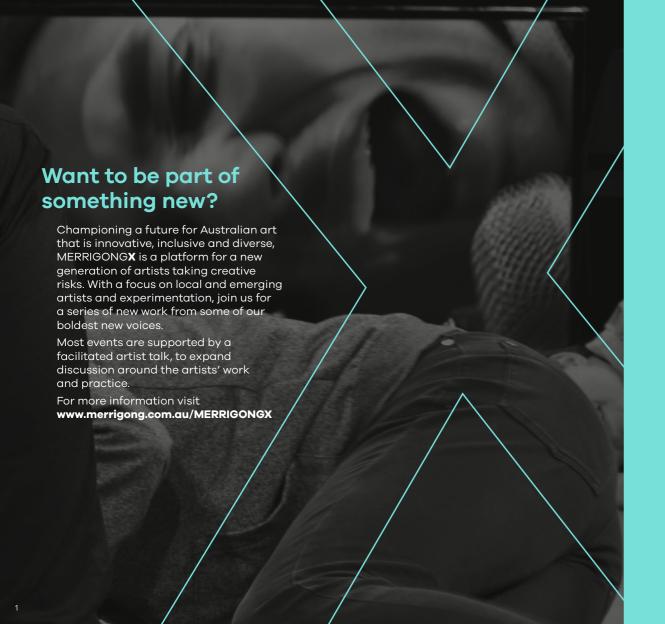
a brand new series of eclectic events by artists from our neighbourhood, and from around the nation.

MERRIGONGX **x** = innovative **x** = independant **x** = in-development





The annual RAW Comedy competition will see the nation's bravest and boldest new performers take to the stage to test their skill and stamina with five minutes of new, original comedy material. It's comedy with no fear and no safety net, just exhilaration and adulation ahead! The best of the best battle it out at the National Grand Final during the Melbourne International Comedy Festival in April 2018.

For more information head to

www.merrigong.com.au/merrigongx

THURSDAY 15 FEBRUARY, 8PM WOLLONGONG TOWN HALL, \$25





THE CAROUSEL

by Pippa Ellams

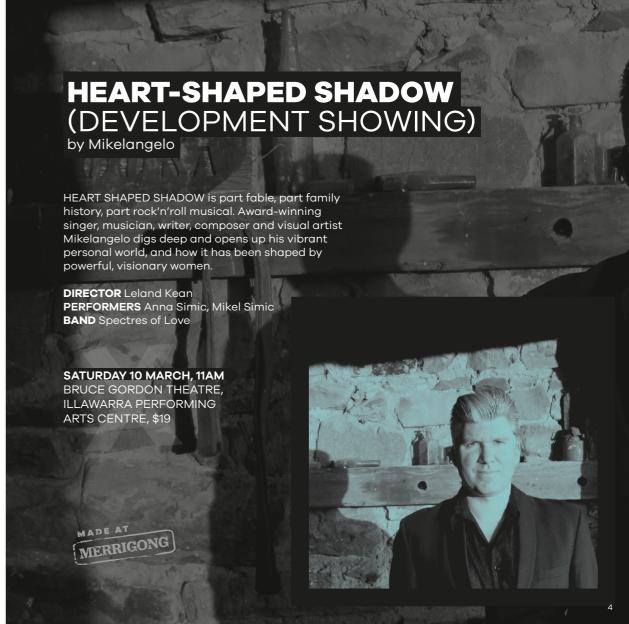
Christa and Jamie are sisters. Together they are embarking upon the treacherous transition between airlhood and womanhood. Christa wants Jamie to start living, Jamie refuses to leave the house. THE CAROUSEL is a new Australian play that explores the limits of unconditional love between sisters. Written by emerging playwright Pippa Ellams and directed by Hannah Goodwin, THE CAROUSEL was shortlisted for the Rodney Seaborne Playwrights Award in 2015 and was developed at ArtsLab. Shopfront Arts Co-op's residency program.

DIRECTOR Hannah Goodwin
PRODUCTION MANAGER Solomon Thomas
LIGHTING DESIGNER Emma Lockhart Wilson
SOUND DESIGNER Tom Hogan
CAST Alex Francis, Tash O'Brien

1 - 2 MARCH, 7.30PM 3 MARCH, 1.30PM & 7.30PM BOB PEET STUDIO, ILLAWARRA PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE, \$25

ARTIST TALK Saturday 3 March, 15 mins after the matinee ends





THE EPIC

Written and performed by Finn O'Branagáin + Scott Sandwich

Dash back to the beginning as we unpick the best epic stories from around the globe.

