



LA MAMA



**50TH
WINTER
SEASON
2017**



left: 2017 marks the 50th anniversary of La Mama, but it also marks 50 years since the 1967 referendum and 25 years since the Mabo decision. Change is slow and it requires a lot of courage and persistence! May we all celebrate the small successes as we take steps towards big changes! #NRW2017 @reconciliation_australia

Welcome to our Golden Jubilee Winter Season!

This is a year in which many of our wonderful alumni are returning, performers, playwrights, directors and designers scattered throughout the year on full season productions and in our **July 50th Birthday Mini-Fest** the exciting details of which are in this brochure. On Saturday 12th August we will all gather to celebrate together at our **Big Birthday Bash and Book Launch** (see pages 8 & 9 for details)

This is preceded by our magnificent **Melbourne Festival of Puppetry** and followed by our **Melbourne Fringe Festival Season** as well as many exhilarating theatrical contributions from our treasured alumni.



Warm regards

Liz Jones

Liz Jones
C.E.O. & Artistic Director, La Mama Theatre

On behalf of Caitlin Dullard (Company Manager/Creative Producer), Hayley Fox (Venue/Technical Manager), Amber Hart (Front of House Manager), Elena Larkin (Office Coordinator), Jen Tran (Design and Social Media), Sophia Constantine (Marketing and Communications), Maureen Hartley (Learning Producer), Fiona Wiseman (Preservation Coordinator), Zac Kazepis (Casting and Creatives Service), Annabel Warrington (Musica Curator), Amanda Anastasi (Poetica Curator), Graham Downey (Script Appraiser) and the Committee of Management: Sue Broadway, Dure' Dara, Kerry Noonan, Richard Watts, Caroline Lee, David Levin and Liz Jones.

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MELBOURNE FESTIVAL OF PUPPETRY

4 JULY – 9 JULY 2017

The **Melbourne Festival of Puppetry** is back! And this year, there is an incredible array of puppetry to be experienced from across Australia and across the world. This year's program includes special performances from **Anino Shadowplay Collective** (*Philippines*), **People Who Play With Theatre** (*New Zealand*) as well as performances by the world-renowned Australian puppeteer **Richard Bradshaw** (*NSW, Australia*) to mention but a few. New to the festival this year is a workshop program for children and a professional development program for adults, including special guest workshop leader, **Sorn Soran** (*Cambodia*). There are free puppet events daily and performances across La Mama's venues for all ages so come along!

The Melbourne Festival of Puppetry is supported by **Creative Victoria**, **City of Melbourne**, **La Mama Theatre**, **Lemony S Puppet Theatre** and proudly sponsored by **Creature Technology Company**.

PROGRAM

Children's tickets \$10
Adults' tickets \$20

Special Festival Deal!
ANY 5 tickets for
the price of 4

Venues
La Mama Theatre
205 Faraday St Carlton

La Mama Courthouse
349 Drummond St Carlton

WORKSHOPS

Children's tickets \$10
(Adult included in ticket)

Adults' tickets \$60

Venue
Kathleen Syme
Community Centre
251 Faraday St Carlton

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

BARNABAS HAS NO FRIENDS

10am | 4 - 6 July
The Tent at
La Mama Theatre

Suitable for 3 - 7 years

A show about finding your mother, finding yourself, and maybe even finding some friends along the way.

NELLA'S WINGS

11am | 4 - 6 July
La Mama Theatre

Suitable for 4 - 8 years

A whimsical award-winning show about finding your wings.

PUPPET PICNIC

12pm | 4 - 9 July **FREE**
La Mama Forecourt at
La Mama Theatre

Suitable for all ages

Pack a sandwich and join us for the Puppet Picnic each lunch time.

ARKIPELAGO 2: A STORY OF INTIMA-SEA (Philippines)

2pm, Tue-Thu | 4 - 9 July
6pm, Fri-Sun
La Mama Courthouse

Suitable for family

An exquisite world of shadows exploring the deep & poetic relationship the Pilipino people have for the sea.

THE JUNIOR MIGHTY LITTLE PUPPET SHOW

3pm | 4 - 6 July
La Mama Theatre

Suitable for 6 - 12 years

A riotous choose-your-own-adventure puppet show – muppet style!

DREAMER

10am | 5 - 6 July
La Mama Courthouse

Suitable for 3+ years

A black light puppet theatre where Dreamer makes unusual friends in the world.

TALES OF THE SEA

10am | 7 - 9 July
The Tent at
La Mama Theatre

Suitable for 3+ years

Join the Storyteller & her trusty companion Captain Rattlebones for salty tales of the high seas.

JACKIE AND THE BEANSTALK

11am | 7 - 9 July
La Mama Theatre

Suitable for 4+ years

A modern twist on the classic fairytale about a plucky girl named Jackie.

JOURNEY TO THE CENTRE OF THE EARTH

2pm | 7 - 9 July
La Mama Courthouse

Suitable for 6 - 12 years

A classic story enacted through puppetry, mime, miniature worlds, special suitcases, unique umbrellas and an erupting volcano!

KYOTO'S CHILD (Japan / Hong Kong / Australia)

12pm | 8 July **FREE**
Forecourt at
La Mama Theatre

Suitable for all ages

A special shadow puppet making workshop culminating into a short performance by children for their parents.

ADULTS' PROGRAM

A QUARRELING PAIR: A TRIPTYCH OF SMALL PUPPET PLAYS

6pm | 6 - 9 July
La Mama Theatre

Suitable for 15+ years

A bohemian feast of miniature puppet plays by Jane Bowles, Lally Katz and Cynthia Troup.

SONGS OF LOVE AND DEATH

7pm | 6 - 9 July FREE
Forecourt at
La Mama Theatre

Suitable for 12+ years

As dark descends, the creatures of the night come out to play. 5 different shows. Each 5-10 minutes in duration.

THE LAST MAN ON EARTH IS TRAPPED IN A SUPERMARKET (New Zealand)

LIFE IS A CAROUSEL

9pm | 6 - 9 July
La Mama Theatre

Suitable for 15+ ages

Life is a Carousel is a chaotic whirlwind of psychotic mayhem, a grotesquery of improbable creatures and their efforts to make sense of a senseless world.

MORE BRADSHAW'S SHADOWS

8pm | 9 July
La Mama Courthouse

Suitable for 12+ years

Bradshaw's Shadows, a revue of shadow-puppet skits. Please note: This show is the same as what Richard will present during 'Two Old Pros' but includes a post show Q&A.

TWO OLD PROS

8pm | 6 - 8 July
La Mama Courthouse

Suitable for 12+ years

Two of Australia's most remarkable puppet talents together in a double-bill.

TURMOIL

9.45pm | 8 July
La Mama Courthouse

Suitable for 15+ ages

A night of short, edgy performances that stab daggers of light into our crazy world.

CREATURE TECHNOLOGY COMPANY WORKSHOPS

CHILDREN

SOCK PUPPET

(Billy Paul, UK/AUS)

4 July @ 12pm - 1.30pm

The art of sock puppets and lip sync for kids!

