

# DRUM THEATRE



Drum THEATRE

2023 Season  
February - June

# WELCOME TO SEASON 2023 (FEBRUARY - JUNE)

## COME TOGETHER

Greater Dandenong City Council acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land, the Bunurong People, and pay respect to their Elders past, present and emerging. We recognise and respect their continuing connections to Climate, Culture and Country.

Welcome back to the beautiful Drum Theatre for 2023 Season One. We know you will find something here to experience with friends and family – it is a great place to come together and connect with people, ideas and experience a sense of wonder.

If you haven't been to the Drum for a while, here are some reasons to pop in and explore:

This season (February – June 2023) brings a range of live performances across comedy, music and theatre, with shows for children and families. From swingin' jazz to opera greats, from music legends to new stories, you can see the familiar, the challenging, the nostalgic and the brand new.

The Melbourne International Comedy Festival is back with something a little bit different. Neighbourhood Sessions will bring a lively mix of comedy talent ahead of their Comedy Festival seasons. The critically acclaimed production of Arthur Miller's *Death of a Salesman* will tour to the Drum, as well as some of Australia's best musical performers: Pot-Pourri; Roy Theaker; The Shuffle Club; Marina Prior and David Hobson. Circus and puppetry will entertain the whole family in the April school holidays and Na Djinang Circus will bring contemporary circus exploring complex themes of Australian culture.

Melbourne performance collective, Pony Cam, is back to work with local teenagers on a new performance piece in vacant buildings. The Drum is once again going off-site to create live theatre experiences in unexpected places. Local artists continue to be a focus with *Our Beat* going quarterly with more performances from the South East including dancers, singers, hip hop artists and poets. It is an experience you will not get anywhere else and it's free so come and support these local artists and be a part of this unique event.

All ticket holders can enjoy discounts with our program partners on the day of the show and our members get further benefits and great discounts to many performances – look for the Member ticket price. Our Program Partners for 2023 are: Beletti Restaurant; The Public's Corner; Ettamo Eatery; Quest Dandenong Central; and The Holiday Inn; all offering generous discounts. We also welcome Next Level Games for their partnership of our Tabletop Games events every month.

We look forward to seeing you, your friends and family at The Drum.

**The Drum has clear COVIDSafe protocols in place and the latest updates about what you can expect is on our website. Our friendly staff are happy to answer any questions you may have.**



# DRUM THEATRE GAMES NIGHT

## COME AND PLAY AT THE DRUM

Each month Drum Theatre will host a games night to encourage a different type of creative play. Come down and play Dungeons & Dragons, Pokémon TCG, Magic: The Gathering, Warhammer and Middle Earth.

We will also have tables and games set up for free play or bring your own. Entry is free and no sign-up required. All levels of experience are welcome so bring your friends, your favourite game and enjoy a night of fun at the Drum.

**TUESDAYS**  
**6.30 – 10.30PM**  
**JANUARY 24**  
**FEBRUARY 21**  
**MARCH 14**  
**APRIL 18**  
**MAY 23 @ WALKER ST**  
**GALLERY**  
**JUNE 27**

**Duration:** 4 hours

**Price:** Free

**Please note:** Ages 10+  
Children will need to be  
accompanied by an adult.



# OUR BEAT

## AN OPEN STAGE NIGHT FOR ALL PEOPLE AND ALL ARTFORMS

The Drum's flagship interdisciplinary arts event returns in 2023 with new artists, concepts and locations. This year we are looking to bring the South East community together to deliver innovative arts experiences that showcase the best talent the region has to offer. We will have some out-of-town guests, feature local makers and crafters in mini markets and create art live before your very eyes.

There's always space in the program and on the stage to come down and do your thing, whether you sing, dance or make jokes, all you have to do is get in touch. The March Our Beat will take place in Crump Lane for a block party, Drum Theatre style and the June event will be hosted in multiple spaces inside the Drum.

Come and experience the theatre in a totally new way.

