



LA MAMA

SUMMER 2013



SUMMER 2013 #124

Welcome to La Mama for another scintillating year of theatre.

We are delighted to announce that one of the first things to happen in 2013 will be the installation of our long-awaited, brilliant, bespoke, modular seating bank in the La Mama Courthouse. This will transform the creative possibilities of this space for grateful directors, designers and performers. And for the audience - new seats as well! Once again our patron saints Jeanne Pratt, Sam Lipski and The Pratt Foundation came to our rescue. Thank you so much.

We have recently given our occasional Apricot Tree Award to the much respected doyenne of the theatre world, MaryAnne Caleo, and at our Christmas party, Phoenix Bade was presented with the Lemon Scented Gum Award for being our good fairy throughout 2012. Congratulations to you both.

Happily we welcome Laura Smith as our new Administration Coordinator and Kerry Noonan and Adam Cass as new Committee of Management members. Sadly we farewell our wonderful staff member Ellen Rijs and our loyal committee member Tim Stiz. We wish them both well in their new ventures.

Come join us in the coming months for our stimulating summer fare.

Liz Jones, C.E.O. & Artistic Director

And on behalf of Pippa Bainbridge (Company Manager & Creative Producer), Laura Smith (Administration Coordinator), Nedd Jones (Communications Coordinator), Lisa Höbartner & Rebecca Etchell (House Managers), Maureen Hartley (La Mama Learning Producer), Mary Helen Sassman (Marketing Coordinator), Caitlin Dullard (La Mama Community & Mobile Producer), Fiona Wiseman (Preservation Coordinator), Ella Holmes (La Mama for Kids Curator), Annabel Warmington (La Mama Musica Curator), Matt Hetherington (La Mama Poetica Curator), Graham Downey (Script Appraiser), and the Committee of Management: Sue Broadway, Dur-é Dara, Mark Rubbo, Caroline Lee, Kerry Noonan, Adam Cass, Rhonda Day and Liz Jones.

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Cover Image: **Andre Gorgievski**
Pictured: **Benn Bennett**
Courtesy: **Perfectly Mowed Lawn**





ACT A LADY

By Jordan Harrison

January 15 - January 27

It's 1927 and the men of a small prohibition-era town in Midwest America have decided to put on a performance for charity dressed in "fancy, women-type clothes". The play? A lavish 17th Century melodrama played out against the backdrop of the French revolution between the wicked Countess Matilde St Roquefort and deceitful Lady Romula Von Plofsdorf. When all the men are required to dress as women, the whole community is affected; gender lines blur, eyebrows raise, identities explode, and life and art are forever entangled. Part *Waiting for Guffman* and part *Dangerous Liaisons*, this sure fire gender bending comedy will not disappoint. Warning: Accompanied by accordion.

Directed by **Andrew McMillan**

Set/Costume design by **Tom Higgs**

Performed by **Mason Gasowski, Spencer Scholz, Kashmir Sinnamon, Angela Lumicisi, Cazz Bainbridge and Julie-Anna Evans**

Lighting design by **Bronwyn Pringle**

Sound design by **Kahra Scott-James**

Voice coach: **Jennifer Innes**

Stage manager: **Dave Kelly**

Publicist: **Eleanor Howlett (Sassy Red PR)**

Wed, Thu, Fri 7.30pm | Sat 4pm & 8pm | Sun 6.30pm

Preview: January 15, Tue 6.30pm

La Mama Courthouse





FAG BOY & THE MARRIED GUY

January 16 - January 27

A psychological sexual thriller, ***Fag Boy and the Married Guy*** is the latest work by Tunks Productions.

What would you do if you found the school bully and tormentor from high school on Grindr, ten years later?

Arranging a hook up, Will decides pay back is called for. Armed with sedatives, handcuffs, a scalpel and a camera - he's ready for revenge. But will he lose control?

Written, directed and produced by
Wayne Tunks

Assistant director:
Hannah Gott

Performed by
Matthew Candeland and Benji Groenewegen

Wed, Fri, Sun 6.30pm | Thu, Sat 8.30pm
La Mama Theatre



COCK

January 17 - January 27

A puzzle of short plays, song and dance which creates new language and form to tell relevant stories not just in the queer world, but in terms of a world view of the culture at large. It is a colourful jar of nuances where everyone uses their imagination to look at familiar social questions from fresh angles. What are the possibilities for transformation, especially for the gay male in contemporary culture?

