

Assoc Professor. Robert Burke
Performance Jazz/Pop
Email: Robert.Burke@monash.edu

Biography

Robert Burke was the instigator and has been the coordinator of Jazz and Popular Studies at Monash since 2002. From 2011 – 2014, Rob was Head of the Sir Zelman Cowen School of Music

Robert Burke has enjoyed a diverse and wide-ranging career as a performer, composer and educator in music. Although classically trained on the clarinet and saxophones, his main focus as a performer has been in jazz and popular music, including eight years performing and composing with Kate Ceberano (including a top-ten Australian hit) and fifteen years with ARIA award-winning band The Black Sorrows. Rob has performed on and contributed compositions to over 200 CDs by groups ranging from pop acts such as John Farnham, Ice House, Real Life, Vika and Linda Bull, to contemporary jazz projects with leading artists including Tony Gould, Tony Floyd, Doug De Vries, Slava Gregorian, Geoff Hughes, Nick Haywood, Stephen Magnusson, Don Burrows, Tony Floyd and Mike Nock.

Rob has performed /recorded with many international jazz artists including Kenny Werner, Mark Helias, Nasheet Waits, Tom Rainey, Tony Malaby, Enrico Rava, Dave Douglas, George Lewis, Red Rodney, John Abercrombie, Paul McCandless (Oregon), George Garzone, Richie Barshay, Johannes Weidenmueller (USA), Lula Galvao, Roberta Valente, Hermeto Pascoal (Brazil), Mirko Guerrini, Debasis Chakroborty (India) and Qmars Piraglu (Iran)

Rob has also toured extensively through Asia, Europe, the United States and locally, including as leader of his own projects. He has studied under influential and pioneering jazz musicians including the likes of Dave Liebman, George Garzone and George Coleman in New York.

Rob initiated (2015) and is currently president of the Australasian Jazz and Improvisation Research Network (AJIRN)

Rob had convened 3 conferences: AJIRN 2016 (Uni Melb, Monash), 2017 (Monash) and Perspectives in Artistic Research in Music (Monash)

Research

Performance – Saxophone – Flute – Clarinet (CD Recordings and Performances)

Practice-Based Artistic Research in Music Performance (Jazz and improvisation)

Jazz and World Music Pedagogy (Oxford Handbook of Education)

Rob's research focus is in Practice-Based Artistic Research. A practising musician, Rob is currently co-writing a book on Practice-Based Artistic Research (*Idea Chasing: the Anatomy of Experimentation and Improvisation in Free Jazz*) with Dr Andrys Onsmann. Rob initiated AJIRN (Australasian Jazz and Improvisation Research Network) and convened its first conference in November 2016 and in 2017 in association with the Melbourne International Jazz Festival. Rob is also a member of the MSA steering group for ARiM (Artistic Research in Music) also convening 2-day symposium in Artistic research in Music in 2015,

Rob is also leading efforts to build philanthropic support for the School of Music at Monash University, with a view to expanding the facilities, scholarships and resources available to students.

'A stunning jazz album that identifies Melbourne as a significant contributor of talent and inventive and pioneering jazz on the world stage. Beautifully recorded and presented. andhellip; This record is a collaboration of some of the most influential protagonists on the Melbourne scene and is undoubtedly a masterpiece.' - Eddie Naran - Jazz on the Street. Rob is Head of the School of Music and Coordinator of Jazz and Popular Studies.

'An exciting tour of Melbourne. There are moments where you will get chills down your back' 4.5* - The Age Green Guide. Melbourne, 28th July 2005.

'There is a romance in the tracks that comes from an exploration of a stage of jazz which has pleased many for a long time. While gentle andhellip; it is quietly persuasive of all the life, clarity and brilliance to be found in mainstream jazz. Emotional and relaxing.' Canberra Times, Canberra, 18 Aug 2003.

Robert Burke on JazzHead: <http://www.jazzhead.com/cms-artists/rob-burke.phps>

Employment

Associate Professor

Performance Jazz/Pop
MONASH UNIVERSITY
28 Feb 2000 → present

Research outputs

Experimentation in Improvised Jazz: Chasing Ideas

Onsman, A. & Burke, R. L., 11 Oct 2018, New York: Routledge. 192 p.

Pathways to Learning and Teaching Indigenous and World Music Ensembles

Burke, R. L. & Evans, S. J. N., 28 Jun 2018, *2018 Vocal, Instrumental, and Ensemble Learning and Teaching: An Oxford Handbook of Music Education*. McPherson, G. & Welch, G. (eds.). 1 ed. UK: Oxford University Press, Vol. 3. p. 347-363 17 p. (An Oxford Handbook of Music Education).