Suitable for 5+ ages

TRASH PUPPETS

(Jhess Knight, Trash Puppets, VIC)

5 July @ 12pm - 1.30pm

Turn 'trash' into 'treasured puppets.'

Suitable for 5+ years

SHADOW PUPPETS

(Anino Shadowplay Collective, Philippines)

6 July @ 12pm - 1.30pm

Discover the beauty and simplicity of shadow puppets.

Suitable for 5+ years

PUPPET PALS

(Sydney Puppet Company, NSW)

7 July @ 12pm - 1.30pm

Rod puppet making.

Suitable for 5+ years

ADULT

SIMPLE MECHANISMS

8 July @ 10am - 1pm

Philip Millar from Creature Technology Company, will guide adult participants through basic principles behind any mechanism such as an 'eye blink' or 'wrist movement'.

CAMBODIAN SHADOW PUPPETS

8 July @ 1pm - 5pm

Using traditional techniques to tell modern stories, Soran Soran will guide participants through traditional Cambodian puppet making methods using cured leather as well as giving us an understanding of the holistic approaches Cambodian people have in making things, influenced heavily by Buddhist practices.

PUPPETRY AND PERFORMANCE TECHNIQUES

9 July @ 10am - 1pm

Adam Bennett will illustrate how to control and direct the puppeteer's physical energy and attention to work both as a performer/presenter.

DIGITAL DESIGN

9 July @ 1pm - 4pm

Facilitated by Philip Millar from CTC, this workshop requires a basic proficiency with computers and the fundamentals of puppet design and making. It will cover digital tools for rapid prototyping; development; construction; manufacture and 3D printing output files. Please bring own laptop or tablet, if possible.

LA MAMA 50TH MINI-FEST

10 JULY - 13 AUGUST

Artistic director **Liz Jones** has invited an eclectic mob of La Mama artists to present short seasons of work. With new gems, old favourites and everything in between. The Mini-Fest is as much a snapshot of our history as a celebration of our future. It forms an essential part of our year-long celebration. Working with a diverse group of acclaimed artist across both La Mama Theatre and La Mama Courthouse we are presenting works by:

Anni Davey
Barry Dickens
Caroline Lee
Daniel Schlusser
David Williamson
Dennis Coard
Ella Filar
James Clayden
Jill O'Callaghan
John Romerill
Laurence Strangio
Lloyd Jones

Mammad Aidani
Mary Helen Sassman
Maude Davey
Mic Smith
Nicola Gunn
Patricia Cornelius
Peter Finlay
Sandy MacGreggor
Sofia Chapman
Susie Dee
Tes Lyssiotis
The Rabble
Tom Gutteridge

PRESENTING
PARTNER:



LA MAMA 50TH EXHIBITIONS

The University of Melbourne and the State Library of Victoria are supporting La Mama in the celebration of 50 years through our collection of posters and photographs.

50 Years of La Mama

28 July 2017 - January 2018
State Library Victoria
328 Swanston Street
MELBOURNE

La Mama 50 at Arts West

30 July 2017 - 2 February 2018
Arts West Building
The University of Melbourne
128 Royal Parade
PARKVILLE

Image by **Daisy Noyes**



50TH BIRTHDAY PARTY & BOOK LAUNCH

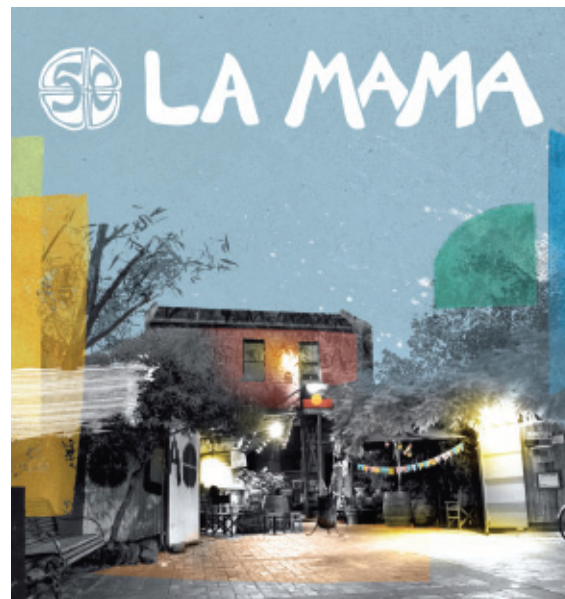
Come and join us in celebrating our **Golden Jubilee** and in launching our new book *La Mama*. The party and launch will be compered by former La Mama house manager, **Judith Lucy**, with performances and music from members of the La Mama community and a grand Jubilee version of the famous La Mama raffle.

Date
Sat 12 August

Time
6.30pm

Venue
La Mama Theatre
205 Faraday St
Carlton

Tickets
\$25 Full
\$15 Concession
\$10 Artists



50TH BIRTHDAY BOOK THE MIEGUNYAH PRESS

La Mama is written by **Adam Cass** with the **La Mama Theatre Community** and is published by **Miegunyah Press**, an imprint of *Melbourne University Publishing*. This beautiful book is a rich, chaotic oral and visual history of La Mama. It is a celebration of the thousands of people who have made La Mama, and of the infinite ephemeral moments which have shaped careers, changed lives, and have combined to create such an incredibly significant contribution to Australia's cultural and social fabric.

Pre-sales \$50.00
Only to *Friends of La Mama*
All proceeds go to La Mama

RRP \$55.00
Avail at *Readings* and bookstores
around the country from 14th August

Go to www.lamama.com.au/50 for La Mama sales.



TRUTH, MEANING, VALUE, ESSENCE

Created and Performed by **Anni Davey** and **Maude Davey**
with Special Guest, **Teresa Blake**
Image by **Martin Davey (1936 - 2000)**

She took the road less travelled
Did she leave the oven on?
She put her nose to the grindstone
She shouldered her burden

She stood upon the shoulders of giants
She looked forward with delight
She fought them on the beaches
She played a major part
She had a dream
She wandered alone
She helped herself
She struck a blow
She looked past the glitter, beyond the showmanship,
to the reality, the hard substance of things.

Date
10 - 12 July

Time
7pm

Duration
Approx. 50 minutes

Venue
La Mama Theatre



APHANISIS: the operetta plus overture

Written, stolen and directed by **James Clayden** with
Carolyn Bock, Helen Hopkins, Meg White, Sally Armstrong
Music by **David Brown** with **James Wilkinson**
Image by **James Clayden**

Earlier this year the operetta APHANISIS had a successful two week season at La Mama, now it returns for three nights only with an overture and two extra cast and trombone. So let's see what the 4 ladies come up with!

"I am hypnotised. Perfect allusions and a direct enactment of psychological states of dissolution, collapse, a doubling-up, Dostoyevsk's "Double"- and the hypnosis of love- the perfect duet. I come out of the theatre and everything around me seems unknown, as though I've never seen it before. Clayden achieves the state of throwness: confrontation, dissolution, dismemberment and a strange sense of re-birth and recommencement."

