

The
**BLUE
ROOM**
Theatre

**Aug
– Dec
2017**



City of Perth

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All images in brochure by Michael Timmins unless otherwise stated.

Cherish Marrington, *Unveiling: Gay Sex for Endtimes*
COVER: James McMillan, *Arteries by Ancestry*

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New artists, new work, new ways of making work

Take everything you know and turn it on its head this August to December at The Blue Room Theatre.

Independent artists present eight new productions in a season that is one of our most diverse yet. From distinctly Australian stories to those that are out of this world, a journey of form, content, and style awaits, all of it the result of brazen minds and tenacious talent.

With 90% of box office income going straight back to the artists, buying a ticket to one of these shows directly supports your local arts scene. We nurture creativity and give independent artists the opportunities and tools to develop work and get it seen.

So join us in championing the now, the next, and the new. Take your pick, get up close and personal, hang back afterwards to meet artists and discuss what you just saw. 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





The Complete Works

Want to see all eight shows in this season at a discounted rate?

The Complete Works subscription locks in your seat for every 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. Plus, everyone who subscribes to the August to December season before Sunday 27 August 2017 will go into the running to win a new bike courtesy of William Street Cycle Co. See blueroom.org.au for competition details.

Best yet, you'll save over 35% on full price tickets as a member and almost 18% as a non-member.

Members: \$144
General: \$184

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





Image by Louise Gan

An Almost Perfect Thing

8 – 26 August | 7pm

Chloe was held captive in a basement for seven years. Now free, she has become an international celebrity who is both respected and scrutinised by the public. They want her to reveal who her kidnapper was and why she seems to be protecting him.

But Chloe won't provide names or locations. Instead of leading police to her captor, she turns to a journalist who's searching for a high-profile story to help revive his career, and dictates to him how her story should be told.

Canadian playwright Nicole Moeller's award-winning drama is a dark, thought-provoking psychological thriller about possession and desire and our "right" to the truth.

Featuring Daisy Coyle (*The Lighthouse Girl*), Nick MacLaine (*Bambert's Book of Lost Stories*) and Andrew Hale (*The Boat Goes Over the Mountain*), this Australian premiere has plenty of bite.

"This is a play with teeth!" *Vue Weekly* (Canada)

AUGUST

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	8 ^P	9 ^{MN}	10	11	12	
	15	16 ^{MTA}	17 ^{AUS}	18	19	
	22	23	24	25	26	

Writer

Nicole Moeller

Director

Gabrielle Metcalf

Assistant Director

Riley Spadaro

Producer & Production Manager

Emily Stokoe

Set & Costumer Designer

Tyler Hill

Sound Designer

Christian Peterson

Associate Sound Designer

Andrew Michie

Lighting Designer

Rhiannon Petersen

Stage Manager

Jessie Atkins

Featuring

Daisy Coyle
Andrew Hale
Nick MacLaine

Publicity & Marketing

Tracy Routledge

P Preview

MN Members' Night

MTA Meet the Artists

AUS Auslan Interpreted Session

Tickets: \$18 - \$28 / Groups 6+: \$23 each / Recommended for ages 14+



Arteries by Ancestry

15 August – 2 September | 8:30pm

Like father like son.

Threaded by blood, generation to generation, we pass on our odious discretions.

In world where environmentalism is king, drastic repercussions rain down on those who dare to harm the earth. Relationships become strained with memories and fraught with harsh truths. A man grapples with his past and the person he has become, a legacy in disgrace.

Arteries by Ancestry is a bold investigation into queer relationships, hypermasculinity, and how our ancestors shape who we are. Seeking to explore and redefine the boundaries of dance and theatre, it pushes the edges of form and challenges convention.

Presented by FUGUE, a company which celebrates explosive, unique, and visceral theatre art, and devised in collaboration with Haydon Wilson and Noah Jimmy, *Arteries by Ancestry* is a sexy and ambitious work directed by WAAPA graduate James McMillan.

Director

James McMillan

Producer

Samantha Maclean

Devisers & Performers

Noah Jimmy
Haydon Wilson

Movement Mentor

Rachel Arianne Ogle

Sound Designer

Alex & Yell

Lighting Designer

Rhiannon Petersen

Stage Designer

Sally Phipps

Dramaturg

Samantha Chester

Publicity

Jessica Russell

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	15 ^P	16 ^{MN}	17	18	19	
	22	23 ^{MTA}	24	25	26	
	29	30	31	1	2 ^{MAT}	

P Preview

MN Members' Night

MTA Meet the Artists

MAT Additional 6pm
Matinee

Tickets: \$18 - \$28 / Groups 6+: \$23 each / Recommended for ages 15+



Image by Eclaire Photography

Laika: A Staged Radio Play

12 – 30 September | 8:30pm

Soviet Russia. 1957. The Space Race.

