

# MELBOURNE FRINGE FESTIVAL

*Magazine*

GO BEHIND *the* SCENES  
with ARTISTS from THIS  
YEAR'S PROGRAM



*EAT your*  
**ART OUT**

**1-20 OCT 2024**



*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.*

IMAGE: DUNCOGRAPHIC

## A NOTE FROM THE CREATIVE DIRECTOR

**SIMON ABRAHAMS, MELBOURNE FRINGE  
CREATIVE DIRECTOR & CEO**



I grew up in a house where we sat around the dinner table every night and talked about our day. For me, the dinner table – and, by extension, a shared meal – is the perfect opportunity to bridge the distance between us, to share stories, culture, and perspectives that expand our understanding of each other and of ourselves. It's also a chance to listen – which, to be honest, in these chaotic times seems to be valued less and less.

I know I'm not the first to say it, but it's still true: what separates us from each other is not necessarily that we don't see eye to eye, but that we don't sit next to each other and talk about it.

At this year's Melbourne Fringe Festival, art and food collide under the theme *Eat Your Art Out* and I am interested in how art – like food – might bring us together around communal experiences, to share and to listen. Art can nourish us and fill us up; spicy art makes us sweat, provocative art leaves a taste in our mouths that we mull on for days.

This year's Festival centrepiece public artwork is *COOKED*, an enormous drop-in BBQ event that challenges the myth of the Aussie barbie as a place for blokes to burn sausages to a crisp. A startlingly simple, inquisitive artwork, *COOKED* is a starting point for a conversation. Wander in off the street, grab a pair of tongs, and while you grill, have a conversation with an artist. You'll be fed (belly and soul), you'll be surprised, and you'll be invited to ask questions of the world in totally surprising ways.

I genuinely believe there's never been a more important time to be making art. Our Open Access Program features hundreds of events made by Melbourne's independent artists, for whom expressing themselves is more than just having fun; it's saying something to the world. It's what the world needs right now. Understanding of difference. Listening. Empathy. At a time when our own echo chambers bounce back opinions and stories we already know, it's important to find art that help us to see the world differently.

Other festivals might show you exactly what you expect – Melbourne Fringe is unpredictable. It's adventurous. Surprising. Risky. Dangerous, even. It's a feast for your mind, your soul, and this year, even for your tastebuds. For 20 days this October, the independent artists of Melbourne are serving up artistic entrees, mains, and desserts to sate the hunger for the people of Melbourne, from picky eaters to buffet enthusiasts. There's nothing more powerful at this moment in time than sitting next to someone you don't know, and breaking bread with them.

Grub's up!

**SIMON ABRAHAMS**



# THAT'S COOKED

LONG PRAWN and FRIENDS are bringing the SPIRIT OF DEMOCRACY SAUSAGE to FED SQUARE where the hot plate meets the stage in a FESTIVAL-LONG POP-UP dedicated to the ART OF GRILLING – and where GRILLING MEETS ART.

## LONG PRAWN'S HOT TAKES ON PUBLIC GRILLS

In a small dog park, we once saw a businessman eating a freshly cooked steak straight from a public BBQ. No plate, no worries, just a hot serve of grilled meat for one, then back to the office. It got us thinking. The public BBQ is something special. It'll grill your lunch or feed the masses. It's a place for multicultural, multi-culinary collision: snags alongside seafood and seitan, pots of rice, urns of rose tea, fatty lamb skewers or naughty but nice honey soy chicken thighs. The public BBQ is a genre-less hotplate where the simple instruction 'apply heat and eat' sears together offerings from across the globe, gluing us together in a way that only food can.

And so, for this year's Melbourne Fringe Festival, together with Mikhail Savin Rodrick Projects and Mike Hewson, we're building one, right in the heart of Fed Square. Accompanied by a vibrant performance series featuring Ari Angkasa, David Williams, Ecstasy Cookbook, Harrison Ritchie-Jones, Dudu Wook and Deep Soulful Sweats, *COOKED* will be a place to gather and to grill, with food, performance and conversation on the menu. *COOKED* makes space for divergent ideas, an unburdened BBQ for people and cultures to break bread.

*To prep you for your time on the tongs, here are a few tips from us Prawns to you:*

**TIP 1:** Clean the BBQ with a lemon cut in half, a half-drunk beer poured onto heat, a fistful of newspaper, and a sharp spatula angled to scrape caramelised bits. Contrary to expectation, any product specifically designed to clean a BBQ will not work.

**TIP 2:** To activate metal tongs, clack them numerous times in the air, warming the ends and signalling that a grill master is approaching. Should you encounter two grill masters clacking tongs simultaneously, this signifies an imbalance of male energy at the grill. Allocate one of the clackers to be the certified 'taste tester' to quell the situation.

**TIP 3:** While there is no such thing as a free lunch, there is such a thing as free instantaneous searing heat – a discovery lauded by many, particularly migrant communities who have complex histories within public spaces. Leave your purse at home; the *COOKED* grill will cost you zilch to use.

**TIP 4:** Despite the limited surface area of any one public grill, there is always room for one more sausage. Besides, cooking too much leads to better leftovers (and sauces, fats and cuisines cross-pollinating create fertile ground for understanding)

If you are lucky enough to share the *COOKED* grill with a stranger, let it be a gift. Bump tongs, mix chip flavours, or lend each other sheets of paper towels. Be human, stay a silly sausage, and fill the grill till you can't see a shine of metal.

## COOKED

Where: FED SQUARE, AMPHITHEATRE  
FLINDERS ST

When: 1 – 20 OCT

For individual event information visit  
[melbournefringe.com.au/cooked](http://melbournefringe.com.au/cooked)

Melbourne Fringe in association with Fed Square  
presents *COOKED* by Long Prawn and friends

Commissioned with Principal Partner support from  
the Naomi Milgrom Foundation.



## A LIST OF NOTABLE SAUSAGES:

**TAIWAN'S TŌA-TNG PAU SIÓ-TNG**, which is a smaller sausage inside a sliced open larger sausage.

**THE KIELBASA MISSILE**, a World War II Polish sausage used to blow up a Nazi supply train.

For pure calorific merit, **THE BATTERED SAV**.

**THE BUNNINGS SAUSAGE**, which started a lawsuit after someone slipped on an onion.

**BUTIFARRA SOLEDEÑA COLUMBIAN SAUSAGE OF SOLEDAD**, Atlántico which looks like a string of pearls.

**THE ROMANIAN WORLD RECORD SAUSAGE** that reached a length of 63 km.

**THE HOT DOG**, who has maintained its discerning and perhaps bigoted name since the 1800's.

**THE VOLKSWAGEN CURRYWURST** – a brand of sausage manufactured by the Volkswagen car maker since 1973.





# BRING IT BLAK

## **BEBE OLIVER UNPACKS THE 2024 DEADLY FRINGE PROGRAM**

Let me tell you, Melbourne Fringe knows how to throw a party. The sharpest, silliest, and strangest artists have always given Naarm a rough-and-tumble ride through the funny and the funky.

At the heart of this outrageous world of unique stories is Deadly Fringe, a powerful explosion of Blak culture that brilliantly collides with creativity. Putting the voices of First Nations artists first, Deadly Fringe guarantees cutting-edge performances of necessity and innovation.

This year's festival sees the premiere of *In Place*, the long-awaited new project by Na Djinang Circus. After multiple sell-out seasons, the company is back with a work that champions the role Country plays in human growth and connection.

"I like works and objects that aren't what they seem to be, particularly when we challenge our own mental models of the world," says founder, Harley Mann. "People don't see urban society as existing on Country. We've churned it up and disturbed it but there are still stories in its DNA."

To create the work, 100 native plants were put in the care of 100 community members to grow for a year, before being returned to meaningfully become a part of the set design.

"I wanted to create a work where the metric wasn't size or budget, but instead time and community connectedness."

The local plant species' unique histories inform the creative vision and physical circus movements too, but it doesn't end there. Each plant will then find a home in Footscray Community Arts' native garden where they'll continue to live and grow, together with their stories of Country.

If contemporary and experimental music tantalises your tastebuds, then *Gikilangu Wergaia* has just the treat to satisfy those cravings with a performance built on the foundations of stories, sound and revitalising language.

Written in the context of the Wotjobaluk Nations of Western Victoria, composer James Howard worked alongside Alice Skye and Michael Julian to construct a vivid soundscape, featuring the greatest musician of all: Country.

As recordings of animals and landscapes loop between a production of melodies, harmonies and instrumental ensemble, stories are sung in the Wergaia language, and history is reclaimed.

Rounding off this deadly program of Blak arts is *Digital Echoes*, an immersive audio environment that blurs the lines between viola, percussion and internet portals.

"People will take different things away from it, based on their own participation," says Aaron Wyatt. The first longform work from the Noongar composer, supported by Speak Percussion, encourages audience members to become lost in the sound as it gradually shifts around them.

"For some it may be a brief refuge, and for others it could be a more transformative encounter."

With stories and cultures that reach back more than 60,000 years, the beauty of Deadly Fringe lies in its diverse and truthful experiences.

Whether from the banks of the Maribyrnong River or an old town hall, this year's powerful offering sees Blak creativity reach unfamiliar borders, alongside the perseverance of First Nations sovereignty.

Discover Deadly Fringe events at [melbournefringe.com.au/deadly-fringe](https://melbournefringe.com.au/deadly-fringe)

DEADLY FRINGE centres FIRST NATIONS VOICES and PERSPECTIVES, showcasing INCREDIBLE FIRST NATIONS ARTISTIC TALENT.





## REIMAGINING ACCESSIBLE ARTMAKING

MELBOURNE FRINGE'S **ACCESS ADVISOR CARLY FINDLAY OAM** CHATTED TO THIS YEAR'S **RADICAL ACCESS ARTISTS** ABOUT **DEFYING CREATIVE LIMITS BY EMBEDDING ACCESS INTO PRACTICE.**

The notion of 'radical accessibility' might bring to mind inclusive approaches to space-making, but it's not just about the practical consideration of access services for d/Deaf or Disabled people. It's also about opening up creative possibilities. What kind of artworks might exist if we embed access into their DNA? The artworks in Melbourne Fringe's Radical Access program are unapologetically and enthusiastically radical on this front, as they explode traditional ideas about their artforms.

For multi-hyphenate artist, musician and dancer with cerebral palsy Dr Melinda Smith OAM, this means harnessing the potential of assistive technology to enable creative expression. "My work *Conduit Bodies* combines movement, visual art, sound and a revolutionary, adaptable and wearable musical instrument called the AirSticks," says Melinda. An autobiographical memoir exploring the relationship between technology and the body, assistive tech and nature, *Conduit Bodies* sees Smith and collaborator Dr Alon Ilisar use wheelchairs and speech-generating and motion-sensing devices as threads in the work's creative fabric. "The AirSticks translate movement into music, text and visuals. They combine the latest in motion tracking and wireless technologies to give immediate control over gestural data, reconnecting movement, visuals and sound with fascinating transparency for audiences", she says.

With over 30 years' experience in disability and education, disability-led and accessible art is important to Smith. "It means I can achieve what I want, in my own way and time. I enjoy working with people who understand this need. I want to see more opportunities for leadership from Disabled people in the arts sector, so Disabled artists' voices don't get pushed aside."

Ultimately, she says *Conduit Bodies* is a work about possibilities, which naturally encourages risk-taking. "Headlining the 2024 Melbourne Fringe Radical Access program has given me an opportunity to take more risks, and to feel my work as an artist is valuable," adds Smith.

For Radical Access artist Rowena Hutson, the need to work in her own way and time has been essential to the creation of her work, the semi-autobiographical *Notes from a Black Hole*. She's been applying the principles of Crip Time, a concept founded by academic Alison Kafer in 2013, where "rather than bend disabled bodies and minds to meet the clock, crip time bends the clock to meet disabled bodies and minds." For Hutson, that's meant expanded timelines, employing a mental health consultant, and embedding in her work permission for her audiences to fidget, stim, or leave when they need to.

An award-winning Melbourne Fringe veteran, Hutson's *Notes from a Black Hole* is a comedic theatre work that explores one young person's experience of anxiety and depression. "I was once that young person, so we're using my experiences to explore these themes in a safe and joyfully serious way," says Hutson. Set aboard a spaceship and featuring Hutson herself playing the central character both in the past and in the future, she hopes the play helps young people who have experienced mental ill health feel seen, and for wider audiences to better understand what mental illness may be like for a young person in their life. "I don't expect us to magically heal anybody, but I do want to kind of give them a big theatrical hug."

INTERVIEWS: CARLY FINDLAY  
WORDS: CARLY FINDLAY AND DAN GIOVANNONI  
IMAGE: NOTES FROM A BLACK HOLE, BY DARREN GILL

OPENING NIGHT GALA THEME ANNOUNCED FOR 2024:

# GULINARY COUTURE

NOT SURE WHAT TO WEAR *when* YOU GRACE THE PURPLE CARPET *at the* GLORIOUS OPENING NIGHT GALA? WE ASKED FAST FASHUN *to* COME UP WITH SOME INSPO *to* DON YOUR FOODIE FINEST *and* SERVE AT OUR NIGHT OF NIGHTS.

**SHOES**  
To create historically accurate shoes for your 18th-century-core-Cooked-Look you'll need a pair of pointy dress shoes, more tin foil, and the lids of a passata or Lao Gan Ma. Buon Appetito, Feet-oh!

**GLOVES**  
This is a pair of dish gloves (dish gloves).

**MAKE-UP**  
Traditionally the white make-up of the Elizabethan-era was a mixture of white lead and vinegar. Failing your ability to obtain lead at short notice, we recommend white flour (rice or buckwheat, preferably, as we like to be inclusive of our gluten intolerant brethren). Then beetroot juice for the cheeks and lips, plus a whole lot that you've just spat out onto Gloria's tablecloth. You look like a very sick vampire, which Gloria says is "moderno," "better than my good for nothing child," and "You'll clean up this mess, Teneille."

### ROBE À LA TEA TOWEL

The dress is put together using the tea towel and apron collection of two sharehouses, both alike in dignity, in fair Thornbury, where we lay our table setting.

The base of the dress is 3 x dish racks. One from Sharehouse No.1, one from Sharehouse No.2, and one from a secret third place (Darebin Hard Rubbish). We attached the dish racks to an elastic belt using cable ties.

Queens generally don't have time to sew. We, instead, used safety pins.

### TIN FOIL WIG

It's giving bourgeoisie, it's giving paranoia, it's giving Faraday cage, it's in pursuit of a guillotine.

### PAPER TOWEL NECK RUFF

To emphasise your modesty and decorum we recommend adding a goffered frill made of paper towel (unused).

### CLING WRAP STOCKINGS

There are two types of people who still have cling wrap in their kitchen drawer: my mother, and people who need to rub numbing cream on their tattoo then wrap themselves in clear plastic two hours before their Lazer Eraser appointment. Turns out getting a large back piece from a bikie you met in an Ayahuasca ceremony in Geelong in 2010 is something you will regret. Oh, and Gloria (mentioned above) who swears the mysteries of The Wrap are keeping her complexion the uncanny high-gloss usually seen only in plant-based mayonnaise.



### OPENING NIGHT GALA

Where: THE CAPITOL

When: TUESDAY 1 OCT 7:30PM

Tickets at [melbournefringe.com.au/gala](http://melbournefringe.com.au/gala)

FEELING INSPIRED? Join us at THE CAPITOL for the OPENING NIGHT GALA and tuck into a tasting plate of the CRÈME DE LA CRÈME of MELBOURNE FRINGE'S 2024 PROGRAM.

WORDS AND 'COOKED LOOK' BY FAST FASHUN ART COLLECTIVE



## THE WINNER TAKES IT ALL

Where: PRAHRAN AQUATIC CENTRE,  
PRINCES GARDENS TENNIS COURTS,  
MALVERN CRICKET GROUND

When: SUNDAY 6 & SATURDAY 12 OCT

Register at [melbournefringe.com.au/huxleys](http://melbournefringe.com.au/huxleys)

# THE WINNER TAKES IT ALL

HOW A **MASS PHOTO SHOOT IS RECLAIMING SPORTING SPACE FOR THE LGBTQIA+ COMMUNITY (AND THEIR ALLIES)**

Like many young queer people, the seeds of Garrett Huxley's fraught relationship with sport were sown early in life. "Sport was compulsory for 12 years of schooling when I was growing up. Sport highlighted my differences and made me an easy target for playground bullying. And so, I spent 12 years of my life trying to get out of every sporting activity possible. I was too busy thinking about music, my hairstyle and probably liking some of the boys that *were* good at sports," he says. He recalls one particularly fiery exchange between himself - the class weirdo, or "poof" as he was more commonly called - and a "militant toad teacher" who was ordering Huxley's high school class to triple-jump into the sandpit. "I refused to do it. My inner body temperature felt like 100 degrees because I was in the unwanted spotlight. The rest of the class were in disbelief. I could hear whispering, laughing, someone beside me said, 'you are making this so much worse for yourself'. When he finally shouted "HUXLEY GET DOWN HERE NOW OR GET OFF MY OVAL" I took the second option. I walked away from the class, the sandpit and the teacher from hell. I was eventually banned from every sporting activity for the remainder of my schooling life and sent to the library. This was the best outcome I could have imagined. They knew nothing about punishing a kid like me. I could read, listen to music on my Walkman, not mess up my hair, and not be publicly humiliated any longer."

It's experiences like this that *The Winner Takes it All* is looking to subvert, by framing queer people to be at the centre of sporting fantasies. Part show, part art happening featuring DJs and live performances anyone is welcome come along and play sporting stars, over eager spectators, umpires, ball runners, or orange slice attendants. "There are no winners and losers in this magical world we are creating," Will Huxley says. "We've long lamented the way sports dominates our media and cultural interests. One only need to glance at the papers and TV news to see the time and space dedicated to sports over arts and culture. We wish this disparity didn't exist, but this project is a way of combining these two worlds and maybe joining hands with the sporting and arts community and making them smile!"

In this interactive art event, playful and provocative cultural deviants The Huxleys invite the LGBTQIA+ community and their allies to enter a domain that they may have long dreamed of, but never been comfortable participating in. Dressed head to toe in outfits inspired by high-camp Huxleys regalia, anyone who's ever felt excluded from sport - whether because of gender, sexuality, culture, background or disability - will get to live out epic sport fantasies, as part of a series of unique daytime performance parties set on sporting fields, captured in a series of joyous and surreal photographs.

Become a **SPORTING PART OF ART HISTORY. REGISTER to take part in THE WINNER TAKES IT ALL.**



# LEGENDARY & LOVING IT

MELBOURNE FRINGE'S 2023 **LIVING LEGEND MOIRA FINUCANE REFLECTS ON HER CAREER AND NEW WORK, GLOBAL SMASH CLUB**

The trailblazing queen of cabaret Moira Finucane is best known for masterminding legendary salons and parties with collaborator Jackie Smith and a diverse ensemble of artistes. For over 20 years, Finucane & Smith have been sharing their heady mix of hedonism and entertainment worldwide, earning Finucane the title of Melbourne Fringe Living Legend in 2023.

"That was such a surprise," Finucane says. "All my life I've aimed to create work that is legendary. Beyond fads, trends, and funding bodies, my mission has always been to create legendary work that resonates beyond me, into other people's lives. To be recognised as a legend in the city I love most, by a festival I admire, is extraordinary."

Finucane leapt onto the stage after a decade in environmental science and human rights - her version of artistic training. "I talk about our work as being a discourse on human rights, dressed up as a hot night out." Her seminal work *The Burlesque Hour* ignited Melbourne's cabaret scene in the early 2000s, emerging like Finucane herself from the politicised queer club culture of the mid-90s. "It was connected to AIDS, and gender identity, and sex positivity," she says. "There were big throw

downs in clubs and operas in clubs, I did monologues in clubs at 3am. Don't try that," she laughs.

It was her response to the world, she says, and to gender, and to being a woman who expressed desire and passion and power. "And it was my response to exclusion," she adds. "And I think because of that, Finucane & Smith clubs are incredibly welcoming. They're wild, but they're welcoming and that's something that is fundamental to what we do. I don't think that anybody can change if they're not welcome."

Despite an enviable list of successes, gatekeepers still say no to Finucane. "My work has never fit in. I've gotten to a point where, if major gatekeepers don't say 'that's too much,' then I figure I should pack up my bat and ball. 'No' has become a rallying cry for me. An embrace of disobedience and defiance, of finding new ways into old buildings." Do they think the work is too

shocking for mainstream audiences? "I don't see my work as shocking - I don't assume that I can shock my audience. Some of the women that come to our shows, they grew up in an age where you couldn't hold your job if you were married or pregnant! I don't need to shock them; the stuff they could tell me about their lives would shock me."

Finucane's 2024 Melbourne Fringe show, *Global Smash Club*, marks a return, albeit with a 'future perspective.' "In Australia artists are not encouraged to hang on to work. They're encouraged to do something, throw it away, and then do something new. *Global Smash Club* resurrects some of our most legendary work with brand new 'what the actual fuck!' moments, in a club environment." In this unleashed space of the queer and the fringe and the underground, Finucane thrives. "The Italian word provocare means 'to invite and to stimulate.' And when you come to a Finucane & Smith show you will be provoked - you will be welcomed with radical hospitality, and you will be challenged. We create a bridge across art, and glamour, and the wild expression of self; a gateway to joy, and transcendence, and artistic disobedience. And so people absolutely have to dress up," she says emphatically. "Because otherwise, what's the point?"

IMAGE: JODIE HUTCHINSON

## FINUCANE & SMITH'S GLOBAL SMASH CLUB

Where: FESTIVAL HUB: TRADES HALL

When: 16 - 19 OCT

Tickets at [melbournefringe.com.au/smashclub](https://melbournefringe.com.au/smashclub)



# FRINGE FUND HELPS GET THE JOB DONE

WE ASKED MELBOURNE FRINGE DONOR MELISSA MCSHANE A FEW QUESTIONS TO BETTER UNDERSTAND WHY SHE DONATES TO FRINGE.

## HERE'S A CHALLENGE: TELL US WHO YOU ARE BY DESCRIBING YOUR IDEAL NIGHT ON THE FRINGE

My ideal night at Melbourne Fringe involves being wowed, surprised, having a lot of WTF moments and a little bit of participation. Ideally there are multiple events or chapters through the night, which would certainly end with boogie-ing on the dance floor into the early hours with my friends.

## WHAT ART (AND ARTISTS) DO YOU HAVE AN ART CRUSH ON?

I love that art can make you feel, make you think and allow you to escape. The arts make us human! And I will forever have a soft spot for Yana Alana - a powerhouse voice and such a creative, charismatic human!

## IMAGINE YOU MEET SOMEONE WHO'S NEVER HAD A MELBOURNE FRINGE EXPERIENCE (GASP!) - HOW DO YOU DESCRIBE US?

Fringe is the seedling roots in our arts ecosystem - a champion of equal access and equal right to expression. It can be weird and wonderful, it can be hit or miss, it can be anything - and that's what's at the heart of it!

## AND FINALLY: ARE YOU A MONEYBAGS WITH CASH TO SPLASH, OR A REGULAR PERSON WHO JUST LOVES ART?

Oh how I wish I had bags of money! (Sorta). I'm just a real believer in supporting vital organisations that help make the world a better place. When I got a bit more cash in my pay packet I took stock of what good I wanted to do in the world and followed it - and Fringe was right up there with my top passions!



IMAGE: OPENING NIGHT GALA 2023, PHOTO BY NICK ROBERTSON

## FRINGE PUTS MONEY WHERE ITS MOUTH IS

Want to HELP MAKE GREAT ART HAPPEN? Find out HOW YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE to the FRINGE FUND at [melbournefringe.com.au/donate](https://melbournefringe.com.au/donate)

It can be so damn hard for independent artists to raise the cash to make new work, a fact well known by the Melbourne Fringe staff. Even a modest initial investment in a new work can be massively leveraged for extra funds, return seasons, national and international tours; or for kicking off artists' careers, raising their profiles and helping them up that funding ladder for future opportunities.

"The Fringe Fund is where we help with some heavy lifting on artists' behalf," says Fringe staff member Pauline Cady, who has been writing funding applications longer than many Fringe artists have been alive. "We harness economies of scale - do the admin, spend time and energy, write the applications and ask the donors, to help as many artists as possible get to work creating brilliant, dangerous, insightful, hilarious art".



# ASK AN ARTIST

## ADVICE ON THE OPEN ACCESS PROGRAM

Three artists from the 2024 OPEN ACCESS PROGRAM, ASH FLANDERS (*A Brief Episode*), HAYLEY EDWARDS (*Shitbag*) and TRICKSY COLLINS (*Assigned Magician at Birth*), sat down to CHAT ABOUT PARTICIPATING IN THE MELBOURNE FRINGE FESTIVAL as an INDEPENDENT ARTIST.

**HAYLEY EDWARDS:** I guess as the person doing my first Fringe show, what would the advice be from you learned folk who have done it before?

**ASH FLANDERS:** I'm trying to think of what advice to give you but the best bit of advice is what you've already done, which is just to dive in and have a go. Which I think is the motto of any Fringe festival. The whole idea is that you can just jump in and try something and see how it works. Have you written the show yet or are you still making it?

**HE:** I have lots of friends that are like, "I've put an application in and then I'll write the show," and I'm like "that is amazing." My brain is too neurotic to deal with that, so I wrote it last year and did a reading at the Storyteller's Festival at KXT. But I'm from Melbourne and I'm actively a part of the arts community here, and I thought, I shall do it at Fringe. I'm so lucky I got a slot at the Festival Hub, which is great because I was sort of thinking, if it's not somewhere near other people's Fringe shows, all my friends will be doing their own shows and won't be able to see it if it's not close by.

**TRICKSY COLLINS:** Yeah, look, this this is a worthwhile topic to talk about, especially for anyone who is doing their first Fringe, which is that we've all done a gig in a shitty spot. Like, we've all done a gig in a venue that no one's heard about, that no one can get to, that public transport has never heard of. Just take all the experiences in. Don't worry. Don't worry about awards. Don't worry about any of it. Like, for God's sake, don't worry about the Best Newcomer Award. It always goes to someone who's been doing it for years, but it just happens to be their very first Festival. [Laughs] But your first Fringe, is your experience to have your first "Oh, no. I had to perform for only one person." These are gigs that you're going to be talking about for the rest of your career. Just having a show on at all is the biggest success you can have. You have no idea how much further that pushes you along, just by having a show.

**AF:** Yeah, as someone who is an actor as well, nothing ever feels as fulfilling as getting to do your own stuff and putting that power in your own hands. And, you know, then if only three people show up, at least those three people got to see me in my final form. It's so much better than, I don't know, saying lines by dead Russians

or an ancient bard or even something like *The Mousetrap*. It's nice to do something that is relevant and speaking to now. I'm doing a personal biography kind of show and I found that's where I always get the biggest response with audiences, because they can feel that authenticity and they're hungry for it.

**TC:** I'm doing a one-person recreation of *The Mousetrap*, and I'm really worried that people aren't going to like it.

**HE:** [Laughs]

**AF:** What sort of work do you make?

**TC:** I'm a comedian first and foremost, but I'm doing a full magic show for this Fringe, because I've been a magician for longer than I've been a comedian, but I've always thought that magic was silly enough that I never wanted to commit to it fully. So, I'm like, alright, let's see what happens if I put an hour to it.

**AF:** Better to pick a stable thing like 'comedian'.

**TC:** [Laughs] This is kind of my thing, though, which is I've done so many fringes now, I've done so many festivals where I finish the show and go "I don't really know how that went. I don't know if that show was great." And then after you've done 7 or 8 fringes or so, you're just like, every single one of those shows was a necessary step to get up to where I am now. Even a show that didn't do well, that no one watched. I'm realising how much whether they liked it or whether they hated you and everything you put on the stage, they're all necessary steps to get you to where you are currently. And the nicest thing about Melbourne Fringe as well, it doesn't matter whether it's your 15th time doing the Festival or it's your very first one. If you're there in the artist bar, you're one of the artists. You did it. And that goes for everyone in the crew. That goes for everyone who worked on it. Everyone's got the same right to be there. And I've seen so many people, me included, coming into Fringe as well and then going, oh no, I'm just a newcomer. I can't chat to the big wigs. No one's a big wig.

**HE:** We all have tiny wigs.

**TC:** Correct.

**HE:** Ash, are you doing a show this year?

**AF:** I am, yeah, it's called *A Brief Episode* and it's an autobiographical show about a previous show I made and the strange journey of trying to get it to TV."

**TC:** [Cheers]

**AF:** I mean, yeah, I'm the next *Baby Reindeer*, look out.

**TC:** Good for you.

DISCOVER *what Melbourne's most EXCITING INDEPENDENT ARTISTS, THINKERS and CREATIVE TROUBLEMAKERS have been COOKING UP by FLIPPING and REVERSING this magazine.*

**AF:** I'm much more of a geriatric reindeer. So, this show is about that journey of trying to turn your story into something else and then trying to make sense of your life. I went overseas at the time to have this fabulous Greek odyssey. And then, my life just completely fell apart [laughs]. It's a hero's journey, except the hero knows less by the end than they did at the start. And I've gotten to do shows at bigger venues and smaller venues and mainstage, whatever, but when I wrote the show at the start of the year I realised I wouldn't be able to put it on any time this year, I'd have to wait around for these other institutions. Then I happened to see an email from Fringe being like, "Hey artists, do you have any ideas?" and I was like, "I actually do." And I was just so excited that this is a way for me to get the show up and out of me. What made you want to do Fringe for the first time, Hayley? Like what actually inspired you?

**HE:** I've always wanted to do it. I think every year I see people releasing their promotion and I didn't quite have what I felt like was, the story or the skill set or just the confidence to do it.

**TC:** Yup.

**HE:** Yeah. I studied acting and not theatre making at VCA. They split it for the first time. I was like, oh, no, I can't write. It's like, no it's all fine. You can absolutely do it. My show's called *Shitbag*, which is a play on Fleabag and the category of, one-person autobiographical plays by unemployed actors...

**AF:** I feel very attacked.

**HE:** ...with unconventionally attractive faces.

**AF:** I feel VERY attacked.

**HE:** So it's called *Shitbag* because it's about Crohn's disease and, like, colostomy bags. Shit bags. I was diagnosed with Crohn's disease two years ago, and it's sort of about that period. It's like Fleabag, but with more queer shit. Literally. I'm working on my copy. Can you tell?

**AF:** I think that even that school mentality is something you have to shake. It takes years and years to go, "There is no perfect way to do this. There's no right way to do this. There is no 'If I do this, this, this and this, I get top marks and everyone comes to the show and everyone loves it because I did all the right things.'" That doesn't happen. I think another thing is, if I would say anything to any person considering doing Fringe, it would be that we spend so much time waiting for permission for someone to go, "You are now a writer, you are now an actor. You are now a producer." But Fringe is a world where as soon as you write a word, you're now a writer. As soon as you send one email about your show to someone, guess what? You're the producer. We only learn by doing and you'll get better every time. But I can't believe how much support there is now. I remember when it was just very much like the Wild West and good luck and all the best to you. But, like, please fail, please make mistakes, because that means you're trying. Like, you just have to try.

**TC:** Yeah. Especially once the Festival comes around, we're a bit away from it now, but once the Festival comes around, everything becomes about, like, ticket sales and how many people you've got in the room, that kind of thing. I think every single audience is an opportunity to learn more about yourself as a performer, learn more about performing. Every single gig is an important gig to learn from, regardless of how many people are there or anything. Just every gig under your belt is a good one. So just doing Fringe in the first place is just such a huge essential step that it weirdly doesn't matter how well or poorly it goes, doing your first Fringe is the most important thing about doing it. You know what I mean?

*The Open Access Program is a come-one-come-all bounty of independently created and produced events that speaks to Melbourne Fringe's vision of cultural democracy, empowering anyone to realise their right to creative expression.*



# FESTIVAL HUB IS WHERE THE HEART IS

**AT FESTIVAL HUB: TRADES HALL ARTISTS AND AUDIENCES RUB SHOULDERS AT 100+ SHOWS, TAKING IN THE ENERGY OF THE PUMPING BARS, THE RABBIT WARREN OF CORRIDORS AND TINY SPACES, AND THE BUZZY ATMOSPHERE OF CLUB FRINGE. WE ASKED FREQUENT FRINGER AND SHOW PRODUCER EXTRAORDINAIRE OLLY LAWRENCE TO DESCRIBE THE FESTIVAL HUB THROUGH THEIR WEARY (AND SPARKLY) EYES.**

For me, Festival Hub at Trades Hall is a second home. It's the central place in the Festival to go, check out the posters and 'on-next' screens and find something interesting to see, then, have a drink at the bar... then go see another great show! As an artist, the poster walls are an ever-present reminder of how many amazing shows you still need to fit into your schedule, and the Stomping Ground Loading Dock Bar becomes the place to stay way later

than you should — knowing you still have work AND a night full of shows the next day (whoops!).

Spaces all around Trades Hall come to life... even the car park and the cupboards. There's art of every shape and size, in intimate nooks that fit one person at a time, to 200-seaters in the heritage listed ETU Ballroom. (Tip: catch the high-stakes danger of one of my shows, *Le Freak* in there from 10–12 October!).

My advice: stick around for whatever's on at Club Fringe — it's always something wild. I love that I can always find queer- and accessibility-focused art. In fact, whatever you're looking for, as long as it's left-of-centre, you know you'll find some form of it going down at the Festival Hub.

START *your* FESTIVAL HUB ADVENTURE *with* FRINGE UNPLUGGED, a FREE *pop-up* PERFORMANCE SPACE supported by FRONT OF HOUSE PRODUCTIONS.

FUEL YOUR NIGHT *at* FESTIVAL HUB *with* EXCLUSIVE FOOD & BEV OFFERS. The STOMPING GROUND LOADING DOCK BAR *will be serving* FESTIVAL-THEMED COCKTAILS, *while* WONDER PIES *will be slinging* a SPECIAL FRINGE-FLAVOURED PIE, AVAILABLE ONLY *at* FESTIVAL HUB: TRADES HALL *this Fringe.*

IMAGE: DUNCOGRAPHIC



# A NIGHT OUT AT CLUB FRINGE

WITH SCOUT BOXALL

**6PM:** It's my night off performing and Club Fringe won't kick off 'til later, but I still make sure I get to the Festival Hub early in the evening to snag a spare seat in that one-man experimental clown show that everyone's talking about. The show is a hit, the guy's so young and talented, I hate it.