Review - Ania Walwicz , April 2017

Date
13 - 15 July

Time
7pm

Duration
Approx. 55 minutes

Venue
La Mama Theatre



QUEENS ON A RUG

Directed, Choreographed and Performed by

Nicola Gunn and Jo Lloyd

Sound Design by **Duane Morrison**

Costume Design by **Shio Otani, Nicola Gunn and Jo Lloyd**

Image by **Gregory Lorenzutti**

A phantasmagorical mess and a durational attempt, *Queens on a Rug* oscillates somewhere between high art and mediocre entertainment. Combining Gunn's autobiographical humour and Lloyd's unpredictable choreography, *Queens on a Rug* has a slapstick energy and a deep devotion to the ridiculous in the face of encroaching tragedy.

Originally premiering during *Next Move* at *Chunky Move* in 2016, this is the 3 hour version we weren't allowed to do.

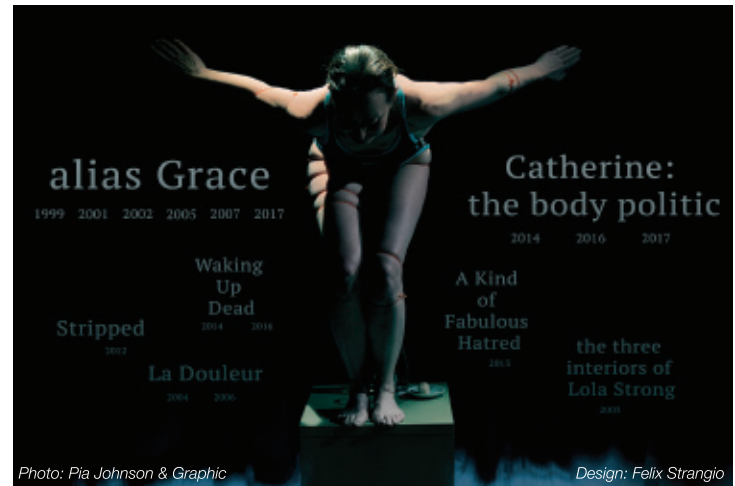
You can leave whenever you want.

Date
13 July

Time
7pm | 8pm | 9pm

Duration
3 sittings; durational performance

Venue
La Mama Courthouse



DIVING INTO THE UNKNOWN

Eighteen years of solo performance

For La Mama's 50th birthday, Caroline Lee re-mounts two solo works: her first, '*alias Grace*' which premiered at *La Mama* in 1999, and her most recent, '*Catherine: the body politic*' which premiered at *La Mama* in 2016.

With these works Caroline foregrounds issues of history, longevity, and what it is to be a female artist in our times.

There will be a Q&A discussion after every show.

ALIAS GRACE

Date / Time
14 July @ 7pm
15 July @ 7pm

"A murderess is not an everyday thing."

From the novel by **Margaret Atwood**
Adapted by **Laurence Strangio** with **Caroline Lee**
Performed by **Caroline Lee**
Designed by **Anna Tregloan**
Lighting by **Bronwyn Pringle**

Venue
La Mama Courthouse

CATHERINE: THE BODY POLITIC

Date / Time
16 July @ 7pm

How do we keep faith, in ourselves, our relationships, our body politic?

Written and performed by **Caroline Lee**
Directed by **Alice Darling**
Lighting by **Rachel Burke**
Sound by **Madeleine Flynn**
Dramaturgy by **Bagryana Popov**

Duration
65 minutes



LILLY AND MAY, AND LOVE

Written by **Patricia Cornelius**
 Directed by **Susie Dee**
 Image by **Jacqueline Mittleman**

Dee & Cornelius present two readings:
LILLY AND MAY and **LOVE**.

LILLY AND MAY premiered at La Mama in 1986 with Susie and Patricia performing in this raw and gritty 2-hander that went on to travel the world – or parts of it.

In 2008 **LOVE** premiered at Hothouse in Albury/Wodonga. It's a play that was truly informed by **LILLY AND MAY** in needing to readdress its themes and characters. It's a play that has also been performed across the country and overseas.

The two plays will be read by:

LILLY AND MAY: Patricia Cornelius and Susie Dee
LOVE: Nicci Wilks, Peta Brady and James O'Connell

Date
 16 July

Time
 7pm

Duration
 Approx. 50 minutes

Venue
 La Mama Theatre



SPEECHLESS

Written by **Barry Dickins**
 Directed by **Daniel Lammin**
 Performed by **Mary Helen Sassman**
 Image by **Barry Dickins**

Date
 17 - 18 July

Time
 7pm

Venue
 La Mama Theatre

Having no say is common politically but to not be able to say a word of sense or even nonsense at a young person's funeral due to present not future shock is the story of my short one woman monologue called *Speechless*; it is written both for **Mary Helen Sassman** and my contribution to La Mama's Fiftieth.



RAISING 'EL!

ELLA FILAR's KROWS BAR KABARET presents:

RAISING 'EL!: Dante's *Inferno* dragged kicking and screaming into 2017, with the help of a saxophone, a violin, a keyboard and an hour of wildly subversive cabaret.

Imagine Dante's journey into the Inferno, but set in 2017. The 7 deadly sins are replaced by Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, Tinder, Grindr and Youtube. A cacophonous collection of four singers and three musicians nosedive through a Massive LCD Screen. Bizarre, unexpected and thought provoking, **Raising 'El!** is the latest cabaret offering by Ella Filar.

It's Kabaret with a 'K' It's KROWS BAR KABARET!!!

PERFORMED BY:

Linda Cookson, Bruce Langdon, Olivia Laskowski, Chris Molyneux, Martin Zakharov (Sax, Clarinet), Rudolf Dombrovski (Violin) Ella Filar (Keyboard)

Date
17 - 19 July

Time
7pm

Duration
Approx. 60 minutes

Venue
La Mama Courthouse



HOTEL BONEGILLA

Written by **Tes Lyssiotis**

Directed and designed by **Laurence Strangio**

Performed by **Carmelina Di Guglielmo, James Harvy, Robbie**

Micale, Eva Torkkola, Alex Tsitsopoulos and Loukia Vassiliades.

Lighting design by **Georgia Rann**

Image by **Peter Lyssiotis**

Date
19 - 21 July

Time
7pm

Duration
Approx. 80 minutes

Venue
La Mama Theatre

"I wrote and directed *Hotel Bonegilla* for La Mama in August 1983. *Bonegilla Migrant Reception Centre* represents that moment in Australia's history which reflects what has become the main characteristic of the 21st century: the movement of people between countries. At its centre is the potent image of the suitcase which helped shape my vision of the play, for inside the suitcase are the dreams and the heart of the migrant."

– **Tes Lyssiotis**

Presented with generous support from **Co.As.It.**





REPUBLIC

Ireland and Australia

Conceived by **Jill O'Callaghan**
Performed by **Joe Clements**

The turbulent history of Ireland and its influence on Australian politics. How the drive for independence from Britain divided populations in both countries. Wars, rebellions, religion, executions, exiles, alliances and betrayals as visionaries sought justice for the poor and exploited. From Wolfe Tone, Dan O'Connell and Mitchell to Mannix, Lang and Keating.

