



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

FEB – NOV 2018

Want to be part of something new?

Championing a future for Australian art that is innovative, inclusive and diverse, MERRIGONGX is a platform for a new generation of artists taking creative risks. With a focus on local and emerging artists and experimentation, join us for a series of new work from some of our boldest new voices.

Most events are supported by a facilitated artist talk, to expand discussion around the artists' work and practice.

For more information visit www.merrigong.com.au/MERRIGONGX



RAW COMEDY 2018 – WOLLONGONG HEAT

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 girlhood 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

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HEART-SHAPED SHADOW (DEVELOPMENT SHOWING)

by Mikelangelo

HEART SHAPED SHADOW is part fable, part family history, part rock'n'roll musical. Award-winning singer, musician, writer, composer and visual artist Mikelangelo digs deep and opens up his vibrant personal world, and how it has been shaped by powerful, visionary women.

DIRECTOR Leland Kean
PERFORMERS Anna Simic, Mikel Simic
BAND Spectres of Love

SATURDAY 10 MARCH, 11AM
BRUCE GORDON THEATRE,
ILLAWARRA PERFORMING
ARTS CENTRE, \$19



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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

Illustration by Desmond Tan

QUIET FAITH

Written and directed by
David Williams

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

ARTIST TALK Wednesday 30 May, 15 mins after matinee ends

alternative
facts



MADE FROM SCRATCH

MADE FROM SCRATCH is a multi-artform performance night offering artists space and support to test new ideas in front of a live audience. Here, experimentation is key. Each event will showcase new works from local artists across theatre, dance, video/digital art, interdisciplinary performance, stand-up, poetry, music, cabaret and circus. Got an idea for an act? Contact artistic@merrigong.com.au

SUNDAY 22 APRIL, 2PM
SPIEGELTENT WOLLONGONG, \$19

SATURDAY 16 JUNE, 7PM
SATURDAY 8 SEPTEMBER, 7PM
SATURDAY 24 NOVEMBER, 7PM
THE MUSIC LOUNGE,
WOLLONGONG TOWN HALL, \$19



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THE SIREN PROJECT (DEVELOPMENT SHOWING)

By The Society of Histrionic Happenings

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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



TOM WILLIAM MITCHELL

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 Abotomey, Hannah Goodwin, James Harding, Lily Hensby, Braydon May, Harry McGee, Lauren Scott-Young, Solomon Thomas, Carly Young

MADE AT
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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 Spiegelent 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.



Create NSW
Arts, Screen & Culture

Supporters of our shows



The Epic



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Arts, Screen & Culture

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



Heart-Shaped Shadow



Australia Council for the Arts

VITALS STATISTIX

HotHouse
THEATRE

shopfront

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





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ABN: 87 590 935 138