Written and devised by
Kevin McGreal

Performed by
**Hikaru Freeman, Daniel Kilby, Josh Dore,
Richard Manzart, Grant Morrissey and Kevin McGreal**

Photography by
Richard Manzart

Set by
John McGreal

Movement, sound and lighting devised by ensemble

Wed, Fri, Sun 8.30pm | Thu, Sat 6.30pm
La Mama Theatre





ANDY WARHOL'S FIFTEEN MINUTES OF FAME

January 30 - February 10

Superstardom, lust, devotion, sin and assassination, who am I?
I am Andy Warhol. ***Andy Warhol's Fifteen Minutes of Fame***
charts the 60's pop icon's struggle for success and his attempted
assassination by man-hater and radical feminist, Valerie Solanas.
Daringly original and confronting... think David Mamet on crack,
you've got ***Andy Warhol's Fifteen Minutes of Fame!***

*Andy Warhol: In the future, everyone will be famous
for 15 minutes. I'm going to be one of them.*

Written and directed by **Noel Anderson**

Performed by
**Josh Futchter, Kate Mulqueen, Uschi Felix, Graham Murray,
Kathy Lepan-Walker, Fabiana Estelle and Jacob Antolini**

Set design by **John Wonnacott**

Costumes by **Mia Nissa Tegan Robinson**

Sound design by **Natasha Moszenin**

Stage manager: **Kylie Russell**

Wed, Sun 6.30pm | Thu, Fri, Sat 7.30pm
La Mama Courthouse





NOT A VERY GOOD STORY

January 31 - February 10

This show leaves you feeling good. An intimate confession from a woman who risked everything to save the life of the person she loved. It is a show filled with love, loss, telemarketing and cleaning products.

Inspired by the phenomenon of cancer clusters, ***not a very good story*** is Stephanie's story.

Stephanie worked the late shift at a call centre and had a crush on the cleaner who worked in her office.

Then something horrible happened and Stephanie tells you all about it. It's not a very good story. And that's an understatement.