If you want to be a part of it email [drumtheatre@cgd.vic.gov.au](mailto:drumtheatre@cgd.vic.gov.au), call us up on 8571 1666 or just come down on the night.

**THURSDAY**  
**30 MARCH:**  
**CRUMP LANE 6:30**

**THURSDAY**  
**22 JUNE:**  
**DRUM THEATRE 6:30**

**Duration:** Until 10.30pm

**Price:** Free

**Please note:** 12+





# THE SHUFFLE CLUB

PRESENTED BY QUIET RIOT

The world renowned Shuffle Club is coming to the Drum Theatre for one show only to bring you their playful take on jazz, swing, blues and boogie.

For 21 years the Shuffle Club have been filling dance floors with their playful blend of jazz, swing, blues and boogie infused vintage party tunes. The band cut their teeth in St Kilda before taking the city, the country and eventually the world by storm.

They've played clubs, pubs and bars and cruise ships with the same energy and enthusiasm as concert halls, festivals and theatres across Australia, Europe, Asia and Central America. For over a decade they routinely toured with The Famous Spiegel Tent as the late night house band they accompanied a range of guests including vocalists, circus performers, cabaret artists and comedians.

In between all the glitz and glam, the band have always returned home. It seems fitting, in their 21st year, to acknowledge their contribution to the local and international scene with this special show.

It's on early enough on a Saturday to get dolled up and hit the town after the show!

**SATURDAY**  
**25 MARCH 5PM**

**Duration:** 110 minutes  
(including interval)

**Price:**  
Full: \$28  
Concession: \$25  
Members: \$25  
Group (8+): \$22pp  
Youth U30: \$18  
Children under 10: Free

*"You're unlikely to find a more versatile and accomplished quartet anywhere – these guys really go for it!"*  
Radio Forth One 97.3, Scotland

The SHUFFLE Club  
Quiet RIOT

# MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL COMEDY FESTIVAL NEIGHBOURHOOD SESSIONS

## Who said you had to leave your neighbourhood for a good laugh?

For one-night only the Drum Theatre will play host to some of the biggest names in comedy, alongside illustrious festival favourites and some of the country's best new talent.

This hand-picked line-up of jokesters will keep you laughing close to home and give you a glimpse of what's hot in the 2023 Melbourne International Comedy Festival. Don't miss out on this one-off comedy event, sure to keep you laughing – all the way home.

Line-up will be announced closer to the date and will be updated on the website.

## SATURDAY 1 APRIL 8PM

**Duration:** 120 minutes  
including interval

**Price:**

Full: \$35  
Concession: \$30  
Members: \$28  
Group (8+): \$30 pp  
Youth U30: \$18

**Please note:** The show is  
recommended for people aged  
16 years or older

Performance may contain  
coarse language, adult themes,  
sexual references and material  
that may offend.





***“Totally awesome!”***

Adelaide Advertiser (for Swamp Juice)

***“Genuinely quite extra-ordinary...  
delightfully clever”***

The Guardian (for Swamp Juice)

***“What a delight! The adults loved  
it too!”***

The Times UK (for Slapdash Galaxy)

Image by Little Bird Perspective

# BUNKASAURUS

## BUNK PUPPETS

**Two fools in too much trouble... a raucous  
new all-ages adventure for kids!**

A jaunty new adventure from the DIY masters of puppetry and theatrical wizardry, Bunk Puppets, promise to rip open your imagination with their cast of slapdash puppets, bizarre characters and riveting illusions!

In *Bunkasaurus*, two clowns are continually distracted from the serious work at hand, stacking boxes in a warehouse. They fall into a world of puppetry and silent comedy, blissfully creating an entertaining universe soaked in imagination and creativity.

The show is a mashup of clowning, puppetry and DIY science fiction, blending imagery, sounds and story. *Bunkasaurus* is ideal for families seeking an inspiring show, with raucous and eye-popping results!

**Workshop:** In this integrated craft and performance workshop, children will create their own individual shadow character made from scraps, crafts, tinsel, tape and teddy bear fluff. Participants will then be guided in performance techniques to draw emotion and drama out of the characters they make.

