

Venue Hire Info: Shows & Gigs

Fringe Common Rooms is more than just a venue for hire – it's a home for vibrant and groundbreaking independent arts, music and events.

All year round Common Rooms carries the torch for Melbourne Fringe's deep commitment to rebellion, inclusivity and creativity (and ripper dance floors, obvz).

From gigs and live music to comedy, spoken word, theatre, cabaret, parties and meet-ups – whatever you're up to, this is fully accessible common ground for everyone. And for artists, it's a chance to share your work in a bustling and historic building right in the heart of Melbourne – and cos we love artists, you get heaps of benefits!

Fringe Common Rooms at Trades Hall consists of two spaces;

The Old Ballroom: a performance space & bar that holds up to 170 patrons standing or 146 seated theatre-style. Perfect for your one-off performance (think comedy, cabaret, spoken word), dance party, book launch, film screening or panel event.

The Annexe: a second, intimate saloon-style space that holds up to 70 people and is ideal for workshops, meetings and rehearsals.

Porque no los dos? For most events in the Old Ballroom, the Annexe can be used as a break-out area or backstage green room at no extra cost.

Common Rooms holds a 3am licence on all days except Sunday (which is licenced until 11pm). We have a bar in the Old Ballroom that we can run during your event; a minimum spend may apply.

Across both spaces there are 10x cabaret tables, 6x high bar tables and chairs and 150x theatre seats available to use.

HIRING COMMON ROOMS FOR YOUR SHOW/GIG

Reckon Common Rooms is the perfect place for your event? Fill out the [Expression of Interest form](#) on our website and tell us all about it. Our team meets regularly to assess proposals against the following criteria:

- **Suitability** – Events that fit the space technically and physically.
- **Community** – Works by independent artists that foster connection and celebrate our community, creating a social atmosphere.
- **Diversity** – We value work by and for people who identify as LGBTIQ, First Nations, Deaf, disabled or Culturally or Linguistically Diverse.
- **Viability** – Experience of the team, knowledge of the market and capacity to find an audience.
- **Distinctiveness** – Unique events that explore new ideas in new ways, or that hold a distinctive place in Melbourne's arts market.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to email commonrooms@melbournefringe.com.au or call us on (03) 9660 9600.

HIRE MODELS

Depending on your event, we'll set a hire fee based on one (or a combination of) the following:

- a door-split (where the artist and Melbourne Fringe share the door)
 - a per-ticket fee (usually a flat per-ticket fee built into the cost of the ticket)
 - a flat venue-hire cost (one fee for the whole extravaganza)
 - or minimum bar spend (speaks for itself)
- When there's shared risk (i.e. door splits) there will always be a minimum charge to ensure basic costs are covered.

All hires include a dedicated venue staff member who is your go-to for making your event a success. We'll work with you to determine the most suitable hire model.

TICKETING AND FRONT OF HOUSE

As a rule, all tickets must be sold through Melbourne Fringe's ticketing system. We'll work with you to set your ticket prices and manage any special ticketing requirements. All events need someone to work the door (and greet your guests) – you can BYO Door Person or we can provide someone, at an additional cost.

ACCESS AND INCLUSION

Fringe Common Rooms is committed to being a wholly inclusive and accessible venue. No more shunting people into out-of-the-way goods lifts – Trades Hall's recent renovations means the entire venue is accessible, with a brand-new platform lift from Lygon Street and an internal lift right near the entrance to the venue. Newly installed gender-neutral and accessible bathrooms are just down the hall. There's also a hearing loop and portable wheelchair lift to make the stage accessible. Let us know if there's anything else you need and we'll make it happen.

Melbourne Fringe has created a resource to help you make your show accessible to audiences.

Download our [Producers Guide to Access](#).

Download [Producers Guide to Access \(Plain Text version\)](#)

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

Both spaces are fully kitted out for your show or gig (see full tech specs below) so we're 100% ready to help you realise your vision.

Each event receives our basic tech set-up and support as part of the venue hire cost. Basic tech set up is microphone and PA, aux cord to plug in a music device and a pre-set lighting state. Basic technical support means someone will turn the house lights down, house music down, mic up, lights up.

If you want to arrange your own technician to operate your performance, talk to us.

TECH SPECS

Common Rooms is kitted out to put on high-quality performance events, with state of the art technology for everything your heart desires. Both the Old Ballroom and the Annexe can be set to your technical needs using the list of equipment below. Talk to us when booking your event.

Audio

We have a rockin' sound system to bring the house down, that will make everything from your spoken word event to your 14-piece brass band sound A+. Includes PA system, foldback, stagebox and mixer.

2 x d&b V10P 3-way passive point source loudspeaker

2 x d&b B6 Sub (omni directional)

1 x d&b D20 Amplifier NL4 - 1 x d&b D20 sleeve

4 x dbTechnologies Opera 12 foldback

1 x Allen & Heath SQ-5 19" 48 channel mixer 96KHz digital mixer

1 x Allen & Heath Qu AB168 16/8 channel digital stage box

1 x Allen & Heath MixWizard 12:2:2 analogue mixing desk

Visual

A picture is worth a thousand words. A projector is worth a lot more (please don't break it). Perfect for your film screenings and Eurovision parties.

Epson EB-L615U 5k Laser Projector

125" Electric Screen 16:9

13" Macbook Pro, Late 2013 running Qlab

Microphones, Di's and cables

Be heard with our wide range of microphones and cables. Most mics are wired but we have a couple of headset mics for all your Madonna impersonations. If you need more wireless mics we can hire them in (at an extra cost).