**7:30PM:** Afterwards I power through a gin and tonic in the Stomping Ground Loading Dock Bar downstairs and swipe through the clown man on Instagram. I scan through the never-ending wall of posters and decide to see two shows on a whim — one's an ensemble dance spectacular that blows me away with its pure athleticism, the other's a magic show I've never heard of that ends up going insanely hard.

**10PM:** Now it's the witching hour... time for Club Fringe. I head on upstairs and slip in the back of Fringe Common Rooms, one of my favourite performing spaces in Melbourne. I sip a bev from the bar while I survey the who's who of the independent arts community.

**10:30PM:** The perfect smorgasbord of Fringe offerings is well underway. You get a little showcase of half a dozen disgustingly talented acts. Tonight, the crowd's up for anything, any genre, any gender, as long as it's good. The performers leave everything on

that stage... costumes, lighter fluid, nipple tassels, props, sweat, hopes and dreams. You genuinely never know what you'll get at a Club night, but that's perfect for a Sagittarius like me. I feel Cultured. Like I've got my Finger. On. The. Pulse. I make a mental note of a couple of acts I want to follow up on, maybe see their shows next week.

**11:30PM:** On the balcony, for a breath of fresh air between acts, I end up chatting to the clown man and he is actually very nice. We bond over clown school trauma and he introduces me to his hot clown boyfriend.

**12:15AM:** The dancefloor opens up and we descend together into a sweaty mess of limbs.

**3AM:** The Festival Hub bathrooms have immaculate lighting. I look at myself in the mirror and think, "Thank Christ I came out tonight and didn't just lie in bed at home looking at ticketing reports and waiting for my show reviews to come through."

There genuinely isn't another place in the world like Club Fringe.

DISCOVER *all* FESTIVAL HUB and CLUB FRINGE EVENTS *at* [melbournefringe.com.au/hubclubevents](http://melbournefringe.com.au/hubclubevents)

IMAGE: KATIE HARMSWORTH



Want the ALL-ACCESS FESTIVAL HUB and CLUB FRINGE EXPERIENCE? Pick up a HUB CLUB MEMBERSHIP for DISCOUNTS on HUB FOOD & BEV, ENTRY to PASSHOLDER-ONLY CLUB NIGHTS, SPECIAL TICKET OFFERS and MORE. Secure the ULTIMATE FESTIVAL EXPERIENCE: get your HUB CLUB MEMBERSHIP *at* [melbournefringe.com.au/members](http://melbournefringe.com.au/members)



# FEAST

MEDITATIONS ON **APPETITE AND EXCESS WITH EXPERIMENTAL THEATRE COMPANY PONY CAM.**

What if, all the cuisine in the world was mixed into one dish. Not all the food, but all the dishes. Mixed with perfect balance. It would likely be a soup of some kind. Filled with lots of things. I am sure salt would play its part and perhaps you need a very big bowl, as to allow for all the flood to blend properly.

**IF THERE WAS A SOUP I COULD NEVER LIVE WITHOUT IT WOULD BE A PUMPKIN SOUP, THEN A TOMATO SOUP AND THEN IT WOULD BE A CHICKEN SOUP.**

*If you asked me late at night, after drinking some wine, whether I was a crouton man or not, I would answer resoundingly that I was.*

The first thing I do every morning. I check on my small vegetable garden. I water any plants that need it. I pick through my lettuce plants and crush any cabbage worms that are eating my leaves. I crush them with my thumb by pressing them into the ground. Their heads burst from the pressure and sometimes I get green goop on my fingers. I try to eat one thing from my veggie garden.

**I'M EXCITED TO CREATE AN EXPERIENCE THAT FEELS BOTH CURATED AND SPACIOUS AT THE SAME TIME. I HOPE EVERY AUDIENCE MEMBER HAS A TOTALLY UNIQUE EXPERIENCE - WHETHER BECAUSE THEY GOT TO SEE MOMENTS OF PERFORMANCE NOBODY ELSE SAW, OR BECAUSE THEY HAD A CONVERSATION WITH SOMEONE THEY'D NEVER MET.**

I don't know where the oats come from, or the milk, the peanut-butter, the muesli. I don't know how the Weet-bix is made. Or what it is. 'Weet' certainly alludes to 'Wheat' but I'm just now processing the difference of spelling.

*One cannot think well, love well, sleep well, if one has not dined well. - Virginia Wolfe*

*I'VE NEVER BEEN SUBMERGED IN A POT OF NON-HOMOGENISED YOGHURT AND AM KEEN TO SEE HOW LONG I CAN HOLD MY BREATH.*

Chew-and-spew was a favourite of my Mother's dinners. Whatever was in the fridge went into the microwave. Add rice. Adorn with cheese. Mix it up. Add sauce. Bam. You've got yourself a budget friendly meal.

**ONLY THE PURE IN HEART CAN MAKE A GOOD SOUP. - LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN**

*We have thought on this show a while. Never in big details or big plans, but lots of small things that come up, often when doing other projects, and we think, that bit fits within FEAST.*

IMAGE: CAMERON GRANT

FEAST really represents, like, a container for us of ideas. Of things we have always wanted to try; in characters we enjoy playing and the type of relationships we want to have with an audience.

*FRINGE HAS GIVEN US A LOT OF TRUST IN MAKING THIS NEW WORK. MAKING IT THE WAY WE WANT. WE ARE REALLY GRATEFUL FOR THAT TRUST.*

*I'm most excited to be hosting in The Substation. It's a beautiful space.*

I'm scared to be performing a character. Usually Pony Cam performs as ourselves in some way, but I imagine this work will at times require something different. But who can say, we haven't made the thing yet.

**I WAKE UP. I EAT EGGS. I WAKE UP TO EAT EGGS. I EAT EGGS TO WAKE UP. I WAKE UP, I AM AN EGG.**

**I AM BECOMING EGG.**

I am nothing but egg. I am the yoke and the egg is the ox, dragging me around on its back.

*I am the labour enforced upon the egg. I weigh the egg down.*

## FEAST

Where: THE SUBSTATION

When: 9 - 19 OCT

Tickets at [melbournefringe.com.au/feast](http://melbournefringe.com.au/feast)



# PULSE

TALKING RISK WITH **MELBOURNE FRINGE CREATIVE DIRECTOR AND CEO SIMON ABRAHAMS**

**DG:** Nice to be chatting with you, Simon. Today we're talking about...?

**SA:** Pulse!

**DG:** As in legumes?

**SA:** As in Melbourne Fringe's program of radical, risky and ambitious art from leading independent artists.

**DG:** Got it. Risky, you say? In this economy?

**SA:** Artistic risk taking is at the heart of Pulse. The program exists to showcase leading artists at the very top of their game who are thinking BIG, who are experimenting with form, who are pushing boundaries, who are treading in new terrain. Pulse creates a platform for those artists to experiment, to really be adventurous in a way that they just can't be anywhere else. And it's an invitation to curious audiences to follow artists down the rabbit hole of innovation.

**DG:** Cool cool. So what kind of boundary-pushing are we talking about?

**SA:** Everything! Form, content, ideas, artistry. Can I tell you about a couple of Pulse projects I am super excited about?

**DG:** Hit me.

**SA:** First: Adena Jacobs and her feminist, queer art company Fraught Outfit are making *Flames Danced In Their Hair But Did Not Burn Them*. Adena is an acclaimed opera and theatre director here and internationally, and for the first time she's working in a completely new form. *Flames* is a three-channel video artwork about transgression, about the body, about the sexuality of teenagers and what they can and can't consent to. It's part documentary, part immersive art film, and it uses ten years of documentation of a cohort of young people who are now in their 20s but first began working with Adena over a decade ago on her controversial production of *The Bacchae*. The work tracks how the views of these performers have changed over the past decade in the context of huge social changes.

INTERVIEW: DAN GIOVANNONI

**DG:** I remember *The Bacchae*. It was quite radical.

**SA:** Hugely so. And *Flames* continues in that legacy - these are big ideas, explored by an artist who is considered quite radical working in a totally new form. And it couldn't really happen anywhere else, because there just isn't another context where a work as bold or as adventurous as this could find its home.

**DG:** What other risky business has Pulse got for us?

**SA:** Argh, it's such a great program it's hard to pick just one more. *Transmission - into the dark* is a new participatory outdoor night-time walking artwork (try saying that three times!) by 'one step at a time like this', an incredible local Melbourne company who got their start in Melbourne Fringe, gosh, maybe 15 years ago? What interested me about *Transmission* is that it's totally site-specific - it's made for Hobsons Bay. You start by having an individual experience - it starts when you pick up an old-school transistor radio in someone's letterbox and then you go on an adventure through Newport, out on the streets, taking in surprising spaces and places - but then you also come together for a shared, collective experience under the stars. It's a work that is ultimately about adventure and trust and risk-taking and putting yourself in the hands of artists.

**DG:** I love the idea of listening to a late-night radio show while stomping the streets and discovering a new neighbourhood.

**SA:** I don't think the company has made a work that truly brings people together in such a profound way before. It's going to be great!

**DG:** I wish we could talk about all eight of the works in Pulse, but alas I've hit my word limit. Any thoughts you'd like to leave us with?

**SA:** Just this: if you look around at this city, there are lots of places where artists can share their work - but I would argue that there is nowhere that artists can take as big a risk as in Pulse. If audiences want to see artists with nothing to lose, going for broke, they'll find them in Pulse.

**DG:** And what if they want legumes?

**SA:** Peas stop asking me that.

**DG:** Understood. Thanks for your time.

*Want to SUPPORT WORK that PUSHES CREATIVE BOUNDARIES (and the PEOPLE WHO help MAKE IT HAPPEN)? DONATE to FRINGE. Find out more at [melbournefringe.com.au/donate](http://melbournefringe.com.au/donate)*

DISCOVER the FULL PULSE PROGRAM at [melbournefringe.com.au/pulse](http://melbournefringe.com.au/pulse)





# A TASTE OF FRINGE AT THE QUEEN VICTORIA MARKET

**ULTIMATE MELBOURNE ICONS COLLIDE AS MELBOURNE FRINGE FESTIVAL AND THE QUEEN VICTORIA MARKET COME TOGETHER FOR FRINGE FLAVOURS NIGHT MARKETS.**

Fish and chips, pancakes and maple syrup, Melbourne Fringe and the Queen Victoria Market — some combinations are just destined to be enjoyed together. For five Wednesdays you can pair delicious food and drinks from the Night Market's variety of vendors with entertainment from the Melbourne Fringe Festival program.

## FRINGE FLAVOURS NIGHT MARKET

**Where:** QUEEN VICTORIA MARKET

**When:** EVERY WEDNESDAY 18 SEPT - 16 OCT

IMAGE: YUMMY THE KIDS EXTRAVAGANZA, 2022, PHOTO BY NICK ROBERTSON

# WHAT'S YOUR FRINGE FLAVOUR?

**FINDING A SHOW IN THE FRINGE PROGRAM CAN BE A BIT LIKE CHOOSING A SCOOP OF ICE-CREAM — THERE ARE JUST SO MANY OPTIONS TO CHOOSE FROM!**

Vibe tags can help you find events that fit your flavour profile. You can find them on our website as curated lists. Don't be afraid to mix and match flavours to create a Fringe itinerary that satisfies every craving. Find vibe tags at [melbournefringe.com.au](http://melbournefringe.com.au)

### BITTER

For those who like their chocolate dark and their coffee black, shows with 'bitter' tags have a depth and complexity to their flavour.

### SALTY

Add some sodium to your Fringe diet — check out 'salty' vibe tags for shows that are always well-seasoned and never bland.

### SPICY

If you like it a little more intense, serve your Fringe itinerary with a side of Sriracha by choosing shows with 'spicy' vibe tags.

### SOUR

Just like a lemon sherbet, shows with 'sour' vibe tags are sure to stimulate the tastebuds and keep you coming back for more.

### SWEET

Looking to satiate a sweet tooth? Look for shows with 'sweet' vibe tags.

# CULTIVATING CONNECTION THROUGH DESIGN

**HOW DESIGN FRINGE'S 2024 THEME CELEBRATES THE ROLE OF DESIGN IN SHAPING COMMUNITY**

IMAGE: J FORSYTHE

'We have shared bread and salt' is an Ancient Greek proverb about welcoming strangers and expressing gratitude, friendship, and trust through eating together. Today, like in Ancient Greece, it's often the humble dining table around which this communion happens. But the table as a symbol transcends mere furniture; it is a cornerstone of connection, community, culture, and cuisine. Around this unassuming centrepiece, we gather to debrief, vent, debate, feast, celebrate, and laugh. It's where we break bread with loved ones, acquaintances, and unexpected guests alike.

For 38 years, Melbourne Fringe has celebrated design innovation. Originating as Fringe Furniture (1986-2020), the program evolved into Design Fringe, broadening its horizon to embrace diverse disciplines, reflect new practices and trends, and celebrate diversity within design. From avant-garde furniture to experimental fashion, Design Fringe pushes creative boundaries and champions the dynamic world of design.

At Linden New Art, designers across disciplines are exploring how design can foster meaningful connections and build community. It's not just about aesthetics; it's about transforming ordinary moments into extraordinary experiences through thoughtful design. Under the theme 'We have shared bread and salt' Design Fringe 2024 celebrates the role of design in fostering togetherness at the vibrant intersection of conversation, culture, and food.



## NAVIGATING DESIGN: A TRANS PERSPECTIVE ON GENDER EQUITY BY BILLIE RIVERS

The Design Fringe for Gender Equity Initiative offered me more than mentorship; it provided a crucial entry point into Melbourne's design world. Under [mentor] Anne-Maree Sargeant's guidance, I gained access to furniture and lighting workshops, invaluable industry connections, and practical insights that shaped my understanding of the field.

Transitioning throughout the mentorship, my journey as a non-binary individual highlighted both the progress and the ongoing challenges in achieving gender equity in design. This initiative is vital because it bridges gaps and fosters inclusivity in a very traditional industry still catching up to the need for diverse voices.

My experience as a mentee has been immensely helpful, reinforcing the importance of such programs. They not only support underrepresented designers but also push the industry towards a more equitable and inclusive future.

## DESIGN FRINGE EXHIBITION

**Where:** LINDEN NEW ART

**When:** 7 SEPTEMBER - 24 NOVEMBER

Details at [melbournefringe.com.au/design-fringe](http://melbournefringe.com.au/design-fringe)



# BODY AND GENDER IN TAIWANESE PERFORMANCE

TWO OF TAIWAN'S MOST **GROUNDBREAKING CONTEMPORARY AND EXPERIMENTAL ARTISTS** ARE BRINGING THEIR WORK TO MELBOURNE AS PART OF THE **INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION PROJECT, FRINGE FOCUS TAIWAN.**

What do stacks of tomatoes and 80s-era female behaviour instruction manuals have in common? They're launching pads for two of Taiwan's boldest experimental contemporary performance artists to explore the body, sex, sexuality, and gender.

In performance artist CHOU Kuan Jou's provocative and playful dance piece *TOMATO*, the sweet and seedy fruit becomes the ultimate symbol of sexuality. Smooth and ripe, firm and succulent, it begs the question: is there any sexier fruit than a tomato? In many Asian cultures, sex education is often undervalued, leaving people to explore their sexual desire and make understanding to their gender identities through media, screen representations, and, of course, pornography. *TOMATO* offers itself as a new platform for people to navigate lust, delving into the complexities of sexuality and gender diversity through the language of dance.

CHOU is excited to see how the Melbourne audience contributes to the shape of *TOMATO*. Each city, and each person in that city, has a unique relationship with their body and exclusive experience with sex. The artist expects Melbourne to bring its distinct energy to this performance. CHOU hopes the audience will walk into the space with an eagerness to reevaluate their imagination on sex, and that they will walk out with a craving for tomatoes.

Leaving audiences with something to chew on is also at the heart of SU PinWen's *Girl's Notes*. The work's title originates from a book published in Taiwan in 1984, offering a 'how-to' guide to all girls on everything from dating to beauty tips.

As the title suggests, it's aimed at 'girls' who are yet to be women. In this experimental physical performance, SU is joined on stage by a pianist, and carries a copy of Umberto Eco's *History of Beauty* on their head, interrogating notions of gender and the power dynamics of women's sexuality within relationships.

SU first created *Girl's Notes* in 2018, due to the lack of feminist works and extensive discussion around gender in their creative circle. SU's desire is to utilise dance and physical movement to start the conversation around gender and feminism.

*Girl's Notes* delves into the social expectations placed on women and non-binary people in Taiwan.

SU suggests you bring a friend to the show – whether it prompts laughter or tears, *Girl's Notes* will be a memorable experience that will provoke discussion with your companion well into the night.

女生是不是應該要這樣才可以?如果你曾經問過自己這個問題,也許那些扛在《少女須知》表演者身上的重量,其實也指負在你身上。

台灣女性主義藝術家蘇品文想透過《少女須知》,以「裸/身」將身體意象傳達給觀眾。蘇品文希望看完演出的觀眾都能隨著那本近乎兩公斤重的《美的歷史》從演出者頭上被解除時,感受到一股釋然。台灣社會對女性加諸的框架更貼近西方語境中的代表出生指定生理性別的female,而不是意謂社會性別的women – 墨爾本的觀眾也許能透過《少女須知》感受到東亞女性的處境。

或軟或硬,堅挺卻又汁液橫流……如果情慾可以被物化的話,也許番茄是最貼切的形象。

台灣藝術家周寬柔的作品TOMATO運用對感官上的衝擊讓「性化」身體的過程成為參與的一部份。不同於傳統舞蹈表演局限於視覺及聽覺體驗,TOMATO也有意刺激觸覺、嗅覺,甚至是味覺。番茄的味道及觸感,還有舞台上的每個動作,都在你的體內產生化學反應。

在性教育相對不被重視的亞洲國家,人們只能透過網路、媒體、還有A片文化窺探情慾的樣貌。TOMATO試圖提供給觀眾在這些平台以外,一個可以探索個人慾望、性別身分的空間。周寬柔希望觀眾可以帶著探索自身情慾的好奇心進場,而在表演結束時,帶著對番茄的「饑」離開。

DISCOVER *the* FRINGE FOCUS TAIWAN PROGRAM at [melbournefringe.com.au/taiwan](http://melbournefringe.com.au/taiwan)



INTERVIEWS: MICHELLE TSENG  
IMAGE: TOMATO, PHOTO BY 58KG

# XS

MELBOURNE FRINGE'S **EXPERIMENTAL ART FOR KIDS** PROGRAM **CURATES BIG IDEAS FOR THE EXTRA SMALLS**

A group of **YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 9 TO 12** from the creative studio **HOUSE OF MUCHNESS (HOM)** gathered to **INTERVIEW Melbourne Fringe CREATIVE DIRECTOR SIMON ABRAHAMS** about this year's **XS PROGRAM**. On the agenda: **EXPERIMENTAL ART, EXPLOSIONS, ALEXANDER MCQUEEN, and 'VERY CONTEMPORARY DANCE.'**



**HOUSE OF MUCHNESS:** XS is about experimental art for kids. What do you personally see as "art" – and what is "experimental"?

**SIMON:** Great question! I think anything can be art if the artist intends it to be and has something to say. Experimental art, however, breaks new ground, and does things that no-one else has thought of yet.

**HOM:** That's what I like to see – things that haven't been invented yet.

**SIMON:** That's what our XS program is about – artists making things that haven't been made before. What other kind of things do you like to see?

**HOM:** Explosions – different things mixed together. Weird and wacky stuff. Performance art where people do random things and you figure out your own reasons why they're doing it. Very contemporary dance. Fashion, like Alexander McQueen. Art that's not in a box.

Does XS include art for all kinds of kids, who have different interests, the same way that there are different types of arts for adults who like different things?

**SIMON:** Yes! XS sits alongside the Fringe Kids program, so there all sorts of events for all sorts of kids. XS has a couple of amazing events for kids who are into ambitious and imaginative ideas, including an interactive event and wild contemporary dance.

**HOM:** How do you get the ideas for XS? Do you think of them or do people come to you?

**SIMON:** XS is a collaboration. For example, I asked Melanie Lane (an amazing choreographer) if she'd consider making a work for children. She said yes, and then took that provocation to make something new with her own team. We then help bring that to an audience.

**HOM:** We watched some videos of Melanie's work. It looks interesting and powerful and strange – will *Dream Swamp* be these things, and fun?

**SIMON:** Yes, Melanie's work is all of these things and more. It's definitely fun and absolutely mind blowing. *Dream Swamp* is, well, like being in a dream, where nothing quite makes sense but it feels very powerful. Another work we have in XS is *Best. Party. Ever.* which is an interactive event on Zoom.

**HOM:** Wait, is this connected to lockdown??

*XS is Melbourne Fringe's SPECIAL PROGRAM of EXPERIMENTAL, CONTEMPORARY and LIVE ART for KIDS. With BIG IDEAS perfect for LITTLE MINDS, it's an INVITATION to THINK DIFFERENTLY about what ART for YOUNG PEOPLE (and their grown-ups) CAN BE.*

**SIMON:** Haha, no! It's for kids whose grandparents live in different places to them. This work is all about bringing people together and connecting them even though they live far apart.

**HOM:** Do you think there should be more XS type content in the everyday world?

**SIMON:** I would love to see more experimental and contemporary art for kids in museums, galleries and theatres. Too often work for kids is educational, conventional, boring. I want ambitious and bold work for kids everywhere. What about you? Why do you think experimental art is important for kids?

**HOM:** Because it expands your mind, and then you go "Oh that's actually possible – wow." And it helps you be more creative. If people are exposed to experimental art when they're young, they'll grow up to be people who are aware, and can help other people experiment, and lead them to the world of experimental play and... well, experimental everything!

DISCOVER *the* XS PROGRAM at [melbournefringe.com.au/xs](http://melbournefringe.com.au/xs)

IMAGE: THE CHILDREN'S PARTY, PHOTO BY SARAH WALKER



# WHERE TO FIND FRINGE AT FED SQUARE

## 1 THE FED SQUARE INFO BOOTH

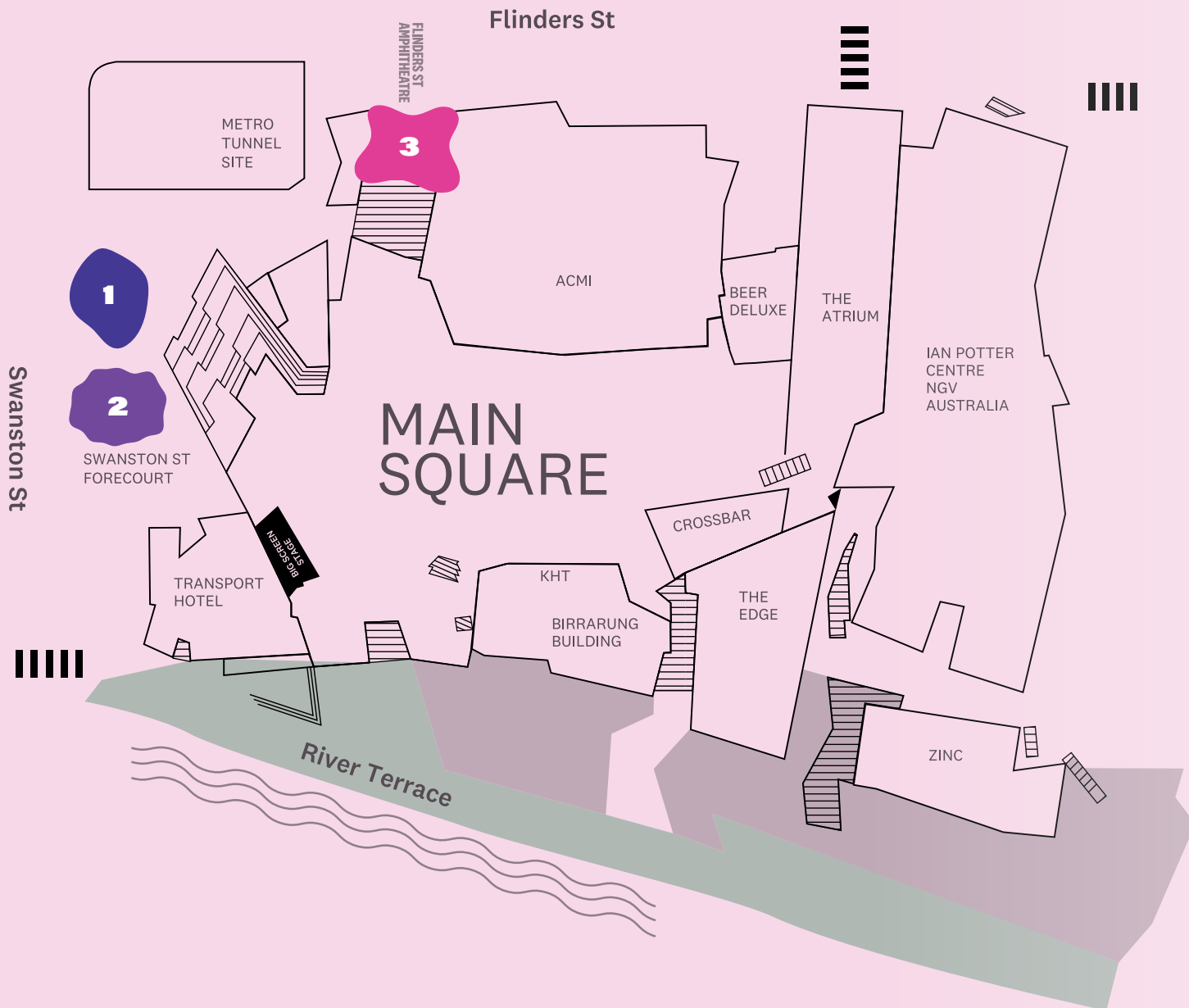
Have a chat with friendly Fringe staff while you create your own Festival art at the pop-up photobooth or just find out what's on this Fringe.

## 2 EDDY

Eddy is a sculpture to play with. Spin Eddy's white spheres and it becomes an unusual instrument. Play solo or with friends to create your unique percussion soundscape.

## 3 COOKED

COOKED has a big menu of events this Festival. Want to hear the specials? For one night only, underground South Korean film and culture artist collective STEAK will team up with Long Prawn to immerse the public BBQ space in cinema and snacks. There's also special dinner parties, public performances and more.



# WEST SIDE FRINGE STORY

Whether YOU'RE A LOCAL or wanting to EXPERIENCE ANOTHER SIDE of MELBOURNE'S CREATIVE COMMUNITY, you can find some of the Fringe program's MOST GROUNDBREAKING EVENTS in the CITY'S WEST. Can't decide WHERE to START WRITING YOUR WEST SIDE FRINGE STORY? We've put together some INTRODUCTORY ITINERARIES to get you EXPLORING what the WESTERN SUBURBS HAVE TO OFFER this Melbourne Fringe Festival.

### SWEET SPECTACLE IN FOOTSCRAY

**MORNING:** You'll need your strength for all the artistic excitement to come later, so source a hearty breakfast at the Footscray Market.

**AFTERNOON:** Engage with the local contemporary arts scene by checking out an exhibition at Footscray Community Arts as an artistic aperitif before heading to Mamma Chen's or the Bluestone Church Arts Space to catch a Fringe show like *How The Light Gets In*, *Electric Cathedral* or *Jack and Millie*.

**EVENING:** As the sun sets, pop into Pride of our Footscray Community Bar (another Fringe venue!) to see *Radio Wet: Came to Affinity*. Or, on Sunday 13 October, head to Maddern Square for *Free Fairy Floss*, a one-evening-only surreal and surprising outdoor performance by Niow. Expect live music, aerial performance and, of course, fairy floss.

### BODY POLITICS AT THE BOWERY THEATRE

**MORNING:** October weather permitting, soak up some natural beauty with a stroll around serene Brimbank Park. It's a perfect way to prepare for an evening of big ideas and bold performance.

**AFTERNOON:** Head to The Bowery Theatre in St Albans to check out *Ada*, *Asmin & The Analytical Engine* with the family. Then, explore the vibrant food scene at Big Sam's, the affectionate acronym for St Albans Market, home to fresh produce and diverse cuisines.

**EVENING:** Make your way back to The Bowery for an evening performance of *Body of Knowledge*, Samara Hersch's thought-provoking meditation on age and change (leave the kids at home for this one). Questions of boundaries, sexuality, pleasure, shame, pain, consent, ageing, grief, and death are all on the table in this inter-generational conversation.

### SOUNDTRACKS TO THE STARS (SCIENCEWORKS AND THE STREETS OF NEWPORT)

**MORNING:** Sick of brunches? Spend a Sunday morning differently with a blacksmithing workshop at Waterside Forge. If you stick around, afterwards you can catch Fringe show *The Beowulf Manuscript: A Performed History*, which takes place in the working blacksmith forge.

**AFTERNOON:** Admire artwork and architecture in the former industrial building of The Substation. The Substation also has a smorgasbord of Fringe events happening, for kids and grown-ups alike, including visual arts exhibitions and a contemporary dance show for kids, *Dream Swamp*.

**EVENING:** Round out the day to cinematic soundscapes at Scienceworks. In *K Mak at the Planetarium*, cello, violin, synths, beats and vocals will accompany your visual journey across the cosmos. Still feel like you need to get your steps up? Then *Transmission - into the dark* will take you through the suburban streets of Newport, led by a mysterious radio broadcast.

DISCOVER MORE FRINGE in the WEST at [melbournefringe.com.au/west](http://melbournefringe.com.au/west)





# 318,214\*

\*The number of people who work in Victoria's creative industries.

Meet some of the best at Melbourne Fringe Festival.

Find out more about Victoria's creative industries – and how the Victorian Government is backing them – at [creative.vic.gov.au](https://creative.vic.gov.au)



**FIND WHAT YOU WEREN'T LOOKING FOR**

See what's on, from festivals and live music to theatre and comedy. Discover hidden bars down little laneways and indulge in new foodie favourites.



MORRIS HOUSE  
Exhibition St



POLLON FLOWERS  
Flinders Ln



SIGLO ROOFTOP  
Spring St



ICHIGŌ  
Franklin St



EAST MELBOURNE GENERAL STORE  
Hotham St



QUEEN VICTORIA WOMEN'S CENTRE SHOP  
Lonsdale St



PHARAOH  
NGV International



QUEEN VICTORIA GARDENS  
St Kilda Rd



FRINGE FESTIVAL  
Melbourne



SCAN TO SEE WHAT'S ON





# THE LOVED ONE

Welcome to the Club of the Human Heart.  
Passion. Grief. Joy. Desire.  
44 Performers. Love All Around.

**4-6 OCTOBER TRADES HALL**



# PROUD BEER PARTNER



**GROUNDS FOR A ROUND**

**MELBOURNE  
FRINGE  
FESTIVAL**



# FED SQUARE

For artisanal products, exclusive design collaborations and bespoke gifts.

RETAIL STORES OPEN 10AM-5PM DAILY



Unique gifts, and exclusive collaborations with local designers and artists from the expanding universe of screen culture.  
Open 11am-5pm daily

acmi SHOP



For authentic First Peoples design wares, including apparel, jewellery, art and books.  
Open 10am-5pm daily

shop KHT



Find beautiful prints, books, accessories and homewares inspired by First Nations and Australian art and Melbourne makers.  
Open 10am-5pm daily

NG DESIGN STORE

fedsq.com

We thought we might be up against it to find a venue that was **charming, affordable, has a sufficiently enormous disco ball and is run by a bunch of legends who will make all our dreams come true.**

And then we found **Fringe Common Rooms!**

-Hugh & Alice, The Happy Couple



SCAN TO LEARN ABOUT OUR VENUE HIRE OPTIONS!



"All of our guests have said they have never been to a more inclusive, ridiculous and joyous hootenanny of a wedding!"

Our Place, Your Party.



# SO Fringe Garden SOIREE

A spectacular line-up of award-winning performances inside the Ukiyo Circus Tent

10-20 October 2024

→ Grattan Gardens, Prahran



Get the full program & book tickets at [sosoiree.com.au](https://sosoiree.com.au)



KEANU

DENNIS

SANDRA

YOU



"Hilarious!"



Glam Adelaide

"If there's more fun to be had in 60 minutes... Please show me where."



Adelaide Advertiser

"Rollicking good fun, cleverly conceived and wonderfully enacted."



