

SYDFEST2
6-26 JANUARY PREVIEW

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LIMELIGHT

CONTRIBUTORS

CloudWave

RDA Research

Safety Culture

#### WITH SINCERE THANKS TO PRINCIPAL PHILANTHROPIC PARTNER PETER FREEDMAN AM AND OUR PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORTERS

#### ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS



Sydney Festival is registered as a COVID Safe business with the NSW Government We have a COVID-19 Safety Plan and are committed to keeping you safe.

For further information about our COVID-19 safety measures and what's required of you, visit sydneyfestival.org.au/stay-covid-safe





#### WHAT A YEAR, SYDNEY! YOU DESERVE A FESTIVAL

With so much water under the bridge, you've earned the right to a COVID safe festival where you can enjoy your city. In 1977, when Sydney Festival began, Stephen Hall wrote, "we have conceived the Festival from the very beginning as a people's Festival", and in 2021 Sydney Festival is a gift to the people of Sydney, with 21 days of free events, performances, exhibitions and talks. COVID-19 has taught us to celebrate the best that Australia has to offer with our homegrown, internationally-acclaimed artists showing why they are considered among the best in the world.

We're building a huge new stage at Barangaroo Reserve called The Headland, where you can watch amazingly talented dancers, singers, musicians and acrobats perform with the Sydney Harbour Bridge as their backdrop.

Bring the family to over 20 free installations and exhibitions across the city, or give the whole family a treat and buy a ticket to the zall-ages entertainment we've organised for you.

We're breathing some life into the live music scene with our ALLOWED AND LOCAL program, designed to get you out of the house and enjoying live music in our bars and clubs.

Grab a ticket to see *H.M.S. Pinafore* with a twist or *Humans 2.0* by Circa – Australian companies who are flying high even when they are grounded.

In my first Festival message I reminded us about the 60,000+ years of history of this place, and in 2021 we continue to celebrate our Indigenous heritage with the Blak Out program, peppered through this lift-out. Don't miss *Sunshine Super Girl*, where we build a tennis court in Sydney Town Hall and celebrate the achievements of Evonne Goolagong.

There are over 140 events and experiences for you to enjoy this January at Sydney Festival – so get curious and discover the full program online.

Love

**Wesley Enoch Festival Director** 

FOR MORE INFO ON THE PROGRAM GO TO SYDNEYFESTIVAL.ORG.AU



## A NEW STAGE, A NEW EXPERIENCE

Sydney Festival embraces the outdoors this summer with a brand-new pop-up stage at Barangaroo Reserve featuring the program's biggest shows, set against the spectacular backdrop of the harbour.

Over 17 nights, see some of the finest music, dance and performance in the Sydney Festival program. There's *The [Uncertain] Four Seasons*, an inspiring interaction between Vivaldi, climate change data and the Sydney Symphony Orchestra; Bangarra Dance Theatre's landmark performance *Spirit: a retrospective 2021*; Paul Mac's soaring *The Rise and Fall of Saint George*; and boundary-pushing circus company Gravity & Other Myths' most ambitious show yet, *The Pulse*.

Inimitable vocal talents Paul Capsis and iOTA conjure ecstasy and madness in *RAPTURE*; and Katie Noonan's all-women rock band perform the Aussie classics of songwriter Don Walker in *Songs of Don*.

General admission tickets are just \$25 (plus booking fee) and secure a dedicated, COVID-safe spot, along with access to on-site bars and food trucks. Bring your friends, book as a group and enjoy a show together in the balmy summer dusk.

Closing the Festival on 25 January, much-loved overnight gathering *The Vigil* returns (with free admission, but registration is essential). Join us for an evening of reflection and performance, celebrating First Nations culture on Gadigal Country.



