



MELBOURNE  
GRIN  
FESTIVAL

PLAY UP  
3–22 Oct 2023









Wominjeka.

Melbourne Fringe respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we live, work, play and hold our Festival.

We acknowledge that the oldest living culture in the world has been kept alive by a rich and continuing history of storytelling, music, dance, art and language.

We pay our respects to the people of the Kulin Nations and all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Elders past and present, who maintain an enduring spiritual and cultural connection to the land.

Sovereignty was never ceded.





*Steve Dimopoulos*

**Steve Dimopoulos**

Minister for  
Creative Industries

Melbourne Fringe Festival is back and kicking off its 5th decade in style. The 2023 program will showcase more than 470 unique and exciting works from more than 2,500 artists – including over 2,200 who call Victoria home.

Thanks to Fringe's open-access and inclusive ethos, the festival gives emerging artists, designers and makers the chance to be part of a massive creative celebration while offering established creatives a platform to experiment and reach new audiences.

The Victorian Government is proud to back Melbourne Fringe, both to stage this incredible festival and to deliver its important year-round work. Fringe plays a vital role in nurturing diverse creative voices and developing the careers of people working in the spotlight and behind the scenes of our creative industries. Fringe is a highlight of our creative calendar, and this year it is part of an unparalleled and action-packed season of creative events and festivals taking place throughout October here in Victoria.

Congratulations to the Fringe team and all participating artists on this incredible program. I encourage you to get out and enjoy everything this year's festival has to offer.

Happy Fringe!



*Sally Capp*

**Sally Capp**

Lord Mayor  
City of Melbourne

The Melbourne Fringe Festival brings a spark to the city every spring, with risk-takers and artists of every kind entertaining our audiences. The City of Melbourne is proud to support a festival that invites all to participate, providing access to the stage for many new performers.

From a giant playground swing to all the festivities planned for Queen Victoria Market, expect the outrageous and the unexpected in circus, cabaret, comedy, theatre and so much more. Bold and brilliant talent is a defining characteristic of Melbourne and we wish this year's festival every success.



# NO MATTER HOW HARD WE TRY, MELBOURNE FRINGE JUST WON'T GROW UP.

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We colour outside the lines, run wild in public places – but our sense of play doesn't mean we're small. In fact, with 470+ events, this year's Festival is our biggest yet. Which, to be honest, wasn't the plan. But as the need for Fringe from independent artists continues to expand, we happily grow to meet them.

Last year's Festival was all about declaring Melbourne open once more. This year, the spotlight's on supporting artists' bold ideas, elevating their vital voices, and helping support career pathways (and because we just can't help ourselves, there's also an enormous giant swing to change your perspective on this city, for good measure).

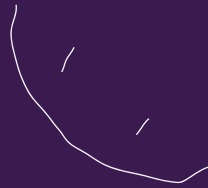
So consider this an invitation – don't grow up, play up. The city's your adventure playground this Fringe. Get into the swing and discover new art, new artists, new things about Melbourne... and new things about yourself. It's playtime!

A handwritten signature in white ink, reading "Simon Abrahams".

**Simon Abrahams**  
Creative Director & CEO



# RULES TO FRINGE



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## 1. Get your search on

Visit [melbournefringe.com.au](http://melbournefringe.com.au) to find everything you need. Know what you want? Find events easily and snap up your tickets. Need a little help choosing? Tweak and toggle our advanced filters to find your Fringe match!

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## 2. Access your Fringe

All online event listings have comprehensive access information. You can filter events by access provisions or get in touch with our Box Office team if you have more questions.

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## 3. Take a punt

Go on, surprise yourself! It's Fringe, after all. Close your eyes, spin the bottle and choose an event out of your comfort zone. There's lots to choose from and plenty for free.

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## 4. Join the conversation

Find out what's setting chins wagging on our website with our Crowd Pleaser comments. And if you've got something to say post-show, jump in and recommend a show yourself.

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## 5. Narrow the field

You pick a Fringe flavour that tickles your tastebuds and we'll dish up a hot serve with our website guides —we'll bundle together everything from events in the western suburbs to queer, feminist or First Nations events to help you find your faves.

Check out these cheeky cheat sheets to customise your Fringe experience.



Here are our Fringe cheat codes to help you make the most of your Festival experience.

Jump on in, keep your mind open, embrace the new and most importantly - have a good time! We can't wait to welcome you to the Fringe.

#### 6. Follow @MelbFringe

Come play on our socials. We're on the Instagrams and the TikToks, sharing hot Festival tips and content, and keeping you up to date with day-to-day Festival shenanigans.

#### 7. Fringe for breakfast, lunch and tea

Our daytime program pops with heaps of fun events to keep your Fringe hunger sated through the daylight hours, plus those looking for kick-ons can get their night-time Fringe fix with Club Fringe staying steamy til late.

#### 8. Ask for more

Visit our Fed Square Info Booth for all things Fringe. Book tickets IRL, ask for hot recs, bring the staff donuts—our certified Fringe experts are ready to help.

#### 9. Be Fringe

Embody the spirit of Fringe wherever you go. Make space for new ideas, new people, new perspectives—and most of all, **PLAY!**

But play nice, or we're calling your mum to come get you.

Love what we do?  
You can help us do it!  
Donate to Melbourne  
Fringe below



FIND SOME SHOWS

# CHECK THE FULL EVENT LISTINGS GUIDE

Have your highlighter and group chat standing by... The complete Event Listing Guide drops in select venues in September.

Snatch a copy and get planning—you've got 470+ events to choose from!

Download me from  
[melbournefringe.com.au](http://melbournefringe.com.au)

470+  
SHOWS

*Event Listing Guide*  
Cover image by Shelley Horan





Melbourne Fringe presents

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# OPENING NIGHT GALA

**Tuesday 3 Oct**  
The Capitol

It's a Fringe gala, daahling! Frock up all fancy and join us for a very Fringey extravaganza of the best, bravest and most bananas of this year's program.

Serve your best gala-worthy red-carpet moment before settling in for a dazzling variety spectacular featuring non-stop snippets of festival fare, hosted by the hilarious Michelle Brasier.

Come help us blow The Capitol's roof sky-high with this sensational opening night celebration of all things Fringe.

*Fringe Block Party*  
Image by Nick Mick Pics



Melbourne Fringe presents

# SWING

Swing is commissioned with  
Principal Partner support from  
the Naomi Milgrom Foundation.

