



MERRI

GONG

THEATRE

SEASON 2022

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Our company's name, 'Merrigong', reflects the Dharawal word for the Illawarra region's distinctive escarpment, a landmark of supreme cultural importance. This name serves as a constant reminder that our venues rest on unceded First Nations land.

In all that we do, Merrigong Theatre Company seeks to acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, and to show respect to all First Nations people who call our region home.

### **It's on, no it's off, wait... it's definitely on (for now...)**

In the last two years we've all learnt to live with a high level of uncertainty - not knowing when we will be able to see our loved ones, or do the things we love, including theatregoing. No amount of livestreaming or Netflix-watching can substitute for the thrill of actually being in a theatre with performers and an audience. For our business, and particularly the artists, creatives and crew who work on the front line of live events, this uncertainty has been devastating. As an industry, we may not know the true cost for some years. But for now, with the extraordinary commitment to safety that our community has shown in getting vaccinated, we are quietly confident that Season 2022 will not be significantly disrupted by lockdowns or cancellations.



L-R: Penny Waits (Program Manager),  
Leland Kean (Artistic Development Manager)  
and Simon Hinton (Artistic Director / CEO)

## **We face the beginning of a new season with hope.**

We've worked hard to curate this season around all the uncertainty of these times, and you'll notice a few things that are a little different as a result. But for all the difficulties of this period, there are also some emerging triumphs. Artists are a resilient bunch, and many have used this time to create and develop extraordinary new work. Our Season features the first wave of some of this great new theatre, like Drew Fairley's devastatingly funny and personal *As Luck Would Have It*, inspired by being stuck on a cruise ship in the early days of the pandemic; and the extraordinary sound and light installation *Blindness*, from London's legendary Donmar Warehouse, their creative response to safely re-engaging audiences as theatres began to reopen there; and with the phrase "open-air theatre" never sounding more inviting, we begin what we hope to make an annual tradition - our first Shakespeare in the Garden offers a summer evening of theatre under the stars, with *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in the magical Wollongong Botanic Garden.

One of the unexpected blessings of these difficult times has been Merrigong's ability (through additional funding and the incredible generosity of our donors) to provide even greater support to artists making new work. So while we may not have been able to invite you to see it, our MERRIGONGX Artists' Program has been in full swing, with artists developing work behind closed doors. Much of that work is now ready for an audience, so you'll notice that this year we have more Merrigong-produced work than ever in the Mainstage Season, and for the first time, Season Ticket Holders can include shows from our MERRIGONGX Season in their Season Ticket packages. With our commitment to the independent artists whose shows were cancelled last year, as well as some fantastic new projects, there are seven incredible new works to choose from in our MERRIGONGX offering.

We start with a bang, when (thanks to Federal Government RISE funding) Spiegeltent Wollongong returns in March, and we open both the Merrigong Season and the Spiegeltent with *Circa's Peepshow*.

We can't wait to share all this incredible theatre and more with you in 2022.

**Simon, Penny and Leland.**

# GET MORE WITH



## **Brilliant Value**

Season Tickets come with a hefty discount on single ticket prices. Plus, the more shows you select, the bigger your savings!



## **The Best Seats**

While there isn't a bad seat in the house, becoming a Season Ticket Holder means you get access to your pick of the bunch. Book early for the best selection.



## **Real Flexibility**

Life happens, so we offer Season Ticket Holders one free ticket exchange for every show in their package. This can be for any available Season 2022 performance. (Where prices vary, the difference will be charged.) Please contact us at least one working day before your booked performance.



# A SEASON TICKET!



## Share with Family and Friends

Treat your loved ones by purchasing unlimited single tickets at discounted prices when you add them to your Season Ticket. You'll be seated together and win their adoration.



## Food and Drink Discount

Get rewarded every time you visit with 10% off your bill at The Social café and bar. (Excludes vouchers, pre-booked packages and other discounted offers). Please show your Loyalty Card when you order.



## Pay Half Now, Half Later

If paying by credit card, you can choose to pay half upfront, and the remainder on or close to Thu 7 Apr, 2022.



## NEED A HAND?

Our friendly Box Office staff are available Monday to Friday from 10am – 4pm.

Visit us in person at  
32 Burelli St, Wollongong NSW 2500

Email: [boxoffice@merrigong.com.au](mailto:boxoffice@merrigong.com.au)

Phone: 02 4224 5999

[www.merrigong.com.au/season2022](http://www.merrigong.com.au/season2022)



**“One of the most entertaining,  
unbelievable things you will ever see.”**

THE REVIEWS HUB (UK)

## Step inside. Prepare to be seen. Spiegelent Wollongong is ON!

A Circa Contemporary Circus production

# CIRCA'S PEEPSHOW

Created by **Yaron Lifschitz** with **Libby McDonnell** and the **Circa Ensemble**

The captivating magic of Spiegelent Wollongong is back in full force! And, for one of three headline shows in the tent in 2022, we're bringing back Australia's masters of ground-breaking circus. Enticing, playful, and surprising, plunge into a world of fun and temptation as the incomparable Circa exposes your deepest desires.

Turning cabaret on its head, literally, join Circa as they embark on a seductive dance through your imagination, lurching from the thrillingly acrobatic to the comically playful. Expect teetering towers of balanced bodies, extreme bending, beguiling burlesque, and devilishly precarious aerials.

Under the direction of circus visionary Yaron Lifschitz, *Circa's Peepshow* features some of the finest acrobatic talent on the planet creating an exhilarating ride into the beautifully bizarre recesses of your mind.

Director **Yaron Lifschitz**

Associate Director and Costume Designer

**Libby McDonnell**

Technical Director and Co-lighting Designer

**Jason Organ**

Co-lighting Designer **Richard Clarke**

Original Music by **Ori Lichtik**

**9 – 12 MAR**

SPIEGELTENT WOLLONGONG

\$62 – \$84

**Approx. 1 hr 40 mins.** (incl. interval)

**Post-show Q&A** Thu 10 Mar, 6pm

**RECOMMENDED FOR Ages 12 +**

Contains adult themes.

Photo by Pedro Greig

**CIRCA** **THE Spiegelent**  
WOLLONGONG

**MAINSTAGE**  
SEASON



**"Astonishingly original...  
No praise could be too high."**

The Australian



Enter the world of Charles Darwin, shimmering with wonder and the excitement of discovery.

A Dead Puppet Society, Trish Wadley Productions and Glass Half Full Productions production

# THE WIDER EARTH

By **David Morton**

Following acclaimed seasons at London's Natural History Museum and Sydney Festival, Brisbane's Dead Puppet Society bring us this exceptional production, nominated for both Olivier and Helpmann Awards. Remarkable life-size puppets, cinematic projections and an evocative original score by Lior and Tony Buchen combine to retell the story of 22-year old scientific visionary Charles Darwin and his 5-year voyage on the HMS Beagle.

From the tiniest longhorn beetle to the majestic southern right whale and the ancient Galapagos tortoise – *The Wider Earth* brings to life creatures great and small, as we experience Darwin's life-altering journey through the depths of the Amazon rainforest, the dizzying heights of the Andes, and the wonders of the Galapagos Islands.

Take a journey alongside the curious young naturalist in this visually stunning coming-of-age story about science, faith and a questioning heart.

Director and Co-Designer **David Morton**

Creative Producer **Nicholas Paine**

Associate Director **Matt Seery**

Co-Designer **Aaron Barton**

Composers **Lior and Tony Buchen**

Sound Designer **Tony Brumpton**

Projection Designer **Justin Harrison**

Lighting Designer **Lee Curran**

Dramaturg **Louise Gough**

**16 – 19 MAR**

IMB THEATRE

\$62 – \$84

**Approx. 2 hrs.** (incl. interval)

**Post-show Q&A** Thu 17 Mar, 11am & 6.30pm

**Talking Point** Sat 19 Mar,

15 mins after the matinee


**Audio Description/Captioning**

Sat 19 Mar, 1.30pm

**Tactile Tour** Sat 19 Mar, 12pm

**RECOMMENDED FOR Ages 10 +**

Contains strobe lighting.

A group of people are seated in a dark room, each wearing large headphones. They are surrounded by numerous red, glowing light bars that hang from the ceiling at various angles. In the background, a wall is covered in graffiti, with the words "LET YOU CAN SEE LOOK" and "IF YOU CAN LOOK, DON'T VE" visible. The overall atmosphere is artistic and immersive.

**"An exhilarating testament  
to the power and necessity of art...  
unique and unforgettable."**

Metro (UK)

# Direct from London – an epic theatre experience, featuring the voice of Juliet Stevenson.

A Donmar Warehouse production, presented by arrangement with Arts Projects Australia

# BLINDNESS

Based on the novel by **José Saramago**

Adapted by **Simon Stephens**

Director **Walter Meierjohann**

Told almost entirely through sound, *Blindness* is an unforgettable theatrical thriller based on Nobel Prize-winner José Saramago's dystopian novel.