THE [UNCERTAIN]
FOUR SEASONS
SYDNEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA



THE RISE AND FALL OF SAINT GEORGE PAUL MAC, LACHLAN PHILPOTT AND PERFORMING LINES



SPIRIT: A RETROSPECTIVE 2021
BANGARRA DANCE THEATRE



THE VIGIL



SONGS OF DON

KATIE NOONAN, CHRISTINE ANU,
SUZE DEMARCHI, EMILY WURRAMARA
AND THE MUSIC OF DON WALKER



RAPTURE: A SONG CYCLE OF DESIRE AND ECSTASY, MURDER AND MAYHEM PAUL CAPSIS AND IOTA



THE PULSE
GRAVITY & OTHER MYTHS

# INSPIRING STORIES, CLOSE TO HOME

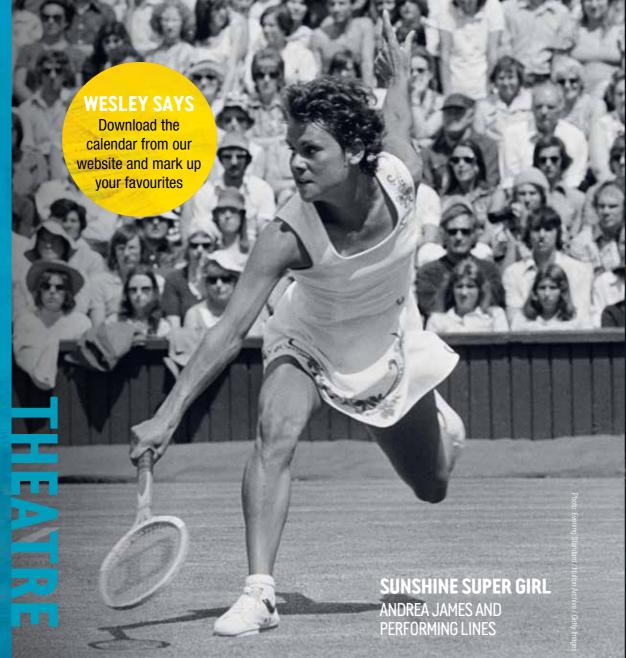
# CAPTIVATING AND SURPRISING THEATRE

Sydney Town Hall transforms into a tennis court for *Sunshine Super Girl*, a celebration of the remarkable life story of pioneering tennis legend Evonne Goolagong, told with signature dry Australian wit.

Take a crash-course in the thousand-year strong tradition of courtly Persian love poetry at Carriageworks with *Dorr-e Dari*; the language of love told through intimate stories and epic ballads from the streets of Kabul, Tehran and Quetta, revisited via Western Sydney.

The multitalented Jonny Hawkins (Dollar Bin Darlings, Sydney Festival 2019) flexes his theatrical muscles and pays homage to the wisdom and (often wild) life stories of older women in *Maureen: Harbinger of Death*, inspired by a real-life friend.

And KENNY, Australia's favourite sanitary engineer, arrives at the Ensemble Theatre to spread his unerringly optimistic and singular worldview in a hilarious adaptation of the hit film.





## THE POWER TO MOVE

# WONDROUS PHYSICAL THEATRE, DANCE AND CIRCUS

After a year of emotionally circling the void, exorcise your body with performances at Carriageworks that push human physicality to the extreme.

Dance theatre powerhouse Force Majeure (*You Animal, You*, Sydney Festival 2018) brings together stage veterans Paul Capsis, Olwen Fouéré and Pamela Rabe with an ensemble of young performers for *The Last Season*.

Clowning goes cannibalistic in Mitch Jones' (*Model Citizens*, Sydney Festival 2018) darkly comic exploration of society's obsession with over-consumption in *AutoCannibal*.

Award-winning contemporary circus company Circa returns to Sydney Festival with their most ambitious show yet, *Humans 2.0* – celebrating the strength and power of humanity with virtuosic displays of jaw-dropping acrobatics.

Innovators in the realm of visual and physical theatre, Erth, will take you on a puppetry-based guided tour in *Duba* – an eco-immersive experience, featuring vulnerable animals on the verge of extinction.

And take a stroll through Parramatta Park to discover *In Situ*, a collection of site-specific dance works responding to local stories with Dance Makers Collective (*The Rivoli*, Sydney Festival 2020).



