

Szun Waves

Australia / UK



Photo: Richard Pike

“Amid the whirring synths, and sporadic ballet or high-hats and snare crashes, there is an overflowing of colourful, zen-like ‘space’, tying all the copious elements – like the band’s estranged members – together... Beyond the likes of Alice Coltrane and Sun Ra, Szun Waves inhabit a different universe in which the modular synth is allowed free reign to breathe its soft, pervasive textures beneath the free flowing percussive tones of Pike’s playing.”

★★★★

The Line of Best Fit

Szun Waves have an avant-garde pedigree most new bands would envy. The London-based trio are made up of PVT drummer **Laurence Pike**; saxophonist from experimental jazz-ambient quartet Portico, **Jack Wyllie**; and acclaimed producer and modular-synth wizard **Luke Abbott**.

Drawing on their respective work at the edges of their respective genres and passions, they improvise their compositions, meditate on loops and themes, and let their weirder impulses breathe and bloom.

For their 2016 debut release, *At Sacred Walls*, they built little bridges between the freeform world of improvisation, and the structures of sequenced electronic music, and found new paths to wander. Abbott took six hours of recordings, and mixed it into six tracks; the result is a gleaming, organic-sounding album with crisp bones and blurred edges.

Having recently blown away audiences at a **Nils Frahm**-curated festival at the Barbican Theatre in London, Szun Waves return to Pike’s hometown to take over St Stephen’s with their ecstatic, textured explorations in an entirely improvised live performance.

Where	St Stephen’s Uniting Church
When	13 January at 7pm
Duration	75mins
Tickets	General Admission \$40 + booking fee
Bookings	Sydney Festival on 1300 856 876 sydneyfestival.org.au/szun

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MEDIA RELEASE

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