



**April
– July
2017**



City of Perth

Proudly supported
by the City of Perth



Emily Kennedy, *Toast* – Performer

Cover: Phoebe Sullivan, *Blueprint* – Devisor & Performer

All images in brochure by Daniel James Grant unless otherwise stated.

New artists, new work, new ways of making work

Uncover what's hidden within this season of new works and play readings. The bold, contemporary and independent theatre you know and love is on show, and so are the stories of these artists.

Watch as emerging artists find their feet and established artists try something new, all of them diving into worlds of possibility as creative talent and audacious ideas converge to bring these works to our stage.

The shows are affordable and so are the drinks in our bar. With 90% of the box office income going straight back to the artists, buying a ticket directly supports your local arts scene. We give independent artists the tools to get their work seen, championing the now, the next and the new.

Grab a drink and take it in with you, hang back afterwards to meet artists, reflect on what you saw; just be sure to join us this April to July because there's no place quite like The Blue Room Theatre.

**Secure your
tickets now:**
blueroom.org.au
08 9227 7005

Box office open Mon – Fri,
9am – 5pm and one hour
before show time.

All tickets \$18 – \$28





Ben Thomas, *So You Think You're Charlie Smith* - Co-Writer, Producer & Performer

The Complete Works

Want to see all six ticketed shows in the season at a discounted rate?

The Complete Works subscription locks in your booking for every ticketed show, with the flexibility to change nights or give your ticket to a friend if you can no longer make it.

You can book in for Members' Nights throughout the season, or go for a more flexible approach where you select each date you would like to attend.

Members' Nights have the added perk of complimentary snacks (courtesy of Torre Butchers) and bar specials before and after the show.

Best yet, you'll save over 35% on full price tickets as a member and over 17% as a non-member.

Members: \$108
General: \$138

You can buy The Complete Works online at blueroom.org.au or by calling us on 08 9227 7005.



So You Think You Charlie Smith

Tickets: \$18 – \$28
Groups 6+: \$23 each

Recommended
for ages 15+



**CONTENT IS KING AND
EVERYONE WANTS THE CROWN.**

Co-Writer & Director
Jackson Used

Co-Writer & Producer
Ben Thomas

Dramaturg
Finn O'Branagáin

Directing Mentor
Will O'Mahony

Lighting/Sound Designer
Robert Woods

Featuring
Phoebe Sullivan
Hollie Hines
James McMillan
Megan Hollier
Ben Thomas

Marketing & Publicity
Jamie Breen

From the creators of *34,000 Forks* and *Fairybread* comes a brave new work that reaches into the heart of reality television and reveals the inner workings of a carefully constructed world.

It's all a show, but there has to be a winner. We're going to take three people off the street and make them stars. They'll be huge. Here's how we're pitching it:

"Three contestants become fierce competitors in their quest to become the next great innovator, but when the pressures of producing good television start to mount up, one contestant pushes back..."

Sounds good? It'll hit the key demos for sure.

In this exciting and unreal world, the barriers between content and person come crashing down as three performers struggle to resist the manipulation of their producers. Then again, this could all just be part of the show.

Tune in and find out.

April

P Preview
MN Members' Night
MTA Meet the Artists

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	11 ^P	12 ^{MN}	13		15	
	18	19 ^{MTA}	20	21	22	
24		26	27	28	29	

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Image: Jamie Breen

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11 – 29 April
7pm

▶ 5

▶▶ EMMA MARY HALL

Ode to Man

"YOU MEN, YOU'RE
A DYING BREED."

Tickets: \$18 – \$28
Groups 6+: \$23 each

Recommended
for ages 16+

**Producer, Writer &
Performer**

Emma Mary Hall

Director

Prue Clark

Animation & Projection

Lindsay Cox

Production Manager

Support

Melanie Burge

Set Designer

Ruby Smedley

Sound Designer

Chris Wenn

Marketing & Publicity

Jamie Breen

Inspired by Sophocles, Spalding Gray and Bettina Arndt, *Ode to Man* is a series of vignettes exploring the death, or end, of men.

