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PHAEDRA GUNN

MADAM NIGHTINGALE

DISCIPLINES

Self-taught Lyricist-composer, Performer, Videographer, Bricolage Sculptor & Costumier. Trained Goldsmith – AdDip MM (Jewellery) NMIT, 2008.

BIO

Phaedra Gunn originally studied classical guitar between the ages of 7-14. After commencing exhibiting contemporary art Jewellery from 2009, in 2012 Phaedra started songwriting, forming 'The Winterfriends' with the late Steven Marshall White (professional sound engineer & performing musician) in 2013. 'The Winterfriends' was a music collective: an evolving lineup of musicians who are interested in learning & performing Phaedra's songs as her backup band. Phaedra has written jazz, blues, pop, folk, EDM, rock, & soul flavoured songs, she does not sing nor write to any particular genre. Phaedra aspires to be like Lennon & McCartney who's sounds/songwriting evolved over their career with 'The Beatles' via writing in collaboration with others. Phaedra is currently primarily songwriting with David O'Toole from the defunct 'The Winterfriends' collective in their new 'Madam Nightingale' artpop duo launched February 2020.

MUSIC & THEATRICAL PERFORMANCES

(2013-present)

Prior to COVID19 restrictions Phaedra has performed at various festivals including St Kilda fest Live N Local 2014, 2015 [see YouTube (video)], 2018 [pictured above left] & 2020, Emerald Soundfest in 2016 & Front Lawn Fest in 2017 [pictured left, Phaedra second from right]. Phaedra's EDM duo Madam Nightingale won first prize at the Sounds of St Kilda Battle of the Bands at TheatreWorks in February 2020 [see YouTube (video)].



Phaedra performed regularly around the greater Melbourne area either with 'The Winterfriends', acapella solo or in a duo with various singer-songwriters & has headlined events at various venues including the Mofo Lounge in Prahran [ref Leo 0402 699 547], the Wickers Club in Elsternwick [ref Toni 0419 738 588], the Mr Boogie Man Bar in Abbotsford [ref David captainbatt@hotmail.com] & the Saint Hotel in St Kilda [see YouTube (video)]. Phaedra also plays regularly live on-air on 3MDR97.1FM's uncut & unsigned program, a show that she philanthropically supports to encourage other emerging indie artists [see archive (audio)].

EVENTS AT CLUB VOLTAIRE

(2014-2015)

Phaedra managed, sponsored & performed in a season of multi artform performances called 'Steampunk sights & sounds' at Club Voltaire in North Melbourne [see YouTube (video)]. As part of that series she made costumery [pictured top left], compiled & set to music short films based on the work of Georges Meliere [see YouTube (video)], & coordinated & MC'd themed variety performances comprising music, spoken word, filmography & burlesque dance aspects. Phaedra performed with members of 'The Winterfriends' music collective as part of this series.

EVENTS AT SAINT HOTEL

(Autumn 2019)

Phaedra managed, produced & performed in a season of indie music performances at the Saint Hotel in St Kilda, where she performed with members of 'The Winterfriends' music collective monthly as house band [see Facebook (video)] & also managed weekly indie band nights MCing as her alter ego 'Saint Cecilia [pictured left second from top], the patron saint of music' [see Instagram (video)]. As part of that series she collaborated with 3MDR [pictured left second from bottom] & Light Show Solutions Melbourne [pictured bottom left] & coordinated & MC'd performances by unsigned indie musicians as heard on 3MDR FM & bands local to the St Kilda area.

ARTS PRACTICE

(2009-present)

Refer to Phaedra's brand Bespoke Baubles for details of her other artistic endeavors [see Facebook (online)].



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DAVID O'TOOLE

MADAM NIGHTINGALE

DISCIPLINES

Sound Engineer, Music Producer, Musician (bassist, guitarist), Creative & Script Writer; self-taught Performer, Songwriter & Arranger.

BIO

David O'Toole has been a working musician for almost 25 years, which saw him touring with a variety of original bands. He currently works as a sound engineer, record producer and performer.

In 1995, David trained in audio, while starting his career as a guitarist in the band, 'Torch'. In 1996, they recorded a three-track EP, 'Machine Love' and the song 'Red' from that EP won a contest on the ABC's '10:30 Slot' television program.

In 2007, David went over to Europe with the progressive rock band, 'The Merlin Bird' [see YouTube (<u>link</u>)]. They supported 'Jethro Tull', 'Asia' and other prog bands from Europe. David co-produced their album 'Chapter & Verse'.

From 2012, David played in cover bands for 5 years [such as with 'Cross The Line' pictured above left]. From that point, he joined original blues-rock outfit 'Blue Balls' [pictured below left] and started touring regionally.

In 2018, David was the recipient of a kidney transplant and took time off to recuperate.

In 2019, David volunteered at community radio station 3MDR97.1FM in Upwey [see YouTube (link)] whilst building his home recording studio. From that studio he recorded sessions with Simon Mcconachy's quartet, plus members of 'The Winterfriends' collective and the MSAM group [see Facebook (link)] amongst others; occasionally hosting public jam sessions which he also records.

In 2020 he formed the 'Madam Nightingale' synthpop duo with topliner Phaedra Gunn, going on to win first prize at the Sounds of St Kilda Battle of the Bands at TheatreWorks during the St Kilda festival in February 2020 [see YouTube (link)] at their debut performance. Since COVID19, David (being immunosuppressed) has been focused on remote music production: Wizardom (Giuliano Avedikian) and Daniel Moloney are his current clients.