As the lights change at a junction in a big city, a car remains motionless, its driver unable to go on. Suddenly, without warning or cause, he has lost his sight. It soon becomes clear that this is a blindness like no other, infecting all who come into proximity with it. Within days, it has spread. The city is in panic.

In this artistically and technologically pioneering sound and light installation, the audience listen on headphones as the gripping story of a formerly unimaginable global pandemic – and its profoundly hopeful conclusion – unfolds through an immersive sound design using binaural technology by Ben and Max Ringham.

Adapted by Olivier Award-winning playwright Simon Stephens, *Blindness* features the extraordinary vocal talent of UK stage and screen star Juliet Stevenson. Produced by London's legendary Donmar Warehouse, this chilling, critically acclaimed production comes to Wollongong after hugely successful seasons in New York and London. Intimate, with a strictly limited capacity, book early to avoid disappointment.

Sound Designers **Ben** and **Max Ringham**

Designer **Lizzie Clachan**

Lighting Designer **Jessica Hung Han Yun**

Production Consultant

**Professor Hannah Thompson**

Resident Assistant Director **Sara Aniqah Malik**

With the voice of **Juliet Stevenson**

**11 – 15 MAY**

IMB THEATRE STAGE

\$49 - \$59

**Approx. 1 hr 10 mins.** (no interval)

**Talking Point** Sat 14 May,

15 mins after the 2pm performance

**RECOMMENDED FOR Ages 15 +**

Contains strong adult content  
and strobe lighting.

**“Lush and evocative,  
tantalising all the senses.”**

Limelight Magazine



## A mouth-watering night of great food and storytelling.

A Contemporary Asian Australian Performance production

# DOUBLE DELICIOUS

Combining food and theatre, five storyteller-cooks reveal the secrets of dishes that are significant in their lives, in this truly immersive and delicious theatrical experience for the senses!

The flavours and aromas of our favourite foods wind their way through the deepest recesses of our being, and even the thought of a particular meal can transport us back to a pivotal moment.

Storytellers including Benjamin Law, Heather Jeong, Valerie Berry and Raghav Handa channel this connection as they recreate their favourite dishes and reveal intimate glimpses into their lives. These are salty, sweet, sour and bitter stories from the heart, infused with memory and lived experience. Best of all, at the end of each story the audience tastes the dish, completing the experience of the story just revealed.

This critically acclaimed and heartwarming experience is set to tantalise all of the senses.

*Tickets include a small sample of each of the five dishes cooked.*

Original Director **Darren Yap**

Concept and Dramaturg **Annette Shun Wah**

Storytellers **Heather Jeong, Valerie Berry, Raghav Handa, Benjamin Law**

Set and Costume Design

**Leocampo Yuen Hon-Wai**

Lighting and Projection Design **Verity Hampson**

Composition and Sound Design **Nicholas Ng**

**8 – 11 JUN**

WOLLONGONG TOWN HALL

\$75 – \$95

**Approx. 1 hr 40 mins.** (no interval)

**Talking Point** Sat 11 Jun, 3.15pm

**RECOMMENDED FOR Ages 12 +**

Contains strong language.

The dishes served may include meat, gluten, preservatives, egg, garlic.



**“Fairley’s videos attracted viewers from across the world. His sardonic humor and enthusiasm were the recipe for a hit.”**

CNN (For #actualcabinactualfever)



# A musical comedy of perils from the insurgent abyss (dark, but with live bingo!)

A Merrigong Theatre Company production

# AS LUCK WOULD HAVE IT

By **Drew Fairley**

*As Luck Would Have It* begins as a piece of stand-up comedy observing the clash between land logic and cruise ship logic, but slides into an absurdist story of life and death, as one man navigates a perilous psychological journey accompanied only by the moon, an endless ocean, and his own demons.

On a mild day in March, a broken showman steps aboard a luxury cruise ship. For work. Just a little gig to pay the bills, maybe decompress a little, dust off his Hawaiian shirts, cuddle a few martinis, that kind of thing. The next day, a worldwide pandemic is declared. The ship is exiled into the middle of the Pacific Ocean with nothing but empty ballrooms for him to crack his jokes in. Trapped on the empty liner, he longs to escape, but the ocean has other plans...

Commissioned by Merrigong, *As Luck Would Have It* is inspired by playwright and actor Drew Fairley's experiences being marooned on a cruise ship during the early months of the pandemic. It's the odyssey of a man drumming up mirth while he grips onto the edge of a funnel that threatens to plunge him into the abyss. With songs!

In turns hilarious and devastating, this extraordinary new work leans into the absurdity of survival whilst sliding to the edge of reason.

Director **Leland Kean**

Production Design **Katja Handt**

Composer **Drew Fairley**

Musical Director **Daryl Wallis**

Cast includes **Drew Fairley**



**27 JUL – 6 AUG**

BRUCE GORDON THEATRE

\$39 – \$59

**Approx. 2 hrs.** (incl. interval)

**Post-show Q&A** Thu 4 Aug, 6.30pm

**Talking Point** Sat 6 Aug,  
15 mins after the matinee

**Audio Description** Sat 6 Aug, 1.30pm

**Tactile Tour** Sat 6 Aug, 12pm

**RECOMMENDED FOR Ages 13 +**

Contains strong language and adult themes.

Drew Fairley. Photo by Paul Henderson-Kelly

**“Enduring change happens  
one step at a time.”**

Ruth Bader Ginsberg





# The story of Ruth Bader Ginsberg. One woman who fought for the rights of many.

A Sydney Theatre Company production

# RBG: OF MANY, ONE

By **Suzie Miller**

This is the story of one woman who changed the face of the American legal system.

Spanning her life from teenage years to her death in 2020, *RBG: Of Many, One* brings Ruth Bader Ginsberg's fascinating life vividly to the stage. The second woman to be appointed to the US Supreme Court, Ruth Bader Ginsberg was both a trailblazer in the American legal system and a fierce advocate for gender equality and reproductive rights. *RBG: Of Many, One* chronicles her wins and dissents; the steps forward, the steps back. It reveals a woman of intellect, courage, determination and feeling; the personal behind the political.

Award-winning Australian playwright and lawyer, Suzie Miller, continues her interrogation of complex human stories and injustice with this vibrant theatrical portrait of one of the iconic leaders of our time.

The luminous Heather Mitchell brings us Ruth at key moments of her life, celebrating the legacy and the tenacity of this incredible woman in a world premiere production from Sydney Theatre Company.

Director **Priscilla Jackman**

Designer **David Fleischer**

Cast **Heather Mitchell**

**24 – 27 AUG**

IMB THEATRE

\$62 – \$84

**Approx. 1 hr 30 mins.** (no interval)

**Post-show Q&A** Thu 25 Aug, 6.30pm

**Talking Point** Sat 27 Aug,  
15 mins after the matinee

**Audio Description/Captioning**  
Sat 27 Aug, 1.30pm

**Tactile Tour** Sat 27 Aug, 12pm

**RECOMMENDED FOR Ages 14 +**

**SYDNEY  
THEATRE  
CO**

**MAINSTAGE  
SEASON**



**“Medals aren’t meant to be worn on the shirt; they are to be worn on the soul.”**

Gino Bartali

**Life is short, and the Tour de France is long.**

Brink Productions in association with Merrigong Theatre Company

# SYMPHONIE DE LA BICYCLETTE

By **Hew Parham**

A funny, heartfelt one-man show about cycling and obsession, envy and ambition, winning and losing, and finding the inner grit to dominate the mountain stages of life.

Hew is a passionate wannabe cyclist. But Hew is in a malaise. Stuck in a relationship with his exercise bike and going nowhere, he has long harboured a pathological envy of his more successful high school friend, now professional cyclist, Jake.

Told in parallel with our hero's tale is the story of the great Gino Bartali (1914 - 2000), winner of the Tour de France in 1938 and 1948, who, in WWII, risked his life to save Jewish lives in Northern Italy by secretly transporting documents in his bicycle.

In *Symphonie de la Bicyclette* these stories combine to create an absurdly hysterical yet ultimately moving portrait of the quest for glory and heroism.

The world premiere of this new theatre piece celebrating our obsession with life on two wheels has been specially programmed as part of the festivities surrounding the UCI Road World Championships Wollongong 2022.

Writer and performer **Hew Parham**

Director **Chris Drummond**

Composer and Sound Designer **Will Spatalis**

Set, Costume and Lighting Designer **Wendy Todd**

Associate Lighting Designer and Technical Operator  
**Aaron Herczeg**

Production Manager **Lachlan Turner**

**21 – 24 SEP**

BRUCE GORDON THEATRE

\$39 – \$59

**Approx. 1 hr 30 mins.** (no interval)

**Post-show Q&A** Thu 22 Sep, 6.30pm

**Talking Point** Sat 24 Sep,

15 mins after the matinee

**Audio Description** Sat 24 Sep, 1.30pm

**Tactile Tour** Sat 24 Sep, 12pm

**RECOMMENDED FOR Ages 13 +**

Contains strong language.