Award winners at Edinburgh and Adelaide Fringe Festivals, Bunk Puppets have travelled the globe and built an international reputation with their absurdist and imaginative visual stories.

**WORKSHOP:  
THURSDAY  
13 APRIL 2PM**

**PERFORMANCES:  
FRIDAY 14 APRIL  
11AM AND 2PM**

**Duration:**

Performance: 55 minutes

Workshop: 50 minutes

**Price:**

All tickets: \$18

Family (4+): \$14 pp

Workshop: free but  
bookings essential

**Please note:**

Workshops: Kids aged 7+

Performance: Kids aged 6+

REGIONAL  
ARTS  
VICTORIA

CREATIVE VICTORIA

Australian Government  
RISE Fund

This project is supported by Regional Arts Victoria, Creative Victoria and the Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand (RISE) Fund – an Australian Government initiative.



# THE QUIZZICAL MR JEFF

## Award-winning family entertainment

Mr Jeff is a born entertainer renowned for his charismatic showmanship, welcoming stage presence and engaging performance style. With years of experience on international stages and in the circus ring, his performance skills transport audiences to a state of wonder and play.

In this highly visual fusion of circus and magic Jeff explores a mysterious room packed with marvels – think *The Sorcerer's Apprentice* meets Charlie Chaplin – using novelty and circus skills to create moments of hilarity and captivating imagery. Stand-out pieces include a bottle with a will of its own, mind-bending hoops act and a flying cane that defies gravity.

This playful fusion of circus and magic is perfect for people of all ages, guaranteed to create unforgettable memories for you and your family. Dazzling, charming and astonishing... the enchanted world of The Quizzical Mr Jeff awaits!

*“Boasting a flamboyant array of costumes and a flair for physical comedy, The Quizzical Mr Jeff is a visually arresting show that promises to have audiences of all ages spellbound”*

Time Out



*“Jam packed with action and wondrous feats”*

Drew Ames

## WEDNESDAY 19 APRIL 11AM

**Duration:** 50 minutes

**Price:**

All tickets: \$18

Family (4+): \$14 pp

**Please note:** Recommended for all ages

**WINNER Best Family Show**  
**Melbourne Magic Festival 2021.**

**WINNER of Weekly Best Circus**  
**at Perth Fringe World 2019**

**WINNER of Melbourne Magic**  
**Festival ARTISTIC**  
**EXCELLENCE AWARD 2019**



*“There were many ‘laugh out loud’ moments in this super fun show that is definitely great for the whole family”*

Eventalaide



*“One of a kind and definitely worth seeing, if not for the magic, then for the undoubtedly fun time you’ll have”*

Fringe Feed



*“Humorous onstage antics and polished circus skills”*

Fringe Review



# AND THEN THERE WAS NIGHT

## A TOUR AND SITE-SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE

**Vacant buildings brought to life  
by Dandenong's youth.**

Following on from the success of Paradise Lots in 2022, award winning theatre company, Pony Cam, is back in Dandenong to create a night time adventure for locals.

Pony Cam will work with a group of local young people over six weeks to create an unforgettable journey through Dandenong's empty streets, shops and offices.

*And then there was night* will be a daring, unique and fun discovery for those who like their art a little more on the streets and little less in the theatre.

Witness the visions of your city transformed by the night.

Pony Cam is a multi award winning performance collective based in Melbourne. Their work transforms public spaces into unexpected performance sites. They fight to tell stories not often heard by local communities and they challenge audiences' assumptions about who performance should be for.