**Tue 3 → Sun 8 Oct**  
State Library Victoria Forecourt

**Fri 20 → Sun 22 Oct**  
Footscray Station Forecourt

Every great adventure playground has a swing.  
This October, Melbourne's is eight metres tall.

Chase that giddy rush of wind in your hair as you  
hop aboard this playful interruption of the everyday.  
Kids rule here, buckling you in and setting you soaring,  
as a choir below becomes your guardian and rouses  
your every movement with songs of encouragement.

Come feel like a kid again—it's your turn for a Swing.

**NAOMI  
MILGROM  
FOUNDATION**

**CREATIVE VICTORIA**

**CITY OF  
MELBOURNE**



**Maribyrnong  
CITY COUNCIL**

**Arts &  
Culture**



**STATE LIBRARY  
VICTORIA**

*Swing* is supported through the Melbourne City Revitalisation Fund,  
a \$200M partnership of the Victorian Government and the City of Melbourne



Melbourne Fringe and Fed Square present

# VOLO: DREAMS OF FLIGHT

by Studio Go Go

Look down from the clouds as you soar through the sky in a Leonardo da Vinci-inspired flying contraption—all without leaving the ground.

This VR headset experience lets you pilot one of four flying machines, transforming a regular old playground swing into an exhilarating aerial experience. Feel the flutter in your belly as your swing catches air and you glide over rugged terrain, soar as an ornithopter, or parachute slowly to earth.

**Wed 4 → Sun 22 Oct**

Fed Square,  
Swanston St Forecourt



*Volo: Dreams of Flight* is supported through the Melbourne City Revitalisation Fund—a \$200 million partnership of the Victorian Government and the City of Melbourne

# DEADLY FRINGE



Staunch ASF  
Image by Alliah Nival



Deadly Fringe is a hotbed of brave and bold new work from some of our fiercest First Nations talent.

Experience the ecstasy of collective dance at an immersive queer art-party inspired by iconic Blakfulla dancefloor culture, witness fearless new circus about connection to land and spirituality, and cackle at a showstopping new drag and burlesque variety night showcasing an all-queer, all-Blak lineup.

Catch some of the very best new First Nations work in the country at Deadly Fringe.

## **Brolga: A Queer Koori Wonderland**

by Joel Bray Dance

## **Deadly Sinners**

hosted by Bizzi Body & Timberlina

## **Of The Land On Which We Meet**

by Na Djinang Circus

## **STAUNCH ASF**

by Amelia Jean O'Leary

## **What I Know, How I See**

curated by Peta Duncan



Australian Government  
Indigenous Languages and Arts

trawalla  
foundation

Canny Online  
FOUNDATION

MECCA

Discover the full  
Deadly Fringe program



Supported by Craig Semple

Melbourne Fringe presents

# SAMMY J THE 50 YEAR SHOW

**Friday 6 Oct**

Melbourne Town Hall

Don't miss this raucous night of history in the making that will have you laughing till the next one in 2028.

The best way to stay employed in this industry?  
Create a show that lasts for 50 years.

Sammy J's rambunctious only-at-Fringe caper looks backwards, forwards, and to the events of the day, in a poignant and hilarious time capsule packed with games, music, high-octane dance numbers and some of Australia's finest comedians.

Launched in 2008 with one show taking place every five years until 2058, this is the fourth instalment of an epic experiment that laughs in the face of Father Time.

Discover Sammy J's  
Festival picks







FIND A SHOW

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# COMEDY EVENTS AT MELBOURNE FRINGE

Get your giggle on! Our Comedy program features some serious lols for all you chuckle-chasers, no matter what you like to laugh at. Discover brand-new stand-up from national treasures and first-timers alike, side-splitting subversive sketch, biting social satire and improv masters who are just, well, making it up as they go.

Discover the next in-joke to be referenced endlessly in the group chat—scan the QR code for all Comedy shows





FIND A SHOW

# DANCE & PHYSICAL THEATRE EVENTS AT MELBOURNE FRINGE

Let's get physical. Our diverse Dance & Physical Theatre program showcases some of our most magical independent movers in boundary-pushing contemporary and classically inspired dance and movement that probes big ideas about who we are, and celebrates the strength, power and grace of the moving body.

Discover moves that might inspire  
you next time you're on the d-floor.  
Scan the QR code for all Dance &  
Physical Theatre events



Discover Radical  
Access events



*I Am (Not) This Body*  
Image by Amanda Fordyce



# RADICAL ACCESS

## ~~~~~ "…derelict in uncharted space…"

by Fayen d'Evie and Benjamin Hancock

## The Birth and Death of a Physical Artist

by roya the destroya and Peter Sette

## I Am (Not) This Body

by Leisa Prowd

Revel in radical genre-busting work from d/Deaf and Disabled artists leading the charge with extraordinary storytelling from unique perspectives.

Catch a hip-hop fuelled physical exploration of the life of an artist, experience a multi-disciplinary homage to a 1970s Star Trek fan club through intersensory translations and movement, and witness the reclamation of body autonomy by a body historically defined by the gaze of others.

Co-driven with Arts Access Victoria, Radical Access is a one-of-its-kind provocation for change.



This project has been assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body



# PULSE

Discover events that push  
creative boundaries



*Betty Grumble*  
Image by Joseph Mayers



Tap into the beating heart of Melbourne Fringe with Pulse, an exhilarating new program of urgent art which extends form, explores possibilities and looks to the near future, by trailblazing independent makers.

Howl in solidarity with the hysterical heretic herself Betty Grumble, join the vibrant celebration of a Middle Eastern wedding ritual, catch a Broadway classic re-imagined for the dodgeball court, and witness breathtaking new contemporary dance from inside the Melbourne City Baths.

Keep your Fringe finger on the pulse with these electric celebrations of creative risk-taking, ambition and independence.

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### **Apricity**

by Casus Creations

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### **Breaking**

by Counterpilot

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### **A Dodgeball Named Desire**

by Bloomshed

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### **Enemies of Grooviness Eat Sh!t**

by Betty Grumble

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### **Shower Thots**

by Jonathan Homsey

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### **Solace**

by Melinda Hetzel & Co

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### **WAKE**

by THE RABBLE

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### **Zaffé**

by Stéphanie Ghajar  
& Collaborators

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Discover the full  
Pulse program





# FESTIVAL PARK

Come revel in the spirit  
of Fringe at Festival Park.