The unsung heroes of the Soviet space program outsmart the competition on a daily basis – breaking records and making history. A lone flight technician dreams of reaching the stars. However, as she climbs closer to success, the price of victory and the sins of a nation reveal themselves.

From the award-winning team at Second Chance Theatre (*Between Solar Systems*, *Coincidences at the End of Time*), *Laika* is a new staged radio play based on historical events that dares you to dream. Live foley transforms the theatre into launch pads, snow-covered Siberia, and even the depths of space.

How far would you go to achieve your dream?

Writer & Director

Scott McArdle

Producer

Natalie Di Risio

Designer

Sara Chirichilli

Composer

Robert Woods

Projectionist

George Ashforth

Dramaturg

Alexa Taylor

Live Foley Artist

Andrew David

Stage Manager

Georgia Smith

Featuring

Daniel Buckle
St John Cowcher
Arielle Gray
Taryn Ryan

Publicity

Jessica Russell

SEPTEMBER

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	12 ^P	13 ^{MN}	14	15	16	
	19	20 ^{MTA}	21	22	23	
	26	27	28	29	30 ^{MAT}	

P Preview

MN Members' Night

MTA Meet the Artists

MAT Additional 6pm
Matinee

Tickets: \$18 - \$28 / Groups 6+: \$23 each / Recommended for ages 15+



Hypatia

19 September – 7 October | 7pm

Mathematician. Astronomer. Martyr.

The history books hold many stories of remarkable women meeting violent ends, few more tragic than that of brilliant academic and educator, Hypatia of Alexandria. Hypatia's demise came when she was falsely accused of stirring conflict between two of the city's most prominent figures; a mob of religious zealots stripped her naked and beat her to death.

Her legacy is an all-too-relevant example of an outspoken woman silenced by a fearful, narrow-minded society. In a time when "Nevertheless, she persisted" has become a feminist battle cry and periods of political upheaval can be defined by a hashtag, *Hypatia* delves into the life of one woman to uncover the stories of many.

Presented by acclaimed theatre makers The Open Lid Ensemble, this powerful original work is set to a live score and merges elements of Greek theatre with the Japanese dance style Butoh.

Devisers & Performers

Ann-Marie Biagioni
Hannah Evelyn
Kat Shaw
Courtney Turner
Amanda Watoin

Producer
Liz Newell

Dramaturg
Finn O'Branagáin

Composer & Musician
Michael Biagioni

Set & Costume Designer
Chris Kydd Brain

Set & Costume Design Assistant
Nathalie Fuentes

Lighting Designer
Rhiannon Petersen

Stage Manager
Katie Moore

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

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	

P Preview
MN Members' Night
MTA Meet the Artists

Tickets: \$18 - \$28 / Groups 6+: \$23 each / Recommended for ages 15+



Stasis

10 – 28 October | 7pm

Sometimes all you need is a little space.

From Shane Adamczak (*The Ballad Of Frank Allen*, *Trampoline*, *Zack Adams*, Just for Laughs Best Comedy Award Winner 2017, and producer of ★★★★★ Fringe hits *This Is Not A Love Song* and *Vicious Circles*) comes a dark new sci-fi comedy about finding solace in isolation.

As Alex struggles to deal with the loss of his wife and child, he retreats into a strange fantasy world where he, a lone astronaut, is trapped in space. The final survivor of an exploration mission gone horribly wrong, Alex escapes on the intergalactic space craft SS Hinterland where he must seek adventure and scavenge unfamiliar, distant planets for food and supplies if he is ever to make it back to Earth alive.

Hopelessness. Long distance. Isolation. Fear. Loneliness. Anticipation. Waiting. Breathing. Courage. STASIS. Hope.

"One of Perth's most successful independent theatre creators." *The Sunday Times*

Writer, Director & Performer

Shane Adamczak

Sound Designer

Michael Fragomeni

Costume Designer

Calixta Cheers

Puppetry Consultant

Tim Watts

Build Consultant

Chloe Flockart

OCTOBER

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	10 ^P	11 ^{MN}	12	13	14	
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AUS Auslan Interpreted Session

Tickets: \$18 - \$28 / Groups 6+: \$23 each / Recommended for ages 15+



Once We Lived Here

17 October – 4 November | 8:30pm

An authentically Australian musical about life, love, and family.

Amy runs Emoh Ruo, her family's sheep station in rural Australia. She's held onto the property through drought, bushfire, and falling wool prices, determined not to let it slip out of the family's grasp. But when everyone gets together over a scorching long weekend, Amy has to face up to the myths and lies the place has been built upon. Is she really holding on or is she just stuck?

