

The Blue Room Theatre

April–July 2018





Now Next New

The bold, contemporary and independent theatre you know and love is back. We invite you to uncover what's hidden in this season of new works, play readings and special events.

Watch as emerging artists find their feet and established artists try something new. We're 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; we champion 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 and mingle in our intimate bar. Journey to the heart of Northbridge and be sure to join us this April to July, because there's no place quite like The Blue Room Theatre.

Acknowledgement

The Blue Room Theatre is located on the traditional lands of the Whadjuk peoples of the Noongar nation. We offer our respect to the Elders of these traditional lands and, through them, to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Secure your tickets now:

blueroom.org.au
08 9227 7005

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

All tickets \$20 – \$30
inc. booking fee

Front Cover:
Humphrey Bower, HIRO –
Co-Creator & Performer
Left: *Charlotte Otton,*
Hive Mind – Performer

The Complete Works

BOOK ALL AT ONCE AND SAVE UP
TO A THIRD OF THE TICKET PRICE!

Members

\$120

General

\$150

—

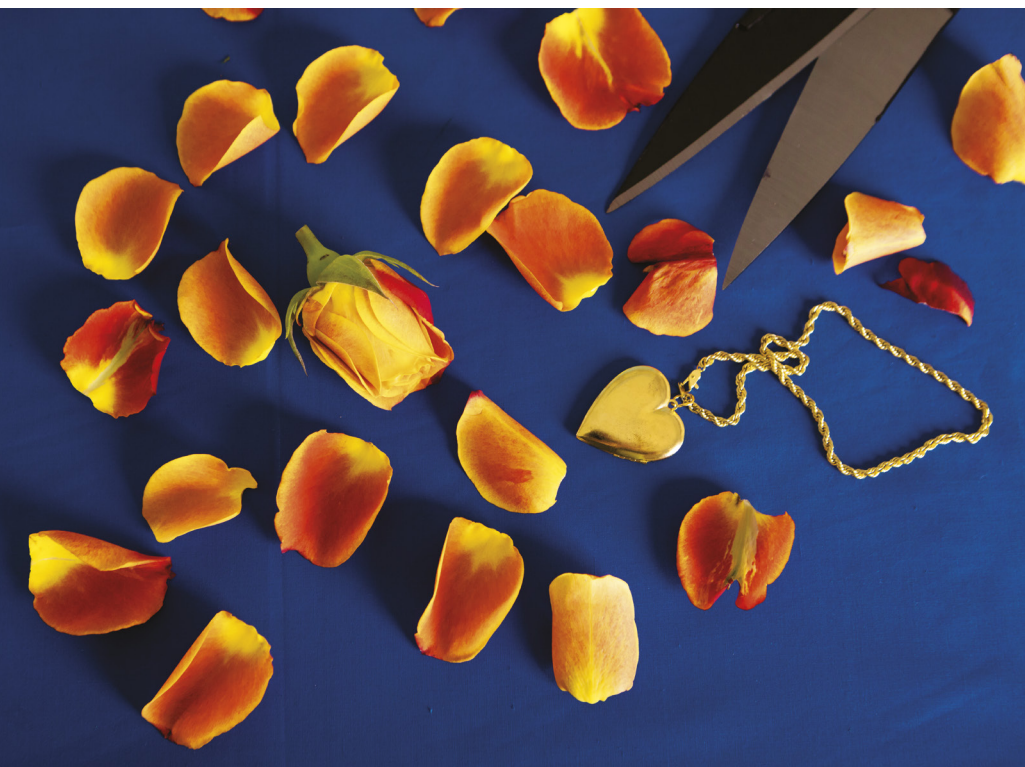
You can buy the Complete Works online at blueroom.org.au or by calling us on **08 9227 7005**

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 choose to book in for Members' Nights throughout the season, or select individual dates for each show.

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





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.



Hold Your Breath

(COUNT TO TEN)

It's a simple instruction. It can help you clear your mind. Especially if you have issues.

Daley has issues. His social skills are clinically lacking, so he puts up a facade. His lungs are a diagnosed let-down, so he spends his life in water. His mind constantly escapes him, so he endeavours to escape his mind. To deal with these disorders, Daley has learned how to breathe. He's also found art to keep him afloat.

