

The Blue Room Theatre



August–December 2018



Now Next New

The Blue Room Theatre is again bringing the unexpected, seeing emerging and established artists alike test the boundaries of their art forms. Gorgons of Greek Mythology, femme fatales, and pastel art-pop takes the stage with seven world premieres, and one much loved return.

Home to some of the most exciting professional development initiatives in Perth, we're thrilled to continue with Good Play Club and Critical Conversations this season. We want to facilitate the relationships between our artists and our audiences, so join us in our rehearsal rooms to hear more thoughts about the makings of theatre.

With 80% of the box office returned straight into the pockets of our artists, you can rest assured that by supporting the season you're supporting your local independent theatre sector. With some of the cheapest drinks in town, join us at the bar to chat with the artists and members about what it is to be a part of The Blue Room Theatre.

Acknowledgement

The Blue Room Theatre wishes to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land we are meeting on, the Whadjuk people of the Noongar nation. We acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region.

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:

Frieda Lee, *The Inconsequential Lives of Little Fish*

Left:

St John Cowcher, *Frankie's* and
Sam Hayes, *Penthouse* and *The Inconsequential Lives of Little Fish*.



Threshold

POWER, CORRUPTION AND TRUTH

It is 2016. Journalists have been banned from Nauru detention centre for three years. The facts are distorted. The voting public are kept on the threshold of the truth. The government boasts good conditions for asylum seekers but whistleblowers disagree.

Threshold cuts to the bone in its biting and hilarious critique of the slipping standards of journalism and corruption in the political class. This sharp political comedy takes an unwavering journey into the lives of four divisive and influential figures.

Written by James Palm and directed by Bridget Le May (Blank Space Productions, *Alone Outside*, *Sudden Skies*), this fast-paced drama explores the dark side of politics, journalism and power. A dynamic cast artfully navigate the difficult human decisions that get in the way when vying for power and influence.

Filled with humour and home truths, *Threshold* throws open the curtains on corruption, cover-ups and the harsh game of politics. Who pulls the strings and who will be left behind?

Presented by

The Boston Curse

Producer

Natalie Di Risio

Writer

James Palm

Director

Bridget Le May

Performers

Kylie Bywaters
Benj D'Addario
Esther Longhurst
Jeff Watkins

Sound Designer/Composer

Zai Kanga-Parabia

Set Designer

Cherish Marrington

Lighting Designer

Rhiannon Petersen

Publicity

Dana Nguyen

AUGUST

7pm

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	

P Preview
MN Members' Night
MTA Meet the Artists

Recommended for ages 15+

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



Unveiling: Gay Sex For Endtimes

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.

From boot-scooting to the U.S Navy, a swarm of locusts, and Dorothy from the *Wizard of Oz*; *Unveiling* focuses on reaching for higher meaning through an escalating series of sex acts and hallucinogenic experiences.

Unveiling: Gay Sex for Endtimes is a collaboration from Joe Hooligan Lui, Andrew Sutherland, Jacinta Larcombe, and Michelle Aitken based on what they know best: a fatalistic yet earnest search for meaning in these troubled times.

Reach out and touch faith.

Presented by
Renegade Productions

Producer
Natalie Di Risio

Director/Sound Designer
Joe Hooligan Lui

Devisers/ Performers
Michelle Aitken
Jacinta Larcombe
Andrew Sutherland

Set Designer
Cherish Marrington

Video Designer
Mia Holton

**Lighting Designer/Stage
Manager**
Phoebe Pilcher

AUGUST

8:30pm

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	14	15	16	17	18	
	21	22 ^{MTA}	23	24	25	

MTA Meet the Artists

Strictly for ages 18+

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



The Inconsequential Lives of Little Fish

LOVE, CRUELTY AND REVENGE

A fisherman catches himself a wife, and so begins this charming love story. *The Inconsequential Lives of Little Fish* is an unlikely romance set in a world filled with corruption and greed.

With two mouths to feed and another on the way, our fisherman takes a job at the helm of a delivery boat headed towards the big city. On the journey a storm wrecks the boat and leaves our couple with an enormous debt. They are conned into bonded labour – the fisherman is trafficked and his wife is put to work in a fish processing factory.

Written by Malcolm Robertson Foundation award recipient Frieda Lee (*All His Beloved Children*), this is a heartfelt two hander with a dark twist.

