

# GRAEME LEAK

full curriculum vitae 2017

## festivals | events | installations etc...

2017 (current)	6 month <b>residency   retreat</b> - creating new community string instruments and developing new performance and installation works	Scotland, UK
2017	Sound designer for <b>Polaris</b> by Holly and Ted: specified, purchased and programmed sound rig, designed and built on-stage instruments and compiled show cues (premiers January 2018)	London, UK
2017	Worked with year 5, 6 and 7 students from two schools to devise and present performance materials as principle artist in <b>Home Sweet Home</b> , Grid Arts program	Milton Keynes, UK
2017	3 month <b>Artist in Residence, Girdgarre's Small Town Transformation</b> : created four outdoor installations, ran skills workshops, produced a concert and up-cycled found objects into instruments	Victoria, AUS
2015	created <b>LISTEN!</b> for Watford Colosseum, three day occupation of FOH spaces with parallel performances and publicly activated music machines	Watford, UK
2015	featured artist in <b>GAUGE</b> at Brighton Festival, three-week installation at Circus St Market attended by over 7,600 visitors, created by Madeleine Flynn and Tim Humphrey	Brighton, UK
2014	MD and assistant event designer for opening of <b>101 Creative Arts Space</b>	Newbury, UK
2013	Music Director, <b>Centenary of Canberra</b> - programmed music on boats, composed music for a <i>Welcome to Country</i> and directed public <i>Noise Orchestra</i> workshops and performance	Canberra
2013	Directed <b>The Incredible Hulls</b> (2005, revised 2013), Mandurah	WA
2013	<b>The Dripolator</b> featured in GAUGE exhibition and performances, Arts House	Melbourne
2012	Designed, devised and directed <b>Raising the Roof</b> community concert, wrote a <i>Finale</i> for 300+ performers including the audience, Hamer Hall, Arts Centre Melbourne	Melbourne
2012	Designed and installed <b>Sound Explorers</b> interactive exhibition, Melbourne Recital Centre	Melbourne
2011	Composed and conducted <b>Drumming the Light</b> , CHOGM Commonwealth Festival	Perth
2011	Conducted <b>Ringing the Changes</b> , CHOGM Commonwealth Festival	Perth
2011	Conducted <b>Noise Orchestra</b> workshops and parade, Winton Outback Festival	Winton, Qld
2009	Composed <b>Ringing the Changes</b> , opening Melbourne International Arts Festival	Melbourne
2006	Wrote and directed <b>Finale</b> for 180 'All-Star' players, Myer Music Bowl, Commonwealth Games	Melbourne
2006	Composed and conducted <b>Under the Bonnet</b> , for cars and band, Melbourne Int'l Festival	Melbourne
2005	<b>Queensland Music Festival</b> opening takes place at the <b>Musical Fence in Winton</b> . Directed the <b>Winton Fence Band</b> , made up of locals, in a dawn concert	Winton, Qld
2005	Composed and conducted <b>The Incredible Hulls</b> , for an orchestra of boats, in Hobart, Launceston and Georgetown, Ten Days on the Island Festival	Tasmania
2004	Composed and conducted <b>Hullabaloo</b> , for children's choir, Melbourne Int'l Festival	Melbourne
2003	Created and conducted the <b>Winton Fence Band</b> , Qld Music Festival and Winton Shire Council	Winton, Qld
2003	Designed and built the <b>Musical Fence</b> , Qld Music Festival and Winton Shire Council	Winton, Qld
2002	Soloist, <b>REV</b> festival of new instruments and sounds, dir. Linsey Pollak, Powerhouse	Brisbane
1999	Created and directed <b>Axe Lyrical</b> , <b>Honky Tonk</b> and <b>Percussion Maintenance Team</b> outdoor music pieces for Queensland Music Festival	Brisbane

