



ENSEMBLE 2023

THEATRE FOR EVERYONE

Ensemble Theatre
proudly acknowledges
the Cammeraigal
people of the Eora
nation as customary
owners of the land
on which we work
and share our stories.
We pay our respects
to Elders past and
present.



WELCOME TO 2023

We are so excited to be able to bring you a 10-play season once more! From classic theatre to the best of contemporary plays, I am looking forward to sharing these wonderful stories with you.

Georgie Parker and Glenn Hazeldine will reprise their roles in the David Williamson classic RHINESTONE REX AND MISS MONICA. Twelve years since the last time they brought this hit play to the stage, and the themes of loneliness, acceptance and love are perhaps more relevant now than ever. I'm thrilled to reunite this cast with a fresh look at David Williamson at his best.

I am a huge fan of Tennessee Williams' SUDDENLY LAST SUMMER. Directed by Shaun Rennie who did such a stunning production of our last Tennessee Williams play, we thought the combination too good to change, and with this stunning cast it'll be quite a night in the theatre.

Darren Yap directs a fabulous cast in Lynn Nottage's Tony Award nominated CLYDE'S, a funny and beautiful comedy drama about the American pursuit of happiness, redemption and the perfect sandwich.

As part of the 2023 Sydney Festival, the world premiere of A BROADCAST COUP is an inside look at gender politics in the high-pressure world of talk-back radio. Written by Melanie Tait and directed by Janine Watson, to say we are excited at presenting this play is certainly an understatement!

Michael Frayn's BENEFACTORS is set in the British high-rise housing boom of the 1970's, as relevant today as it was when written. The friendships of two neighbouring couples, their marital relationships and external struggles, are the funny and moving basis of this great play with all of Frayn's trademark observations on contemporary life.

I am thrilled John Gaden is back at Ensemble in Debra Oswald's beautiful MR BAILEY'S MINDER. A play about people who need each other more than they realise, touching on art, beauty and being yourself. A great cast will be playing under the wonderful direction of Damien Ryan.

Debra Oswald is also back, appearing in her own semi-biographical play, IS THERE SOMETHING WRONG WITH THAT LADY? A great success in its short season at the Griffin Theatre Company a little while back, and once more directed by the astonishing Lee Lewis. Debra's hilarious and excruciatingly honest look behind the curtain of writing is fascinating, poignant and very funny.

Hilary Bell's brand new play SUMMER OF HAROLD, is an emotional ride about how treasured objects are endowed with emotional and magical meaning. Directed by Frankie Savige, this is a journey into memory and meaning that you won't want to miss.

THE MEMORY OF WATER by Shelagh Stephenson is a sharply funny comedy about shared life experiences, rival siblings and treasured but conflicting memories. Director Rachel Chant, has gathered a stunning cast to tell this bittersweet British comedy.

Finally we have our Christmas comedy, MIDNIGHT MURDER AT HAMLINGTON HALL. Jamie Oxenbould and I have been wanting to write a play that includes all the things that go wrong in the theatre for a long time, some 43-years in fact. On opening night, The Middling Cove Players resolve to face impending disaster, ensuring the show must go on! With a great cast of comic performers, I'm very excited about directing this comedy of errors. Literally.

I am also thrilled that we have Philip Quast for our cabaret event this year. I have been a fan of Philip for a long time and so glad we have managed to grab this legend of musical theatre and his newly revised show, THE ROAD I TOOK. Enjoy.

Once again, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your generosity and for coming along to the theatre and supporting us. I hope with this season of classic and new, comedy and drama, there will be something for everyone in our 2023 season!

See you in the foyer, say hello.

Mark Kilmurry
Artistic Director

EXPERIENCE ENSEMBLE THEATRE

If you are in the mood for dramatic tension, emotive storytelling, cabaret or comedy, as we all get back to life as normal, Ensemble's 2023 season has something for everyone. Once again we have a full and extensive calendar of wonderfully intimate theatre.

Striking a balance between celebrating local talent and bringing the best overseas plays to Sydney, as well as reprising classics and staging world premieres, 2023 has it all. A packed season that will take you on a journey through the full range of the human experience, from the deeply personal to outbursts of joy and laughter and great comedies along the way.

Make the most of your Ensemble Theatre experience and subscribe to 5 or more plays to unlock the best savings and access a range of additional benefits, not to mention getting in early to secure the best seats in the house.