P.S It's not over yet!

Date
20 - 22 July

Time
7pm

Duration
Approx. 90 minutes
with interval

Venue
La Mama Courthouse



STRETCH

It's my birthday. Precise to the night. This calls for a wake.

Jack Hibberd's play *Three Old Friends* opened La Mama 50 years ago. His masterpiece *A Stretch of the Imagination* is one of the cornerstones of the Australian theatrical canon. My own journey in theatre owes a great debt to *La Mama*, and even more to Hibberd. By the age of 28 I had directed ten productions of his plays, of which four were premieres. *Stretch* (2017) is my response to all these histories: it is a scream, a pun, a birthday present, a homage, an archaeological dig, and an escape plan.

Daniel Schlusser presents an installation work across *La Mama* theatre and courtyard, using mixed media including the text of *A Stretch of the Imagination* by **Jack Hibberd**.

With contributions from artists including: **James Paul, Emma Valente, Edwina Wren, Bernard Caleo, Sophie Ross, Greg Fryer, Romanie Harper.**

Image by **Daisy Noyes**

Date
22 - 23 July

Time
Sessions at 10min
intervals between
7pm and 9pm
(Bookings essential)

*Either come early or hang
around afterward to see
the courtyard stuff.*

Venue
La Mama Theatre

Price
\$10 Full
\$5 Concession



IN SEARCH OF THE LOST COARD

Devised and performed by **Dennis Coard**

A riotous, rollicking roller-coaster ride of remembrance with excerpts from his many shows including *The Fall of The Roman Umpire*, *The Umpire Strikes Back – May The Farce Be With You*, *The Farce Awakens* and...

Life's A Gamble (originally directed by **Catherine Hill**).

Old favourites, surprise guests and lots of new material, including... *Australia's Oldest Man* by **Keiran Carroll**

Dennis gives his personal guarantee...
"if you don't laugh, you get your money back!"

"Coard is a consummate comic performer"
 - Kate Herbert, Herald Sun.

Season dedicated to the memory of my neighbours (& mates) David Hill & Alex McCallum

Part proceeds to **Alfred Hospital / Pulmonary Hypertension Research**

Date
23 - 25 July

Time
7pm

Duration
Approx. 70 minutes

Venue
La Mama Courthouse



FOUR VIGNETTES BY MAMMAD AIDANI

It was... Then
 Performed by **Anna Ellis** (20mins)

Ant and Cockroach scene from the play **An Idiot Amongst Us** (15mins)
 Performed by **Anna Ellis** and **Zachary Kazepis**

How and On and On and On and On.... (20mins)
 Performed by **Zachary Kazepis**
 Written and directed by **Mammad Aidani**
 Stage Manager **Lisa Inman**
 Music by **Zachary Kazepis**

In-Waiting (in Persian) (40mins)
 Performed by **Tina Khabazian**, **Omid Movafagh**, **Reza Kaviani** and **Mohammad Javan Khaligh**
 Written and Directed by **Mammad Aidani**
 Stage Designer and Director **Mohsen Panahi**
 Music by **Zachary Kazepis**

Date
25 - 27 July

Time
7pm

Duration
Approx 110 minutes
with interval

Venue
La Mama Theatre



UNTITLED, OR THE SEAT OF NARCISSA

A Burning Deck Theatre Company Production

Written and directed by **Sofia Chapman**

Music by **Sofia Chapman** and **Madeline Hudson**

Performed by **Penny Larkins**, **Sofia Chapman**, **Madeline Hudson** and **Erica Chestnut**

Choreography by **Kate Hosking** and **Erica Chestnut**

Set Design by **Alana Hunt** and **Sofia Chapman**

Image by **Annabel Warmington**

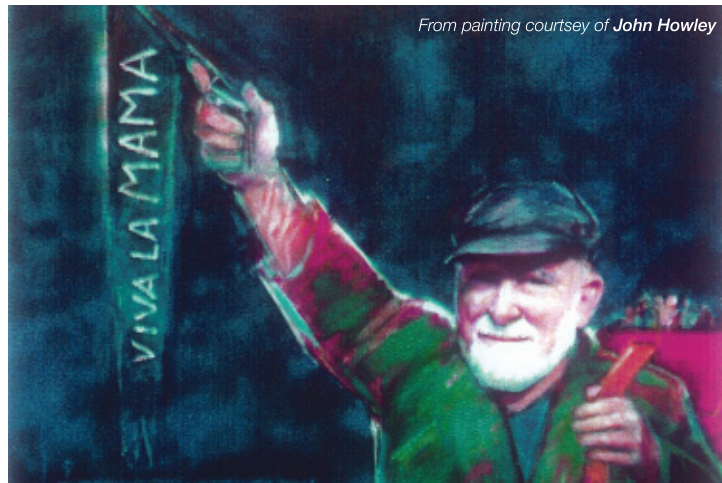
Be taken into the world of a beguiling woman desiring true love while only ever opening herself to moments of lust, as Viscountess Narcissa holds court and sway over ladies keen for her affection.

Date
26 - 28 July

Time
7pm

Duration
Approx. 65 minutes

Venue
La Mama Courthouse



From painting courtesy of John Howley

TRUTH is OUT!

An **O.T.H.A.N. Theatre Company** presentation devised and directed by **Lloyd Jones** in collaboration with *The Ensemble*.

A not-for-art, non-theatre theatre, non-scripted, performance piece. Expect a non-stop, over-the-top, extravaganza, thrill-a minute-experience NOT! This intimate, unashamedly challenging work, involves 26 excited performers, musicians and techs.

ALSO

Opening night 28 July, 7pm - 8.30pm

Eight (8) pre-booked audience invited to observe pre-show preparations from 5.30pm.

AN EXHIBITION OF VISUAL MATERIAL FROM 1973-2016

29 July, 2pm - 4.30pm

From 3-4pm JONES will reminisce about amusing and bemusing happenings drawn from his experience as front-of-house, audience, and Committee of Management member.

SNAPSHOT

30 July, 2pm - 4.30pm

From works by playwrights Jones has directed, as well as "Passing Glances" from THE ENSEMBLE across 5 decades.

Date
28 - 30 July

Time
7pm

Duration
Approx. 90 minutes

Venue
La Mama Theatre



BECKETT: NOT I + EH JOE

From the director of *Krapp's Last Tape* and *...waiting for Godot*, two further Beckett masterworks of solitude and self-perception. The Mouth in **NOT I** evasively seeks certainty in the midst of ever-escalating crisis. The 'unstoppable' Voice in **EH JOE** prompts doubt and self-condemnation through a bittersweet tale of love and abandonment. Three consummate performers in a night of linguistic fervour, insidious humour and meticulous enquiry.

Written by **Samuel Beckett**

Directed by **Laurence Strangio**

Performed by **Caroline Lee, John Flaus** and **Brenda Palmer**

Design by **Mattea Davies**

Lighting by **Bronwyn Pringle**

Image: **Felix Strangio**

(Photography: Laurence & Oscar Strangio)

By Arrangement with the Licensor, The Estate of Samuel Beckett, c/- Curtis Brown (Aust) Pty Ltd

Date

31 July - 2 August

Time

7pm

Duration

Approx. 70 minutes

Venue

La Mama Theatre



ESP

Worried about the future?