## instrument design and construction

2017	Sound designer for <b>Polaris</b> by Holly and Ted: designed and built two contact-mic instruments used as principle audio production units for live sound on stage in the production (premiers Jan 2018)
2016	Upcycled water fountain bottles and chemical containers to create UK <b>Noise Orchestra</b> instruments
2015	created <b>Drum Machine MKII</b> , hand-cranked mechanical drumming instrument, for LISTEN!
2015	created <b>Leslie</b> , manually operated spinning horn voice-thrower, for LISTEN!
2015	assembled <b>Reel to Reel</b> , retro tape-delay installation created for LISTEN!
2015	refined and rebuilt <b>Dripolator</b> for LISTEN!
2015	revived and re-presented <b>Drumming Bunnies</b> (AKA HomeBoys) for LISTEN!
2012	re-designed and re-built <b>Drum Machine</b> , electric mechanical drumming instrument
2012	designed and built <b>Aerodrome</b> , collection of flying toys that produce sound
2012	designed and built <b>The Chimes</b> , wind activated chime and guitar installation
2012	designed and built <b>Wind Up Corner</b> , interactive children's installation

2012 designed and built **Tin Can Telephones**, interactive children's installation  
 2012 designed and built **HopScotch Stomp**, amplified boxes for children to play  
 2007 designed and built **The Dripolator**, sound installation featuring amplified melting ice drips  
 2003 designed and built **Drum Machine** - plays drums with a series of pulleys and sticks  
 2003 designed and supervised construction of the **Musical Fence**, Winton, Qld.  
 1999 designed and built **Spinning Horn** installation for tape loop and tin-can horn  
 1998 designed and made **Flying Harmonica** and **Conduit Whistle** instruments for use in performance  
 1992 - 97 developed, designed, built and played **String Can** instruments for use in performance  
 1993 co-designed children's **Water | Sound bridge** for Linden Gallery (with Stephen Hennessy)  
 1989 designed, built and played **Salad Bowl Drums** (a version of African Water Drums)  
 1984 designed, built and played **Bowl Chimes** for use in performance and recording

## performance

2016 - 17 Guest percussionist, singer and ukulele player, **Rag House Band** St Albans, UK  
 2016 Performer and Sound Designer for UK tour of **Furious Folly** Oxford, Birmingham and Stockton  
 2015 Performer and Sound Designer for premier of **Furious Folly** by **Mark Anderson** Poperinge, Belgium  
 2014 Performer and sound designer for preview of **Furious Folly** by **Mark Anderson** Newbury, UK  
 2012 **Spaghetti Western Orchestra**, Sydney Opera House season Sydney  
 2012 **Spaghetti Western Orchestra** tour Amsterdam  
 2012 **Spaghetti Western Orchestra** 32 show, 32 city tour of UK England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales  
 2012 **Spaghetti Western Orchestra**, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Southbank Centre London  
 2011 **Spaghetti Western Orchestra**, BBC Proms Concert, Royal Albert Hall London  
 2010 **Retrospect - Prospect** duo concert with Neil Thomas, Astra Melbourne  
 2009 **Spaghetti Western Orchestra** tour Greece, London, France, Italy  
 2008 **Spaghetti Western Orchestra** tour The Netherlands, Germany, USA  
 2007 Percussionist, **Crossing Live** by Bryony Marks and Matthew Saville, Malthouse Theatre Melbourne  
 2007 **Drum Machine**, Musicircus, Melbourne International Arts Festival Melbourne  
 2007 **Spaghetti Western Orchestra**, Montreal Jazz Festival and Europe Canada, France, Germany  
 2007 **Spaghetti Western Orchestra**, Auckland Festival New Zealand  
 2006 Co-writer and performer, **The Session**, music-theatre piece set in a recording studio Melbourne  
 2006 **Ennio Morricone Experience** renamed **Spaghetti Western Orchestra**, Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Signed by Glynis Henderson Productions (UK - producer of *STOMP*) Edinburgh  
 2005 **Ennio Morricone Experience**, Edinburgh Fringe Festival Edinburgh  
 2004 **The Art of Noises**, 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art Kanazawa, Japan  
 2004 **Ennio Morricone Experience**, Adelaide Cabaret Festival Adelaide  
 2004 **Ennio Morricone Experience**, Sydney Opera House Sydney  
 2004 **The Lab** with Linsey Pollak, Seattle and Vancouver International Children's Festivals Canada, USA  
 2004 **The Lab** with Linsey Pollak, Sydney Festival Sydney  
 2003 Musician-actor in **Phobia**, Chamber Made Opera, Dancehouse Melbourne  
 2003 **Drum Machine**, The Blue Thong artist's club, Melbourne Festival Melbourne  
 2003 **The Lab** with Linsey Pollak, Noosa Long Weekend Noosa, Qld  
 2003 **Ennio Morricone Experience**, Adelaide Cabaret Festival (5 member ensemble) Adelaide  
 2002 **Ennio Morricone Experience** sell-out season, Melbourne Fringe Festival Melbourne  
 2002 **Jammin** symposium, 2 week residency, Queensland Conservatorium of Music Brisbane  
 2001 **Bell Director** for Melbourne Festival **Bells and Brass**. Coached and conducted 400 performers from regional Victoria, performance at the Myer Music Bowl Victoria  
 2001-2 **Ennio Morricone Experience** perform in Melbourne nightclubs, the Melbourne and Adelaide Festivals (Spiegel tent), Port Fairy Folk and Queenscliff Music festivals Australia  
 2001 **The Art of Noises** Hong Kong City Festival (solo show) Hong Kong  
 2000 **STUNTS** with Joel Salom (midi juggler), Festival Big Top, Edinburgh Festival Edinburgh  
 2000 Soloist, **Slave Pianos International Biennial**, Australian Centre for Contemporary Art Melbourne  
 2000 **The Art of Noises**, 4th Australian Performing Arts Market (solo show) Adelaide  
 1999 **The Art of Noises**, Queensland Biennial Festival of Music (featured artist) Brisbane  
 1999 **The Art of Noises**, Sydney Opera House Studio Sydney  
 1994 - 97 Director, instrument builder, composer **Graeme Leak String Quartet** (GLSQ) Melbourne  
 1997 **A History of the String Can**, GLSQ, Astra Concerts Melbourne  
 1996 Series of **GLSQ** concerts for Arts Centre Melbourne Melbourne