2023 SEASON

A BROADCAST COUP
26 JAN – 4 MAR

**RHINESTONE REX AND
MISS MONICA**
10 MAR – 29 APR

CLYDE'S
5 MAY – 10 JUN

SUDDENLY LAST SUMMER
15 MAY – 10 JUN

BENEFACTORS
16 JUN – 22 JUL

MR BAILEY'S MINDER
28 JUL – 2 SEP

SUMMER OF HAROLD
8 SEP – 14 OCT

**IS THERE SOMETHING
WRONG WITH THAT LADY?**
18 SEP – 14 OCT

THE MEMORY OF WATER
20 OCT – 25 NOV

**MIDNIGHT MURDER AT
HAMLINGTON HALL**
1 DEC – 14 JAN 24

SPECIAL EVENT

**PHILIP QUAST:
THE ROAD I TOOK**
19 MAR – 29 MAR

A BROADCAST COUP

BY MELANIE TAIT
DIRECTOR JANINE WATSON

IN ASSOCIATION WITH SYDNEY FESTIVAL

★★★★★

"PURE THEATRICAL RAMBUNCTIOUSNESS WHICH WILL TUMBLE YOU INTO THE NIGHT WITH SORE HANDS AND UPLIFTED SPIRITS."

ARTS HUB (FOR MELANIE TAIT AND THE APPLETON LADIES' POTATO RACE)

Cut-throat journalist Jez Connell is out for her next sting. It's been a year since she brought down one of TV's most lauded stars for behaving badly and now she's got Michael King, the top-rated darling of public radio, in her sights. This time, it's personal.

With the loyalty of his longstanding producer wavering, and a hip up-and-coming podcaster eager to take the mic off Mike, has the plug been pulled on Michael King's career?

This brand new comedy from Melanie Tait, the writer of the sell-out THE APPLETON LADIES' POTATO RACE, will send ripples through the airwaves and spark heated debate.

Melanie teams up with director Janine Watson, who recently guided the Ensemble productions of NEARER THE GODS and STILL UNQUALIFIED, to present this world premiere that will have you laughing in the aisles.

"DIRECTOR JANINE WATSON DOESN'T MISS A BEAT IN ENSURING THAT THE BLACK HUMOUR ... IS DELIVERED FORCEFULLY."

CITY HUB SYDNEY (FOR JANINE WATSON AND NEARER THE GODS)





DAVID WILLIAMSON'S
**RHINESTONE
REX AND
MISS MONICA**

DIRECTOR MARK KILMURRY

**"A ROMANTIC COMEDY
FOR THOSE WHO DON'T
REALLY LIKE ROMANTIC
COMEDIES."**

AUSTRALIAN STAGE 2010
PRODUCTION

**"PUT TWO PEOPLE FROM
OPPOSITE POLES INTO
A SMALL SPACE AND
WATCH THE SPARKS FLY".**

STAGE WHISPERS 2010
PRODUCTION

What do a classical violinist
and country western lover have
in common?

Monica, a highly strung member
of the Sydney Symphony
Orchestra, is forced to give up
the violin because of her RSI.
Left to mope around her Glebe
apartment full of resentment and
anger, renovating her kitchen
seems like a good distraction.

Enter Gary, AKA Rhinestone Rex,
the little known Tamworth country
singer turned tradie turned DJ
who has been tasked with the
job. While they may be polar

opposites with seemingly nothing
in common, except a love of music,
is there something deeper that ties
them together?

Glenn Hazeldine and Georgie
Parker reprise their 2010
performances in this updated
David Williamson social comedy,
complete with a musical trip down
memory lane.

CLYDE'S

BY LYNN NOTTAGE | DIRECTOR DARREN YAP

On a long stretch of highway, in the middle of here and there, Clyde's truck stop diner sizzles with the aroma of possibility and redemption.

Between slinging grilled cheese and tuna melts, the formerly incarcerated kitchen staff at Clyde's dream of creating the perfect recipe. Led by sandwich sensei Montrellous, can the team juggle customer orders, dark pasts and their boss' incessant mind games to avoid having their aspirations burnt to a crisp?

Two-time Pulitzer Prize winner (for RUINED and SWEAT) Lynn Nottage layers ripe wit, flavourful characters and surprises in this poignant story of sandwiches and second chances.

Ensemble presents the Australian premiere of this Tony Award nominated 2021 Broadway play, one that will leave you satisfied long after you've left the theatre.