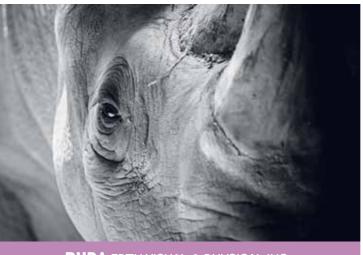
MAUREEN:
HARBINGER OF DEATH
JONNY HAWKINS AND NELL RANNEY



**KENNY**ENSEMBLE THEATRE



DORR-E DARI: A POETIC CRASH COURSE IN THE LANGUAGE OF LOVE PYT FAIRFIELD





IN SITU DANCE MAKERS CULLECTIVE



**AUTOCANNIBAL** MITCH JONES



POEM FOR A DRIED UP RIVER SYDNEY CHAMBER OPERA



MUSICAL MICROPARKS
ENSEMBLE OFFSPRING



12 HANDS 6 GRANDS
SYDNEY INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION



UNIVERSAL WOMAN AUSTRALIAN BRANDENBURG ORCHESTRA



# OLD AND NEW SOUNDS COLLIDE

## OPERA AND CLASSICAL MUSIC EXPERIENCES

Experience six of Australia's best pianists playing six grand pianos, all performing a virtuosic kaleidoscope of music in the visually and acoustically stunning Sydney Town Hall Vestibule.

Sydney Chamber Opera explores tales of doomed lovers and illicit desires in *Future Remains*, bringing to the stage beloved Czech composer Leoš Janáček's *The Diary of One Who Disappeared* (in its Australian stage premiere) and the world premiere of Huw Belling's *Fumeblind Oracle*, with libretto by Pierce Wilcox.

Sydney Chamber Choir explore the changes of the season in *Cycles*, an uplifting celebration of life.

The Australian Brandenburg Orchestra's Universal Woman brings to life the Medieval sacred music of German composer, naturalist, philosopher, poet and mystic visionary Hildegard von Bingen.

Spinetingling soprano Jane Sheldon and the Sydney Chamber Opera breathe sound and movement into Alice Oswald's exquisite lament poem for a dried up river.

And Sydney Festival regulars Ensemble Offspring join forces with artists from Somalia, China and Australia for *Musical Microparks*, a pop-up music and performance walking tour of Erskineville that will transform the way you listen to the inner city.

## SEYMOUR, **HEAR MORE**

#### A MAGNIFICENT MUSIC PROGRAM AT THE SEYMOUR CENTRE

Sydney Festival takes over the Seymour Centre in Chippendale with a program of Australian made music – ranging from genre-defying, original works to old favourites performed in new ways.

Australian musical theatre icon Philip Quast regales the audience with songs and stories from his stellar career treading the boards in *Philip Quast: Is This All Then?*, and classic musicals are given a contemporary twist in *Rewired: Musicals* Reimagined by Hayes. Afternoon Tea at Six sees Hamed Sadeghi's Eishan Ensemble fuse Persian classical music with Western jazz and improvisation, featuring the spinetingling vocals of Dharawal woman, Sonya Holowell.

Jazz figurehead Jeremy Rose and the Earshift Orchestra explore the ecstatic power of drums in *Disruption! The Voice of Drums*. And didgeridoo virtuoso William Barton returns to Sydney Festival with powerhouse violinist Véronique Serret for *Heartland*, blending traditional songlines and modern storytelling in a collaboration featuring the poetry of Aunty Delmae Barton.





SEE CO.