Tue 3 → Sun 29 Oct  
Queen Victoria Market

Discover hidden gems  
at Melbourne Fringe



Testing  
Grounds



Festival Park is supported through the Melbourne City Revitalisation Fund —  
a \$200 million partnership of the Victorian Government and the City of Melbourne



Set amongst the lively atmosphere of Melbourne's iconic Queen Victoria Market, experience your Fringe fantasy in this pop-up play space carefully crafted by the Headfirst Acrobats.

Catch world-class acrobatics and side-splitting comedy and cabaret acts, all while enjoying the buzz of the bustling beer garden under the stars, noshing on delicious grub from local food trucks, and pushing your boundaries at Testing Grounds' Public Art Park—all smack bang in the heart of Melbourne.



Discover the full  
Festival Park program



GODZ  
Image by Nick Robertson



# TRADES HALL FESTIVAL HUB

Make the Festival Hub your very own art adventure playground.

Our building-wide takeover of Trades Hall delivers 100+ shows of every size, shape and flavour, all under one roof. Meet your mates for a pre-show bevvy at the bar while you chat about your top Festival picks.

Later, Club Fringe beckons, dishing up late-night dancefloors, DJs, cabaret and high-art mischief and mayhem Wednesday to Sunday all Festival long.

Discover events at  
Trades Hall Festival Hub





## Fringe Flavours

Wed 4, 11 & 18 Oct

Not sure what to order up at the Festival? Every Wednesday, Fringe Common Rooms is serving up a tasty entrée of performances from across the Festival week to help you select your main course.

With a new guest host every week, who knows what surprises are in store.





# CLUB FRINGE

Discover parties  
and social events at  
Melbourne Fringe



WEDNESDAY 4 OCT

## Festival Hub Opening Party

Help us celebrate the opening of the Festival Hub the only way we know how!

THURSDAY 5 OCT

## Club Worship

Celebrate Queer Asian excellence in this one-off, multi-artform club night and prepare to worship at the altar of Queer Asian excellence.

WEDNESDAY 11 OCT

## Dancefloor Piano Bar

Warm up your vocal cords for the thrilling energy of a dancefloor mixed with the personal connection of a piano bar.

THURSDAY 12 OCT

## Rhinestone Whispers

Part dance lesson, part bush dance, part dance marathon, Deep Soulful Sweats encourages everyone to kick up their heels give it a go.

WEDNESDAY 18 OCT

## CONNECT

Equal parts dance performance, dance workshop and dance party, this event is here to break down the barrier between trained dancers and their audiences.

THURSDAY 19 OCT

## The Fringe Formal

The graduating class of Trades Hall High is getting their Formal send-off... but a strange presence lurks in the darkness.



When the sun goes down, things get a little playful at Club Fringe.

Join us five nights a week for Fringe's wildest high-concept art parties ever. Rock out at a queer punk pub night, get suited and booted for the Fringe Formal, plus our extra spicy weekend parties mean your end-of-week frivolity is sorted with big tunes, hot art and heaps of sweaty dancing.

Round out your night on the Fringe with one last stop at Club Fringe, open Wed-Sun til late.

FRIDAY 6 OCT

### Mx Fringe

This anti-pageant beauty pageant burns the rule book and embraces the Fringe-tastic to crown Mx Fringe.

SATURDAY 7 OCT

### Beam Me Up

This is more than a party – it's a journey to the farthest reaches of your imagination. So don your antennae, adjust your orbits, and let's shake the Earth with beats that reverberate across the cosmos.

SUNDAY 8 OCT

### Artist Knock-Offs

The vibes are high, the dance floor beckons and we wanna see you there. Party? PARTY!

FRIDAY 13 OCT

### 3 Minutes to Save the World

With only three minutes on the clock and a world to save, it's a tall order for these Fringe artists.

SATURDAY 14 OCT

### Klub Kong

Fresh from Drag Race Down Under, Kween Kong is back. Category is: UNIQUE!

SUNDAY 15 OCT

### Artist Knock-Offs

Let your inner dance floor goblin take over. Shake off the week that was.

FRIDAY 20 OCT

### Fringe-o-vision

Europe's most iconic contest gets the Fringe treatment—and only one powerhouse performer will reign supreme.

SATURDAY 21 OCT

### Beers for Queers XL

Your favourite queer soiree takes over Club Fringe with a party to end all parties.

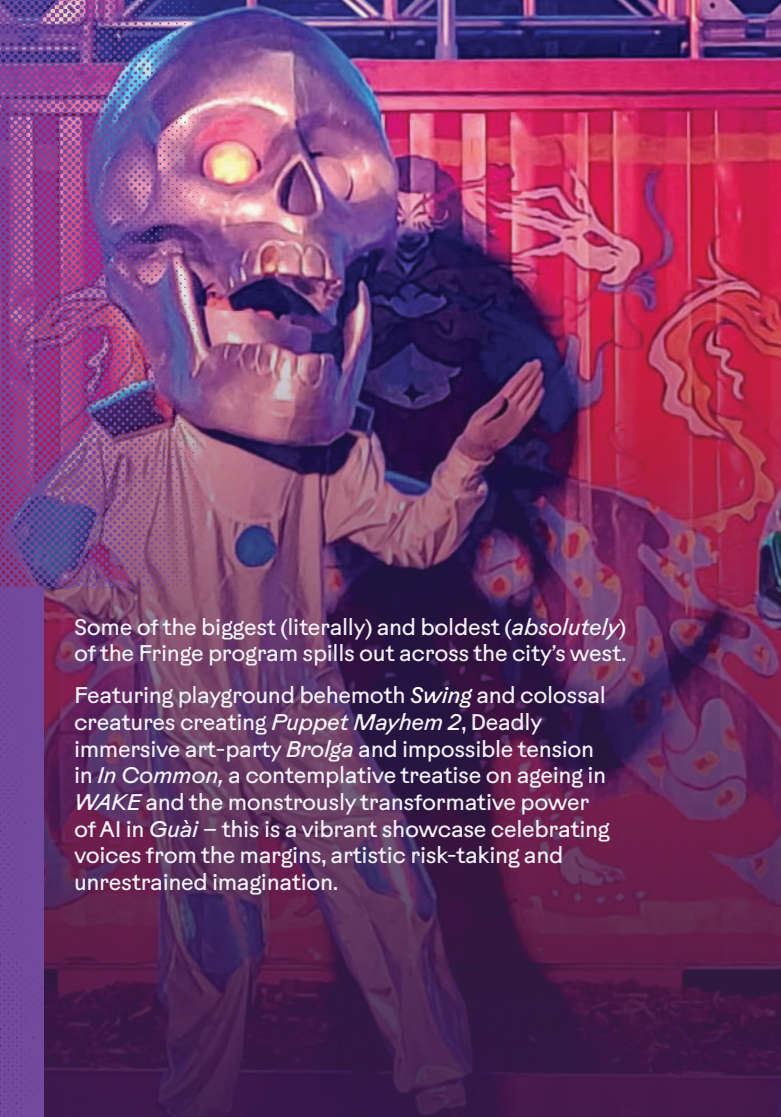
SUNDAY 22 OCT

### Award Ceremony & Closing Night Party

That's a wrap baby—but not before we hand out the accolades! Then—we party.



