

INTERVIEW – Wladyslaw Kazmierczak

Written by [Mark Caffrey](#)

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Wladyslaw Kazmierczak and **Ewa Rybska** will perform *Beautiful Losers, or Almost Saint People* today at The Arches, I spoke briefly to **Wladyslaw** about how it feels to be back at The Arches, and making work in a live art context.

Wladyslaw, you just said that this is your fourth time in The Arches. How does it feel to be back in this space?

Well, I remember my first experience of The Arches as a totally different space in 1976 - there were even problems getting access to electricity then! I feel very nostalgic for those times funnily enough - nostalgia for the architecture of that unimproved raw space.

Does the content of your work change in the context of The Arches space?

I try not to let that happen. I am interested in the political contexts in which art is made and this performance is a continuation of our thinking about the shifting nature of art and performance, art and non-art. We found fantastic statements online by of two artists that I regard as hugely significant in live art contexts - John Cage and Marcel Duchamp from the Sixties. Ewa and I want to call back to the 60s and beginning of the 70s, a creative moment with a totally different atmosphere. We constantly have to think about art. In placing performance, we have to recognise that it is always in process.

Have you been able to see much of the work at NRLA30?

Yesterday, we saw the fantastic performance, the fantastic appearance of Alistair MacLennan. Today we met our old friends Anne Seagrave, John Byrne, André Stitt, Lee Wen – so many friends. It's like seeing family again! Of course, I have a great respect for the work of Nikki Milican as a curator, and as a very special person – she is one in a million.