

## **Biographies:**

**Roger Dean** is a composer/improviser, and a research professor in music cognition and computation at the MARCS Auditory Laboratories, University of Western Sydney. He founded and directs the ensemble *austraLYSIS*. His creative work is on thirty commercial audio cds, and he has released many digital intermedia pieces. His 400 research publications include seven humanities books. Previously he was CEO of the Heart Research Institute, Sydney and then vice-chancellor and president of the University of Canberra.

**Dr. Tracey Nicholls** is an assistant professor of Philosophy at Lewis University, and co-director of the Women's Studies Program. She is currently on leave from Lewis in order to take up a postdoctoral fellowship with the Improvisation, Community, and Social Practice project. Her fellowship project brings together her interests in aesthetics and decolonization in an exploration of the ways that improvisatory musical practices can help to liberate and empower political communities deformed by imperialism. This is an extension of the work done in her doctoral dissertation, which explores connections between improvised music, human rights, and social justice, and considers how music-making can help build more responsive political communities.

**Dr Rebecca Caines** is an award winning performance maker and scholar. She has published articles in a series of books, most recently the Routledge Reader in Community Performance, as well as papers in journals such as *Afterimage*, *Performance Research*, and Australian cultural studies journal *M/C*. She has also developed large scale, multidisciplinary community projects in Australia, Northern Ireland and Canada. In her current work with ICASP, she is exploring community-based sound art and new technologies, in order to investigate the relationship between improvisation, sound and the creation of site/space/place.

**Dr. Benjamin Authers** is currently the Grant Notley Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Alberta.