Written and performed by
May Jasper

Directed by
Daniel Rice

Produced by
Erin Voth

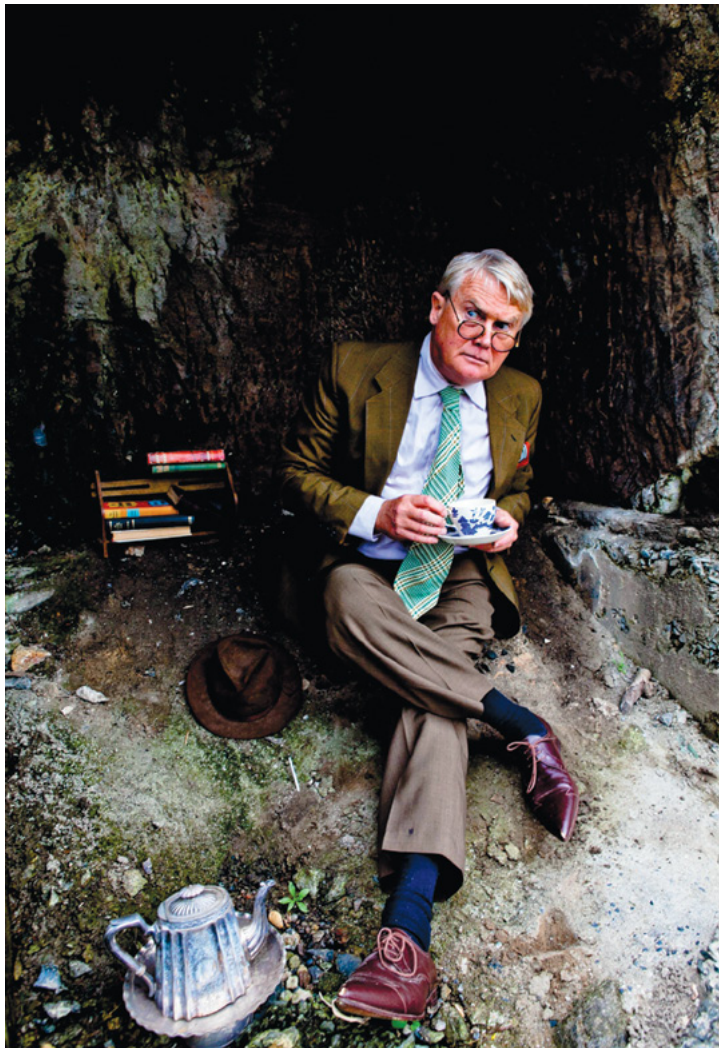
Lighting design by
Cail Young

Sound design by
Adele McCarthy

Wed, Fri, Sun 6.30pm | Thu, Sat 8.30pm
La Mama Theatre



Erin Voth
Productions
www.erinvothproductions.com



THE GIRAFFE'S UNCLE

THE LES ROBINSON STORY

January 31 - February 10

Welcome to 1930s Sydney bohemia!

Please meet the brilliant Les Robinson:

Great friend of poet Kenneth Slessor.

Contributor for Norman Lindsay.

A man who wrote some of the most unique short fiction in Australian literary history whilst living in caves around Sydney Harbour.

A fringe hero well before the fringe!

"Carroll's portrait of this square peg of a man is humorous, compassionate and gentle"

- Jason Blake, **Sydney Morning Herald**

Written by **Kieran Carroll**

Directed by **Ron Hadley**

Performed by **Martin Portus**

Set design by **Christina Logan-Bell**

Costume design by **Julia Young**

Lighting design by **Amelia Lever-Davidson**

Singing by **Darryl Emmerson**

Stage management and operation by **Max Russell**

Photo by **Cynthia Scibberas**

Wed, Fri, Sun 8.30pm | Thu, Sat 6.30pm

La Mama Theatre



THE MASTERS

February 13 - February 24

Ray, Pierre, Barry and Paul are back in their most ambitiously athletic adventure ever - to make their mark at the World Masters!

With matching tracksuits, a rigorous training schedule and one goal in mind, NOTHING can stop them!

"Constantly surprising, brilliantly absurd!" - **Herald Sun**

The Business are:
Glynis Angell, Penny Baron, Clare Bartholomew and Kate Kantor

Directed by
Merophie Carr

Physical comedy direction by
Neill Gladwin

Set & costume design by
Andrew Bellchambers

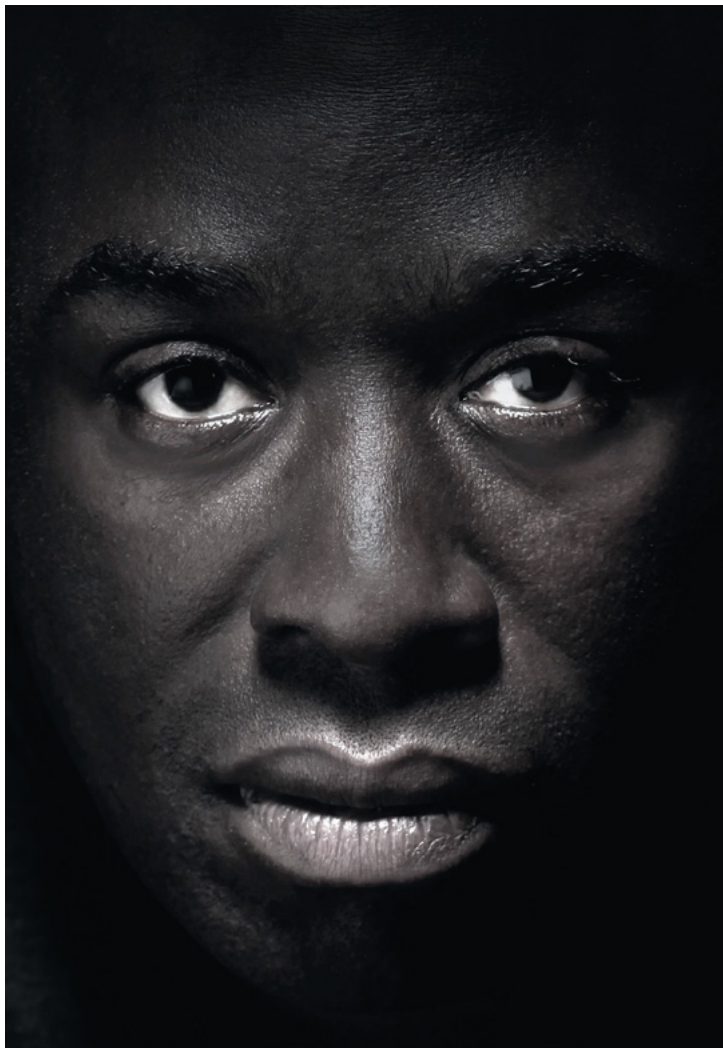
Composition & sound design by
Kelly Ryall