**THURSDAY 4 MAY  
FRIDAY 5 MAY  
SATURDAY 6 MAY  
7PM AND 8.15PM**

**SECRET LOCATION IN  
THE CITY OF GREATER  
DANDENONG TO BE  
REVEALED**

**Duration:** 45 – 60 minutes

**Price:**

All tickets: \$15

**Please note:** Recommended  
for 15+ (Children under 15 to  
be accompanied by an adult)

Sudden and Loud Noises,  
Simulated Violence, Coarse  
Language

*“rawness that sits atop  
very clever theatrecraft”*

TheatreTravels

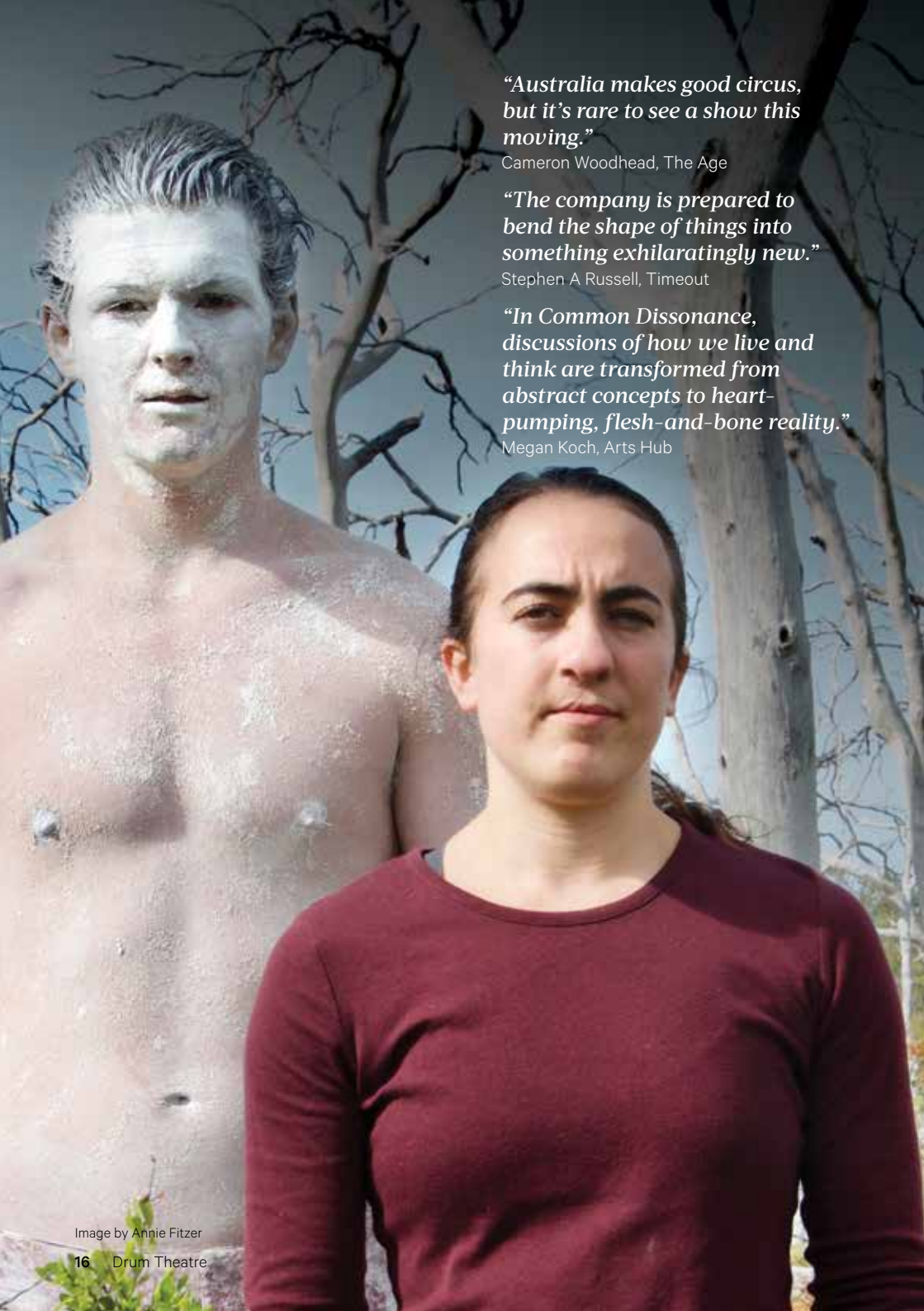
*“It’s just really cool”*

Artshub



This project was proudly supported by Council's Community Support Grants Program





*"Australia makes good circus,  
but it's rare to see a show this  
moving."*

Cameron Woodhead, *The Age*

*"The company is prepared to  
bend the shape of things into  
something exhilaratingly new."*