**"FUNNY AND WARM ...
A WINNING RECIPE."**
DEADLINE (2021)

**"AN ABSOLUTELY THRILLING
EXPERIENCE."**
THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER (2021)

**"SOMETIMES A HERO IS MORE
THAN JUST A SANDWICH."**
THE NEW YORK TIMES (2021)



SUDDENLY LAST SUMMER

BY TENNESSEE WILLIAMS | DIRECTOR SHAUN RENNIE

Deep amongst the monstrous flytraps and ferns in Sebastian's garden, tendrils of a sordid family secret are beginning to unfurl.

Sebastian Venable died mysteriously last summer and his mother Violet will do anything in her power to protect his memory – and her own reputation. Young cousin Catharine was the only witness to this nightmarish event. She is desperate to reveal what really happened, but Violet will go to any lengths to stop the ugly truth from seeing the light of day.

Tennessee Williams' gothic masterpiece, led by Shaun Rennie, who also directed Ensemble's 2019 *BABY DOLL*, is as relevant today as it was when written over 60-years ago.

Vibrant, funny, beautiful, Tennessee Williams takes us into the poetic world of redemption and love, shadowed by the dark secrets a family can hold.

"A BEAUTIFUL POETIC YET SINISTER PIECE OF THEATRE WHICH MUSES ON TRUTH, POWER, AND STORYTELLING ITSELF."

OXFORD CULTURE REVIEW





BENEFACTORS

BY MICHAEL FRAYN | DIRECTOR MARK KILMURRY

David and Jane are a happy and prosperous couple. He's an idealistic architect and she's an anthropologist who always stands with him. Their neighbours Colin and Sheila are by comparison struggling. Colin's glory-days are over and Sheila is subservient and unfocused.

David feels his new architectural dream, the redevelopment of an inner-city housing project, will be the answer to future home building. However as Sheila settles into her neighbours' way of life, Colin starts to oppose David's bright new view of the future. Can struggling Colin become an unlikely hero of the people? Will Jane throw Sheila out? Or will the tower blocks collapse before the project is finished?

Writer Michael Frayn, creator of NOISES OFF, explores what it is to be human in a statistically driven world, in this chillingly funny comedy set in the 1970s.

"TRENDY COMEDY OF MANNERS AND THRUSTING POLITICAL DRAMA."

BRITISH THEATRE GUIDE (2002)

"DAZZLING NEW PLAY ... A COMEDY ONLY IN THE DARKEST SENSE."

NEW YORK TIMES (1985)

MR BAILEY'S MINDER

BY DEBRA OSWALD | DIRECTOR DAMIEN RYAN

John Gaden returns to the Ensemble stage. In 2018 he was alongside John Bell in the Ensemble production of DIPLOMACY, in 2023 John plays Leo Bailey, a national treasure and one of Australia's greatest artists in MR. BAILEY'S MINDER.

Leo has been ravaged by years of alcohol abuse, self-loathing and indulgent misbehaviour, and now needs round-the-clock care. Enter Therese, fresh out of prison and down to her last option, who takes up the challenge as Leo's carer.

Therese is determined to succeed – even if it means going head-to-head with Mr. Bailey.