# FRINGE IN THE WEST



Some of the biggest (literally) and boldest (*absolutely*) of the Fringe program spills out across the city's west.

Featuring playground behemoth *Swing* and colossal creatures creating *Puppet Mayhem 2*, Deadly immersive art-party *Brolga* and impossible tension in *In Common*, a contemplative treatise on ageing in *WAKE* and the monstrously transformative power of AI in *Guàì* – this is a vibrant showcase celebrating voices from the margins, artistic risk-taking and unrestrained imagination.

Discover art in the  
Western suburbs



Maribyrnong  
CITY COUNCIL

Arts &  
Culture

*Puppet Mayhem*  
Image by A Blanck Canvas

FIND A SHOW

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# THEATRE EVENTS AT MELBOURNE FRINGE

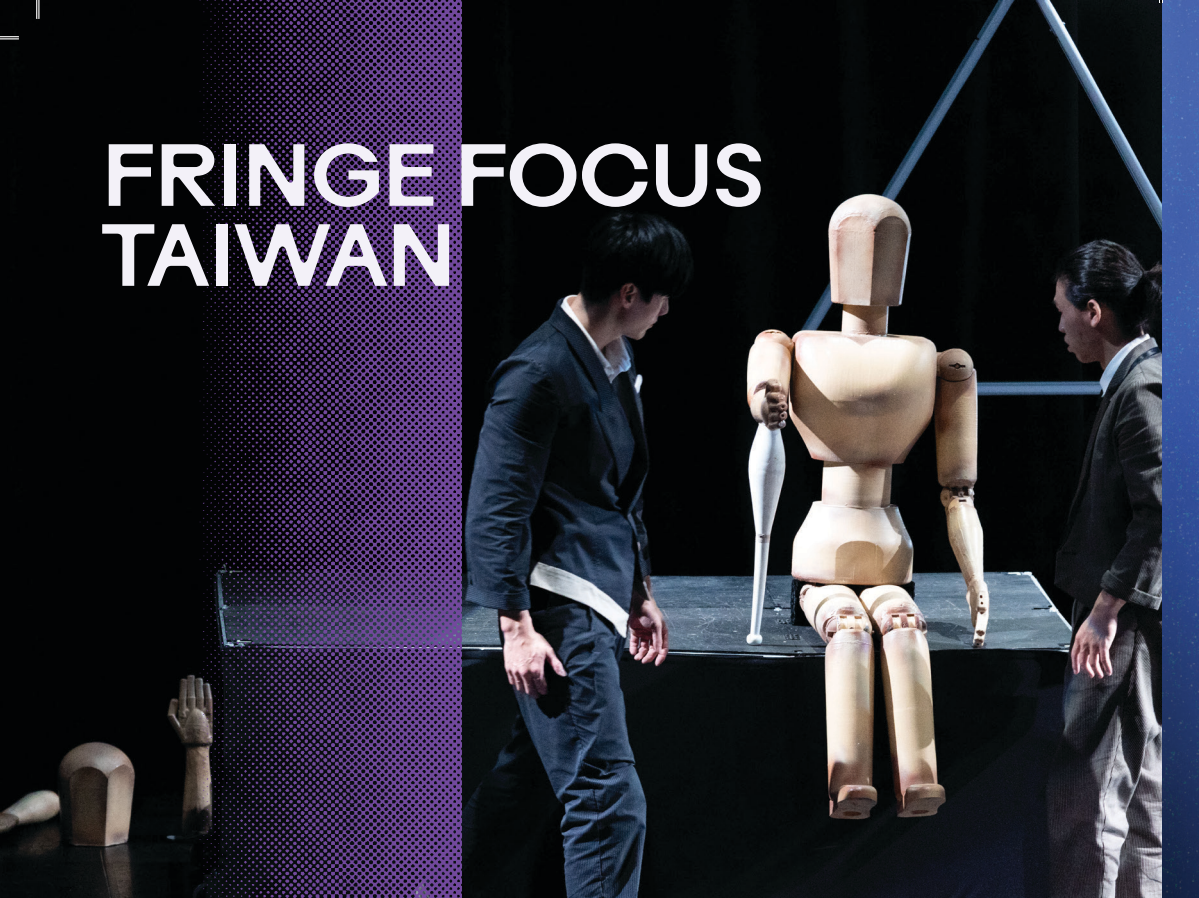
Just bloody love a show? Our Theatre program is home to all sorts, from brave new writing that you can't find anywhere except on the fringes, to classics reimagined to speak to our times, and ensembles exploding form and making award-winning art from the bits.

Discover a powerful performance  
you'll think about long after curtain  
call—scan for all Theatre events





# FRINGE FOCUS TAIWAN



## Mr. III 三 III

FOCA—Formosa Circus Art

## Puzzle 拼圖

FOCA—Formosa Circus Art

Discover the Fringe  
Focus Taiwan program



Mr. III 三 III  
Image by Ken Photography

When the drums sound, the game officially begins! From Taiwan's FOCA - Formosa Circus Art, comes Mr. III 三 III (*Mr Three*), a juggling, music, and acrobatic adventure about ditching the suit and tie and reclaiming joy.

In the playful world of Puzzle, every piece matters. Join five talented acrobats in unexpected public places as they tumble, twist, and turn plus-sized puzzle pieces into a pop-up street circus game that will take all their skills to master.

當鼓聲響起，遊戲正式開始！來自臺灣的FOCA福爾摩沙馬戲團 以《Mr. III 三 III》帶來了一場馬戲、節奏和雜耍的探險，歡迎加入我們的遊戲，一起尋回童年的悸動。生活就像一幅拼圖。你得思考如何細細完成這個遊戲般的旅程。表演者用翻滾、倒立和疊羅漢等技巧，將「拼圖」和解開「謎題」（在英文都可以稱為puzzle）這兩種遊戲，融合在精采的肢體表現中。歡迎與我們一起，在意想不到的城市空間內翻滾、扭轉，一起重新探索、檢視、發現熟悉的大街小巷。



Cultural Division  
Taipei Economic and Cultural Office  
Sydney



Fringe Focus Taiwan is supported by The Ministry of Culture, Republic of China (Taiwan), and Cultural Division, Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Sydney

# PRAHRAN'S FRINGE PARTY



Across the Yarra lies the perennial Fringe playground in Prahran fun, fabulous and outrageously eccentric shows await.