Lighting design by
Richard Vabre

Photo by
Andrew Wuttke

A production by **The Business**

Tue - Sat 8pm | Sun 5pm
La Mama Courthouse



DARK STARS

A POIGNANT TALE FULL OF BLACK HUMOUR

February 13 - March 3

In seeking his big break, an unlucky American actor is propelled by misfortune to a tiny island in the Pacific, where he unearths the forgotten story of Australia's most popular black entertainer of the 19th century, Irving Sayles.

Dark Stars weaves together the story of these two African-American performers in an examination of racist humour and the price paid for lusting after fame at the cost of one's dignity...

"A dazzling star turn by Jonathan Council"
Julianne Evans, **Gulf News**

"An earnest and endearing performance"
Nik Smythe, **Theatrereview New Zealand**

Written and directed by
Arthur Meek

Performed by
Jonathan Council

Wed, Fri, Sun 8.30pm | Thu, Sat 6.30pm
La Mama Theatre



WHAT A JOY TO BE ALIVE

February 14 - March 3

*The hypothesis must be entertained that I've got
blood on my hands, but look, there's nothin. Nah!
Even under the fingernails. Nothin!*

A duet for a musician and a man on the run;
his crime unknown and his love remembered.

Directed and devised by
John Bolton

Performed, devised and composition by
Chris Bolton

Performed, devised and written by
Tom Davies

Photograph by
Andrew Fraser

Wed, Fri, Sun 6.30pm | Thu, Sat 8.30pm
La Mama Theatre



IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT

AND OTHER STORIES

February 15 - March 3

Ghost stories of love, loss, grief and desire by the prolific Bengali writer Rabindranath Tagore, retold in the La Mama Courtyard.

Written by
Rabindranath Tagore

Adapted for stage by
Polash Larsen and Alex Pinder

Directed by
Polash Larsen

Performed by
Alex Pinder

Tue 7pm | Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat 10pm | Sun 4pm
La Mama Courtyard



THIS TRICK

THE STORY OF ORPHEUS AND EURYDICE

February 26 - March 3

An intoxicatingly physical play inhabiting the beautiful and dangerous world of a brutally intimate, sexual, and ultimately tragic contemporary relationship between a man and a woman so obsessed with one another that even death cannot separate them.

This Trick was shortlisted for the 2010 Queensland Premier's Drama Award and has been developed through Playlab, HotHouse and Metro Arts.

Written and directed by
Kat Henry

Cast includes
Penny Harpham

Designed by
Hanna Sandgren

Dramaturg:
William McBride

Tue, Wed 6.30pm | Thu, Fri, Sat 7.30pm | Sun 4.30pm & 6.30pm
La Mama Courthouse



UNTIL THEN, THEN

March 6 - March 10

A waiting room filled with books.
An unmarked door.

A man: the fool, the player king - or nobody at
all - wakes confused, between worlds. Has he died?
Or has he just imagined it? Does it even matter?

In this room are the answers. Or perhaps, only more questions.

What proceeds is a quizzical danse macabre; an incomplete
elegy for an imperfect life and a very questionable death.

Performed & co-created by
Nicholas Coghlan

Directed & co-created by
Ming-Zhu Hii

Sound by
Russell Goldsmith

Lighting by
Damien McLean

Design by
Matthew Angel and Ming-Zhu Hii

Wed, Sun 6.30pm | Thu, Fri, Sat 7.30pm
La Mama Theatre



THE JOY OF TEXT

March 7 - March 24

Danny's a bright kid and he's determined to get a little revenge against his school and the teachers who've misjudged him. Along the way, he might teach them a little something about satire, morality and truth in language.

RePlay's production luxuriates in an iconoclastic melange of theatre, film and the written word – the joy of text.

Written by
Robert Reid

Directed by
Peita Collard

Performed by
**Jason Cavanagh, Colin Craig,
Kasia Kaczmarek and Elizabeth Thomson**

Set and lighting design by
Rob Sowinski

Film design by
Isaac Mitchell-Frey

Sound design
by **Kiernan Box**

Produced by
Rikki Lee Butinar

Original production by Melbourne Theatre Company

Wed, Sun 6.30pm | Thu, Fri, Sat 7.30pm

Preview: March 6 at 6.30pm

La Mama Courthouse

THE LIFE I'D LIKE TO HAVE



March 13 - March 31

A young woman catapults into the lives of two sisters.
One wants a Nice Man, family threatens everything.
All searching for...