Written by the critically acclaimed team of Dean Bryant and Mathew Frank, this funny and touching look at a passing way of life now has its West Australian premiere featuring a stellar cast of WAAPA Music Theatre graduates and a live band.

Winner of the 2009 Green Room Award for Best New Musical.

"A beautiful, poignant piece of home-grown music theatre. It may echo Chekhov and Sondheim but it's thrillingly pure Oz." Geoffrey Rush

Director

Andrew Baker

Musical Director

Josh Haines

Designer

Rhiannon Walker

Production Manager

Erin Hutchinson

Assistant Director

Mitchell Whelan

Featuring

Joshua Firman

Sharon Kiely

Megan Kozak

Taryn Ryan

Chris Wilcox

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	17 ^P	18 ^{MN}	19	20	21	
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P Preview

MN Members' Night

MTA Meet the Artists

Tickets: \$18 - \$28 / Groups 6+: \$23 each / Recommended for ages 15+



Unveiling: Gay Sex for Endtimes

7 – 25 November | 8:30pm

Behold! The Second Coming.

Presented by the deviant minds at Renegade Productions, *Unveiling: Gay Sex for Endtimes* examines the search for ecstasy, utopia and rebellion through self-destruction. It is a contemporary and perverse reading of The Book of Revelation – the thread from which we weave annihilation and redemption.

Disenchanted by the banality of life, two men search for higher meaning and deeper experiences through self-destruction and an escalating series of extreme sex acts and hallucinogenic experiences.

In their experiments, they accidentally give birth to the Whore of Babylon, triggering the Biblical Armageddon.

Unveiling: Gay Sex for Endtimes is a collaboration from Joe Hooligan Lui and Andrew Sutherland based on what they know best: a fatalistic yet earnest search for meaning in these troubled times. It is a ritualistic extravaganza of BDSM, high camp, religious ecstasy, and altered states of being.

Reach out and touch faith.

Director & Sound Designer

Joe Lui

Devisers & Performers

Jacinta Larcombe
Andrew Sutherland

Producer

Jessica Russell

Set & Costume Designer

Cherish Marrington

Video Designer

Mia Holton

Lighting Designer & Stage Manager

Phoebe Pilcher

Dramaturg

Loren Kronemeyer

Publicity

Scott McArdle

NOVEMBER

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	7 ^P	8 ^{MN}	9	10	11	
	14	15 ^{MTA}	16	17	18	
	21	22	23	24	25 ^{MAT}	

P Preview

MN Members' Night

MTA Meet the Artists

MAT Additional 6pm
Matinee

Tickets: \$18 - \$28 / Groups 6+: \$23 each / Recommended for ages 18+



Valentine

14 November – 2 December | 7pm

It's an old story. There is far too little love in the world and everyone quenches their loneliness whichever way they can.

The innocent, the bully, the manipulator and the object of their desire; four flawed characters who struggle to find meaningful connection. All of them desperate to be loved and to belong, aching for something from the others that can never be given.

The commedia dell'arte and its characters have influenced and shaped work throughout history, all the way down to the love triangle of today's romantic comedy movies. From age-old ideas found in the commedia, *Valentine* forges a new narrative exploring loneliness and desire through dance, theatre, puppetry and mask play in a way that is deeply human.

Bringing together an extraordinary team of charismatic artists, with experience at Sydney Dance Company, Australian Dance Theatre, pvi collective, and Leigh Warren & Dancers, *Valentine* questions just how far we are prepared to go to fulfil our desires.

**Choreographer,
Performer & Producer**
Kynan Hughes

Featuring
Natalie Allen
James Berlyn
Rachel Arianne Ogle

Composer
Tristen Parr

**Lighting Designer &
Dramaturg**
Joe Lui

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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	28	29	30	1	2	

P Preview
MN Members' Night
MTA Meet the Artists

Tickets: \$18 - \$28 / Groups 6+: \$23 each / Recommended for ages 15+

STAGE ONE

7pm, Tue-Thu December 5-7,
6pm & 8:30pm Fri-Sat December 8-9
at The Blue Room Theatre