Stephen A Russell, *Timeout*

*"In Common Dissonance,  
discussions of how we live and  
think are transformed from  
abstract concepts to heart-  
pumping, flesh-and-bone reality."*

Megan Koch, *Arts Hub*

Image by Annie Fitzer

16 Drum Theatre

# COMMON DISSONANCE

## NA DJINANG CIRCUS

**A collision of circus and culture that interrogates harmony and conflict to find a Common Dissonance.**

In a 21st Century world where it is common to believe in both spirituality and science – how can we navigate the complex dialogues that consume contemporary culture?

Common Dissonance is an urgent contemporary circus work that creates a physical dialogue between different voices of reason. Featuring two contemporary circus performers with shared and distinctly individual experiences, it seeks balance, community, exchange, unity and diversity.

For thousands of years in Australia, understanding of the world came from dreamtime stories, song lines, and oral histories, all of which are still relevant to many Australians. Our environment is riddled with the hypocrisies of a culturally diverse past lingering in the wake of a globalized present.

Common Dissonance presents this internal conflict as physical interactions between two performers, speaking not only to the inherent conflict between modes of reasoning, but also the moments of unity, the examples of cultural exchange, and hopes to seek resolution and balance into the future.

**SATURDAY  
27 MAY 5PM**

**Duration:** 50 minutes

**Price:**

All tickets: \$18

Group (8+): \$15 pp

Children under 16: Free

**Please note:** Recommended  
for ages 12+

Aboriginal and Torres Strait  
Islanders are advised that the  
work contains voices of people  
who have passed away.

REGIONAL  
ARTS  
VICTORIA

CREATIVE VICTORIA

Australian Government  
RISE Fund

NA DJINANG  
CIRCUS

This project is supported by Regional Arts Victoria, Creative Victoria and the Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand (RISE) Fund – an Australian Government initiative.

# Arthur Miller's DEATH OF A SALESMAN

PRESENTED BY ARRANGEMENT WITH MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL  
(AUSTRALASIA) A HEARTH THEATRE PRODUCTION

Pulitzer Prize-winning *Death Of A Salesman* is regarded as one of the best contemporary plays every written.

Rediscover one of the greatest plays of the 20th Century, Arthur Miller's heartbreaking masterpiece *Death of a Salesman*, brought to life by an extraordinary ensemble of actors. Hearth Theatre presents a theatrical event not to be missed, starring one of Australia's finest theatre actors, Paul English as Willy Loman, "a salesman with his feet on the subway stairs, and his head in the stars."

Written in 1948, Arthur Miller's iconic and celebrated play *Death of a Salesman* addresses loss of identity and a man's inability to accept change within himself and society. The play is a montage of memories, dreams, confrontations, and arguments, all of which make up the last 24 hours of Willy Loman's life.

Hearth Theatre's unique production of *Death of a Salesman* is the culmination of an epic six month rehearsal period, in which the cast immersed themselves in the world of the Loman family. The process is a revolutionary acting method which allows the ensemble to deep-dive into the world of the play to explore the complexity of the characters and story.

**SATURDAY  
3 JUNE 3PM**

**Duration:** 200 minutes  
including interval

**Price:**

Full: \$28  
Concession: \$25  
Members: \$25  
Group (8+): \$22pp  
Youth U30: \$18

**Please note:** Recommended  
for 15+

Contains blackouts; themes  
of death and suicide

"It can't be overstated how  
phenomenal this cast is"