In this extremely personal and revealing work, Daley attacks the idea behind the 'broken artist', and what we might do to fix ourselves, or just to keep our heads above the water. With the darkest of humour and brutal honesty, he twists and turns the idea of 'performance', a unique perspective on what it means to bare yourself, your ideas, and your traumas to an audience.

Working closely with local performer Amy Murray, and local director Susie Conte, *Hold Your Breath (Count To Ten)* delves deep into the mind and methods of local weirdo Daley King, as he sets out on a mission to bring to life his experience of making art while dealing with his own physical, emotional, and mental debilitation.

APRIL/MAY

7pm* | 8:30pm

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
23* ^P	24* ^{MN}		26*	27*	28*	
	1	2 ^{MTA}	3	4	5	
	8	9	10	11	12	

Tickets \$20 - \$30 / Group Tickets 6+ \$25 each

Production Company
Antifragile

Director
Susie Conte

Writer & Performer
Daley King

Performer
Amy Murray

Stage Manager
Catherine O'Donoghue

Set Designer
Sara Chirichilli

Projection Designer
George Ashforth

Lighting Designer
Scott McArdle

Composer & Sound Designer
Joe Lui

P Preview
MN Members' Night
MTA Meet the Artists





Hive Mind

COMMUNITY. FAITH. OBSESSION.

*"First you see the light.
Then you step into the light.
And then, finally, you become light."*

On a quiet night in the sleepy town of St Augustine, Haley Woodward goes missing while hiking through Box Elder Canyon. As Dale searches for the missing girl, his boyfriend Austin is becoming dangerously obsessed with a beehive, believing it grants him insight into the true nature of the universe.

The community that surrounds Dale is crumbling, and Austin is growing ever more committed to his beliefs. *Hive Mind* looks at what happens when the person you love starts believing the unbelievable. Do you fight it, or do you step into the light?

From the award-winning company that brought you *Bus Boy* and *Girl in the Wood* comes a new play about the changing nature of community, and what it means to put your faith to the test.

Production Company
Rorschach Beast

Director & Writer
Geordie Crawley

Producer & Publicist
Jessica Russell

Performers
St John Cowcher
Alicia Osyka
Charlotte Otton
Elise Wilson
Haydon Wilson

Stage Manager
Rhiannon Petersen

Lighting Design
Scott McArdle

Composer
Robert Woods

Mentor
Will O'Mahony

Designer
Cherish Marrington

MAY						7pm
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1 ^P	2 ^{MN}	3	4	5	
	8	9 ^{MTA}	10	11	12	
	15	16	17	18	19	

P Preview
MN Members' Night
MTA Meet the Artists

Tickets \$20 - \$30 / Group Tickets 6+ \$25 each



Tale of Tales

ITALIAN-AUSTRALIAN WAR STORY

Italy, World War Two. Fierce and brave Antoinetta, a known communist, heavily pregnant, has to flee to Australia to safety. Her husband Sante, a gentle storyteller, stays to fight against Europe's rising fascist regimes.

Separated by war and unimaginable distance, Sante and Antoinetta can communicate only through coded letters, their experiences mirrored and revealed through the folk stories they tell each other.

Based on true stories, *Tale of Tales* fuses fairy tales with the horrors of war. Filled with shadow puppetry, romance and violence, *Tale of Tales* takes its name from the classic Italian fairy tale and looks at how the stories we tell shape us and our families.

Brought to life by the team at Bow & Dagger (*The Beast & The Bride*), *Tale of Tales* sees a collection of Perth's hotshot storytellers transform The Blue Room Theatre into war-torn Italy and 1940s Australia for three weeks.