Discover a pop-culture film icon turned real-life immersive performance onboard a vintage bus in Prahran Square.

Home of circus NICA brings mind-bending acts pushing the art of circus to new heights - literally.

Chapel Street's vibrancy continues into the neighbourhood where you'll find *So Soiree Fringe Garden* and cult cabaret hooligans tearing up the dance floor, while comedy, queens and cantankerous bingo nans keep the party going.

Discover more  
events in Prahran



Apricity  
Image by Fen Lan Chuang



Melbourne Fringe and Metro Tunnel Creative Program present

# IN COMMON

by One Fell Swoop Circus

**Fri 6 → Sun 8 Oct**

Gasworks Arts Park

**Thu 12 → Sun 15 Oct**

Nicholson St Mall, Footscray

**Wed 18 → Sun 22 Oct**

Fed Square Amphitheatre

Wander through Melbourne and stumble upon an impossible structure built from steel and rope held aloft with floating, invisible tension. A thrilling new work by Melbourne's own One Fell Swoop Circus, *In Common* sees the impossible tensegrity structure/sculpture brought to life by the company's signature style of acrobatics—heartfelt, powerful and intimate.

An exploration of tension both structural and relational, *In Common* lets you experience the joy of throwing yourself into someone else's arms and the warm weight of bearing them.



METROTUNNEL

Creative  
Program

CREATIVE VICTORIA



Maribyrnong  
CITY COUNCIL

Arts &  
Culture



Supported by Fed Square, James McCaughey, Rupert Myer AO and the Pulse Giving Circle

FIND A SHOW

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# CIRCUS EVENTS AT MELBOURNE FRINGE

Melbourne Fringe's Circus program is a jaw-dropping celebration of world-class circus spectacle, and this year there is plenty for you to juggle. Be amazed by nail-biting acrobatics, high-octane dramatic tricks, astounding physical feats and show-stopping stunts from artists that are flipping the script on what contemporary circus can be.

Discover a moment to  
make you catch your breath  
—scan for all Circus events



*In Common*  
Image by Dan Rabin Photography



FIND A SHOW

# MUSIC EVENTS AT MELBOURNE FRINGE

Tune in to sweet beats with our Music events! Featuring new music from independent musicians, experimental explorations, participatory parties and tribute acts celebrating the sounds you know and love, we've got gig night sorted.

Discover a new sound or see  
your Spotify playlists come to life  
—scan for all Music events



*Sky Symphony*  
Image by Mary Livingstone



# SKY SYMPHONY

by Shaun Rigney, LASERVISION and Orchestra Victoria

**Wed 11 → Sun 15 Oct**

Yarra Promenade  
(outside the Crown Towers)

The skies above the Birrarung come alive with this extraordinary sound and light symphony.

Crafted in lockdown, *Sky Symphony* uses photography of the sky to create a symphonic light installation that looks deep into the stars to find the stories that shape us.

Beaming out across the river's shimmering surface, world-leading LASERVISION's dazzling light, sound and laser experience is accompanied by a sky-inspired symphony from composer Shaun Rigney, played in exaltation by Orchestra Victoria.

Discover free events  
at Melbourne Fringe



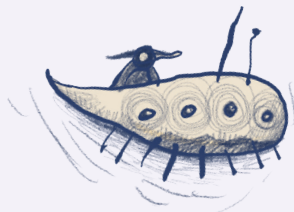
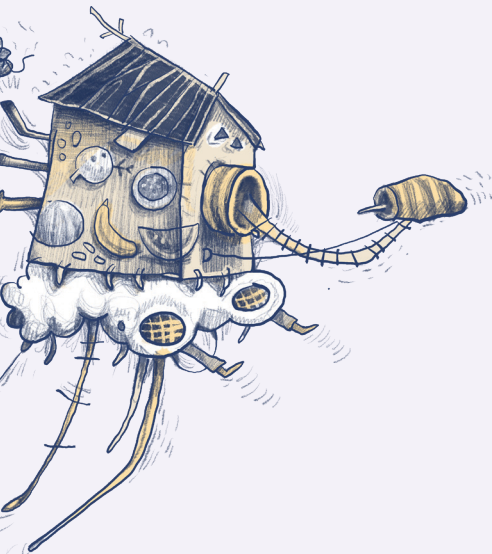
Sky Symphony is supported through the Melbourne City Revitalisation Fund  
—a \$200 million partnership of the Victorian Government and the City of Melbourne



Melbourne Fringe, The Artground and ArtPlay present

# THE LITTLE NESTS

by Papermoon Puppet Theatre in collaboration with Steph O'Hara, Stan, Myra Loke and Hui Xuan Seong

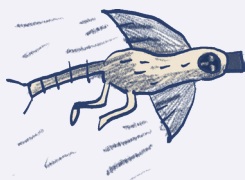


Sat 14 → Sun 15 Oct  
ArtPlay

This enchanting and evolving immersive installation and interactive performance experience invites children to visit and unravel the mysteries of the little nests, unleashing their creativity as they make their own nest inspired by a place of refuge.

Created by a collective of artists from Australia, Indonesia and Singapore, *The Little Nests* seamlessly blends shadow puppetry, live performance and an otherworldly soundscape.

Part of XS—our program of experimental, contemporary and live art for kids.

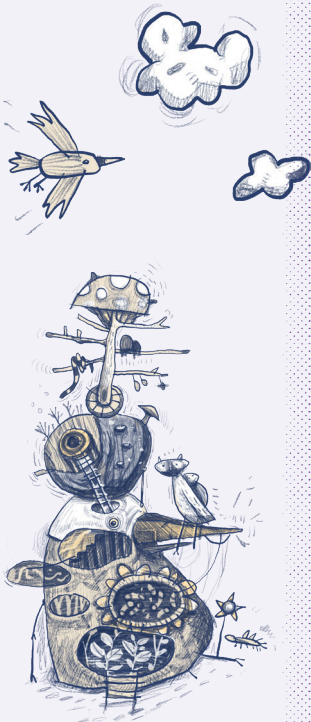


ARTPLAY



Supported by Monica Lim and Konfir Kabo

# KIDS EVENTS AT MELBOURNE FRINGE



*The Little Nests*  
Image by M. Alhaq

You're never too young for Fringe! Foster your kids' creative spirit with events tailor-made for smalls. Our Family Events program showcases everything from circus to storytelling and all the bits in between.