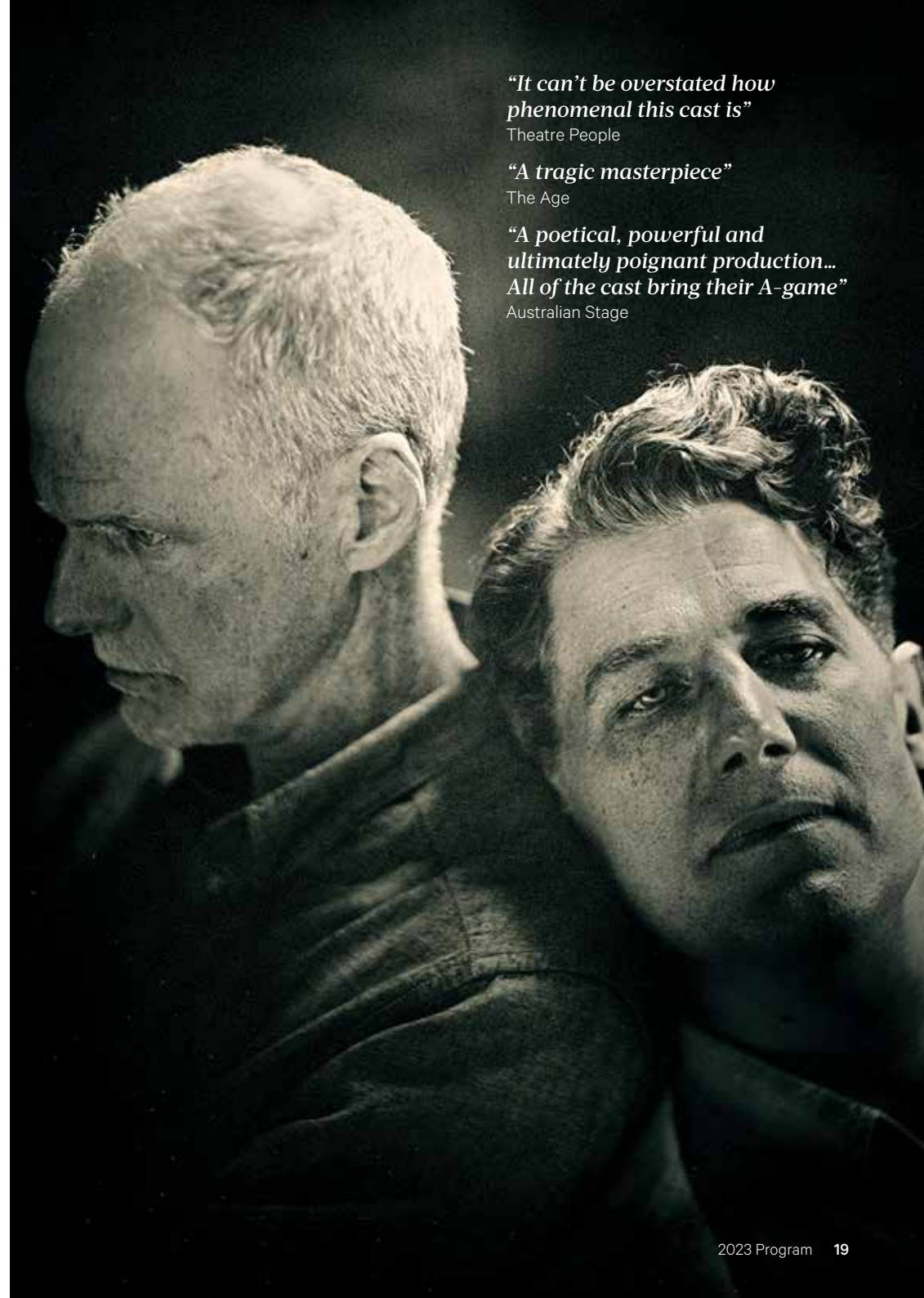
Theatre People

"A tragic masterpiece"

The Age

"A poetical, powerful and  
ultimately poignant production...  
All of the cast bring their A-game"

Australian Stage



CREATIVE VICTORIA

Hearth Theatre

NCM

This project is supported by the Victorian Government through Creative Victoria.