Award-winning theatre artist Emma Mary Hall asks how modern masculinity influences our economic and romantic ambitions now that women dare dream to have it all.

Directed by Prue Clark, with animation and projection by Lindsay Cox and sound design by Chris Wenn, this is a darkly funny, sometimes sad, attempt to understand how one woman's broken heart links to the big stuff: global economic change, biological inequity and good ol' mortality.

Prue and Emma's previous work, *We May Have to Choose*, won three awards at Melbourne Fringe including the 2015 Melbourne Festival Discovery Award and enjoyed hugely successful seasons across Australia, the United Kingdom, and New Zealand.

April/May

P Preview
MN Members' Night
MTA Meet the Artists

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	18 ^P	19 ^{MN}	20	21	22	
24		26 ^{MTA}	27	28	29	
	2	3	4	5	6	



18 April
– 6 May
8:30pm

Toast

Tickets: \$18 – \$28
Groups 6+: \$23 each

Recommended
for ages 15+



**THREE DAUGHTERS GATHER AT
THEIR MOTHER'S WAKE, REELING.
GRIEF IS WEIRD, ISN'T IT?**

Writer & Producer
Liz Newell

Director
Emily McLean

Lighting Designer
Chloe Ogilvie

**Sound Designer &
Composer**
Rachael Dease

Featuring
Emily Kennedy
Anna Lindstedt
Alison van Reeken

Stage Manager
Georgia Smith

Publicist
Alison Welburn

Candice just wants to pack up her mother's things without getting sentimental, while Alex – newly sober and dreading a relapse – sneaks old bits of Tupperware into her handbag. Their adopted little sister Sydney is doing pretty well. That's two mothers she's lost now, not that she's counting.

With their childhood home up for sale the sisters are left adrift, wrestling with their grief and each other. Considering they can't even agree on the type of person their mother was... this should be fun.

Ringed with harsh realities and a few home truths, *Toast* is a warm, funny story about the family we're given and the family we choose for ourselves.

From the writer of *Alone Outside* (Fringe World Festival Martin Sims Award Finalist 2017) and the director of *Grounded* (The Blue Room Theatre Best Production Award Winner 2016).

May

P Preview
MN Members' Night
MTA Meet the Artists

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	9 ^P	10 ^{MN}	11	12	13	
	16	17 ^{MTA}	18	19	20	
	23	24	25	26	27	



9 – 27 May
7pm

Interrupting a Crisis

Tickets: \$18 – \$28
Groups 6+: \$23 each

Recommended
for ages 14+



THE TRUE STORY OF A WOMAN WHO LEARNED TO SONGWRITE HER WAY THROUGH ANXIETY

Writer & Performer
Georgina Cramond

Director & Dramaturg
Finn O'Branagáin

Producer
Georgia King

Storytelling Mentor
Andrea Gibbs

Designer
Clare Testoni

Lighting Designer
Rhannon Petersen

Stage Manager
Rachael Woodward

Publicist
Scott McArdle

Georgina didn't know what was happening to her when she started hitting emotional lows at an alarming rate, with her thoughts spinning round in a figure eight. It wasn't until she dusted off an old electric keyboard and started playing that she found relief.

Funny, uplifting, and for the two million Australians who experience anxiety, *Interrupting a Crisis* is undeniably relatable.

Told with vulnerability and original music, Georgina invites you into the chaos and confusion of an anxious mind, and the thump of the heart that keeps the beat. It's about taking hold of fears, saying them out loud, and making them rhyme until they are no longer terrifying. It's about speaking out when you need help, with or without musical backing.

This is not the story of a crisis but the interruption of one.