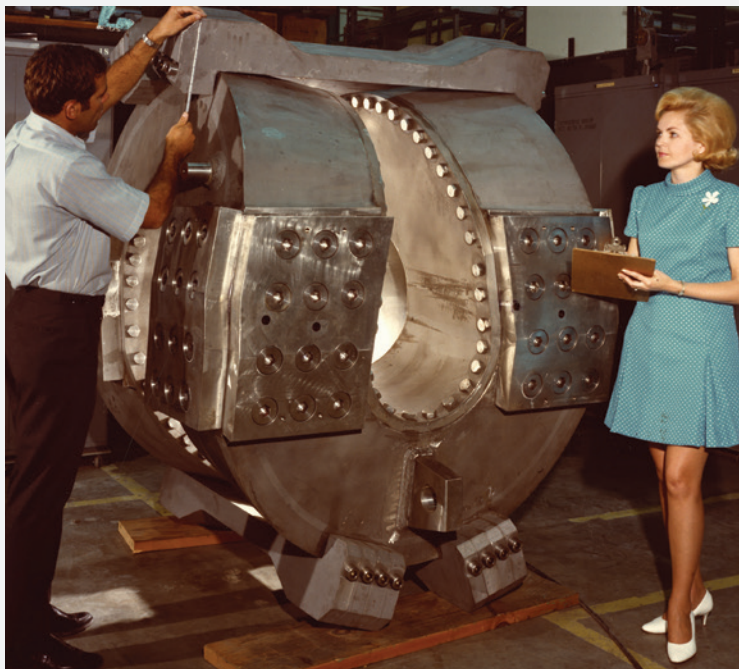


STAGE ONE premieres a brand new play by an established Western Australian playwright featuring a cast of emerging artists from Curtin's **Theatre Arts** program.

Hayman Theatre Company



Curtin University



STUDIO PAPA

"GIVING IT
HELL SINCE TWO
THOUSAND AND
TENISH"

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TILT

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3RD YEAR PERFORMANCE MAKING STUDENTS

THE BLUE ROOM THEATRE

PROGRAM ONE

Wed 30, Thu 31 August,
Fri 1, Sat 2 September, 7.00pm
Matinee: Sat 2 September, 2.00pm

PROGRAM TWO

Wed 6 - Sat 9 September, 7.00pm
Matinee: Sat 9 September, 2.00pm

BOOK NOW:

Tel: 9227 7005
blueroom.org.au

waapa.ecu.edu.au





Andrew Baker, *Once We Lived Here*

Membership

Our members are the lifeblood of The Blue Room Theatre. Become a member of The Blue Room Theatre and receive:

- Discounted tickets to shows at The Blue Room Theatre
- Access to free or reduced price workshops
- 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? Check out our Giving Program on the next page.

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 resources for emerging artists with big ideas and established artists who want to take new risks.

We make theatre accessible, keeping our ticket prices reasonable to allow the greatest range of audiences to 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.

"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, Producer
(Butt Kapinski)

**Play your part
in making this
happen by
donating online at
blueroom.org.au
or over the phone
on 08 9227 7005.**





Greening the Blue

This year we ran a successful fundraising campaign to raise money to purchase LED lights for our theatre spaces, keeping sustainability front and centre on our agenda.

The response to the campaign was overwhelming, with the final amount raised being \$23,560, surpassing our target by \$6,560. Exceeding our target will allow us to continue to reduce our environmental impact, increase the sustainability of The Blue Room Theatre and improve the opportunities on offer for artists.

This could not have been possible without the generosity of our supporters and for that we couldn't be more grateful.

The Blue Room Theatre is committed to decreasing our environmental impact and carbon output, with the goal of becoming Western Australia's first carbon neutral theatre by 2020. Following our successful installation of solar panels in 2016, installing LED lights is the next most effective way to reduce the environmental impact of our core business: making and presenting theatre. The LEDs will use less electricity than our current conventional lights, and they will generate less heat, meaning less air conditioning.

Stay tuned for more updates on how we continue to *Green the Blue*.



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tokyobike

 **HAPPELLI**



Develop your practice

We're committed to providing opportunities for artists and arts workers to develop their practice throughout the year. Our regular and free professional development series consists of *Good Play Club* and *Critical Conversation*, as well as additional opportunities throughout the year made possible, in part, by our Professional Development Partner, Minderoo Foundation.

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. 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. Every second month, a panel engage in a facilitated conversation about work that has recently been presented in Perth. Following on from this, the facilitator opens the conversation to the room, and the discussion continues with audience and panellists alike. The aim is to encourage dialogue, provoke thought, and increase the level of constructive criticism and quality of response to work in Perth.

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





Artelle Gray, Laika: A Staged Radio Play

The Team

Executive Director
Julian Hobba

Producer
Jenna Mathie

**Marketing &
Communications Manager**
Emma Poletti

Associate Producer
Harriet Roberts

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 Izaak Lim
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: Michael Timmins, Studio Papa, and Scott Print.



Government of Western Australia
Department of Culture and the Arts



City of Perth

**STUDIO
PAPA**



ALEX HOTEL



The Blue Room Theatre is assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body, 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