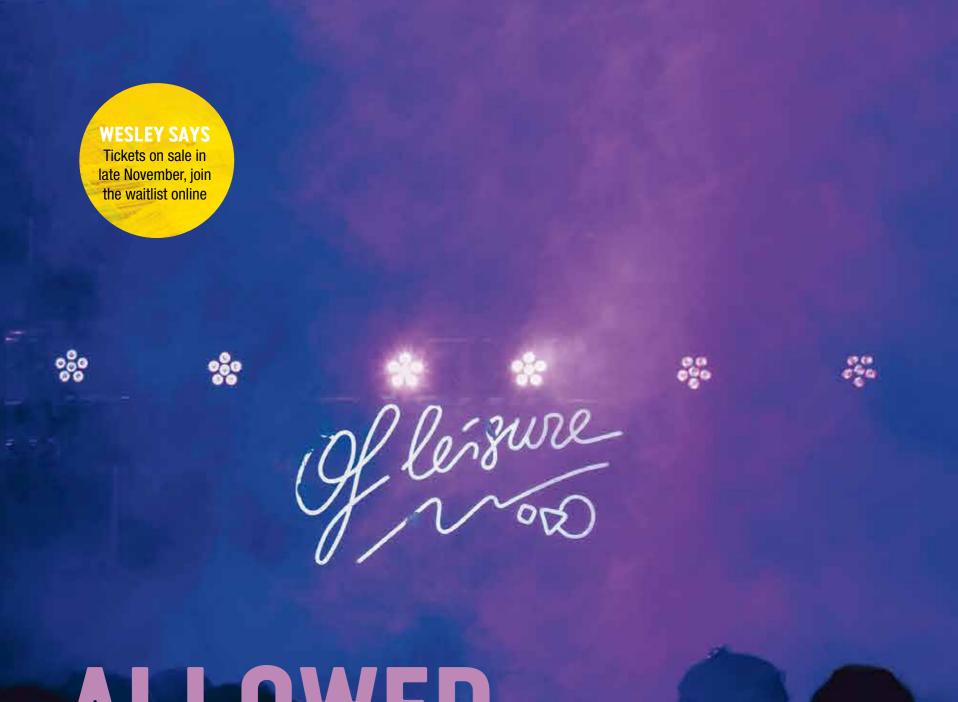


**HEDWIG AND THE ANGRY INCH HUGH SHERIDAN** 

**AFTERNOON TEA AT SIX** EISHAN ENSEMBLE AND SONYA HOLOWELL **REWIRED: MUSICALS REIMAGINED BY HAYES** HAYES THEATRE CO.

**DISRUPTION! THE VOICE OF DRUMS** JEREMY ROSE AND THE EARSHIFT ORCHESTRA FEATURING SIMON BARKER AND CHLOE KIM





# ALLOWED AND LOCAL

LIVE MUSIC IN LOCAL VENUES

In 2021 Sydney Festival invites audiences back into the fold, to share in the joy of live music.

It's been far too long since we've revisited the universal experience of swaying to a band with a drink in hand – it's time to say goodbye to 2020 and kick out the jams for 2021.

Our proud history of showcasing Australian talent continues with a diverse and vibrant program featuring iconic Sydney bands, solo artists, DJs and local record label

Of Leisure and Dot Dash, curated with the Sydney Fringe.

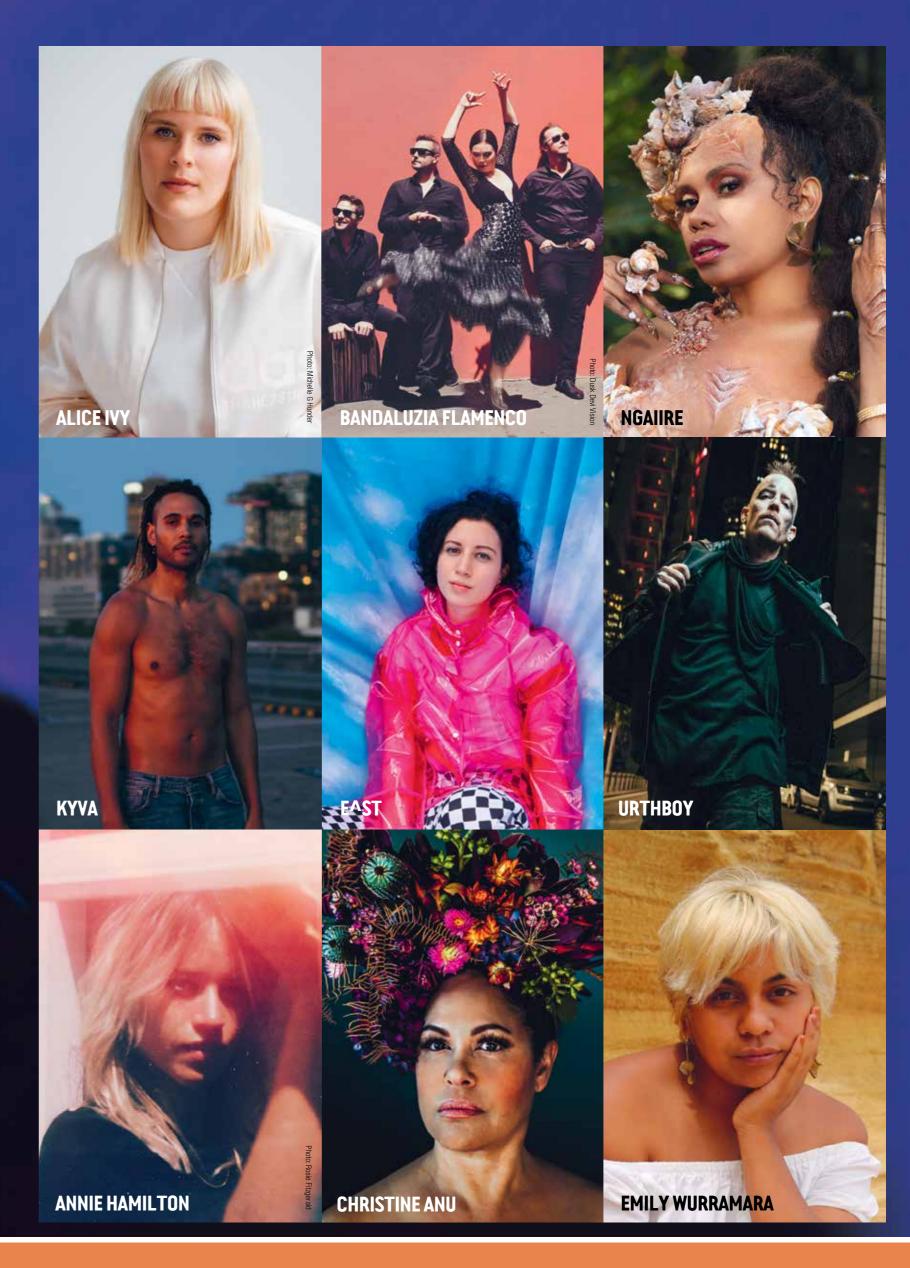
The storied Inner West homegrounds of Sydney's alt-rock and indie scenes returns with gigs at The Lansdowne, the Factory Theatre, Tokyo Sing Song, The Vanguard