BOOK EARLY  
TO AVOID  
DISAPPOINTMENT



# MARINA PRIOR AND DAVID HOBSON: THE 2 OF US

After three back-to-back years of selling out more than 100 shows around the country, soprano and tenor powerhouse legends of musical theatre and opera, Marina Prior and David Hobson embark on their encore tour, *The 2 of Us* in 'up close and personal' mode.

Brand new songs, back-stage and life stories, and including the classics from their vast repertoire spanning 35 years in a 2 hour concert.

Accompanied by renowned pianist David Cameron, in a two-hour intimate performance, Marina and David will perform their classics from productions such as *The Phantom of The Opera*, *Cats*, *Evita*, *Les Miserables*, *West Side Story*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* and *La Boheme* to name but a few, as well as favourites from their award-winning albums.

***"It's been beyond our wildest dreams to travel this beautiful country of ours being supported by Australians in our own backyard"***

say Marina and David.

**THURSDAY  
20 JULY 7PM**

**Duration:** 150 minutes  
including interval

**Price:**

Full: \$69.95  
Concession: \$64.95  
Group (6+): \$64.95  
Member: \$62.95  
Children under 16: \$34.95



# ENCORE PROGRAM

## 2023 SEASON ONE

**FULL: \$22**  
**GROUP (8+): \$20**  
**MEMBER: \$18**

Includes complimentary morning tea



### ALWAYS LOVE THE MUSIC

THURSDAY 9 FEBRUARY  
10.30AM

75 MINUTES

The amazing Roy Theaker and his band present a dynamic and energetic show of a range of musical genres that will excite, delight and amuse. A former Concertmaster of the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, his playing is loved from Sydney to London and he has shared the big stage with the likes of Hugh Jackman! Appealing to all ages and musical tastes - prepare to be charmed, entertained and enthralled.



### FROM FIGARO TO PHANTOM

THURSDAY 16 MARCH  
10.30AM

75 MINUTES

A selection of opera favourites from Mozart to Andrew Lloyd-Webber performed by Pot-Pourri, with Australia's leading music theatre performers.

Take 5 of Australia's most talented performers: two sopranos, a tenor, baritone and the most talented young pianist; add a dash of opera and a slice of cabaret; toss in your favourite Broadway hits and a touch of class; a hint of magic and top it all off with a big dollop of comedy. All served up with stunning voices, gorgeous harmonies and lots of fun! And there you have the sensational and superbly entertaining POT- POURRI!



### THE DANCIN' MAN

THURSDAY 20 APRIL  
10.30AM

85 MINUTES

Up close and personal high energy entertainment... Luke Alleva dances through the classic decades when music and dance had style, grace, and charisma, accompanied by a 3-piece band!

The Dancin' Man celebrates the quintessential song and dance men like Gene Kelly, Fred Astaire, Donald O'Connor, The Nicholas Brothers and Sammy Davis Jr and a medley of the most recognisable songs with a fresh twist, including *Make 'em Laugh*, *Mr Bojangles*, *It Don't Mean A Thing* and *Singin' In The Rain*... just to name a few.



### CLUE SPECIAL ENCORE PERFORMANCE

THURSDAY 18 MAY  
10.30AM

90 MINUTES

Escapees Theatre Company presents this popular play based on the cult classic film and the popular board game. *Clue* is a madcap comedy that will keep you guessing until the final twist.

Escapees is a not-for-profit, unique, innovative and hard-working theatre company based in South East Melbourne and take pride in presenting shows for their community. Their Encore showcase and production of *Legally Blonde* at the Drum in 2022 was a great success.



### BEATLES LEGACY

THURSDAY 15 JUNE  
10.30AM

85 MINUTES

A must-see musical extravaganza.

This musical journey will take you from the early Beatles days to their critically acclaimed solo careers. *Beatles Legacy* features some of Australia's finest musicians performing masterpieces from Paul, John, George, Ringo and beyond. Celebrate bands created by or influenced by these artists, including Wings, Jeff Lynne and ELO, The Traveling Wilburys and Oasis.