Embarrassed by the past?

Appalled by the present?

ESP – The Elwood School of Prophecy – has been written and acted by Peter Finlay over a hundred public readings in late-night bars and venues in and around St Kilda from 2008 to 2013. It was a funny, spoken-word, five-year-long, episodic serial. Now, **ESP** is returning to Carlton, in its second feature-length La Mama Theatre season, celebrating La Mama's 50th year. Showcasing all the uncanny predictions, wacky characters and shambolic goings-on that made it a local legend.

Written and performed by **Peter Finlay**

Directorial assistance by **Lloyd Jones**

A Year Zero production

Date

3 - 4 August

Time

7pm

Duration

Approx. 60 minutes

Venue

La Mama Theatre



SICK SICK

By **The Rabble**

A full on rock poetry experience.

Sick Sick is fully sick.

Image by **Kate Davis**

Performed by **Emma Valente & Mary Helen Sassman**

Date
5 August

Time
7pm

Duration
Approx. 60 minutes

Venue
La Mama Theatre



SHIT HAPPENS

Produced by 15 Minutes From Nowhere

Sandy left for Los Angeles in a time when Australian actors weren't the flavour of the month. During her tumultuous time in Los Angeles she appeared in a series of plays written and directed by John Cassavetes alongside Peter Falk, Jon Voight and Gena Rowlands. Sandy also played the pivotal role of Chrissy in *David Rabe's Boom Boom Room* to great acclaim. She was selected for this role from over 150 actresses. At the same time Sandy was living with a debilitating mental disorder. She was hospitalised twice, either for depression or bipolar disorder, professional diagnoses differed. Eventually Sandy returned to Melbourne to learn the dangers of ***Shit Happens***.

Written and performed by **Sandy MacGregor**

Director **Beng Oh**

Dramaturg **Jane Miller**

Curated by **Malcolm Robertson**

Image by **Sophia Constantine**

Date
6 - 8 August

Time
7pm

Duration
Approx. 70 minutes

Venue
La Mama Theatre



Originally directed by the late Malcolm Robertson for the La Mama 2015 Explorations.



ROMO REMINISCES

Amazing, enthralling, risible, romantic!!!

POLICE ARREST NINE ON STAGE

Vice-squad police arrested nine people and charged them with using obscene language at a Melbourne experimental theatre on Saturday night. The policemen were mildly heckled by the audience. As the police took the arrested to the nearby Carlton station members of the audience moved with them chanting four-letter words.

The cause of the trouble was the satirical anti-censorship play Whatever Happened to Realism, By J. Romeril, which ended with the audience chanting a string of four-letter words.

When the play ended, three police officers moved onto the stage and made the arrests while most of the audience of about 150 booed, cat-called and chanted the play's four-letter word.

- The Australian, 22 December 1969

Come and re-live this and many other historic La Mama nights as **Romo Reminisces**.

By **John Romeril**

Date
9 August **Duration**
Approx. 60mins

Time
7pm **Venue**
La Mama Theatre



NO SURRENDER

Mic Smith is happy to return to La Mama and work again with actress Rudie Chapman. Mic's work at La Mama was always inspired by itinerancy and society's fringe but **No Surrender** is about another vulnerability.

Two humans intervene in the fates of two injured animals: Port Fairy icon, the mutton bird and African icon, the rhino. A growing issue in the new epoch of our domination of nature it may also be a metaphor about intervention in lives of the elderly.

Written by **Mic Smith**
Performed by **Mic Smith** and **Rudie Chapman**
Image by **Mic Smith**

Date
10 - 11 August

Time
7pm

Duration
Approx. 60 minutes

Venue
La Mama Theatre



CREDENTIALS

1 - 13 August

World Premiere! David Williamson returns to his La Mama roots with **CREDENTIALS**, a black comedy in the tradition of his early hits such as *The Removalist*. **CREDENTIALS** takes a darkly comic look at the widening gulf between those Australians born into security, opportunity and education, and those who have to fight for their life to get any of those things.

Writer: **David Williamson**

Director: **Tom Gutteridge**

Set & Costume designer: **Anastassia Poppenberg**

Lighting designer: **Jason Crick**

Sound designer/composer: **Zachary Giles Pidd**

Cast:

Nell Feeney

Matt Furlani

Zachary Giles Pidd

Paul Bongiorno

Kayla Hamill

Geoff Paine

Yvette Turner

Image: **Rachel Edward**

CW: Strong language and themes of drug-use, sex-work and violence.

Tue 6.30pm | Thu, Fri 7.30pm | Sat 5pm | Sun 4pm

Extra shows

Sat 5 Aug at 7.30pm

Fri 11 Aug at 10pm

Approximately 90 minutes

La Mama Courthouse

WINTER SEASON

16 AUG – 15 OCT





THE ABSENCE OF KNOWING: FOUR MEN & DOG PLAY

17 August - 3 September

Four Men: an intense epic thriller by Flemish writer and rock musician Elvis Peeters. Set somewhere in the remote mountains of Eastern Europe, it combines revenge drama with psychological thriller as four drifters set out on a journey to avenge a crime against a young woman, without knowing that the enemy is closer than they think.

Dog Play: a woman a man a bed dog play. Desire to the edge of violence dog play. Sex to the edge of death dog play. 'I'm standing naked in an open field. I can hear the dogs. They're right behind me.' The howling of dogs will drive out every other sound.

Dog Play + Four Men: driving into the unknown horizons of the animal in us all.

It is the physicality of the production which most impresses. ...Live performance, the movement of bodies ... we sense the possibility of something new.
- Andrew Fuhrmann, RealTime

Witty and entertaining. The cast and the precision with which they are directed are a pleasure to watch. This is a show which could not exist without erudition and thought and the focussed collaboration of cast and designers.
- Michael Brindley, Stage Whispers

Writer: Elvis Peeters

Director: Richard Murphet

Acting Company: Rob Meldrum, Tom Dent,
Tim Wotherspoon, Emma Tufrey Smith and Jackson Trickett

Set Designer: Eloise Kent

Lighting Designer: Kris Chainey

Sound Designer: Roger Alsop

Stage Manager: Jacqueline Mates

Image: Paul Reeve

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

Approximately 90 minutes plus interval

La Mama Theatre



SURPRISE PARTY WITH JEM AND DEAD MAX

16 August - 27 August

Meet Jem and Max. Best mates from way back, fresh out of uni and reconnecting after two years apart – until Max dies in a car crash. But why should death get in the way of a good party? As wine is poured and pasta cooked, Jem and Dead Max swap in-jokes, high school crushes, and stories of the nights that never seemed to end. But there's one night that they never had a chance to talk about. As the party unfolds, blurry memories get pulled into uncomfortable focus. How do you find closure on something you need to believe never happened?