Surry Hills and Darlinghurst are also throwing open their doors for live shows at Low 302 and the Eternity Playhouse, including nightly cabaret spectaculars and the effortlessly beautiful music takeovers from Dew Process, Astral People, of ARIA-nominated singer-songwriter

and Warnindhilyagwa woman Emily Wurramara.

Parramatta also hosts a weekend of gigs at Club Parramatta, Milky Lane, Butter, The Albion Hotel, Riverside Theatres and The Crown.

The full program of ALLOWED AND LOCAL artists and venues will be announced in late November. Subscribe to Sydney Festival's newsletter to be notified when tickets are on sale at sydneyfestival.org.au/subscribe



## **RECONNECT** WITH THE CITY

#### VISUAL ART THAT INSPIRES, **PROVOKES AND UNITES**

Revisit the experience of losing yourself in visual art exhibitions across the city. Groundswell is a free, interactive artwork for all ages at Circular Quay, where each step you take sets off sounds and vibrations, and the earth literally moves under your feet.

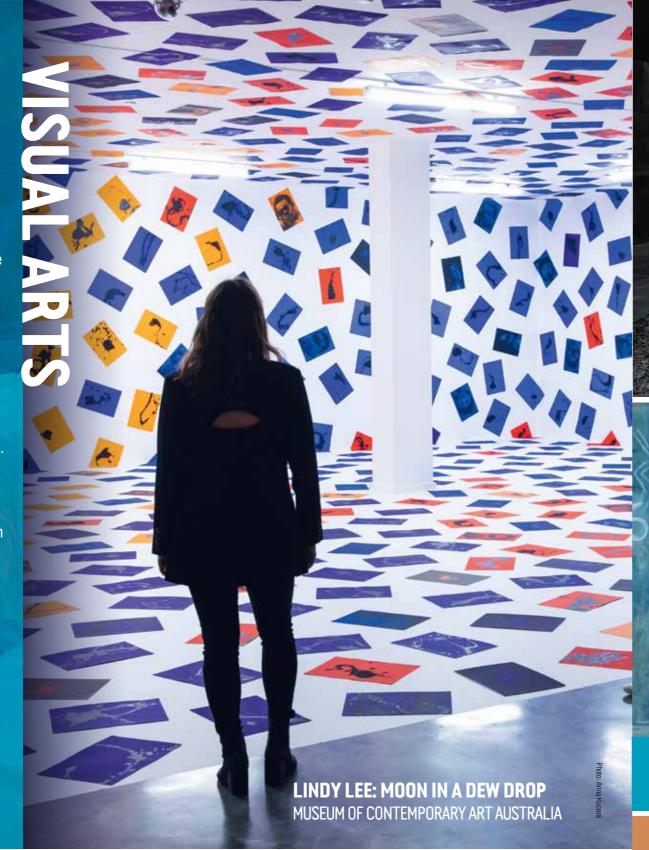
The Art Gallery of NSW is supercharging its blockbuster Archibald exhibition with Archie Plus: Portraits of Now, a free program of art, music, performance and dance.