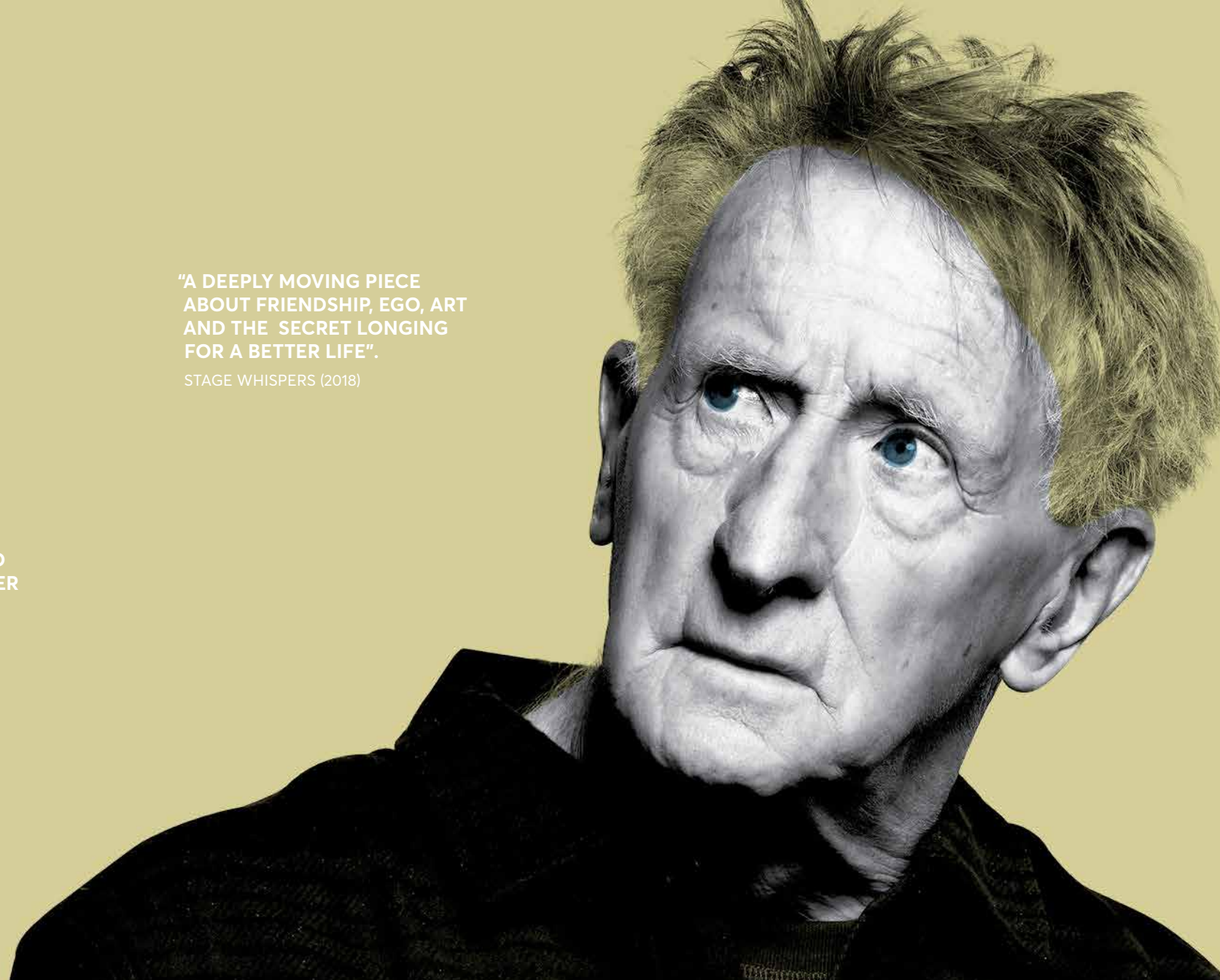
Debra Oswald paints a poignant and funny portrait of what it takes to forgive and to let go. Bristling with sharp humour and beautiful complexities, MR BAILEY'S MINDER is a bold reminder that underneath the brittle veneer, there are rich layers of human experience to unearth and discover.

"PLAYWRIGHT DEBRA OSWALD REVEALS THE LUMINOUS INNER BEAUTY OF ORDINARY MEN AND WOMEN."

SYDNEY MORNING HERALD

"A DEEPLY MOVING PIECE ABOUT FRIENDSHIP, EGO, ART AND THE SECRET LONGING FOR A BETTER LIFE".

STAGE WHISPERS (2018)



SUMMER OF HAROLD

BY HILARY BELL | DIRECTOR FRANCESCA SAVIGE

Memories of 1984. London. Phil Collins on MTV. Cassette tapes.

Janet is 23 and to make some money she and her fellow Tasmanian friend pretend to be expert live-in housekeepers. They land a job with Harold Pinter, one of the most significant playwrights of the twentieth century. Harold loves his house of treasures but mostly his favourite ugly coffee mug. Coffee every day – breakfast, lunch and dinner. If anything were to happen to his favourite mug...

Hilary Bell's new play explores our love for odd things. What is the magic that makes us possessive about objects? Three stories intertwine to take us on a hilarious, poignant and magical journey.

In SUMMER OF HAROLD, Hilary expands on her successful short play WINDOW, CRICKET BAT presented by the Griffin Theatre Company as part of the 2022 Sydney Festival. This powerful new enlarged work crackles with humour and captures good times past.

"HILARY BELL'S SCRIPT IS A MASTERPIECE AND SHE TRULY IS ONE OF THE BEST CREATIVE MINDS THIS COUNTRY HAS."

SYMES GROUP (FOR THE HYPOCHONDRIAC, 2018)



IS THERE SOMETHING WRONG WITH THAT LADY?