Presented by

Frieda, Sam & Friends

Producer

Erin Lockyer

Lead Creative

Frieda Lee

Performer

Sam Hayes

Sound Designer

Isaac Diamond

**Lighting Designer/Stage
Manager**

Phoebe Pilcher

Publicity & Marketing

Mitchell Whelan

SEPTEMBER

7pm* | 8:30pm

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	4 ^P	5 ^{MN}	6	7	8	
	11*	12* ^{MTA}	13*	14*	15*	
	18	19	20	21	22	

P Preview

MN Members' Night

MTA Meet the Artists

Recommended for ages 12+

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



Court My Crotch

THE SPORT DRAG BRAWL

Two elite bodies compete under the strict gaze of an umpire. Each presents a facade, each pushes against prejudice. Pick a side and see who can flaunt their way to victory first.

Tennis meets drag in this high-octane, high-spectacle performance investigating the toxicity of sporting and drag culture.

From the company that brought you *Arteries by Ancestry* comes a new competition of fierce backhands and ferocious song and dance. Born directly from Australian stories and interviews, *Court My Crotch* is an uncompromising look at our society's current relationship with gender and sexuality.

Presented by
FUGUE

Producer
Ellen-Hope Thomson

Writer/Director
James McMillan

Performers
Henry Boles
David Mitchell
Morgan Owen

Dramaturg
Geordie Crawley

Sound Designer
Alex & Yell

Set Construction
Jackson Harrison

Stage Manager
Sally Davies

Publicity & Marketing
Alexandre' Egloff

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

7pm

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	18 ^P	19 ^{MN}	20	21	22	
	25	26 ^{MTA}	27	28	29	
	2	3	4	5	6	

P Preview
MN Members' Night
MTA Meet the Artists

Recommended for ages 15+

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





Let me finish.

NO APOLOGIES

It's fine. I'm not worried about it.

But seriously, how much discharge is too much?

A no-frills look into the lives of four young women, *Let me finish.* is too loud, too emotional, too thirsty, too much information, and just getting started. A power ballad of humour and grotesqueness, *Let me finish.* destigmatises the messy stories that lead to female self-acceptance and sexual empowerment. Bear witness to this full-throttle performance that examines and disrupts convention simply by existing.

Taking up space.

Like right now.

...

No apologies.

Presented by
Charlotte Otton

Producer
Emily Stokoe

Writer/Performer
Charlotte Otton

Director
Phoebe Sullivan

Performer
Izzy McDonald

Sound Designer
Rebecca Riggs-Bennett

Set & Costume Designer
Olivia Tartaglia

Lighting Designer
Phoebe Pilcher

Stage Manager
Jessie Atkins

Publicity & Marketing
Mitchell Whelan



OCTOBER

7pm* | 8:30pm

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	2 nd	3 ^{MN}	4	5	6	
	9*	10* ^{MTA}	11*	12*	13*	
	16*	17*	18*	19*	20*	

P Preview
MN Members' Night
MTA Meet the Artists

Recommended for ages 16+

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





Medusa

I AM THE GORGON

I am Medusa.

I am she who turns men to stone.

I am she who was beheaded.

She who has gone unheeded, unheard, unwept.

I am the ignored, the unseen, the forgotten.

Each night our sisterhood of priestesses will summon the Goddess Medusa to life. A thundering ritual of dancing will take place in the sweaty nightclub to awaken Medusa, our protector and fighter.

We will swarm amongst you in our temple, clambering onto our podiums to be seen and heard through the throbbing beat. You can partake in the ritual, or bear respectful witness to our power. The choice is yours.

Sacrifice your inhibitions and join us.

Presented by

Renegade Productions x
Bow & Dagger

Producer

Natalie Di Risio

Writer

Finn O'Branagàin

Director/Sound Designer

Joe Hooligan Lui

Performers

Jacinta Larcombe
Sandy McKendrick

Designer

Clare Testoni

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER

8:30pm

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	

P Preview
MN Members' Night
MTA Meet the Artists

Strictly for ages 18+

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



Penthouse

EXCLUSIVE, TOP SHELF AND DANGEROUS

Penthouse parades you through the vulgar reality that surrounds high-end living; the numbness of wealth, the need for power, and an unquenchable thirst for entertainment.

Griffin, the billionaire tycoon, is ruthless in his pursuit of stimulation; price is no issue, and when you're the elite there are no rules either. Griffin's protégé Cal is determined to score a slice of his wealth, and so seems the same with Finn, the striving musician Griffin takes under his wing. How far will they go for a taste of the 1%?

A heart-stopping work from theatre larrikins Lazy Yarns (*Less Light*), *Penthouse* serves you up a silver platter of high-octane greed, violence and masculinity.

Once you're at the top it's a long way back to the bottom.