The Museum of Contemporary Art hosts the largest survey of work to date by Lindy Lee, one of Australia's foremost contemporary artists.

Artspace in Woolloomooloo continues its provocative 52 ACTIONS project, commissioning Australian artists to create and document an action responding to current events – one action for each week of the year.

Space YZ at Campbelltown Arts Centre pays tribute to the extraordinary visual arts legacy of Western Sydney University's former art school, featuring early work by acclaimed names including Brook Andrew, Liam Benson, Justene Williams and many others.

At UNSW Galleries, The Colour Line juxtaposes artworks documenting racism and the Black experience in the United States and Australia. 120-year-old drawings and maps by African American scholar and activist W.E.B. Du Bois are presented alongside new work from Brisbane-based Kamilaroi artist Archie Moore.









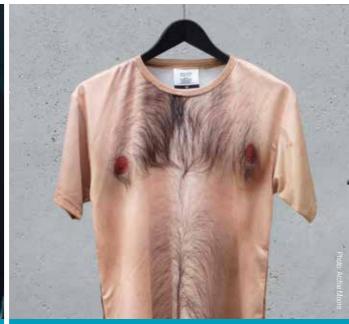
**MEGAN COPE: FRACTURES** 

**AND FREQUENCIES** 

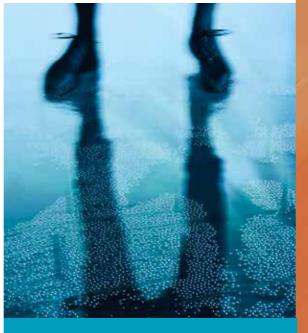
**UNSW GALLERIES** 



**SPACE YZ CAMPBELLTOWN ARTS CENTRE** 



ARCHIE MOORE: THE COLOUR LINE **UNSW GALLERIES** 



**GROUNDSWELL** MATTHIAS SCHACK-ARNOTT

## **ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER VISUAL ARTS**

CARRIAGEWORKS

Sydney Festival's Blak Out program returns to celebrate First Nations artists with a line-up that includes *Mariw* Minaral (Spiritual Patterns) at the Australian National
Maritime Museum, a stunning retrospective of cultural and environmental works by Alick Tipoti – arguably Zenadth Kes (Torres Strait Islands) most important artist of his generation. While you're at the Maritime Museum, also see *Defying* Empire: The 3rd National Indigenous Art Triennial, from the National Gallery of Australia – a showcase of work by 30 contemporary Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists. And multimedia artists Carol McGregor and Judy Watson illuminate the continuing strength of Indigenous culture using historical material and narratives, in a new exhibition at Artspace.



MARIW MINARAL (SPIRITUAL PATTERNS) AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM

## **BEST IN THE WEST**

A WORLD-CLASS SELECTION OF THEATRE, MUSIC, DANCE AND ART

The Festival is ready to set your pulse racing with theatre and dance from Sydney's multicultural, geographic heart.

Director Kate Gaul delivers a gender-bending, hyper-theatrical and kinky take on the Gilbert and Sullivan musical theatre classic *H.M.S. Pinafore* at Riverside Theatre. Hot on the heels of last year's *Lady Tabouli*, Western Sydney writer James Elazzi returns with the heartwarming comedy *Queen Fatima*.

At Casula Powerhouse, don't miss Toby Martin (Youth Group) and singer-actor Dang Lan's enthralling project that melds Vietnamese and Western musical traditions in TìNH KHÚC Từ QUÊ HƯƠNG / Songs From Home.