**BRINK**

MERRIGONG  
THEATRE  
COMPANY

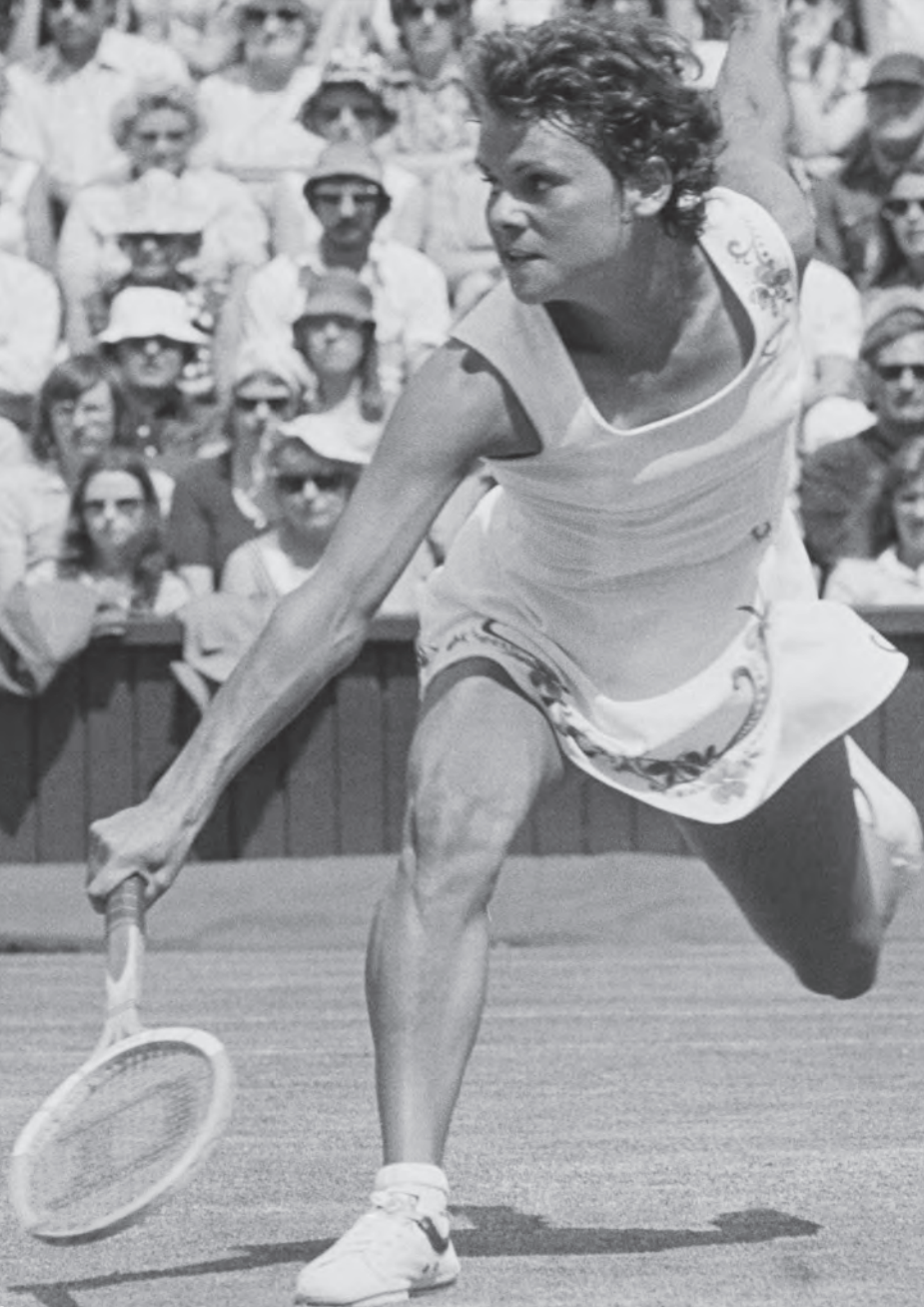
ASSOCIATE PRODUCER

Hew Parham. Photo by Shane Reid

**MAINSTAGE  
SEASON**

**"This is a play that educates and uplifts...  
A portrait of an icon."**

The Sydney Morning Herald



Join us courtside for so much more  
than just a match.

A Performing Lines production

# SUNSHINE SUPER GIRL

By **Andrea James**

Through a combination of intimate storytelling, stylised choreographic movement, and stunning projections, this landmark Australian work tells the heart-warming story of Wiradjuri tennis legend Evonne Goolagong Cawley.

A young girl hits a ball against the tin wall of her family's home with a fruit box bat. This is where it all began for Evonne. A girl from the bush who dared to dream, and with the unlikely support of an outback farming town, rose to become the No. 1 tennis player in the world, and a household name by the age of 19.

This acclaimed production chronicles the emotional, physical and spiritual journey of Goolagong. In this unique experience, the Wollongong Town Hall will be transformed into a tennis court with the audience seated courtside to evoke the action and magic of Wimbledon. With its distinctive Australian sensibility and humour, *Sunshine Super Girl* is a joyful celebration of spirit and passion triumphing over adversity, and a loving tribute to a woman whose sporting prowess continues to inspire the nation.

Writer and Director **Andrea James**

Movement Director and Additional

Choreography **Katina Olsen**

Original Choreographic Concept and

Initial Movement Direction **Vicki Van Hout**

Set and Costume Designer **Romanie Harper**

Lighting Designer **Karen Norris**

Composition and Sound Designer **Gail Priest**

Video Media Designer **Mic Gruchy**

Dramaturg **Louise Gough**

Mentor **Paige Rattray**

**26 – 29 OCT**

WOLLONGONG TOWN HALL

\$62 – \$84

**Approx. 1 hr 35 mins.** (no interval)

**Post-show Q&A** Thu 27 Oct, 6.30pm

**Talking Point** Sat 29 Oct,

15 mins after the matinee

**RECOMMENDED FOR Ages 12 +**

Contains strong language and adult themes.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander audiences

are advised that this performance contains

images of people who are deceased.

**PERFORMING  
LINES**

Moogahlin Performing Arts; Australian Plays Transform through its Playwrights' Retreat Program; and Production Co-Commissioners Griffith Regional Theatre, Melbourne Theatre Company, QPAC and seven regional venue partners.



**“Practical Tip:  
Beware the enemy within!”**

A Practical Guide to Self Defence

## A marvelous mashup of martial arts, storytelling and illustration in a deeply personal tale.

A Merrigong Theatre Company and Riverside's National Theatre of Parramatta production

# A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO SELF DEFENCE

By **Hung-Yen Yang**

*A Practical Guide to Self Defence* is a witty and action-packed account of growing up Asian in '80s Australia. Part play, part instructional guide, it is sprinkled with practical demonstrations, like how to trip and how to fall as we hurtle towards our existential contradiction—defeating the beast within.

Wollongong-born Australian-Chinese playwright Hung-Yen Yang deftly blends creative storytelling, martial arts and multimedia, as he takes us on a time-travelling journey with his younger self to witness his unlikely transformation from pacifist, asthmatic geek to brutal fighting machine.

Starring three-time Australian Champion Martial Artist and host of *SBS PopAsia* Andy Trieu, this modern, funny and deeply relatable play examines the tension between good and evil that exists within us all.

Cast includes **Andy Trieu**

**9 – 12 NOV**

BRUCE GORDON THEATRE

\$39 – \$59

**Approx. 1 hr 30 mins.** (no interval)

**Post-show Q&A** Thu 10 Nov, 6.30pm

**Talking Point** Sat 12 Nov,  
15 mins after the matinee

**Audio Described** Sat 12 Nov, 1.30pm

**Tactile Tour** Sat 12 Nov, 12pm

**RECOMMENDED FOR Ages 16 +**

Contains simulated violence,  
adult themes and strong language

**20 – 29 OCT**

RIVERSIDE THEATRE PARRAMATTA  
riversideparramatta.com.au

RIVERSIDE  
NATIONAL THEATRE  
OF PARRAMATTA

MERRIGONG  
THEATRE  
COMPANY



**“The course of true love  
never did run smooth.”**

A Midsummer Night's Dream



**A magical setting for summer's must-see event.**

A Merrigong Theatre Company production

# SHAKESPEARE IN THE GARDEN: A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

By **William Shakespeare**

Join us on a summer's eve as Shakespeare's most enigmatic work comes to life in a breathtaking outdoor production full of music, magic and mirth.

Pack your rug and picnic, gather your family or group of friends, and join us under the stars in the enchanting Wollongong Botanic Garden for an enthralling open-air performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Directed by Leland Kean (*The Surfer and the Mermaid, Lost Boys*), this brand new production brings together some of the country's finest actors and designers with a stellar cast of musicians and artists from across the Illawarra to create a unique, joy-filled and enchanting theatrical experience. Whether you're a Shakespeare devotee or newbie, this delightful event is not to be missed.