With sit-down shows, interactive events and participatory play spaces, there's plenty to let your little ones tap into to expand their imaginations and discover the thrill of live performance.

Create a fond childhood memory—scan the QR code for all Kids events





FIND A SHOW

# EXPERIMENTAL EVENTS AT MELBOURNE FRINGE

Witness artists unleashed. Our Experimental program is where artists who are pushing at the boundaries come to play. Expect to see invention, experimentation and innovation in genre-melding events that all have one thing in common: they're taking a big brave step into the unknown.

Discover a great story for Monday's coffee run—scan the QR code for all Experimental events



*Games Lab*, presented by Big Ant Studios  
Image by Gareth Sobay, on behalf of ACMI

# MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL GAMES WEEK

## Cult of the Lamb: The Ritual

by Massive Monster

Calling all Fringe gamers and gadget gurus!

It's time to play.

Unlock every level of our Melbourne International Games Week program. International smash hit *Cult of the Lamb* inspires an after-the-dark Fed Square transformation with a glorious gothic ritual performance led by the game's characters, plus sky-high projections and a wicked dance floor.

Discover more Fringe events  
at Melbourne International  
Games Week



acmi



Panasonic

Supported by Fed Square, Panasonic and the Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand (RISE) Fund—An Australian Government initiative



Melbourne Fringe and Linden New Art present

# DESIGN FRINGE

37 Years of Fringe furniture  
art and design: reimagined.

The next generation of ambitious design voices  
unleash their wildest creations at Design Fringe.

Melbourne Fringe's avant-garde design exhibition has  
been platforming cutting-edge craft makers, beautiful  
objects and reimagined furniture for 37 years.

Now Linden New Art is transformed for the exhibition  
*Speculation: Eight Billion Little Utopias*, a theme that  
sets designers free to craft unconventional materials  
into playful and provocative object design imagining  
alternate utopias. From the slick to the sophisticated  
and the seriously experimental, you'll discover your  
own little utopia at Design Fringe.

LIN  
DEN  
NEW  
ART

NAOMI  
MILGROM  
FOUNDATION



FIND A SHOW

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# VISUAL ARTS & FILM EVENTS AT MELBOURNE FRINGE

Gallery-hop through a kaleidoscope of expressive visual mediums with our Visual Arts & Film events. Perfect for any art-lover with an aesthetic eye, you'll catch heroic solo exhibitions, mind-blowing VR experiences, eclectic group shows, and a cutting-edge design showcase from our visual artists working across all mediums.

Discover a different aesthetic  
—scan the QR code for all  
Visual Arts & Film events





FIND A SHOW

# DIGITAL EVENTS AT MELBOURNE FRINGE

Our Digital Fringe program showcases some of the most exciting new work being made for the digital realm. From artists challenging how we think about digital spaces to art driven by experimentation with technology, these events are 100% digital and 100% Fringe.

Discover a digital experience  
not controlled by Zuckerberg  
—scan for all Digital events



*Breaking*  
Image by Séan Dowling



FIND A SHOW

41

# CABARET EVENTS AT MELBOURNE FRINGE

Cabaret all day! If you like to be serenaded while you sit, settle into our Cabaret program. Here you can expect to find some of our best, boldest and brassiest artistes in full flight, serving up both classic and contemporary cabaret performances that celebrate the holy union of storytelling and song.

Discover the ol' razzle-dazzle  
—scan for all Cabaret events



*Bettie Bombshell*  
Image by Nick Robertson



FIND A SHOW

# WORDS & IDEAS EVENTS AT MELBOURNE FRINGE

Discover new ideas, explore big thinking and be provoked to change with our Words & Ideas program. Be a part of critical cultural conversations with debates, literary readings, panel discussions and talks that will get chins wagging.

Discover a change in perspective  
—scan the QR code for all  
Words and Ideas events



*The Waiters' Race*  
Image by Porch Hawkes

# THE REST IS UP TO YOU 1982-2062

Our fortieth birthday may be over, but that's not the end of our story.

Recorded as part of Melbourne Fringe's 40th anniversary exhibition, *The Rest Is Up To You: Melbourne Fringe 1982-2062* podcast unpacks the past, present and future of Melbourne Fringe, as told by the artists, directors and supporters that helped make it happen.

If the written word is more your thing, brush up on the unfiltered, unverified history of Fringe in our 40th anniversary book, documented by John Bailey. Available for purchase at Readings or as a free download on our website.

Scan the QR code to listen  
to our history podcast



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—An Australian Government initiative



# This October, find your creative state

The Victorian Government is proud to back Melbourne Fringe as part of an epic season of creative events.

From a massive celebration of independent arts, to music, digital games, fashion, theatre and more, there are so many ways to get creative this October.

For a taste of what's on, visit  
[creative.vic.gov.au/october](http://creative.vic.gov.au/october)



LUCY LIU

*FIND MORE TO EXPLORE*

# ONLY CITY



Scan to see  
What's On



CITY OF MELBOURNE



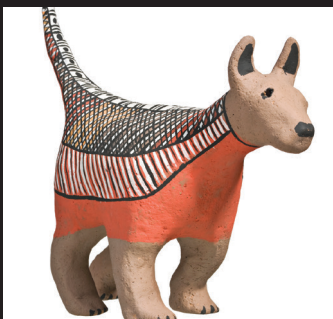
# FED SQUARE

Home to some of Australia's most significant galleries and museums.



## ACMI

ACMI is your museum of screen culture. Navigate the universe of film, TV and videogames with us.



## Koorie Heritage Trust

KHT serves to nurture, honour and celebrate the continuing cultures and songlines of the First Peoples of South-Eastern Australia.

Pictured:  
Brian Firebrace (Yorta Yorta), *Dingo*  
(detail), c. 2006, clay, paint,  
Koorie Heritage Trust Collection.



## The Ian Potter Centre: NGV Australia

The world's first gallery dedicated exclusively to Australian art.