May/June

P Preview
MN Members' Night
MTA Meet the Artists

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	16 ^P	17 ^{MN}	18	19	20	
	23	24 ^{MTA}	25	26	27	
	30	31	1	2	3	

16 May
– 3 June
8:30pm

▶▶ SEAN CROFTON, JESSICA RUSSELL AND PHOEBE SULLIVAN

Blueprint

Tickets: \$18 – \$28
Groups 6+: \$23 each

Recommend
for ages 15+

**WE WERE BRED FOR EARTH,
ON EARTH, BY EARTH.**



Co-Devisors

Jessica Russell
Phoebe Sullivan

Producer

Liz Newell

Featuring

Jessica Russell
Phoebe Sullivan
Sean Crofton

**Lighting Designer &
Stage Manager**

Phoebe Pilcher

**Sound Designer &
Composer**

Drew Krapljanov

Publicist

Zoe Hollyoak







Now it's time to leave our host, and our understanding of evolution along with it. Alex, Jayne, and Lewis are the first to reckon with this new reality. Exceptional only for being exceptionally ordinary, the three strangers eagerly join a program designed to produce astronauts in less than six months. The catch? The bodies they go in with may not be the same as the ones they come out with.

In the weeks that follow, ethics and science collide in this compelling exploration of what it means to be human. In the game of genetic modification, you can eradicate disease – or divide a species. Nobody said it would be a fair fight.

A thought-provoking new work of physical theatre by an exciting team of recent Western Australian Academy of the Performing Arts graduates, *Blueprint* invites us to imagine a world where nothing is impossible.

June

P Preview
MN Members' Night
MTA Meet the Artists

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	6 ^P	7 ^{MN}	8	9	10	
	13	14 ^{MTA}	15	16	17	
	20	21	22	23	24	



6 – 24 June
7pm

▶▶ TEN TONNE SPARROW

Tamagotchi Rese Other Doomsday

Tickets: \$18 – \$28
Groups 6+: \$23 each

Recommended
for ages 15+

Writers

Finn O'Branagáin
Scott Sandwich

**Director, Dramaturg &
Lighting Design**
Joe Lui

Producer
Finn O'Branagáin

Sound Designer
Tom Hogan

Featuring
Paul Grabovac
Izzy McDonald

Stage Manager
Daley King

Publicist
Scott McArdle

FINN'S NEW TAMAGOTCHI IS ACTING A BIT WEIRD.

The tentacled hatchling needs constant care and attention, and it just keeps whispering "That is not dead which can eternal lie" over and over again. Scott's having fever dreams about rising sea levels, and cult members keep turning up at the front door. Is it time? Is THIS climate change? Or was Nostradamus wrong again?

The real signposts of inevitable doom are already here, so Finn and Scott connect the dots between ancient myth, up-to-the-minute science, and the dankest memes. Together they present a comprehensive pre-apocalyptic guide to the end of the world.

From the minds behind *The Epic* comes a new factual spectacular about the end of humanity, and our relationship with the world around us.

Come on in, the water is warm. And it's getting warmer.

June/July

P Preview
MN Members' Night
MTA Meet the Artists

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	20 ^P	21 ^{MN}	22	23	24	
	27	28 ^{MTA}	29	30	1	
	4	5	6	7	8	

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20 June
– 8 July
8:30pm

►► YIRRA YAAKIN THEATRE COMPANY

Yirra Yaarnz

Attendance is free
but bookings
are required.

**A DAY OF PLAY READINGS FROM
EMERGING WEST AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL
PLAYWRIGHTS RESPONDING TO NAIDOC'S
THEME, OUR LANGUAGE MATTERS.**



Coordinator
Irma Woods

Facilitators & Dramaturgs
Hellie Turner
Polly Low
Geoff Kelso

Mentored by award-winning playwrights Hellie Turner, Polly Low and Geoff Kelso through Yirra Yaakin's Writers' Group, these artists showcase the importance of storytelling and playwriting as it relates to Aboriginal culture.

Yirra Yaakin's Writers' Group is an intensive playwriting program that guides writers through craft and writing sessions aimed at turning ideas into scripts. At the culmination of the program, six writers will be selected for one-on-one mentoring to help them prepare their scripts for public reading.

Yirra Yaakin Theatre Company and The Blue Room Theatre are combining dedicated resources to nurture new and emerging Aboriginal playwrights.

