communities.

An experienced proponent of the movement art of eurythmy, performer and teacher **Jan Baker-Finch** has long been fascinated with the relationship between movement and sound in the natural environment, and the movement underlying those most human of attributes- the capacity to speak and to create music. As a performer she moves between the interpretation of classical and contemporary music and poetry, and the exploration of space-sound-movement as a continuum.

**Lawrence English** is media artist, composer and curator based in Australia. Working across an eclectic array of aesthetic investigations, English's work prompts questions of field, perception and memory. English utilises a variety of approaches including live performance, installation and found sound/vision to create works that generate subtle transformation of space and ask audiences to become aware of that which exists at the edge of perception.

**Dr Nicholas Ng** is a composer, performer and Research Fellow at Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University. Particularly interested in the healing properties of music, Nicholas seeks to marry the ancient and the modern through the use of acoustic and electronic sound. A keen performer, Nicholas plays the erhu (Chinese 'violin') and is in the constant search for new performative contexts from contemporary dance to meditation circles.

**Joel Stern** is a performer and producer of experimental music & sound, working solo and in collaboration with artists around the world. Joel's key projects include *Abject Leader*, a collaboration with filmmaker Sally Golding that has seen the duo widely recognised as Australia's premier exponents of contemporary expanded cinema, and *Sky Needle* a conceptual band that uses only homemade instruments. Joel is co-director of the organisations *OtherFilm* and *Disembraining Machine*.

Clocked Out gratefully acknowledges the ongoing support of Arts Queensland and Griffith University.