The West Australian

# SPEED THE MOVIE THE PLAY

10 OCT TO 20 OCT | PRAHRAN TOWN HALL | SPEED BUS

SOSOIREE.COM.AU





# OUR BFFS (BEST FRINGE FRIENDS)

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.**

## \$20,000+ CHAMPION

The Beeton Family Fund, a sub-fund of the Australian Communities Foundation  
Daniel Besen AM  
The Hansen Little Foundation  
Michael Kantor  
Craig Semple  
Anonymous (1)

## \$10,000+ CHEERLEADER

Phylssa Koshland  
Monica Lim and Konfir Kabo  
Dr Jenepher Martin  
Annabel Myer and Rupert Myer AO  
Angela Wheelton OAM and Paul Wheelton AM  
Anonymous (2)

## \$5,000+ COMPANION

Monica and Sam Abrahams  
Lorraine and John Bates  
The Cowen Family Foundation  
Rosemary Forbes and Ian Hocking  
Anna and Dashiell Gantner  
David Hanrahan  
The Harris Family Foundation

## \$2,500+ CONSPIRATOR

Susanne Dahn, a giving fund of the APS Foundation  
Vallejo Gantner  
Adrian Healy and Luke Exell  
Silvia Kantor  
The Persephone Foundation  
Vivienne Poznanski and Michael Jankie  
Rosemary Walls  
Anonymous (1)

## \$1,000+ COLLABORATOR

Simon Bedford  
Sally Browne Fund, a sub-fund of the Australian Communities Foundation  
Jason Craig  
Carmen's Kitchen  
Ron and Margaret Dobell Foundation  
Paul Gonzalez  
Natalie Hickey  
Damien Hodgkinson  
Snowe Li  
Maggie Maguire OAM of MOGGS, a sub-fund of Australian Communities Foundation  
Melissa McShane  
Fiona Menzies

Arpad Mihaly  
Filanthi Nalpantidis  
Luciana Ramos and Luke Sinclair  
Promotix / Freetix Pty Ltd  
Christopher Reed  
Anne Runhardt and Glenn Reidel  
Lucy Schnall  
Jacky and Rupert Sherwood  
Toby Sullivan  
Leonard Vary AM and Matt Collins  
Pinky Watson

## \$500+ CONFIDANTE

Feyi Akindoyeni  
Sarah Austin and Nick Verginis  
Sheryl Bryce  
Marie-Laure Claisse Garrett and Michael Garrett  
Eloise Curry  
Graeme Gherashe  
Louise Goh  
Jacob Grainer  
Ian Greer  
Helen Hambling  
Stephanie Hamilton  
Tania Keeghan  
Peter Levi OAM and Jenny Levi  
Virginia Lovett and Rose Hiscock  
Marie-Line Luisiana  
Pete Manasantivongs  
Melinda Martin  
Eliza Metcalfe  
Kaylene O'Neill  
Julian Pocock  
Juanita Pope and Declan Fay  
Anne-Louise Sarks  
Lynne Sherwood  
Fiona Sweet and Paul Newcombe  
Richard Watts OAM

## \$200+ COMRADE

Julia Adams  
Frankie Airey and Stephen Solly  
Olivia Allen  
Stephen Armstrong  
Tom Ballard  
Nicole Beyer  
Nicole and Nick Birrell  
Michelle Buxton  
Greg Castle  
Richard Chambers  
Yulin Chen  
Melinda Clarke

Denise Damianos  
Will Dawson  
Helen Donnard  
Helen and Matt Franzi  
Sue Giles AM and Ian Pidd  
Rinske Ginsberg  
Kerri Glasscock  
Hilary Glow  
Emer Harrington  
Jerry Hodgins  
Jackson Hrbek  
Mike Hyde  
Petra Kalive and Tim Stitz  
Nico Keeghan  
Andrea King and Richard King AM  
Nicky Klempfner and Marcus O'Reilly  
Robyn Lansdowne  
Karen Large  
Benjamin Lee and Llewellyn Reynders  
Daniel Leighton  
Sonia Lindsay  
Sam McMillan  
Shaun Miller  
Felix Moon  
Jason Murphy  
Sharon Nathani  
Mark Pazolli  
Vanessa Pigrum  
Luanne Poh  
James Ralston  
David Ritchie  
Bertha Rubin and Ron Elisha  
Katrina Sedgwick OAM  
Emily Sexton  
Andrea Stahel  
Kate Sulan  
Cameron Swann  
Tanya Voloshina  
Liz and Kevin Walsh  
Julia White  
Claire Wilcock  
Anonymous (1)

## FRINGE COMMUNITY - UP TO \$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.

## DEAD FRINGERS' SOCIETY

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

# PARTNERS

## MAJOR GOVERNMENT PARTNERS



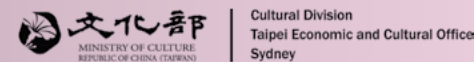
## MAJOR SPONSOR



## GOVERNMENT PARTNERS



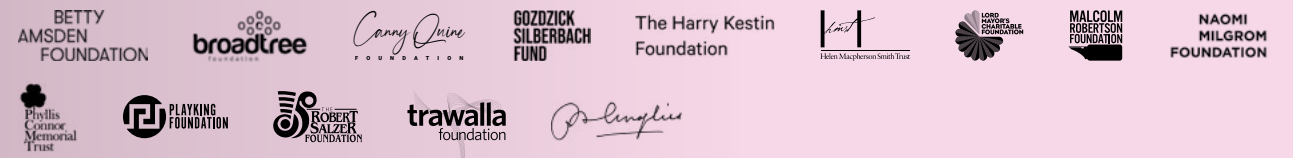
## INTERNATIONAL GOVERNMENT PARTNER



## LOCAL GOVERNMENT PARTNERS



## PHILANTHROPIC PARTNERS



## MAJOR PROGRAM PARTNER



## PROGRAM PARTNERS



## SUPPORTING PARTNERS



## PRODUCTION AND SUPPLY PARTNERS



## MEDIA PARTNERS





# WRITE YOUR FRINGE TASTING MENU

SEEN A SHOW THAT'S GOT YOU SALIVATING? AS YOU PERUSE THIS YEAR'S **EVENT LISTINGS**, KEEP TRACK OF **SHOWS** YOU'D LIKE TO SAMPLE WITH **YOUR VERY OWN FRINGE MENU**.

APPETIZERS

ENTRÉES

MAINS

DESSERTS

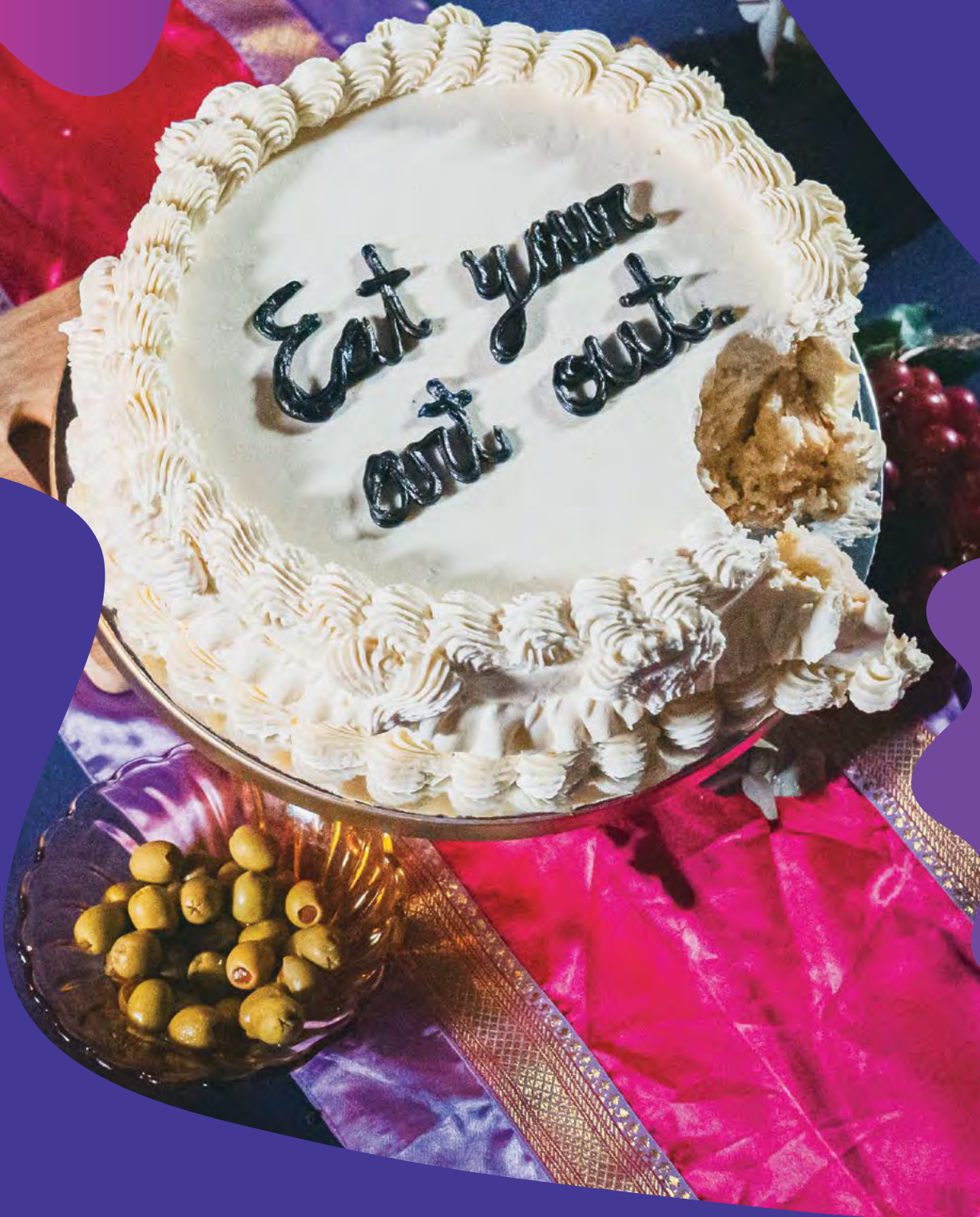
IS IT WORTH IT?  
LET US WORK IT.  
PUT THIS MAGAZINE DOWN,  
FLIP IT AND  
REVERSE IT.





HOW TO FRINGE: *Where to SEE SHOWS, how to FIND ACCESS INFORMATION, how to BUY TICKETS*

# 2024 EVENT LISTING GUIDE



MELBOURNE  
**FRINGE**  
FESTIVAL



# COLIN BROOKS

MINISTER FOR CREATIVE INDUSTRIES



It's Victoria's largest, most inclusive cultural celebration. Melbourne Fringe is more than a festival – it's a celebration of creativity, a gathering of new and challenging ideas, a launchpad for emerging artists to break and build careers, and a whole lot of fun.

For 20 days this October, Fringe will bust the city out of Winter hibernation with a program of more than 460 events in 109 locations.

The Allan Labor Government is a proud and longstanding supporter of Fringe and the way it enables all of Victoria's varied and diverse communities to share their stories through creativity, including disability arts, First Nations and LGBTQIA+ programming.

Congratulations to the Fringe team and all participants for this stellar program – and enjoy the festival!

## A MESSAGE FROM THE CITY OF MELBOURNE



Each spring, Melbourne dazzles with a daring program of independent and emerging arts from drama through to drag and dance. The Melbourne Fringe Festival proves Melbourne's reputation as Australia's arts capital extends right across the sector.

We're a city that hosts everything from international stadium tours to the Fringe, with its exploration of avant-garde artistic experiences and expressions held in bespoke theatres like living rooms and even alleyways. The City of Melbourne couldn't be prouder to be a long-time supporter of this fearless festival and the many artists, producers and volunteers who make it the success it is. We invite you to join us for two and a half weeks of rule-bending, convention-shattering stories and surprises with more than 400 works in 90 venues to choose from.

# HOW TO FRINGE

HOW TO... **BUY TICKETS**

### 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, to 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.

### IN PERSON

Get your tickets the good-old-fashioned way, by visiting our in-person Box Office at Festival Hub: Trades Hall 2–20 October.

Opening Hours: Wed–Sun, 5:15pm 'til the last show goes in (4:15pm on Sundays).

Trades Hall, Cnr Lygon & Victoria Sts.

For information on concession, companion and carer cards please visit [melbournefringe.com.au/fringe-festival/ticketing](http://melbournefringe.com.au/fringe-festival/ticketing)

HOW TO... **GET CHEAP TICKETS**

### CONCESSIONS

Concession card holders get discounts, and in these heady cost-of-living times, we'll be honest and say we won't be checking your card. If you say you need the concession price, that's good enough for us.

### GROUPS

Select events offer discounts when you book multiple tickets.

### BLAKTIX

Select events offer tickets for \$10 or less 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.

### HUB CLUB MEMBERSHIP

Members get 25% off tickets to events at Festival Hub + free entry to Club Fringe (including passholder only nights).

HOW TO... **FIND ACCESSIBLE EVENTS**

Melbourne Fringe is committed to access and inclusion for all people. The most in depth and up-to-date accessibility information is available on the Melbourne Fringe website, [melbournefringe.com.au](http://melbournefringe.com.au)

You can search and filter for all access information on the What's On page to easily find the events and venues that meet your access needs.

Check the 'Accessibility' section on each event page for dates of performances with accessibility provisions (such as Auslan interpretation, captions, low sensory performances and more).

Visit the 'Accessibility' page on our website ([melbournefringe.com.au/access](http://melbournefringe.com.au/access)) for detailed descriptions of the accessibility provisions at Melbourne Fringe Festival events.

Our Ticketing team is always happy to discuss any specific access needs. You can book tickets on our website or by calling (03) 9660 9666 or via email at [boxoffice@melbournefringe.com.au](mailto:boxoffice@melbournefringe.com.au)



# FRINGE VENUES

303  
111 Lonsdale St  
Abbotsford Convent  
Alex Theatre St Kilda  
ANVAM (Australian National Veterans Arts Museum)  
Artemisia Gallery & Event Space  
ArtPlay  
Arts Centre Melbourne  
Arts House  
Bar Open  
Bard's Apothecary  
Black Spark Cultural Centre  
Bluestone Church Arts Space  
Bowery Theatre  
Buxton Contemporary  
Calypso Lady  
Caz Reitop's Dirty Secrets  
Chapel Off Chapel  
Chinese Museum  
Circus Oz  
Clocktower Centre Studio  
Club Voltaire  
Collingwood Yards  
Cyrus Art Lounge  
Dancehouse  
Darebin Arts Centre  
Donkey Wheel House  
East Melbourne Library  
Edinburgh Gardens Community Room  
Elephant and Wheelbarrow  
Exford Hotel  
Fed Square  
Festival Hub: Trades Hall  
Florida - Upstairs  
Footscray Community Arts  
fortyfivedownstairs  
Fossey's Distillery Lygon  
Gasworks Arts Park  
Geelong Arts Centre  
Grouse Melbourne  
Guild Theatre  
Hotel Esplanade  
JMC Dance Lab  
Kindred Studios  
La Mama Courthouse  
La Mama HQ  
Leadbeater Hotel

Library at The Dock  
Linden New Art  
Long Play  
Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre - Joel Gallery  
Maddern Square  
Malthouse  
Malvern Cricket Ground  
Mamma Chen's  
Meat Market  
Melbourne Museum  
Melbourne Recital Centre  
Midnightsky  
Miscellania  
Montsalvat  
MPavilion Parkville  
Mycelium Studios  
Nicholas Building  
No Vacancy Gallery  
Northcote Uniting Church  
Odeon Richmond  
Pamela Irving Studio + Gallery  
Panarcadian Association of Melbourne  
Pahran Aquatic Centre  
Pahran Town Hall - Car Park  
Pride of our Footscray Community Bar  
Princes Gardens Tennis Courts  
Queen Victoria Market  
Queen Victoria Women's Centre - Wayi Djerring  
Russian House  
Scienceworks Planetarium

SOL GALLERY  
Speakeasy Theatre  
St Ambrose's Community Centre  
St Martins - Irene Mitchell Studio  
Studio Nexus  
Stupid Old Studios  
Temple of Enthusiasm  
The 86 Cabaret Bar  
The Capitol  
The Curtin  
The Improv Conspiracy  
The Living Centre  
The MC Showroom  
The Mission to Seafarers Victoria  
The Motley Bauhaus  
The Old Bar Gallery  
The Provincial Hotel  
The Stone Hotel  
The Substation  
The Toff  
The Ukiyo  
The Wheeler Centre  
Theatre Works  
Theatre Works - Explosives Factory  
Theory Bar  
TIC: Swanston  
Union Theatre  
Useful Box Warehouse  
Waterside Forge  
Wesley Anne  
Woods Street Arts Space



IMAGE: RUNAWAY FESTIVAL PARK, 2022, PHOTO BY NICK ROBERTSON



IMAGE: AWARDS AND CLOSING NIGHT PARTY 2022, PHOTO BY TIFFANY GARVIE

# AWARDS

AT THE MELBOURNE FRINGE AWARDS, MELBOURNE'S ARTS COMMUNITY CELEBRATES AND ACKNOWLEDGES THE DIVERSITY, PROFESSIONALISM AND EXCEPTIONAL QUALITY OF WORK IN THE MELBOURNE FRINGE FESTIVAL.

## BEST IN CATEGORY AWARDS

Cabaret  
Circus  
Comedy  
Dance & Physical Theatre  
Experimental  
Kids  
Music  
Theatre  
Visual Arts & Film  
Words & Ideas

## SPECIAL AWARDS

Access and Inclusion Award  
Best Work by an Emerging Artist  
Director's Choice  
Crowd Pleaser Award  
Sound and Technical Excellence Award  
- Supported by Front of House Productions  
Spirit of the Fringe  
Venue of the Year  
Melbourne Fringe Living Legend

## 2023 ARTIST DEVELOPMENT AWARDS

Artform Shaker Award  
- Supported by Theatre Network Australia  
Change Maker Award  
- Supported by Theatre Network Australia  
Best Emerging Indigenous Artist  
- Supported by Wilin Centre (VCA & MCM)  
Best Emerging Producer  
- Supported by MILKE  
Market Ready Award  
- Supported by Regional Arts Victoria  
Headroom Award  
- Supported by RISING  
Emerging Company Incubator Award  
- Supported by Monash University's Sir Zelman Cowen School of Music and Performance  
Outstanding Newcomer  
- Supported by Auspicious Arts  
Geelong Creative Development Award  
- Supported by Geelong Arts Centre  
Comedy New Work Award  
- Supported by Melbourne International Comedy Festival

## 2024 TOURING AWARDS

Tour Ready awards get shows on the road - literally. We partner with festival mates around the country (and abroad) to bring the best new works from near and far to Melbourne and send hot new shows from our Festival to far-flung places.  
Edinburgh Touring Award  
- Supported by Summerhall  
New Zealand Touring Award  
- Supported by New Zealand Fringe  
NSW Touring Award  
- Supported by Sydney Fringe  
QLD Touring Award  
- Supported by Brisbane Comedy Festival  
SA Touring Award  
- Supported by Adelaide Fringe  
WA Touring Award  
- Supported by FRINGE WORLD Festival






**A Bit of Baci**  
Drag King Silvio Di Baci performs a stand-up show, where comedy meets romance in a whirlwind of wit and wisdom! Join Silvio for a night of laughter as Silvio gives dating advice that will be surprisingly useful.

Created by Silvio Di Baci

Club Voltaire | 7-9 Oct (3 sessions) | 7:30pm | 60 mins



**ABBAolutely Abbey**  
Ever belted Dancing Queen after too many cocktails on the dance floor? Abbey has. Join her for a nostalgic, heartfelt night as she explores self-discovery, empowerment, and the pursuit of a vibrant life through the beloved music of ABBA.

Presented by Abbey Paige Williams

The Motley Bauhaus - Cabaret Stage | 14-20 Oct (7 sessions) | 7:20pm | 60 mins



**Adore Händel's Little Black Book**  
Come along as Adore Händel opens up their Little Black Book. With scandalous tales of past lovers, you'll be transported through centuries of lust and drama, whilst enchanted by Adore Händel's velvety baritone.

Created and Performed by Adore Händel

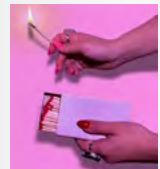
Speakeasy Theatre - Apollo | 4-6 Oct (3 sessions) | 5:30pm | 60 mins



**GRRRL Power**  
Are you ready to get your GRRRL Power on? Sing-a-long with iconic girl-band bangers in this high energy celebration of the queens, pioneers, rebel girls and female fatale's of the music industry.

Written and Directed by Chelsea Wilson and Fem Belling

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - ETU Ballroom | 2-6 Oct (6 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



**Haus Of Poussay**  
The sexiest, silliest, and most scandalous new variety show on the block. Hosted by Poussay, and featuring Jens Radda with a line-up of the hottest acts, pull up a pew to your new Sunday service and grab a hose, because this Poussay is on fire.

Presented by The OC Project


Florida - Upstairs | 13-20 Oct (2 sessions) | 8:45pm | 60 mins



**Hello, Asteroid!**  
We're all about to die... and that's just fine! In the last hour of his life, Charlie sits alone on a stage talking to his houseplants and robo-aid, Allan. This is a multi-instrumental, high-energy comedy cabaret at the end of the world!

Written and Performed by Hamish Pickering

Club Voltaire | 1-5 Oct (5 sessions) | 9:00pm | 60 mins



**After Paris - What Fiona Claire did next**  
This intimate performance of songs and stories will take you from the inner Melbourne suburbs to the streets of Paris, across Celtic coastlines and mythology and back again. Lush piano, vocal loops, strings and accordion with Cat Kohn and Anne Eastaugh.

Created and Performed by Fiona Claire

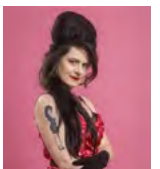
Speakeasy Theatre - Apollo | 12-13 Oct (2 sessions) | 5:30pm | 60 mins



**After-Light: The Prog-Rock Opera**  
Highly original, progressive rock, German expressionism cabaret/opera about rebirth and redemption. A confronting yet honest dive into the world of obsession and possession, in a high-octane, sensual musical manner.

Created by Zachary Vanstone


Club Voltaire | 2-6 Oct (5 sessions) | 7:30pm | 60 mins



**Beyond the Beehive - Amy Winehouse's Musical Mastery**  
Grammy-winning Winehouse drew on the rich history of jazz, gospel, soul, Motown, 60s girl groups and hip-hop to create music that set the world alight. Carol expertly weaves the fascinating story of her music around a collection of hits and rarities.

Written and Performed by Carol Whitfield

The MC Showroom - The Showroom | 15-19 Oct (5 sessions) | 9:00pm | 60 mins



**Hit n Hope: A Character Cabaret**  
The dating pool right now is as dry as an attic covered in cobwebs, and we're not here to f\*\*k spiders. The ultimate girls' night of character comedy, original music and percussive dance routines. "Endless Laughs" ★★★★★ - Your Local Hok, "Outstanding" - Broden Kelly

Created and Performed by Sugar Bits


The Motley Bauhaus - Cabaret Stage | 14-20 Oct (7 sessions) | 10:00pm | 60 mins



**Hufflepuff**  
Returning to Melbourne after its successful World Premiere. A gay Hufflepuff becomes obsessed with Cedric Diggory and tries to help him win the Triwizard Tournament with disastrous results. A comedy set to music with onstage magical effects.

Performed by Dirk Strachan-Thornton

Speakeasy Theatre - Apollo | 6-20 Oct (8 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



**In Bed With Amy and Friends**  
Join cabaret icon Amy Bodossian in her bedroom for this hilarious and heart opening live cabaret talk show! "Amy is pure authenticity & not afraid to be laid bare." - The Plus Ones. "Physical, ironic, funny. Utterly beautiful and heart wrenching." - Stage Whispers.

Created by Amy Bodossian

Wesley Anne | 3-13 Oct (3 sessions) | Various times | 120 mins



**Bisexual Intellectuals**  
Join three Bisexual Icons for a big, bold evening of cathartic comedy chaos. Using original musical comedy and the transformative power of tap dance, this celebration of queer joy dismantles bi-phobia with levity and heart.

Created by Millicent Sarre, Rosie Russell & Jemma Allen

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Common Rooms | 2-12 Oct (11 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



**Cabaret Unscripted**  
This award-winning improvised musical comedy brings a wild and sexy 1930s cabaret to life, as two of Australia's best musical improvisers, Isabella Valette and Greg Lavell, craft songs, stories and characters on the spot, inspired by your suggestions.

Starring Isabella Valette and Greg Lavell

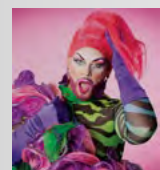
Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Solidarity Hall | 2-13 Oct (10 sessions) | 9:00pm (Sun 8:00pm) | 55 mins



**Dizney in Drag: Once Upon a Parody**  
Prepare to have all your childhood dreams shattered like Cinderella's glass slipper in an elephant graveyard of adult fantasies & fairytale follies. This tongue-in-cheek musical comedy is a healthy dose of nostalgia with a side-serve of feel-good.

Presented by The Hairy Godmothers

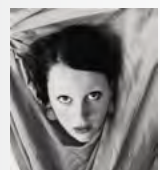
Festival Hub: Trades Hall - ETU Ballroom | 2-13 Oct (7 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



**Leather Lungs: Shut Up & Sing!**  
With the flamboyance of Prince, the force of Aretha, and a vocal range as mind-blowing as Freddie's, this daring deviant will blow you away. A master of falsetto and stiletto, this vocal sensation marries savage wit with outrageous innuendo!

Presented by So Soiree Fringe

The Ukiyo | 11-12 Oct (2 sessions) | 9:00pm | 60 mins



**Love Can Be Easy... with Bonnie Thorn**  
Bonnie Thorn's beautiful voice bewitches in this evening of glorious songs, showing what it is to be in love, how we get there, the pain and anguish it hurls us in, and most importantly, how Bonnie feels about it. Accompanied by John Thorn.

Created and Performed by Bonnie Thorn

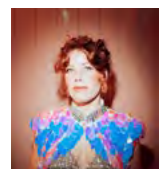
Bard's Apothecary | 1-5 Oct (5 sessions) | 9:15pm | 50 mins



**Madame Martha's Hush Cabaret**  
Step into an underground Parisian club of glamour where music sweeps you off your feet, drag divas sing to you in French, and the goddesses of burlesque transport you to another world. Madame Martha's will forever be the cabaret club of your dreams.

Artists Iva Rosebud, Meg Hickey and Jens Radda

Speakeasy Theatre - Apollo | 14-19 Oct (6 sessions) | 7:00pm | 60 mins



**Do you, Love?**  
Funny, lovely, raw, tense and hopeful. A stirring musical quest to uncover why we think we're here. Taking to the streets of Warrane (Syd) and Naarm (Melb), Monique asked strangers to answer one simple question: "Why do you think you exist?"

Written and Directed by Monique Kerr

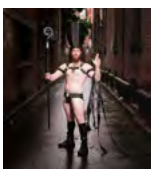
The Motley Bauhaus - Cabaret Stage | 1-6 Oct (6 sessions) | 6:00pm | 60 mins



**Dolly Diamond's Rather Large Variety Hour**  
Award-winning, sharp-tongued cabaret diva Dolly Diamond returns to Stonnington for a limited run of inimitable Dolly-style cabaret. With some sugar, spice and only a little bit of nice.

Presented by So Soiree Fringe Garden

The Ukiyo | 19-20 Oct (2 sessions) | 9:30pm (Sun 8:30pm) | 70 mins



**Father Daddy's Midnight Mass**  
With more wine and less suffering. Unless you're into that... Think Tim Minchin or Bo Burnham but WAY gayer, more poppy, and dripping with Catholic guilt.

Starring His Eminence, Father Daddy

Speakeasy Theatre - Apollo | 11-19 Oct (4 sessions) | 11:30pm | 60 mins



**Make 'Em Laugh - The Untold Story of Donald O'Connor**  
A Hollywood inspired cabaret, filled with show-stopping songs from the golden age of film, telling an unknown history of the under-recognised Golden Globe winning actor: Donald O'Connor, famous for his role in Singing in the Rain.

Performed by Mikey Halcrow & Jens Radda

Florida - Upstairs | 13-20 Oct (2 sessions) | 5:00pm | 60 mins



**Motion Sickness**  
Car? Crashed. Job? Sacked. Bags? Packed - Did someone say "Euro Summer"? An uproarious anecdotal cabaret featuring original bangers to the tune of a fashionably early quarter life crisis. Time for hot girl summerrrr!

Created and Performed by Rachel Tunaley

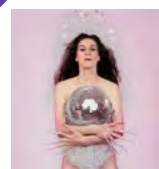
Chinese Museum: Bendigo Community Bank Gallery | 1-6 Oct (6 sessions) | 6:00pm | 55 mins



**Mum's Lounge**  
Mum's home! Larger than life, and always the life of the party. With a voice as big as her hair, she's sung the roof off the NGV, Malthouse, and queer venues all over. You're invited into her lounge for a night of songs and stories! Now, go get mummy a glass of wine.

Performed by Mum The Drag Queen

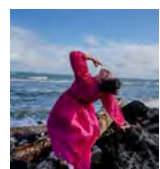
Grouse Melbourne - Room 7 | 8-13 Oct (5 sessions) | 8:00pm | 60 mins



**Finucane & Smith's Global Smash Club**  
20 years after Burlesque Hour took over the world, Finucane & Smith artistes take over ETU Ballroom for a week of fabled acts, global hits, astonishing newcomers, living legends and what the f\*\*ck was that. Party. Club. Happening. History in the making.

Created by Finucane & Smith

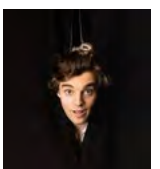
Festival Hub: Trades Hall - ETU Ballroom | 16-19 Oct (8 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



**Flies on What-If Island**  
An autism diagnosis, a crippling breakup, and an apartment alone to do nothing but think. What could go wrong? An hour of original songs that explore breaking up, breaking down, and feeling less broken.

Artist Ilana Charnelle

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Music Room | 2-6 Oct (6 sessions) | Various times | 55 mins



**FLOP**  
Rising star Arthur Hull explores the dimmer corners of Broadway and uncovers some of the best songs from the worst musicals ever written.

Performed by Arthur Hull


Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Music Room | 2-13 Oct (10 sessions) | 8:15pm (Sun 7:15pm) | 50 mins



**Not That Good, Not That Funny.**  
An intimate night of songs & stories with a tired but likeable introvert who shares how to navigate the entertainment industry when you're mediocrity talented and not interesting enough to be niche. Features covers, originals & shameless name-dropping.

Created and Performed by Phillip Lee Curtis (Possible Prince X)

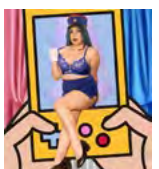
The MC Showroom - The Clubroom | 1-6 Oct (6 sessions) | 5:45pm | 75 mins



**Otto & Astrid - The Stages Tour**  
Taylor Swift had Eras. Otto & Astrid go through Stages. Fresh from Glastonbury Festival! Otto & Astrid - Die Roten Punkte thunder through a blisteringly hilarious set of songs from all of their albums. ★★★★★ - ArtsHub ★★★★★ - The Age

Performed by Otto & Astrid Rot - Die Roten Punkte


Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Common Rooms | 16-20 Oct (5 sessions) | 7:30pm (Sun 6:30pm) | 60 mins



**POKELESQUE**  
The choose-your-own-adventure Pokémon parody production for queer nerds! With featured performances from award-winning drag and burlesque artists. It's time to relive, and perhaps ruin, your childhood with POKÉLESQUE!

Produced by GEEK OUT! Nerdlesque

Chapel Off Chapel - The Loft | 18-19 Oct (2 sessions) | 8:00pm | 120 mins



**For My Family, And Yours**  
An intimate solo show interweaving a loving family narrative through music and poetry, dedicated to the loved ones who help us become the people we are. Bring tissues.

Created and Performed by Ravi the Poet

The MC Showroom - The Clubroom | 6 Oct (1 session) | 4:00pm | 45 mins



**Frock's Fright Night**  
A night of macabre marvels and haunting hilarity, Frock Hudson brings a fab fusion of fun and fright in a divine and dark spine-tingling, horror-themed cabaret. Get ready to scream, laugh, and moan for more. "Isn't afraid of putting himself out there" - MCV

Presented by Frock Hudson


Grouse Melbourne - Room 7 | 1-6 Oct (5 sessions) | 6:45pm | 55 mins



**Gluttony by Night | A one-woman live-singing drag show**  
Honey Gluttony, Singapore's beloved live-singing drag queen, invites audiences to join her on a journey of self-discovery and empowerment in her electrifying one-woman show, through a captivating blend of pop songs, parodies and musical numbers.

Created and Performed by Tony Tong (aka Honey Gluttony)

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Meeting Room | 16-20 Oct (5 sessions) | 10:00pm (Sun 9:00pm) | 60 mins



**SEEN & HEARD**  
The art of storytelling meets the thrill of the variety show. Seen & Heard is back, featuring a selection of Melbourne's most beloved drag and cabaret artists: Tina del Twist, Anna Lumb, Frankie van Kan, Maureen McGillicuddy (Granny Bingo) and Lazy Susan.

Directed by Rebecca Church

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Quilt Room | 9-13 Oct (5 sessions) | 9:30pm (Sun 8:30pm) | 60 mins



**Stoney End: The Songs Of Laura Nyro**  
Hilary Jean Watts embodies the musical legacy of Laura Nyro in her return to Melbourne Fringe 2024. Watts' spellbinding performance, paired with Nyro's incredible discography, makes for a virtuosic and soulful experience.

Created and Performed by Hilary Jean Watts

Speakeasy Theatre - Apollo | 15-20 Oct (3 sessions) | 8:30pm | 60 mins



**SUGAR**  
From closeted politicians to high-profile airline executives, if you're on Australia's rich list, it's likely you've met someone like Sugar. A poignant, sexy and hilarious story about being a kept Sugar Baby packaged with a pop-anthem playlist.

Starring Tomáš Kantor

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Common Rooms | 16-20 Oct (5 sessions) | 6:00pm (Sun 5:00pm) | 60 mins



# GABARET

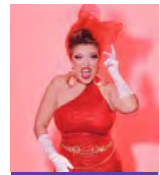


## T4T: A Transgender Showcase

The groundbreaking cult sensation T4T returns to Melbourne Fringe! A variety showcase like no other, featuring the best performers around. Here's the twist - every single one is trans, and the audience is too. If you're not trans, you're not invited.

Presented by Heartfelt Havoc Productions

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - ETU Ballroom | 13 Oct (1 session) | 7:00pm | 60 mins



## Tash York's Happy Hour

Tash York and the Red Red Wines invite you to their world where life is celebrated one glass at a time. A raucous and rowdy filled happy hour with incredible music, Goon of Fortune and outrageously funny cabaret. Think Meow Meow meets Bianca Del Rio on a budget!

Produced by Big Hair Productions

Geelong Arts Centre - The Open House | 25-26 Oct (2 sessions) | 7:30pm | 60 mins



## The Loved One

An urgent, wild, and passionate night of original cabaret, written and presented by students of Monash University, and directed by legendary creator Moira Finucane.

Created and Performed by Students of Monash University

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Common Rooms | 4-6 Oct (3 sessions) | 8:00pm (Sun 7:00pm) | 60 mins

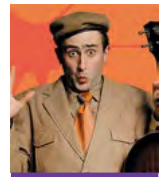


## The Platonic Human Centipede: TWO NIGHTS ONLY

High energy, queer, award-winning musical comedy madness ft. the beauty (and horrors) of codependency. Join Mel & Sam in this turbo-charged hour that will leave you fed, frightened and seeing double. "Has to be seen to be believed." ★★★★★ - Time Out

Created and Performed by Mel O'Brien & Samantha Andrew

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - ETU Ballroom | 5-6 Oct (2 sessions) | 8:00pm (Sun 7:00pm) | 60 mins



## The Ukulele Man: The Story of George Formby

The true story of wartime comedian and ukulele legend George Formby. From the Music Halls of Blackpool to the battlefields of Europe, this is the untold history of Britain's greatest entertainer! Winner - Best Theatre, Newcastle Fringe, 2024.

Written and Performed by Marcel Cole

Speakeasy Theatre - The Vault | 1-6 Oct (6 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



## The Von Donk Family Old-Timey Vaudeville Revue

The Von Donks revisit all the songs, magic and dance routines that made them famous, even though two of them are now dead. "A meticulous show that's both an ode to different Vaudeville shows of the 20th century and a bloody good time." ★★★★★ - The Age

Created and Performed by Andrew McClelland & Louisa Fitzhardinge

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Solidarity Hall | 9-13 Oct (5 sessions) | 6:00pm (Sun 5:00pm) | 55 mins



## The White Powder that Changed My Life

Annalise Knight was a theatre nerd with big dreams until a skiing accident changed everything. This one-woman comedy chronicles her journey with Post-Concussion Syndrome. It's full of twists and laughs, and will inspire you to take better care of your brain.