'A punchy and energetic story'
– Augusta Supple on *Twisted*

'Taylor is charmingly honest and vulnerable'
– Myron My on *How Can You Sleep at Night?*

Surprise Party with Jem and Dead Max was developed with the generous support of *The Kiln* at Arts Centre Melbourne

Director: Iris Gaillard

Writer: Georgia Symons

Cast: Anna Kennedy and Christian Taylor

Producer: Fiona Dunne

Photographer: Connor Tomas O'Brien

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

Approximately 70 minutes

La Mama Courthouse



KINGFISHER

30 August - 3 September

In Arthurian legend, the Fisher King is wounded in the groin, and his impotence magically turns the country into a barren wasteland. He waits for the chosen one to heal him and the land.

In the near future, natural disasters are increasingly frequent and intense. Animals can sense them coming and behave unpredictably. They damage property. A private security company protects the humans from the animal chaos.

In the present, Kingfisher is a dance theatre work. Stories are told and untold. Strange bodies appear and merge, playful and horrific. We are looking for healing powers.

Created by Jai Leeworthy

Cast: Tori Ball, Jai Leeworthy,
Josiah Lulham and Cera Maree

Sound Design: Marcus McKenzie

Lighting Design: Marty Shlansky

Stage and Production Management:
Sarah Whitaker and Jordan Peters

Image: Wilson Liew

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

Approximately 70 minutes

La Mama Courthouse



MISS W TREADS

6 - 17 September

Miss W Treads is an encounter with one of Australia's early theatrical stars. A contemporary performer is haunted by her subject, the renowned nineteenth-century actress Eliza Winstanley: the 'Mrs Siddons of Sydney'. In a cross-century artistic collaboration, Winstanley treads the boards once more.

In this new work by writer/director Jane Woollard (*The Hammer of Devotion, Aelfgyva, Prophet and Loss*) and an award-winning team of theatre makers, the melodramatic challenges the postdramatic to a theatrical duel.

Miss W Treads is a wry theatrical enchantment which features ghosts, wild violins, sword-fights, mysterious signatures and long-dead theatrical ambitions.

Writer/Director: Jane Woollard
Performers: Fanny Hanusin,
Ruby Johnston and Nicholas Kato
Dramaturg: Melanie Beddie
Design: Amanda Johnson
Composer/Sound Design: Peter Farnan
Lighting Design: Bronwyn Pringle
Stage Manager: Imogen Titmarsh

Image: Hermione Merry

Wed 6.30pm | Thu, Fri, Sat 7.30pm | Sun 4pm
Preview Wed 6 Sept @ 6.30pm

Approximately 1 hour 15 minutes

La Mama Theatre



GODOT: THE WAIT IS OVER

7 - 17 September

Beckett's classic play defies imitation, but in *Godot: The Wait is Over*, we respectfully re-join Didi and Gogo as they grapple with existential questions and agonise over the impending arrival of their greatest fear and dearest hope – the mysterious "Mister Godot". Ian Robinson's play succeeds in being both a respectful homage to the original and an irreverent flight of delicious fantasy away from it. He has managed to transform the dramatic milieu and the rhythms of *Waiting for Godot* into something new.

Godot: The Wait is Over is in turns farcical and serious, physical and cerebral, sad and funny, trivial and meaningful and will keep audiences amused, moved, surprised and edified; and in the end delighted that they have been on this ultimately satisfying journey with these two iconic tramps.

With Suhasini Seelin, Rebecca Morton, Dr. Scott Welsh and Ezekiel Day

Directed by: Ezy D.

Written by: Ian Robinson

Produced by: Cherian Jacob

Image credited to Ezy D.

A production by Cicero's Circle Theatre Company
www.cicerocircle.com



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

Approximately 105 minutes including interval

La Mama Courthouse



PANCAKE OPUS 101

20 - 24 September

*A taste of isolation
A flowering of freedom
A cycle of song not sung but spoken
with bits of sound from the living room*

In 10 moments Pancake Opus 101 navigates the path between the mundane and the magical.

'By the end of the performance Long's confident charismatic steering of the show has transformed her audience into a bunch of children eating if not out of her hand, well at least off her plate.' - Amelia Swan, Arts Hub

'The clinks, cracks, splashes and sizzles that ensue will trigger back-of-the-neck tingles, and there's audience participation of the best kind at the end'
- Stephanie Liew, The Music

'Funny, but more touching than funny'
- Michael Brindley, Stage Whispers

By Sandra Fiona Long
Design by Bronwyn Pringle (set and lighting) and
Emily Barrie (costume and set)
Sound Composition by Raya Slavin
Image by Mara Ripani



AUSLAN interpreted
performance
4pm, Sunday 24th
September



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

Approximately 60 minutes

La Mama Courthouse



MADAME NIGHT SHADE'S POISON GARDEN

21 September - 1 October

They said: 'Do not play, in the Poison Garden...'

Fresh from sold out shows at La Mama's Explorations 2016, Madame Nightshade is back with her absurd games, twisted rituals and bouffon-inspired anarchy. In the dystopic world of the Poison Garden the ridiculous and the bizarre meet the chaotic and violent, and things are never quite as they seem. This dark, visceral comedy upends the compost bin of Australian history, its gendered and colonial assumptions, and rifles through the remains.

An interactive performance incorporating elements of physical theatre, contemporary clown, queer spectacle, grotesque glamour and vegetable manipulation. This is one wild ride you won't want to miss.

'...will leave you stunned and flabbergasted...' Theatre Press

'...an extraordinary experience' Liz Skitch, Debase Productions

'Quentin Tarantino...if he were a clown!' Emily, Audience member

Performed and devised by: Anna Lehmann Thomson

Direction: Sarah Ward

Dramaturgy: Jaye Hayes

Co-devising: Kimberley Twiner

Lighting Design/Operator: Megz Evans

Sound Production: Jack Thomson

Image credit: Theresa Harrison

MELBOURNE
FRINGE

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

Approximately 60 minutes

La Mama Theatre



S_T_I_G_M_A

27 September - 1 October

A confronting theatrical and movement based performance, examining the prejudices, discrimination and stigma experienced by people living with HIV. A series of different provocations on the stigma of HIV/AIDS, shared through the diverse storytelling of men and women's lived experiences.

S_T_I_G_M_A is a stunning, moving and captivating performance which confronts the self-hatred imposed by mass culture and the ignorance of commercial media, through the unifying of theatre and dance.

People living with HIV experience stigma to a large degree especially when traversing the realm of intimate and sexual connections. S_T_I_G_M_A unpacks this difficult terrain with a revealing visual and artistic narrative composition.

This work contains full frontal nudity and sex scenes.

Directed and Created by Darren Vizer

Performed by Daniel Last, Laura Jane Turner and Alex Duncan

Sound design and composition by
Neddswellyn Jones and Zachary Kazepis

Produced by Devize Co, in partnership with Science Gallery,
University of Melbourne, Victorian Aids Council, Living Positive
Victoria, Positive Women Victoria and The Space Dance Centre

DEVIZE CO



Wed - Sat 7.30pm | Sun 4pm
Matinee 30 Sept @ 2pm

Open Stage Theatre,
University of Melbourne
757 Swanston Street, Parkville
(Corner Swanston St & Grattan St)



ECHO

27 September - 1 October

Buckle up!
Let's take a trip down unplanned-pregnancy lane and journey through the perilous and often thankless terrain of motherhood.