Manipulating Hip Hop Beats: Collaborative improvisation and composition

Burke, R., Grabowsky, P., Nakamura, N. & Choulai, A., 2018

Discordant methodologies: prioritizing performance in artistic research in music

Burke, R. & Onsman, A., 17 Jan 2017, *Perspectives on Artistic Research in Music*. Burke, R. & Onsman, A. (eds.). Lanham Maryland USA: Lexington Books, p. 3 - 17 15 p.

Disturbing perspectives of research in music

Onsman, A. & Burke, R., Jan 2017, *Perspective on Artistic Research in Music*. Burke, R. & Onsman, A. (eds.). Lanham Maryland USA: Lexington Books, p. 201-214 14 p.

Perspectives on Artistic Research in Music

Burke, R. & Onsman, A., Jan 2017, Lanham Maryland USA: Lexington Books. 228 p.

The Gravity Project: The Noh Theatre Exploration

Burke, R. L., Grabowsky, P., Nakamura, N. & Obina, K., 2017

Sardinian Liturgy: an investigation choice in a musical spontaneous group improvisation.

Burke, R. L. & Murray, J. R., Jun 2016

Investigation into Intercultural practices of jazz performance and the musical philosophy of Zen Buddhism

Burke, R. L., 2016

The Power of the Idea

Burke, R. L., Jun 2015

A sustained exploration of the relationship between predetermined composition and improvisation in a jazz context [new composition]

Burke, R. L., 2015

Now and Them: a transcendental sensory approach to artistic creation

Burke, R. L., 2015

Power of the Idea

Burke, R. L., 2015

Do True

Burke, R. L. & Werner, K., 29 Aug 2014

The Big Show

Burke, R. L., Mar 2014

At the Cole Face

Burke, R. L., Jan 2014

Bela

Burke, R. L., Jan 2014

Indeterminacy in Jazz composition: A portfolio of compositions

Burke, R. L., 2014

Tik Tok

Burke, R. L., 2014

A tin roof for the rain

Burke, R. L. & Gould, A. J., 2013

Angel

Burke, R. L. & Grabowsky, P., 2013

Burke - Investigation of improvisation inclusive of the Jazz and Classical Canon

Burke, R. L., 2013

Celebration

Burke, R. L., Gould, A. J., Murray, J. R., Williamson, P., Haywood, N. & Floyd, A. P., 2013

Chorinho Pra Ele [Hermeto Pascoal: The Monash Sessions]

Burke, R. L., 2013

Cryptostatic

Burke, R. L. & Grabowsky, P., 2013

Detonation

Schneider, M., Burke, R. L., Williamson, P. & Murray, J. R., 2013

Gaining Ground

Burke, R. L., Gould, A. J., Murray, J. R., Williamson, P., Haywood, N. & Floyd, A. P., 2013

Helix

Burke, R. L. & Grabowsky, P., 2013

In the Nick of Prime

Burke, R. L., 2013

Lonely Woman

Burke, R. L. & Grabowsky, P., 2013

Mercurochrome

Burke, R. L., 2013

Music commissioned for Loreal Melbourne Fashion Festival 2013

Burke, R. L. & Grayson, B., 2013

Park Viewing

Burke, R. L., Gould, A. J., Murray, J. R., Williamson, P., Haywood, N. & Floyd, A. P., 2013

Psalm

Burke, R. L. & Grabowsky, P., 2013

Silverland

Burke, R. L. & Grabowsky, P., 2013

Song for the Sake

Burke, R. L., Gould, A. J., Murray, J. R., Williamson, P., Haywood, N. & Floyd, A. P., 2013

The Clown

Burke, R. L., Gould, A. J., Murray, J. R., Williamson, P., Haywood, N. & Floyd, A. P., 2013

Tree Climb

Burke, R. L., Gould, A. J., Murray, J. R., Williamson, P., Haywood, N. & Floyd, A. P., 2013

Pathways to learning and teaching indigenous and world music ensembles

Burke, R. L. & Evans, S. J. N., 2012, *The Oxford Handbook of Music Education, Volume 1*. McPherson, G. E. & Welch, G. F. (eds.). New York USA: Oxford University Press, p. 890 - 906 17 p.

