

## Beam in Thine Own Eye

## ARTSHUB

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Hobart hosts a light and sound epic that will shift our perceptions and shuffle our senses in MONA's first largescale public art program, Dark Mofo's *Beam in Thine Own*  Eye.

Curators Nicole Durling and Olivier Varenne turn our ideas of art inside out, reversing our perceptions as recipients to make us participants in the two-way process of making and taking. The light shines out and in, projecting and reflecting our experience and understandings.

Australian and international artists conspire to inspire and confuse in a series of open-air interactive performances, sculptures, projections and installations in sight and sound in and around Hobart. Tim Bruniges will be there from Sydney with his infinitely variable installation *Continuum* and so will Lara Favaretto, the trickster from Turin who aligns the real with the absurd. From Chicago comes Kurt Hentschläger to compose fog, light and sound in a recalibration of our visual senses. Ryoji Ikeda makes the monumental from the ephemeral, turning space into a solid through the agency of light and the sine waves of sound in the show-stopping, jaw-dropping <u>Spectra</u> (<u>http://au.artshub.com/news-article/news/visual-arts/ryojiikedas-spectra-rises-over-hobart-195151)</u>.

Joining them in the high-powered hi jinx are Mathieu Briand from France and compatriots Fabien Giraud and Raphaël Siboni; Ivana Franke from Croatia; Alfredo Jaar from Chile and the USA; Anish Kapoor from India and the UK; Michelangelo Pistoletto and Giuseppe Penone from Italy; Lawrence Weiner from the USA; and Swiss artist Gregorio Zanon.

Co-curator and co-conspirator Nicole Durling explains: *'Beam in Thine Own Eye* is a gathering of artists whose creative drive is not about tangible realisations. The works are internal, visceral.'

The other half of the brain that imagined and realized *Beam in Thine Own Eye*, Olivier Varenne, takes it further: '[It] will play with visual perception, looking at how each individual encounters objects and phenomena in space and how they then create their particular reality. You may discover that things are not as you think they are.' Turn that *may* into *will*, because the artists have come a long way to go way out of their way to invert the world you thought you knew by operating on your senses in a surgery of subversion.

Dark Mofo Creative Director Leigh Carmichael puts it all in perspective: '*Beam in Thine Own Eye* is ... the centrepiece of the Dark Mofo festival. [It] explores the images we create in our own mind by placing the viewers into immersive audiovisual environments.'

MONA owner David Walsh elaborates: 'When you shut your eyes you will still be able to see. But if you close your mind, you will lose your capacity to learn. At Dark Mofo we are grappling with powerful forces, those that shape our version of reality within our minds, and yet we hope to be able to touch minds whatever their hitherto held ideas about the way the world works.'

Be prepared to be touched in the most surprising places courtesy of Dark Mofo, which will provide the artists, and the Hobart City Council, which will supply the city. It will be up to you to provide the senses you were born with and the ideas you are prepared to part with.

The clip below is a quick intro to *Beam in Thine Own Eye*.

Friday June 14 – Sunday June 23. Opening Friday June 14, 5pm – late. Saturday June 15 – Sunday June 23, 10am – 10pm. Tuesdays – Sundays until July 27, 3pm – late. MAC1 – Macquarie Wharf 1, Hobart. There is limited capacity in each installation. Opening night free. Door sales \$10.

For more information head to <u>the Dark Mofo website</u> (<u>http://www.darkmofo.net.au/</u>)

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