We'll be tearing down some outdated ideologies and social stigmas along the way as we deal with relationship breakups and personal breakdowns. Then we'll tackle misogyny and the not so subtle pressure for women to procreate. Moving on to infertility and abortion - to be or not to be? You know, the fun stuff!

According to our Facebook feeds, motherhood should be a blissful vacation of babycinos and infinite wonder...

But what is really happening just out of frame?

#soblessed #grateful #preciousmoments

Written and Performed by
Amber Hart and Christie Rohr
featuring Nadie Kammallaweera

Designed by Annabel Warmington

Image by Lindsay Gaines

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

Approximately 75 minutes

La Mama Courthouse

MELBOURNE
FR
GR
ME



THE CHAIRS

4 - 15 October

The only certainties we now know are old age, death and nothingness.
Friedrich Nietzsche.

In a tower
surrounded by stagnant water
An old man and his wife
await the arrival of his invited guests
After years of preparation he is finally ready
to deliver his message to Mankind....

To the audience in postwar France, the old couple in 'The Chairs' must have symbolized all that no longer made sense or was broken beyond repair. In 2017, the play is a disturbingly absurd and accurate commentary on the conflicting undercurrents beleaguering our endangered times.

The Chairs was written in 1952 in Paris by Romanian French playwright Eugene Ionesco and subtitled by the author "a tragic farce".

I was completely unprepared for the emotional impact of watching Jenny Kemp's brilliant production of Top Girls... I can't imagine a better production.
Alison Croggon, Theatre Notes, Top Girls

I was thunderstruck by your magnificent performances...
Helen Garner, 'L'Amante Anglaise

Written by: Eugene Ionesco
Translated by: Donald Watson
Directed by: Jenny Kemp
Assistant Director: Lara Kerestes
Performed by: Jillian Murray, Robert Meldrum and Rupert Burns
Set Design: Dale Ferguson
Lighting Design: Rachel Burke
Sound Design: Russell Goldsmith
Image by: The Company

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

Approximately 90 minutes

La Mama Theatre



Melbourne Writers' Theatre presents

SIX DEGREES IN MELBOURNE

Six lives. Six stories. Six degrees of intensity. We'll ease you slowly into the theatrical journey and then, degree by degree, we'll start to turn up the heat. A secret quivering beneath the surface, breaking through before being pulled back by a possessive protagonist; then another story, another secret, while the whole time a tram dips in and out. The tram gently rocks before speeding on to the final stop - this is your final degree.

"Where the writing was good, so were the performances. Inspired acting, clever casting and strong direction."

Peter Green – The Melbourne Monologues (MWT), Nov.2016

"Here is a show in which the sophistication and the theatrical and lived experience of the creators are evident. A pleasure to see."
Michael Brindley – The World Without Birds (MWT), Oct. 2016

Written by the writers of **Melbourne Writers' Theatre**

Performed by a group of actors who are fascinated by words

Directed by **Elizabeth Walley** (MWT Resident Director) and **Alec Gilbert**

Lighting design by **Michele Bauer** - **Left Bauer Productions**

Image by **John Edwards**

Date
4 - 15 October

Time
Tue - Sat 7.30pm
Sun 4pm

Duration
Approx 100 minutes

Venue
La Mama Courthouse

Book tickets via
trybooking.com/QJFI
0467 044 255



Crossed wires in association with La Mama presents

THE BALLAD OF READING GAOL BY OSCAR WILDE

Written in 1897, **Oscar Wilde's** heart wrenching verse work in response to his notorious incarceration in *Reading Gaol*, is as visceral today as when it was first composed.

Directed by **Alice Bishop**

Original music composed and performed live by **Peter McKeown**

Performed by **Tanya Burne, Leah Filley, Marco Lawrence** and **Michael F Cahill**

Artwork and poster by **Phoenix The Street Artist**

Date Sunday 30 July 2017
Time 8pm sharp
Venue The Old Melbourne Gaol
337 Russell Street, Melbourne CBD
Tickets \$50 Full | \$35 Concession
Bookings via La Mama



ARVOTEA & A SHOW: THE NARCISSISM OF SMALL DIFFERENCES

"It is always possible to bind together a considerable number of people in love, so long as there are other people left over to receive the manifestations of their aggressiveness"

—Freud.

A love story between two loners.

The envy of one man.

A battle for the heart of an idol.

Written by **Jane E Thompson**

Date Saturday 19 August 2017
Time 2pm
Venue La Mama Theatre



LA MAMA MUSICA

Time
7.30pm

Venue
La Mama Theatre

Price
\$15 Full
\$10 Concession

Monday 24th July

JEREMY DULLARD
solo gamelan, assorted
Indonesian percussion

MICHIKO MORITA
solo piano keyboard

Monday 28th Aug

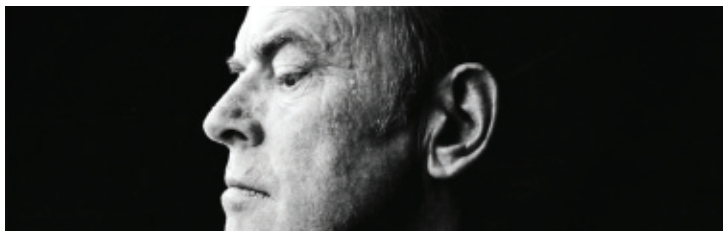
TONY HICKS
solo woodwinds

PHOEBE GREEN
viola with guest **Leah Scholes**
percussion

Monday 25th Sept

MICHAEL MCNAB
solo drums, objects,
feedback

NICK TSIAVOS
solo contrabass, plays "One
hundred months, Third of East"



LA MAMA POETICA

Featuring
**IAN MCBRYDE, HEATHER
TAYLOR JOHNSON, ANTHONY
LAWRENCE & WAFFLE IRONGIRL**

Date Tuesday 22nd Aug
Time 8pm
Venue La Mama Courthouse
Price \$12 Full
\$8 Concession



LA MAMA MOBILE: BIRDCAGE THURSDAYS

Belongings piling up. Pet cockatiel.
Telephone calls, bird-calls, lawn bowls and
dance moves.

Aging mother Helene, her high achieving
daughter, and her case manager negotiate
their way to an important inspection.
An inspection which could leave Helene homeless.
An intimate window into a family in crisis,
and their communication across services

Dates & Venues

12 Oct 2017 - Potato Shed, Drysdale
13 Oct 2017 - Provincial Hotel, Ballarat
14 Oct 2017 - Red Rock Regional Gallery,
Cororooke
19 & 20 Oct - Violet Town Community Hall,
Violet Town
21 Oct 2017 - Stratford Courthouse,
Stratford

For more information visit:
lamama.com.au/la-mama-programs/la-mama-mobile



ADULT MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION SERVICES (AMES) AT LA MAMA

A brand new piece of self devised work by
students from AMES Dandenong & Noble
Park developed in partnership with La
Mama over 8 weeks of drama workshops.
AMES students are migrants and refugees
learning English and undertaking vocational
training. Their participation is supported by
the Victorian State Government through the
Engage! funding program.

