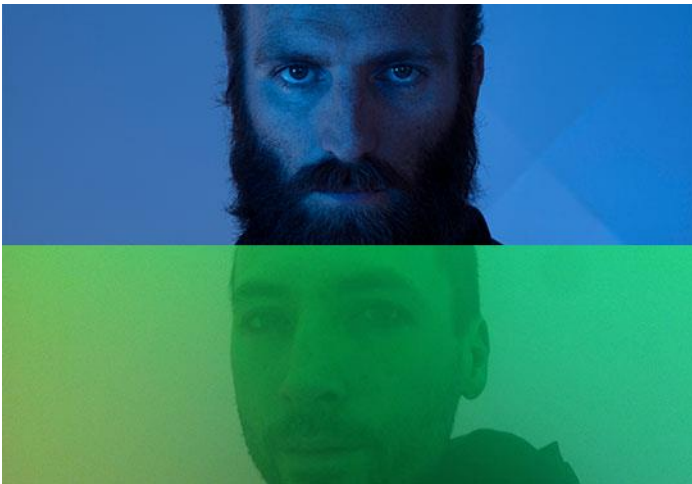


Ben Frost & Tim Hecker

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

Australia/Canada

Two ground-breaking sound artists come together for a special co-headline show at Sydney Opera House



“Ben Frost makes music that sounds like cataclysmic natural phenomena, but A U R O R A throws that same chaos into outer space. To put it another way, he’s made the heaviest and most combustive electronic album of the year.”
Stereogum (on Ben Frost)

“Foreboding, abstract pieces in which static and sub-bass rumbles open up around slow moving notes and chords, like fissures in the earth waiting to swallow them whole”. **New York Times (on Tim Hecker)**

Sydney Festival and Sydney Opera House present two ground-breaking sound artists for an immersive, darkly atmospheric co-headline show.

Reykjavik-based Australian composer and producer **Ben Frost** and Canada’s **Tim Hecker** merge post-classical electronic music with eerie, dissonant soundscapes, composing an experience that is both beautiful and deeply unsettling.

Ben Frost’s latest release, A U R O R A has been named one of the best albums of the year by *Rolling Stone* who called it “*deeply unsettling, heart-quickeningly intense and often gorgeous*”. His albums, including *Steel Wound* (2003), *Theory of Machines* (2007), *BY THE THROAT* (2009) and A U R O R A (2014) fuse intensely structured sound art with militant post-classical electronic music, shape-shifting physical power with immersive melody, concentrated minimalism with fierce, rupturing metal.

In 2010 Frost was chosen by Brian Eno as part of the Rolex Mentor and Protégé program for a year of collaboration. One of the outcomes of their partnership was *Sólaris*, a re-scoring of the Tarkovsky classic for Poland’s Sinfonietta Cracovia, with Eno and Frost continuing to work together on a range of projects.

His composed scores have served as a catalyst for theatre and film including the Palme d’Or nominated *Sleeping Beauty* by Julia Leigh. His directorial debut saw Frost transform Iain Banks’s cult novel, *The Wasp Factory* into gripping music theatre.

Canadian-based musician and sound artist Tim Hecker has been creating ambient, droning, electronic music for over 15 years. His eerie soundscapes rest on an axis of noise, dissonance and melody, and are as physical as they are cerebral when delivered live. Frost and Hecker are close collaborators with Frost assisting in the recording of Hecker’s most recent album, *Virgins*, which SPIN called a “masterpiece” while calling Hecker “one of the most important musicians of our generation”.

Hecker’s work has been variously described as “structured ambient”, “tectonic colour plates” and “cathedral electronic music”. With a focus on abstract songcraft, Hecker’s talent has seen him produce commissions for contemporary dance, sound-art installations, as well as various writings.

MEDIA RELEASE

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SYDNEY FESTIVAL 2015

8-26 JAN

When	11 January, 9.30pm
Duration	150 minutes including interval
Venue	Sydney Opera House Joan Sutherland Theatre
Price	Premium \$69 A Reserve \$59 B Reserve \$49
Bookings	Sydney Festival 1300 856 876 Sydney Opera House 02 9250 7777 sydneyfestival.org.au/frost

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