Created and Performed by Annalise Knight

Theory Bar | 12-20 Oct (7 sessions) | 8:15pm (Sun 7:15pm) | 55 mins

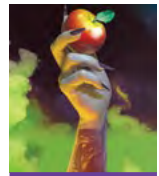


## Tina Lets Loose

Australia's much-loved nightingale. A voice as smooth as honey and a comedic wit that could shred brie. Tina's award-winning talents and multiple ★★★★★ reviews from around the globe garnish her iconic. "A magnetic stage presence. A triumph." - CULTUREFIX.CO.UK.

Performed by Tina Del Twist

Grouse Melbourne - Room 7 | 1-6 Oct (5 sessions) | 9:30pm | 60 mins



## Villains: A Disney in Drag Parody

A devilishly delicious & tantalisingly twisted musical parody with heart. Nostalgic narratives are rewritten to capture what lies beneath the surface of the misunderstood 'outcasts' of society. All we can say is... be prepared.

Presented by The Hairy Godmothers

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - ETU Ballroom | 3-13 Oct (6 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins

# CIRCUS

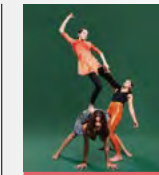


## a scary thing happened by the CAMPFIRE

Physical theatre and circus collide as two men scramble to survive the night, seemingly pursued by an unseen assailant out for blood. 'a scary thing happened by the CAMPFIRE' is a fun, jumpscare-comedy from sunset to sunrise.

Directed and Created by Alonso Pineda & Samuel Boyd

Gasworks Arts Park - Studio Theatre | 8-12 Oct (5 sessions) | 6:00pm | 60 mins



## A Theatre of Mistakes

Imagine a world where plans gone awry spark magical moments, surprising discoveries, incredible resolutions, and ridiculous conclusions. A Theatre of Mistakes is a head-tilting circus show and lopsided take on a comedy of errors.

Directed by Linda Sastradipradja

Gasworks Arts Park - Gasworks Theatre | 11-12 Oct (2 sessions) | 6:00pm | 60 mins



## AAA+ for Effort

The Circus Nexus Troupe are back with another thrilling showcase of their talents and lack of fear. Be inspired by these young circus artists and the special guests that join them each night, making every show unique and exciting!

Performed by Circus Nexus Performance Troupe

Studio Nexus | 11-20 Oct (6 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins

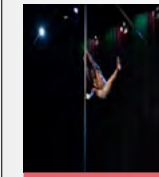


## Affinity

Prepare to be moved by stunning circus, acrobatics and heartfelt performance celebrating human connection. Feel inspired to see the world through new eyes and leave with an appreciation for the power of understanding.

Created and Performed by Artists of CircArts Geelong

Studio Nexus | 4-5 Oct (2 sessions) | 6:00pm | 60 mins



## African Cirque Ensemble

A vibrant and dynamic ensemble celebrating the rich tapestry of African culture through a spectacular blend of traditional and contemporary performances.

Directed by African Cirque Ensemble

Useful Box Warehouse | 18-20 Oct (3 sessions) | 5:00pm | 60 mins



## Apocrypha

Enter the world of Apocrypha, the new ensemble show from circus provocateur Mitch Jones that journeys beyond the canon of mainstream culture, a surreal exploration of desire and counterculture that will linger long after the final curtain falls.

Created by Mitch Jones (Oozing Future)

Darebin Arts Centre | 11-19 Oct (5 sessions) | 7:30pm | 70 mins

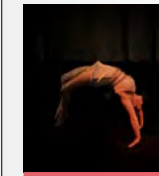


## Apricity

A symphony of aerial apparatuses, ground-breaking acrobatics, and graceful movement intertwine with touches of humour, Apricity creates a spectacle that transcends the boundaries of circus.

Presented by So Soiree Fringe Garden

The Ukiyo | 17-20 Oct (4 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



## B.L.I.P.S.

Ever had insomnia? Or believed you were Jesus incarnate? Margot Mansfield has and this is her story. A touching retelling about the chaos of psychosis, told through beautiful imagery, home videos, lip-sync and circus virtuosity. Directed by Jess Love.

Performed by Margot Mansfield

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Quilt Room | 9-13 Oct (5 sessions) | 8:00pm (Sun 7:00pm) | 60 mins



## By A Thread

Long spools of white rope run through pulleys and wrap around bodies, connecting the artists' movements above and off the ground. The actions of one acrobat affect and implicate the movements of others, in a mesmerising negotiation of cause and effect.

Presented by One Fell Swoop Circus

Gasworks Arts Park - Gasworks Theatre | 11-12 Oct (3 sessions) | Various times | 50 mins

## CURATED PROGRAM

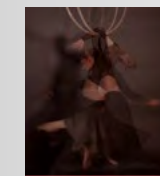
The CURATED EVENTS PROGRAM spotlights AMBITIOUS ARTISTIC PROJECTS to capture Melbourne's imagination. Scan the QR code to see all Curated Events (or look for the event listings with a coloured frame).



**La Folie**  
**AFTER DARK**  
Gasworks Theatre

1/10/24 8:30pm Burlesque Fun  
2/10/24 8:30pm Sultry Sins  
3/10/24 8:30pm Sultry Sins  
4/10/24 8:30pm Dark  
5/10/24 8:30pm Dark

La Folie's aerialists will be showcasing their creativity and alluring side. With three different and unique shows this will be a night not to be missed.



## Cabaret Vertigo

Quench your desires in a woozy, dreamy, evening cabaret and succumb to sensory oblivion. Witness a charming lineup of emerging artists and seasoned pro's take on the iconic landmark that is Circus Oz for an intoxicating evening of circus and live music.

Presented by National Institute of Circus Arts (NICA)

Circus Oz | 1-6 Oct (6 sessions) | 8:00pm (Sun 6:00pm) | 60 mins



## Carnival of Karactors

Is it getting hot in here? Darling and Daring Productions invites you to a sexy night of circus, spice and all things nice in their filthy, filthy circus-cabaret, 'Carnival of Karactors'.

Written and Directed by Claire Million

Alex Theatre St Kilda - The Studio | 4-20 Oct (9 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



## Circus De Licious

Circus De Licious will ignite your imagination and leave you in awe. Prepare to be dazzled by the finest talents from around the world as they take the stage promising an evening filled with breath-taking circus acts you won't soon forget.

Presented by Express Move ME

Studio Nexus | 11-20 Oct (6 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



## Escalate

Virtuosic juggling, innovative lighting and relentless energy collide in this daring new show from Throw Catch Collective. Put your preconceptions through the shredder. This is juggling elevated to an entirely new plane.

Presented by Throw Catch Collective

Circus Oz | 9-20 Oct (11 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



## Full Disclosure

Unlocking secrets and detangling enigmas: FULL DISCLOSURE is a cerebral cabaret on a quest for truth featuring nine acts of gravity-defying stunts and breathtaking displays of physical endurance.

Directed by Martine Howard & Katie Cawthorne

The Ukiyo | 10-13 Oct (3 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



## GODZ

Time to get Greeceed! Follow Cupid, Hercules, Apollo and Dionysus as they paint the scene of Ancient Greece and bring you to the biggest party to hit Mount Olympus since 500 BCE. A multi-award winning triumph of athletic ability and comedic brilliance.

Performed by Head First Acrobats

Circus Oz | 9-26 Oct (14 sessions) | 8:00pm (Sun 5:00pm) | 75 mins



## Hinterland

Wholesome, sweet and sincere with a healthy dose of chaos and absurdity. This intimate work combines physical theatre and circus to grapple with the question: how does one exist in this world?

Created and Performed by Turcia Circus

Gasworks Arts Park - Studio Theatre | 15-19 Oct (5 sessions) | 6:00pm | 55 mins

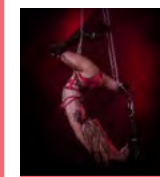


## In Place

In Place continues First Nations traditions with a devised work that combines local flora, contemporary circus and modern storytelling. Grounded in time by people and place, In Place invites the audience on a journey of connection.

Presented by Na Djinang Circus with Circa Cairns

Footscray Community Arts - Amphitheatre | 16-20 Oct (5 sessions) | 8:00pm | 65 mins



## La Folie After Dark

La Folie After Dark is an adults-only aerial circus cabaret. Prepare to be in awe. A team of aerial performers will come together to showcase their daring, alluring, sultry and creative skills to bring to life twelve unique performances.

Presented by La Folie

Gasworks Arts Park - Gasworks Theatre | 1-5 Oct (5 sessions) | 8:30pm | 60 mins



# CIRCUS

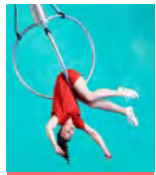


## Le Freak

Sideshow reclaimed by the 'freaks'. Watch if you dare as these critically acclaimed artists sharpen their swords and their stilettoes in a jam-packed hour of danger, humour, drag, strip, and the fear that only a text from Centrelink can inspire.

Created and Performed by Elle Diablo and Themme Fatale

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - ETU Ballroom | 10-12 Oct (3 sessions) | 8:00pm | 55 mins



## Level Up

Step inside a world of joyful chaos as three acrobats muck around inside a giant claw machine. Not just a set piece, this claw machine spins, see-saws, and launches the acrobats into the air in a one-of-a-kind performance.

Produced by Gravity Dolls

Studio Nexus | 4-13 Oct (5 sessions) | 7:30pm (Sun 6:00pm) | 50 mins



## Scott's BMX Trick Bike Show

A foot-stomping, dynamic live band accompany a thrilling and highly engaging story about world-renowned BMX trick bike rider, Scott Hone and his beloved BMX. A lesson in pursuing a passion, sheer perseverance, and unimaginable possibilities.

Produced by Scott Hone

Circus Oz | 19-20 Oct (2 sessions) | 6:30pm | 50 mins



## Skinship

In a touch-starved world, a group of acrobats explore how physical contact and intimacy are integral to a broad spectrum of relationships.

Skinship uses highly skilled and innovative circus to illustrate the importance of affection and connection.

Presented by Ensoul Entertainment

Theatre Works - Explosives Factory | 7-11 Oct (6 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



## Snatch and Grab

A radical circus car crash of dangerous juggling, drunken stunts and precariously balanced toasters. D.I.Y spectacle of absurd acrobatics, contorted comedy and household appliances! "Exquisitely stripped-back circus... side-splitting humour" ★★★★★ - Out in Perth

Starring Snatch Circus

Circus Oz | 11-12 Oct (2 sessions) | 5:00pm | 50 mins



## YUCK Circus - NAUGHTIES

Fringe-favourites YUCK are back with a totally hot, totally bitchin BRAND-NEW SHOW. It's giving Backstreet Boys, Britney, and BIG throwback energy. Mix that with high-flying acrobatics and award-winning ripper comedy, this is not a show to miss!

Presented by So Soiree Fringe Garden

The Ukiyo | 17-20 Oct (4 sessions) | Various times | 50 mins

First time FRINGER? Long-time-no-Fringe?

Dip your toe with CONFIDENCE into the 2024 Festival with FRINGE-BACKED SHOWS that we just know are going to deliver A GOOD TIME, NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE. In fact, if we're wrong, let us know, and we'll spot you some FREEBIES to something else!

It's our Fringe SATISFACTION GUARANTEE for your Festival foray (It's the biscuit without the risk!)



SEE FRINGE GUARANTEE EVENTS

ART SIMONE • THOMAS JASPERS • LEASA MANN • SCOTT BRENNAN

THOMAS JASPERS PRESENTS

# Fountain Lakes in Lockdown

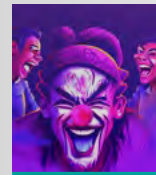
A DRAG PARODY PLAY



OCTOBER 1 - 20 • THE ALEX THEATRE • ST KILDA

# COMEDY

COMEDY

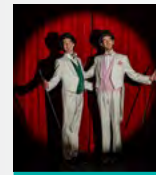


## 100% Dark Comedy

Brace yourself for a night of gut-wrenching laughter as fearless comedians delve into the darkest corners of humour, exploring the morbid, the taboo and the absurd with a devilish grin. No topic is off-limits.

Presented by MC Comedy

Fossey's Distillery Lygon | 11-19 Oct (5 sessions) | 9:00pm (Sun 6:00pm) | 50 mins



## 1925

The only sketch comedy show set entirely in the year 1925! The Burton Brothers are back with a brand new comedy show. Watch as they take their unique sketch comedy style and play it to the tune of the roaring 20s.

★★★★½ - Chortle Comedy

Written and Performed by The Burton Brothers

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Quilt Room | 16-20 Oct (6 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins

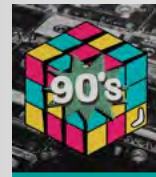


## 7/11 Attack

Crikey mate, looks like the kangaroos have some competition. RAW Comedy SA Winner/Nationals runner-up, Delhi Buoy (with guest comics), brings his hilarious show as he plans the great Australian takeover using a strategy he is calling... 'The 7/11 Attack!'

Performed by Delhi Buoy

Fossey's Distillery Lygon | 11-19 Oct (2 sessions) | 10:10pm | 50 mins



## 90s Never Ends

Join comedians Jarryd Goundrey and Jeremy Dooley for an action-packed show of laughs and nostalgia from the cringiest decade of all, the 1990s. Get your snap bands and neck chokers ready as we party like it's 1999.

Presented by Comedy Collective

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Meeting Room | 2-6 Oct (5 sessions) | 10:00pm (Sun 9:00pm) | 60 mins



## A Modern Professional's Guide to Side-Saddle Jousting

An evening of stand up comedy from one of Melbourne's most unemployed comedians. In this show, I tell some jokes, perform some sketches and save the world. Come see this show and everything will be great, permanently, for everyone, all of the time.

Written and Performed by Joe Eidelson

The Motley Bauhaus - The Cellar | 14-20 Oct (7 sessions) | 9:30pm | 45 mins



## A Night With Cherry Vinyl

Comedic genius Ruby Teys performs her original Australiana tropicana sh\*tstorm. An ode to the Gold Coast's most treasured showgirls, plastic surgeons and the sugar daddies that kept them both in business!

Performed by Ruby Teys

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Meeting Room | 9-13 Oct (5 sessions) | 7:30pm (Sun 6:30pm) | 60 mins



## All Around The World: The International Comedy Showcase

After amazing seasons in the Perth Fringe World Festival, Adelaide Fringe and Melbourne International Comedy Festival, All Around The World: The International Comedy Showcase is returning for the 2024 Melbourne Fringe Festival with an all new cast.

Presented by Terry North

Elephant and Wheelbarrow | 3-20 Oct (14 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



## ALT GRL WRLD

Let's face it... Even the drama club had rejects! From the stake to the stage, Ruby Teys presents ALT GIRLS! The Variety show where the word 'quirky' is a slur! Showcasing the genius divas of the festival. A late night raunchy romp for every friend group.

Presented by Ruby Teys

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Solidarity Hall | 19 Oct (1 session) | 10:30pm | 60 mins



## An Evening With Camilla Parker Bowles

Comedian Andy Balloch just wanted to host his own late-night variety show. Unfortunately the only guest who agreed to appear in the line-up was Her Majesty Camilla Parker Bowles. Get in quick - tickets will sell faster than Prince Andrew's assets.

Starring Thomas Jaspers & Andy Balloch

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Solidarity Hall | 5-13 Oct (4 sessions) | 10:30pm (Sun 9:30pm) | 55 mins

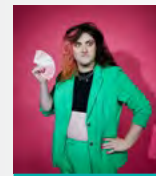


## Annie and Lena Have A Talk Show

Annie and Lena are bringing a wild night of all the talk show hits: Celebrities (played by us), Musical Guests (also us), Drew Barrymore (this one is Lena), and some classic Annie and Lena sketches (played by us).

Created and Performed by Annie Lumsden & Lena Moon

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Archive Room | 16-20 Oct (5 sessions) | 6:00pm (Sun 5:00pm) | 50 mins



## Assigned Magician At Birth

A witty satire of contemporary magic shows, and a story of self-discovery. It's about what we hide and what we reveal. And about doing whatever makes your community, brain and gender happy, even if it's being a f\*cking magician.

Created and Performed by Tricky Collins

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Archive Room | 9-20 Oct (10 sessions) | 8:45pm (Sun 7:45pm) | 55 mins



## Australia vs The World - Roast Comedy

Step into the uproarious world of roast comedy, where Melbourne Fringe ignites with global flair! Comedians from the world converge to lovingly lambast Australia's quirks, and the Aussie comics fire back.

Presented by MC Comedy

Fossey's Distillery Lygon | 11-20 Oct (3 sessions) | 7:00pm (Sun 6:00pm) | 50 mins

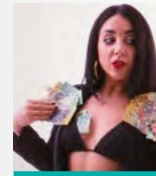


## Best of International Comedy

Welcome to the comedy equivalent of a multi-cuisine restaurant. Award-winning comedians of all races, colours and sizes come together to deliver the most hilarious punchlines.

Presented by MC Comedy

Caz Reitop's Dirty Secrets, Fossey's Distillery Lygon | 4-20 Oct (17 sessions) | Various times | 50 mins

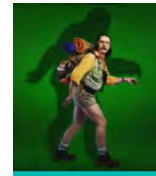


## Bianka Ismailovski: Working Girl

Bianka's hilarious clips have collected her a following of 30K+; now she's here to take us on a ride through her sex work career. As heard on Abbie Chatfield's 'It's A Lot' and co-hosting 'Just The Gist'. "Fiercely, spit-your-drink-out funny" ★★★★★ - TimeOut

Written and Performed by Bianka Ismailovski

Chinese Museum: Contemporary Arts Space | Stupid Old Studios | 8-19 Oct (7 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



## BIGFOOT: In Plain Sight

In 2012, renowned Canadian Bigfoot researcher Robert H. McKinley self-published an autobiographical book encompassing his lifelong journey, and bond, with Bigfoot. In 2024, local bozos Handful of Bugs adapt that very book into a one person comedy show.

Created by Alex Donnelly & Lachie Gough

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Quilt Room | 2-6 Oct (5 sessions) | 8:00pm (Sun 7:00pm) | 50 mins



## Black Comedy in 1988

Join us on a comedic journey in our adaptation of Peter Shaffer's "Black Comedy", set in 1988 China. Be the witness when darkness brings people's secrets to light in this unique blend of comedy and culture.

Presented by Pending Production

St Martins - Irene Mitchell Studio | 2-6 Oct (6 sessions) | Various times | 90 mins



## Blake Everett: Freak Behaviour

Blake is a comedian, and a freak. Are all comedians freaks? No, some are normal, just like you. He is nothing like you. Come laugh, point and gawk at the freak. ★★★★★ "Complete and utter mayhem." - Adelaide Advertiser

Performed by Blake Everett

The Motley Bauhaus - Cabaret Stage | 7-13 Oct (7 sessions) | 6:00pm | 60 mins



## Bryan & Richard Have Sketch Appeal

Setting the B&R in Comedy. From Richard Mealey & Bryan McDonald, the two sketchiest performers you'll meet, comes an evening of hilarious character driven sketch comedy. Directed by Caitlyn Staples.

Written and Performed by Bryan McDonald & Richard Mealey

TIC: Swanston | 3-11 Oct (6 sessions) | 7:30pm (Sun 6:30pm) | 50 mins





**Business and Pleasure**  
You are invited to an exciting investment opportunity. "Sketch comedy" isn't just a business; it's a source of pure, unadulterated pleasure. This could change everything.

Created and Performed by Fully Charged

Chinese Museum: Bendigo Community Bank Gallery  
📍 | 8-19 Oct (10 sessions) | 9:00pm | 60 mins



**C\*N'T**  
Finally! A giant vulva is here to save you from yourself. This clowny demon will defeat all those ninkompoos who told you CANT. Delve into the moist, yeasty depth of fear and emerge free: reborn into a life of new possibility.

Performed by Sophie Power

The Motley Bauhaus - The Cellar | 7-13 Oct (7 sessions) | 8:15pm | 60 mins



**CADET KELLY IS THE BEST MOVIE I'VE EVER SEEN IN MY FRIGGIN LIFE**  
HAVE YUO SEENTHIS MOEVIE??? I can't stop thinking about it. Day and night my mind is ablaze with the 2002 Disney Channel Original Movie, Cadet Kelly. I know what you're thinking, "I don't know that movie". It's time to be VIOLENTLY SHAKEN AWAKE, MAGGOT!

Created and Performed by Ben McCarthy

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Evatt Room 📍 | 16-20 Oct (5 sessions) | 8:30pm (Sun 7:30pm) | 60 mins



**David Quirk - The house that was never built**  
There's a lot going on isn't there? But this new show concerns all the houses that won't get built. Metaphorically, spiritually, comedically and literally. Mostly. DQ

Written and Performed by David Quirk

The Provincial Hotel | 15-20 Oct (6 sessions) | 8:15pm (Sun 7:15pm) | 55 mins



**Emilie Biggar & Jeremy Moses: Hear/See No Evil**  
Deaf/hard of hearing comedian Emilie Biggar and legally blind comedian Jeremy Moses sing, dance, act, and miscommunicate in this vaudevilian extravaganza. Good ol' fashioned comedy has a fresh new face - one lacking functioning eyes and ears!

Written and Performed by Emilie Biggar & Jeremy Moses

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Corner Store 📍 | 2-6 Oct (6 sessions) | Various times | 45 mins



**Evil Lesbian CEO**  
A slippery dip into corporate feminism gone wrong, roasting a powerful Australian executive who embodies the rise of the capitalist lesbian.

Created and Performed by Sienna Maple

Black Spark Cultural Centre | 17-18 Oct (2 sessions) | 8:00pm | 60 mins



**Callum Straford: Mozart-182**  
In this surreal and thrilling hour of musical comedy and clown, Callum Straford tells the story of his life in the 21st century, while interweaving music by two of the greatest composers in history - Mozart and Blink-182.

Written and Performed by Callum Straford

TIC: Swanston 📍 | 3-11 Oct (6 sessions) | 6:00pm (Sun 5:00pm) | 60 mins



**Can Stop, Will Stop**  
Join comedian Harris Stuckey for an hour of uproarious stand-up comedy. Can Stop, Will Stop explores the appeal of quitting and refusing to age gracefully.

Performed by Harris Stuckey

Bard's Apothecary | 16-19 Oct (4 sessions) | 6:45pm | 60 mins



**Club 27**  
Welcome to Club 27. Brought to you by award-winning comedian Fergus Neal. Say his name at the door and step into Melbourne's most exclusive underground entertainment experience.

Performed by Fergus Neal

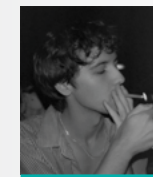
The Provincial Hotel | 17-20 Oct (4 sessions) | 6:00pm (Sun 5:00pm) | 45 mins



**Favourite Only Child**  
Raw Comedy National Finalist - 2023  
Raw Comedy Victoria State Winner - 2023  
Comedy Zone - 2024  
Touring the show from Adelaide, Perth, Sydney and now Melbourne, William Wang brings his best 50 minutes stand-up comedy to Melbourne Fringe this year!

Performed by William Wang

The Provincial Hotel | 8-13 Oct (6 sessions) | Various times | 50 mins



**Fin, Like the End of a French Film**  
Hi, I'm Fin. I'm hot, smart, and cool and hot. My life should've been awesome. But in high school, I chose to be gay (worst mistake I ever made) and now my parents don't know how to talk to me.

Written and Performed by Fin McLachlan

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Old Council Chambers 📍 | 16-20 Oct (5 sessions) | 8:45pm (Sun 7:45pm) | 50 mins



**FLEM**  
A thoughtful comedy about following your dreams and making it work in a cost of living crisis.

Written and Performed by Darcy Fleming

"Fleming is a skilled performer, melting between hyperreal sketch and absurd caricature."  
★★★★ - Ryan Hamilton (Funny Tonne)

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Corner Store 📍 | 2-6 Oct (5 sessions) | 7:00pm (Sun 6:00pm) | 55 mins



**Comedians Without Borders**  
A trio of comedians from diverse religions, united by laughter. They prove that comedy transcends race and religion, bringing people together with humour that celebrates diversity and shared humanity.

Created and Performed by Jimmy Bilenko

Caz Reitop's Dirty Secrets | 11-12 Oct (2 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



**Comedy Gin Tasting**  
UK comedian Mark Butler takes you on a joke-filled journey through the joys of gin. Learn about gins glorious history from bathtub to bar, and sample 5 premium gins from around the world. The perfect show for those who like to laugh and drink gin.

Presented by Mark Butler

Elephant and Wheelbarrow 📍 | 4-20 Oct (9 sessions) | 6:00pm | 60 mins



**Comedy On The Rocks**  
A Theatre Drinking Game. Returning after sold out shows; audiences called "A must see of the festival" and "Comedy Pandemonium", get ready to chuckle and chortle your way through six new short comedy plays hosted by Cat and Caz.

Presented by Cat and Caz

The Motley Bauhaus - Theatre 📍 | 12-20 Oct (4 sessions) | 3:30pm | 120 mins



**Fountain Lakes In Lockdown: A Drag Parody Play**  
What did Melbourne's foxiest morons get up to during the pandemic? Direct from sold out shows at the Sydney Opera House and Geelong Arts Centre and starring Art Simone, Thomas Jaspers, Leasa Mann and Scott Brennan - this is a camp night out for all!

Created and Directed by Thomas Jaspers

Alex Theatre St Kilda - Vass Theatre 📍 | 1-20 Oct (21 sessions) | Various times | 95 mins



**Future Science Talks Comedy Edition**  
Future Science Talks: Comedy Edition debuts at Melbourne Fringe after sold out shows across Australia. We have partnered local Melbourne scientists with comedians to infuse non-stop laughs into their science talks.

Produced by Future Science Talks

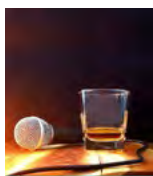
Elephant and Wheelbarrow 📍 | 15-16 Oct (2 sessions) | 7:30pm | 90 mins



**Gets You Going**  
In this partially improvised/devised hour of stand-up comedy, award nominated comedian Ashley Apap is determined to make caring cool again. Amidst a time of hopelessness and apathy, Apap is ready to explore what gets you going.

Created and Performed by Ashley Apap

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Corner Store 📍 | 16-20 Oct (6 sessions) | Various times | 45 mins



**Comedy Whiskey Tasting**  
UK comedian Mark Butler takes you on a riotous romp through the world of whiskey. Learn about the history of whiskey and sample 5 premium whiskeys from around the world. It's a comedy show with whiskey. It's a whiskey tasting with comedy.

Presented by Mark Butler

Elephant and Wheelbarrow 📍 | 5-20 Oct (6 sessions) | 4:45pm | 60 mins



**Complete Chaos**  
Jack of all trades, and master of... well, maybe a few. Part physical comedy, part existential crisis. How many tasks can one person complete in a show unpacking their ADHD diagnosis, acknowledging an ability to be constantly distracted by everything?

Created and Performed by Thomas Pidd

Speakeasy Theatre - The Vault | 11-20 Oct (9 sessions) | Various times | 50 mins



**Completely Improvised Shakespeare**  
Think Shakespeare... but funny! Give Sooth-players a title that could have been written by the Bard (but was not) and they will conjure a brand-new Shakespeare play on the damned spot! Laughs and gasps alike. ★★★★★ - Glam Adelaide

Performed by Soothplayers

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Old Council Chambers 📍 | 16-20 Oct (5 sessions) | 10:00pm (Sun 9:00pm) | 60 mins



**Gina Rhinestone: Pig Iron Queen of Asstraya**  
A grotesque satire dedicated to our patroness of iron ore. Australia's mining magnate has retained the top spot on the list of this country's wealthiest people. But what's it like up on that throne? Directed by Lily Fish.

Created and Performed by Kimberley Twiner

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Meeting Room 📍 | 2-6 Oct (5 sessions) | 6:00pm (Sun 5:00pm) | 60 mins



**God's Favourite**  
After getting stranded in regional Victoria without medication for the first time in twelve years, Scout Boxall has to pull out all the psychological stops to survive one of the worst nights of their life.

Performed by Scout Boxall

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Corner Store 📍 | 9-13 Oct (6 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



**Granny Bingo**  
Melbourne's nastiest nans can't wait to pull their balls out for you! Expect big laughs and fabulous prizes, but make sure you're on your best behaviour because you don't want to get on the wrong side of these nans.

Presented by So Soiree Fringe Garden

The Ukiyo 📍 | 11-18 Oct (2 sessions) | 6:00pm | 60 mins



**CON 2077**  
In 2027, a meteor strikes and wipes out every comedian on earth - but one. Fifty years later, the Government awakens the world's last-known comedian from cryosleep - Con Coutis.

Created and Performed by Con Coutis

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Music Room 📍 | 9-13 Oct (5 sessions) | 9:30pm (Sun 8:30pm) | 60 mins



**Confetti Confessions**  
Hey you, reading this, do you want to hear some juicy secrets? Come to my show and I'll tell you some of my bizarre experiences and maybe you'll tell me a secret about yourself as well? Come to my show.

Performed by Aaqib Merchant

Fossey's Distillery Lygon | 3-19 Oct (6 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



**Corner Shop Comedy's Pick 'n' Mix**  
Indulge in an assortment of comedy treats from your friendly neighbourhood Corner Shop. With seven nights of seven different shows - including fan favourites Thank God You're Queer, Smatch Game, and Pull Yourself Together - there's a flavour for everyone!

Produced by Corner Shop Comedy Theatre

The Motley Bauhaus - Theatre 📍 | 14-20 Oct (7 sessions) | 9:00pm | 60 mins



**Grave Sounds**  
Surreal comedy and hypnotic beats. Tom performs a multitude of characters to a live ambient soundtrack.

Created and Performed by Thomas Fahey

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Music Room 📍 | 2-6 Oct (5 sessions) | 9:30pm (Sun 8:30pm) | 55 mins



**He Had It Coming**  
Step into a darkly hilarious world of murder, mayhem, and the women who dared to say, "enough!" Join us for He Had It Coming, a Fringe comedy show that dives headfirst into the true stories of four infamous women who turned the tables on their tormentors.

Directed by Jemimah Ashleigh

The Provincial Hotel | 15-20 Oct (6 sessions) | 9:30pm (Sun 8:30pm) | 60 mins



**Hello Players! Vol. 2.**  
Performed by Asian-Australian sketch duo R&B, 'Hello Players! Vol. 2' is a 50 min original hip hop musical comedy show where audiences will witness the creation of a live album recording session.  
★★★★ - Liliitha Reviews

Created and Performed by Randy Adeva & Brendan Wan

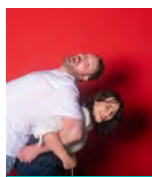
Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Music Room 📍 | 16-20 Oct (5 sessions) | 9:30pm (Sun 8:30pm) | 50 mins



**Dad Genes**  
Transition, a fresh 'Dead Dad's Club' membership, and a deadname shared with an (alleged) murderer. Eddie's life has been a bit heavy handed on the plot recently, and they're begging for a filler episode.

Written and Performed by Eddie Pattison

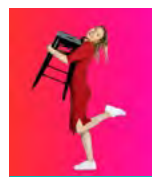
Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Evatt Room 📍 | 2-6 Oct (5 sessions) | 7:15pm (Sun 6:15pm) | 60 mins



**Date Night: First Date**  
Shave your legs, brush your teeth, and do all your farts at work, because it's DATE NIGHT! A new sketch show from Chris Martin & Taylor Edwards, Brisbane's best comedy duo! "Delivered belly-laughing joke after belly-laughing joke" - Theatre Travels

Performed by Chris Martin & Taylor Edwards

The Improv Conspiracy | 3-11 Oct (6 sessions) | 9:30pm (Sun 8:30pm) | 60 mins



**Dating Roulette**  
An improvised dating game show!

Produced and Performed by Olga Loitsenko

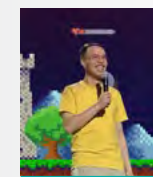
Theory Bar 📍 | 2-11 Oct (8 sessions) | 9:30pm (Sun 8:30pm) | 55 mins



**Henry Yan - Please don't come**  
Henry Yan is prepping for his 10th Melbourne International Comedy Festival show in 2040. He is testing out new stand up comedy jokes and bits in the hopes that his 10th show will be a good show! As mentioned, don't come, this will not be a great show, no refunds.

Performed by Henry Yan

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Evatt Room 📍 | 2-6 Oct (5 sessions) | 9:45pm (Sun 8:45pm) | 60 mins



**Henry Yan's Bored Game**  
Henry Yan will be hosting a game show where comedians will compete in several rounds to score the highest points and be crowned the Boringest Comedian. Audience participation may occur so be careful. ;)

Performed by Henry Yan

The Provincial Hotel | 10 Oct (1 session) | 9:45pm | 60 mins



**Hot Department**  
We have a back catalog of old and new sketches that have never seen the light of day. Wanna see? ;)

Performed by Hot Department

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Solidarity Hall 📍 | 16-20 Oct (5 sessions) | 9:00pm (Sun 8:00pm) | 60 mins





**I Got Bit By A Monkey Once**  
Looking for laughs and great stories? Look no further than award-winning comedian and storyteller Matt Harvey! This Fringe, Matt brings four true stories - a monkey bite, a trip across America, an arrest, and a mugging. "An amazing hour." ★★★★★ - Winning at Failing

Created and Performed by Matt Harvey

The Mission to Seafarers Victoria - Billiard Room | 10-20 Oct (8 sessions) | 6:30pm (Sun 5:30pm) | 60 mins



**I Love Money**  
Jett Bond loves money\* ("cash, dollars, bills, AUD, dosh, paper, coin, \$, change, notes, funds, capital, finances, payment, salary, loot, wads, bucks, wage, wealth, dough, legal tender, bankroll, riches and money!")

Created and Performed by Jett Bond

Bard's Apothecary | 9-12 Oct (4 sessions) | 10:30pm | 60 mins



**If You're from Africa?**  
Join Zimbabwean-born Lukas Meintjes for a wild show about immigrating from Africa. A dark satirical mix of clown and "standup" that'll leave you equally humoured and concerned. ★★★★★ - Lukas' Uber rating (rounded up)

Created and Performed by Lukas Meintjes

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Old Council Chambers | 16-20 Oct (5 sessions) | 6:15pm (Sun 5:15pm) | 50 mins



**Linda (for one more week)**  
What if you died, but it was a mistake? Like, what if the dates were slightly off, and you had an extra week? What would you do? Who would you meet? What's truly important?

