

## MEDIA RELEASE



THE SOMALI PEACE BAND — PUBLIC PROGRAMS

### MOBILE REKODI SITUDIO BEAT-MAKING WORKSHOP

#### GERTRUDE CONTEMPORARY AND MELBOURNE FESTIVAL

MOBILE REKODI SITUDIO: SATURDAY 26 OCTOBER, 10AM – 5PM, FREE, BOOKINGS NECESSARY  
THE SOMALI PEACE BAND EXHIBITION DATES: 12 – 26 OCTOBER 2013

Gertrude Contemporary is delighted to announce that as part of Royce Ng's *The Somali Peace Band* project, presented by Gertrude Contemporary and Melbourne Festival, he and John Bartley of Brother Sister Records will present a free workshop on DIY beat making, lyric writing and recording vocals for young local musicians.

This is an opportunity for young Somali musicians aged 12 - 15 years old to engage with contemporary electronic music production. Key skills in making and recording music will be covered during the workshop.

Brother Sister Records is an independent international music label focusing on electronic and experimental music. Ng and Bartley have presented the Mobile Rekodi Studio Workshop previously in Kenya and Japan. Further information about their work can be found on their blog <http://bsr.fm/blog/>.

Young musicians aged 12 –15 are invited to join us on Saturday 26 October 10am – 5pm to engage in DIY beat making, lyric writing and recording vocals. Booking are essential. To reserve a space in this free workshop please call Pip Wallis at Gertrude Contemporary on 03 9419 3406.

The Somali Peace Band is a project by Royce Ng that incorporates an immersive three-channel video installation and a series of public programs that build on Royce's work with Somali musician Abdi Mohamed Abdi and members of the Somali Peace Band in Melbourne and Kenya. Today Abdi lives free in Melbourne while his band mate Daacad lives in Nairobi, in constant fear of persecution while awaiting the outcome of his application for asylum in Australia. Using the poignant beauty of the music of Abdi and his bandmembers as a vehicle, The Somali Peace Band project pushes the limits of activism and advocacy within the context of art and explores the various forms of 'the law' that bind individuals across history, cultures and geography.

During the festival the Front Gallery at Gertrude Contemporary will be an open social space with events programmed by the Somali community. As well as the Mobile Rekodi Studio Workshop other events will include a tasting of Somali cuisine by Somali Kitchen, poetry readings and a panel discussion.

For more information about The Somali Peace Band project and to find out about the associated public programs at Gertrude Contemporary please visit [www.gertrude.org.au](http://www.gertrude.org.au)

FOR ALL MEDIA ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT:

Pip Wallis, Assistant Curator - Communications  
Telephone +61 3 9419 3406 [pip@gertrude.org.au](mailto:pip@gertrude.org.au)  
Gertrude Contemporary  
200 Gertrude Street Fitzroy VIC 3065 Australia  
[www.gertrude.org.au](http://www.gertrude.org.au)