Presented by
Lazy Yarns

Producer/Director
Mitchell Whelan

Devisers/Performers
Sam Hayes
Campbell Pollock

Deviser/Performer/Sound Designer
Isaac Diamond

Set Designer
Kaitlin Brindley

Lighting Designer
Phoebe Pilcher

Publicity & Marketing
James McMillan

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER

7pm* | 8:30pm

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	30* ^P	31* ^{MN}	1*	2*	3*	
	6*	7* ^{MTA}	8*	9*	10*	
	13	14	15	16	17	

P Preview
MN Members' Night
MTA Meet the Artists

Recommended for ages 15+



Frankie's

THE BEST DIVE BAR IN TOWN

Come and spend a night at Frankie's. You're going to love it here - it's warm, friendly, and there's an actual working bar in the theatre for you to enjoy. Really. Oh, and live music!

This show is a love letter to the places we wind up in at the end of the night, and the families we make there. Over the season follow three weeks in the lives of the staff and regular punters at Frankie's. Each night promises an original episode, fresh songs and open arms.

This unpredictable night out features a bunch of Perth's favourites such as Sam Longley, Libby Klysz, St John Cowcher and Tegan Mulvany, as well as some very special guests.

Frankie's: the bar where everyone knows your name (and probably your Mum's and your housemate's, too).

Presented by
Variegated Productions

Producer, Director & Performer
Libby Klysz

Performers
Shane Adamczak
Daniel Buckle
St John Cowcher
Esther Longhurst
Sam Longley
Tegan Mulvany

Musicians
Alwyn Nixon-Lloyd
Robert Woods

Set Designer
Chloe Flockart

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

7pm

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	13 ^P	14 ^{MN}	15	16	17	
	20	21 ^{MTA}	22	23	24	
	27	28	29	30	1	

P Preview
MN Members' Night
MTA Meet the Artists

Recommended for ages 15+

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

The Complete Works

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

Members

\$140

General

\$175

—

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

The Complete Works subscription secures your seat to our August–December shows, along with the ability to change nights or give your ticket to a fellow theatre-lover if you can no longer make it.

- Buy a set subscription and be booked into Members' Nights across the season to see the seven new shows.*
- Or choose your own nights with a Flexi Subscription.





Zal Kanga-Parabia, Threshold

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
- Discounted tickets at a number of other cultural institutions around town

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



Sandy Mckendrick, *Medusa*

A Little Tune

TOWARDS THE END OF THE YEAR WE'LL BE
GEARING UP FOR A SONG AND DANCE!

PRESENTS! presents

A Christmas Carol

Adapted by Nick Maclaine and Katt Osborne after Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol*.

Join us to celebrate (or commiserate!) the end of another year in theatre, with a jolly Christmas offering the likes of which you've never seen. This playful new adaption of *A Christmas Carol* will be bought to life by members of Perth's performing arts community.

**Wednesday 21 and Friday 23
November, 8:30pm**

Holland Street Productions presents

Jones & Woods Retrospective

From the team behind award-winning FRINGE WORLD shows *Falling to the Top*, *Point & Shoot*, *Dr Felicity Rickshaw's Celebrity Sex Party*, and *What Doesn't Kill You (Blah Blah) Stronger* comes a night of unbridled fun, with songs from the musical catalogue of Tyler Jacob Jones and Robert Woods. Featuring selections from their original musicals, plus some brand new material, this will be an evening of musical hilarity not to be missed.

**Thursday 22 and Saturday 24
November, 8:30pm**



Joe Lui, Medusa and Unveiling: Gay Sex for Endtimes

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 audiences and artists 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 with a different artist making a guest appearance at each session. Upcoming dates and plays will be announced soon via our members' e-news. Places are limited for these free events, 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 panels 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. 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 of and quality of response to work in Perth.

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

Giving Program

"The Blue Room Theatre is a hub of beauty and joy within the Perth theatre sector. I cannot speak highly enough of their staff, their audiences, or their productions. A true honour to be associated with them in any way."

Geordie Crawley, Rorschach
Beast (*Girl in the Wood*,
Bus Boy, *Hive Mind*)

The Blue Room Theatre is unique in the unwavering support we give to the independent artists of Perth. From financial support to opportunities for professional development, we remain unparalleled across Australia.

Championing new ideas, theatrical forms, and emerging and established artists alike, we continue to provide this support through the generosity of our donors.

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 08 9227 7005.







Greening the Blue

In the current political and ecological climate we can easily 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 panels and LED theatre lights, and we 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.