Created and Performed by Andy Balloch & Justin Porter

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Meeting Room | 16-20 Oct (5 sessions) | 8:45pm (Sun 7:45pm) | 60 mins



**Live From Heaven**  
Christina's debut hour of quirky and sweet standup about the challenges and adversity she faces as an angel in comedy.

Performed by Christina Schmidt

Theory Bar | 12-13 Oct (2 sessions) | 5:45pm (Sun 4:45pm) | 60 mins



**Live Stand-Up Comedy Show Female Comedian Local Fringe Festival Event (5pcs)**  
This is the perfect item for people who LOVE to laugh! Join comedian Bridget Hassed for an evening of sharp observational humour, personal anecdotes, and clever punchlines!

Created and Performed by Bridget Hassed

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Evatt Room | 9-13 Oct (5 sessions) | 8:30pm (Sun 7:30pm) | 55 mins



**Impromptunes - Naughty Broadway**  
Impromptunes takes its musical mayhem into overdrive in this risqué, rambunctious ride. The show will hit the high notes and the low brows, containing mature themes for immature audiences!  
"Hilarious and raunchy" - Theatre Travels

Presented by Impromptunes

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Meeting Room | 11-13 Oct (3 sessions) | 10:00pm (Sun 9:00pm) | 60 mins



**Impromptunes - The Completely Improvised Band Musical**  
Improvised comedy meets musical theatre in a show that has to be seen to be believed. The audience suggests a show title - seconds later a brand new, completely improvised musical comes to life every night! "Outrageously funny" ★★★★★ - Theatre People

Presented by Impromptunes

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Common Rooms | 11-13 Oct (3 sessions) | 7:30pm (Sun 6:30pm) | 60 mins



**It's Pronounced Nguyen**  
Are you smart, good-looking and cool? Then this is the perfect show for you.  
  
An hour of material from one of Australia's hottest emerging comedians. No gimmicks, trauma or tales of immigrant struggle. Just a hilarious hour of jokes.

Written and Performed by Chris Nguyen


Theory Bar | 2-11 Oct (8 sessions) | 8:15pm (Sun 7:15pm) | 60 mins



**Louis Prandolini Cracks a Cold Case**  
Strange characters. Cryptic phone calls. Secret cuts. And in the centre of it all, an old missing person case. Join comedian-turned-private eye Louis Prandolini as he hilariously unravels a mystery that goes deeper than you could possibly imagine.

Presented by Louis Prandolini

Bard's Apothecary | 15-19 Oct (5 sessions) | 9:15pm | 60 mins



**Love Hurts, Work Sucks: A Comedian & Psychologist on Conflict & Communication**  
Comedy meets psychology as Shayne and Max hilariously explore conflict and communication. Blending stand-up and sketches, they tackle relationship chaos and workplace drama.

Written and Directed by Shayne Hunter

Speakeasy Theatre - The Vault | 14-20 Oct (7 sessions) | 7:00pm | 60 mins



**Love.**  
Love comes in many forms. Little moments to grand gestures. This show is a celebration of them all. Settle in for a night of improvisation that will leave you feeling warm and fuzzy.

Created by Jason Geary

The Improv Conspiracy | 3-11 Oct (6 sessions) | 7:00pm | 60 mins



**Ivan Aristeguieta - The First Pancake**  
Every great pancake breakfast starts with the first pancake. You know the one. It's wonky, undercooked, not quite right, but you eat it straight away because it's delicious. Comedy is the same. This is a work in progress show. With guests. It's gonna be messy fun!

Presented by Laughing Stock Productions

The Provincial Hotel | 8-13 Oct (6 sessions) | 8:30pm (Sun 7:30pm) | 60 mins



**Jackson Tozer's Assemble**  
With a career spanning over a decade in film and television (including Deadloch, Mr Inbetween, The Newsreader, Ricky Stanicky), "Jackson Tozer's Assemble" is a high energy character-driven comedy set during a school assembly.

Written and Performed by Jackson Tozer

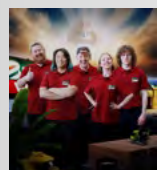
Theory Bar | 2-11 Oct (8 sessions) | 7:00pm (Sun 6:00pm) | 50 mins



**Japanese Aussie (Encore)**  
MICF Winner - Director's Choice Award (2023) & Nominee - Most Outstanding Show (2024). Takashi has lived in Australia for 5 years. This show is about a Japanese boy who tries to show you his understanding and love about his favourite country, Australia.

Created by Takashi Wakasugi

The Provincial Hotel | 8-13 Oct (6 sessions) | 7:00pm (Sun 6:00pm) | 60 mins



**Lowest Prices Are Just The Beginning...**  
Step into the fluorescent-lit sanctuary of Bunnings Warehouse, where every tool is a key to enlightenment, and every paint can a vessel for inner peace. With prices this good, who would ever want to leave?

Presented by Lowest Prices Are Just The Beginning...

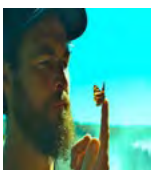
Club Voltaire | 5-13 Oct (6 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



**MAFIA The Game: The Show**  
Based on the hit role-playing strategy game Mafia, come watch a late night panel show like no other, as comedians are pitted against each other in a comedy show filled with as many laughs as there are lies. Who will survive? Only one way to find out!

Presented by Ashley Apap & Nick Robertson

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Solidarity Hall | 4-18 Oct (4 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



**Marcus Ryan - Eat, Pray, Walk**  
Epic, hilarious and gruelling 1000km Camino de Santiago walk surviving blisters, snorers and dodgy WiFi in search of life's answers & free wine! "Born performer" ★★★★★ - FreshAir UK. Patrons Pick Orlando '23, Best International Show Atlanta '23. Sold-out worldwide.

Written and Performed by Marcus Ryan

Elephant and Wheelbarrow | 11-13 Oct (5 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



**Jason Statham, I Love You**  
A new comedy about family, Hollywood, and everyone's favourite Jason.

Performed by Clare Rankine

Bard's Apothecary | 9-12 Oct (4 sessions) | 9:15pm | 50 mins



**Jeromaia Detto: When I Grow Up...**  
Winner - Best Comedy Weekly Award, Adelaide Fringe 2024  
What did you want to be when you grow up? Whatever the dream, critically acclaimed expert in play Jeromaia Detto, will bring it to life with a stage full of costumes & a heart full of imagination!

Created and Performed by Jeromaia Detto

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Old Council Chambers | 9-13 Oct (5 sessions) | 6:15pm (Sun 5:15pm) | 60 mins



**Jimmy Finger: In Too Deep**  
Zo Star is high-octane drag king clown, Jimmy Finger, Melbourne's favourite Rockabilly Bogani!

Created and Performed by Zo Star


The Motley Bauhaus - Cabaret Stage | 14-20 Oct (7 sessions) | 8:40pm | 60 mins



**Matt Harvey - Wage Against The Machine**  
Hear award-winning comedian and storyteller Matt Harvey talk his old dodgy jobs, \$20,000 Robodebt, and the time he broke a 100 year old roller coaster. Keeping comedy affordable this Fringe Festival - simply book and donate at the end of the show.

Written and Performed by Matt Harvey

The Mission to Seafarers Victoria - Billiard Room | 10-20 Oct (8 sessions) | 7:45pm (Sun 6:45pm) | 60 mins



**Maybe He's Born With It, Maybe It's ADHD**  
STOP WHAT YOU ARE DOING AND PAY ATTENTION! Sound familiar? It will if you're part of the 1 in 20 people who have been diagnosed with ADHD. QUIT READING AHEAD! Explore a lifetime of experiences to the question WHY CAN'T YOU BE LIKE EVERYONE ELSE?

Presented by Colin Ebsworth

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Music Room | 16-20 Oct (5 sessions) | 7:00pm (Sun 6:00pm) | 60 mins



**Med School**  
Noah endured four years of med school in hopes that it'd make for a good show one day. This is that show. Come join Noah for an hour of songs and stand-up as he guides you through the mishaps and misadventures of his reluctant medical journey!

Written and Performed by Noah Szto

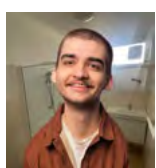
Long Play | 9-18 Oct (5 sessions) | 7:30pm | 60 mins



**Jon Walpole: Butterfly**  
Jon Walpole is no longer a mere comedian caterpillar. He is a beautiful butterfly, an artistic genius, and he will change your world in this hour of sketch/clown comedy. Get ready to LEARN and FEEL things you've never LEARN'T or FELT before.

Created and Performed by Jon Walpole


The Motley Bauhaus - The Cellar | 7-13 Oct (7 sessions) | 9:30pm | 60 mins



**Laugh Music**  
get ready to laugh music

Featuring Aiden Wilcox

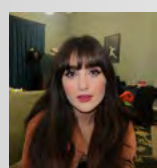
Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Corner Store | 2-20 Oct (15 sessions) | 9:30pm (Sun 8:30pm) | 60 mins



**Lauren Bok: Boklesque**  
Welcome to Boklesque! A one-woman burlesque variety show of tease, hilarity and monsters of mayhem by award-winning comedian and burlesque jester Lauren Bok! "Fierce, proudly feminine, and funny as hell." ★★★★★½ - Lilitia Reviews

Written and Performed by Lauren Bok

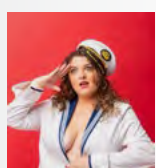
The Motley Bauhaus - Cabaret Stage | 7-13 Oct (7 sessions) | 8:40pm | 55 mins



**Meg Jager - FutureSex/LoveSounds (2006)**  
I've never gotten over anything in my whole life. Everything I do is out of spite. Especially this work in progress show where I piece together some seasoned award-winning jokes with some less seasoned jokes.

Performed by Meg Jager

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Evatt Room | 2-6 Oct (5 sessions) | 6:00pm (Sun 5:00pm) | 60 mins



**Mel McGlensy is MOTORBOAT**  
Batten down the hatches and seal your port-hole! It's time for the most outrageous, naughty and nautical show ever made about someone who is part boat, part woman... and full clown. Come with Motorboat on a sea voyage of self-discovery and silliness.

Created and Performed by Mel McGlensy

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Archive Room | 9-13 Oct (5 sessions) | 7:15pm (Sun 6:15pm) | 60 mins



**Murder in the Chapel - A Murder Village Improvised Whodunnit**  
Step inside a heritage listed chapel and right into an improvised Agatha Christie-style whodunnit! The award-winning Murder Village presents a 90-minute immersive show where your secret ballot votes determine who lives and who dies. ★★★★★ - Theatre People

Presented by Murder Village

The Mission to Seafarers Victoria - Chapel | 3-6 Oct (5 sessions) | Various times | 90 mins



**Law and Order: Special Improv Unit**  
A completely improvised crime show that takes the piss out of all of your favourite TV crime-drama tropes.

Directed by Dan Thomas

Club Voltaire | 10-13 Oct (4 sessions) | 7:30pm | 60 mins



**Les Improvisés**  
A musical made up right before your eyes! Using just an audience suggestion for the title, every single song, group dance number and line of dialogue will be completely improvised. So grab a date, a mate, or your mum for a night of laughter and fun!

Artists from TIC, The Big HOO-HAA! & more!

The Improv Conspiracy | 12-20 Oct (6 sessions) | 7:00pm (Sun 6:00pm) | 60 mins



**Lewis Garnham - Figuring it Out - Live**  
Lewis Garnham is figuring it out. After a sellout season at Melbourne International Comedy Festival, he's taking the stage to figure out new material. Watch one of Melbourne's finest comics figure it all out, live. "A gifted and spirited storyteller" - Chortle 2023

Presented by Lewis Garnham


Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Archive Room | 16-20 Oct (5 sessions) | 7:15pm (Sun 6:15pm) | 60 mins



**My Scoota Lyf**  
"You're going too fast! Bloody scooters." In 2017 Samsara got a mobility scooter and everything about life changed... In 'My Scoota Lyf' Samsara will introduce you to B1, Bluey, Snake, Darwin, Batman, and Cackles in a riotous tale of woes.

Created and Performed by Samsara

Kindred Studios | 3-12 Oct (8 sessions) | Various times | 40 mins



**Never Gonna Die**  
Award-winning comedian Maddy Weeks reveals their secret to eternal life in this high-energy hour that will leave you feeling unstoppable.

Performed by Maddy Weeks

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Evatt Room | 16-20 Oct (5 sessions) | 7:15pm (Sun 6:15pm) | 50 mins



**Nightmare Fuel**  
Clock in for an hour of non-stop laughs, action packed sketch comedy and a demonic song or two with your new favourite theatre group, Ethical Clone, under the watchful eye of a middle-manager eldritch god. Work has never been more frightening!

Created and Performed by Ethical Clone

Club Voltaire | 14-20 Oct (7 sessions) | 6:00pm | 55 mins





**No Show**  
The comedian's a no-show, the audience is waiting, his biggest fan sucks, the tech is at wits' end. And yet, THE SHOW MUST GO ON!

Written and Performed by Jett & Thom

The Motley Bauhaus - The Cellar | 1-6 Oct (6 sessions) | 5:45pm | 60 mins



**Oliver Coleman - Seeing What Happens (An Improvised Stand-Up Comedy Show)**

Fully immerse yourself in the magic of live performance with Oliver Coleman! Nominee - Most Outstanding Show, Melbourne International Comedy Festival, 2024

Presented by Token Events

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Evatt Room | 9-13 Oct (5 sessions) | 7:15pm (Sun 6:15pm) | 60 mins

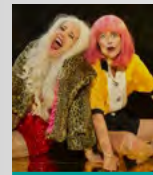


**Outback Outcasts: A Comedian's Take on the Wild Beginnings of Perth, Adelaide, and Melbourne**

Presented by Comedian's Guide to True Crime, uncover the dark, hilarious truth behind Australia's unruly urban origins with Angus Gordon. A thrilling journey through the seedy underbelly of our nation's past.

Written by Angus Gordon

Elephant and Wheelbarrow | 18-20 Oct (3 sessions) | 7:15pm | 60 mins



**Spoon Fools**  
From heartbreak, to culinary genius, to poetic stupidity, three idiots take you on their own unique journeys of triumph and failure. Laugh, gasp and fall in love with these earnest fools. ★★★★★ Michelin stars

Artists Michele O, Maty D, Roxie H and Katy B

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Evatt Room | 9-13 Oct (5 sessions) | 9:45pm (Sun 8:45pm) | 55 mins



**Story Time: New literary classics with Sudge Fundae**

Cosy up by the fire as this team of award-winning performers improvise a new literary classic right before your eyes. Memorable characters, flashbacks, cutaways, emotional beats, plenty of laughs and performed in a real library!

Performed by Sudge Fundae

East Melbourne Library | 10-12 Oct (3 sessions) | 7:30pm | 60 mins



**Suma Iyer & Felix McCarthy - The Burden of Excellence**

Being above-average at average things is what true success is, which is what makes Felix and Suma understand the burden of excellence. You're in good hands, because if they'd never lie, then it doesn't matter if they're wrong!

Performed by Felix McCarthy and Suma Iyer

Club Voltaire | 7-11 Oct (5 sessions) | 6:00pm | 60 mins



**Pope Benedict the IX**  
Benedict IX, the only person in history to be Pope more than once. In this historical story told through sketch, storytelling, and a dubious Italian accent, find out how an 18yr old gay party boy became the most powerful man in Europe... three times.

Performed by Pedro Cooray

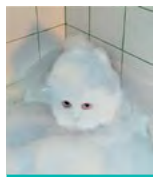
Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Old Council Chambers | 9-13 Oct (6 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



**Promising Young Mensch**  
When current Jew, former child, Jacob Sacher's school was implicated in the Royal Commission into Child Sexual Abuse, he was forced to reflect on his ultra-orthodox childhood. Safe for Jews, not safe for children. "Immersive comedy at its best" - Tagg

Performed by Jacob Sacher

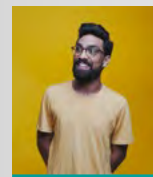
Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Old Council Chambers | 2-6 Oct (6 sessions) | Various times | 50 mins



**Prune**  
A woman gets into the tub and decides to never get out. A shambolic bath-bomb of comedic theatre.

Written and Directed by Isabelle Carney & Pat Mooney

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Meeting Room | 16-20 Oct (5 sessions) | 7:30pm (Sun 6:30pm) | 50 mins



**SUREN JAYEMANNE - There's a World Where My Head Ought Be**  
There are no new ideas so I'm pilfering some from 5000 years ago. An irreverent yet affable exploration of Eastern philosophies and how they could be just what we're missing in our modern lives. As seen on Question Everything and The Weekly.

Written and Performed by Suren Jayemanne

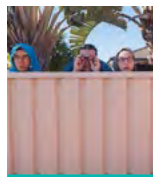
The Provincial Hotel | 15-20 Oct (6 sessions) | 7:00pm (Sun 6:00pm) | 50 mins



**Tales From Cheersquad**  
Following stellar performances in Brisbane and the Gold Coast, Rowhan Grace is bringing his smash hit show to Melbourne. 15 years, 2 Clubs. Join Rowhan Grace as he shares his hysterical stories from his time with the Brisbane Lions and Gold Coast Suns Cheersquads.

Performed by Rowhan Grace

Elephant and Wheelbarrow | 10-13 Oct (4 sessions) | 8:30pm | 50 mins



**Teyze Patrol: An improv comedy show**  
A celebration of ethnic humour through dynamic improv comedy and storytelling.

Produced by Bery Uzunbay, Ece Mustaloff and Esmay Yucel

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Archive Room | 2-6 Oct (5 sessions) | 8:30pm (Sun 7:30pm) | 60 mins



**Radio Wet: Came to Affinity**  
When was the last time you Came to Affinity? Radio Wet wants to immerse you into a warped sonic experience at Pride of Our Footscray. Boundary pushing, queer, eclectic dance-comedy. Sonic. Disturbing. Wet.

Presented by Radio Wet

Pride of our Footscray Community Bar | 10-11 Oct (2 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



**Ratbag**  
Sup nerds! Mum and Dad have gone to bed so legally that puts me in charge. Now stop crying and get my iPod nano, Dad's getting up to go stand-up-paddleboarding in an hour and I've got a lot of shit to show you.

Written and Performed by Danny Sewell

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Archive Room | 16-20 Oct (5 sessions) | 10:00pm (Sun 9:00pm) | 55 mins



**RESTLESS**  
With a brain that won't stop and body that slows her down, award-nominated writer and comedian Ashley Apap obliterates her comfort zone in her first hour of stand-up.

Written and Performed by Ashley Apap

Digital Fringe | 1-20 Oct | 60 mins



**The Big HOO-HAA!**  
Fast, furious and funny, The Big HOO-HAA! is Melbourne's longest-running and best-loved improv comedy show. Starring a who's who of Melbourne's finest comedians, The Big HOO-HAA! dazzles with its unique brand of high-octane improv.

Performed by The Big HOO-HAA! Melbourne

The Motley Bauhaus - Theatre | 1-6 Oct (6 sessions) | 7:30pm | 60 mins



**The Comedy Crawl**  
Five comedians. Four bars. One hilarious night. Sure fire sell out! The most hilarious pub crawl in town... Laugh and drink your way around town with some of the best comedians the festival has popping up at each venue!

Presented by Pub Crawl Productions

Exford Hotel | 4-19 Oct (6 sessions) | 7:00pm-10:30pm



**The Comedy Crawl - Fitzroy**  
Five comedians. Four bars. One hilarious day. Sure fire sell out! The most hilarious pub crawl in town... Laugh and drink your way around Fitzroy with some of the best comedians the festival has popping up at each venue!

Presented by Pub Crawl Productions

The Stone Hotel | 5-20 Oct (6 sessions) | 2:00pm-5:30pm



**Rice, Spice and Everything Nice: an Asian Comedy Showcase**  
Melbourne-based comedians Ryotaro Amano, Jay Choe, Gidion Gosal, Tim Leu and Scott Zheng have put aside their squabble on who makes the best rice, to perform for you a hilarious 5-act stand-up comedy showcase.

Featuring Ryotaro A, Jay-C, Tim L, Scott Z and Gidion G

Chinese Museum: Education Space | 11-20 Oct (10 sessions) | 8:00pm | 60 mins



**Robyn Reynolds is on trial**  
Robyn is a people pleaser. No backbone here! She's more like a pudding on legs than a human woman. But will she please the crowd? You be the judge. Don't miss this HILARIOUS show, from award-nominated comedian Robyn Reynolds.

Created and Performed by Robyn Reynolds

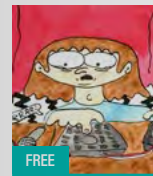
Bard's Apothecary | 7-12 Oct (6 sessions) | 6:45pm | 60 mins



**Saccharine**  
Online sensation Emerson Brophy puts the phone down to present his debut solo show, Saccharine. Equal parts comedy show, pop concert and TED Talk, Saccharine is a cathartic spiral into some of the biggest frustrations of the modern world.

Produced by Relevant Productions

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Music Room | 16-20 Oct (5 sessions) | 8:15pm (Sun 7:15pm) | 55 mins



**The Coward Man Experience**  
Coward Man looks to tell his story through his own music, jokes and stories in a quirky unique performance filled with endearment, euphoria, laughs and cringe.

Performed by James Steeth

Bar Open | 5 Oct (1 session) | 6:00pm | 60 mins



**The Errors Tour**  
Nick has inadvertently made a beginner's guide to "not having a shit life." If you enjoy comedy which you could describe as "a chronicling of cringe, a feast of failures and a side-dish of self-deprecation" then this is a show for you.

Created and Performed by Nick Steain

Speakeasy Theatre - The Vault | 1-6 Oct (6 sessions) | 8:30pm | 50 mins



**The Late Nite PowerPoint Comedy Showcase**  
This cult classic returns home to Melbourne after a UK tour spanning the Edinburgh Fringe and England's iconic Latitude Festival. With 6 comedians performing 6 different presentations, The Late Nite PowerPoint Comedy Showcase is a line-up show like no other.

Presented by Sweeney Preston & Ethan Cavanagh

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Archive Room | 9-13 Oct (5 sessions) | 10:00pm (Sun 9:00pm) | 60 mins



**Scamp LIVE**  
A one-night-only LIVE episode of cheeky talk show "Scamp", created & hosted by comedian Ashley Apap.

Created and Performed by Ashley Apap

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Solidarity Hall | 17 Oct (1 session) | 10:30pm | 60 mins



**Scrum**  
"Hi, I'm Bruce Scrumson but the boys just call me Scrum". Alex Reynolds unleashes drag king Scrum. What's next? Only god knows, but the sky's the limit. One thing's for sure, once a streaker, always a streaker. Nominee - Golden Gibbo, MICF 2024.

Created and Performed by Alex Reynolds

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Music Room | 9-13 Oct (5 sessions) | 5:45pm (Sun 4:45pm) | 50 mins



**Sex, Uggs & Muffintops**  
A night of zany stand up and songs from a menopausal woman on the verge of a nervous breakdown. Kate's experiences as a human guinea pig, to crushes on her obstetrician, to hijinx with sex dolls, will have audiences reeling with laughter.

Performed by Kate Hanley Corley

Bard's Apothecary | 1-11 Oct (10 sessions) | 8:00pm | 50 mins



**The Migration Office**  
To the people who have been asked, "but where are you really from?" this show is for you.

Produced by Bery Uzunbay and Benzir Siddiqui

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Corner Store | 2-6 Oct (5 sessions) | 5:45pm (Sun 4:45pm) | 60 mins



**The Racist Immigrants**  
Immigrants and raci\*?!? Whaaa! An hour of unabashed comedy that will leave you crying with laughter and questioning everything you know about immigrants and cultures. "This show deserves an award." ★★★★★ - Indian PM

Presented by MC Comedy

Fossey's Distillery Lygon | 11-19 Oct (4 sessions) | 8:00pm | 60 mins



**The Remix**  
Every show, a different special guest will share true stories from their life, which will inspire some of the most experienced improvisers in Melbourne to perform a never-to-be-repeated show. Expect bold storytelling and hilarious scenes!

Performed by The Improv Conspiracy Ensemble

The Improv Conspiracy | 5-19 Oct (3 sessions) | 8:15pm | 60 mins



**Shayne Hunter True Crime Walking Tour: A Comedian's Guide to Melbourne's Dark Past! - CBD Volume 2**

Following last year's hit, join Shayne as he delves deeper into the city's chilling history with his signature blend of humor and storytelling. Book now!

Written and Directed by Shayne Hunter

Meet at 191 Queen St | 2-20 Oct (16 sessions) | Various times | 90 mins



**Slashing Racism The Ninja Way**  
Ever been racially bullied? Of course you have if you're non-Caucasian. Using Eastern/Western Philosophies, Metaphysics, Martial Arts, Humour & Performing Arts, Ron Lee, "The Corporate Ninja" will show racists & non-racists how to accept each other.

Performed by Ron Lee aka "Corporate Ninja"

The MC Showroom - The Clubroom, Speakeasy Theatre - Apollo | 1-5 Oct (5 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



**Speed: The Movie, The Play**  
Jump onboard our vintage bus for this shameless comedic homage to the 1994 action thriller "Speed". Back by popular demand! "Hilarious" ★★★★★ - Glamelaide "A bloody riot" ★★★★★ - The Advertiser

Presented by So Soiree Fringe Garden

Prahran Town Hall - Car Park | 9-20 Oct (21 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



**The Salmon Was Good**  
I went through Tom Gleeson's trash for a year, what I found was both appalling and inspiring. The Salmon Was Good is an exploration into the waste of the elites, as well a literal food review of what Tom Gleeson threw in his trash.

Performed by Rapha Manajem

The Provincial Hotel | 11-13 Oct (3 sessions) | 6:00pm (Sun 5:00pm) | 45 mins



**The Unskilled Immigrant**  
Not All Immigrants are Skilled. Come witness an hour of hilarious and shocking stories of an Unskilled Immigrant! Aditya Gautam is an Author, Comedian and the founder of MC Comedy.

Performed by Aditya Gautam

Fossey's Distillery Lygon | 4-6 Oct (3 sessions) | 8:00pm (Sun 5:00pm) | 60 mins



**The 'Big Game Show Contest Competition Reality Pageant Game Show' Show**

A chaotic love letter to reality TV, pageantry and old school game shows. High camp, high energy, low comedy and different every night. Lock it in Eddie!!

Created and Directed by Zachary Dixon

The Toff | 2-5 Oct (5 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



# COMEDY



## TOD Talks

Terrible Ideas, Improvised. Improvised TED talks given by comedians, to slides they have never seen before. It is a masterclass in sht-talking. A battleground of pop-culture references, quick wit, cringeworthy puns, and improvised absurdity. "Priceless!" ★★★★★ - FringeFeed

Written and Directed by Gatt & Owen

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Solidarity Hall 🎧 | 2-6 Oct (5 sessions) | 6:00pm (Sun 5:00pm) | 60 mins



## Trending

Aaron will be performing in his second ever show and debut in the Melbourne Fringe Festival. This 60 minute special will have everything from trending topics, fresh, hilarious takes on social media, technology and journalism, and will include special guests!

Directed by Aaron Verrocchi

Theory Bar 🎧 | 12-20 Oct (7 sessions) | 9:30pm (Sun 8:30pm) | 55 mins



## True Crime Walking Tour: A Comedian's Guide to Melbourne's Dark Past! - Carlton

Join comedian Ro Campbell and explore Melbourne's dark past, uncovering notorious criminals and infamous heists, all with Ro's signature humour and insight. An entertaining and enlightening experience.

Written by Ro Campbell

Meet Outside of Old Melbourne Gaol 🎧 | 4-20 Oct (12 sessions) | Various times | 90 mins



## Truth be Told

The best comedy is based in truth, and the best truths come from NZ comics Gabby and Orin. A hilariously honest hour of stand up, including eco-friendly drug deals, a pep talk from your ex, and moving cities. You can handle the truth, if it's funny.

Written and Performed by Gabby Anderson & Orin Ruaine-Prattley

Theory Bar 🎧 | 12-20 Oct (7 sessions) | 7:00pm (Sun 6:00pm) | 55 mins



## Virtuoso

Tobias Finlay-Fraser is the greatest actor of his generation. Only problem is, he's played by little-known comedian Casey Filips. Winner - 'Take a Chance on Adelaide' Award, 2024 ★★★★★ - Funny Tonne "This show is quality." - Glam Adelaide

Created and Performed by Casey Filips

The Improv Conspiracy | 12-20 Oct (6 sessions) | 9:30pm (Sun 8:30pm) | 60 mins



## Warb

Me, my dog, a travelling side show and nothing in-between.

Performed by Cameron Ribbons

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Evatt Room 🎧 | 2-6 Oct (5 sessions) | 8:30pm (Sun 7:30pm) | 60 mins



## We Miss Brother H

From his thoughts on Tiktok fans to Aussie's way to thank the French, comedian Sean Diao delivers a one-of-a-kind comedy night.

Performed by Sean Diao

Chinese Museum: Education Space 🎧 | 18-19 Oct (2 sessions) | 6:30pm | 60 mins



## Welcome to the Internet

'Welcome to the Internet' follows the bizarre malfunction of an internet search guide, struggling to handle the most outlandish questions, searches, and social media content available on your device. Now is a good time to delete your search history.

Created and Performed by Abbey Dale

Club Voltaire | 10-15 Oct (6 sessions) | 9:00pm | 50 mins



## Wil Greenway: It's Probably Nothing

Make sense of the world by making sense of something. Anything. Nominee - Best Comedy, Melbourne Fringe SOLD OUT Edinburgh Fringe "Awesomely talented." ★★★★★ - Herald Sun "I'm on record as being a fan." - Daniel Kitson

Written and Performed by Wil Greenway

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Old Council Chambers 🎧 | 2-6 Oct (5 sessions) | 8:45pm (Sun 7:45pm) | 60 mins



## Work in Progress

Japanese Boy Takashi starts to write new jokes for his next year's Comedy Festival Tour. As Our Soul and Body should be one and as Heaven and Earth should be one, He tries to make his brain and his jokes one. Please come and enjoy fresh raw jokes. Arigato!

Created by Takashi Wakasugi

Speakeasy Theatre - The Vault | 17-19 Oct (3 sessions) | 8:30pm | 60 mins



## Working Class Magician

LJ is your Working Class Magician! Worksafe has launched their new division: Magicsafe. And the new laws on the art of magic are taking their toll on your favorite wizards. Your seminar host LJ is here to "safe" the day!!

Created and Performed by Liam (LJ) Jumpertz

Speakeasy Theatre - Apollo | 7-13 Oct (7 sessions) | 7:05pm | 55 mins

## JUDGES' PICKS

Catch a future AWARD-WINNER. See all shows that have been given CERTIFIED, VERIFIED HOT-PICK APPROVAL from our judging panel.



# DANCE & PHYSICAL THEATRE



## African Safari

We draws inspiration from the continent's diverse traditions, fusing them with contemporary influences to create a unique experience. Our performances are a celebration of Africa's cultural wealth, echoing its heartbeat in rhythm and movement.

Performed by Rastaflex

Bar Open | 19-20 Oct (2 sessions) | 6:30pm (Sun 5:00pm) | 60 mins



## AfroFusion

Don't miss this unique opportunity to witness the magic of AfroFusion. Whether you're a long-time admirer of African culture or discovering it for the first time, this program promises to inspire and entertain.

Performed by Wala Ensemble

Bar Open | 18-19 Oct (2 sessions) | 5:00pm | 60 mins



## brun

A colourful explosion of ballet and contemporary dance traversing human connection. An eye catching brand new dance/physical theatre production where art comes to life in a vivid visualisation.

Created by Madeline Pratt

The MC Showroom - The Showroom | 2-5 Oct (4 sessions) | 8:30pm | 50 mins

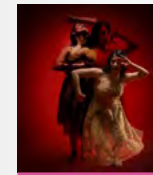


## Cosmos

Delving deep into the layers of human consciousness, exploring thoughts, dreams, and the afterlife.

Choreographed by Callum Mooney

Dancehouse - Sylvia Staehli Theatre 🎧 | 9-12 Oct (4 sessions) | 7:00pm | 60 mins



## Dancing in Infinite Worlds

A solo intercultural dance theatre work, developed through a PhD research. It is a celebration of identity, discarding labels imposed by culture & society, emphasizing connection.

Artist Joshinder Chagggar

Theatre Works - Explosives Factory | 16-20 Oct (6 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins

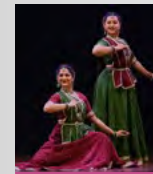


## Durga Shakti

DURGA was created for the slaying of the Buffalo Demon Mahishasura by Bramha, Vishnu, Shiva, and the lesser Gods who were powerless to overcome him. Embodying their collective energy (Shakti), she is the derivative from the male divinities and the true source of their power.

Directed by Subarna Kumar Thapa

Club Voltaire | 1-6 Oct (6 sessions) | 6:00pm | 60 mins



## Echoes of Her: A Kathak Celebration

A captivating dance performance that brings to life the essence and stories of womanhood. This unique duet reflects and resonates with the diverse experiences, emotions, and strengths of women, expressed through the classical Indian dance form of Kathak.

Concept by The Cultural Mosaic

The MC Showroom - The Showroom | 13 Oct (1 session) | 5:00pm | 60 mins



## Evocación

What does Flamenco evoke for you? An evocation of longing, joy, sorrow and a call to feel... more? Awarded Best Dance Show Overall at Adelaide Fringe '22 and Darwin Fringe Festival '22! Be transported to the stages of Sevilla by this mesmerising ensemble.

Performed by Byron, Chachy, Kieren, Roshanne & Zoe

Gasworks Arts Park - Gasworks Theatre 🎧 | 8-10 Oct (4 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



## Fertile Ground

With vivid choreography, Fertile Ground manipulates space, sound and a brutalist pile of concrete bricks in this ground-breaking participatory performance.

Choreographed by Ashleigh Musk and Michael Smith

St Ambrose's Community Centre | 3-5 Oct (4 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins

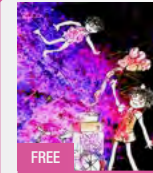


## Four Sites

Four Sites features four short works by four of Melbourne/Naarm's most fascinating and celebrated independent choreographers: Rebecca Jensen, Jo Lloyd, Harrison Ritchie-Jones and Lee Serle. Presented by Sage Arts, Abbotsford Convent & Melbourne Fringe.

Curated by Jo Lloyd

Abbotsford Convent 🎧 | 4-5 Oct (2 sessions) | 8:00pm | 90 mins



## Free Fairy Floss

A magical, free, one-off, outdoor performance that celebrates finding beauty in the everyday, and brings the community together in a joyful and wondrous moment of the sublime. Featuring aerial performance, live music and fairy floss.