This is the theatre of way-out tales told by two irreverent and passionate storytellers. Many of these stories have lost relevance, interest, or have faded away over time – and we drag them into the modern world, peel them to pieces and make them present again. Our world may be different, and maybe now we think we're too modern, bitter or cynical for these stories. But anyone could be a hero if you tell it right. Even two poets.

From the cradle of civilisation to the one about the wooden horse, with heroes ranging from Gilgamesh to Vin Diesel, THE EPIC lovingly takes the stories you think you know and asks them to tell us another.

A TEN TONNE SPARROW PRODUCTION DIRECTOR Joe Lui COMPOSER Tom Hogan DESIGNER Desmond Tan CAST Finn O'Branagáin , Scott Sandwich WEDNESDAY 14 MARCH, 6.30PM THURSDAY 15 MARCH, 11AM THE MUSIC LOUNGE, WOLLONGONG TOWN HALL, \$25

ARTIST TALK Thursday 15 March, 15 mins after matinee ends





The place of Christian faith in Australian politics is often linked to conservatism and intolerance. Yet, new faith-based social movements such as Love Makes A Way actively campaign against government policies. Generated from hours of interviews, Quiet Faith offers a beautiful, immersive and heartfelt portrait of the very different ways that faith can underpin civic life.

AN ALTERNATIVE FACTS PRODUCTION

DESIGNER Jonathon Oxlade **SOUND DESIGNER** Bob Scott **LIGHTING DESIGNER** Chris Petridis Outside Eye Roz Hervey **ORIGINAL PERFORMER AND COLLABORATOR** Ashton Malcolm **PRODUCER** Suzie Franke for Alternative Facts **CAST** Rose Maher, David Williams

TUESDAY 29 MAY, 7PM WEDNESDAY 30 MAY, 11AM & 7PM WOLLONGONG TOWN HALL, \$25

alternative facts

ARTIST TALK Wednesday 30 May, 15 mins after matinee ends





By The Society of Histrionic Happenings



A theatrical and musical reimagining of women's stories from Wentworth Street, Port Kembla, drawing inspiration from interviews undertaken as part of the *Where Lies Beauty* oral history project.

CONCEPT AND DIRECTION Anne-Louise Rentell
POETRY AND PROSE Barbara Nicholson and Ali Smith
COMPOSITION AND MUSICAL DIRECTION Daryl Wallis

SATURDAY 28 JULY, 11
BRUCE GORDON THEATRE,
ILLAWARRA PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE, \$19



Written and Directed by Mark Rogers

This razor-sharp satire on hyper-mediatised society examines the rise of contemporary populism, and how maybe we're all just a few clicks away from stardom.

Sensationalist, overblown and completely untrue, TOM WILLIAM MITCHELL is news and politics in extreme close-up.

A WOODCOURT ART THEATRE PRODUCTION IN ASSOCIATION WITH MERRIGONG THEATRE COMPANY

LIGHTING DESIGNER Frankie Clarke SOUND DESIGNER Liam Halliwell **VIDEO DESIGNER** Solomon Thomas

CAST Matt Abotomev, Hannah Goodwin, James Harding, Lilv Hensby, Braydon May, Harry McGee, Lauren Scott-Young, Solomon Thomas, Carly Young



9 – 10 AUGUST, 7.30PM 11 AUGUST, 1.30PM & 7.30PM BRUCE GORDON THEATRE, **ILLAWARRA PERFORMING** ARTS CENTRE, \$25

ARTIST TALK Saturday 11 August, 15 mins after matinee ends

VENUES

Illawarra Performing Arts Centre, 32 Burelli Street, Wollongong

Wollongong Town Hall,

Corner of Crown and Kembla Streets, Wollongong.

The Spiegeltent Located in the Art Precinct, outside the Illawarra Performing Arts Centre from 12 April - 6 May.

A per transaction fee of \$6.95 applies to phone and internet bookings.

If you would like access to hearing assistance, wheelchair seating, audio description, or other assistance, please advise at the time of booking.

THANK YOU

Merrigong Theatre Company's major funding partners



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



Supporters of our shows







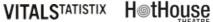
The Epic

The Epic, The Carousel, Tom William Mitchell, Heart-Shaped Shadow, The Siren Project

Heart-Shaped Shadow











Quiet Faith

The Carousel

You may also be interested in the following Merrigong 2018 Mainstage Season shows:

Black is the White 21 - 24 February; Calamity Jane 7 - 11 March; Taha 21 - 25 March; LIMBO 12 April - 6 May; The Aspirations of Daise Morrow 9 - 12 May; Lost Boys 23 May - 2 June; The Beginning of Nature 28 - 30 June; The Events 25 - 28 July; Humans 15 - 19 August; Horror 5 - 8 September; The Orchid and the Crow 10 - 13 October; Prize Fighter 31 October - 3 November

