



It was a thrill to see our gift directly transformed into a beautiful piece of theatre.”

Rosemary Forbes, ShowSupport donor 2018

ShowSupport

Show your support for the independent arts by helping an artist create a show. Your gift to ShowSupport will enable the commissioning of a brand-new show from a Melbourne Fringe artist in your chosen artform.

A ShowSupport gift could mean the difference between an artwork existing... or not happening at all. Last year, our donors commissioned six amazing artworks to participate in Melbourne Fringe and we were thrilled with the results.

“ShowSupport allowed me to give a new show the best possible start to its life - I was able to pay my composer a decent sum for his incredible work, engage movement consultants to lift my choreography to the next level, and bring in an Auslan interpreter to improve accessibility... to quote MasterCard (is it MasterCard?), that was priceless.” Telia Neville, Independent Artist.

What are we asking for?

We are asking you to donate \$5,000 that will directly pay artists to produce their work in Victoria's most important independent arts program (that's us, Melbourne Fringe!).

How will it work?

You tell us what you're passionate about and we'll do some Fringey match-making, pairing you up with an artist or show that you think needs to be made. You get to choose the artform category and the kind of artist you're interested in – whether that's a writer, theatre-maker, dancer, comedian, cabaret artiste, queer artist, beat poet, whatever. We can work it out together.

We will then **provide you with some brilliant projects** and help you choose one to commission, or we can choose it for you if you prefer. Either way, we promise you're not on your own.

Then **the artist gets to work**. If you want to check-in with the project as it's developing and get to know the artist, we can help you with that – or if you're more of a wait-till-opening-night kinda person, then we'll just save you a front row seat.

What will your \$5,000 support?

\$2,500 will go directly to the artist, helping fund the making of their work - wages for rehearsals, a venue technician, venue hire, marketing costs, a set designer, costumes... It might not sound like a lot of money, but this is the budget of an average Fringe artist's show.

A little bit can go a long way here at Fringe.

The other \$2,500 goes to a Melbourne Fringe Associate Producer, who will support the artist to get their work off the ground. Our Associate Producers are like having an excellent art mum – they help artists find a venue, sort out public liability insurance, help them with budgeting, making an access plan, wash behind their ears, etc. Next to dollars, our Producers are the most practical and useful asset an independent artist can have.

We're offering limited ShowSupport opportunities in ten categories including Cabaret, Comedy, Circus, Dance, Kids events, Live Art, Music, Performance, Visual Arts, Words & Ideas. Or, if you have a passion for something you don't see on the list, chat to us. We love things that don't fit in boxes!

You could be responsible for finding the Next Big Thing

Melbourne Fringe has a habit of being a training ground for some of Australia (and the world's) most extraordinary makers. Our alumni reads like a who's who of contemporary art making. Help find the next Barrie Kosky, Jane Campion, Yana Alana, Moira Finucane, Declan Greene, Rachel Griffiths, Christos Tsiolkas, Yumi Umiumare, Megan Washington or Sammy J.

You'll be investing in the future of the arts in Australia, fostering artistic discovery and helping artists take the next steps in their careers. Get to know your artist, and you too can say "I knew them when..."

Still need convincing...?

Do it for GLORY!

You'll have your name up in lights and rightly recognised for your generosity. You'll have the opportunity to name the gift: Theatre ShowSupport – commissioned by "Simon Abrahams" (well, it'll be YOU, but you get the drift)...

What next?

We hope that you'll come on board. If you want to talk about anything – co-commissioning, how to get the ball rolling, what types of art can you support – please get in contact, we're all ears.

We all know that art-making doesn't happen solo. This is your chance to make a real difference.

ShowSupport will have a real impact on the artists, on the Festival, and on Victoria's independent arts sector.

"This support relieved us of the financial strain of putting on a show, and allowed us to focus on what it is we love and do best - creating dynamic and exciting art."

Benjamin Nichol
On the Fence Productions

For more info

Simon Abrahams, CEO & Creative Director
simon@melbournefringe.com.au
03 9660 9600
0407 422 496