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Marina Abramovic returning to Australia after 17 years



FEB 20 **MARINA ABRAMOVIC**
RETURNING TO AUSTRALIA AFTER 17 YEARS

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The legendary performance artist Marina Abramovic is returning to Australia after a 17-year absence. The subject of two major projects – one at Hobart’s Museum of Old and New Art (MONA) and the other a residency at Sydney’s Pier 2/3 with Kaldor Public Art Projects – Abramovic is heading our way this June.

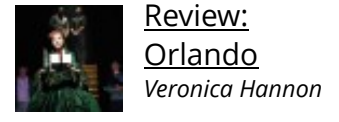
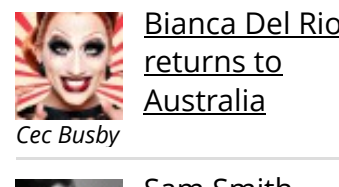
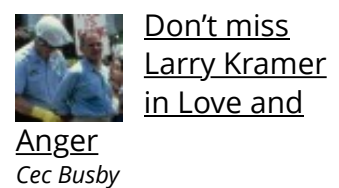
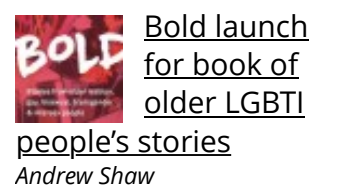
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Abramovic has been invited by both MONA's David Walsh and John Kaldor to create a two experiences for the public – a retrospective solo exhibition at MONA called *Private Archaeology*, beginning June 13 and running to October 5, followed on June 24 (through July 5) by Kaldor Projects' *Marina Abramovic: In Residence*, with a series of exercises from the Abramovic Method happening over 12 days at Pier 2/3 from June 24 to July 5.

The MONA show *Private Archaeology* will be a major exhibition showing Abramovic's early foundational work with German artist and her former lover and collaborative partner Ulay, as well as more recent work. "Christ died on the Cross for our sins. So the New Testament tells us. Hopefully, I'll do something worthy of his sacrifice one day. I've got real potential when it comes to sin," says Walsh. "Marina Abramovic seems to operate for all us. Her sins, her excesses, her minimalist, egocentric actions define the boundaries of what it is to be human. I would do the stuff she does if I had the balls. And the brains. And the desperation to understand. I'd rather be represented by a sinner than a saint."

Kaldor Projects' *Marina Abramovic: In Residence* at Pier 2/3 will see the artist present for twelve days of classic Abramovic 'performances'. Leading on from London's Serpentine Galleries exhibition *512 Hours*, the artist's Sydney project will focus on audience participation with intense works like 'Counting the Rice' and her famous 'gaze' work — a play on her work *The Artist is Present* performed in New York's Museum of Modern Art, where you're asked to sit face-to-face with a stranger for a certain period.

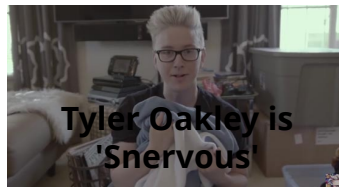
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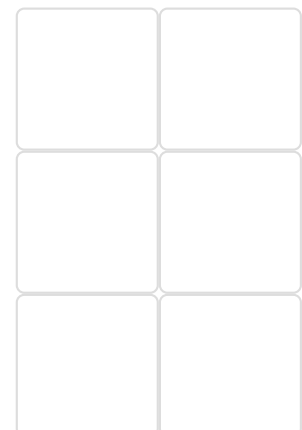


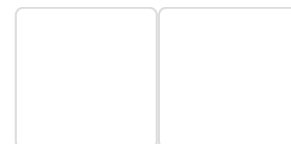
PHOTOS: LATEST EVENTS

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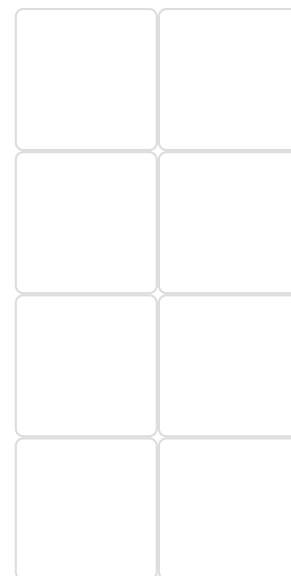


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Abramovic will work with collaborator Lynsey Peisinger to create a series of spaces for exhibition visitors that invoke certain physical and psychological states. "In Sydney, for *Marina Abramovic: In Residence*, I will be like a conductor in the exhibition space, but it will be the public who take the physical and emotional journey," says Abramovic. "We constantly like to be entertained, to get things from outside. We never take time to get in touch with ourselves... our inner self. My function in this new kind of performance situation is to show you, through the Abramovic Method, what you can do for yourself."

There will also be artist residencies offered to 12 lucky Australian artists for the twelve day exhibition, all of whom will have mentoring from Abramovic herself.

Private Archaeology opens at MONA on June 13 and runs through October 5.

Kaldor Public Art Projects' Marina Abramovic: In Residence at Pier 2/3 Walsh Bay opens June 24 and runs through July 5.

TOPICS: [512 hours](#), [art](#), [artist is present](#), [kaldor public art projects](#), [marina abramovic](#), [marina abramovic in australia](#), [marina abramovic residency](#), [mona](#), [museum of old](#)

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Garrett Bithell is the editor of *CULT Magazine*.

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