



**nerissa campbell**  
**after t h e magic**

Nerissa Campbell's fourth studio album, 'After The Magic' (Crooked Mouth Music), is a moody dreamscape reminiscent of a literary roman-a-clef. It features Balinese gamelan, a jazz trio, pensive solo piano pieces, and fleeting guitars woven together with Campbell's melancholy vocals.

The mix of musical genres explore Nerissa's sense cultural belonging and displacement, and create a unique and surprising album. Not easily classified as jazz, singer-songwriter, or traditional Balinese gamelan, and yet subtly all of these things, Campbell's songs use Balinese gamelan gong cycles and modes, lyrical stories, improvisation and jazz harmonies, and non-vocal compositions that combined create a sense of space and breath. Cycling and repeating, ebbing and flowing, the songs of 'After The Magic' inform and are informed by each other.

'After The Magic' features Gamelan Dharma Swara, Josh Graham (A Storm of Light), Balinese composer and musician Dewa Ketut Alit, and Campbell's longtime band Desmond White, Matthew Jodrell and Guilhem Flouzat.

Campbell received an Australian Arts Council New Works grant for After The Magic.

## **biography**

Nerissa Campbell is a singer, songwriter, & multi-instrumentalist. She grew up in towns along the coast of Western Australia and on the island of Bali. Her family settled in the capital city of Perth where she attended the Western Australia Academy of Performing Arts, earning a degree in Music: Jazz composition & performance. Currently based in Brooklyn, N.Y., she has released four albums under her own label, Crooked Mouth Music: Paint Me Orange (2003), Musings of a Telescopic Tree (2009), Blue Shadows (2012), and After The Magic (2016). She has also appeared on several albums by post-metal band A Storm of Light, and is a performing member of New York's Balinese gamelan, Dharma Swara.

## **contact**

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## after the magic collaborators

### **gamelan dharma swara**

Dedicated to the traditions of Balinese performing arts and committed to exploring new music, New York City's Gamelan Dharma Swara is carving out a compelling niche. Founded in 2000, Dharma Swara is one of the leading Balinese gamelan and dance groups in the United States and has performed at renowned NYC music venues including (le) Poisson Rouge, Symphony Space, Joe's Pub, Roulette, and BAM, as well as cultural institutions such as MoMA and Asia Society. The group toured Bali in 2010 with an invitation to perform in the Bali Arts Festival's popular Battle of the Bands, and most recently, a stunning performance at Basilica Soundscape in Hudson, New York, was described by The New Yorker as feeling "straight-up religious" and provoked "perhaps the weekend's most rapturous response (including a fair amount of crying.)"

### **dewa ketut alit**

Dewa Alit is one of the leading composers of his generation in Bali. His piece "Geregel" (2000) was the subject of a 50 page analysis in the "Perspectives on New Music", while several of his other works have been performed at New York's Carnegie Hall, the Bang on a Marathon, and BAM. He also writes music for non-gamelan ensembles such as MIT's Gamelan Elektrika and Talujon Percussion, USA.

As a collaborator, Dewa Alit has worked with musicians and dancers from around the world. These include his own compositions using Balinese and western instruments, a dance-opera with a Chinese dance company, a contemporary theater production "Buddha 12" directed by Alicia Arata Kitamura (Theatre Annees Folles, Tokyo), a collaboration with a butoh dancer Ko Murobushi in Asia Tri Jogya Festival, and most recently a 3-men performance "Hagoromo" with Japan's most acknowledged contemporary dancer Kaiji Moriyama and Noh master Reijiro Tsumura at Tokyo National Theatre. Dewa Alit was the gamelan director for Evan Ziporyn's new opera "A House in Bali," performing its premiere with Bang On a Can Allstars in Bali, California, Boston and New York.

### **josh graham**

(a storm of light)

A Storm of Light is a metal band from New York, founded in 2008 by bassist Domenic Seita and vocalist/guitarist/keyboardist Josh Graham. Graham is a former member of the post-rock outfit Red Sparowes, songwriter in Battle of Mice, and a longtime visual artist in residence with Neurosis (2000–2012).

A Storm of Light have been categorized as post-rock, post-metal, doom metal, sludge metal and hard rock, but in past years have moved toward a darker and heavier metal sound. Rock-A-Rolla magazine's review of Nations to Flames states: "In upping the aggression, intensity and songwriting ability, they are once again overshadowing what's gone before and giving new reasons to appreciate a band that are already becoming one of the most crucial heavy acts around."



## press

"...melancholic, Cat Power-like lyrics, a Billie Holiday-esque timbre and a touch of Norah Jones in her swooping croon, tumultuous emotions characterize Nerissa Campbell's [music]"  
-xpress magazine

"Nerissa Campbell explores a tricky, dark emotional landscape, lit with fleeting flashes of joy... You can get caught up in the late night jazz club ambience, but there's always some hint of lost love and loneliness lurking around the corner; the New York City streets she sings about are deserted and poorly lit"  
- little village

"Moving. [Musings of a Telescopic Tree] is a personal, interesting and intimate album."  
-audio magazyn

"[Nerissa] is in that Billie Holiday mold. Her voice is mysterious, elegant, and moody."  
-the daily iowan

"Smoky-voiced songs of good bourbon and bad love affairs"  
-time out london

"Her songwriting recalls Tom Waits, but her voice is sweet and clear. She finds her own way around a melody, eschewing the cheap flourishes of lesser singers."  
-little village

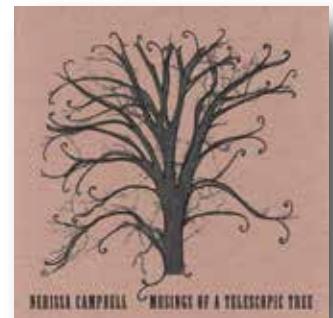
"Campbell demonstrates an innovative vocal approach to lyrics. She shows insight as a composer and her risk-taking as a vocalist is admirable and appealing."  
-jazznow

"Incredible... what a voice!"  
-radioiojazz

## discography



blue shadows  
2012



musings of a  
telescopic tree  
2009



Paint Me Orange  
2003

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