And Campbelltown Arts Centre hosts two exciting new dance works: Bangarra Dance Theatre star Jasmin Sheppard's exploration of identity, *The Complication of Lyrebirds*; and Sydney-based dancer and choreographer Rhiannon Newton's new work *Explicit Contents*, developing movements that traverse the fleshy boundaries of bodies.

Plus perennial Festival favourite *Sydney Symphony Under the Stars* returns to The Crescent in Parramatta Park with an epic evening of orchestral classics in the balmy summer night – a free event, but registration is essential. Be sure to go to the website and register to avoid disappointment.





TÌNH KHÚC TỪ QUÊ HƯƠNG: SONGS FROM HOME DANG LAN AND TOBY MARTIN



THE COMPLICATION OF LYREBIRDS JASMIN SHEPPARD



**QUEEN FATIMA** RIVERSIDE'S NATIONAL THEATRE OF PARRAMATTA

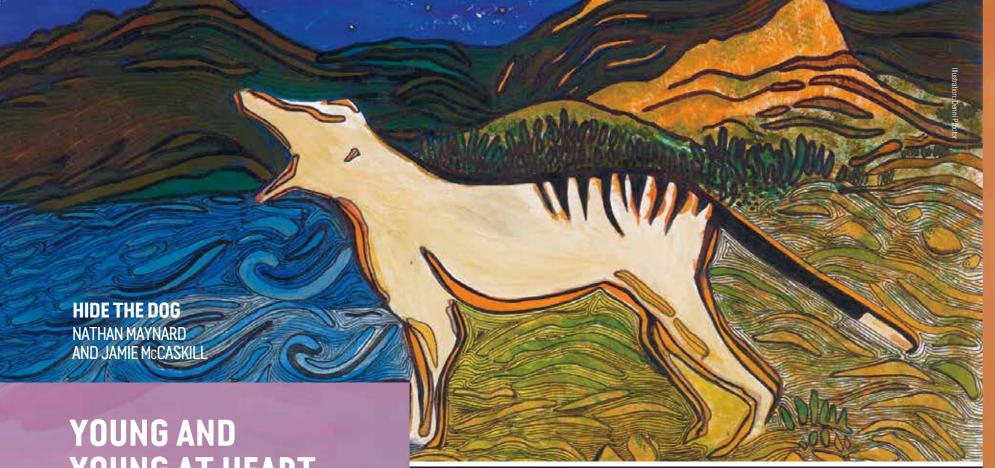


THE CLEANERS
SHOCK THERAPY PRODUCTIONS



**TRUE WEST**RIVERSIDE'S NATIONAL THEATRE OF PARRAMATTA





# **YOUNG AT HEART**

#### **EXPERIENCES FOR FAMILIES**

Do you have tiny humans to entertain? At the Seymour Centre, and recommended for ages 8 and up, *Hide the Dog* is a magical trans-Tasman adventure, with two best friends setting sail for Aotearoa with an unexpected new crewmate – the world's last Tasmanian tiger.

Wiradjuri dancer, choreographer and teacher
Jo Clancy delights young audiences with songs,
puppetry and stories about caring for Country; and audiences of every age will love A Bee Story, a unique physical theatre show about a Queen Bee and a Worker Bee forced to work together to rebuild their bushfire damaged hive

And the Maritime Museum's A Mile In My Shoes is a unique storytelling experience that invites visitors to walk in someone else's shoes – literally – and listen to an audio recording of their story.



**UNDER THE MADHAN** JO CLANCY

**HIVE MIND** DEAD PUPPET SOCIETY AND SYDNEY LIVING MUSEUMS



A MILE IN MY SHOES AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM N COLLABORATION WITH EMPATHY MUSEUM

### **SYDFEST AT HOME**

#### ONLINE FOR THE FIRST TIME

Our digital program brings live performance and culture to the comfort of your living room's screen (no Zoom meetings allowed). There'll be livestreams, podcasts, a virtual dance party and *Pleasuredome*, an ambitious interactive art project by Griffin Theatre Company that needs your help to rebuild the internet from a cesspit into a utopian

Share in the joy and excitement of the mainstage performances at Barangaroo Reserve with a selection of livestreamed shows. And if you're itching to throw some shapes, Sydney Dance Company's I Want to Dance with Somebody is the virtual community dance party you've been waiting for, wherever you are.