Created and Performed by Niow

Maddern Square 🎧 | 13 Oct (1 session) | 7:45pm | 45mins



## Girl's Notes

Traversing the boundaries of contemporary dance with live piano accompaniment, Girl's Notes takes its cues from a 1990s Taiwanese book - instructing women how to behave - to interrogate contemporary gender politics and the artist's experience with the female body.

Created by SU Pin-Wen

Melbourne Recital Centre - Primrose Potter Salon 🎧 | 11-12 Oct (3 sessions) | Various times | 40 mins

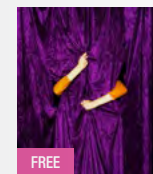


## Grim Grinning Ghosts

A one of a kind choreographic séance. This work will stay with you, it might even follow you home.

Created and Performed by Alix Kuijpers

Dancehouse - Skylab | 10-19 Oct (7 sessions) | 8:00pm | 60 mins

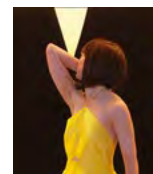


## Guild Fringe: Body Talks

The human body gives us so much to talk about! Join choreographers, students and those who use dance as a pathway to careers outside the art form as they share stories, uncover history and discuss the future of movement, dance and the body.

Presented by Union House Theatre

Guild Theatre 🎧 | 3 Oct (1 session) | 4:00pm | 120 mins

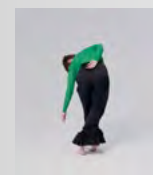


## Guild Fringe: Molly

Nothing... Really nothing. Nothing... Nothing at all. NOTHING TURNED OUT LIKE I THOUGHT IT WOULD! A new work of dance and theatre, Molly is delicate, frustrating and confounding to those who love her, but she can be viciously decisive if she wants to be.

Choreographed by Caroline Meaden

Guild Theatre 🎧 | 2-5 Oct (4 sessions) | 7:30pm | 90 mins



## Guild Fringe: Pictures & Ghosts

Pictures & Ghosts is a dance performance that gathers recollections of a dance from a time gone by. Performer Arabella Frahn-Starkie moves through a state of stark photographic memory to a distant sense of nostalgia as she traces the memory of her dance.

Performed by Arabella Frahn-Starkie

Guild Theatre 🎧 | 9-12 Oct (4 sessions) | 7:30pm | 60 mins



## Guild Fringe: Small Movements

Lift your finger, shuffle your feet, scratch your nose, turn to the left, sit tight. New artists perform tiny gems, quietly and joyfully on a small stage. Moments of movement and dance, across genres, are presented as short works.

Curated by Xanthe Beesley

Guild Theatre 🎧 | 10-11 Oct (2 sessions) | 6:15pm | 45 mins



## I.D.

Presented by Dancehouse, I.D. is an evocative and fresh new street dance performance work created by Stephanie (Steph) Dixon in collaboration with dancers Nolly Zaa Thang, Phillip (Phil) Pham and Harshil Vora.

Presented by Dancehouse

Dancehouse - Upstairs Studio | 2-5 Oct (4 sessions) | 7:00pm | 60 mins

2019 WINNER, 2020 WINNER, 2022 WINNER, 2024 WINNER. SCHOOL HOLIDAYS + WEEKENDS CIRCUS OZ, COLLINGWOOD. KABOOM! EXPLOSIVE SCIENCE SHOW. DANGER.



# DANCE & PHYSICAL THEATRE



**KUMARAJANA**  
Gandrung dance is a typical Banyuwangi dance performed as a manifestation of community gratitude after harvest. Gandrung means happy.

Performed by Wilwaktika Art High School, Surabaya, Indonesia

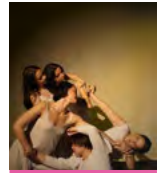
Northcote Uniting Church | 18-19 Oct (2 sessions) | 7:30pm | 120 mins



**Layered Point / VOYAGER #3**  
Be transported into two alternate worlds that grip the atmosphere of the space and thereafter.

Produced by CoExist Collective

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - The Square | 16-20 Oct (5 sessions) | 7:30pm (Sun 6:30pm) | 60 mins



**Mothers Group**  
'Mothers Group' is an interdisciplinary performance work featuring movement and voice to explore womanhood, intrinsic connectivity, and the emotional complexities of joy, sorrow, resilience and vulnerability.

Directed by Opal Russell

St Martins - Irene Mitchell Studio | 9-10 Oct (2 sessions) | 6:00pm | 60 mins



**Paracosm**  
Witness 'Paracosm': a transformative contemporary dance journey where fantasy and escapism converge, creating a sensory spectacle that explores imaginary worlds through movement, sound and visual art.

Produced by Scott Pokorny & Tim Barnes

Gasworks Arts Park - Gasworks Theatre | 2-5 Oct (4 sessions) | 7:00pm | 60 mins



**Perceive us. I dare you.**  
This is your invitation. Enter a realm of our investigation of perception.

Performed by CoExist Collective

Donkey Wheel House - Basement | 2-5 Oct (10 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



**Smile - The Story of Charlie Chaplin**  
"If you want to understand me, watch my movies." - Charles Chaplin  
This is the story of the greatest screen comedian of them all.

Created and Performed by Marcel Cole

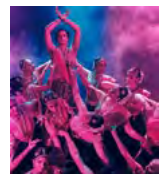
Bard's Apothecary | 15-19 Oct (5 sessions) | 8:00pm | 60 mins



**Tales of Africa**  
A renowned ensemble of talented performers bringing the dynamic fusion of physical theatre and dance to Australia. Celebrated for their award-winning performances, First Class Ensemble captivates audiences with their powerful performance.

Performed by First Class Ensemble

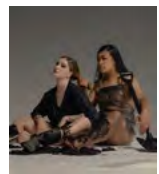
Bar Open | 16-17 Oct (2 sessions) | 5:00pm | 60 mins



**Temple of Desire**  
Enter the Temple of Desire, an imaginary space where mystery and intrigue allure us with an invitation: to indulge in both the spiritual and the sensual all at once. A breathtakingly beautiful dance-theatre work by 14 classical Indian dancers.

Directed by Govind Pillai

Malthouse - Beckett Theatre | 4-5 Oct (3 sessions) | Various times | 45 mins



**The Bloom**  
Imagine being a fig wasp - born pregnant. Imagine the sex of mould. Imagine mothering as a botanical project that broke its banks. A new dance work by Jessie McCall & RDYSTDY, leaning into the generative glitches of queer propagation.

Created by Jessie McCall

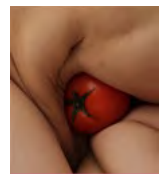
Dancehouse - Upstairs Studio | 5-19 Oct (4 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



**The Butterfly Who Flew Into The Rave**  
An electrifying non-stop performance of pure chaos and carnage. Exploring techno and rave culture, witness the destruction of 3 humans. Experience a 3-day rave condensed into an hour with this spectacle of pure endurance. To win and win again.

Presented by Oli Mathiesen, Lucy Lynch & Sharvon Mortimer

Abbotsford Convent - Industrial School | 11-12 Oct (2 sessions) | 8:00pm | 70 mins



**TOMATO**  
Dancer-choreographer Chou Kuan-Jou, two dancers, and a few ripe and shapely red fruit form an unlikely ensemble in this cheeky and provocative dance work that's won fans and tickled ribs from Taiwan to Edinburgh.

Presented by Melbourne Fringe and Dancehouse

Dancehouse - Sylvia Staehli Theatre | 2-5 Oct (5 sessions) | Various times | 35 mins



**two thread / Superposition**  
'two thread' - A permeable and ever-changing duet of listening, complimenting, and guiding.  
'Superposition' - A suspenseful duet utilising laws of quantum mechanics and cybernetic music to push the dancers' limits and sensitivity.

Created and Performed by Karlia & Danni / Gabriel & Jazmyrn

Dancehouse - Sylvia Staehli Theatre | 16-19 Oct (4 sessions) | 7:00pm | 60 mins



**VOW(d): Visible Older Woman(dancing)**  
The VOW(d) Collective playfully and irreverently explore ageism, older women's (in)visibility, and underrepresentation of women in the public realm.

Created and Performed by Catherine Magill and the VOW Collective

Dancehouse - Upstairs Studio | 9-12 Oct (4 sessions) | 6:00pm | 60 mins



**Wayfinder**  
Physical exuberance, sonic resonance, and collective exhilaration explode onto stage in a kaleidoscopic fusion of dance, music, and visual art.

Presented by DanceNorth Australia

Geelong Arts Centre - The Story House | 25-26 Oct (2 sessions) | 7:30pm | 55 mins



**Weave: The Solos**  
A unique work by highly experienced Disabled performers in collaboration with a diverse group of noteworthy directors and choreographers from a range of performance practices, all physically based.

Directed by Weave Movement Theatre

Dancehouse - Sylvia Staehli Theatre | 2-5 Oct (4 sessions) | 6:00pm | 60 mins



**五行 Five Elements**  
Metal, Wood, Water, Fire, and Earth, known as 五行 (Wuxing), are fundamental elements in ancient Chinese philosophy. Join us for a performance that challenges perceptions, exploring the essence of symbiosis and antagonism through the five elements.

Presented by Co-tempORARY

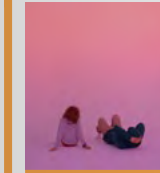
JMC Dance Lab | 12-20 Oct (3 sessions) | 7:00pm | 60 mins

## DIGITAL FRINGE

From artists CHALLENGING HOW WE THINK about DIGITAL SPACES to art driven by EXPERIMENTATION with TECHNOLOGY, these events are 100% DIGITAL and 100% FRINGE.



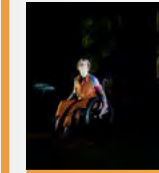
# EXPERIMENTAL



**Body of Knowledge**  
This intimate and playful work, performed by teenagers who call into the theatre on mobile phones, is a powerful meditation on age and change.

Directed by Samara Hersch

Bowery Theatre | 5-10 Oct (5 sessions) | Various times | 90 mins



**Conduit Bodies**  
Performed by dancer, poet and visual artist Melinda Smith, and instrument inventor, composer and percussionist Alon Ilisar, Conduit Bodies explores the relationship between technology and the body, disability, assistive tech and the natural world.

Created and Performed by Melinda Smith

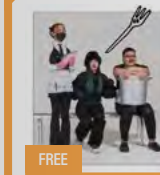
Arts House | 9-13 Oct (5 sessions) | 7:30pm (Sun 2:00pm) | 50 mins



**COOKED: Grill Privé - Hoons and Buggers**  
A closed-curtain sit-down dinner serving heightened food, art and performance. Coalescing around the grill will be the world-building cooks Ecstasy Cookbook from the UK, rubbing chops with independent dancer and choreographer Harrison Ritchie Jones.

Curated by Long Prawn and Hosted by Ecstasy Cookbook

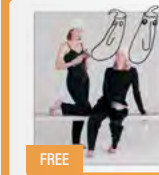
Fed Square - Amphitheatre | 2-16 Oct (3 sessions) | 7:00pm | 150 mins



**COOKED: Hot Nights - Ari Angkasa's Suspicious Fish**  
Artists and chefs take over the COOKED public BBQ for an evening of performance and hot salty snacks. On this red-hot night, Ari Angkasa and guests lip-sync and smack about a cinematic performance alongside snacks and live jazz.

FREE  
Performed by Ari Angkasa and Margot Morales

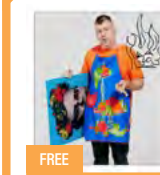
Fed Square - Amphitheatre | 3-17 Oct (2 sessions) | 6:00pm-9:00pm



**COOKED: Hot Nights - Deep Souful Sweats**  
Activating the COOKED hot plate stage, this event untangles iconic historical performance artworks, Australian shock horror and more. Join Deep Souful Sweats grill-side for a notable evening of performance paired with a free snack.

FREE  
Created by Deep Souful Sweats

Fed Square - Amphitheatre | 10 Oct (1 session) | 6:00pm-9:00pm



**COOKED: Hot Nights - Democracy Sausage**  
Democracy right here and now? Threading together the voices of ordinary citizens, elected officials, karaoke outbursts and polling booth sausage sizzles, DEMOCRACY SAUSAGE will be by turns ridiculous, slightly terrifying, thoughtful and damned tasty.

FREE  
Created and Performed by David Williams

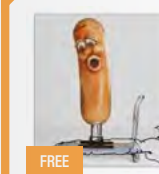
Fed Square - Amphitheatre | 14 Oct (1 session) | 7:00pm-9:00pm



**COOKED: Hot Nights - Indecisive Cinema (STEAK & Sausages)**  
Artists and chefs take over the COOKED public BBQ for an evening of screenings and hot, salty snacks. Underground South Korean film and culture artist-collective STEAK will immerse the public BBQ in interactive cinema and snacks alongside locals, Long Prawn.

Created by Dudo Wook (STEAK Films)

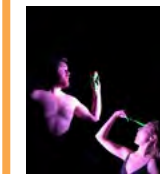
Fed Square - Amphitheatre | 9 Oct (1 session) | 6:00pm-9:00pm



**COOKED: Open Grill**  
A smoulderingly antipodean BBQ and performance space for gathering, cooking, art and participation.  
\*Stick a fork in it! I'm COOKED!\*  
\*A BBQ of smoke and mirrors\*  
\*Silly sausages welcome!\*  
\*Speaking in tongs\*

FREE  
Concept by Long Prawn

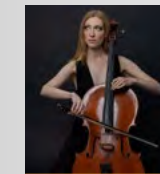
Fed Square - Amphitheatre | 4-19 Oct (20 sessions) | Various times



**Creative Juices**  
Come and unleash your creativity in this immersive theatrical experience. It's paint & sip with a twist! Enjoy comical art lessons and unexpected surprises as you laugh, learn, and create your own masterpiece. Picasso, Van Gogh and Joe Blow.

Presented by Scratch Arts

Chinese Museum: Bendigo Community Bank Gallery | 1-6 Oct (12 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



**Delusions and Grandeur**  
A solo cello recital meets a clown show. Winner - Tour Ready Cultural Ambassador Award to Sydney Fringe from San Diego Fringe. "Comedic timing as impeccable as her playing" ★★★★★ - Everything Theatre UK, London

Created by Karen Hall

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Evatt Room | 9-20 Oct (10 sessions) | 6:00pm (Sun 5:00pm) | 60 mins



**Eddy**  
Eddy is a participatory sculptural instrument, empowering audiences to create a percussive soundscape through play. The wall of glossy spheres painted by acclaimed muralist Hari Koutlakis are a visually striking, tactile and aural spectacle.

FREE  
Created by Pulsing Heart

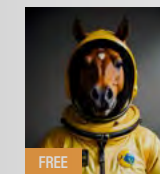
Fed Square | 1-20 Oct (20 sessions) | 24 hours a day



**Guided Walking Tour**  
A theatrical walking tour but only to the places I've been on first dates. Bring your phone and headphones for a journey through perfect nights and heartbreaking ghostings. We'll explore how queers find love and why we build our lives around romance.

Artists PIGEONPIGEON

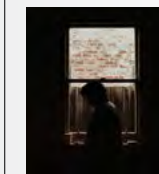
Meet under the Clocks at Flinders St Station | 5-20 Oct (11 sessions) | Various times | 45 mins



**Hello Red Planet VR**  
Humankind is moving to Mars. (We promise, it's the best way to dodge those Earthly troubles.) Melbourne is being re-located to the Red Planet and attending this 15 min virtual reality (VR) session is required viewing. VR headset provided.

FREE  
Directed by Jeff Achtem

Festival Hub: Trades Hall | 16-20 Oct | 6:30pm-9:30pm (Sun 5:30pm-8:30pm) | 15 mins



**I'm Ready To Talk Now**  
After an award-nominated and sold-out season, Oliver Ayres returns with his one-on-one performance unpacking chronic illness and identity.

Created and Performed by Oliver Ayres

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - The Temple | 9-13 Oct (27 sessions) | Various times | 45 mins



**LOCUS**  
Welcome to LOCUS, an immersive reality-bending adventure in a secret location. Six unique spaces. Six alternate universes. Make choices, uncover hidden truths and challenge your perceptions. Limited tickets per session ensure an unforgettable experience.

Presented by DARK CUBE

Meeting point for LOCUS | 10-20 Oct (10 sessions) | 8:00pm | 70 mins



**Marg Is All Ears**  
If a live experience was a comfort-food, "Marg Is All Ears" is the Fringe Festival's box of chocolates. This short, participatory experience will leave you feeling better about the world and yourself in it. Who doesn't like a cuppa and a natter?

Performed by Margaret Becher

Cyrus Art Lounge | 1-17 Oct (18 sessions) | Various times | 15 mins



**MOTUS IN MORTE**  
Immerse yourself in a world of creatures and shadowy figures brought to life with stunning visual effects. Confront the stark realities of a world in flux and witness moral dilemmas in a powerful blend of puppetry, live music, and storytelling.

Presented by Golden Scissor Puppets

The Mission to Seafarers Victoria - Noria Dome | 16-20 Oct (7 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins

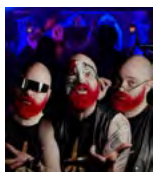


**Tamed Humans**  
How long is your leash? A compelling collision of tales exploring human domestication and the tight leash held by culture, society, work and family. A blend of storytelling, audience interaction and conversation with uniquely trained actors.

Directed by Stephan Perdekamp & Sarah Victoria

The MC Showroom - The Showroom | 15-20 Oct (5 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins





**The Book of Divergence**  
This genre extravaganza is for lovers of dance music, Dungeons and Dragons and metafiction! The Book of Divergence is a set of choose-your-own-adventure stories, told through live mixed music and performances of masked characters by Matt Frequencies.

Devised by Matt Frequencies

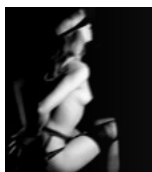
Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Common Rooms 🗺️ | 10 Oct (1 session) | 9:00pm | 60 mins



**The Farewell**  
Experience the most famous one-sided break up call of the 20th century in this public art installation. Inspired by the playwright Jean Cocteau and composer Francis Poulenc.

Presented by BK Opera

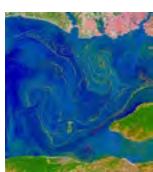
Festival Hub: Trades Hall 🗺️ | 2-20 Oct (15 sessions) | 5:30pm-11:00pm (Sun 4:30pm-10:00pm)



**Unbound: An Immersive Exploration of Queerness, Power, and Liberation**  
Experience the powerful retelling of Persephone's myth in a groundbreaking feminist production that celebrates female resilience, autonomy, and transformation.

Directed by Karina White

The Living Centre | 4-5 Oct (4 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



**Vantage Points**  
The only promising future is woven from the margins. D/deaf, trans, POC & queer enviro/climate scientists' wise words + composer/ecologist Na'im Fine's music + iconic Homophonic! Ensemble = climate truths and co-created futures.

Composed and Produced by Na'im Fine

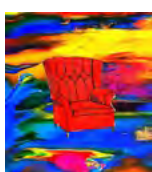
Festival Hub: Trades Hall - ETU Ballroom 🗺️ | 12 Oct (1 session) | 4:00pm | 60 mins



**When Is A Chair A Chair?**  
You are invited to bring a chair you have made (or found) to MPavilion Parkville and participate in a mass sit-in that demonstrates what a chair is (and might be) with the only criteria being that it should hold a human's body for at least 30 minutes.

Curated by Adrian Fernandez


MPavilion Parkville 🗺️ | 19 Sept (1 session) | 12:00pm-3:00pm



**Where You Were**  
Settle into a comfy armchair for a one-on-one storytelling experience blending memory and imagination. Fusing individual history and mythic past, Where You Were is a cosy and concise 10-minute exploration of the transformative nature of stories.

Created and Performed by Eidann Glover and Oliver Cowen

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - The Temple 🗺️ | 16-20 Oct (49 sessions) | Various times | 10 mins



**Who is a Dog Rose**  
"Who is a Dog Rose?" explores human emotions, identity, and interconnectedness through a blend of visual and auditory elements. This experimental piece delves into themes of loss, grief, and comfort, with a movement-driven narrative.

Devised by Josh M, Izzy E, Emma M, Ely R and Ella CW

St Martins - Irene Mitchell Studio 🗺️ | 7-12 Oct (5 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins

## LINE-UPS AND VARIETY NIGHTS

With so much to see and so little time, these **VARIETY NIGHTS, SHOWCASES and LINE-UP SHOWS** offer the **PERFECT OPTION** for people who can't decide. It's the Fringe equivalent of ordering some meals for the table for **EVERYONE TO GRAZE**.



## FIND HOT SHOWS THAT JUDGES AND AUDIENCES ARE LOVING

Want to know what's buzzing during the Festival? Check out our **Crowd Pleasers** page to find which events Fringe awards judges and savvy audience members have seen and recommended (and where you too can add your own hot picks). Jump straight to what's popular at [melbournefringe.com.au/crowd-pleasers](http://melbournefringe.com.au/crowd-pleasers)

### JUDGES' PICKS

Don't take our word for it — take theirs! Judges' Picks are shows that have been given certified, verified hot-pick-approval from our awards judging panel. You could be catching a future award-winner.



Look for this little one on an event page to see what the judges have been loving

### LEAVE A COMPLIMENT

Seen a Fringe show that tickles your fancy? Let us (and other punters) know with Audience Compliments. You can leave a compliment on the event webpage of the show and maybe someone else will have their best Fringe experience yet thanks to your event-selecting prowess. The event with the most compliments will win the coveted People's Choice Award.




Look for this little one on an event page to see what everyone's saying.



**A Paper Trail**  
Travelling through worlds Unseen, with creatures Unknown... A paper trail; a circus show made for kids, enjoyed by everyone. Nothing bad can happen as long as you stay on the boat. Are you daring enough to come aboard?

Written and Directed by Krystal Amber

Alex Theatre St Kilda - The Studio 🗺️ | 1-20 Oct (10 sessions) | 10:30am | 45 mins



**Ada, Asmin & The Analytical Engine**  
Asmin, a newly-arrived Turkish refugee, is struggling with remote learning, when a magical cat (and the wonders of cyberspace) lead her to Victorian-era mathematician Ada Lovelace. Together, connected across time, they find commonality in numbers.

Presented by Lemony S Puppet Theatre & Parrot Ox

Bowery Theatre 🗺️ | 12-13 Oct (2 sessions) | 3:00pm (Sun 11:00am) | 60 mins



**Baby Boogie! The Circus Dance Party!**  
The ultimate baby rave! A party for tiny tots and adults that mixes dancing with live circus acts! DJ Shaundog provides the beats and Thomas the break engine shows the moves! We also take requests, so put on your dancing shoes and lets Boogie!

Performed by Shaunah Johnson and Thomas Gorham

Circus Oz 🗺️ | 2-26 Oct (10 sessions) | 10:00am | 60 mins



**Best. Party. Ever.**  
Every year Matt & Gran celebrate their birthdays together, and this year YOU'RE INVITED! An interactive Zoom show for Grandparents and their Grandchildren who live apart. One thing is for sure, Zoom will never be the same again!

Performed by Matt Kelly and Genevieve Mooy

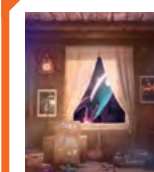
Digital Fringe | 17-20 Oct (7 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



**Circus Safari**  
Perfect for families - Journey to a mystical world as the stage comes to life with enchanted creatures, combining storytelling, circus artistry and a touch of magic! Your child will leave feeling inspired and amazed, believing anything is possible.

Created and Performed by Emerging Artists of CircArts Geelong

Studio Nexus 🗺️ | 4 Oct (1 session) | 2:00pm | 60 mins



**Dream Swamp**  
Dream Swamp is a dance performance for children between 6-10 years of age. Dreaming beyond the limits of our bodies, young audiences will be transported into an absurd and uncanny universe of magic, adventure and transformation.

Choreographed by Melanie Lane

The Substation 🗺️ | 2-5 Oct (8 sessions) | Various times | 35 mins



**Fringe For Kids**  
Fringe For Kids is the newest family friendly variety show. Promising fits of giggles and awe-inspiring stunts, enjoy a little bit of everything including; circus, dance, drag, music, magic and comedy. Perfect for a family outing at the festival!

Presented by Wildhouse Circus

Studio Nexus 🗺️, Gasworks Arts Park - Gasworks Theatre 🗺️ | 2-13 Oct (4 sessions) | 11:30am | 60 mins



**Hana Fiesta's Disco Fiasco**  
Hana Fiesta invites you to a dance party... but the lights and sound are broken! Using circus, slapstick and silliness she fixes things in time for you to join the interactive disco to celebrate. Come for the circus show, stay for the dance party!

Created and Performed by Hana Fiesta


Studio Nexus 🗺️ | 12-20 Oct (4 sessions) | 1:30pm | 50 mins



**Hugo's Rainbow Show**  
What makes a rainbow? Join drag superstar Hugo Grrri for a musical, magical adventure exploring the science of the skies above. We'll make the mysteries of meteorology fun, all the while proving the power of glitter, dress-ups and friendship.

Created and Performed by Hugo Grrri

Grouse Melbourne - Room 7 | 12-20 Oct (8 sessions) | Various times | 45 mins



**Jon & Jero: Stuff!**  
Jon & Jero are embarking on an epic journey to find their missing STUFF - but they can't do it alone! With your help, these bumbling brothers will travel far and wide to get their STUFF back in this fast and fun choose-your-own-adventure! For kids 5+

Created and Performed by Jon Walpole & Jeromaia Detto

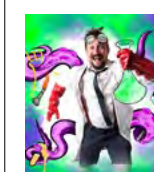
Gasworks Arts Park - Studio Theatre 🗺️ | 1-5 Oct (10 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



**JUNKLANDIA**  
From JUNK to FUNK! Drumming, dance, circus and comedy guaranteed to excite & inspire! "We had a feeling this show would be one of our favourites for Fringe 2024 and we weren't wrong. JUNKLANDIA is a big funky 5 stars from us!" ★★★★★ - Roxy Walsh, Kids In Adelaide.

Presented by Junkyard Beats

Circus Oz 🗺️ | 1-3 Oct (2 sessions) | 11:30am | 70 mins



**KABOOM!**  
"Electrifying!" ★★★★★½ - The West Australian  
"Everything a science show should be, AND MORE!" ★★★★★ - Seesaw Mag  
The maddest of mad scientists, Magnus Danger Magnus, heads to Melbourne with his all ages, electromagnetic extravaganza - KABOOM!

Created and Performed by Magnus Danger Magnus

Circus Oz 🗺️ | 2-20 Oct (8 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



**Land of the Lost**  
Land of the Lost is a place where very young children are the explorers, in an installation of strange objects in which stories are created about lost things.

Devised by Hannah Vrijenhoek, Sue Giles and Kate Sulan

Abbotsford Convent - Oratory 🗺️ | 8-19 Oct (20 sessions) | Various times | 45 mins



**RAIN**  
An intimate and interactive installation for you to experience together. Find your reflection in puddles, arrange fuzzy felt pieces and dive into a moment of rest as you are immersed in the generosity of rain. Artists: Threshold

FREE

Created by Threshold

ArtPlay 🗺️ | 3-20 Oct (12 sessions) | 10:00am-3:00pm



**SwashBuckling Circus**  
Ahoj, landlubbers and seafaring scallywags alike! Prepare to set sail on a laugh-filled voyage of acrobatic amazement and rib-ticking fun. This isn't your ordinary circus - it's a pirate extravaganza where the seven seas meet side-splitting comedy.

Presented by Express Move Me

Studio Nexus 🗺️ | 12-20 Oct (4 sessions) | 3:00pm | 45 mins



**The Farmy Farm**  
Join acrobatic larrikins Kenny and Jenny on their farm for a 50-minute true blue tribute to the outdoors. With jaw-dropping circus, high-flying carrots, 3 metre balancing bales of hay and so much more, The Farmy Farm has more going on than a chook in a worm farm.

Presented by So Soiree Fringe Garden

The Ukiyo 🗺️ | 19-20 Oct (2 sessions) | 4:30pm | 50 mins



**Time Travel Circus**  
Calling all young explorers for an adventure across the ages! Get ready for an imaginative journey filled with mind blowing circus acts and captivating stories that will entertain the whole family!

Created and Performed by Emerging Artists of CircArts Geelong

Studio Nexus 🗺️ | 4-5 Oct (2 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins

## FREE EVENTS

You know what they say about the **BEST THINGS** in life. Check out a bumper selection of **ZERO-DOLLAR** shows and events you can bank on for a **GOOD TIME**.





**Angel Strings at the Planetarium**  
Angel Strings merge the divine majesty of the outer universe with sublime string quartet repertoire. Featuring works by Philip Glass, Ravel, Max Richter, Karl Jenkins and Elgar. Audience responses: "Truly immersive and cathartic" "It was really good except it made Mum cry"

Presented by Angel Strings  
Scienceworks Planetarium | 12 Oct (1 session) | 6:30pm | 60 mins



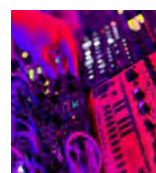
**Angellis Taliuu: Tectonic**  
Tectonic is an audiovisual experience combining meditative dark ambient music and generative projections. It uses auditory brainwave manipulation techniques to evoke a sense of calm, deep relaxation and personal reflection.

Created and Performed by Angellis Taliuu  
The Mission to Seafarers Victoria - Norla Dome | 10-13 Oct (3 sessions) | 9:00pm (Sun 8:00pm) | 60 mins



**Broadways Bangers LIVE**  
This is exactly what it sounds like. This is the room where it happens. This is a whole new world. A live music performance of Broadway and West End hits performed by a house band and some of Melbourne's best theatre performers.

Produced by Gabriel Taburet and Madeline Pratt  
Leadbeater Hotel | 11 Oct (1 session) | 8:30pm | 140 mins



**Clan Analogue presents Emerge**  
Clan Analogue presents Emerge, a series of showcase nights featuring new and upcoming performers in the Melbourne/Naarm live electronic music scene. The diversity of the local live electronic music will be highlighted in this weekly residency.

Presented by Clan Analogue  
303 | 10-17 Oct (2 sessions) | 6:00pm-12:00am



**Digital Echoes**  
A concert for viola, percussion and electronics exploring the transformation of sound, messages and meanings displaced by time and space.

Created and Performed by Aaron Wyatt  
Arts House | 17-20 Oct (4 sessions) | 7:30pm (Sun 5:00pm) | 50 mins



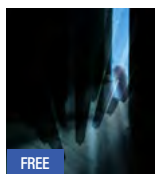
**Electric Cathedral**  
An immersive multi-media experience that places six unaccompanied singers from Melbourne's premiere vocal ensemble in a projected 'digital cathedral' of light. Electric Cathedral asks the big questions, in glorious six-part vocal harmony!

Performed by The Consort of Melbourne  
Bluestone Church Arts Space | 3-5 Oct (4 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



**Elysian Blues**  
Embark on an adventure with guzhang artist QiQi and jazz pianist/composer Darby Lee as they meld ancient cultural melodies with vibrant modern nuances creating a symphony of contrasts that is both exhilarating and deeply moving.

Created and Performed by QiQi in collaboration with Darby Lee  
111 Lonsdale St | 18-20 Oct (2 sessions) | 6:30pm (Sun 6:00pm) | 75 mins



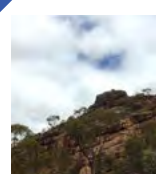
**Enzymecomplex**  
A curated online experience, designed as a virtual exhibition space for a team of local underground musicians and artists. Along the way guests will be able to enjoy music, video and imagery. There's a free compilation album to enjoy too!

Presented by Dawn Industry  
Digital Fringe | 1-20 Oct | 60 mins



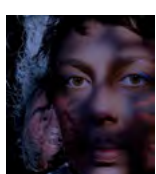
**Flow Without Limits: The Inkresive Story**  
Join Inkresive for "Flow Without Limit: The Inkresive Story." This unique hip hop show features original tracks, live beat creation, powerful storytelling, and high-energy dance performances, promoting equity, inclusion, and challenging stereotypes.

Presented by Wild At Heart  
Kindred Studios | 19 Oct (1 session) | 4:00pm | 60 mins



**Gikilangangu Wergaia**  
In a semi-improvised art music performance, three emerging First Nations artists journey through their collective histories. Together they sing in Wergaia, sharing songs of family, ancestors, Country and their Dreaming.

Performed by Alice Skye, James Howard, Michael Julian  
Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Common Rooms | 2-3 Oct (2 sessions) | 7:30pm | 50 mins



**Headwater**  
Three humans and three double basses paint a world of irresolution. A music work by Helen Svoboda, Selma Savolainen, Jacques Emery, Tilman Robinson & Jo Lloyd. Presented by Musica Viva Australia.

Created by Helen Svoboda  
Abbotsford Convent - Magdalen Laundry | 17-19 Oct (3 sessions) | 7:30pm | 60 mins



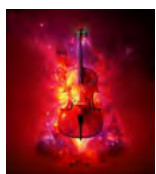
**Her Story - of the blues**  
Returning the spotlight to points of origin - Mari-Trees relives music of the trailblazing women who pioneered early blues, conceived rock and pop, then disappeared. This one-woman show features Mari-Trees on all instruments - tap, hum, clap and sing along!

Created and Performed by Mari-Trees  
Speakeasy Theatre - Apollo | 4-6 Oct (3 sessions) | 4:00pm | 60 mins



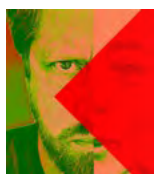
**How The Light Gets In**  
Four local artists share stories about life, love, and everything in between through music and poetry.

Produced by Viki Mealings  
Mamma Chen's | 6 Oct (1 session) | 2:00pm-5:00pm



**K Mak at the Planetarium**  
K Mak ushers you through the cosmos with live cello, violin, synths, vocals and beats. A distillation of classical, alternative and electropop music with sumptuous tailored visuals. Audience responses: "I had an outer body experience." "I'd go again in a heartbeat"

Presented by K Mak  
Scienceworks Planetarium | 12 Oct (1 session) | 8:00pm | 60 mins



**Love Transformer - Debut performance of electroprog duo So...**  
Fans of The Tom Tom Club, Moloko & Tom Misch will love lush soundscapes created by multi-instrumentalist Chris Pehrson with the vox of Fringe regular Madam Nightingale. An exciting night of contemporary progressive

Performed by So...  
Hotel Esplanade - Basement Stage | 18 Oct (1 session) | 8:00pm-11:00pm



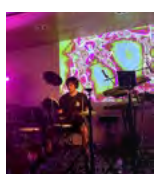
**Modular Theme Time Presents 'In C'**  
Modular Theme Time presents Terry Riley's composition "In C". An improvisation of the famous composition played by six modular synthesiser artists.