2 x Radial JDI Stereo Passive 2-channel direct injection box with Jensen transformer

2 x Radial - J48 active 48V direct injection box

1 x Radial ProAV1 Multimedia DI (for plugging a laptop into the stage box)

6 x Shure SM58 (vocal mics)

4 x Shure SM57 (multi-purpose mics)

1 x Shure Beta SM52A (kick drum mic)

4 x Shure Beta SM56A (iInstrument mics)

10 x Microphone stand - boom (210/9)

1 x Microphone stand - kick

2 x Sennheiser G3 wireless mic kit (B band)

Microphones, Di's and cables (contd.)

- 2 x Sennheiser EW100 G3 wireless beltpack transmitter
- 2 x Sennheiser ME 2-II Headset Microphone
- 10 x XLR M-F cable (1.5m)
- 10 x XLR M-F cable (5m)
- 10 x XLR M-F cable (10m)
- 10 x XLR M-F cable (20m)

DJ Gear

DJ Otzi eat your heart out. Hey baby.

- 2 x Denon SC5000
- 1 x Allen & Heath XOne:96
- 2 x Reeloc RP8000

Lighting

All our lights are LED, super energy efficient and are guaranteed to make you look fantastic.

- 1 x Zero88 FLX S24 Lighting Desk (with touch screen)
- 8 x Pluto 800 wash moving head (LED)
- 2 x Pluto 350 moving head spot (LED)
- 2 x LED Fresnel 50 - Nitec
- 2 x Pharos Jnr - Compact LED Profile with integrated zoom (19-36 degree)
- 1 x Unique Hazer 2.1 (will attract an extra cost)
- 2 x Minum lighting desks

Backline & Instruments

No more lugging drum kits up the Trades Hall stairs. We've got a drum kit and amps for you to plug into, and a beautiful upright piano (her name is Tina Tinkles).

Yamaha Tour Custom Fusion Shell Pack

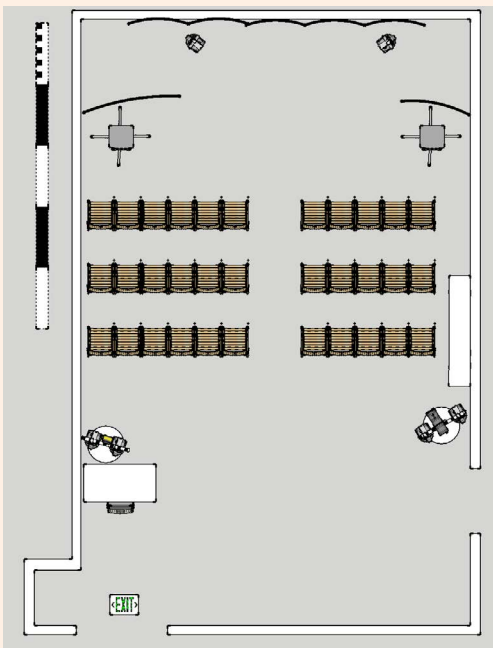
Fender Mustang GT200 200W 2X12 Combo Amp

Yamaha Upright Piano The size of the stage in the Old Ballroom is 6m wide x 2.4m deep x 600mm high. The stage can be expanded to 3.6m deep if necessary.

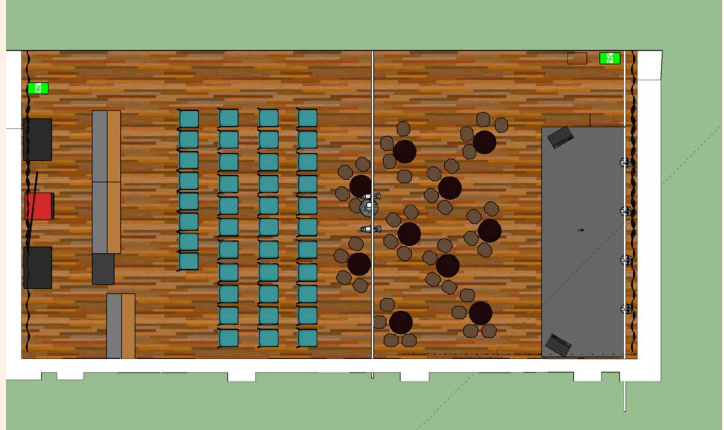
If you want tech in the Annexe, including a stage, lights and PA, we can arrange this for you.

FLOOR PLANS

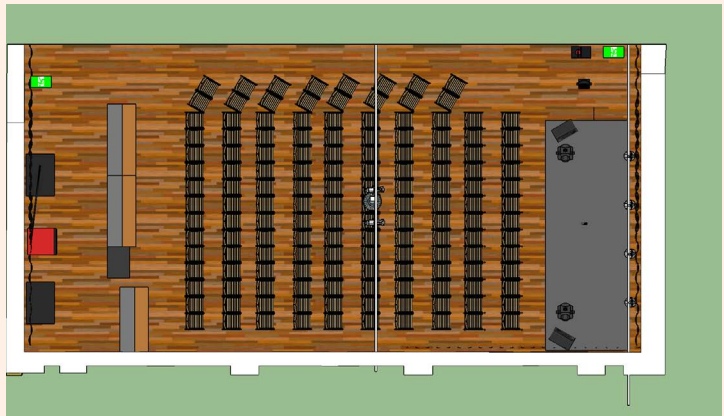
ANNEXE - 33 SEATS



COMMON ROOMS - 80 SEATS



COMMON ROOMS - 146 SEATS



BOOBS, SELINA JENKINS, FRINGE COMMON ROOMS 2019. PHOTOS BY J FORSYTH.