

PREACHERMAN SAYS

aka PHIL NORTON

Poet/Producer/Performer:
Phil Norton aka Preacherman
Says fuses text with music,
performance and digital art to
create one-of-a-kind works.

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Poet + Producer + Performer = Something Different

Philip Norton aka **Preachermansays** is a writer, performer, composer and text-fusion artist. He is the recipient of two Australian national poetry awards: **The Vanguard LiterARTure Award**, and the **Newcastle Poetry Prize for New Media Poetry**. He has written two books: **Teach Yourself Atomic Physics** and **Everything Must Go**, and is Co-Editor with Todd Swift of **Short Fuse: The Global Anthology of New Fusion Poetry**.

Norton's performance combines spoken word with electronic beats and live looping into a jazz-infused energetic storm of emotive tales. He has performed at festivals around Australia and the world, most notably appearing at the **Sydney Opera House** as part of the Night Words Festival and on the popular Aussie music quiz TV show: **Spics and Specs**. He has written and produced

programs for ABC Radio National.

Currently, Norton is putting the majority of his work on his website

www.preachermansays.com. You can download a free sampler of his work there.

Having lived in Kyoto, Japan in the early 90's, Norton has recently returned to the Asian capitol where he now resides. He is working on a one-man show he hopes to tour soon.

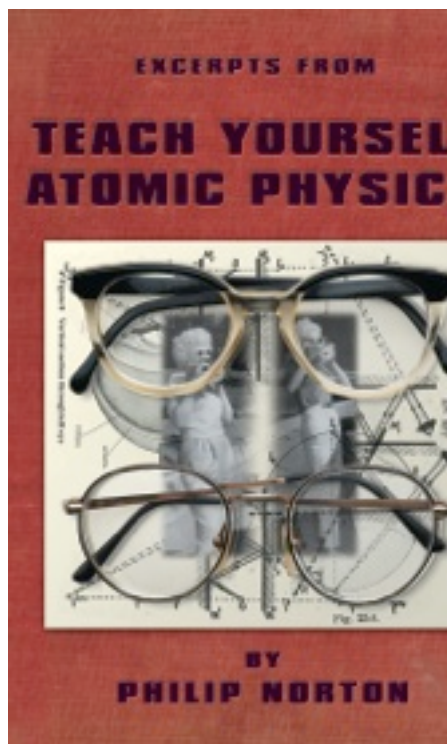
Of particular interest to those following the music scene are Norton's collaborations. He contributed his poems and voice to 2 tracks of the dance group **Sonicanimation** album **Defective Perspective**. The track "This is Not a Love Poem" was released as a single and play-listed by Australia's largest national station: Triple J. Norton has also collaborated with jazz legends, **Paul Grabowsky**, **Adam Simmons**, and **Jonathan Zwartz**.

Past Tense Text-Infused Achievements (details)

In 2007, Norton was the Hunter Writer's Centre Artist in residence at the Lockup in Newcastle, NSW. He performed at the Victorian Premier's Literary Awards and was the featured performer at the State Library of Victoria's celebration of 'the Beats.' He was the Victorian State Coordinator of the State Library's Australian National Poetry Slam in 2007 and 2008.

In November 2006, Norton was the recipient of the Newcastle Poetry Prize for his flash animated poem hypnosis. In 2005 he was awarded the Vanguard LiterARTure Prize for his work *The Holy Book Triptych*. The Vanguard LiterARTure award honours the synthesis of text and visual art and is administered by the University of Queensland and the Brisbane Institute. The work was acquired by Monash University Museum of Art for their permanent collection.

In 2003 he was selected as one of three poets (alongside Dorothy Porter and Anthony Lawrence) to produce the first poems commissioned by Radio National Poetica. As a multi-media spoken word artist, he has appeared as a living exhibition at the Australian Museum, had work commissioned by the National Gallery of Victoria and appeared at festivals around Australia. As a freelance writer/producer, Norton has produced programs for ABC's Poetica, Airplay and Radio Eye, including an 11 part poetry series '**Postcards from Absurdity**.' Norton is also co-editor of **Short Fuse: a**



Any reader who follows the instructions given in these poems may not learn atomic physics, but they will learn about the amazing mind and imagination of Philip Norton.

- Billy Collins (U.S. Poet Laureate – on *Teach Yourself Atomic Physics*)

Global Anthology of New Fusion Poetry (Book, e-book and CD; Rattapallax Press, NY 2002 – www.rattapallax.com); and the author of **Everything Must Go** (Zaresky Press, 1997) a Book and CD set.

His love of science inspired his poetry collection **Teach Yourself Atomic Physics** which was awarded a Special Commendation for Best Independently Published Poetry Book 2005. Multi-media versions of the work were featured on ABC Radio National for National Science Week (August 2005) and also on ABC TV's Sunday Afternoon. Norton also tours this performance to secondary schools, writers' groups and museums

promoting his approach to hybrid art and lateral-learning.

In 2002, he produced **Limited Edition**, a single volume of poetry comprised of 40 individually framed pages sewn along a 10 metre wooden spine, as a special project of the Melbourne Writers' Festival. The individual pages of this unique "book" were then auctioned off at the end of the festival.

In 1999, Norton was selected as one of only a handful of poets profiled in the ABC Television special Voices commemorating Australia's inaugural National Poetry Day.

Norton was one of the winners of the first ever poetry slam series at the Greenmill in the US, and promoted slam poetry throughout Australia.



Beats and Beatitudes

Ableton Live fanatic, looper and Beat Poet, Norton brings electronica into the world of live poetry.

Preacherman Says where Beats are Sacred

By Phil Norton

There was a time early in my teenage years that I wanted to be a priest. I think I really just liked the bit about standing on stage and getting all inspired and excited. I gave up on the priest idea when I discovered what 'celibacy' meant. But I've kept the preaching part

I hate that most people have this image of poetry as boring and flat. So my performance shakes things up and incorporates jazz and electronic music to compliment the work.

I love electronic music (Ableton Live is my idea of heaven) - so I started mixing the music and the musings and came up with a sort of hybrid. I made a 'pulpit' to hold my laptop or looper, etc out of a Black & Decker workbench. It is the sturdiest rig ever.

My influences are eclectic. For example: two things on my 'Do Before You Die' list are 1) Collaborate with Tom Waits. 2) Have a DnB track released by Hospital Records.

In 2009, I made my first video clip. It is of a poem I wrote a while back about this tin toy Duck on a Bike. The clip was commended in the Brisbane Poetry Festival so in the future, I wanna play some more with film ...