Presented by Modular Theme Time  
Mycelium Studios | 13 Oct (2 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



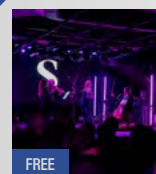
**Partying Waves**  
Partying Waves is a series of music cruises along the Yarra River presented by Tangle Agency. For the first time ever at Melbourne Fringe, experience the serene beauty of the Yarra River as you are treated to performances from selected talented DJs.

Presented by Tangle Agency  
Calypso Lady | 11-13 Oct (6 sessions) | Various times | 120 mins



**PHOSPHENES**  
Be amazed by the audiovisual world of CZUCHWICKI's innovative new live show: an immersive multi-sensory experience combining unique electronic sounds with mesmerising audioreactive visuals.

Created and Performed by CZUCHWICKI  
Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Common Rooms | 9-10 Oct (2 sessions) | 7:30pm | 30 mins



**Secret Symphony made easy by Up**  
Showcasing the MSO in unexpected locations across the city since 2015, Secret Symphony is a bit like a treasure hunt for classical music lovers. Follow @secretssymphony on Instagram for clues to the location and repertoire. Supported by Up (@up\_banking).

Presented by Melbourne Symphony Orchestra  
Secret Location | 18 Oct (1 session) | 9:00pm | 60 mins



**The Big Sing Your Heart Out**  
Together we belt out songs from across generations, laugh and sing with our hearts on our sleeves. Every voice is welcome. Lyrics on a big screen, Suzanne Andrews on piano and the Sing Your Heart Out Crew in the room, singing big and bringing good vibes.

Hosted by Luke Hockley  
Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Common Rooms | 13 Oct (1 session) | 5:00pm | 60 mins



**The "Wham, Bam, Thank You" Jam**  
It's comedy, it's music, it's a dance party. Blake Everett leads the jam, alongside Harrison Lane, on a three-week mission to create something from nothing. Each show will be different, culminating in an album launch on closing night!

Performed by Blake Everett and Harrison Lane  
The Motley Bauhaus - Cabaret Stage, Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Common Rooms | The Curtin | 1-20 Oct (13 sessions) | Various times



**The Zaahos**  
Travel through an exotic musical journey with songs from peoples living along the Silk Road. Singing in Turkish, Azeri, Uyghur, Mandarin Chinese and more, the family band Zaahos play oud, kamancheh, doira, duduk and other more ethnic instruments.

Presented by The Zaahos  
Elephant and Wheelbarrow | 6 Oct (1 session) | 1:00pm | 120 mins

**POST-FESTIVAL FRINGE**  
Once the FESTIVAL is all done and dusted, it doesn't mean the FUN has to stop. See all the events CONTINUING BEYOND THE FESTIVAL dates so you don't have to quit us cold-turkey (plus some GEELONG ARTS CENTRE EXCLUSIVES you can ONLY CATCH post October 20)



**ALTER STATE**  
2 - 13 October  
Disabled Futures: a glimpse of what's to come.  
Explore the program!  
[ArtsCentreMelbourne.com.au/AlterState](https://ArtsCentreMelbourne.com.au/AlterState)

FOUNDATION PARTNERS: Arts Centre Melbourne, CREATIVE VICTORIA, ARTS ACCESS VICTORIA  
ALTER STATE ALLIES: Australian Government, Creative Australia







### CLUB FRINGE: 3 Minutes to Save the World

If there were three minutes left on the clock until the end of the world, could art save us? These Fringe artists are going to try. Instead of capes, they've got their most ambitious performance works... but they've only got 3 minutes to pull them off.

Presented by Melbourne Fringe

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - CLUB FRINGE | 18 Oct | 10:00pm to late

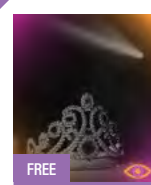


### CLUB FRINGE: A Grand Bazaar

More than a club night, A Grand Bazaar is a journey through time and space, celebrating the glorious era of nightclubs in Beirut, Cairo, and Istanbul. Immerse yourself in the vibrant music, rich cultural heritage, and energetic atmosphere.

Produced by Habibi Hafifa and Mahallā

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - CLUB FRINGE | 11 Oct (1 session) | 10:00pm to late



### CLUB FRINGE: Awards Ceremony and Closing Night Party

That's a wrap baby! But not before we hand out the accolades and recognise the pure TALENT of Fringe artists. Then - we party.

Presented by Melbourne Fringe

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - CLUB FRINGE | 20 October (1 session) | 9:00pm to late



### CLUB FRINGE: BONEZ

BONEZ is Australia's Alternative Queer Party that celebrates and brings together members of the LGBTQIA+ community in a high energy event with a unique punk rock sensibility.

Presented by Melbourne Fringe and BONEZ Queer Party

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - CLUB FRINGE | 12 Oct (1 session) | 10:00pm to late



### CLUB FRINGE: Born to Party

Happy Birthday you cheeky devil! We're throwing you a b'day party, and EVERYONE's invited. Mum's organised your favourite DJs to throw down some disco and house, and Dad's wrangled those weird cousins to come along with their unhinged performance art.

Curated by Scratch Arts and Blanke Pop

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - CLUB FRINGE | 19 Oct (1 session) | 10:00pm to late

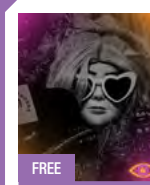


### CLUB FRINGE: Creatures of the Blak Lagoon

Amongst the murky depths, a grungy grotto appears to greet you. Reeds and smoke rise from the water to welcome you, waiting for you to arrive. The Motherless Collective presents 'Creatures of the Blak Lagoon', a Deadly Fringe party to get the season started.

Created and Performed by The Motherless Collective

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - CLUB FRINGE | 4 Oct (1 session) | 10:00pm to late



### CLUB FRINGE: Fringe-o-vision

Europe's most iconic contest gets the Fringe treatment in a nail-biting sonic smackdown where talent, passion and sequins collide - and only one powerhouse performer will reign supreme.

FREE

Presented by Melbourne Fringe

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - CLUB FRINGE | 13 Oct | 9:00pm to late



### CLUB FRINGE: POPCHOPS PRESENTS TIMEBOMB

I just wanna go back... TIMEBOMB is a queer dance party through the ages. Jump into our pop-DeLorean, as we take you hour-by-hour from the pop bangers of the 80s, 90s, naughties and 10s to our final destination - the bops of today.

Presented by Melbourne Fringe and Popchops

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - CLUB FRINGE | 5 Oct (1 session) | 10:00pm to late



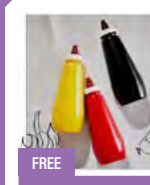
### CLUB FRINGE: The Fringe Formal Vol 2: 1994

WELCOME BACK TO TRADES HALL HIGH! After last year's sold out hit debut, Hannah Camilleri and Nat Harris host a fresh lineup of Melbourne's best alternative character comedians in a cursed 1990s themed prom night.

FREE

Produced by Hairbrush Comedy x Limbo Comedy

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - CLUB FRINGE | 6 Oct (1 session) | 9:00pm to late



### COOKED: Seasoning the Grill

The oldest continuously grilling culture lights up the COOKED BBQ at Fed Square for a night of smoke, dance, DJs, art and mad feeds.

FREE

Presented by Melbourne Fringe and Fed Square

Fed Square - Amphitheatre | 1 Oct (1 session) | 5:00pm-11:00pm

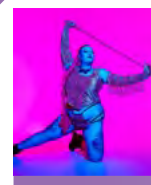


### Dancefloor Dedications: Late Night Love Games

A night for singles to mingle, lovers to linger, and the heartbroken to heal.

Presented by Game Boys Comedy

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Common Rooms | 17 Oct (1 session) | 9:30pm to late

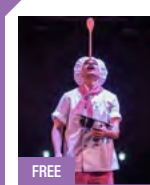


### Disabled and Sexy - Alter State Closing Party

Alter State's Deaf and Disability led closing party set to heat up the basement of Arts House. With a line-up of steamy performances, DJs and a very sexy dress-up competition, this is an invitation to come dressed in your hottest partygoer threads.

Presented by Alter-state, Arts House, & Melbourne Fringe

Arts House | 12 Oct (1 session) | 8:30pm-12:00am



### Fringe Flavours Night Market

Catch a vibrant showcase of tantalising Fringe performances at Queen Victoria Market's Night Market, featuring a pop-up stage showcasing artists from every creative corner, and enchanting roving performances that promise to surprise at every turn.

FREE

Presented by Melbourne Fringe and Queen Victoria Market

Queen Victoria Market | 18 Sept-16 Oct (5 sessions) | 5:00pm-10:00pm

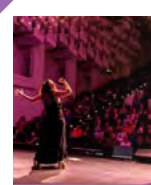


### Nocturnal: Food for Thought

An amuse-bouche of bite-sized performances curated by Melbourne Fringe, paired with talks, tours, music and adults-only access to Melbourne Museum including Victoria the T. rex after hours.

Presented by Melbourne Museum

Melbourne Museum | 10 Oct (1 session) | 6:00pm-9:00pm



### Opening Night Gala

Grace the purple carpet at our glorious Opening Night Gala. Dress in your best food-themed finery and join us at The Capitol for a taste of the crème de la crème of Melbourne Fringe's 2024 program. Dress code: Culinary Couture

Presented by Melbourne Fringe

The Capitol | 1 Oct (1 session) | 7:30pm | 90 mins



### Queensberry Cup

THE NORTH MELBOURNE BILLYCART CHALLENGE. For one day, Queensberry and Errol Sts. will be closed and turned over to a range of creative and cultural activities!

FREE

Presented by North & West Melbourne Neighbourhood Centre

Queensberry Cup | 19 Oct (1 session) | 1:00pm-10:00pm

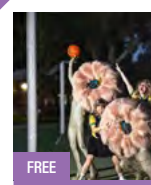


### The Big Queer Quiz

What's more important than being smart? That's right, being queer. And it's time you get points for it! This one-off special event trivia contains gay shit, pop-up performances, a famous DJ, prizes and good vibes. C'mon f-slurs, let's get quizzing!

Presented by Tom Noble

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - ETU Ballroom | 9 Oct (1 session) | 8:30pm | 90 mins



### The Winner Takes It All

Ever felt sidelined by sport? Join The Huxleys for an outrageous queer takeover of the athletic world. Dazzle the field in high-camp costumes, live out epic sport fantasies, or get fiery from the stands - everyone's welcome in this arena. Game on, gorgeous!

FREE

Created by The Huxleys

Malvern Cricket Ground | Princes Gardens Tennis Courts, Prahran Aquatic Centre | 6-12 Oct (4 sessions) | Various times | 120 mins



### Tony King's Video Disco

Tony King's Video Disco is a wild ride through the realms of music and vision. A cross-genre mash up intercut with custom visuals, news clips, film snippets and internet videos. It's an audiovisual feast that's guaranteed to keep the dancefloor rocking.

Performed by Tony King

Odeon Richmond | 5 Oct (1 session) | 8:00pm-11:00pm



### Welcome to the Jungle 'Dancehall Bashment'

Astral travel from the concrete Jungles of Melbourne to the vibrant and other dimensional street parties of Jamaica. Where Selector's journey through Dancehall music and dancers bringing the fire to the dance floor.

Presented by Jungle City Projects

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Common Rooms | 3 Oct (1 session) | 9:30pm to late

## CROWD PLEASERS

Want to know what shows are BUZZING? See all the shows SAVVY AUDIENCE members have seen and RECOMMEND.



# KICK ONS AT CLUB FRINGE

Festival Hub: Trades Hall

Join us on weekends for Fringe's wildest high-concept art parties ever. Round out your night with one last stop at Club Fringe. Open Friday to Sundays, til late. *(Sundays pass holders & Hub Club members only)*

**CREATURES OF THE BLAK LAGOON**  
**POPCHOPS PRESENTS TIMEBOMB**

**THE FRINGE FORMAL VOL 2: 1994**

**A GRAND BAZAAR**

**BONEZ**

**FRINGE-O-VISION**

**3 MINUTES TO SAVE THE WORLD**

**BORN TO PARTY**

**AWARDS CEREMONY & CLOSING NIGHT PARTY**







### A Brief Episode

A singularly funny and surprising true story about wild dogs, moustaches, pornographers, widows, hawks, hikers, hairdressers, slums, gangs - and the dangers of dreams coming true. "Discerning, Masterful. Brilliant." ★★★★★ - Theatre People

Written and Performed by Ash Flanders

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Solidarity Hall 🎧 | 2-20 Oct (15 sessions) | 7:30pm (Sun 6:30pm) | 65 mins



Presented by Eleanor Golding

### A Figure in the Yellow Wallpaper

Cora knows she isn't alone. Her partner Evan is one of the good ones. The place he's rented for her is serene and fully-furnished. The yellow wallpaper seems like it's moving, but it must be all in her head. Cora's never been sure more she isn't alone.

Theatre Works - Explosives Factory | 16-20 Oct (6 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



Written and Performed by Caitlin A. Kearney

### A House of This and That

Dissociation is a vital skill for a theatre usher, and Robbie has it down to a science. She's got the whole first act to retreat into the garden of her mind. If only she could banish the hourglass-shaped intrusion of her supervisor from said garden.

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Evatt Room 🎧 | 16-20 Oct (5 sessions) | 9:45pm (Sun 8:45pm) | 60 mins



Created and Performed by Adeline Close

### ADMINISTRATION

Administration is a one person darkly comedic play about growing up autistic (and not knowing it). Through a series of vignettes from Addy's life, the show welcomes you into a space where we can come together and laugh at some shared experiences.

The Motley Bauhaus - The Cellar | 7-13 Oct (7 sessions) | 7:00pm | 50 mins



Written by Emma Gibson

### After Rebecca

Daphne Du Maurier's gothic romance 'Rebecca' meets 'Farmer Wants a Wife' in an atmospheric solo theatre show. This psychological thriller will keep you on the edge of your seat. "Riveting... relevant... vital" ★★★★★ - Stage Whispers

La Mama HQ 🎧 | 9-13 Oct (6 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



Created and Performed by Alexander Powers

### Alexander Powers

A performance made in 4 months by a transwoman.

Miscellania | 8-10 Oct (3 sessions) | 7:00pm | 50 mins



Performed by Lauren Huggard

### Anaesthesia

"I had my first stroke at 16." 'Anaesthesia' is an intense exploration of three young women living with serious medical conditions. A verbatim piece that illuminates the despair, struggle and empowerment of the raw mortal spirit.

Theatre Works 🎧 | 12-14 Oct (3 sessions) | 7:30pm | 105 mins



Presented by Dee, Cornelius and Wilks

### Bad Boy

The acclaimed and award-winning team of director Susie Dee, writer Patricia Cornelius and performer Nicci Wilks present a powerful new work tackling the issue of misogyny and domestic violence, with Wilks taking on the utterly disturbing role of 'BAD BOY'.

fortyfivedownstairs 🎧 | 26 Sept-13 Oct (16 sessions) | 7:30pm (Sun 5:00pm) | 60 mins

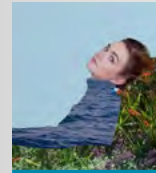


Created and Performed by Ricardo Magno

### Baliti - A Physical Theatre Monodrama

Baliti is a one-man physical theatre show that utilises Philippine folklore to dissect the complexities around contemporary Philippine politics.

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - The Square 🎧 | 9-13 Oct (5 sessions) | 8:00pm (Sun 5:00pm) | 60 mins

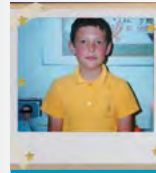


Presented by flatpack.

### Close to Home

A curated performance blending immersive storytelling and science communication, Close to Home explores the fragility of the social and biological ecosystems we inhabit and construct for ourselves, and strives to connect us in times of displacement.

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - The Square 🎧 | 16-20 Oct (5 sessions) | 6:00pm (Sun 5:00pm) | 50 mins

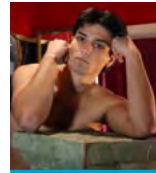


Performed by Colin Ebsworth

### Colin Ebsworth - Me, My Cult & I

Colin Ebsworth was raised in a cult. His parents were matched in a mass wedding in the 80's by a Korean man who said he was Jesus Christ. This is a story about his life, fate, and the cult that brought it all together.

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Music Room 🎧 | 9-13 Oct (5 sessions) | 7:00pm (Sun 6:00pm) | 60 mins



Directed by Wheeler Maurer & Jake Stewart

### David

Come witness a 1500's beauty pageant where the winner walks away immortalised in marble. Based on some real facts, comes a theatrical fiasco which sees three young men vying for Michelangelo's ultimate honour.

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Quilt Room 🎧 | 2-6 Oct (5 sessions) | 9:30pm (Sun 8:30pm) | 50 mins



Presented by VIMH

### Ballkids (or, scenes from a friendship)

Holly and Sam both share a dream: to join the most elite squad in competitive summer sport - ballkids at the Australian Open. Funny and moving, epic and ordinary, 'Ballkids' is an ode to lonely kids and what happens when they find each other.

La Mama Courthouse 🎧 | 9-13 Oct (6 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



In Association With Brooke Wandin - Wurundjeri Consultant

### BENEATH

Immerse yourself in a 3-storey building, framing local uncommon story of diverse people in the Yarra Valley responding to Wurundjeri ground. How do these divergent personal stories exist under the same roof?

Temple of Enthusiasm | 16-19 Oct (4 sessions) | 7:30pm | 60 mins

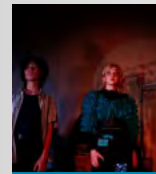


Created and Performed by Felix Nobis

### Beowulf: Reforged

A searingly contemporary translation of this ancient epic where heroes and monsters roamed the earth. Gather round the blacksmith's forge for a story of warriors, dragons, and kings, described by Nobel Prize winner Seamus Heaney as "enthralling."

Waterside Forge 🎧 | 2-12 Oct (8 sessions) | 7:30pm | 60 mins



Directed by Mia Boonen

### Fairground

'Fairground' takes audiences to a circus in the big city: one where clowns, trapezists, mimes and ringmasters tell the story of a teen's internal world, where Kid is met with the sudden emergence of an imaginary friend: a clown.

Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre - Joel Gallery 🎧 | 17-20 Oct (4 sessions) | Various times | 75 mins



Created by Pony Cam

### FEAST

An experiential performance set around a dining table. An exploration of service and consumption.

The Substation 🎧 | 9-19 Oct (10 sessions) | 7:00pm-9:30pm



Created and Performed by Greg Lavell

### Forever 41

When aging becomes a choice, what does it mean to be human? Follow Greg, forever 41, as he witnesses society's transformation across centuries in this poignant comedy musical odyssey.

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Archive Room 🎧 | 2-6 Oct (5 sessions) | 6:00pm (Sun 5:00pm) | 55 mins



Created and Performed by Anita Lovell

### Between the Curtains

Follow the wacky journey of one woman as she dances with the hospital system to become a self-proclaimed professional patient. "Uplifting, poignant, and life-affirming... crackles with energy and emotion." - Binge Fringe

The MC Showroom - The Showroom | 9-13 Oct (5 sessions) | 7:00pm | 55 mins



Written and Performed by Linnea Tengroth

### Black Girl Rising

A sizzling dark comedy about Black mental health combining storytelling, stand up comedy and spoken word poetry. A black woman tired of justifying herself invites the audience to confront racism head-on leading to big laughs, tears and insights.

La Mama Courthouse 🎧 | 2-6 Oct (5 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins

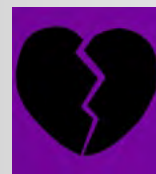


Written and Produced by Lydia Kuelsen

### Burn it.

Two queers. Camping. Post traumatic break-up. Do they engage in wholesome, healthy processing? Or drinking, denial and making fun of trauma? "A must-see show." ★★★★★ - Mindshare "Powerful and edgy." ★★★★★ - The List "Raw and Poignant." ★★★★★ - Mix 102.3

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Archive Room 🎧 | 9-13 Oct (5 sessions) | 6:00pm (Sun 5:00pm) | 50 mins



Written and Directed by Jaimee Doyle

### Fruitcake

Fruitcake is a confident, funny, sexually driven person who has never needed anyone else. So why are they so drawn to the strange girl in her psychology subject?

The Motley Bauhaus - The Cellar | 1-6 Oct (6 sessions) | 7:00pm | 60 mins

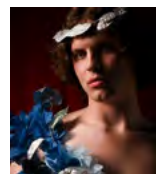


Artists PIGEONPIGEON

### FUTURE

An exhilarating crowd-sourced vision of the future assembled by award-winning theatre-makers. Built from real predictions, FUTURE combines utopian aesthetics with a lush visual poetry. The future's calling, and we need you to pick up.

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Quilt Room 🎧 | 9-20 Oct (11 sessions) | Various times | 50 mins



Performed by Avant Theatre and Language

### Hangman

Two killers. One System. What happens when a prison executioner tormented by guilt has a chance encounter with a sadistic serial killer? Delve deep into the psyche of two killers in one system.

The MC Showroom - The Showroom | 10-12 Oct (3 sessions) | 8:30pm | 60 mins



Hosted by Luke Hockley

### Campfire

Gather round - come along with something to share or to be a generous audience. A big-hearted event where artists and audiences come together to celebrate, share knowledge and create lasting connections.

Midnights | 5 Oct (1 session) | 7:00pm | 180 mins



Written and Performed by Nicole Gulasekharan

### Casual Receptionist of the Quarter

Whether you've been to a commercial gym, worked in customer service, or know what it's like to be living on minimum wage in 2024, these 50 tabata-minutes of character-driven comedy will be sure to leave you reaching for the defib.

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Meeting Room 🎧 | 9-13 Oct (5 sessions) | 6:00pm (Sun 5:00pm) | 50 mins

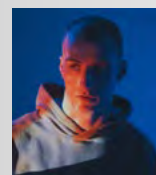


Presented by TayoTayo Collective

### Chasing Dick: A Love Story

In a regional city, far from the CBD, a conservative accountant father and his good-looking bisexual son will soon find out they have been chasing the same thing: the love of Dick.

Theatre Works - Explosives Factory | 1-5 Oct (6 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



Created and Performed by Patrick Livesey

### I hope this means something

A story of isolation, sacrifice and the climate crisis by 11 time Fringe Award winner Patrick Livesey (DIRT, Naomi). Commissioned by Melbourne Fringe and directed by Green Room Award-winner Benjamin Nichol (SIRENS, Kerosene). "Bravura" ★★★★★ - Time Out (Naomi)

Chapel Off Chapel - The Loft 🎧 | 2-13 Oct (11 sessions) | 7:30pm (Sun 5:00pm) | 70 mins



Created by Unspooled Theatre Collective

### I Love You, Faustus

Dark and tender, this queer, metatheatrical new work radically transforms Marlowe's 'Doctor Faustus'. With the world collapsing around them, Faustus and Mephistopheles reminisce, rehearse and argue viciously as they tell their story for the final time.

Theatre Works - Explosives Factory | 7-11 Oct (6 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



Created and Performed by Bonkel Theatre

### I Once Was A Tree

Nora is old, frail, and well, she lives in aged-care. She's not entirely happy about that! Humour and heartfelt reflection drive this emotional journey, with puppetry and song.

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Corner Store 🎧 | 9-13 Oct (5 sessions) | 6:00pm (Sun 5:00pm) | 30 mins





### I Watched Someone Die on TikTok

A high octane and hilarious 60 minute doom scroll that dissects the current digital hellscapes we find ourselves subscribed to. Just an app? Or the newest gateway to micro dosing life's horrors and the occasional animal video and sponsored ad?

Written and Performed by Charlotte Otton

La Mama HD | 15-20 Oct (6 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins

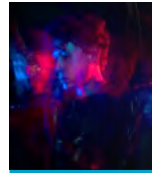


### IBS: Irritable Blood Suckers

It's 2012: Twilight Breaking Dawn is a hit, side-fringe selfies litter Tumblr, and garlic is in everything. After a meet-cute fit for a rom-com, a garlic-induced IBS girly falls in love with a vampire from Geelong (and his freestyle rapping).

Written by Elise Wilson

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Quilt Room | 2-6 Oct (6 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins

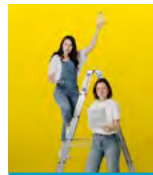


### I'm Fine

Is Alex depressed or is he just a dental assistant?

Created and Performed by Saxon Evans

The Motley Bauhaus - The Cellar | 1-6 Oct (6 sessions) | 9:30pm | 60 mins



### Instructions Not Included

Follow Parker and Marley on a chaotic, funny, and poignant journey as they confront the seemingly impossible task of balancing creative dreams and self promotion, with a limited tool kit.

Written and Directed by Claire Frost

Speakeasy Theatre - Apollo | 1-6 Oct (6 sessions) | 7:00pm | 50 mins



### Jack and Millie

Jack and Millie is a highly engaging piece of theatre that gives a unique comic perspective to the challenge of facing a life-threatening diagnosis. Three actors, two boxes and a scarf create Millie's world in this deeply moving yet often funny play.

Created and Performed by Alaine Beek

Bluestone Church Arts Space | 15-20 Oct (8 sessions) | Various times | 75 mins



### Jekyll and Hyde

Award winning NZ company A Slightly Isolated Dog return! Raucous, irreverent, and delightfully absurd, Jekyll & Hyde uses the mayhem of theatre, music, and comedy to celebrate the darkness within us all. ★★★★★ - Broadway World ★★★★★ - Glam Adelaide

Presented by So Soiree Fringe Garden

The Ukiyo | 11-13 Oct (3 sessions) | 7:30pm | 60 mins

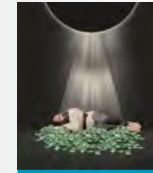


### Mumma's Boy

Mumma's Boy is a dance-driven comedy about a mother facing the tough decision of whether to kick her 30-year-old son out of home, and, upon landing on the tough-love option, struggling to find a way to get him out.

Written and Directed by Alasdair Keith Gardiner

The MC Showroom - The Showroom | 1-6 Oct (6 sessions) | 7:00pm | 60 mins



### My Brilliant Apocalypse I: The Return of Barry Brilliant

Author v/s Creation in a satiric romp flipping riches-to-rags on its head through the Multi-Verse. 100+ Voices performed by 14 remarkable performers. The Return of Barry Brilliant won't let you get too comfortable, but will keep you vigorously entertained.

Written and Produced by Adrian D'Aprano

Panarcadian Association of Melbourne | 5-20 Oct (6 sessions) | 7:30pm | 150 mins



### MYSTERONS

Magician Lachlan Wilde removes the cloak from our sometimes bleak world, and illuminates the wonder and humour to be found in moments of darkness "A surreal air of mystery" - The Australian Stage

Performed by Lachlan Wilde

The MC Showroom - The Showroom | 16-19 Oct (4 sessions) | 7:00pm | 50 mins



### KINDER

A drag artist, a library, and a misinterpretation of what a 'reading' hour is; join Goody as they spiral into the chaos of childhood, memory, and what it means to be booked (but not blessed). Because sometimes, reading is what? Fundamentalist.

Created and Performed by Ryan Stewart

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - The Square | Florida - Upstairs | 2-20 Oct (7 sessions) | 9:00pm (Sun 8:00pm) | 60 mins



### King Nothing

King Nothing enters a train station late at night as we enter his strange, fantastic but deluded world. Will he accept who he is or disappear even further into fantasy? The play is a tragic, funny look at ADHD and mental health.

Created and Performed by Stephen Whitley

The MC Showroom - The Clubroom | 9-12 Oct (4 sessions) | 8:00pm | 45 mins



### Kitsch in Synch

"Desperate Housewives" meets "The Stepford Wives" in Kitsch In Synch, which comically explores the many multi-coloured moods of the everyday housewife in her endless quest for domestic perfection... and a husband, with shocking consequences!

Created and Performed by Polly Filla

Theatre Works - Explosives Factory | 1-5 Oct (6 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



### NOT ALL MEN

Scott's new girlfriend is the girl of his dreams. Her best friend, Susannah, is his worst nightmare. When the two are introduced, tensions run high, lines are crossed, and Scott becomes convinced that Susannah is hell-bent on destroying his relationship.

Produced by Amy Wood

Clocktower Centre Studio | 9-13 Oct (5 sessions) | Various times | 75 mins



### Notes From a Black Hole

When there's no one to talk to, who you gonna call? This is a semi-autobiographical-time-traveling-sci-fi adventure about two people, one fastidious spaceship and an epic rescue mission a thousand years in the making.

Written by Rowena Hutson

La Mama Courthouse | 16-20 Oct (5 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



### Orgasmic AF

Let's talk about sex! Curious about pleasure secrets or bedroom stumbling blocks? Join Dr. Martha Tara Lee, a sexologist from Singapore, as she shares her tales and advice in this intimate comedy show. Laugh, learn, and liberate your desires.

Written and Performed by Dr Martha Tara Lee, DHS

The Motley Bauhaus - The Cellar | 14-20 Oct (7 sessions) | 7:00pm | 60 mins



### Lady Macbeth Played Wing Defence

Step onto the court of this contemporary turmoil, an electrifying musical experience that entangles the timelessness of Shakespearean drama with hot, sporty, girl power like you've never seen before. See you on the court, b\*tch!

Presented by Crash Theatre Co

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - ETU Ballroom | 2-4 Oct (3 sessions) | 8:00pm | 60 mins



### LEAVING THE NEST

Flying or Falling? A matter of perspective? Andrew is leaving home. Again. Follow Andrew as he attempts to navigate life after leaving home a third and final time. Previously presented at Adelaide Fringe and Fringe World in 2020.

Written and Performed by Tremayne Gordon

Speakeasy Theatre - The Vault | 4-5 Oct (2 sessions) | 7:00pm | 75 mins

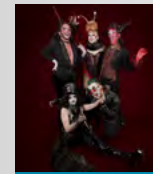


### Lizard People

Follow Shiv, a lizard person fresh off their performance management program, as they are sent on a mission to embody Elon Musk and screw over humankind. Bonds are formed, trust is tested and tummies are tickled in this hilarious comedy adventure play.

Written and Directed by Laura McKenzie

Meat Market - Stables | 16-21 Oct (6 sessions) | 7:30pm | 90 mins

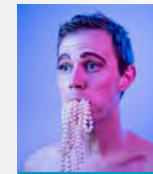


### Outer Demons

A Drag Cabaret Exorcism! "Outer Demons is the perfect late-night Fringe fair. A vaudeville act from the Hellmouth." - Theatre Travels

Created by Liliun

The Motley Bauhaus - Theatre | 9-13 Oct (5 sessions) | 10:30pm | 60 mins

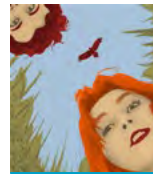


### Oyster Boy

A dark, absurd comedy about a boy who lives inside an oyster. Tonight, he is preparing to get shucked. But what awaits him out there in the real world? Will he have the guts to shuck himself?

Performed by Kyle Walmsley

Gasworks Arts Park - Studio Theatre | 15-19 Oct (5 sessions) | 8:00pm | 60 mins



### Primitives

Set against the backdrop of the rugged Australian bush, Primitives is a new surrealist romance by Willem Whitfield, which follows an afternoon rendezvous between a struggling artist and a wealthy young heiress.

Presented by Whitfield Studio

Speakeasy Theatre - Apollo | 10-20 Oct (5 sessions) | Various times | 90 mins



### Lotus Root Support Group

Miriam and Shannen are two broke theatre-makers banding together to create a piece about the pains of Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome and friendship. They're bringing you dance, tacky Powerpoints and potato raps to celebrate cyst-erhoods of all kinds!

Created and Performed by Miriam Cheong and Shannen Tan

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Old Council Chambers | 9-13 Oct (5 sessions) | 7:30pm (Sun 6:30pm) | 60 mins

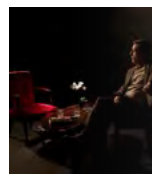


### M.I.A (Missing In Action)

M.I.A entails a story of two best friends who are so in love but are horrified to admit it. But this is not the typical cliché love story. Let's add some camp and make it feel like a psychedelic trip.

Written and Directed by Staz Barnes

Theatre Works - Explosives Factory | 16-20 Oct (6 sessions) | 6:30pm (Sun 5:00pm) | 60 mins



### Making It Up (One Playwright to Another)

Some scripts take a lifetime to write. Join writer and actor Norm Reynolds as he makes his way through appointments with destiny in the realms of academia, finance, and the theatre - including inspirational encounters with playwright Edward Albee.

Written and Performed by Norm Reynolds

Digital Fringe | 1-20 Oct | 35 mins

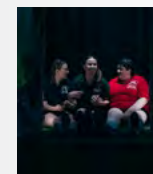


### PSYCHOPOMP

The God Between Life and Death, Conductor of Souls, Usher of Oblivion, is visiting living souls for the first time through the vessel of a lowly mortal - Poppy! A divine exploration of the meaning human beings bring to their fleeting existence :)

Performed by Poppy Mee

The Motley Bauhaus - The Cellar | 1-6 Oct (6 sessions) | 8:15pm | 60 mins



### PUMP

The deer in the headlights. The invincibility. The sweat. The youth. The bars. The boys. The hookups on dance floors and other people's caps. The \$4 schooners. The Gaso. The Tote. The bigness of the nights and smallness of the consequences. The freedom.

Created and Performed by Isabella Gilbert

The Motley Bauhaus - Cabaret Stage | 30 Sept-6 Oct (7 sessions) | 8:40pm | 60 mins



### PUNCH!

"PUNCH!" is a playful and provocative devised theatre work exploring themes of power, social complexities and the strive for independence. The work is co-devised and performed by artists from the BAM Arts Inc. collective.

Presented by Bam Arts Inc.

St Martins - Irene Mitchell Studio | 12 Oct (1 session) | 5:00pm | 60 mins



### Me and the D.O.G

This is not a one woman show. This is two people, one alive and one dead, talking about loneliness, love, heartbreak, dependence, loyalty, government conspiracies and the 'ick'. It's got dark lights, big thoughts, a Dead Old Guy and a real mad girl.

Written and Performed by El Kiley

The Motley Bauhaus - Cabaret Stage | 14-20 Oct (7 sessions) | 6:00pm | 60 mins



### Me, My Mother And Suzy Cato

When 17-year old Rachel's family insist she spends the first New Year's Eve of the millennium with them in an apocalypse bunker, she turns to the only person she thinks could possibly understand - beloved children's entertainer Suzy Cato.