Production Company

Bow & Dagger

Directors & Performers

Clare Testoni

Paul Grabovac

Writer

Clare Testoni

Dramaturg

Finn O'Branagáin

Producer

Natalie Di Risio

Lighting Designer

Rhiannon Petersen

Publicist

Scott McArdle

MAY/JUNE

7pm

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	22 ^P	23 ^{MN}	24	25	26	
	29	30 ^{MTA}	31	1	2	
	5	6	7	8	9	

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MN Members' Night
MTA Meet the Artists

Tickets \$20 - \$30 / Group Tickets 6+ \$25 each



The Edge

A MUSICAL GOODBYE

Jarod. Lilly. Deanna. Michael. Ryan. April. Six people who know Josh, an aspiring artist and a troubled young man. When Josh declares that he wishes to end his life, these six are forced to re-examine their relationships: with him, with one another, and with themselves.

The Edge is a dynamic new musical, originally staged in Malaysia and coming to Perth for the first time. A production that peers over the edge of the human condition and leaps into the complicated nature of relationships, it asks questions about affect, responsibility – and ultimately, forgiveness.

“A powerful play with characters that speak directly to audiences” – **New Straits Times, Malaysia**

Production Company
Catface Productions

Director
Levon J. Polinelli

**Writer, Composer,
Lyricist & Arranger**
Nick Choo

Music Director
Harry Orliff

Performers
Claudia Van Zeller
Emerson Brophy
Grace Johnson
Madeline Shaw
Philip Lynch
Tate Bennett