Readings will take place on Saturday 8 July. Further details will be announced closer to the date

July

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					8	



yirra yaakin
THEATRE COMPANY



Our Languages Matter
2-9 JULY 2017

8 July



Apply for up to \$10,000 to help you develop new audiences in Joondalup!

Information and Funding Application Package
Applications for first round close **Thursday 13 April 2017, 5.00pm**

Applications for second round close **Thursday 19 October 2017, 5.00pm**

For further information visit joondalup.wa.gov.au or call **9400 4230**.




City of Perth

**Supporting
homegrown
artists**



perth.wa.gov.au

Grounded. Photo by Daniel James Grant



PICA Presents

THE IRRESISTIBLE

Side Pony Productions
& The Last Great Hunt

14 – 24 JUNE

PICA PERFORMANCE SPACE

Created by Zoe Pepper,
Tim Watts & Adriane Daff

*Let's begin with two people.
Deep in the gloom a phone rings.
They take the call. The voice on the
line slips beneath her skin and curls
its fingers around his stomach.*

*You can't see it, you can't touch it,
you can barely feel it.
You can't hold on tight enough.*

TICKETS ON SALE NOW | PICA.ORG.AU | 9228 6300

pica
PERTH INSTITUTE OF
CONTEMPORARY ARTS

side pony
productions

THE LAST GREAT HUNT



Government of Western Australia
Department of Culture and the Arts

lotterywest

Australian Government

Australia
Council
for the Arts

BLUE
ROOM

LOFT

CITY OF PERTH

PICA's ongoing programs are primarily supported by an investment from the State of Western Australia through the Department of Culture and the Arts in association with Lotterywest, assistance from the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body. PICA is supported by the Visual Arts and Craft Strategy, an initiative of the Australian, State and Territory Governments. This project has been supported by PICA's new performance model, the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, its arts funding and advisory body, the Western Australian Government through the Department of Culture and the Arts, the City of Perth and LOFT, an initiative of The Blue Room Theatre, supported by the State Government through the Department of Culture and the Arts. Photo: David Collins.



Membership

**We exist to support our members.
Become a member of The Blue Room
Theatre and receive:**

- ▶ Cheaper tickets to shows at The Blue Room Theatre
- ▶ Access to free or reduced price workshops and courses
- ▶ Relevant industry news and opportunities
- ▶ Alerts about applications for funding and seasons
- ▶ Discounted rehearsal space
- ▶ Support
- ▶ Advocacy
- ▶ Exclusive discounts at our Members' Nights
- ▶ Concession price tickets at a number of other cultural institutions around town

**Head to
blueroom.org.au
to find out more
about becoming
a member.**

Don't need member services
but want to support
independent artists?
Join our Giving Program
(see over page).





Ruby Smedley, *Ode to Man* - Set Designer

Giving Program

Since 1989, we've been at the forefront of contemporary performance in WA and that's where we remain. We're unique in Australia in the way we give independent artists the opportunities and skills to succeed.

We support the advancement of careers and provide an unparalleled resource for emerging artists with big ideas and established artists who want to take new risks.

We exist to be accessible to all and keep our prices reasonable so that a greater range of audiences can enjoy our shows.

Each year the generosity of our donors enables us to continue to support independent artists. We receive donations from artists, audiences, and members, to name a few, and all donations over \$2 are tax deductible. Every little bit counts.

Play your part in making this happen by donating online at blueroom.org.au or over the phone on 9227 7005.



"The Blue Room Theatre is hands-down the best experience I've had with producing a show, both in and outside festival seasons. The team do a stellar job of programming, developing audiences, and nurturing artists and their work. They are the truest example of what an arts venue should be. Give them all your money."

PETA SPURLING-BROWN, Hey Boss – Producer (Butt Kapinski)





Maitland Schnaars, *Yirra Yaarnz*

Greening the Blue

Despite the current political and ecological climate there are literally thousands of leaders, global and local, who are tackling sustainability head on. We're committed to being one such leader, seeking a synergy between economic growth and social benefit with low environmental impact.

