

## Ben Byrne - Biography

Ben Byrne is a Melbourne based musician, writer and curator whose work traverses musical performance and improvisation, installation, composition radiophonics and sound theory.

He has just begun work towards a doctorate addressing the history of research into the nature of sound as an attempt to ontologise sound and seeking to understand sound instead as fundamentally potential and unknowable.

Performing regularly both solo, improvising with others and in various groups as well as presenting works in gallery and radio contexts, he is an active artist and musician. Performances include sets at *¼ Inch*, *Disorientation*, *Electrofringe*, *If You Like Improvised Music We Like You*, *Impermanent Audio*, *the Make It Up Club*, *Liquid Architecture Festival of Sound Arts*, the *Now Now Festival of Improvised Music*, the *What Is Music?* festival and the Melbourne International Biennale of Exploratory Music as well as in Auckland, Wellington, Helsinki, Berlin and New York. Gallery shows include *Tracts* at Blindside Gallery in Melbourne as part of 2008 Next Wave Festival, *It's All Been Done Before* at First Draft Gallery in Sydney and *The Business Of Being An Artist* at Serial Space in Sydney.

He has worked on a number of radio programs on 2SER, 2MBS and Radio National, including *Generation HECS*, *Wednesday Overdrive*, *Playlist*, *Furthermore* and *The Night Air*.

After starting the monthly *Disorientation* series in Sydney five years ago, he has organised and curated numerous one off events, exhibitions and festivals, including *ABC Radio National's Finding The Signal In The Noise* in 2005, the *UTS Music.Sound.Design Symposium* in early 2008 and the musical portion of the upcoming inaugural *Seven Thousand Oaks Festival of Sustainable Arts* in 2010. He was a director of the *Electrofringe Festival of Electronic Arts* in 2006 and 2007 and a founder and director of *Liquid Architecture* in Sydney. Gallery shows he has curated include *Potent* at First Draft Gallery in 2006 and *Tracts* at Blindside Gallery in Melbourne in 2008. He founded the *Avantwhatever* label in 2008 as an outlet for his own work and that of other artists and is gradually working on its development. Most recently he has worked in a number of other roles on a short-term consultancy basis, including for the ABC on the *Pool* web initiative.