Director **Leland Kean**

Video Media Designer **Mic Gruchy**

Costume Designer **Katja Handt**

**24 NOV - 11 DEC**

WOLLONGONG BOTANIC GARDEN

\$39 – \$59

Approx. 2 hrs 20 mins. (incl. interval)

Talking Point Sat 3 Dec, 5pm

RECOMMENDED FOR Ages 8 +



Botanic Garden  
WOLLONGONG

Delight in a riotous romp  
along the road to true love!



An Opera Australia production

# THE BARBER OF SEVILLE

By **Rossini**

Almaviva is wealthy, stealthy and head over heels. Rosina is witty, pretty and equally smitten. She's also betrothed. They need a plan.

Time to call on: Fi-ga-ro! Figaro! Figaro!

The stage is set for comic chaos. Our enterprising, matchmaking barber Figaro has wits and tricks as sharp as his scissors. It takes all of his clever disguises, subterfuge and scheming to wrangle a romantic encounter for the would-be lovers.

*The Barber of Seville* fizzles and pops with lyrical acrobatics and irrepressibly funny characters. Rossini's most famous 'opera buffa' is a musical masterpiece with a storyline that would be equally at

home in a Hollywood rom-com. Opera Australia's finest voices and a live chamber orchestra deliver a score that is instantly familiar. This is opera at its light-hearted, effervescent best.

Director **Priscilla Jackman**

**19 – 20 AUG**

IMB THEATRE

\$69 – \$99

**Approx. 2 hrs 30 mins.** (incl. interval)

Sung in Italian with English surtitles.  
Performed with a Live Chamber Orchestra

**RECOMMENDED FOR Ages 10 +.**

O|PERA AUSTRALIA

Phot by Georges Antoni for Opera Australia



A Cubbyhouse Co. production

# Dr AudiYO's GIANT ADVENTURE

By **Holly Austin**

Kick your imagination into overdrive and be left dazzled and giggling by this sound-led, choose-your-own-adventure show for the whole family! Follow the quest of Dr AudiYO, a beatboxing clown-come-superhero. With her 'magic looping bum bag' she brings to life a wondrous world where the audience become true heroes in an epic auditory adventure to save the day!



**cubby  
house  
co.**

Director **Miles O'Neil**

Sound **Holly Austin** and **Cayn Borthwick**

Dramaturg **Naomi Edwards**

Interaction Design **Annie McKinnon**

Creative Brains Trust **Alex Walker** and  
**The House of Muchness**

Cast **Holly Austin**

**19 – 20 APR**

BRUCE GORDON THEATRE

All tickets \$29

**Approx. 50 mins.** (no interval)

**Relaxed performance** Wed 20 Apr, 10am

**RECOMMENDED FOR Ages 6 +.**



A CDP Kids production

# GUESS HOW MUCH I LOVE YOU

A play by **Richard Tulloch**. Adapted from the books by **Sam McBratney** and **Anita Jeram**

Join the enchanting adventure of Little and Big Nutbrown Hare as they discover the magic and colour of the seasons, in a dazzling new stage adaptation of Sam McBratney's beloved *Guess How Much I Love You* books.

Brought to life by the team behind the Australian tours of *The Gruffalo*, *The Very Hungry Caterpillar Show* and *Spot*, this playful story of love and nature unfolds on stage in a show that's fun for the whole family, with beautiful puppetry, music and laughter.

Director **Liesel Badorrek**

Designer **Isla Shaw**

Lighting Designer **Benjamin Brockman**

Sound Designer **Gail Priest**

**10 – 11 JUN**

IMB THEATRE

All tickets \$29

**Approx. 55 mins** (no interval)

**Post-show Q&A** Fri 10 Jun, 12.30pm

**Relaxed performance** Sat 11 Jun, 10am

**RECOMMENDED FOR AGES 3 +.**

**cdpKids**

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The Listies and Critical Stages Touring

# THE LISTIES: ROFL (ROLLING ON THE FLOOR LAUGHING)

Written and performed by **Matthew Kelly** and **Richard Higgins**

The Listies, Australia's multi-award winning maestros of kidult comedy, win over everyone who comes to see them. Lucky for us their insane, interactive and irreverent escapades return to Wollongong to take over IPAC once again!

This is a bonkers sketch comedy extravaganza of epic proportions. Featuring all the most popular bits from their sell-out shows and jam packed with magically stupid stuff like a burpershop quartet. **ROFL** will have the whole family in stitches, rolling on the floor laughing so hard a little bit of wee comes out.

**15 – 16 JUL**

IMB THEATRE

All tickets \$29

**Approx. 1 hr.** (no interval)

**Relaxed performance** Sat 16 Jul, 10am

**RECOMMENDED FOR Ages 4+.**

Contains strobe lighting.





A Junkyard Beats and Critical Stages Touring production

# THE BOX SHOW

By **Junkyard Beats**

Get ready for the most sustainable fun you've ever had! In the hands of Junkyard Beats, ordinary household items are transformed into musical instruments and regular junk comes alive in exciting and surprising ways.

Follow the adventures of four characters in a world made of cardboard boxes and junk. A deconstructed kitchen and wheelie bins become the greatest drum set in the world, plastic bags are an amazing musical instrument, and the human body becomes a unique sound machine.

This high energy, interactive show combines drumming, dance, theatre and comedy to create a fun and accessible show for all audiences.

Writers **Oded Prior** and **Nigel Turner-Carroll**

Director **Nigel Turner-Carroll**

**30 SEP – 1 OCT**

BRUCE GORDON THEATRE

All tickets \$29

**Approx. 1 hr.** (no interval)

**Relaxed performance** Sat 1 Oct, 10am

**RECOMMENDED FOR** Ages 5+.



 **Critical  
Stages  
Touring**

Photo by Boaz Nofman

**SCHOOL  
HOLIDAY  
FUN!**



# MERRIGONG CREATIVITY CAMP

**Popular interactive theatre, performance  
and design workshops.**

Under the guidance and supervision of professional performing and teaching artists, children take a journey of creative exploration. Designed to activate kids' imaginations and build self-confidence in a fun, educational environment, this is a great space for Campers to develop ongoing friendships with other like-minded children.

WOLLONGONG TOWN HALL <b>9am–3pm</b> (incl. lunch break)		
<b>19–22 APR</b>	<b>11–15 JUL</b>	<b>4–7 OCT</b>
\$240 (4 days)	\$290 (5 days)	\$240 (4 days)
<b>20 % DISCOUNT FOR ADDITIONAL SIBLINGS OR WHEN BOOKING ALL THREE CAMPS.</b>		
<b>For ages 5–12.</b> Children will be placed into groups based on age and confidence.		

# MERRIGONG X ARTISTS' PROGRAM

innovative • independent • in-development

**MERRIGONG X** is our annual artists' program.

**It focuses on supporting artists to take creative risks.**

MERRIGONG X places artists and their practice at the centre of our community.

From in-house creative developments to full-blown public presentations of new work, and everything in between, MERRIGONG X provides

independent artists with financial, technical, marketing and artistic resources.

**In 2022, we are providing support to the independent artists and collectives including:**

**Kirby Medway and Solomon Thomas, Kay Proudlove, Alicia Baffesini, Lisa Maris McDonell, Applespiel, Tom Hogan and Elana Stone, Austinmer Dance Theatre, The Strangeways Ensemble, Catherine McKinnon, Alana Valentine and Daryl Wallis, and Kirli Saunders.**

**NEW in 2022: All MERRIGONG X shows can now be included as part of a Merrigong Season Ticket.**

**OR** Pay What You Feel

When individual bookings open, reserve a spot for free online, show up, then pay what you feel the performance is worth afterwards.

**[merrigong.com.au/merrigongx](http://merrigong.com.au/merrigongx)**

## **UFO** By Kirby Medway and Solomon Thomas

The new live-cinema sci-fi work performed on a 1:8 miniature golf course, using exquisitely detailed scale miniatures. Combining a mesmerising mix of video, stop-motion animation and live theatre, this work offers a contemplative alternative to narratives that deal with human-alien interaction.

28 – 30 APR

7.30pm

BRUCE GORDON THEATRE

Approx. 1 hr. (no interval)

Recommended for ages 13+.





# DEAR DIARY

By **Kay Proudlove**

A musical work that brings the stumbling, unsure and cringe-worthy naivety of Kay's teenage diaries to the foreground. Sure to produce a solid belly laugh, maybe a few tears, and a sense of familiarity and camaraderie.

19 – 21 MAY 7.30pm

BRUCE GORDON THEATRE

Approx. 1 hr. (no interval)

Recommended for ages 16+.

Contains strong language  
and adult themes.



# ELSIE FOR VESTRI

By **Alicia Battestini**

In a collision of joyous and eccentric physical characters with sumptuous imagery and circus, Alicia Battestini explores the chaotic world of a gender-fluid Elsie. A shameless celebration of play, fantasy and intense physicality as a balm for grief.

2 – 4 JUN 7.30pm

BRUCE GORDON THEATRE

Approx. 1 hr. (no interval)

Recommended for ages 13+.

Contains strong language  
and adult themes.