1996	Programmed and conducted <b>Choir and Brass Band</b> , ASTRA Concerts	Melbourne
1995	<b>Art of Noises</b> , Percussive Arts Society International Convention, Phoenix, Arizona	USA
1995	<b>GLSQ</b> season, Napier St Theatre	Melbourne
1994 - 95	multi-instrumentalist, <b>THAT</b> improvised music collective, director David Tolley	Melbourne
1993	<b>The Art of Noises</b> , Folkwang-Hochschule, Essen	Germany
1993	Co-directed, devised and performed in <b>Playing Field</b> trio (flute, percussion, piano)	Melbourne
1992	<b>Solo Recital</b> , opening of National Composer's Conference	Melbourne
1992	<b>From Africa to the Kitchen Sink</b> , Tasmanian Arts Council (solo show)	Tasmania
1991	<b>From Africa to the Kitchen Sink</b> , solo concert of original material, Astra Concerts	Melbourne
1988 - 90	percussionist <b>Hungarian Rap Sadists</b> band led by Jackie Orszacksy	Sydney
1988 - 90	percussionist <b>Jump Back Jack</b> band led by Jackie Orszacksy	Sydney
1986 - 88	performer <b>WATT</b> electronic and computer collective, dir Martin Wesley Smith	Sydney
1989	Co-writer, Composer and Performer <b>Home Boys</b> dance music show, Rocks Theatre	Sydney
1988	Soloist <b>From the Canyons to the Stars</b> with visiting composer Olivier Messiaen, Australian Chamber Orchestra, Sydney Opera House	Sydney
1979 - 88	Percussionist and core member <b>Flederman</b> contemporary music ensemble, concerts in Australia and in Europe, New Zealand, America and UK	Australia, Europe, NZ, UK, USA
1980 - 86	Percussionist and core member <b>Synergy</b> percussion ensemble, Sydney Opera House	Sydney
1979 - 86	Percussionist <b>Australia Ensemble</b> and <b>Seymour Group</b> , Sydney	Sydney
1978 - 90	Percussionist <b>Sydney Symphony Orchestra</b> (including Guest Principal)	Sydney
1979 - 88	Percussionist <b>Australian Chamber Orchestra</b>	Sydney
1981 - 82	Percussionist <b>Queensland Symphony Orchestra</b>	Brisbane
1979	Percussionist <b>The Mike Walsh Show</b> TV band, dir. Geoff Harvey	Sydney

