

## The Experiment

WORLD PREMIERE

Co-commissioned by Sydney Festival, Adelaide Festival and Melbourne Festival

### Australia

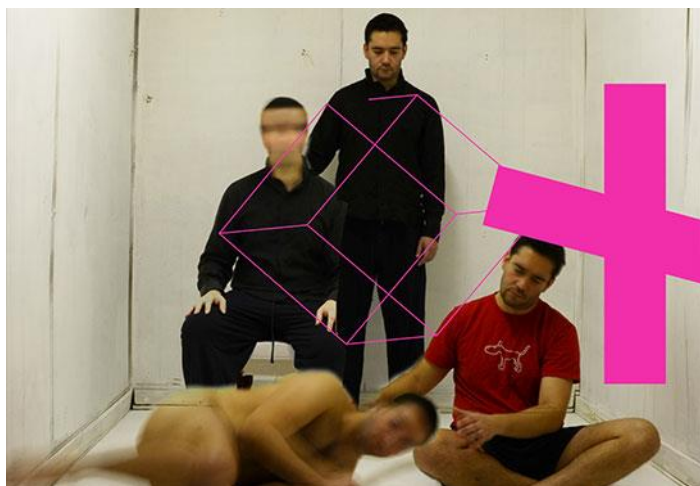


Photo: The Experiment © Emmanuel Bernadoux

*The Experiment* asks the impossible question. Would you kill a child if it meant that you would save countless other lives?

Inspired by the writings of ethicist **Peter Singer**, British playwright **Mark Ravenhill's** text sits at the core of this chilling new collaboration led by composer **David Chisholm**.

*The Experiment* brings together a group of artists at the height of their disciplinary power, in a contemporary examination of human nature, thought and action. Unravelling in a fragmented narrative structure, *The Experiment* is a provocative horror story for our times.

In a confronting reimagining of Ravenhill's 21st century monodrama, Chisholm and his collaborators radically transform the 2009 grand guignol monologue, into a technology saturated 60-minute solo work for virtuoso guitarist Mauricio Carrasco.

The performance begins as a traditional musical monodrama, with Carrasco speaking the text, over music. Gradually layers of the speaker's own voice begin to collapse and the composition builds in texture, moving from acoustic echoes to the introduction of electronic sounds and integrated digital video elements..

The nine-stage performance, experimenting with the dark side of memory and identity, features the visceral imagery of painter and video artist **Emmanuel Bernadoux**, in an immersive audio-visual scenography designed by **Matthew Gingold**. Using motion capture sensors, the soloist is able to "play" the space around him and become immersed in the fading environment.

Mark Ravenhill is one of the most distinctive and prolific contemporary UK playwrights. *The Experiment* was first performed as a monologue as part of Southwark Theatre's Grand Guignol Terror 2009 season.

David Chisholm has an international practice defined through diverse and hybrid collaboration for which he has won many awards including three Green Room Awards, a French Australian Chamber of Commerce and

## MEDIA RELEASE

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# SYDNEY FESTIVAL 2015

8-26 JAN

Industry Award and a Highly Commended Paul Lowin Prize. His work has been appeared at Venice Biennale, Villa Medici Roma, Edinburgh and Melbourne Festivals, Moscow Museum of Art, ISCM World New Music Days, MONA FOMA, Danscenen Copenhagen, Monaco Dance Forum and he has been performed and recorded by International Contemporary Ensemble, Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra.

*This project has been assisted by the Australian Government's Major Festivals Initiative, managed by the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body, in association with the Confederation of Australian International Arts Festivals, Sydney Festival, Adelaide Festival and Melbourne Festival.*

Composer	<b>David Chisholm</b>
Guitarist/Recitant	<b>Mauricio Carrasco</b>
Media Artist	<b>Matthew Gingold</b>
Playwright	<b>Mark Ravenhill</b>
Painter/Video Artist	<b>Emmanuel Bernardoux</b>
Dramaturge	<b>Jude Anderson</b>
Guest Composer	<b>Fernando Garnero</b>

Where	Carriageworks Bay 20
When	15 & 16 January at 8pm 17 January at 5pm & 8pm
Price	\$49/\$44 General admission
Duration	60minutes no interval
Bookings	Sydney Festival 1300 856 876 sydneyfestival.org.au/experiment

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