We're so proud of our member-supported solar power panels, and continue to work towards being carbon neutral by 2020. We are also looking at broader sustainability across all levels of the organisation – from water-use to rubbish disposal to social inclusion.

In 2016 we published a monthly blog covering our thoughts, interests, and actions toward sustainability. The blog will continue in 2017, including a new initiative interviewing artists, members, and experts about their perspectives on sustainability. Our first conversation with Harriet Gillies from Summer Nights show *They've Already Won* is online now. To read it, and to keep up to date with our monthly posts, head to the Sustainability section of blueroom.org.au.

We can't change the world without making changes in our own homes, and here at The Blue Room Theatre we are committed to *Greening the Blue*.

THE LAST GREAT HUNT PRESENTS

THE ADVISORS

THE BEST ADVICE YOU
NEVER ASKED FOR



MAY 31 - JUNE 10 @ 7PM

REHEARSAL ROOM 1, STATE THEATRE CENTRE OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

TICKETS: \$25 - \$35 | BOOKINGS: [TICKETEK.COM.AU](https://www.ticketek.com.au)

 THE LAST GREAT HUNT



City of Perth



Australia
Council
for the Arts



Government of Western Australia
Department of Culture and the Arts



THE LAST GREAT HUNT IS SUPPORTED BY THE STATE GOVERNMENT THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE AND THE ARTS

Develop your practice

We're committed to providing opportunities for artists and arts workers to develop their practice throughout the year. After such a positive response in 2016, *Good Play Club* returns and is now joined by *Critical Conversation* as part of our regular and free professional development series.

Good Play Club

Presented in association with Black Swan State Theatre Company, *Good Play Club* invites the theatre makers of Perth to come together and stand on the shoulders of giants. Each month, a different play from the canon of great theatrical works is read at an informal gathering, followed by a guided conversation led by Black Swan Associate Director Jeffrey Jay Fowler and a guest artist. Places are limited for this free event so RSVP is essential.



Critical Conversation

Critical Conversation is a free event that encourages critical discussion about work being made and presented in Perth. Each month, a panel of artists, arts workers, producers and critics engage in a facilitated conversation in front of an audience about work that has been presented in Perth in the preceding weeks. Following on from this, the facilitator leads a Q&A with the audience and panellists. The aim is to encourage dialogue, provoke thought and increase the level of critical discussion and quality of response to work in Perth.

**To find out more
about these
opportunities,
head to the
Artists section of
blueroom.org.au.**



Georgina Cramond, *Interrupting a Crisis* - Writer & Performer

The Team

Staff

Executive Director

Kerry O'Sullivan (until April 2017)

Julian Hobba (from April 2017)

Producer

Jenna Mathie

Associate Producer

Harriet Roberts

Marketing & Communications Manager

Emma Poletti

Venue & Operations Manager

Roger Miller

Office & Front of House Manager

Sally Martin

Finance Officer

Karen Connolly

Board

Chair

Libby Klysz

Deputy Chair

Philippa Maughan

Treasurer

Tanya Payne

Secretary

Chris Donnelly

Shane Colquhoun

Dr Renee Newman

Dr Vanessa Rauland

Thanks

A big thank you to the artists we employ as front of house and bar staff on a casual basis and the ushers who kindly volunteer their time for us.

We would also like to acknowledge the generous support of our brochure partners: Daniel James Grant, Studio Papa and Scott Print.



Follow Us

For the latest news, special offers, behind-the-scenes insights and exclusive information about our shows, follow us:

Web: blueroom.org.au

e-newsletter: sign up at blueroom.org.au

Facebook: fb.com/theblueroomtheatre

Twitter: @The_BlueRoom_

Instagram: @theblueroomtheatre



Government of Western Australia
Department of Culture and the Arts



**STUDIO
PAPA**



ALEX HOTEL

The Blue Room Theatre is assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, and is supported by the State Government through the Department of Culture and the Arts. Our development seasons are supported by the City of Perth.

blueroom.org.au



Perth Cultural Centre, 53 James Street, Northbridge WA