

Anne Norman

musician • poet

Anne is a shakuhachi (bamboo flute) performer and composer, working as a soloist and in collaboration with a diverse range of artists. From traditional and contemporary Japanese, European and Australian art music, to cross-over world fusion and free-form impro with musicians of various cultural heritages, Anne also collaborates with visual artists, dancers and actors, and has performed in Australia, Japan, America and Europe.

In recent years Anne has been writing eco-poetry, incorporating spoken word into her recitals. She has developed a new style of playing that involves simultaneous singing and polyphonic playing, incorporating poetry within her music.

She studied shakuhachi on scholarship at the Tokyo University of the Arts and studied three lineages of shakuhachi music from Nakamura Shindo, Tajima Tadashi and the late "Living National Treasure" Yamaguchi Goro. She also has a B.Mus on flute (Melb Uni) and an MA in Ethnomusicology (Monash).

Anne has composed for the Federation Bells, choirs, instrumental ensembles, found objects and music for dance and theatre. She has also premiered music of many other composers. In the mid 1990s she directed the *Nadoya Music and Dance Company* in Melbourne, and in the late 90s and early 2000s toured Europe with the ensemble *Jouissance*. In 2013 Anne toured Japan with her trio *Breath*, supported by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, receiving further government funding for a solo concert tour of Japan in 2015.

This year, Anne is Artistic Director of *Tunnel Number Five: Darwin's Underground Music Festival* to be staged beneath Darwin in August 2016. This has received Australia Council funding and will feature acclaimed Yolngu songmen; Sarah Hopkins (cello, voice); Persian musician assylum seekers; Darwin improvising string musicians; and Anne's shakuhachi music.

Anne spent three years researching tea and seemingly unrelated topics for her book *Curiosi-tea* (2009), also creating several theatrical *AbsurdiTEAs* - solo, duo and one featuring nine musicians from Tibet, India and China for the OzAsia Festival in Adelaide (2010).

Anne is featured on many CDs and film sound tracks.

"...like birdsong, but not; like wind, but not; like no other sound, but something higher. It was as if she could lure pixels of sound and whip them into line with the control of her breath.... a master of improvisation and adventure." TAS WEEKENDS, The Mercury, Hobart 22/11/2014

"Performer extraordinaire Anne Norman captured the dry humour of her book ... in the spirit of the best European stage melodramas ... emotive tragedies... hilarious parodies. Filled to the brim, the Space Theatre [Adelaide Festival Centre] echoed with laughter, ebullient melodies and reflective stillness." Australian Stage Reviews, 29 Sept 2010



anne@annenorman.com 0424 221 778 Absurd Publications, 5/96 Beleura Hill Rd, Mornington 3931 Victoria, Australia

Musician: <http://AnneNorman.com>

Poet: <http://AnneNorman.wordpress.com>

Author: <http://CamelliaCha.com>