[fedsq.com](http://fedsq.com)

**acmi**

**KHT**

**NGV**

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# TRADE



**11-15 OCTOBER**

**TRADES HALL**



**MONASH**  
University

MONASH  
ARTS



(Our Best Fringe Friends)

# OUR BFFs

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## CHAMPION \$25,000+

Daniel Besen  
Michael Kantor  
Craig Semple

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## CHEERLEADER \$10,000+

Debbie Dadon AM  
Vallejo Gantner  
Phlyssa Koshland  
Monica Lim and Konfir Kabo  
Anonymous (2)

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## COMPANION \$5,000+

Monica and Sam Abrahams  
The Cowen family  
David Hanrahan  
Jim Hart of the Hart Line Fund, a sub-fund  
of the Australian Communities Foundation  
Dr Jenepher Martin  
Penny Miles  
Paul Wheelton AM KSJ and  
Angela Wheelton OAM DSJ  
Anna Foley and Dashiell Gantner

---

## CONSPIRATOR \$2,500+

Maggie Maguire OAM of MOGGS,  
a sub-fund of Australian Communities  
Foundation  
Rupert Myer AO  
Ricci Swart  
Pinky Watson  
Toby Sullivan  
Rosemary Walls  
Anonymous (1)

---

## COLLABORATOR \$1,000+

John and Lorraine Bates  
Simon Bedford  
Sally Browne Fund, a sub-fund of the  
Australian Communities Foundation  
Jason Craig  
Susanne Dahn, a giving fund in  
the APS Foundation  
Ron and Margaret Dobell Foundation  
Cr Jamal Hakim  
Rosemary Forbes and Ian Hocking  
Michael Jankie  
Kerry Gardner AM and Andrew Myer AM  
Damien Hodgkinson  
Fiona McGauchie and James Penlidis  
Melissa McShane  
Promotix Pty Ltd  
Christopher Reed  
Anne Runhardt and Glen Reindel  
Lucy Schnall

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## CONFIDANTE \$500+

Dennis Altman AM  
Meghan Bourke  
Lee Casey  
Eloise Curry  
Paul Duldig  
Graeme Gherashe  
Paul Gonzalez  
Stephanie Hamilton  
Felicia Jong  
Jenny and Peter Levi  
Virginia Lovett and Rose Hiscock  
Heather Martin  
Kaylene O'Neill  
Mary Parker  
Juanita Pope and Declan Fay  
Jacky and Rupert Sherwood  
Lynne Sherwood  
Fiona Sweet and Paul Newcombe



Melbourne Fringe is a not-for-profit organisation with a support team we love as much as our mums. We couldn't make the Festival happen without our amazing donors, so thanks. You're the best, chuck out the rest.

---

#### COMRADE \$200+

Frankie Airey  
 Julia Adams  
 Nicole Beyer  
 Nicole and Nick Birrell  
 Mark and Tamara Boldiston  
 Elizabeth Bradlow  
 The Camm family  
 Greg Castle  
 Richard Chambers  
 Melinda Clarke  
 Helen Donnard  
 Milan Filipovic  
 Helen and Matt Franzi  
 Wilma Giles-Corti  
 Rinske Ginsberg  
 Ian Greer  
 Jane Hansen AO  
 Emer Harrington  
 Jerry Hodgins  
 Stacy Holman Jones  
 Mike Hyde  
 Robyn Lansdowne  
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 Jason Murphy  
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 Bertha Rubin and Ron Elisha  
 Clive Scott AM  
 Kristy Shields  
 Andrea Stahel  
 Tim Stitz and Petra Kalive  
 Christopher Thomas  
 Fiona Wahr  
 Claire Wilcock  
 Anonymous (1)

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#### FRINGE COMMUNITY →\$200

We would also like to thank all of our wonderful community of donors that give so generously. Thanks for your ongoing support. You're all legends.

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#### FRINGE INNER CIRCLE

We would like to thank members of our Fringe Inner Circle including the Canny Quine Foundation, Daniel Besen, Michael Kantor and Craig Semple.

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#### PULSE GIVING CIRCLE

We would like to thank members of our Pulse Giving Circle including the Cowen family, Dr Jenepher Martin, Fiona McGauchie and James Penlidis, Melissa McShane, Christopher Reed, Rosemary Walls, Pinky Watson.

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#### DEAD FRINGERS' SOCIETY

Thank you to Mark and Tamara Boldiston, and Melissa McShane for their generous bequests to Melbourne Fringe.

Love what we do? You can help us do it!  
 Donate to Melbourne Fringe below





Tickets! Where can I buy them?

# TICKETING

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## ONLINE

[melbournefringe.com.au](http://melbournefringe.com.au)

Your one-stop shop for all event information and bookings. You'll find everything you need to know, from the most up-to-date event listings, access information, and more information on ticket types and discounts.

---

## PHONE

(03) 9660 9666

Our phone lines are open 10:00am—5:00pm, Monday to Friday pre-Festival, and 11:00am—8:00pm, daily during the Festival.

If you need to, you can reach the Ticketing team through the National Relay Service at no additional charge.

For more information, visit [relayservice.gov.au](http://relayservice.gov.au)

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## IN PERSON

Trades Hall, Cnr Lygon & Victoria St  
Open Wed—Sat, 5:15pm 'til the last show goes in (4:15pm on Sundays).

Your one-stop shop for all event information and bookings. You'll find everything you need to know, from the most up-to-date event listings, access information, and more information on ticket types and discounts.

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## HOW CAN I GET THEM CHEAP?

**Flash Sales**—Get flash(y) discounts on select events across the Festival on our 48 Hour Flash Sale dates. Keep an eye on our socials and eNews for Flash Sale announcements.

**Groups**—Select events offer discounts when you book multiple tickets.

**Blak Tix**—Select events offer discounted tickets for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander audience members.

**Previews**—Select events offer preview prices—the artists get to test their work and you, the guinea pig, get a cheaper ticket.

**Hump Day**—Select events offer a special ticket price for Wednesday shows.

**Become a Fringe Dweller**—members get 25% off select events!

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## CONCESSION, COMPANION AND CARER CARDS

You qualify for concession prices if you have one (or more) of the following: student card (full time), MEAA membership card, Carer Card, Health Care Card, Pension Card, Veteran Card, all government-issued Seniors Cards. Proof of concession is required on purchase and at the venue.

If you have a Companion Card, your companion can come free. Please call our ticketing team on (03) 9660 9666 or email them on [boxoffice@melbournefringe.com.au](mailto:boxoffice@melbournefringe.com.au) to book.

**Children:** Applies to those aged 16 years and under, where available. If no child price applies, humans aged 16 years and under are entitled to concession prices. Remember—children must be always accompanied by an adult.