BY DEBRA OSWALD | DIRECTOR LEE LEWIS

Debra Oswald fell in love with theatre aged eleven. But did it love her back? How do you cope with rejection and success and then more rejection? How does a child hypochondriac, with a blundering romantic history learn to cope with the demands of writing in showbiz? Will the success of OFFSPRING change things or is the writer's lot one huge stumble from disaster to disaster? Debra needs to move on... can the audience help her to decide what to do next?

Debra Oswald and director Lee Lewis reunite for this infectiously funny, deeply personal and totally honest exploration of the ups, downs and in-betweens of being a writer.

Don't miss this intimate and life-affirming experience with one of Australia's favourite playwrights.

"ALL HAIL DEBRA OSWALD. YOU'D BE MAD TO MISS THIS HILARIOUS INSIGHT INTO HER WORKING MIND."

TIME OUT SYDNEY





THE MEMORY OF WATER

BY SHELAGH STEPHENSON | DIRECTOR RACHEL CHANT

**"GLORIOUS,
HILARIOUS AND
HEART-WARMING."**

THE SPECTATOR

Winner of the Olivier Award for Best Comedy, Shelagh Stephenson's poignant and painfully funny comedy is about conflicting memories, life and loss.

Mary, Catherine and Teresa are sisters who share a common past. A world of disputed bicycles, midnight ice-cream sodas, cocktail dresses and their Mum's perfumed advice. A seaside childhood punctuated by the odd monosyllable from Dad.

Where does reality end and family mythology begin? Why has sibling war broken out in their Mother's bedroom? Why are past recollections still so with us?

THE MEMORY OF WATER takes a new look at the age-old traditions of recollecting family stories. A beautiful bittersweet comedy, bound by sisterly love, anger, tears and of course laughter.

**"STEPHENSON'S PLAY BALANCES
RITOUS HUMOUR AND PATHOS,
WITH ITS MELANCHOLIA
LINGERING IN YOUR MEMORY."**

THE GUARDIAN

★★★★

**"A FINE BALANCE
BETWEEN SADNESS,
ANGER AND COMEDY."**

THE TIMES

MIDNIGHT MURDER AT HAMLINGTON HALL

BY MARK KILMURRY AND JAMIE OXENBOULD
DIRECTOR MARK KILMURRY

It is the opening night of director-writer Shane Tweed's new murder mystery, MIDNIGHT MURDER AT HAMLINGTON HALL.

Seven of the amateur theatre company's cast are down with the dreaded lurgy. So the Middling Cove Players' director and two of the remaining actors, and whoever else Shane can co-opt, pitch in to continue the long tradition of 'the show must go on.' Juggling nerves, props, and

absurd miscasting, will they manage to pull it off? Or will everything go horribly, terribly and awfully wrong?

Jamie Oxenbould and Mark Kilmurry's new comedy looks behind the scenes at the world of amateur theatre, where luck, determination and unbridled confidence rule the day. A very funny take on bad timing, incompetence and sweet optimism to end the 2023 season.

**"DIRECTED WITH JUDICIOUS
VERVE BY KILMURRY,
OXENBOULD EXCELS HIMSELF."**

STAGE NOISE (FOR DIARY OF
AN OLYMPIC CABBIE 2008)



PHILIP QUAST: THE ROAD I TOOK

WITH PHILIP QUAST AND ANNE-MAREE MCDONALD

"A SPECIAL NIGHT."

STAGE WHISPERS

What a chance to see musical theatre royalty Philip Quast, three-time winner of the Laurence Olivier Award for Best Actor in a Musical, in the intimacy of the Ensemble Theatre.

Filled with heart and humour, Philip always has his audience laughing and crying in turn. A special opportunity for Australian audiences to hear Philip's marvelous voice again, with masterful accompaniment from Anne-Maree McDonald, while being treated to behind-the-scenes stories, thoughts and events that helped shape the country boy turned international performer's life.

A show that promises to be unique with every performance, guided by Philip's interaction with the audience. A special event not to be missed.

Sun 19 Mar 2pm
Mon 20 Mar 7.30pm
Wed 22 Mar 11am
Sun 26 Mar 2pm
Tue 28 Mar 7.30pm
Wed 29 Mar 11am

AGES 14+

CAST
PHILIP QUAST AM
ANNE-MAREE MCDONALD

70 MINS
(NO INTERVAL)

19 MAR – 29 MAR

26

STEP BEHIND THE

SCENES



CURIOUS ABOUT THE CREATIVE PROCESS?