# THE LOBSTER

(\$20 Commission Project)

By Lisa Maris McDonell

Weaving her performance work through storytelling, video projection and original sounds by musicians and composers from the South Coast of NSW, Lisa Maris McDonell has created a work of protest and provocation. It's part dance-cabaret, part documentary, and wholly something you've never seen before.

16 – 18 JUN

7.30pm

BRUCE GORDON THEATRE

Approx. 1 hr 15 mins. (no interval)

Recommended for ages 15+.

Contains adult themes and partial nudity.



# SORRY SORRY SORRY

By Applespiel

Acclaimed performance collective Applespiel make a long overdue return to our stage with a work that explores the deeply fascinating and utterly peculiar world of internet apologies.

11 – 13 AUG

7.30pm

BRUCE GORDON THEATRE

Approx. 1 hr (no interval)

Recommended for ages 15+.

Contains adult themes.



# MOUNT HOPELESS

By Tom Hogan  
and Elana Stone

A musical tragicomedy based on the story of Burke & Wills. The songs are joyous, the story has you slapping your forehead, saying "NO, YOU FOOLS!", and underneath it all are some real questions about mateship, biting off more than you can chew, and rewriting history to suit your own narrative.

1 – 3 SEP

7.30pm

BRUCE GORDON THEATRE

Approx. 1 hr 30 mins. (no interval)

Recommended for ages 15+.

Contains adult themes.



# UNCOILED eXposed

By **Austinmer Dance Theatre**

A presentation of the Illawarra's first-ever curated, outcome-based, contemporary dance residency. This premiere showcases an unravelling of fresh choreographic talent. Emerging artists from diverse styles and backgrounds work collaboratively with Austinmer Dance Theatre dancers to create experimental new dance works.

20 – 22 OCT

7.30pm

BRUCE GORDON THEATRE

Approx. 1 hr 50 mins. (Incl. interval)

Recommended for ages 8+.



# FOR SCHOOLS & YOUNG PEOPLE

We believe that all young people should experience live theatre! We invite young people to explore our venues, experience professional, high-quality theatre and engage in a range of fun activities, workshops, backstage tours, and more.

## **School Group Bookings**

A discounted school group price of \$23 per student (for groups of eight or more) is available for all school day matinee and selected evening performances. For each group of eight or more students, a supervising teacher can attend for free.

## **Student Group Season Tickets**

Even bigger savings are available for groups of eight or more students seeing multiple shows, with show prices starting at just \$18.

## **Price per student:**

3 Shows for \$60

5 Shows for \$90

## **Passport to Performance**

Substantial ticket subsidies are available through our Passport to Performance program, with tickets from as little as \$6 per student (for groups of eight or more). Subsidies may be available for public schools with a high FOEI score, or for school groups with additional requirements.

## **Young Playwrights Project**

A showcase of Wollongong's youngest playwrights and performers, run in collaboration with The Drama Studio at IPAC. Young playwrights with a 10 – 15 minute play they would love to see on stage are invited to apply. Scripts are assessed by professional practitioners, and the playwrights selected will work with a mentor to develop their play, which is performed by young actors from The Drama Studio.

## **The Drama Studio**

The Illawarra Performing Arts Centre is home to The Drama Studio, a dynamic drama school established in 1988, and run by Fiona Gabb-Finley. The Drama Studio offers drama classes for school students from Kindergarten through to Year 12.

For more information visit [merrigong.com.au/community-education](http://merrigong.com.au/community-education) or email [education@merrigong.com.au](mailto:education@merrigong.com.au).

# COMMUNITY

## IS AT THE CENTRE OF EVERYTHING WE DO.

Our goal is to build and sustain strong and meaningful relationships with individuals, groups and organisations across our local community, to meet our aims for inclusivity, diversity, access and opportunity. We partner with a wide range of local organisations to develop specific arts-based programs and provide subsidised community rates and event support for the use of our spaces. These include:

### **The Disability Trust**

Proud community partners since 2006, the Altogether Drama program provides people with disabilities opportunities to work with professional theatre artists.

### **The Smith Family**

Through Australia's largest national education-oriented children's charity, scholarships are provided for children to attend our Creativity Camps (proudly supported by Peoplecare).

### **Beyond Empathy**

Merrigong supports Beyond Empathy's team of artists, mentors, community workers and leaders with strong connections to First Nations communities, through a partnership that provides young people in need with access to the theatre.

### **The Women's Centre**

Merrigong has partnered with the Illawarra Women's Centre to provide venue support for their program of creative engagement with diverse groups of women and girls living in the region who are experiencing social isolation, marginalisation, and mental health issues.

### **Vision Australia**

Merrigong works with Vision Australia to provide Audio Descriptions of performances and on-stage Tactile Tours to patrons for selected shows.

### **SCARF Refugee Support**

Merrigong supports their social inclusion and befriending programs for refugee entrants, including tickets to theatre shows that generate opportunities for social, recreational and educational activities.

### **The Multicultural Communities Council of Illawarra**

Merrigong supports MCCI's program for young people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds to help them to build the confidence to become leaders and role models in their communities.

### **Woolyungah Indigenous Centre**

Merrigong works with Woolyungah Indigenous Centre to host interns from the University of Wollongong to improve student opportunities for career development and employment in the arts.

### **South Coast Writers Centre**

Merrigong has partnered with SCWC to provide venue support for their Young Writers Program, and Live and Local, a satellite event of the Sydney Writers Festival. SCWC also supports Merrigong Theatre and The Drama Studios' Young Playwrights Program.

### **Green Connect**

During lockdown Merrigong partnered with Green Connect to home deliver healthy meals to families in need in our local community.



Kyarna Rose, Singer/Songwriter



Hung-Yen Yang, Playwright



Ali Gordon, Theatremaker and Performer

# SUPPORT MERRIGONG

**During good times and bad, one thing is constant: the power of art.**

Art can comfort us, entertain us, lift us, broaden our horizons, and bring us closer together.

Merrigong supports the unique voices of a diverse range of artists through paid residencies, employment and the development of new work. We provide real, tangible support to artists so that they can keep doing what they do best – creating art for you.

We also deliver a range of important arts-based programs for people in our community, supporting schools and community groups to deliver experiences that have tangible outcomes. In fact, we have been recognised nationally for our work with artists and young people with disabilities.

If you believe in a future for our community where local artists and stories can shine, please consider a tax-deductible donation to Merrigong Theatre Company. No donation is too small, and all donations \$2 and over are tax deductible.

## MERRIGONG'S INNER CIRCLE

Donations of \$250 or more are recognised as part of our Inner Circle.

As a small token of our thanks, your donation will be recognised on displays in our foyer and online, and invitations to events where you can connect with like-minded arts advocates and learn more about how your donation is having a profound impact on people's lives.

Your donation of \$250 or more will help us continue to provide programs that support our community and local artists.

### Our Inner Circle donors are recognised at three levels of support:



Inner Circle Supporter  
(\$250 – \$499)



Inner Circle Collaborator  
(\$500 – \$999)



Inner Circle Insider  
(\$1000 – \$3000+)

If you would like assistance, please contact Edie Watt, Marketing and Development Manager on (02) 4224 5999 or email [ewatt@merrigong.com.au](mailto:ewatt@merrigong.com.au) Visit [www.merrigong.com.au/support](http://www.merrigong.com.au/support)

**Inner Circle Insiders (\$1000 +)**

Barry Sexton	Michael Davies
Bruce Walker	Pauline and Rodney Doyle
Elizabeth Elliott and Kevin Marston	Roslyn McDonald
George and Rada Millwood	Warwick Shanks and Sharon Behl-Shanks
Jane Franklin	Anonymous x 1
Ken McKinnon	

**Inner Circle Collaborators (\$500 - \$999)**

Alan and Janene Gibbs	Leta Webb
Byron Jones	Marie Mitchell-Stanley
Christina Comelli	Meg Schneider
Col and Trudy Bruton	Michael and Debra Sims
David and Linda Fuller	Michael Pennisi
Denise Bramble	Peter and Ann Robinson
Douglas Welch	Ron Browne and Ainslie Lamb
Four Star Cleaning	Rosemary Mahon
Harry and Pamela Bassett	Shabnam and Simon Hinton
Jim and Sandra Dingle	Stephen and Angela McCrea
Jodie Parker	Anonymous x 4
Kevin and Sue Savage	