Created and Performed by Florence Hartigan

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Music Room | 16-20 Oct (5 sessions) | 5:45pm (Sun 4:45pm) | 55 mins



### Merely Beloved

Elaine has just lost her husband, Joe, to a heart attack which she may have accidentally caused. She'd be devastated, maybe even a little guilty, if she could just get over the fact he's now in heaven with his late, first wife, Jenny.

Created and Performed by Shoshana McCallum

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Old Council Chambers | 16-20 Oct (5 sessions) | 7:30pm (Sun 6:30pm) | 55 mins



### Roadblocks

Artie is a performing artist... or at least she wants to be. But the journey is tough, fraught with uncertainty, hesitation and self-doubt. Not to mention the never-ending auditions. Nevertheless, it's all about her journey!

Performed by Clare Regan

The Mission to Seafarers Victoria - Billiard Room | 10-13 Oct (5 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



### Rock 'n' Roll Ghost Story

An absurdist two-hander about paranoia, isolation, delusion, the paranormal... and rock and roll. When fantasy turns into reality, Sam's world topples over, and hiding behind social media is not an option.

Written and Directed by Robert Lewis

The MC Showroom - The Clubroom | 9-19 Oct (8 sessions) | 6:00pm | 70 mins



### Running Into The Sun

10 musicians, dancers and actors come together from Aotearoa and Australia for this high energy collaboration. If you've thought about your future and the future of the world and come to the conclusion "It's all f\*cked" this show is for you.

Written and Directed by Ben Ashby

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Solidarity Hall | 16-20 Oct (5 sessions) | 6:00pm (Sun 5:00pm) | 60 mins





**Salad Day / Love in a Glass Jar**  
Patricia and Sean plot their escape from a nursing home. Patrick and Colette meet in a sterile hotel room with very different expectations. In these short plays, two ordinary interactions are not as they first seem.

Directed by Charlotte Rogers

TIC: Swanston | 12-20 Oct (6 sessions) | 7:30pm (Sun 6:30pm) | 60 mins



**Secret Girl Stuff**  
A highly acclaimed production of feminist politics and the hilarity and sweetness that is the transition of girlhood to womanhood struts its high heels down the streets of Melbourne.

Presented by Cats in the Cupboard Productions

St Martins - Irene Mitchell Studio | 16-19 Oct (4 sessions) | 8:00pm | 90 mins



**Self-Raising Flower**  
In this one-woman comedy-drama, Zoe navigates poverty and opulence. Confronted by the wasteful extravagance and misogyny of the wealthy, Zoe attempts a modern Robin Hood act with a seductive twist.

Written and Performed by Korinna Gouros

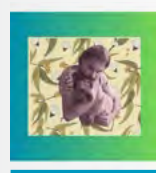
TIC: Swanston | 17-20 Oct (4 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



**THE PASSION OF PAULINE: a live documentary**  
A one-person rendition of a real-life criminal trial — where you become the jury, and walk out questioning... everything.

Created and Performed by St. John McKay

The Motley Bauhaus - Theatre | The Mission to Seafarers Victoria - Billiard Room | 2-20 Oct (8 sessions) | 9:00pm (Sun 8:00pm) | 60 mins



**THE SINGLE BED OF LIFE**  
Experience the joys, challenges, absurdities and realities of being single in our modern world, through a journey of installation and live art.

Written and Performed by David Mark Farrington

Chinese Museum: Contemporary Arts Space | 14-20 Oct (11 sessions) | Various times



**The Story of Cerberus: A Very Good Boy**  
One woman plays ALL THREE heads of Cerberus the dog. Witness, through song, the hound's monstrous origins and watch him grow into a faithful guard dog between the living and the dead in this mythological musical for the god of mankind's best friends.

Created and Performed by Abigail Banister-Jones

Nicholas Building | 1-5 Oct (5 sessions) | 6:30pm | 60 mins



**Shitbag**  
A one-person dark comedy about Crohn's Disease, mania and casual sex. Think 'Fleabag', but with chronic illness, colostomy bags and more queer shit (literally).

Created and Performed by Hayley Edwards

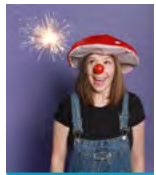
Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Archive Room | 2-6 Oct (6 sessions) | Various times | 55 mins



**SMOTHER**  
From acclaimed emerging playwright Zadie Kennedy Mccracken, SMOTHER is a brutally honest depiction of family, masculinity and desire.

Written by Zadie Kennedy Mccracken

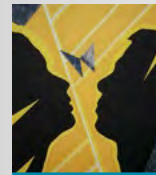
Theatre Works - Explosives Factory | 1-5 Oct (6 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



**Spark**  
Enter "Spark," a sensory-driven theatre show following a clown's quest to capture life's inspiration, inspired by personal experience. Feel the cool water, the whispering wind, and a warm campfire in this poignant journey brimming with hope.

Devised by Nicola De Rosbo-Davies

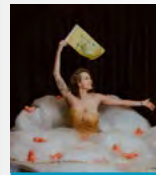
The Mission to Seafarers Victoria - Norla Dome | 10-13 Oct (5 sessions) | Various times | 60 mins



**The Sunline by Ivan Vyrypaev**  
Contemporary Russian Theatre  
Nominated for a Golden Mask Award for best play in 2018 (Russian language)  
A new English translation by Malevich Theatre. Come join us for a night of intense theatre that literally fights for love.

Presented by Malevich Theatre

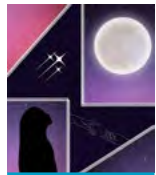
Russian House | 4-19 Oct (5 sessions) | 7:00pm | 90 mins



**This is the dust we're in**  
A post-dramatic explosion of cultural legacy and the clumsy dance between tradition and change. Hot Lunch are picking apart what the hell we are supposed to do with Ray Lawler's Australian classic "The Summer of the Seventeenth Doll".

Created and Performed by Hot Lunch & Alex Lloyd

Meat Market - Stables | 3-13 Oct (9 sessions) | 7:00pm (Sun 4:00pm) | 60 mins



**To the Moon and Back**  
An immersive exploration into womanhood, disconnection and vulnerability in our digital-age society. She is searching for deep connections... Someone who'll follow her to the moon and back!

Written by Michelle Yu

The Motley Bauhaus - Theatre | 14-20 Oct (7 sessions) | 6:00pm | 60 mins



**Stuart Bowden: Of Moonset and the Milky Way**  
A story told by a tiny, prehistoric sea creature. From an award-winning 'master theatre maker' (Stage). "An isolated fringe species who defies theatrical logic and description." ★★★★★ - Adelaide Advertiser. This is a musical feast of ethereal melancholia.

Performed by Stuart Bowden

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Corner Store | 9-13 Oct (5 sessions) | 8:15pm (Sun 7:15pm) | 55 mins



**Tea Party!**  
Join the Rollercoaster ensemble and break all the rules in this free, immersive, comedy event. We Guarantee a good time!

FREE  
Created and Performed by Rollercoaster Theatre

No Vacancy Gallery | 9-13 Oct (12 sessions) | Various times | 45 mins



**The Axe in the Ceiling**  
A contemporary take on a classic household tale. An absurd love story with surprising layers.

Written and Directed by Jaya Berged

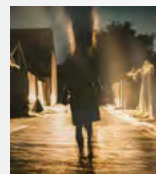
The Motley Bauhaus - Theatre | 12-20 Oct (4 sessions) | 2:00pm | 60 mins



**Tom Moran is a Big Fat Filthy Disgusting Liar**  
Have you ever told a lie? How bad was it? And how far would you go to keep it a secret? Brimming with compassion and humour, Tom has secrets to share and a future to fix. "Smartly written, wryly witty and profoundly piercing" ★★★★★ - The Scotsman

Written and Performed by Tom Moran

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Meeting Room | 2-6 Oct (5 sessions) | 7:15pm (Sun 6:15pm) | 70 mins



**Transmission - into the dark**  
It's night time. You receive an address to a local residence. You listen to a mysterious radio broadcast - it seems to be talking to you. The transmission draws you towards unknown destinations - weaving through the streets of Newport and into the dark.

Created by one step at a time like this

The Substation | 30 Sept-5 Oct (6 sessions) | Various times | 90 mins



**Twenty Million Thousand Leagues Under the Sea**  
Join the cantankerous and unrelenting minds at Pummel Squad on their latest madcap escapade. Brace yourselves as we dive millions of leagues deeper than ol' Verne dared dive to discover the dangerous nooks and crannies of our world and within ourselves!

Created and Performed by Pummel Squad

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Meeting Room | 2-6 Oct (5 sessions) | 8:45pm (Sun 7:45pm) | 60 mins



**The Black Cat**  
Edgar Allan Poe's Gothic masterpiece charts the course towards sinister crime, supernatural horror and a devilish cat. Greenroom Award nominated for Music. Winner Best Theatre Weekly Award Adelaide Fringe. 'Excellent, memorable theatre' - Stage Whispers.

Performed by Mark Penzak & Glendon Blazely

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Old Council Chambers | 2-6 Oct (5 sessions) | 7:30pm (Sun 6:30pm) | 55 mins



**The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time**  
This award-winning adaptation of Mark Haddon's acclaimed novel is reproduced by Unimelb students. Performed in Mandarin with English subtitles, it offers a fresh perspective on the story, exploring family and self-identity.

Produced and Performed by Element Theatre Company

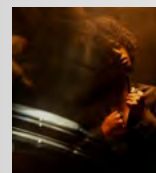
Union Theatre | 17-19 Oct (4 sessions) | Various times | 100 mins



**The Desert Bard**  
Lost boys, Sam and Boggins, meet in a barren desert and build a towering machine around the audience. They are guided by The Desert Bard, who leads the boys with music on their journey of steampunk nightmares and wide-open dreams.

Presented by Hot Heads

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - The Square | 16-20 Oct (5 sessions) | 9:00pm (Sun 8:00pm) | 50 mins



**Variations on Viola**  
A thought-provoking homage to living legend Viola Davis, Odi weaves a narrative full of heart, energy, and laughs. "Variations on Viola" moves seamlessly between the journeys of the famed American actress and her #1 fan.

Performed by Odi

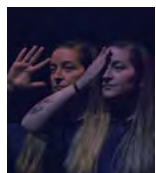
Bard's Apothecary | 1-3 Oct (3 sessions) | 5:30pm | 60 mins



**Victory Lap**  
A nostalgia-fuelled, love-sick swim into the acute melancholia of being. Victory Lap invites you to sit by the ocean and listen to the waves; reflecting on the people you thought you'd become, those you have lost and those you have loved.

Written and Directed by Mashaka Gunnulson

Artemisia Gallery & Event Space | 3-8 Oct (5 sessions) | 7:15pm | 50 mins



**We, The Outsiders**  
Winner of the Theatre category, nominated for Best in Fringe, and Dance/Cabaret/Physical Theatre at Dunedin Fringe Festival 2024. An original documentary theatre piece inspired by real-life stories of migrant workers living in New Zealand.

Created and Performed by Romina Meneses

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Meeting Room | 16-20 Oct (5 sessions) | 6:00pm (Sun 5:00pm) | 55 mins



**The Dilly Dally of Death & Dying**  
You are going to die. Not now, hopefully, but it will happen. Let's talk about it. In a striking new play about grief and death, we confront life's hardest topic - the end - with humour and heart. Join us for a silly, fun, and hilarious exploration.

Presented by Fairy Lucid Productions

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - The Square | 2-6 Oct (5 sessions) | 7:15pm (Sun 6:15pm) | 75 mins



**The Good Immigrant**  
Immigrants love Australia and Australian way of life. Its beaches, strip clubs and—of course—dollars. The only thing they fear is racism, as everyone wants respect. But the question is what can you offer in exchange for what you expect from others?

Written and Performed by Ceeljay Singh

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - The Square | 9-13 Oct (5 sessions) | 7:30pm (Sun 6:30pm) | 55 mins



**The Interview**  
Unemployed Greg thinks he is going for a job interview. Meg, a troubled psychologist, is awaiting her new patient. Greg walks into the wrong office, Meg's office and... well, A LOT happens from there.

Written and Performed by Maroussia Vladi and Les Tate

Chinese Museum: Bendigo Community Bank Gallery | 8-20 Oct (12 sessions) | 7:30pm | 60 mins



**Werewolf**  
Provocateur Van Badham goes all out in this darkly funny stage noir set in contemporary Melbourne. With twists, shocks and 80s horror film tropes, "Werewolf" is a deliciously wicked social commentary on the new clash between old extremes.

Written by Van Badham

Arts Centre Melbourne - The Show Room | 16-26 Oct (12 sessions) | Various times | 80 mins



**What a Steal!**  
Dodgy used cars, shocking deals and sleazy salespeople? Hijinks arise as the incompetent staff of a shoddy used car dealership struggle to avoid total collapse in this new musical. Meanwhile, the mafia are circling to secure the deal of a lifetime...

Written by Matt Chan

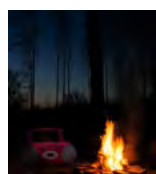
Chapel Off Chapel - The Loft | 15-17 Oct (3 sessions) | 7:30pm | 60 mins



**Why Not Believe in Everything?**  
Do you believe that the earth is 4.6 billion years old? Or do you believe that the earth is 6,000 years old and that it was created in 7 days? Thanks to "Why Not Believe in Everything?" you no longer have to choose.....

Written by Laura Fisher

Club Voltaire | 16-20 Oct (5 sessions) | 7:30pm (Sun 2:00pm) | 60 mins



**The Last Song**  
It's the end of the world as we know it! On the night a comet is set to destroy the Earth, two estranged childhood friends honour an old pact and meet together at their hangout to share a drink and ring in the end.

Written by Chloe Towan

The Motley Bauhaus - Theatre | 14-20 Oct (7 sessions) | 7:30pm | 60 mins



**THE LIBRAR(IAN)**  
Enter a night of laughs and library nostalgia as Ian the Librarian clocks in for work. Learn the politics of tea breaks, the mystery behind the dewey decimal system and sing along during a library storytime.

Written and Performed by Lochie Laffin-Vines

Bard's Apothecary | 1-5 Oct (5 sessions) | 6:45pm | 60 mins



**The Moral in the Oral**  
The fairytales we tell are not the fairytales we were told. Although they seem the same, the way these stories are shared and understood continues to adjust and adapt; and now the Maiden, Mother and Crone want to have their turn.

Devised by Emma Sproule and Kate Tomkins

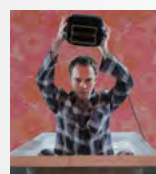
The Motley Bauhaus - Theatre | 1-6 Oct (6 sessions) | 6:00pm | 60 mins



**Years Years Bears**  
Did you see? Did you listen to the podcast? Was it funny? In a support group for ex-cult members, a brutal murder takes place. Years later, a true crime podcast delves into the harrowing tale - complete with Squarespace ads, of course.

Written and Directed by Cassandra-Elli Yiannacou

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Corner Store | 16-20 Oct (5 sessions) | 5:45pm (Sun 4:45pm) | 60 mins



**YOU CAN DO IT! (Follow Your Dreams)**  
In a world where carrots and sticks are replaced by trophies and kitchen knives, Billy's family will do anything to help the little duffer reach his full potential. But, I mean, how is he ever going to achieve anything if he can't even...?

Written and Directed by Simon Patrick Berman

The Motley Bauhaus - Theatre | 7-13 Oct (7 sessions) | 7:30pm | 60 mins

**AWARD WINNERS**

Looking for a SURE BET? Go where others have gone (and praised) before. See all shows that HAVE ALREADY WON AWARDS FOR PREVIOUS SEASONS.





**9 to 5**  
9 to 5 is a group exhibition about the ways that artists fund their creativity and pay the rent - from tram driving to gardening to caretaking!

FREE

Curated by Con Hunter & Nicole Robertson


The Old Bar Gallery | 1-13 Oct (13 sessions) | 3:00pm-8:00pm



**ARISE 3**  
ARISE is an annual exhibition catered to showcasing the artistic talents of emerging artists from Naarm! Each Friday night the exhibition will come alive with live performances including dance, music, drag, performance art and other surprises!

Presented by Zap Exhibitions

Abbotsford Convent - The Store | 7-20 Oct (15 sessions) | Various times



**Boxed In**  
I spoke to people in my life, those who live in supported living, about their experiences with housing and mental health. I captured their expressions on boxes, then exposed them to the elements, symbolising both resilience and vulnerability.

FREE

Artist Daniel Coulson

Woods Street Arts Space | 3-18 Oct (6 sessions) | 12:00pm-6:00pm

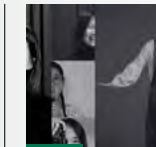


**The Scrolls: 3,000 days...and counting**  
Join award-winning botanical artist Sharon Field for a Viewing, Presentation & Conversation about her epic creative journey documenting and honouring invaluable ecosystems upon which all life on Earth depends.

FREE

Artist Sharon Field

Abbotsford Convent - The Store | 6 Oct (2 sessions) | 2:00pm-5:00pm

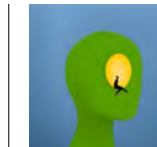


**Then, they never came back again - Video Art Installation**  
Four Australian Chinese female artists explore the theme 'Then, They Never Came Back Again' across four screens. Experience their unique perspectives on womanhood, love, and contemporary life. Engage with this installation and create your own narrative.

FREE

Presented by Art Echo Foundation


Festival Hub: Trades Hall - The Temple | 2-6 Oct (5 sessions) | 5:30pm-10:30pm (Sun 4:30pm-9:30pm)



**This World of Mine.**  
An digital interactive piece exploring your inner world.

Devised by Maxine Palmerson

Digital Fringe | 1-20 Oct | 20 mins

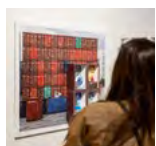


**Cannibal Café**  
Join Rose as she uncovers the truth behind a secret society of consensual cannibalism.

FREE

Written and Directed by Joshua Hosie

Digital Fringe | 1-20 Oct | 60 mins



**Design Fringe**  
Melbourne Fringe's avant-garde art, furniture and design exhibition has been platforming cutting-edge design, beautiful objects and reimaged furniture for 38 years.

FREE

Presented by Melbourne Fringe and Linden New Art

Linden New Art | 7 Sept-24 Nov | Open 11:00am-4:00pm Tuesday to Sunday



**Design Fringe: Curator Tour**  
Join Linden New Art's Curator for an exclusive tour of the 2024 Design Fringe exhibition

FREE

Presented by Melbourne Fringe and Linden New Art

Linden New Art | 5 Oct (1 session) | 1:00pm | 60 mins

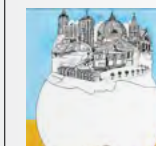


**Trades Hall Art Prize**  
Annual art prize supporting arts, workers, arts-workers, art by workers and art about working life. The theme of this year's prize is "No Future for Nuclear". Opening night will take place on Wednesday 2 October, from 5:30pm.

FREE

Presented by Victorian Trades Hall Council

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Paddy's Gallery | 2-20 Oct (19 sessions) | Various times



**Two Worlds Collide**  
Bringing my two worlds closer. A migrant's love letter to Naarm, Melbourne and a storytelling through artist collaboration.

FREE

Written and Directed by Nandita Chakraborty

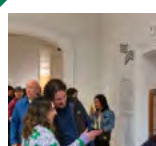
SOL GALLERY | 3-13 Oct (10 sessions) | 11:00am-5:00pm



**Unpacking Black and White**  
Unpacking Black and White is a multimedia presentation by Puva as she reads poems from her book providing sneak peeks of the woes in life experienced by a migrant woman via enactments, music, and engagement with cultural art installation representations.

Directed by Dr Puva P Arumugam

Digital Fringe | 1-20 Oct | 45 mins




**Design Fringe: Meet The Designers**  
Join a relaxed conversation with Linden New Art's Curator and this year's Design Fringe Designers, whose work offers critical and progressive ways for us to reimagine our societies, politics and ideals.

FREE

Presented by Melbourne Fringe and Linden New Art

Linden New Art | 12 Oct (1 session) | 1:00pm | 60 mins

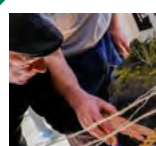


**Design Fringe: Opening and Awards Night**  
Join us for an exclusive preview event featuring the announcement of this year's Design Fringe award-winners, who embody creativity and vision in their innovative designs.

FREE

Presented by Melbourne Fringe and Linden New Art

Linden New Art | 6 Oct (1 session) | 6:00pm | 120 mins

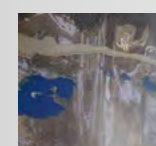


**Design Fringe: Tactile Tour**  
Designed specifically for people who are blind or vision impaired, an experienced accessibility guide will take participants on a tactile tour - piece-by-piece - into every nook, cranny, curve and corner of the Design Fringe exhibition.

FREE

Presented by Melbourne Fringe and Linden New Art

Linden New Art | 19 Oct (1 session) | 11:00am | 120 mins




**Visual Discourse #13: source to mouth flow the waters**  
Water paths, rivers and related environmental issues. Metaphors for memory of place, significance of site and the poetics linked to the presence of water.

FREE

Curated by Dr Colleen Morris

303 | 3-19 Oct (17 sessions) | 24 hours a day

**Venue hire for gigs, rehearsals, parties & performances.**  
Welcoming independent artists, all year round.



ENQUIRE NOW

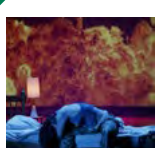


**Fenestration**  
A playful, quirky, and delightful art gallery window exhibition open 24/7. Located in an unassuming suburban shopping strip - celebrating art and culture in the 'burbs.

FREE

Created by Pamela Irving + Anne Riggs Projects

Pamela Irving Studio + Gallery | 1-20 Oct (20 sessions) | 24 hours a day

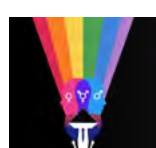


**FLAMES DANCED IN THEIR HAIR BUT DID NOT BURN THEM**  
A multi-channel video work that slides between documentary and fantasy, wild theatrical ritual and intimate conversation. The teenage cast of Fraught Outfit's THE BACCHAE (2015) reunites as a group of adults to end a Dionysian spell.

FREE

Created by Fraught Outfit

Buxton Contemporary | 26 Sept-6 Oct (8 sessions) | 11:00am-5:00pm

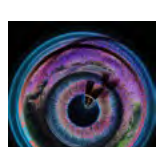


**Kae/Zar's from Mars**  
Martians are planning to travel through the internet to stop Elon Musk's imminent colonisation. A glitch accidentally sends volunteer Kae/Zar digitally to Earth. Follow Kae/Zar as they navigate AI, the internet and these strange Homo Sapiens.

FREE

Written and Directed by Kate Zarb

Digital Fringe | 1-20 Oct | 30 mins



**More Than**  
The Centre for Projection Art presents new works developed through the 2024 residency program. These works will be showcased inside and outside at Collingwood Yards over four nights, exploring our complex relationships with non-human ecologies.

FREE

Presented by Centre For Projection Art

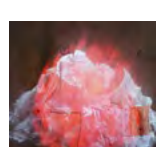
Collingwood Yards | 10-13 Oct (4 sessions) | 7:30pm-10:30pm



**RE-Generation International Youth Film Festival**  
Showcasing award-winning cinematographers alongside passionate young filmmakers from around the world, RIFF's curation of uplifting short films focuses on positive solutions for creating the world we all wish to live in - fabulous family entertainment!

Curated by School Broadcasting Network Inc

Library at The Dock | 4 Oct (5 sessions) | Various times | 180 mins

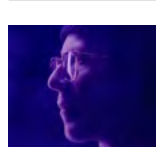


**Searching for Ghosts of Desire**  
My search for queer stories takes place in my dreams of the ghosts of the women who worked and lived here as nuns, as gardeners, as workers and as inmates. I hope that they do find each other in the grounds and architecture of Abbotsford Convent.

FREE

Artist Dr Lisa Anderson

Abbotsford Convent - Industrial School | 4-5 Oct (2 sessions) | 6:00pm-9:00pm



**Sparrow Showcase '24**  
Sparrow Collective, in collaboration with My Plan Manager, would love to invite you on a creative journey into the world of Neurodiverse artists and their expression through visual, ceramic, spoken word, musical, textile and mixed media art.

FREE

Hosted by Sparrow Collective & My Plan Manager

Montsalvat | 2-20 Oct (15 sessions) | 10:00am-4:00pm



**'The Ordinary Sublime' Kimbaross Exhibition**  
Quirky, soulful, narrative artworks trying to find the exceptional in normal everyday happenings.

FREE

Artist Kimbaross

ANVAM (Australian National Veterans Arts Museum) | 1-19 Oct (9 sessions) | 10:00am-2:00pm



**The Reunion: A Janus House mystery**  
Explore Janus House, engaging with snippets of the guests' lives to piece together the story and solve the mystery.

FREE

Created by Clavis Collective

Digital Fringe | 7-20 Oct | 60 mins

**25% OFF TICKETS**  
**10% DISCOUNT AT THE BAR**  
**FREE ENTRY TO CLUB FRINGE AND MORE**



**THE HUB CLUB**

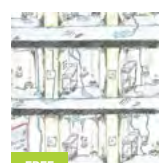
PHOTO BY DUNCOGRAPHIC

MELBOURNE FRINGE FESTIVAL

**JOIN THE CLUB**



# WORDS & IDEAS



**Antigone in the Land of the Dead**  
A new dramatic podcast by Melbourne's sharpest 12 - 18 year olds. St Michael's Grammar School / Bloomshed present a thematic jam on how people survive when democratic and climate systems start to fall apart. It's time to hear what Antigone has to say.

FREE

Created by St Michael's Grammar School / Bloomshed

Digital Fringe | 1-20 Oct | 50 mins



**Borrow a Brick for Contact Listening**

Re-discover Abbotsford Convent through site-responsive, sonic and textual encounters that amplify overlooked voices, and encourage active listening. Created by artist Joy Zhou, their collaborators and the community.

FREE

Created by Joy Zhou and collaborators

Abbotsford Convent | 10-12 Oct (6 sessions) | Various times | 30 mins



**"Echoes from the Horn" Poetry Reading**

Mo shares his journey from Somalia, blending personal experiences with traditional storytelling. His tales of loss, resilience, and hope explore Somali culture and the universal quest for a place to call home.

Presented by Mohamed Sudi

Festival Hub: Trades Hall - Music Room | 2-6 Oct (5 sessions) | 5:45pm (Sun 4:45pm) | 60 mins



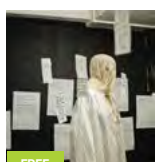
**Feminist Hall Tours at Trades Hall**

For over 150 years, women have been organising in Victoria's Trades Hall and fighting for equality. Follow the footsteps of union giants who inspire women in the movement to this day.

FREE

Presented by The Victorian Trades Hall Council

Festival Hub: Trades Hall | 3-10 Oct (2 sessions) | 4:30pm | 90 mins



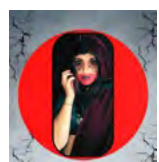
**Fringe Secrets**

Fringe festival-goers have generously spilled the tea for this interactive installation. You are invited to partake in this social experiment, where anonymous secrets are hung in the most public of places, to be shared with you, the unsuspecting audience member.

FREE

Created by Aimee Raitman

Festival Hub: Trades Hall | 2-20 Oct (15 sessions) | 5:30pm-11:00pm (Sun 4:30pm-10:00pm)

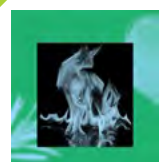


**Inner Demons Poetry Session no. 3**

Immerse yourself in Jasmine's live poetry performance where demons and self-discovery collide. Engage with interactive verses and witness her self-sabotage puppet rap. Accompanied by saxophonist Amelia Mulqueen.

Created and Performed by Jasmine Downing

Northcote Uniting Church | 18-19 Oct (2 sessions) | 7:30pm | 60 mins

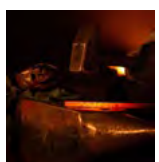


**Stirring the Pot: A Feast of Erotic Storytelling and Performance**

Spring is back, baby and we've got an insatiable appetite. Fantasy and reality collide at this special event that will have you hungry for more. A saucy selection of writers and performers will share sexy morsels of erotic writing and performance.

Presented by Melbourne Fringe and The Wheeler Centre

The Wheeler Centre - Performance Space | 18 Oct (1 session) | 7:30pm | 90 mins

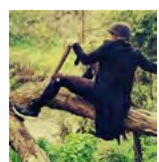


**The Beowulf Manuscript: A Performed History**

Fire, pillage and persecution! Join Beowulf scholar Dr Felix Nobis as he explores the history of how this poem survived over a thousand years before being discovered in a house-fire in London

Created and Performed by Felix Nobis

Waterside Forge | 6-13 Oct (2 sessions) | 4:00pm | 70 mins



**The Fellowship Tales**

The Fellowship Tales are a collection of original contemporary fables, written and performed by Letitia Kellion-O'Brien.

Written and Performed by Letitia Kellion-O'Brien

Bard's Apothecary | 9-12 Oct (4 sessions) | 5:30pm | 60 mins



**We the People x Yarra**

Celebrate the vibrant history of activism in the City of Yarra. Join artist Katie Sfetkidis and a group of local activists for an afternoon of insightful conversation about legacies of activism, the importance of solidarity and hopes for the future.

FREE

Artist Katie Sfetkidis

Edinburgh Gardens Community Room | 12 Oct (1 session) | 2:00pm | 150 mins



**'Women of Fire' presented by Queen Victoria Women's Centre and Mother Tongue**

An evening of powerful and honest Spoken Word by a diverse selection of feminist writers and performers, featuring Fleassy Malay and Sevgi Boga and more inspiring artists. Join us for this exciting collaboration.

Presented by Queen Victoria Women's Centre

Digital Fringe, Queen Victoria Women's Centre - Wayi Djerring | 19 Oct | 8:00pm | 70mins

## FOOD AT FESTIVAL HUB

Festival Hub: Trades Hall has YOUR WHOLE NIGHT SORTED with FOOD from WONDERPIES TO FUEL YOU from your first show until you're ready to hit the dance floor at Club Fringe. Scan the QR code to see what's on the menu.



DONATE HERE

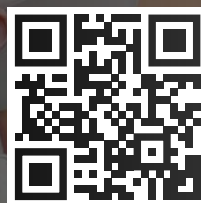


PHOTO BY MAURO TRENTIN

## GIVE US YOUR MONEY (PLEASE)

Melbourne Fringe backs INDEPENDENT ARTISTS to bring BIG, BRAVE IDEAS to life — but we can't do it alone (or in the dark). By DONATING to Fringe, you help us KEEP THE LIGHTS ON and continue doing what we do best: SUPPORTING the independent arts sector and facilitating the BEST CONDITIONS for ARTISTS to THRIVE. Plus, Melbourne Fringe is a NOT-FOR-PROFIT organisation, so all donations over \$2 are fully tax deductible. EVERYBODY WINS!

# WHAT KIND OF FRINGER ARE YOU?

## 1. YOU'RE THE FIRST TO ENTER THE VENUE FOR A COMEDY SHOW AND HAVE YOUR PICK OF THE ROOM. WHERE DO YOU SIT?

- A Near the back or the middle, where I can relax and enjoy the show without the stress of being perceived.
- B A few rows from the front, so I'm close enough to enjoy the action but can't be singled out. I don't mind a bit of interaction, but I'm not out here to steal the show.
- C Front and centre, baby. I love the spotlight (even when it's not pointed at me), and I'm ready, willing and able to trade quips with the comedian to keep the laughs rolling.

## 2. TIKTOK HAS CONVINCED YOU TO TRY OUT A TRENDY NEW ICE-CREAM SHOP. WHEN IT'S YOUR TURN TO CHOOSE A FLAVOUR, DO YOU:

- A Ask for a few sample tastes before committing - I'm not settling for anything less than delicious.
- B Two scoops please! My favourite go-to on bottom and a wildcard on top, so my tastebuds can have a spicy little adventure.
- C Get the weirdest flavour on the menu - and make it a double! Even if it's a disaster, at least it's a story worth telling.

## 3. IT'S MOVIE NIGHT AND YOU'RE IN CHARGE OF PICKING THE FILM. WHAT DO YOU GO FOR?

- A A classic I haven't seen in ages and that's guaranteed to be a hit with the whole gang.
- B The latest buzz-worthy flick - it's not my usual vibe but everyone on Letterboxd is raving about it.
- C A trippy 70s experimental film with zero plot and 100% chaos - buckle up, it's going to be a wild ride!

## 4. YOU'VE BEEN AT THE PUB FOR A FEW HOURS AND SOMEONE SUGGESTS MOVING ON FOR SOME FRIDAY NIGHT KARAOKE. HOW DO YOU PARTICIPATE?

- A Private booth with my besties? Absolutely! I'll be belting out a power ballad like no one's watching.
- B Public stage? Sure thing, as long as I've got a duet partner to harmonise with - it's all about teamwork!
- C Go big or go home. The crowd's going wild as I fearlessly tackle every high note in a banger that's totally out of my range.

## 5. AND FINALLY, HOW FAMILIAR ARE YOU WITH FRINGE?

- A I've caught a few shows here and there, usually when I spot a recognisable name or someone's given it the thumbs up.
- B I'll choose a couple of shows with promo shots or event descriptions that pique my interest. I'm all for a little adventure, but I'm not diving in without a floatie.
- C I'm on the hunt for the wildest, most out-there stuff at the Festival. I want the bold, the unconventional, and the unforgettable!

### INSIDE THE COMFORT ZONE MOSTLY 'A's: The Low Key Connoisseur

You know what you like, and there's no shame in sticking to it! You're all about those tried-and-true experiences that you can count on to deliver the goods. Whether it's a classic show or a familiar favourite, you're here for a good time - with just the right amount of excitement.

### PUSHING THE COMFORT ZONE MOSTLY 'B's: The Adventurous Explorer

You're not afraid to dip a toe outside your usual vibe. You're willing to take a chance on something new and exciting, but you like to keep one foot firmly planted in the familiar. You're the perfect mix of adventurous and discerning, always ready for a fresh experience without going too wild.

### OUTSIDE THE COMFORT ZONE MOSTLY 'C's: The Fearless Trailblazer

You're all about pushing boundaries and diving headfirst into the unknown. The wilder, the better! You seek out bold, unconventional experiences that challenge the norm and leave you with unforgettable stories. For you, Fringe is all about exploring the farthest edges of creativity.

FILTER THE PROGRAM BY COMFORT ZONE AT MELBOURNEFRINGE.COM.AU TO FIND YOUR COMFORT LEVEL.