Subscribe to Sydney Festival's newsletter to be first to know when these programs commence online at sydneyfestival.org.au/subscribe





# **SHARE THE LOVE #SYDFEST**



**SydneyFestival** 



**SydneyFestival** 



@sydney\_festival



@sydney\_festival

#### **TICKETS**

For all pricing details, info and to book please visit sydneyfestival.org.au

Tickets available from **9AM THURSDAY 12 NOVEMBER AEDT** 

#### CONCESSIONS

Concession tickets are available for full-time students, pensioners, Seniors Card holders, children 16 years and under and the unemployed.

Proof of concession must be produced at events to obtain the concession or child price.

Concessions are only available where indicated and may be subject to availability. For full ticketing terms and conditions, visit sydneyfestival.org.au/tandc



## **ACCESS AND INCLUSION**

We welcome all visitors to Sydney Festival events and make every effort to ensure the program is accessible to our whole audience. For all the up-to-date details on the Festival's access program, precincts, venues and built environments and for information on shows including duration times visit sydneyfestival.org.au/access

#### **CONTACT US**

For disability access information and assistance, email access@sydneyfestival.org.au, or call us on 02 8248 6500. Sydney Festival is happy to receive calls via the National Relay Service

We would like to thank the members of the Sydney Festival Access and Inclusion Advisory Panel for their expert advice and advocacy:

Coral Arnold, Morwenna Collett, Riana Head-Toussaint, Julie Jones, Greg Killeen, Vanessa Lucas, Naomi Malone, Liz Martin, Paul Nunnari.



#### **WHERE TO STAY**

Complete your Festival experience with a stay at one of our glamourous partner hotels, whether you're visiting Sydney or treating yourself to the ultimate staycation.



**Mantra 2 Bond Street** 



**Mantra on Kent** 

## **GETTING THERE**

#### **WILSON PARKING**

Receive 10% off Wilson Parking when you pre-book your parking online with promo code SYDNEY21. Only available at selected car parks in the Sydney CBD. Visit **bookabay.com.au** 

#### **PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

We encourage you to use public transport when travelling to and from Festival events. For public transport information visit transportnsw.info or call 131 500.

#### **FESTIVAL FEASTS**

Worked up an appetite after a full day at the Festival? We've partnered with some of Sydney's top restaurants to bring you delicious options near our venues.

There are \$30, \$55 and à la carte (ALC) menus, all sure to banish your hunger this Festival season. Ask for Festival Feasts and head to sydneyfestival.org.au/ff to see what's



**BEA AT BARANGAROO HOUSE** Level 1, 35 Barangaroo Avenue Barangaroo 02 8587 5400







**BARANGAROO HOUSE BAR** 

35 Barangaroo Avenue

**CAFE SYDNEY** Level 5, Customs House, 31 Alfred Street



**CHEFS GALLERY PARRAMATTA** Shop 2184, 159-175 Church Stree



CHEFS GALLERY TOWN HALL Shop 12, Regent Place Shopping Centre 501 George Street, Sydney



**CHI BY LOTUS** Shop 2, 100 Barangaroo Avenue



**ESQUIRE AT THE QVB** Level 2, Queen Victoria Building 455 George Street Sydney (Market Street entrance)



**LOTUS THE GALERIES** 



MISFITS



**REIGN AT THE QVB** Level 1, Queen Victoria Building 455 George Street, Sydney (Druitt Street entrance) 02 8023 7608



THE DINING ROOM, PARK HYATT SYDNEY



THE GANTRY

#### **FACES OF SYDNEY**

Since 2017, Sydney Festival's artwork has focused on the faces of the Festival: the artists, the volunteers, the people behind the scenes, and the fans in the seats at the shows. For 2021, our artwork pays tribute to First Nations people who have been an integral part of the unfolding story of Sydney Festival during Wesley Enoch's tenure as Festival Director. Four portraits were created by artist Thea Anamara Perkins, an Arrernte and Kalkadoon woman whose work *Poppy Chicka* was a finalist in this year's Archibald Prize.

Read about the 2021 Faces of Sydney Festival at sydneyfestival.org.au/facesofsydfest