Stage Manager
Thomas Dimmick

Designer
Sara Chirichilli

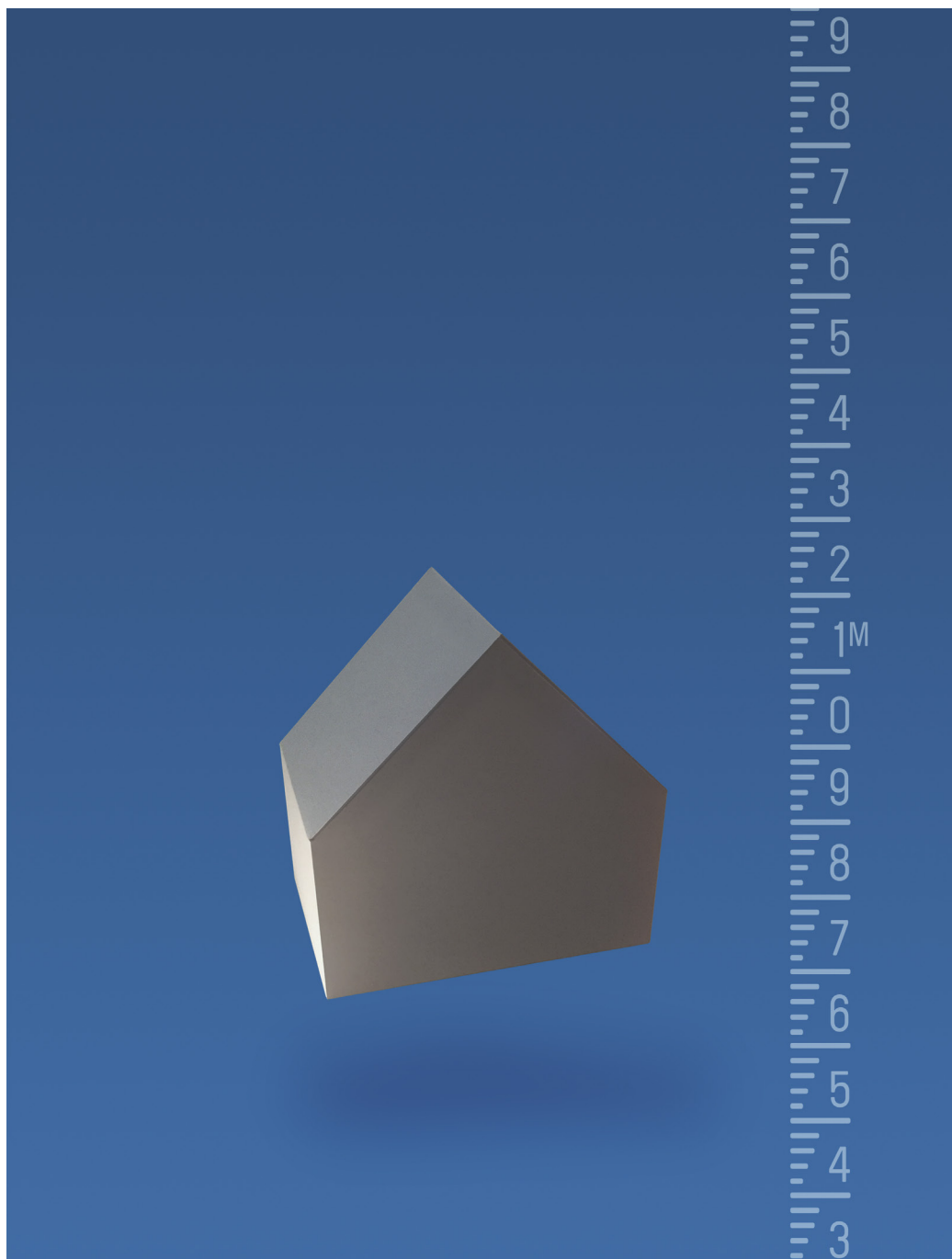
MAY/JUNE

7pm* | 8:30pm

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	29 ^P	30 ^{MN}	31	1	2	
	5	6 ^{MTA}	7	8	9	
	12*	13*	14*	15*	16*	

Tickets \$20 – \$30 / Group Tickets 6+ \$25 each

P Preview
MN Members' Night
MTA Meet the Artists



HIRO

THE MAN WHO SAILED HIS HOUSE

HIRO tells the incredible but true story of Hiromitsu Shinkawa, who survived the Japanese tsunami of 2011 by riding the sea on the roof of his house.

'At two forty-six, something rumbles from deep in the earth, a sickening sort of grinding, and then everything lurches wildly, whips back, lurches more wildly still.... your first move is to flee the shed, to dive twenty feet free onto open ground and clutch it, as if riding the back of a whale. Time elongates. Three minutes becomes a lifetime.'

This story of a man who loses almost everything is the jumping-off point for an exquisite reflection on the trembling of the human condition, what is truly important to us, and what it means to survive.

From the producer who brought you the award-winning *The Astronaut*, *HIRO* is a new collaboration between Perth performance-makers Samantha Chester and Humphrey Bower, and will use text, movement, image and sound to create and destroy *HIRO*'s world. Based on the story *The Man Who Sailed His House* by Michael Paterniti.

Presenter

Samantha Chester

Creator & Director

Samantha Chester

Co-Creator & Performer

Humphrey Bower

Collaborator & Co-Performer

Kylie Maree

Composer

Ekrem Mülâyim

Set Designer

Rhys Morris

Dramaturg

Anthony Skuse

Lighting Designer

Phoebe Pilcher

Stage Manager & Collaborator

Tim Green

Publicist

Alison Welburn

P Preview
MN Members' Night
MTA Meet the Artists

JUNE/JULY

7pm | 8:30pm*

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	19 ^P	20 ^{MN}	21	22	23	
	26	27 ^{MTA}	28	29	30	
	3*	4*	5*	6*	7*	

Tickets \$20 - \$30 / Group Tickets 6+ \$25 each



Banned

HURT AND FORGIVENESS

"I got one son. That's why I'm here - to make this right for him. Doesn't matter what I've been through."

After a sell-out season at FRINGE WORLD 2018, *Banned* returns to The Blue Room Theatre.

An ugly incident at her son's football lands Meeka with time in jail and a life-time ban from future footy matches. Meeka wants her ban lifted but Jane, the injured party, wants blood. Mediation is a last-ditch, volatile shot at negotiating some form of mutual justice. Can these two women move from their hurt and hatred towards reconciliation and forgiveness?

Banned is the thought-provoking debut of emerging playwright Barbara Hostalek, directed by the award-winning Hellie Turner.

Proudly supported by **Yirra Yaakin Theatre Company** and **Playwriting Australia**, *Banned* is an important new Australian work.

'...a powerful piece - relevant and contemporary.'

– **The West Australian**

'...timely and timeless, and not to be missed.'