Previous work by the ensemble:

"Wonderful - funny and sad" - Penang 2012

"Skilled actors, clever script" - Melbourne 2011

"Complex, powerful" - Edinburgh

Written by
Gaylene Carbis

Directed by
Brenda Palmer

Performed by
**Christine Husband, Carolyn Masson,
Peppa Sindar and Brenda Palmer**

Wed, Sun 6.30pm | Thu, Fri, Sat 8.30pm
La Mama Theatre



OLD FRIEND, OLD FOE

March 20 - March 31

An elderly woman, Amanda, awaits her end in a nursing home. Jane, an imaginary friend who is really a foe, visits and unpacks a lifetime's memories from her box. She invokes memories of Amanda's struggle with her negative self-talk and debilitating cough. Jane taunts her with them so she can regain control. But Amanda has become a hard nut to crack and proves to have psychological tactics of her own.

Written by
Anna Den Hartog

Directed by
Phil Roberts

Wed, Sun 8.30pm | Thu, Fri, Sat 6.30pm
La Mama Theatre



HOPE IS THE SADDEST

April 3 - April 14

Hope is the saddest is a bright black comedy about desire, delusion and Dolly Parton. It tells the story of three loners whose lives crash together in a violent accident. Theo is a stoner and would-be inventor who's working on his first masterpiece. Marion is new in town after inheriting a fortune. And Hope is an optimist who's trying to win over the love of her life through the music of Dolly Parton, despite the fact he's "a bit gay".

"Filled to the brim with pathos, hilarity and introspection"
- **The South African Herald**

"A pretty perfect example of an ensemble human comedy"
- **Edge New York**

"Witty and profound in its simple truth that all life is chaos. See it!"
- **The Sunday Times**

Written and directed by
Jeffrey Jay Fowler

Performed by
Natalie Holmwood and Michelle Robin Anderson

Wed, Sun 6.30pm | Thu, Fri, Sat 7.30pm
La Mama Theatre





LITTLE DANCES

March 27 - April 14

'...these are the little dances you do when the dance is over ...'

Little Dances is about a girl who dreamed of being a ballerina but then grew up. And out. And old.

Little Dances is a moved monologue that fuses storytelling with stand up, sit down and fall over gags. Full of observations that slide into the absurd,

Little Dances finds the invisible dances we do every day. These are the ones that we do when no one is looking and the ones we do when they are.

From ballet shoes to high heels, **Little Dances** takes a cheeky look at the affectations of femininity and this phenomenon called dance; why do we move our body around for no other reason than to move our body around?

Finally the secret of dance will be revealed.

Written and performed by **Nicky Marr**

Sound design by **Mei Lai Swan**

Costumes by **Laurel Frank**

Lighting by **Niklas Pajanti**

Photography by **Ponch Hawkes**

Graphic design by **Isobel Lindsay**

Dramaturgy by **Beng Oh & Kate Shearer**

Wed, Sun 6.30pm | Thu, Fri, Sat 7.30pm

La Mama Courthouse





PERFECTLY MOWED LAWN

April 4 - April 14

What is it that's so appealing about perfectly mowed lawn?

Is it the smell? Is it the precision? Or is it the artistry?

A well-kept yard seems to be all the rage. It's fair to say that a good garden, and a freshly painted house go hand in hand. And then there's the water feature, "and come to think of it", said the lady with a perm, "maybe we should get a slightly taller fence."

"And then an Audi."

"And then a Box Hedge."

"And then I'd probably like to go on a holiday."

"Somewhere exotic."

"Somewhere difficult to pronounce."

"Like Bali."

Join Benn Bennett for an evening of observations and overheard conversations from a suburb he probably shouldn't mention, but probably will.

Written and performed by
Benn Bennett

Photography by
Andre Gorgievski

Field recordings by
Benn Bennett & John Kassab

Art direction by
Emma Koster

Wed, Sun 8.30pm | Thu, Fri, Sat 10pm
La Mama Theatre





ROBOTS VS ART

April 17 - May 5

Robots have taken control of the planet, executed the human race and forced survivors to work in mines.

