

Robyn Archer AO FAHA

Singer, writer, creator and Artistic Director The Light in Winter Festival, former Artistic Director of the National Festival of Australian Theatre (Canberra), The Adelaide and Melbourne Festivals, Ten Days on the Island, public advocate for the arts, Chair Board of HOTA, Home of the Arts, Gold Coast – Australia

National Festival of Australian Theatre

Adelaide and Melbourne Festival

Ten Days on the Island (creator/AD)

The Light in Winter (creator/AD)

5th World Summit on Arts and Culture

Centenary of Canberra



An acknowledged exponent of classic European cabaret, Robyn currently tours three recital programs of cabaret material: *Que-Reste-t'll* (French), *Dancing on the Volcano* (German) and *The Other Great American Songbook* (American songs from the Left). In March 2019 Robyn released her latest album of French and German songs *Robyn Archer: Classic Cabaret Rarities* on the Undercover Music label of Rouseabout Records. This collection launches the digital roll-out of her entire back catalogue through 2019-20. Also in March 2019 Robyn created and performed her exhibition/performance *Picaresque* for the 2019 Adelaide Festival, and is preparing *The Fortunes of Exile* with the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra also in 2019. She wrote and directed *The Sound of Falling Stars* for premiere seasons at the 2017 Adelaide and Auckland Cabaret Festivals and at Arts Centre Melbourne in 2018. Specialising in the works of Brecht, Weill and Eisler, Robyn made landmark recordings of that repertoire with the London Sinfonietta at Abbey Road, won the prestigious Helpmann Award as Australia's Best Cabaret Performer of 2013 and was named Cabaret Icon at the 2016 Adelaide Cabaret Festival, Robyn was the Dedicatée of the 2018 Adelaide Festival of Ideas and delivered its inspiring opening keynote address. A collection of earlier addresses is published under *Detritus* (UWA Press) and, in constant demand as speaker and writer on the arts, Robyn is an Australian Book Review Laureate. She is the former Artistic Director of the National Festival of Australian Theatre (Canberra), the Adelaide and Melbourne Festivals, and Ten Days on the Island (which she created for Tasmania). She has received many awards for her contribution to the arts, and for cultural leadership. Robyn is the patron of numerous arts organizations across Australia, and has been a mentor for the European Festivals' Association Ateliers in Varna, Singapore, Izmir, Ljubljana, Poznan, Gwang-ju, Chiang-Mai and Shanghai. Robyn is an Officer of the Order of Australia, Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres, Officer of the Crown (Belgium) and an Honorary member of the Australian Academy of the Humanities.

"As mentors and presenters I know we will get at least as much out of the participants as they may get out of us in the coming week. It should be understood at the outset that there are very few differences between us as mentors and you as participants, except perhaps in terms of experience. We are all participants in the Atelier."