– **Isolated Nation**

Production Company
Mudskipper Productions

Performers
Della Rae Morrison
Kingsley Judd

Playwright
Barbara Hostalek

Director
Hellie Turner

Producer
Elinor King

Dramaturg
Polly Low

Publicist
Zoe Hollyoak

JULY

7pm

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	3 ^P	4 ^{MN}	5	6	7	
	10	11 ^{MTA}	12	13	14	

P Preview
MN Members' Night
MTA Meet the Artists

Tickets \$20 - \$30 / Group Tickets 6+ \$25 each

Voices

IDEAS, PERFORMANCES AND
PRESENTATIONS FROM
WEST AUSTRALIAN ARTISTS

20 – 23 June 2018



Queer Visibility Wed 20 June

This is a chance to pick the brain of some of Perth's incredible Queer artists. Join us for an evening of discussion as we check in with the LGBTI+ community almost a year on from the initial plebiscite proposal and tackle the big question, "What does it mean to be a Queer Artist?"

This Pride Month, Mitch Whelan has all the hairy questions for some of the most exciting LGTBQIA+ artists and producers in Perth.



Reimagining the Interplay Thu 21 June

The second in a series of gatherings with diverse artists from all art forms coming together to explore the interplay between rootedness and expression and reimagine the maps of our communities.

If you identify as a diverse artist or change-maker, we hope you will come and add to the richness of this gathering!

Facilitated by IllUMEnate WA, a collective of CaLD artists and humanitarians.



Common Ground Returns Fri 22 June

Common Ground returns with more powerful voices of young people from diverse backgrounds who express their identity through the spoken word, finding the stories that bind us together. Come and hear these poets fresh from a creative development process exploring identity, authenticity, faith, belonging, conflict and peace. Produced by CAN, in partnership with Multicultural Arts Victoria.



In Conversation with Yirra Yaakin Sat 23 June

Join some of Perth's best emerging Aboriginal performance makers for a conversation about the state of Aboriginal Theatre in Western Australia. This evening is supported by Yirra Yaakin Theatre Company.



Yirra Yaarnz

Yirra Yaarnz is a weekend of play readings from emerging Western Australian Aboriginal playwrights responding to NAIDOC's theme of **'Because of her, we can'**. Mentored by award-winning playwright Hellie Turner, Polly Low and Geoff Kelso, through Yirra Yaakin Theatre Company's Writers' Group, this presentation showcases the importance of storytelling and playwriting as it relates to contemporary Aboriginal culture. Yirra Yaarnz is proudly presented by Yirra Yaakin Theatre Company in collaboration with The Blue Room Theatre. Together we are combining dedicated resources to nurture new and emerging Aboriginal playwrights to share their stories.

Attendance is free but bookings are required.
Please visit blueroom.org.au closer to the date.

Production Company
Yirra Yaakin Theatre Company

**Writer's Group
Coordinator**
Irma Woods

**Writer's Group Facilitators
& Dramaturgs**
Geoff Kelso
Polly Low
Hellie Turner

JULY

7pm

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				13	14	



THE BLUE ROOM THEATRE
PRESENTS

WINTER NIGHTS 2018

The Pilot Light edition

30 July – 4 August

Winter Nights is a new mid-year
festival to *imagine, discover and*
connect through theatre.

blueroom.org.au



minderoo



Australian Government



Department of
Local Government, Sport
and Cultural Industries



City of Perth

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 Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries. Our development seasons are supported by the City of Perth.



Develop Your Practice

We're committed to providing opportunities for artists and arts workers to develop their practice throughout the year. Good Play Club returns for its third year and Critical Conversation for its second, 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 local aspiring theatre makers to come together to read and discuss some of the most interesting and engaging works in the theatrical canon. Black Swan's Director of New Writing, Jeffrey Jay Fowler, will lead the conversation about the play with a different artist making a guest appearance at each session. Upcoming dates and plays will be announced soon via social media. 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. Throughout the year, 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 blueroom.org.au.

Giving Program

"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)

We've been at the forefront of contemporary performance in WA since 1989, and that's where we remain. The way in which we support and nurture independent artists is unique in Australia. We are committed to providing independent artists with the opportunities and skills they need to succeed, and we are unparalleled in our financial and in-kind support.

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

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**.







Greening The Blue

In the current political and ecological climate it can be easy to feel helpless – but there are 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 LED theatre lights, 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.