# OUR VENUE



## GETTING THERE

The Drum Theatre is at 226 Lonsdale Street, corner of Lonsdale and Walker streets in Dandenong. Located in central Dandenong, Drum Theatre is very easy to get to by car or public transport.

**By Public Transport:** jump on either the Pakenham line or Cranbourne line and get off at Dandenong Train Station. The station is just a 10-minute walk from the theatre. Alternatively, you can get Bus 861 or 862 to the Langhorne Street Stop which is located directly behind the Drum Theatre.

**By Car:** visit us via major road networks including the Princes Highway, Monash Freeway and Eastlink.

## PARKING OPTIONS

- Walker Street multi-deck Car Par, 35-37 Walker Street, Dandenong
- Thomas Street multi-deck Car Park, 250 Thomas Street, Dandenong
- Council carparks at 28 Langhorne Street and 56-60 McCrae Street, Dandenong
- On-street parking on Lonsdale and neighbouring streets
- The Drum Theatre is pleased to provide free parking vouchers for patrons attending Encore Program's matinee shows. Please enquire when you purchase your Encore Program tickets for further details.

## FOOD AND DRINK

Located in the foyer, The Drum Café and Bar is fully licensed, serving a range of hot and cold beverages, snacks, confectionary and ice cream.

The bar is open one hour before every performance held in the theatre. You can avoid the queues at interval by pre-ordering your interval drinks and snacks before the performance. Simply visit the bar before the performance and place your order. Your requested items will be available immediately for collection from the bar at the start of interval. No waiting, no hassles – just the way a night at the theatre should be.

## ACCESSIBILITY

The Drum Theatre is proud to be a fully accessible venue with:

- A flat floor foyer
- Separate accessible toilet
- Wheelchair access and recharging station
- Lift to dress circle
- Flat floor access to row C in the stalls and row AA in the dress circle

For patrons requiring wheelchair seating, companion card tickets or any other assistance, please call the Box Office on 03 8571 1666.





# DRUM MEMBERS

## A PLACE TO BELONG

Become a Drum Member to enjoy a range of benefits that let you enhance your theatre experience and show your support for the arts. It's a great way to be a part of the Drum Theatre!

To become a member, simply call the Box Office on 03 8571 1666

**Membership Cost:** \$25 (includes a \$20 credit towards a performance at the Drum Theatre)

[drum.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/drum-members](http://drum.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/drum-members)

## MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

1. Discount tickets available for selected theatre programs
2. Enjoy no-fee refunds and exchanges up to 48 hours before a show
3. Invitations to selected special events
4. Exclusive offers and pre-sale booking opportunities
5. Enjoy benefits provided by our partner businesses\*:
  - 10 per cent off the cost of pre-show meals at the Beletti Restaurant Café Bar
  - 10 per cent off the bill at The Public's Corner (one ticket per table; no split bills)
  - 10 per cent of the bill at Ettamo Eatery
  - 15 per cent off the cost of accommodation at Quest Dandenong Central (promocode required)
  - 10 per cent off best accommodation price at Holiday Inn Dandenong
  - 5 per cent off food and beverage at Holiday Inn Dandenong

\* To redeem the benefits provided by our partner businesses, please book directly with the businesses. You will need to present your membership card or ticket for discount.

Non-member ticket holders are eligible for offers only on day of show on presentation of Drum ticket.



Beletti Restaurant  
Café Bar  
159-161 Lonsdale St  
Dandenong



The Public's  
Corner  
Shop 1, 225  
Lonsdale St  
Dandenong



Ettamo Eatery  
45 Walker St  
Dandenong



Quest Dandenong  
Central  
2-10 Walker St  
Dandenong



Holiday Inn  
50 McCrae St  
Dandenong

The Drum Theatre is a member of the two  
peak organisations for performing arts centres







Drum Theatre  
Corner Lonsdale and  
Walker streets, Dandenong  
03 8571 1666

**DRUM.GREATERDANDENONG.VIC.GOV.AU**

