

LOUISE DEVENISH



Dr Louise Devenish is a percussionist whose creative practice blends performance, artistic research, and creative collaboration with composers, visual artists, designers and improvisors. A passionate advocate of new music, Louise has commissioned over 50 works for percussion, and her performances are acknowledged for their 'dazzling vitality', 'interpretive flair and technical brilliance'. As a soloist and with ensembles including electroacoustic sextet Decibel, studio-lab The Sound Collectors Lab, and chamber ensemble Intercurrent, she develops new works, performing around Australasia, Europe, North America and the United Kingdom. Highlights include performances at MONA FOMA, Nagoya and Shanghai World Expos, Ojai Music Festival, Tage für Neue Musik, Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival, Melbourne Festival, Darmstädter Ferienkurse, and Tongyeong International Music Festival. Louise has collaborated on award-winning recordings with these ensembles and others including Speak Percussion and Synergy Percussion, released on HatArt, ezz-thetics, Listen/Hear, Immediata, Navona, and room40, as well as solo album *music for percussion and electronics* (Tall Poppies), which was described as a project 'delivering complicated experimental music with poised artistry'. Louise's creative work has been recognised by a Churchill Fellowship, WA Music Awards, and numerous APRA AMCOS Art Music Awards, including Performance of the Year Award and a Luminary Award.

Louise is Senior Research Fellow and Percussion Coordinator at Monash University, where she is also currently undertaking a prestigious Australian Research Council DECRA Fellowship in artistic research.

Her writing on new music is published in academic books and journals, industry publications, and zines including Contemporary Music Review, Performance Philosophy, Frontiers in Education, Music&Practice, and Musicology Australia, as well as in Tempo, Percussive Notes, ADSR, and Resonate. Her books include *Global Percussion Innovations: The Australian Perspective* (Routledge 2019), and the forthcoming *Contemporary Virtuosités*, co-edited with Cat Hope. Louise regularly convenes, reviews, and presents at international conferences such as the International Conference of Artistic Research, TENOR, Performing Indeterminacy, Australasian Computer Music Conference, and Transplanted Roots, and in 2019 convened and hosted the Gender Diversity in Music and Art conference.

Louise is passionate about teaching and building community through music. During her time as Senior Lecturer and inaugural Chair of Percussion at the UWA Conservatorium of Music (2013-2019), she established and directed a percussion studio of undergraduate and postgraduate students, and founded ensemble Piñata Percussion. Louise won the 2016 UWA Teaching Excellence (Early Career) Faculty Award for her innovations in teaching and course development.

At Monash University, she established an undergraduate percussion studio program, welcoming the first cohort in 2021. Louise supervises Masters and PhD candidates focussing on artistic research in percussion performance and improvisation, collaborative creativity, and interdisciplinary practice.

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