Since 2016 we have published a regular blog covering our thoughts, interests, and actions toward sustainability. The blog will continue in 2018, featuring interviews with artists, members, and experts about their perspectives on sustainability. To read it, and to keep up to date with our 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*.

BREWED
BY INSTINCT



FERAL
BREWING CO.

Drink Responsibly.

✦ THE LAST GREAT HUNT PRESENTS

THE

TALK

WRITTEN BY GITA BEZARD

SUBIACO ARTS CENTRE

11 - 21 APRIL



✦ THE LAST GREAT HUNT PRESENTS

IMPROVEMENT CLUB

WRITTEN BY JEFFREY JAY FOWLER



STATE THEATRE CENTRE OF WA

25 JUNE - 7 JULY

TICKETS THROUGH PTT.GOV.AU OR (08) 6212 9392 OR IN PERSON



THE LAST GREAT HUNT IS SUPPORTED BY THE STATE GOVERNMENT THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, SPORT & CULTURAL INDUSTRIES. THIS PROJECT IS SUPPORTED BY THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT THROUGH THE AUSTRALIA COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS, ITS ARTS FUNDING AND ADVISORY BODY.

**PULL IN,
REST UP *or*
LET LOOSE.**

BIVOUAC



198 William Street

f @bivouacanteen

BIVOUAC.COM.AU

**WE'RE RIGHT
NEXT DOOR.**

SUBIACO ARTS CENTRE PRESENTS

SUBIACO THEATRE FESTIVAL

SUBIACO ARTS CENTRE
6 - 30 JUNE 2018

THE MAN AND THE MOON ■ FIND THE LADY
INTERRUPTING A CRISIS ■ WHEN HE GETS THAT WAY
BUS BOY ■ TISSUE ■ GUTENBERG! THE MUSICAL!

PTT.WA.GOV.AU/STF

A New Wine Store & Bar

458 William st. Perth

Wines

of

While

info@winesofwhile.com

[@winesofwhile](https://www.instagram.com/winesofwhile)

JOIN THE CONVERSATION
HIT ME WITH YOUR BEST SHOT

BLACK SWAN
STATE THEATRE
COMPANY 

ASSASSINS

MUSIC & LYRICS BY

Stephen
Sondheim

BOOK BY

John
Weidham

16 JUN TO
01 JUL

HEATH LEDGER THEATRE

THE EVENTS

by David Greig

21 JUN TO
08 JUL

STUDIO UNDERGROUND

BOOK BOTH PLAYS AS PART OF A MINI-FESTIVAL FEAST FOR \$100
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT BSSTC.COM.AU

PRINCIPAL PARTNER



ASSASSINS



STATE
THEATRE
CENTRE



simplisite
BUSINESS SOLUTIONS

THE EVENTS



Wesfarmers Arts



Department of
Local Government, Sport
and Cultural Industries

GOVERNMENT PARTNERS





The Team

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Jenna Mathie

Associate Producer

Harriet Roberts

Marketing & Communications Manager

Ryan Sandilands

Venue & Operations Manager

Roger Miller

Office & Front of House Manager

Sally Martin

Finance Officer

Karen Connolly

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.

Graphic Design

Studio Papa

Photographer

Duncan Wright

Printer

Scott Print

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Libby Klysz

Deputy Chair

Philippa Maughan

Treasurer

Tanya Payne

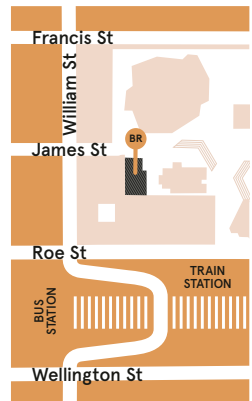
Secretary

Chris Donnelly

Shane Colquhoun
Dr Renee Newman
Dr Vanessa Rauland



Map



blueroom.org.au
08 9227 7005



blueroom.org.au

Perth Cultural Centre, 53 James Street, Northbridge WA



Australia
Council
for the Arts



Department of
Local Government, Sport
and Cultural Industries



City of Perth

Proudly supported by the City of Perth

**STUDIO
PAPA**



ALEX HOTEL



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