For more information, head to [melbournefringe.com.au/fringe-festival/ticketing](http://melbournefringe.com.au/fringe-festival/ticketing)

# ACCESSIBILITY

## SEARCH AND FILTER VIA THE WEBSITE

Our website is your go-to spot to find access information for the Festival.

Via our What's On page you can filter events by Auslan interpretation, Audio Description, Tactile Tours, Relaxed Performances, Sensory Friendly Performances, Captioned Performances, Language No Barrier, Audio and Visual content, Wheelchair Access and more.

Click on an event listing to find thorough access information about the shows you want to see; including accessible entry points to venues and sensory warnings.

Melbourne Fringe is committed to access and inclusion for all people.

You can search and filter for all access information on our website [melbournefringe.com.au](http://melbournefringe.com.au) to easily find the events that meet your access needs.

Looking for more information?  
Scan the QR code to go to our  
Accessibility page to learn more



## TRADES HALL ACCESS

Our glorious Festival Hub at Trades Hall is accessible through the Lygon Street entrance, with gender-neutral bathrooms and lift access inside.

## BOOKING TICKETS

Want some help to book tickets? You have options.

Chat to us about any specific access needs with our friendly Ticketing staff over the phone by calling our Ticketing line at (03) 9660 9666, or by emailing [boxoffice@melbournefringe.com.au](mailto:boxoffice@melbournefringe.com.au)

## ACCESSIBILITY PARTNER

Arts Access Victoria (AAV) is Melbourne Fringe's accessibility partner. Led by people with disability, AAV provides access services including training in disability awareness, disability action planning and a range of consultancy services, resources, mentorships, advice and information services.

For more information visit [artsaccess.com.au](http://artsaccess.com.au)

**Terms & Conditions** All bookings are by VISA or Mastercard only and attract a \$5.50 fee per transaction (not per ticket). We don't do refunds except as required by law, in accordance with the LPA Ticketing Code of Conduct. All this info—including ticket types and our full refund and exchange policy—is available online at [melbournefringe.com.au/terms-and-conditions](http://melbournefringe.com.au/terms-and-conditions).



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# STRIPE



# FOR



# ALL



# TYPES

FOR ALL WALKS 

PROUDLY SUPPORTING THE MELBOURNE FRINGE FESTIVAL



Fringe is only possible with thanks to our

# PARTNERS

## Major government partners



## Government partners



## International Government Partner



Cultural Division  
Taipei Economic and Cultural Office  
Sydney

## Local Government Partners



Maribyrnong  
CITY COUNCIL

Arts &  
Culture

## Philanthropic Partners



BETTY  
AMSDEN  
FOUNDATION

Canny Online  
FOUNDATION



NAOMI  
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## Program partners

**acmi**



**ARTPLAY**

**ARTS HOUSE**

**CHUNKY MOVE**



**FOOTSCRAY  
COMMUNITY  
ARTS**



**LIN  
DEN** NEW ART



**Creative  
Program**



**THE SUBSTATION/**

## Venue partners



**Testing  
Grounds**



**MALHOUSE**

## Supporting partners

**LYGON COURT**



**MECCA**

**SKYY**  
VODKA

**CAMPARI**

## Production and Supply partners



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**FOHP**  
— AUSTRALIA —

**PLAKKIT**

**Multiple  
Multiple**



**esecure P**

**Shiff & Company**  
lawyers

**Wolf**

## Media partners



**TimeOut**



# FRINGE FOLK



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## Staff

Creative Director and CEO  
**Simon Abrahams**

Deputy CEO  
**Will Dawson**

General Manager  
**Toby Sullivan**

Head of Development  
**Miranda Borman**

Acting Head of Marketing,  
November '22–March '23  
**Michelle Tseng**

Head of Marketing  
**Casselly Main**

Head of Programs & Projects  
**Danny Delahunty**

Access Advisor  
**Carly Findlay**

Assistant Ticketing Manager  
**Natalie May**

Associate Producer (Signature Events)  
**Harriet Wallace-Mead**

Artists & Venues Liaison  
**Nicholas Tee**

Business and Operations Manager  
**Louise Richardson**

CRM & Data Analyst  
**Ciaran Frame**

Development Coordinator  
**Amelia Saward**

Executive Assistant  
**Kaho Chow**

Funding, Strategy and Evaluation Manager  
**Pauline Cady**

Grant & Copy Writer  
**Dan Giovannoni**

Marketing Assistant  
**Lizzy Carmine**

Marketing Coordinator  
**Emma Shaw**

Marketing Coordinator (Digital)  
**Ethan Cavanagh**

Marketing Manager  
**Harry Erickson**

Producer (Major Projects)  
**Eilysh Toose**

Producer (Special Projects)  
**Erica McCalman**

Production Coordinators  
**Rudi Lorimer, Ali Graham**

Production Manager (Festival Hub)  
**Jess Dunn**

Production Manager (Signature Events)  
**Genevieve Cizevskis**

Program Coordinator (Artists and Venues)  
**Dani Leever**

Program Coordinator (Deadly Fringe)  
**Peta Duncan**

Program Manager  
(Hub and Artist Development)  
**Matt Hirst**

Program Manager (Independent Arts)  
**Jason Marsiglia**

Sales & Events Coordinator  
(Common Rooms)  
**Jade Smith**

Senior Publicist  
**Adam Valentine**

Ticketing Manager  
**Rachel Hanley**

Venue Operations Manager  
**Abbie Potter**

Volunteers Coordinator  
**Katy Barron**

---

## Board

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Deputy Chair

**Stephanie Hamilton**

Company Secretary

**Louise Goh**

Treasurer

**Robert Camm**

Directors

**Feyi Akindoyeni, Joel Bray,  
Kirsty Ellem, Louise Goh,  
Michael Hyde, Felix Moon,  
Rupert Sherwood**

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## Consultants

Research and Evaluation Consultants

**Culture Counts**

Digital Consultant

**Dave Pocock**

Branding & Creative Agency

**Multiple Studio**

Website Developers & Designers

**Efront and Design by Wolf**

Registration System

**Eventotron**

Cultural Consultant

**Eugenia Flynn**

Risk Management

**Emily O'Brien**

Bookkeeping & Finance

**Paxinos & Habash Arts Tax**

IT Support

**MaxIT**

Ticketing

**Red61**

Uncle to Melbourne Fringe

**Wesley Enoch AM**

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A huge thank you to the brilliant venue and festival staff and the hundreds of hard-working volunteers who give up their time in the name of independent work, bold ideas, brave art and one hell of a good party.