**Inner Circle Supporters (\$250 - \$499)**

Alan and Sheila James	InPlay Arts - Carmel	Louise and Steve Meyrick
Alison Bell	Schenke and Tony Weir	Marie Russell
Amy Harper	Isla Bowen	Mark and Tracey Coleman
Angela Raymond	James and Jacqueline Chevis	Marlene Matthew
Anne Hart	Jan Bloomfield	Merilyn Pearson
Ann Hinton	Jan Harland	Merran Dawson
Barbara Cunningham	Jane Westbrook and Mark Ramsden	Michael D'Souza
Barbara Vickery	Jeanette Cox	Monique Davis
Beverly Darby	Jill Moss	Paul Jennings and Rhonni Garven
Bruce and Robyn Porter	Joan and Gary Warton	Peter and Margaret Wolfe
Christopher and Jacqui McRobert	Joe McGuiggan	Peter and Wendy McAra
D. Freeman	John and Anne Croker	Peter Bryant and Sharon Bourke
Damien Leith	John and Anne Peedom	Peter Hyland
David and Judith Ball	John and Shannon Smith	Robert Edgar
Dayna Parker	Katherine Brown	Ron and Helen Jaray
Desmond and Anne Clarke	L.S Upton	Stephanie and Joe Woodward
Flynn-Onsman Family	Leland Kean and Kar Chalmers	Teresa Vasey
Graeme and Jill Bell	Leslie Pigott	Wayne Morris
Graham and Rae Mitchell	Linda Hogg	Anonymous x 10
Gregory and Jean Doherty		
Ingeborg Dostleben		

# FIND THE SEASON TICKET THAT'S RIGHT FOR YOU

## THE WHOLE SHEBANG: 18-SHOW SEASON TICKET

OUR BEST VALUE PACKAGE. SAVE UP TO \$292

### WHOLE SHEBANG

ADULT \$718

CONCESSION \$663

#### What's included:

- All 10 Shows in our Mainstage Season
- All 7 MERRIGONGX Shows
- 1 Add-On Show (*The Barber of Seville*)
- Premium seating where available
- A Merrigong Loyalty Card
- An invitation to Merrigong's Season 2023 Launch, with premium reserve seating
- One extra free ticket for a friend to any Mainstage Season Show

## 10, 7 OR 5-SHOW SEASON TICKET

THE MORE YOU BUY, THE MORE YOU SAVE.  
SAVE UP TO 30% OFF SINGLE TICKET PRICES.

### PREMIUM SEATING

#SHOWS	ADULT	CONCESSION
10	\$550	\$500
7	\$427	\$392
5	\$340	\$315

### STANDARD SEATING

#SHOWS	ADULT	CONCESSION
10	\$470	\$420
7	\$364	\$329
5	\$290	\$265

#### What's included:

- Your choice of 10, 7 or 5 Mainstage Season Shows
- A Merrigong Loyalty Card
- An invitation to Merrigong's Season 2023 Launch.

## FLEXI 10-PACK

### KEEP IT FLEXIBLE

The Flexi 10-Pack allows you to take advantage of great savings on ticket prices, without locking yourself into any performances, dates or times upfront.

Get one ticket to ten shows, or use all ten tickets on one show. Use them however you like!

Valid for standard seating to any Merrigong Mainstage Season 2022 show.

The Flexi 10-Pack must be purchased by Sunday 9 January, 2022.

You can lock in your seats any time from Monday 10 January, 2022.

### FLEXI 10-PACK

\$570

#### What's included:

- A Merrigong Loyalty Card
- One invitation to Merrigong's Season 2023 Launch.



# HOW TO BOOK

## STEP 1 CHOOSE YOUR PACKAGE

From 5 Shows through to The Whole Shebang, there's a package that's right for your needs and budget.

## STEP 2 CHOOSE YOUR DATES, EXTRA TICKETS & PRE-SHOW DINING

Choose your preferred performance dates and times from the handy 'Year at a Glance' inside the back cover, or on our website.

You can also add discounted tickets for loved ones and Pre-Show Dining Packages at this step.

## STEP 3 OPTIONS TO ADD MORE

Add tickets for Add-On and Kids & Families events.

## FINAL STEPS

Simply complete the rest of your details on the Booking Form (paper or online) including your contact and payment details and get it to us, either:

- **In person**  
Box Office at Illawarra Performing Arts Centre, 32 Burelli St, Wollongong.
- **By Post** Illawarra Performing Arts Centre, PO BOX 786, Wollongong, 2520.
- **Online** [merrigong.com.au](http://merrigong.com.au)

### WE ARE HERE TO HELP.

Call us between 10am – 4pm weekdays on **02 4224 5999**  
or email [info@merrigong.com.au](mailto:info@merrigong.com.au)

# MERRIGONG SEASON TICKET BOOKING FORM

If you require any assistance filling out your form, please visit the box office or phone 02 4224 5999

## STEP 1 CHOOSE YOUR PACKAGE

## STEP 2 CHOOSE YOUR PERFORMANCE DATES AND TIMES

### A THE WHOLE SHEBANG

18 SHOWS		\$
ADULT PREMIUM	___ (# of pkgs) @ \$718	
CONC./GROUP 8+ PREMIUM	___ (# of pkgs) @ \$663	
<b>TOTAL \$</b>		

and/or

### B 10, 7 OR 5-SHOW SEASON TICKETS

	PACKAGE	ADULT	CONC./ GROUP 8+	NUMBER OF PACKAGES	\$
PREMIUM SEATING	10 Shows	___ (# of pkgs) @ \$550	___ (# of pkgs) @ \$500		
	7 Shows	___ (# of pkgs) @ \$427	___ (# of pkgs) @ \$392		
	5 Shows	___ (# of pkgs) @ \$340	___ (# of pkgs) @ \$315		
STANDARD SEATING	10 Shows	___ (# of pkgs) @ \$470	___ (# of pkgs) @ \$420		
	7 Shows	___ (# of pkgs) @ \$364	___ (# of pkgs) @ \$329		
	5 Shows	___ (# of pkgs) @ \$290	___ (# of pkgs) @ \$265		
<b>TOTAL \$</b>					

and/or

### C FLEXI 10-PACK

The Flexi 10-Pack must be purchased by Sun 9 Jan, 2022. You can lock in your seats any time from Mon 10 Jan, 2022.

Premium seating not available with Flexi 10-Pack.

Please indicate the number of packages required.

___ (# of pkgs) @ \$570	<b>TOTAL \$</b>	
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### CHOOSE YOUR PERFORMANCE DATES AND TIMES

### OPTIONAL - ADD ADDITIONAL DISCOUNTED TICKETS & PRE-SHOW DINING PACKAGES

MAINSTAGE SHOWS	DATE	TIME	PRE-SHOW DINING	PREMIUM SEATING	STANDARD SEATING			\$
					ADULT	CONC.	UNDER 30s	
CIRCA'S PEEPSHOW			N/A	___ (# tix) @ \$79	___ (# tix) @ \$67	___ (# tix) @ \$62	___ (# tix) @ \$62	
THE WIDER EARTH			___ (# ppl) @ \$25.20	___ (# tix) @ \$79	___ (# tix) @ \$67	___ (# tix) @ \$62	___ (# tix) @ \$62	
BLINDNESS			___ (# ppl) @ \$25.20	N/A	___ (# tix) @ \$54	___ (# tix) @ \$49	___ (# tix) @ \$49	
DOUBLE DELICIOUS			N/A	___ (# tix) @ \$90	___ (# tix) @ \$80	___ (# tix) @ \$75	___ (# tix) @ \$75	
AS LUCK WOULD HAVE IT			___ (# ppl) @ \$25.20	___ (# tix) @ \$54	___ (# tix) @ \$44	___ (# tix) @ \$39	___ (# tix) @ \$39	
RBG - OF MANY, ONE			___ (# ppl) @ \$25.20	___ (# tix) @ \$79	___ (# tix) @ \$67	___ (# tix) @ \$62	___ (# tix) @ \$62	
SYMPHONIE DE LA BICYCLETTE			___ (# ppl) @ \$25.20	___ (# tix) @ \$54	___ (# tix) @ \$44	___ (# tix) @ \$39	___ (# tix) @ \$39	
SUNSHINE SUPER GIRL			N/A	___ (# tix) @ \$79	___ (# tix) @ \$67	___ (# tix) @ \$62	___ (# tix) @ \$62	
A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO SELF DEFENCE			___ (# ppl) @ \$25.20	___ (# tix) @ \$54	___ (# tix) @ \$44	___ (# tix) @ \$39	___ (# tix) @ \$39	
A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM			N/A	N/A	___ (# tix) @ \$44	___ (# tix) @ \$39	___ (# tix) @ \$39	

These prices only available at the same time as booking your Season Ticket **TOTAL \$**

MERRIGONGX SHOWS	DATE	TIME
UFO		
DEAR DIARY		
ELSIE FOR VESTRI		
THE LOBSTER		
SORRY SORRY SORRY		
MOUNT HOPELESS		
UNCOILED EXPOSED		

### INTRODUCE A FRIEND WITH A FREE TICKET

The Whole Shebang and 10-Show Season Ticket purchasers, please nominate your free ticket to any Mainstage Season Show (excludes Double Delicious). The free ticket must be booked at the same time as your Season Ticket, and the performance date and time must match one of your performance selections.