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 Blue Room Theatre's sustainability policy is at blueroom.org.au

16 X HOUSEMADE SMALL BATCH BEERS & DOPE PIZZA



ONLY ONE BLOCK FROM THE THEATRE



5 PM - LATE EVERY NIGHT
245 WILLIAM ST NORTHBRIDGE WA
WWW.CYRILMASONS.COM.AU



THE BLUE ROOM THEATRE

53 James St, Perth Cultural Centre

PROGRAM ONE

29 Aug - 1 Sep

PROGRAM TWO

5 - 8 Sep

Bookings:

9227 7005

blueroom.org.au

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

GIRLS JUST WANT TO HAVE FUN

BLACK SWAN
STATE THEATRE
COMPANY 

IN THE NEXT ROOM, OR THE VIBRATOR PLAY

by Sarah Ruhl

20 OCT TO 04 NOV

HEATH LEDGER THEATRE



XENIDES

by Clare Watson and
collaborators



25 OCT TO 11 NOV

STUDIO UNDERGROUND

BOOK BOTH PLAYS AS PART OF A MINI-FESTIVAL FEAST FOR \$100*
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT [BSSTC.COM.AU](https://bsstc.com.au) *Booking/handling fees apply

PRINCIPAL PARTNER

RioTinto

IN THE NEXT ROOM,
OR THE VIBRATOR PLAY

APN
OUTDOOR

XENIDES

Wesfarmers Arts

GOVERNMENT PARTNERS

Department of
Local Government, Sport
and Cultural Industries

lotterywest
supported

Australian Government

Australia
Council
for the Arts

Theatre Arts at Curtin is proud to present the
world premiere of Jeffrey Jay Fowler's new play

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Now in its 7th year, STAGE ONE
premieres a brand new play
by an established WA playwright
featuring a cast of emerging artists
from Curtin's **Theatre Arts**

7pm, Tue-Thu December 4-6,
6pm & 8:30pm Fri-Sat December 7-8
at The Blue Room Theatre



Curtin University

Bites & drinks are just
around the corner.

See you either side
of the show.

SHADOW WINE BAR



shadowwinebar.com.au

214 William St, Northbridge
Instagram: @shadowwinebar

Open: Mon - Sun: Noon - Late
Reservations and walk-ins welcome

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The Team

Staff

Executive Director

Julian Hobba

Producer

Harriet Roberts

Associate Producer

Samantha Nerida

Marketing & Communications Manager

Ryan Sandilands

Venue & Operations Manager

Roger Miller

Office & Front of House Manager

Sally Martin

Finance Officer

Karen Connolly

Board

Chair

Shane Colquhoun

Deputy Chair

Philippa Maughan

Treasurer

Tanya Payne

Secretary

Katt Osborne

Liesbeth Goedhart

Izzy McDonald

Emma-Jane Morcombe

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!

Photographer

Duncan Wright

Makeup Artist

Leah Toyne

Graphic Design

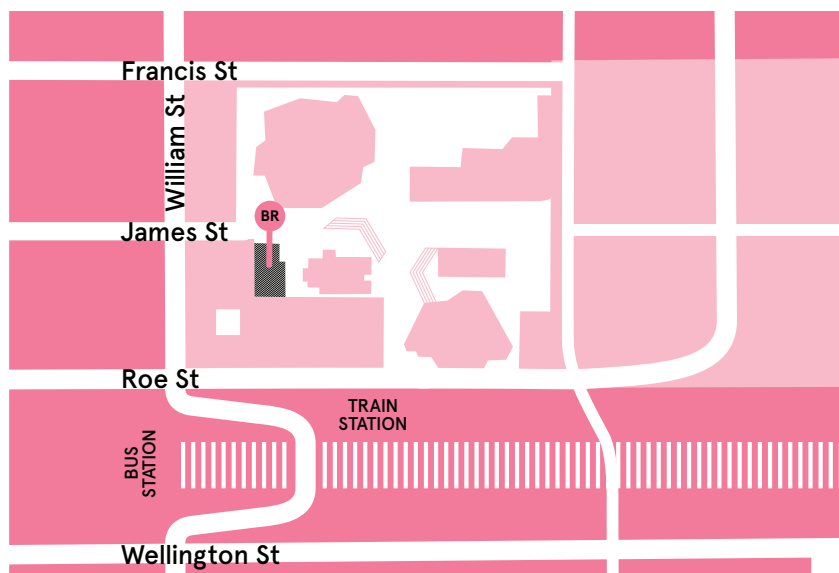
Studio Papa

Printer

Scott Print

blueroom.org.au

08 9227 7005



blueroom.org.au

Perth Cultural Centre, 53 James Street, Northbridge WA



City of Perth



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