When Executive Bot writes a play he drags Giles, a theatre director, out of the mines and orders him to direct a production.

Can Giles put on a play that will make the robots feel?

“extremely funny and virtually flawless”
- Cameron Woodhead, **The Age**

Written and directed by
Travis Cotton

Performed by
**Daniel Frederiksen, Simon Maiden,
Natasha Jacobs and Paul Goddard**

Wed, Sun 6.30pm | Thu, Fri, Sat 7.30pm
La Mama Courthouse



LA BEFANA



Written and directed by
Carmelina Di Guglielmo

Produced by
Connie Paglianiti

Performed by
**Carmelina Di Guglielmo, James Liotta, Malcolm Hansford,
Lara Di Guglielmo, Alexandra Barbati, Claudia Di Guglielmo,
Lucas Di Guglielmo, Lily McCarthy, Tristan Paglianiti-Roberts,
Lauren D'Andrea, Elise D'Andrea, Roberto D'Andrea, Richie Hallal,
Frank Italiano, Adam Mattaliano and Robbie Micale**

ITALIAN CHRISTMAS FOLKTALE

**January 4 - 6 at 11am & 2pm
La Mama Courthouse
All tickets \$12**

La Befana, the Italian Christmas Witch, arrives on the eve of epiphany. Children would hang out their socks. On the morning of January 6th, they would find simple gifts.

In the pagan world ***La Befana*** was a goddess, part of the magical, fairy world, patron of plants and animals, every year reaffirming the bond between family, ancestors and the natural world.

RANT N RAVE RADIO'S THE BIG AGENDA



**January 21 at 7.30pm
La Mama Courtyard**

Want a different perspective on Australian politics, and an open platform to discuss & debate the big issues facing our great country? Then Rant n Rave Radio's ***The Big Agenda*** is for you!

Written and performed by
Gregory J Fryer & Alex Schlotzer

Directed by
Isaac Drandich



ZUCCHINI CLAN: MUSIC FOR FREE RANGE SCHOOL KIDS



February 23 & 24 at 11am and 2pm
La Mama Courthouse

Ahoy! **Zucchini Clan** are an exciting, fresh new band who play socially aware tunes for free range kids from 5 to 105! Their debut album 'Wildlife' is destined to become a family favourite with catchy, well crafted, positive songs that adults will enjoy as much as the kids.

A **Zucchini Clan** Production | All tickets \$12 | Running time 50 minutes

AROUND THE WORLD AND BACK AGAIN

January 21 - 26 at 11am
La Mama Courthouse



One very brave Sea Captain and his slightly nervous Sailor Assistant are determined that, just like the early explorers, they too can make amazing discoveries! A fun-filled play featuring heightened characters and physical comedy

and...

GWEN AND JOHN: A MELODRAMATIC LOVE STORY

March 19 - April 11
Tue, Wed, Thu at 11am & 2pm
La Mama Courthouse



A random, unlikely and highly over-the-top love story, all done in the style of melodrama! Be prepared for dashing acts of heroism, outrageous betrayals, emo songs, amazing chairs, fast paced karate action sequences (karate not guaranteed) and the greatest love story you'll ever hear!

Written by **Amanda Pearce** | Produced by **Jade Thomson**
Created and performed by **Amanda Pearce and Jade Thomson**
Music recording and composition by **TomTom Recordings and Jade Thomson** | **Two Friends Productions**
All tickets \$12 | Running time 45 minutes

LA MAMA MUSICA



Gelareh Pour's CD Launch

February 18 at La Mama Theatre

Featuring Gelareh (kamancheh, voice), Adam Simmons (shakuhachi, wind instruments), Andrew Polydorou (guitar) and Brian O'Dwyer (drums, piano)

Origami CD Launch

March 11 at La Mama Courthouse

Featuring Adam Simmons (wind instruments), Howard Cairns (double bass), Anthony Baker (drumkit) and Deb Kayser (voice) with Nick Tsiavos (contrabass)

April 8 at La Mama Courthouse

Artists to be announced

Musica box office & bar 7pm | Concert 7.30pm

\$15 Full | \$10 Concession (includes free hot drinks and nibbly treats)

LA MAMA AESOTERICA



March 25 at La Mama Theatre

La Mama Aesoterica is a series of explorations in hybrid, electronic and new media performance works.

