



**the
burrow
underground**

Wednesday 13 May 2020
Australia Council, Resilience Fund

Dear Assessment Panel,

RE: Gelareh Pour - Under The Wood

I am writing in my capacity as the Director of The Burrow Underground, an independent presenter based in Melbourne. The Burrow Underground aims to bring communities together to share unique arts experiences, as producers of venues, arts projects, events and tours.

We have previously hosted Gelareh Pour at our venues The Burrow and Aeso Studio in Fitzroy, as a solo artist, as well as with her projects Garden, ZÖJ, MNMM and in a duo with Adam Simmons. Each event she has produced has been a resounding success.

Gelareh Pour is an extraordinary musician whose work expands on traditional styles through a collaborative approach to composition and performance, bringing artists from across genres, cultures and backgrounds together through a communal language: music. The music of Gelareh Pour also resonates with a diverse audience, bringing people from all walks of life together.

In this new project, *Under The Wood*, Gelareh will continue to delve into her collaborative practice by creating a series of duet recordings with a diverse group of Australian based musicians, aiming to create new cross-cultural works celebrating communal language and transcending genre and place.

Through this project, she will create a platform for a number of outstanding artists previously presented at The Burrow including Sunny Kim, Ria Soemardjo, Lamine Sonko, Adam Simmons, David Jones, Ariel Blum, Kelly Dowall, Jonathan Gilmour, Myles Mumford, Averipides Averipidou, Aviva Endean and Brian O'Dwyer.

While venues across Australia are closed due to COVID-19 restrictions, this project will give each of these artists the opportunity to expand their practice through collaboration as part of a duo, and the high quality audio and video recordings for which Gelareh is well-known will be an opportunity to connect each artist with a new audience online.

Under The Wood will also have positive impacts for these artists beyond current restrictions, as they explore new modes of distribution for recordings and live performance.

This project will provide a strong framework of audience development and support for artists, and will result in a suite of high quality, cross-cultural contemporary music works and recordings. I look forward to engaging with the project and exploring possibilities to present its outcomes in the future, and hope that you will support Gelareh Pour to realise *Under The Wood*.

Kind regards,

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