Co-directed by **Cathy Hunt & Justin Nott**
Lighting design by **Hayley Fox**
Devised and performed by **Students from
AMES Dandenong & Noble Park**

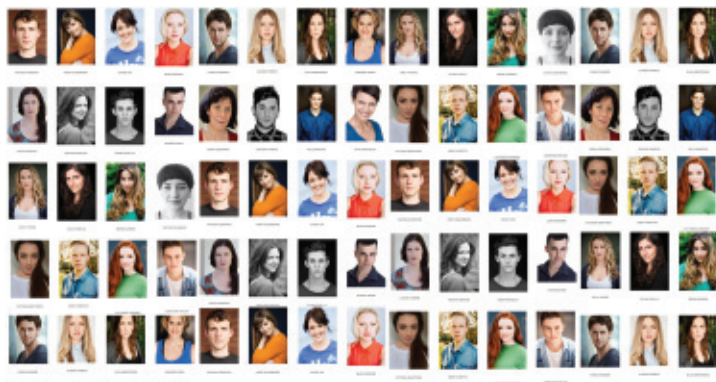
Dates & Venues

21 Sept 2017
11am & 2pm
Walker St Gallery
Dandenong
22 Sept 2017
12.30pm
La Mama Courthouse
Carlton



OPEN HOUSE MEL BOURNE: 29 - 30 JULY 2017
Sat 10am | Sun 10am & 11.30am | La Mama Theatre

Open House Melbourne puts a spotlight on the unique spaces and places that form the
foundation of Melbourne, providing an opportunity to consider what makes Melbourne
unique. The weekend of **July 29 & 30** showcases buildings of significance in a free and
accessible format so everyone can experience the value of good design and architecture,
and consider what makes a liveable city.



LA MAMA CREATIVES

Introducing La Mama's feature page for Directors and Designers!

Following on from the success of *The La Mama Casting Service*, we would now like to broaden the ability for more creatives to connect with each other by offering Directors, Theatre Makers, Stage Managers, Set Designers, Sound Designers and Lighting Designers the opportunity to be featured on a dedicated page specific to their field - thus creating the possibility for more free and open collaboration!

With this in mind, La Mama would like to open up the opportunity for creatives of all kinds to submit a professional headshot and CV, which will be displayed and listed on our newly created La Mama Creatives Page, relevant to their particular field. This service can help by providing a free and simple platform to showcase yourself as a creative, and to connect with other artists.

If you haven't already, check out our Casting Page:
lamama.com.au/casting

If you are interested in being featured, please contact
zac@lamama.com.au

LA MAMA ACCESS

We're excited to announce construction is now underway at the La Mama Courthouse (left image by *Working Heritage*) as we work towards full accessibility for all patrons. Once complete, the new layout will allow for easy entrance to the theatre space as well as updated bathroom facilities. We regret that this means the Courthouse has no access for patrons in wheelchairs for the duration of the renovations, but we look forward to sharing the new and improved facilities with everyone very soon.



AUSLAN INTERPRETED PERFORMANCE

La Mama offers AUSLAN interpretation for a selected number performances. We welcome suggestions for special interpreted sessions. Our next AUSLAN interpreted performance is:

Pancake Opus 101 by Sandra Long
4pm, Sunday 24th September 2017



DISABILITY ACTION PLAN

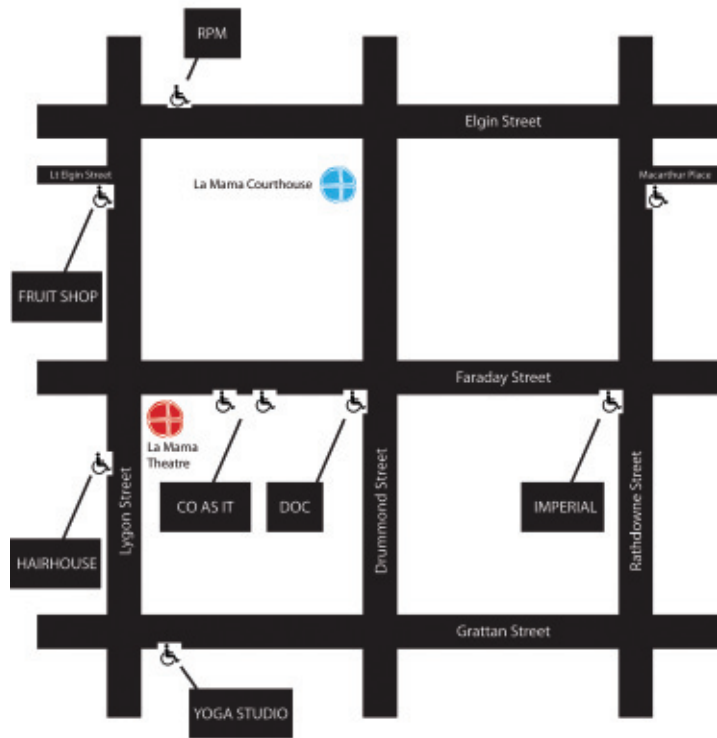
As part of our commitment to improving La Mama's accessibility, we have published our 2015 - 2018 Disability Action Plan to welcome all audiences. The initiatives contained will deliver benefits for all patrons and artists and demonstrate to the community that improving access is an ongoing commitment for La Mama Theatre.

Download La Mama's DAP here:
www.lamama.com.au/DAP.pdf
or contact Caitlin Dullard to receive a hard copy



DISABLED PARKING MAP

There are several accessible parking options around both our venues, and La Mama also offer patrons with a disabled permit the option to park on our forecourt at 205 Faraday Street, Carlton. Please see map below.



INFORMATION

Phone: 03 9347 6948

Email: info@lamama.com.au

Office Hours: Weekdays 10.30am – 5.30pm | Weekends 1pm – 3pm

TICKETS

Full Season: \$25 Full or \$15 Concession
via www.lamama.com.au or 03 9347 6142

Bookings close 5pm on Monday – Saturday and 3pm Sunday.

VENUES

La Mama Theatre, 205 Faraday Street, Carlton

La Mama Courthouse, 349 Drummond Street, Carlton

La Mama Theatre is on traditional Wurundjeri land. We pay our respect to all Indigenous Australians, past and present, and we recognise their continuing spiritual and cultural connection to the land.

The La Mama community acknowledges the considerable support received in the past decade from Jeanne Pratt AC and The Pratt Foundation.

We would also like to express our gratitude for the support received from our donors; whose invaluable contribution ensures La Mama remains Melbourne's home of cutting edge contemporary theatre and artistic freedom.

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



La Mama is financially assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council – its arts funding and advisory body, the Victorian Government through Creative Victoria, and the City of Melbourne through the Arts and Culture triennial funding program.



Image by Jacqueline Mittleman



 **LA MAMA**
www.lamama.com.au