### STEP 3 ADD MORE - OPTIONAL ADD-ON AND KIDS & FAMILIES SHOWS

SHOW	DATE	TIME	PREMIUM <small>*No conc. Or U30s discounts available with Premium Seating</small>	STANDARD			PRE-SHOW DINING	\$
				ADULT	CONC/ GROUP 8+	UNDER 30s/ CHILDREN		
THE BARBER OF SEVILLE			___ (# tix) @ \$99	___ (# tix) @ \$84	___ (# tix) @ \$79	___ (# tix) @ \$69	___ (# ppl) @ \$25.20	
DR AUDIYO'S GIANT ADVENTURE				___ (# tix) @ \$29			N/A	
GUESS HOW MUCH I LOVE YOU				___ (# tix) @ \$29			N/A	
THE LISTIES – ROFL				___ (# tix) @ \$29			N/A	
THE BOX SHOW				___ (# tix) @ \$29			N/A	
							<b>TOTAL \$</b>	<input type="text"/>

### STEP 4 SUPPORT MERRIGONG THEATRE COMPANY

Please consider making a tax deductible donation to Merrigong Theatre Company.

All donations of \$2 or more are tax-deductible. All donations of \$250 and over are recognised as part of Merrigong's Inner Circle.

I would like to donate:

#### MERRIGONG'S INNER CIRCLE

\$1,000  \$500  \$250  \$100  \$50  \$25

Other amount \$  TOTAL DONATION \$

For donations \$250 and over:

I would like to be recognised as part of Merrigong's Inner Circle under the following name:

OR  I would like to remain anonymous.

#### FIRST-TIME SEASON TICKET HOLDERS

I was referred by a friend. My friend's name is

If your friend is a returning Season Ticket Holder, they'll receive a free ticket to the Mainstage Season 2022 show of their choice (excludes Double Delicious).

### STEP 5 YOUR DETAILS

If you are purchasing more than two Season Tickets, please attach a list of names and contact details for each person. We require all patron's details to issue Loyalty Cards.

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Concession ID number: \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred Row (not guaranteed): \_\_\_\_\_

I prefer an:  Aisle seat (on left)  Aisle seat (on right)

Special assistance (please indicate below if required)

Wheelchair access  Hearing assistance  Captioning  Audio description

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Concession ID number: \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred Row (not guaranteed): \_\_\_\_\_

I prefer an:  Aisle seat (on left)  Aisle seat (on right)

Special assistance (please indicate below if required)

Wheelchair access  Hearing assistance  Captioning  Audio description

#### PLEASE CHOOSE HOW YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE YOUR TICKETS.

E-Tickets  Post  Box Office collection

### STEP 6 PAYMENT DETAILS

Please add all totals from Steps 1 - 4 for total payment amount GRAND TOTAL \$

Please charge my credit card IN FULL

Please charge my credit card in two instalments: 50% on booking and 50% on or close to 7 April 2022 (plus a \$9.20 handling fee at the time of booking)

Mastercard  Visa  American Express

Cardholder's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry date: \_\_\_\_\_ CCV: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

### STEP 7 SUBMIT YOUR FORM

**In person** Box Office at Illawarra Performing Arts Centre, 32 Burelli St, Wollongong.

**Mail** Illawarra Performing Arts Centre, PO BOX 786, Wollongong, 2520.

**Online** [merrigong.com.au](http://merrigong.com.au) **Fax** (02) 4226 9696

This booking form may also be completed online at [merrigong.com.au](http://merrigong.com.au)

# ACCESSIBILITY

We're committed to ensuring that everyone can enjoy theatre and live performance experiences with us.

To organise your accessible option/s, please contact us at the time of booking.

Call (02) 4224 5999 or email [boxoffice@merrigong.com.au](mailto:boxoffice@merrigong.com.au), 10am – 4pm weekdays.

## Accessible seating options

Both Illawarra Performing Arts Centre and Wollongong Town Hall are accessible venues. We can provide staff to help you get into, and around the venue. Selected seats in each theatre are held for patrons who use wheelchairs or have other mobility concerns. Please call us to talk to us about the type of wheelchair you use – we want to make sure we have the right space for you.

## Companion Card

We accept Companion Cards. Seats for your companion can only be booked in person or by phoning the Box Office.

## Hearing assistance

The IMB Theatre has an FM system for hearing augmentation. Receivers can be obtained free of charge from the box office prior to performances. The Bruce Gordon Theatre and Main Auditorium of the Wollongong Town Hall have an induction hearing loop compatible with T-switch hearing aids.

## Live captioning

Select performances are captioned for patrons who are d/Deaf or hearing impaired. Captions are displayed on screens at the side of the stage. Please check the seat map or mention

live captioning when booking to ensure you are in the best position to make use of this service.

## Audio description

Select performances are audio described for the benefit of patrons with low or no vision. Actions, expressions and gestures are described by professional describers trained by Vision Australia to bring out the true imagery in a performance. Patrons who are blind and/or vision impaired will hear the description through headsets. Please mention audio description to Box Office staff when booking tickets. You may also be interested in attending a pre-show tactile tour.

## Tactile tours

Before audio described performances, patrons with low or no vision have the opportunity to participate in a 30-minute tactile tour. Being amongst the scenery establishes the scene and allows for a deeper theatrical experience. Bookings are essential.

## Large-print cast sheet

Large-print, plain text copies of cast sheets for Mainstage Season shows are available on request at the Box Office on the day of the performance.

## Relaxed performances

Select performances are designed to be sensory friendly for anyone who would benefit from a more relaxed performance environment. There is a relaxed attitude to noise and movement, and some small changes made to the light and sound effects. Preliminary visits to your seat are available upon request, and a social story will be made available.

# THANK YOU

Merrigong Theatre Company major funding partners



Merrigong Theatre Company manages IPAC & Wollongong Town Hall on behalf of its major funding partner, Wollongong City Council.



Australian Government  
RISE Fund

Young People's Program Partner



Season 2022 Supporters



MEDIA PARTNERS

ACCOMMODATION PARTNER

## Supporters of shows in our 2022 Season



The producers of the following shows have been assisted by the Commonwealth Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory board: *The Wider Earth*, *Double Delicious*, *Symphonie de la Bicylette*, *RBG: Of Many, One*, *Sunshine Super Girl*, *Guess How Much I Love You*, *The Listies: ROFL*, *Circa's Peepshow*, *The Barber of Seville*



The producers of the following shows have been assisted by the New South Wales Government: *Double Delicious*, *RBG: Of Many, One*, *Sunshine Super Girl*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *A Practical Guide to Self Defence*, *Guess How Much I Love You*, *As Luck Would Have It*, *MERRIGONGX Artists' Program*



The production, touring or presenting of the following shows has been assisted by the Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand (RISE) Fund – an Australian Government initiative:

*The Wider Earth*, *Symphonie de la Bicylette*, *Guess How Much I Love You*, *Double Delicious*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Sunshine Super Girl*, *Circa's Peepshow*



The following shows have been assisted by the Queensland Government: *Circa's Peepshow*, *The Wider Earth*



*Double Delicious*



*The Listies: ROFL*



*Symphonie de la Bicylette*



*Sunshine Super Girl*

NATIONAL TOUR PARTNERS

LEADING PARTNER

SUPPORTING PARTNER

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY

PATRON-IN-CHIEF  
DR HARUHISA HANDA

OPERA CONFERENCE



*The Barber of Seville*

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

## Key dates for your diary

Priority Season Tickets on sale  
(renewing 2020/21 Season Ticket Holders only): **Wed 24 Nov, 2021**

Season Tickets on sale for general public: **Wed 8 Dec, 2021**

Single Tickets on sale for  
*Circa's Peepshow* and *The Wider Earth*: **Mon 13 Dec, 2021**

All Single Tickets on sale: **Mon 10 Jan, 2022**

## Proof of concession

Discounted ticket prices are available for Health Care Card, Pensioner Concession Card, Australian Writer's Guild and MEAA card holders, as well as full-time students. Seniors Card holders may also book Season Ticket packages at the concession price.

Proof of concession (such as a signed copy of your concession card) must be included with your booking form, and may also be requested prior to admission to the theatre.

## Under 30s

Proof of age is required when purchasing tickets at the Under 30s price.

## Age recommendations

While we provide age recommendations for shows, parental discretion is advised.

## Transaction fees

A per transaction fee of \$6.95 applies to phone and internet bookings. No transaction fees are payable for counter purchases, or for Season Ticket Packages.

## Pay half now, half later

If paying by credit card, you can choose to pay half of your Season Ticket when booking. We'll charge your card for the remaining 50% on or close to Thursday 7 April 2022 (a \$9.20 handling fee applies).

## Exchanging tickets

Season Ticket Holders can swap each ticket in their package once, for free, into another performance of the same show, or a performance of any other show in Merrigong's 2022 Season. Where performance prices vary, the difference will be charged. Please contact us at least 24 hours before your booked performance. Unlimited additional exchanges are permitted at an exchange fee of \$4.80 per ticket, per exchange.

## Refunds

Tickets cannot be refunded after purchase except if an event is cancelled, rescheduled or significantly relocated as outlined in the Live Performance Australia Ticketing Code of Practice.

For more details, visit  
[www.liveperformance.com.au](http://www.liveperformance.com.au).