Rob Burke Live at Bennetts Lane

Burke, R. L., 21 Nov 2011

All of You

Burke, R., Gould, A., Haywood, N. & Floyd, A., 2011

Charukeshi

Burke, R., Gould, A., Haywood, N. & Floyd, A., 2011

Easy to remember

Burke, R. L., 2011

Loreal Melbourne Fashion Festival 2011

Burke, R. & Grayson, B., 2011

Pointilism

Burke, R., 2011

Tahdon

Burke, R., Gould, A., Haywood, N. & Floyd, A., 2011

Yahdon

Burke, R., Gould, A. & Haywood, N., 2011

Yashanmali
Burke, R., 2011

After the Rain
Burke, R., 2010

Ambleside
Burke, R., 2010

Amigos
Burke, R., 2010

Birthday
Burke, R., 2010

Brand New Day
Burke, R., 2010

Campinas Fantasy
Reiner, T., Burke, R. & Fornari, T., 2010

Campinas Fantasy, for tenor sax and laptop
Reiner, T., Burke, R. & Fornari, T., 2010

First Day
Burke, R., 2010

Here #1
Burke, R., 2010

Here #2
Burke, R., 2010

Here - Introduction
Burke, R., 2010

Here - Outro
Burke, R., 2010

If I Knew / Now
Burke, R., 2010

If I knew
Burke, R. L. & Gould, A. J., 2010

Improvisation #77
Burke, R., 2010

Lullaby
Burke, R., 2010

Never Let Me Go

Burke, R., 2010

SNG

Burke, R., 2010

Song-Song

Burke, R., 2010

View

Burke, R., 2010

You Don't Know What Love Is

Burke, R., 2010

After The Rain

Burke, R., 2009

LMFF - Loreal Melbourne Fashion Festival

Burke, R., 2009

SNG

Burke, R., 2009

Sweet Thing

Burke, R., 2009

Artifacts

Reiner, T. & Burke, R., 2008

LMFF 2008

Burke, R. L., 2008

LMFF07

Burke, R. L. & Grayson, B., 2006

Timber

Burke, R. L. & Grayson, B., 2006

The Edge of Today: A Mapping of the Melbourne Sound

Burke, R. L., 2005

Now Festival

Burke, R. L., 2004

Robert Burke - Wide Eyed

Burke, R. L., 2003

Off Line

Burke, R. L., 2000

Prizes

Bell Award - Best Avant garde record

Robert Burke (Recipient), Paul Grabowsky (Recipient), Paul Williamson (Recipient) & Jordan Robert Murray (Recipient),
15 Mar 2014

Monash Art Ensemble - Hexis

Robert Burke (Recipient), Paul Grabowsky (Recipient), Paul Williamson (Recipient) & Jordan Robert Murray (Recipient),
12 Mar 2015

The Australian Bell Award - Best Produced Album

Paul Williamson (Recipient), Robert Burke (Recipient), Jordan Murray (Recipient) & Paul Grabowsky (Recipient), 23 Sep
2019

Projects

Australia-Japan Collaborative Jazz Ensemble

Grabowsky, P., Burke, R., Zion, J., Andresen, L. & Ishiwaki, S.
2/09/16 → 30/12/18

Beyond Borders and Barlines

Burke, R.
Creative Victoria
24/05/15 → 31/07/15

Continued musical development of a cultural, research and pedagogical exchange between Brazil and Australia

Burke, R.
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) (Comm)
1/05/10 → 31/07/10

Guitar x 6 and Bass Amplifiers x 3

Burke, R.
Collier Charitable Fund
6/01/11 → 31/12/11

HERE NOW HEAR: Manufacture & promotion of 8 new Australian works recorded by Monash Art Ensemble

Williamson, P., Burke, R., Murray, J., Grabowsky, P. & Burslem, M.
6/05/19 → 29/10/19

Monash Art Ensemble visit to Iwate Prefecture

Grabowsky, P., Burke, R., Zion, J. & Andresen, L.
16/08/16 → 11/09/16

Musician and Machine: composition for large improvising ensemble

Burke, R.
Australia Council for the Arts
1/01/16 → 30/09/16

Paul Grabowsky and Robert Burke present the Gravity Project - Japan 2018

Burke, R. & Grabowsky, P.
Monash University – Internal Faculty Contribution
23/08/18 → 10/10/18

Post Graduate Jazz and Improvisation Scholarship

Burke, R., Williamson, P. & Murray, J.

Cripps Foundation

29/11/18 → 28/11/24

Salzer Foundation for the Monash Art Ensemble (MAE)

Burke, R., Grabowsky, P., Williamson, P. & Murray, J.

1/07/18 → 30/06/19

The Monash Art Ensemble and the Young Wagilak Group present 'Nyilipidgi'

Burke, R. & Williamson, P.

17/03/17 → 18/03/17

To record, mix and master a CD of Rob Burke's compositions with pianist Kenny Werner

Burke, R.

Australia Council for the Arts

1/10/13 → 31/07/14