## teaching and workshops

2017	2 <b>Noise Orchestra</b> workshops to create the band to lead lantern parade that evening	Didcot, Oxfordshire
2017	Ran <b>music devising and workshops</b> with students and directed the performance	Milton Keynes, UK
2016 - 17	Series of six <b>music devising and performance workshops</b> with disabled participants	Milton Keynes, UK
2016	Guest lecture, <b>Anglia Ruskin University</b> creative music technology class	Cambridge, UK
2016	Full day of <b>creative music devising and performance</b> with Year 9's at St Francis College	Letchworth, UK
2016	Public <b>Noise Orchestra</b> workshop series at the London Irish Centre	Camden, London
2016	Conducted a series of six public <b>Noise Orchestra</b> workshops	St Albans, UK
2015	' <b>Eurovision Challenge</b> ' songwriting workshops at NN Contemporary Art Gallery	Northampton, UK
2014	Pulse Metre Rhythm workshop for <b>Grand Union Orchestra</b>	London
2014	Pulse Metre Rhythm workshop for <b>Guildhall</b> percussion students	London, UK
2011	Conducted <b>Noise Orchestra</b> workshops and parade, Winton Outback Festival	Winton, Qld
2011	Developed and presented a series of <b>Rhythm Workshops</b> open to the public	Melbourne
2007	residency in <b>Jundah</b> (pop 80) state school. Built junk instruments and made a show	Jundah, Qld
2004	Conducted <b>Music Making Workshops</b> in Kanazawa for adults and children	Japan
2003	Conducted <b>Community Music Workshops</b> in Winton on the <b>Musical Fence</b>	Queensland
2001	<b>Happy New Ears</b> , created through GL workshops, IHOS Opera	Tasmania
1991 - 99	<b>Lecturer in Performance</b> , La Trobe University (including Head of Department, 1998)	Melbourne
1996	<b>Music Workshop Leader</b> for Arts Centre Melbourne <i>Winterarts</i> program	Melbourne
1995, 96	<b>Artist in Residence</b> , Buchan Primary School, devising and performing materials	Victoria
1994	<b>Artist in Residence</b> , <i>Edge</i> dance theatre and <i>Young Drums</i> group, Lismore, culminating in a public performance at Lismore City Hall (6 weeks)	Lismore, NSW
1986 - 90	<b>Percussion Lecturer</b> , Sydney Conservatorium of Music	Sydney
1987	<b>Artist in Residence</b> , University of Western Australia, Perth (2 weeks)	Perth, WA
1984	<b>Percussion Lecturer</b> , Canberra School of Music	Canberra
1981 - 82	<b>Percussion Lecturer</b> , Queensland Conservatorium of Music	Brisbane

## compositions

Water	Rhythm section, lead vocals and backing vocals	2016
Say Something	multi drums, horn speaker and mini kbd (solo)	2015
Raising the Roof - Finale	for massed community ensembles and choirs	2012
Drumming the Light	for drummers of any number	2011
Exhibit B	piano and tuba OR piano solo	2011

