



**SYDNEY  
FESTIVAL**  
6-28 JAN 2018

# **RHYS CHATHAM'S A CRIMSON GRAIL (100 GUITAR ORCHESTRA)**

USA | PRESENTED IN ASSOCIATION WITH ROOM40

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(100 GUITAR ORCHESTRA)

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PRESENTED IN ASSOCIATION WITH ROOM40  
CARRIAGEWORKS  
12 & 13 JANUARY

## Composer & Conductor

Rhys Chatham

## Concertmaster

David Daniell

## Section Conductors

Lisa MacKinney

Bonnie Mercer

Julia Reidy

David Daniell

## Producer, Manager & Technical Director

Regina Greene,  
Front Porch Productions

## Audio Technician

Pascal Bence

## ORCHESTRA

David Akerman

Chris Alexander

Lukey Andersen

Richard Anderson

Scott Andrew

Simeon Bartholomew

Michael Beach

Andrew Bell

Clifford Blake

Jonathan Boulet

Rhys Bourke

Will Bouzas

Gary Browne

James Buckingham

Damien Cassidy

Jaiden Clarke

Aaron Clarke

Dan Cunningham

Simon Dawes

Jacob Dawson-Daley

Iain Downie

James Dunlop

David Eastwood

Max Edgar

Gary Evesson

Sam Filmer

Justin Finch

Tony Flint

Scott Fraser

John Gnanasekaran

Andrew Green

Harry Hadley

David Hall

Guy Harris

Finn Healy

Thomas Heymann

Andrew Hiscox

Daniel Holmes

Matthew Hurt

Nathanael Hutchison

Jarrah Jones

Owen Keenan

Aaron Kell

Liberty Kerr

Sam Kluge

Peter Kossen

Andrew La Grouw

John Laidler

Nick Leighton

Sarah Lorien

Terry Lyndon

Frank Macias

Robert MacManus

Nick Maher

Joe Manton

Luke Martin

Gerard Mason

Asher McLoughlin

Mark Morse

Louis Mullins

Ben Murphy

Stuart Neale

Daniel Nesci

Carla Oliver

Liam O'Shea

Stephen O'Sullivan

Natalie Parker

Nathan Penzer

Seth Rees

Gene Robinson

Mitchell Ryan

David Sattout

Marcus Skinner

Jason Steffen

Tom Sullivan

Joseph Tabua

Luke Telford

Gregory J Thorsby

Michael Trifunovic

Joseph Trotman

Lachlan Vercoe

Matt Wakeling

Chris Wilson

Danny Yau

## ABOUT RHYS CHATHAM

Rhys Chatham is a composer and multi-instrumentalist from Manhattan, currently living in Paris. He was the founder of the music program at The Kitchen in downtown Manhattan in 1971 and was its music director between 1971–73 and 1977–80. Rhys Chatham altered the DNA of rock and created a new type of urban music by fusing the overtone-drenched minimalism of John Cale and Tony Conrad with the relentless, elemental fury of the Ramones – the textural intricacies of the avant-garde colliding with the visceral punch of electric guitar-slinging punk rock.

With Rhys Chatham's composition *Guitar Trio* (1977), he became the first composer to make use of multiple electric guitars in special tunings to merge the extended-time music of the sixties and seventies with serious hard rock. Chatham continued this pursuit over the next decade, culminating in 1989 with the composition and performance of his first symphony for an orchestra of one hundred electric guitars, *An Angel Moves Too Fast to See*. June 1993, *An Angel Moves Too Fast to See* was presented at the Brisbane Biennial, which was the first and only time one of Chatham's large orchestras was presented in Australia, and he has not returned since. Rhys has subsequently composed three other works for large guitar orchestra, *A Crimson Grail* (indoor version) in 2005 (written for 400 guitars), *A Secret Rose* in 2008 (written for 100 guitars), and finally, *A Crimson Grail* (outdoor version) in 2009 (written for 200 electric guitars and 16 electric basses), which was released on Nonesuch Records in the fall of 2010.

Chatham continues to write for his orchestras of 100–200 electric guitars. Recent performances of *A Secret Rose*, his latest composition for 100 guitars, were mounted in San Francisco Bay Area 2013 and Birmingham (UK) 2014.

The 2018 Sydney Festival performance of *A Crimson Grail* for 100 electric guitars will be the Australian premiere.