### **Groups**

If you would like to be seated with friends, please make sure you get your Season Ticket booking forms in together (in the same envelope if possible). Please include the names and contact details of all people in the group.

### **Family of 4 tickets**

These tickets can be used for anyone under 30, not just children, and up to two adults in the group.

### **Assistance**

If you have mobility concerns, require special seating or assistance to make your theatre visit more enjoyable, please indicate this on your booking form, or advise Box Office at the time of booking.

### **Blankets**

Everyone experiences air conditioning differently. If you get cold in the theatre we have blankets on hand to make sure you keep warm and enjoy the experience. Please ask our friendly front of house staff if you would like a blanket.

### **Content warnings**

Productions may include smoke effects, strobe effects, nudity, strong language, loud sound effects, simulated violence or adult themes. Productions may also have strong adult content including for example themes of sexual assault or trauma. Where we have crucial information about the production, we have included those warnings in this brochure. However, our website is updated regularly when new information is provided and at the time of performance we provide all

content warnings on a notice in our foyers of our theatres. If you have any questions or concerns please check with our Visitor Services Manager or one of our Front of House staff at the performance.

### **Safety**

Keeping you, our staff and performing artists safe is our number one priority, and we are operating in accordance with NSW Health rules and guidelines for entertainment venues. When you visit, it is important that you are feeling well, and prepared to stick to the safety practices of our venues. As a condition of entry, all visitors must comply with NSW Public Health Orders in place at the time. Visitors who do not meet the health and safety requirements outlined above will not be permitted to enter. Visit [merrigong.com.au/staysafe](https://www.merrigong.com.au/staysafe) for the latest info, or call us on (02) 4224 5999.



# YEAR AT A GLANCE

## MAINSTAGE SEASON

### CIRCA'S PEEPSHOW

Wed 9 Mar, 7pm  
Thu 10 Mar, 6pm **Q&A**  
Fri 11 Mar, 7pm  
Sat 12 Mar, 2pm  
Sat 12 Mar, 7pm

### THE WIDER EARTH

Wed 16 Mar, 7.30pm  
Thu 17 Mar, 6.30pm **Q&A**  
Fri 18 Mar, 7.30pm  
Sat 19 Mar, 1.30pm  
**AD, C, TT, TP**  
Sat 19 Mar, 7.30pm

### BLINDNESS

Wed 11 May, 5.40pm  
Wed 11 May, 7.30pm  
Thu 12 May, 5.40pm  
Thu 12 May, 7.30pm  
Fri 13 May, 3.50pm  
Fri 13 May, 5.40pm  
Fri 13 May, 7.30pm  
Sat 14 May, 2pm **TP**  
Sat 14 May, 3.50pm  
Sat 14 May, 5.40pm  
Sat 14 May, 7.30pm  
Sun 15 May, 2pm  
Sun 15 May, 3.50pm  
Sun 15 May, 5.40pm

### DOUBLE DELICIOUS

Wed 8 Jun, 7pm  
Thu 9 Jun, 5pm  
Thu 9 Jun, 8pm  
Fri 10 Jun, 5pm  
Fri 10 Jun, 8pm  
Sat 11 Jun, 5pm **TP**  
Sat 11 Jun, 8pm

### AS LUCK WOULD HAVE IT

Wed 27 Jul, 7.30pm **P**  
Thu 28 Jul, 6.30pm **P**  
Fri 29 Jul, 7.30pm  
Sat 30 Jul, 1.30pm  
Sat 30 Jul, 7.30pm

Wed 3 Aug, 7.30pm  
Thu 4 Aug, 6.30pm **Q&A**  
Fri 5 Aug, 7.30pm  
Sat 6 Aug, 1.30pm  
**AD, TT, TP**

Sat 6 Aug, 7.30pm

### RBG: OF MANY, ONE

Wed 24 Aug, 7.30pm  
Thu 25 Aug, 6.30pm **Q&A**  
Fri 26 Aug, 7.30pm  
Sat 27 Aug, 1.30pm  
**AD, C, TT, TP**  
Sat 27 Aug, 7.30pm

### SYMPHONIE DE LA BICYCLETTE

Wed 21 Sep, 7.30pm  
Thu 22 Sep, 6.30pm **Q&A**  
Fri 23 Sep, 7.30pm  
Sat 24 Sep, 1.30pm  
**AD, TT, TP**  
Sat 24 Sep, 7.30pm

### SUNSHINE SUPER GIRL

Wed 26 Oct, 7.30pm  
Thu 27 Oct, 6.30pm **Q&A**  
Fri 28 Oct, 7.30pm  
Sat 29 Oct, 1.30pm **TP**  
Sat 29 Oct, 7.30pm

### A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO SELF DEFENCE

Wed 9 Nov, 7.30pm  
Thu 10 Nov, 6.30pm **Q&A**  
Fri 11 Nov, 7.30pm  
Sat 12 Nov, 1.30pm  
**AD, TT, TP**  
Sat 12 Nov, 7.30pm

### SHAKESPEARE IN THE GARDEN: A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

Thu 24 Nov, 7pm **P**  
Fri 25 Nov, 7pm  
Sat 26 Nov, 7pm  
Sun 27 Nov, 7pm  
Thu 1 Dec, 7pm  
Fri 2 Dec, 7pm  
Sat 3 Dec, 7pm **TP**  
Sun 4 Dec, 7pm  
Thu 8 Dec, 7pm  
Fri 9 Dec, 7pm  
Sat 10 Dec, 7pm  
Sun 11 Dec, 7pm

## ADD-ON SHOWS

### THE BARBER OF SEVILLE

Fri 19 Aug, 7.30pm  
Sat 20 Aug, 7.30pm

**Q&A** Post-show Q&A

**AD** Audio described for the benefit of patrons with low or no vision.

**TT** Pre-show Tactile Tour available on request for the benefit of patrons with low or no vision.

**C** Live Captioned

**R** Relaxed Performance

**TP** Merrigong Talking Point

**P** Preview



## KIDS AND FAMILIES

### DR AUDIO'S GIANT ADVENTURE

Tue 19 Apr, 12.30pm  
Tue 19 Apr, 6pm  
Wed 20 Apr, 10am **R**  
Wed 20 Apr, 12.30pm

### GUESS HOW MUCH I LOVE YOU

Fri 10 Jun, 12.30pm **Q&A**  
Sat 11 Jun, 10am **R**  
Sat 11 Jun, 12.30pm

### THE LISTIES: ROFL

Fri 15 Jul, 10am  
Fri 15 Jul, 1pm  
Sat 16 Jul, 10am **R**  
Sat 16 Jul, 1pm

### MERRIGONG CREATIVITY CAMPS

19 - 22 Apr  
11 - 15 Jul  
4 - 7 Oct

### THE BOX SHOW

Fri 30 Sep, 10am  
Fri 30 Sep, 12.30pm  
Sat 1 Oct, 10am **R**  
Sat 1 Oct, 12.30pm

## MERRIGONGX

### UFO

Thu 28 Apr, 7.30pm  
Fri 29 Apr, 7.30pm  
Sat 30 Apr, 7.30pm

### ELSIE FOR VESTRI

Thu 2 Jun, 7.30pm  
Fri 3 Jun, 7.30pm  
Sat 4 Jun, 7.30pm

### SORRY SORRY SORRY UNCOILED EXPOSED

Thu 11 Aug, 7.30pm  
Fri 12 Aug, 7.30pm  
Sat 13 Aug, 7.30pm  
Thu 20 Oct, 7.30pm  
Fri 21 Oct, 7.30pm  
Sat 22 Oct, 7.30pm

### DEAR DIARY

Thu 19 May, 7.30pm  
Fri 20 May, 7.30pm  
Sat 21 May, 7.30pm

### THE LOBSTER

(\$20 COMMISSION PROJECT)

Thu 16 Jun, 7.30pm  
Fri 17 Jun, 7.30pm  
Sat 18 Jun, 7.30pm

### MOUNT HOPELESS

Thu 1 Sep, 7.30pm  
Fri 2 Sep, 7.30pm  
Sat 3 Sep, 7.30pm



# The Social

eat . drink @ IPAC

## \$28 Pre-Show Dining Package- Pre-book and save!

Our great value Pre-Show Dining Packages feature warm table bread, a selection from our delicious show time à la carte options served with a house drink of your choice. Menus are updated regularly and include at least one vegetarian and one gluten-free option.

Open weekdays and showtime.

Table bookings are required.

**02 4224 5932**

**merrigong.com.au/thesocial**

Terms & conditions apply. See website for details.

**SAVE  
10%**

Book as part of your Season Ticket  
for the discounted price of only \$25.20.

# CONNECT WITH US



@merrigongtheatreco

@merrigong

[merrigong.com.au](http://merrigong.com.au)

**02 4224 5999**

**32 Burelli St, PO Box 786,  
Wollongong, NSW 2500**

MERRIGONG  
THEATRE  
COMPANY

ILLAWARRA  
PERFORMING  
ARTS CENTRE

WOLLONGONG  
TOWN HALL

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