Ringling the Changes	five aerial bell ringers and percussion duo	2010
Everything in Front of Me	SSA children's choir and percussion quartet	2010
ABAF Quartet	percussion quartet	2007
Percussion Construction Team	percussion quartet and building site workers	2007
Hello, a ringtone fantasy	percussion quartet	2007
Eavesdropping	bass, drums, kbd/horns	2006
In the Pocket (interludes)	metal, rocks	2006
The Coorong	voices and instruments, flexible	2006
Finale	massed percussion forces - adaptations possible	2006
Under the Bonnet	for classic cars, bass and drums	2005
Funky Fence	Winton musical fence	2005
Incredible Hulls	'orchestra' of boats, brass band and drummers	2005, revised 2013
Museum Walk	solo performer, shoes	2004
Welcome	solo multi drums and pre-recorded accompaniment	2004
Hullabaloo	choreographed SSA children's choir, pre-recorded accompaniment	2004
Wonderful Winton	Winton musical fence	2003
Sound Hunters	for massed children around a pool or pond	2002
Sixty Seconds for Astra	choir of any number	2001
Water with my Water	choir of any number	2001
Happy New Ears	ensemble of performance makers	2001
Axe Lyrical	for wood choppers and drummer	1999
Percussion Maintenance Team	quartet of builder-percussionists	1999
Honky Tonk	for antique cars and trad jazz band	1999
Noise Medley	junk-n-found noise quartet (can double parts)	1998
Oradio	audio for radio broadcast	1997
Fanfare for Darebin	mobile brass band with extra percussion	1997
House Music - ASTRA	small groups of roving front-of-house vocalists	1996
Cup of Tea	SATB choir and percussionist	1996
All or Nothing Really	audio for radio broadcast	1995
Parade	stomping solo performer with string can	1994
Three Four Five	string quartet and voices	1994
Enid Thinks Rebecca Misses Tom	stomping solo performer with string can	1994
Sitting Standing Kneeling on one Leg	choreographed string quartet	1994
Do This	stomping and singing string quartet	1994
Overture for Art and Waste	flute, drums and remote flashing light	1993
The River Festival	for drums and percussion conducted by strobe light	1992
Panadol	performer and pre-recorded accompaniment	1991
Nobody Knows	marimba and melodeon, one player	1991
I Love Jazz	solo marimba and voice	1991
Yo Yo Man	marimba, feet and voice, one player	1991
Water	water bowl, gongs, salad bowls	1990
Turtle Soup	percussion quartet	1990
In the Morning	marimba and pre-recorded accompaniment	1991
Sink Symphony	kitchen percussion and pre-recorded accompaniment	1990
Drumsong	percussion quartet	1989
Rubadub (for Synergy)	percussion quartet	1989
Briefcase	amplified office worker	1989, revised 1991
Spirit Dance	marimba and pre-recorded accompaniment	1989
And Now for the News	percussion with pre-recorded accompaniment	1983
Just Testing	multi-percussion solo	1978

## arranging and production

2016	Produced 2min radio edit of Furious Folly from many hours of live tapes. Piece played on BBC radio 3
2008 - 13	worked as studio engineer and producer at <b>Run Stop Sound</b> , including voice over, audio post production TV and radio advertising, film score composition and artist recordings.
2010	recorded, mixed and produced <b>Songs for Somebodies</b> , Bernadette Robinson, Run Stop Sound
2009	Producer, <b>Classic Ennio Morricone - Live</b> CD, Spaghetti Western Orchestra commercial release

- 2008 arranged **The Little Drummer Boy** for Tripod Christmas Album and conducted the session orchestra
- 2008 produced **Tripod Christmas Album**, Adelphia Studio - booked players and conducted sessions
- 2007 arranged the music of **Ennio Morricone** for performance by the **Spaghetti Western Orchestra**
- 2003 arranged the music of **Ennio Morricone** for performance by the **Ennio Morricone Experience**

## **website management**

- 2014 - 17 Built and managed online galleries and shop for brother Bill Leak's cartoons ([www.billleak.com.au](http://www.billleak.com.au)) (the site has since been taken down after his untimely death in March 2017)
- 2010 - now Design, update and maintain personal website, [www.graemeleak.com](http://www.graemeleak.com)

## **awards and scholarships**

- 2000 Arts Victoria project grant to support attendance at 4th Performing Arts Market, Adelaide
- 1995 Research Funding from La Trobe University to assist travel to Percussive Arts Society Convention, USA
- 1995 Rehearsal/Development grant for Graeme Leak String Quartet, Australia Council
- 1991 Creative Development grant, Australia Council
- 1991 Jacobena Angliss Fellowship (ASTRA Chamber Music Society)
- 1985 Australia Council overseas fellowship
- 1985 Alfred White Trust Fund (to assist study in the USA)
- 1978 Frank Hutchens award for excellence (Conservatorium High School)
- 1978 Premier Instrumentalist, A.S.C.M. course (Conservatorium High School)

## **contact**

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