



Original Image: The Guardian

### ***If not now, then when?***

#### **A Conversation on Culture and Climate Action**

Presented by CLIMARTE in collaboration with Yo-Yo Ma's Bach Project

featuring a musical interlude by Yo-Yo Ma

Saturday 9 November 2019

11am – 12.45pm

Kenneth Myer Auditorium

Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, University of Melbourne

43 Sturt Street, Melbourne (Opposite ABC studios between Southbank Blvd and Grant Street).

Join Yo-Yo Ma and Indigenous leaders, students, artists, scientists and creatives to discuss two important questions:

What must we do in the next 11 years to act decisively to mitigate the worst impacts of climate change; and, how can culture move people from awareness to action to ensure a just and sustainable future for all life on Earth?

With representatives from **Schools Strike 4 Climate**, **SEED - Indigenous Youth Climate Network** and **Student Environmental Leaders** alongside Nobel Laureate and CLIMARTE Ambassador **Prof. Peter Doherty AO** on health and **Leader, Earth Systems and Climate Change Hub, CSIRO's Dr David Karoly**.

In August 2018, Yo-Yo Ma began a two-year journey to perform Johann Sebastian Bach's six suites for solo cello in 36 locations around the world. The project is motivated not only by his six-decade relationship with the music, but also by Bach's ability to speak to our shared humanity at a time when our civic conversation is so often focused on division.

For Yo-Yo Ma, Bach's 300-hundred-year-old music is one extraordinary example of how culture connects us and can help us to imagine and build a better future, but he believes there are many, many more. And for Yo-Yo, culture includes not just the arts, but everything that helps us to understand our environment, each other, and ourselves, from music and literature to science and food. **The Bach Project explores and celebrates all the ways that culture makes us stronger as individuals, as communities, as a society, and as a planet.**

**Audience:** Secondary school students, tertiary music students, teachers, parents and carers.

**For tickets and enquiries:** Catriona Black-Dinham at CLIMARTE [mail@climarte.org](mailto:mail@climarte.org)  
tel. 0431 278 613 by 5pm Thursday 31st October 2019.

### **About CLIMARTE: Arts for a safe climate**

[artclimatechange.org](http://artclimatechange.org)

CLIMARTE is an initiator, educator and a catalyst for artists and arts organisations, engaged in climate-related and socially engaged projects. CLIMARTE produces the biennial festival ART+CLIMATE=CHANGE - a festival of ideas, exhibitions and events across Melbourne and regional Victoria. The 2019 festival presented ideas and concepts around art and activism, community engagement, energy transition and accelerated action on climate change.

### ***If not now, then when?***

#### **A Conversation on Culture and Climate Action**

In its latest report the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) warns that we now have 11 years to act to limit global warming to no more than a 1.5C above preindustrial levels. Can we do it? Will we keep average temperature to rising less than 1.5C?

In Australia, the news is disheartening. Whole ecosystems are dying. Bushfire, flood, cyclones and drought are ravaging our country like never before. We are in a climate emergency.

A cultural response to climate change can communicate what is happening now and to provide the opportunity for audiences to consider in their own time the considerations of students, indigenous leaders, scientists and creatives on our warming planet and what this will mean for our future.

It has only been in the last 120 years or so that the arts and sciences have been so separately silo'ed. Actions to reduce global warming will arise only from communities based upon fairness, indigenous knowledge, cooperation and through valuing the arts and sciences. This conversation recognises that our desire to create, innovate and learn are defining human characteristics.

**Speakers:**

Welcome to Country – Boon Wurrung Foundation

MC – Romy Nolan, Northcote High School, Student Activist

On Climate Science - Dr David Karoly Leader Earth Systems and Climate Change hub, CSIRO

On Student Activism - Schools Strike 4 Climate, Harriet O'Shea Carre, Castlemaine Secondary College

On Indigenous knowledge and Caring for Country, Allara Briggs Pattison, SEED Indigenous Youth Climate Network

On Art and Activism - Artist, Gabrielle de Vietri

On Student Action in schools - Daisy Batten Environment Captain Melbourne Girls' College (MGC)

On Climate and Culture - Bronwyn Johnson, CLIMARTE Executive Director

On Health - Prof. Peter Doherty AO Nobel Laureate, The Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity and CLIMARTE Ambassador

***CLIMARTE acknowledges this event takes place on the unceded lands of First Nation peoples and pays its respect to Elders, past, present and emerging.***

Produced by CLIMARTE: Arts for a safe climate and Sound Postings – the office of Yo-Yo Ma, with the assistance of Ceres Community Environment Park and Melbourne Conservatorium of Music at The University of Melbourne.

**CLIMARTE**  
**ARTS FOR A SAFE CLIMATE**