

## MEDIA RELEASE

NOVEMBER 4, 2009

### SYDNEY EXCLUSIVE

Sydney Festival & Modular present

## John Cale

UK

**John Cale Keynote & Opening Night Party, Seymour Theatre, January 15**

**John Cale (performance), Enmore Theatre, January 16**

*"A pioneer who refuses to stop innovating"* NME

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Sydney Festival presents **John Cale** in two events as part of **Circa 1979: Signal to Noise**. Founding member of seminal experimental rock band The Velvet Underground, the legendary performer, artist and music impresario will present a Keynote Address at the Seymour Centre, as well as perform a concert of his astounding catalogue at the Enmore Theatre with his band.

Musician, singer, songwriter, producer, poet and visual artist, Cale's multi-faceted career spans more than four decades. From his trademark "drone" electrified viola in The Velvet Underground, to his work as a producer and solo artist, Cale is one of the most influential figures of avant-guard, pop and experimental music.

In 1965, Cale, together with Lou Reed (most recently in Sydney as part of Sydney Festival 2007), guitarist Sterling Morrison, and drummer Maureen "Moe" Tucker founded The Velvet Underground, which became one of the most seminal bands in the history of rock music. Leaving the group in 1968 after releasing two albums, Cale went on to lead an extraordinary solo career, releasing over 30 albums as a solo artist including his 1973 masterpiece, *Paris 1919*.

Before his days with The Velvet Underground, Cale trained as a classical musician, working with artists such as John Cage and alongside La Monte Young Theatre of Eternal Music.

Cale is a remarkable collaborator and producer, producing more than 80 albums by the likes of Patti Smith, The Stooges and The Modern Lovers; and has collaborated with Brian Eno, John Cage, Nick Drake and Gordon Gano (Violent Femmes) among many others.

He continues to be an innovator in contemporary music and in recent years has worked with artists including dance-punk outfit LCD Soundsystem and producer Danger Mouse. In 2009, Cale represented Wales at the Venice Biennale. His work, *Dyddiau Du/Dark Days*, a sound and film installation, was a personal reflection on his relationship with Wales, the Welsh language and the Welsh bardic tradition.

For Sydney Festival, **Cale** will present the Keynote Address for **Circa 1979: Signal to Noise**, delving into New York avant garde, proto-punk and his work with Andy Warhol. Post-talk, the Seymour Centre will host the **Circa 1979: Signal to Noise Opening Night Party** with DJs Magic Happens and Graz, as well as the Signal to Noise exhibition.

John Cale and his band will perform at the Enmore Theatre on January 16, playing works from his vast catalogue of music from The Velvet Underground and *Paris 1919* to the present.

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From January 15–24, Sydney's Inner West will be home to a celebration of one of the most unique and influential periods in Australia's music history when Sydney Festival and Modular present **Circa 1979: Signal to Noise**, exhibitions, performances and a series of talks with original players in Sydney's underground music scene. For more information, see separate release on **Circa 1979: Signal to Noise**.

sydney  
festival  
2010

<b>What/Where</b>	<b>Circa 1979 Package Deal</b>
<b>How</b>	<b>John Cale Keynote, Opening Night Party (Jan 15) &amp; John Cale performance (Jan 16)</b>
<b>Price</b>	<b>\$95</b>
<b>Bookings</b>	<b>Ticketek 1300 795 012</b>
<b>What/Where</b>	<b>Keynote with John Cale &amp; Opening Night Party at York Theatre, Seymour Centre</b> The University of Sydney, Cnr City Rd and Cleveland St, Chippendale
<b>When</b>	January 15. Keynote at 8.30pm. Opening Night Party at 9:30pm (ticket holders only)
<b>Duration</b>	Keynote: 50mins. Party: til late!
<b>Price</b>	\$35 / \$30
<b>Bookings</b>	Seymour Centre 02 9351 7940 Sydney Festival 1300 795 012
<b>What/Where</b>	<b>John Cale performance at Enmore Theatre 118-132 Enmore Road, Newtown</b>
<b>When</b>	January 16 at 8pm
<b>Duration</b>	2hrs 30mins, including support
<b>Price</b>	A reserve \$75 / \$70 B reserve \$70 / \$65 Transaction fees up to \$7.15 apply
<b>Bookings</b>	Ticketek 1300 795 012 Sydney Festival 1300 668 812
<b>What/Where</b>	<b>Signal to Noise Sessions at Seymour Centre</b>
<b>When</b>	January 16 – FREE
<b>Information</b>	Full line-up and event details available late November <a href="http://www.sydneyfestival.org.au/1979">www.sydneyfestival.org.au/1979</a>
<b>What/Where</b>	<b>Signal to Noise at the Sound Lounge (exhibition) at Seymour Centre</b>
<b>When</b>	January 16–17, 23–24 at 2–10pm; January 18–22 at 5–10pm – FREE
<b>Information</b>	<a href="http://www.sydneyfestival.org.au/1979">www.sydneyfestival.org.au/1979</a> <a href="http://www.sydneyfestival.org.au/cale">www.sydneyfestival.org.au/cale</a>

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