The next event will bring together artists from different disciplines to explore the notion of temporality in an atmospheric evening of live art creation.

Aesoterica box office & bar 7pm | Concert 7.30pm

\$15 Full | \$10 Concession

LA MAMA POETICA



February 18 at La Mama Courthouse

La Mama Poetica is a night of some of the best Spoken Word and Poetry that Melbourne has to offer.

The emphasis is not on one single style, but a purposeful blending of different approaches to the power of The Word.

Featuring
Andy Jackson
Ray Liversidge
Bronwen Manger
Jacky T
M.C: Matt Hetherington

Poetica box office & bar 7.30pm | Performance 8pm

\$12 Full | \$8 Concession



Ticket of Leave



Nightfall



The Archaeologists

PLAYREADINGS

Zena Ladner

January 19

Written by Bill Marshall

Directed by Jacob Oberman

Ticket of Leave

February 2

Written by Amel B. Kenza

Directed by Bruce Langdon

Nightfall

February 23

Adapted by David Summers and Julia Knibbs

Read by Emily Tomlins, Peter Garratt,

Dan Bellis, Matt Connell, Andy Carolane

The Archaeologists

March 16

Written by Lene Therese Teigen

Directed by Rosemary Johns

Read by Phil Roberts, Jenny Seedsman,

Peter Stratford, Anita Torrance

and David John Watton

How to Survive an Earthquake

March 23

Written by Christine Croyden

Directed by Glenda Linscott

Ready by Helen Hopkins, Danielle Carter,

Neil Pigot, Elspeth Ballyntyne and Wayne Pearn

All readings 2pm at La Mama | All tickets \$5

MACBETH IN THE KITCHEN



February 4 at 7.30pm | La Mama Theatre

The setting of *Macbeth* in this play is a kitchen. The characters of the play are the appliances used in the cooking of a dish which requires no recipe. It is a tale told by an idiot, full of sound and fury, signifying nothing.

Designed by **Kadro Pa**

From W. Shakespeare, adapted & performed by **Simge Günsan**

Directed by **Burak Tamdoğan**

Music by **Evren Gülseven and Arçın Aytaç**

Lighting design by **Melda Tuzluca**

Promotion images & video by **Beyoglu Idman Yurdu**

A Stanbulimpro Production



Vale
DAME ELISABETH MURDOCH

The La Mama community remembers
Dame Elisabeth with love and gratitude.

A magnificent life, lived to the full.

HARMONY DAY

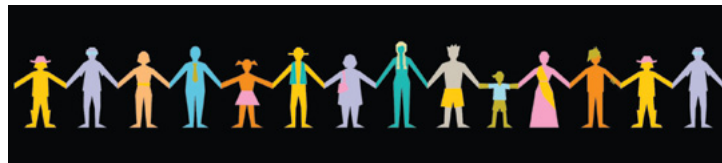
At the Carlton Estate

(enter corner Palmerston and Drummond St)



March 21, 3-8pm

A community event for all, with special
appearances from La Mama artists!



For Primary and Secondary Schools:

MELODRAMA & THEATRICAL STYLES WORKSHOP

These workshops are designed to extend and strengthen students' knowledge of Melodrama and a range of other theatrical styles, using games, dramatic exercises, and role playing. The workshop will be available at your school, and include practical exercises enabling students to create their own short work.

Workshops presented by: Two Friends Productions (see page 45)

Duration: 1 hour

Cost: \$330 for a maximum of 55 students or less for smaller groups

For details & bookings: Maureen Hartley via maureen@lamama.com.au



INFORMATION

Phone: 03 9347 6948

Email: info@lamama.com.au

Office Hours

Monday - Friday 10.30am - 5.30pm

Weekends: 2pm - 4pm

TICKETS

Full \$25 | Concession \$15

Available via www.lamama.com.au or 03 9347 6142

Bookings close at 4pm on the day of the performance

Please collect tickets 15 minutes prior to the performance

VENUES

La Mama Theatre, 205 Faraday Street Carlton

La Mama Courthouse, 349 Drummond Street Carlton

La Mama is on Wurunjeri land, part of the Kulin nation, and the Committee of Management, staff, and wider theatrical community acknowledge its traditional custodians

La Mama Theatre is registered by the Heritage Council Victoria and has received National Trust status



La Mama receives funding from the Australia Council, Arts Victoria and by the City of Melbourne.

