

# DEBORAH EMMANUEL

POET . PERFORMER . MUSICIAN . SPEAKER .

## I AM...

a four-time TEDx speaker and multidisciplinary artist with a background in theatre, poetry, music and performance art. I have released three studio albums with my bands Wobology, The Ditha Project and Mantravine. My work has taken me to perform in places like New York City, Barcelona, Bali, Kathmandu, London and all over Australia. My current work experiments with placing poetry in the body to facilitate a process of more abstract image-making. This has also led me to explore the realms of illustration and visual art.

## WORK

### COMMISSIONED PERFORMER, BARCELONA INTERNATIONAL POETRY FESTIVAL 2018

*May 2018*

Invited to prepare and perform a 50-minute show with my collaborator Kiat for the opening night of the Barcelona poetry week. Rave reviews.

### SINGAPORE WRITERS FESTIVAL KEY COMMISSION 2017

*November 2017*

Invited to make the Singapore Writers Festival Key Commission work for 2017 with my collaborator Kiat. It is a song called Ocean Free.

### INVITED SPEAKER, Q BERLIN QUESTIONS CONFERENCE

*October 2017*

Invited to present at the inaugural Q Berlin Questions Conference in Berlin. I spoke about how we as human beings are capable of overcoming our biological programming and how this sets us apart from other animals.

### ARTIST IN RESIDENCE, THE WATERMILL CENTER

*July 2017-August 2017*

Selected out of more than 600 applicants for a 5 week residency at The Watermill Center under the guidance of Robert Wilson. At the center I was honoured to exhibit my performance art piece "Hush" (pictured) as part of The Watermill Center Summer Benefit and Auction.

### CLOSING ADDRESS SPEAKER, THE PERFORMANCE THEATRE 2017: INVISIBLE REALITIES

*June 2017*

Invited to deliver the 'apostrophe' at The Performance Theatre 2018, a conference of 150 global decision-makers and leaders like co-founder of Upworthy, Eli Pariser, former minister of trade for Indonesia, Mari Pangestu and former president of Mexico, Felipe Calderon.



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## EDUCATION

Griffith University

*BA in Contemporary and Applied Theatre  
2014 – 2015*

How do I push the boundaries of theatre?

How do we abandon the conventional?

How do I use theatre to educate?

How do I use theatre to inspire?

Singapore Polytechnic

*Diploma in Applied Drama and  
Psychology  
2009 – 2012*

How do I use psychology in my practice?

How do I conduct scientific research?

How do I intervene using theatre?

How do I make theatre?

## CONTACT ME



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## REFERENCES

Marc Nair

*Colleague and Young Artist Award  
Winner 2016*

marcnair@gmail.com

JOAVIEN NG

*Dancer and Choreographer*

joavien@joaviennng.com

Deborah Emmanuel is one of the most exciting, challenging voices to have emerged in the Singaporean scene. To listen to her work is to listen to an artist who wears vulnerability like armour and uses poetry like courage. Her writing is tender and tough, lyrical and unapologetic. She's one of the most important writers we have for young people who are confronting issues of diversity, identity and experience.

- Pooja Nansi

## WORK

DEBORAH EMMANUEL INTERSTATES TOUR

*September 2016 – October 2016*

Toured the 5 cities in the UK and Germany, performing spoken word and my one-woman show *InterStates*. The show was a multidisciplinary work containing theatre, spoken word, movement, song and ritual.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE, THE MARPHA FOUNDATION

*June 2016-July 2016*

Selected for a 5 week residency at The Marpha Foundation in Marpha, Nepal. During this time I will write my first solo performance show *InterStates*, which I later toured through the UK and Germany.

FEATURED AUTHOR,

MAKASSAR INTERNATIONAL WRITERS FESTIVAL

*May 2016*

The only Singaporean writer invited to feature at MIWF 2016. During this festival I spoke on 3 panels, performed at the opening and launched my new book, the prison memoir *Rebel Rites*.

DEBORAH EMMANUEL AUSTRALIA TOUR

*January-February 2016*

Toured Australia with my spoken word, featuring at shows in 5 cities. The tour was independently organized by me, and funded by the National Arts Council Singapore.

PERFORMER IN 'INCARNATION OF THE BEAST'

*October 2015*

One of nine performers selected to devise an experimental dance theatre show under direction of choreographer and dancer Joavien Ng. The show played sold-out nights at TheatreWorks.

