

TOPOLOGY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday April 28

TOPOLOGY PROUDLY RELEASES WORLD PREMIERE SINGLE COMPOSITION 'DROUGHT STORIES TEXAS' REFLECTING UPON CURRENT CLIMATIC CRISIS

Aria-nominated Topology, established leaders of musical creativity in Australia, operating successfully out of Brisbane for 23-years, will release a World Premiere signature work *Drought Stories Texas* on Facebook, this Friday May 1 at 7pm, 2020 AEST.

Composed by Topology principal, virtuoso musician/composer, John Babbage, *Drought Stories Texas* is released by MGM Distribution and will be available for purchase, along with its accompanying sheet music, from 7pm AEST on Friday May 1, 2020. *Drought Stories Texas* highlights the precious and scarce resource, water, and aims to spark conversations on the environmental, social challenges and existential threat of climate disruption faced year in, year out by many regional Queensland communities.

With little or no rain over the past month, very dry conditions exist across South West Queensland. Dust storms are expected to hit large parts of Queensland this Thursday, April 30 and will be a timely reminder that the drought is not over and COVID-19 is not the only urgent crisis we currently face. "*Water is life, isn't it? If you don't have water, there's no life of any sort.*" says Bernadette Guymmer, Texas farmer, highlighting the deeper environmental and economic emergency facing many regional families and workers.

The stories of Texas, South West Queensland, are featured in this World Premiere first instalment of a Topology produced seven-episodic multi-media project. Entitled *Drought Stories*, the work delves creatively, using multi-media including documentary and audio clips, into the climatic hardships faced by individuals and regional Queensland towns from the long-form drought of the last five-years. *Drought Stories* will world premiere on the Facebook event this Friday May 1 at 7:00pm AEST.

A teaser excerpt of Topology's new multi-media *Drought Stories Texas* –

https://drive.google.com/open?id=1vacQnFIKNAINNJDHA7hSbr_pltQ_BJJl

An embargoed MP3 of the single release can be provided upon request.

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Within their extensive regional and national touring program for 2021, Topology, will act as cultural ambassadors bringing musical prowess, education and inspiration via their TOP UP music education program of workshops and Boot Camps to Queensland regional towns who have suffered hardships during the drought and will further develop the remaining six-chapters of *Drought Stories* in the process.

Announcing the World Premiere of *Drought Stories Texas*, John Babbage said, "*Drought Stories Texas* is a new work that has evolved from my personal involvement over the years with the communities of Texas, Stanthorpe, Dalby and Longreach. I have been personally touched by the strength and resilience of the people of these towns. This resilience, however, is tested, and the stories of dealing with this, is something that both myself and Topology want to share with audiences – particularly in the larger cities. This multi-media project grapples with diverse themes and layers of, how we respond to and deal with drought, including politics, economics, philosophy, and issues of living on the land. Topology and I have worked and created in these communities for many years, working on a mutual trust that we can share their stories through music and film, something that cannot be gained by a single visit."

TOPOLOGY | John Babbage (Composer/Saxophone), Robert Davidson (Composer/Bass), Christa Powell (Violin), Bernard Hoey (Viola), Therese Milanovic (Piano).

SEE EVENT | World Premiere, *Drought Stories Texas*

7.00 - 7.30pm | Friday 1 May 2020 | Facebook event via Topology Facebook

TOPOLOGY Facebook link <https://www.facebook.com/topologymusic/> then go to Event.

BUY SINGLE + BUY SHEET MUSIC | *Drought Stories Texas* will be available from 1 May on all digital platforms. Sheet music can also be purchased at the Topology store (www.topologymusic.com).

TOPOLOGY

Topology is a Brisbane-based not for profit organisation, operating successfully for 23 years. Established in 1997, Topology are established leaders in musical creativity in Australia, prolific creators of new original work, expert collaborators across genres and art forms and award-winning music educators. Nominated for a 2014 ARIA Award for Best Classical Album (Share House), Topology has a well-established reputation for their signature work. The quintet experiments with surprising combinations of music genres, theatrical staging and cross art form collaborations to create exciting, thought-provoking music experiences for audiences of all ages, backgrounds and tastes. Resident Artist at Brisbane Powerhouse for 18 years, Topology has released 15 albums, produced countless evening-length works, presented an award-winning concert series, and toured extensively nationally and internationally. Topology's website <https://www.topologymusic.com/>

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

TOPOLOGY respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners of this land and pays respect to their ancestors and to Elders past, present and future.

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