Come along to our insightful audience events and experience firsthand what goes on behind the scenes.

DIRECTOR AT WORK

As part of a small group, witness our skilled directors and actors at work in the rehearsal room and discover how a play is brought to life on stage.

RHINESTONE REX AND MISS MONICA

WITH MARK KILMURRY

Tuesday, 21 Feb, 4pm – 5.30pm

SUDDENLY LAST SUMMER

WITH SHAUN RENNIE

Thursday, 27 Apr, 4pm – 5.30pm

SUMMER OF HAROLD

WITH FRANCESCA SAVIGE

Thursday, 17 Aug, 4pm – 5.30pm

Director at Work sessions are \$35 full price and \$25 for students. Spaces are strictly limited. Book online at ensemble.com.au or call Box Office on **(02) 8918 3400**

The Director At Work series is proudly supported by Emma Hodgman and John Coorey.

POST SHOW Q&A

Join an engaging conversation with the cast and creatives straight after you see the play. Simply purchase tickets to a Q&A performance, marked on the calendar at the back of this brochure and online, then remain in your seat after the show armed with your burning questions.

FREE TEEN NIGHTS

Introduce the teenagers in your life to the magic of live theatre by inviting them to join you at one of our Free Teen Nights, highlighted on our performance calendar and the website. Complimentary tickets for 13 – 19 year olds can be booked alongside an adult subscription or ticket, subject to availability.

Photos from rehearsal of THE ONE in 2022.



BAYLY'S BISTRO

"GOOD FOOD, GREAT SERVICE, BEAUTIFUL SPOT – WHAT MORE COULD ONE WANT!"

ENSEMBLE SUBSCRIBER



Nestled over the water in Kirribilli, Bayly's Bistro is the ideal location for delicious, fresh food with a spectacular view, not to mention a guarantee of getting you to your show on time. Head Chef Nathan Jackson puts Australian produce and wine centre stage to showcase the flavour, diversity and quality of locally sourced ingredients. Enjoy an à la carte menu of delicately cooked seafood, slow-braised meats and delectable desserts, perfectly paired with a bottle from our superb wine selection.

OPENING TIMES

Open for lunch after 11am shows Tuesday to Friday. Dinner service coincides with evening show times (see the booking form).

TO BOOK

Call Bayly's Bistro on **(02) 8918 3455**
Email **baylys@ensemble.com.au**
Reserve online **ensemble.com.au/bistro**

Please note: Online reservations close 3 hours prior to dining. Call the Bistro for any last-minute bookings.

Ensemble Theatre subscribers get 10% off food orders (drinks not included), so remember to present your Arts Bonus Card when you dine.



JIM'S FOYER BAR

Celebrating over 30 years at Ensemble Theatre, award-winning bar manager Jim is a much-loved face in the foyer ensuring you'll be well looked after. Offering a quality wine list featuring our friends at Hungerford Hill, spirits, craft beer and Jim's bespoke cocktails, the Foyer Bar also offers cheese plates and tasty snacks to hit the spot.

OPENING TIMES

The bar is open an hour before all performances, during interval and after the show (except after Sunday performances).



Support Us

THANK YOU

It's great to be back to the new normal and doing what we do best - presenting live theatre for everyone. We can only achieve what we do each year with the support of the Ensemble community.

Beyond the mainstage, your generosity allows us to develop important programs focusing on artist development, education opportunities and community outreach.

To ensure Ensemble, Australia's longest continuously running professional theatre company, continues to create and share extraordinary stories, please consider joining our community of valued supporters by adding a tax-deductible gift to your subscription or donate online at **ensemble.com.au/support-us**.

LEAVE A LEGACY

If your love of theatre inspires you to be part of our history, please remember Ensemble Theatre in your will.

A legacy gift is a meaningful way to commemorate your relationship with Ensemble and helps to culturally enrich the lives of future generations by ensuring they can experience the same joy theatre has brought to your life.

For more information on leaving a gift, corporate partnerships or supporting artistic opportunities, contact our Philanthropy & Partnerships Manager Stephen Attfield on **02 8918 3400** or **stephena@ensemble.com.au**.



ENSEMBLE DEVELOPMENT

COMMISSIONING NEW AUSTRALIAN PLAYS

In 2023 we will stage three world premieres, all of them Ensemble commissions which have been made possible by our generous supporters.

Ensemble is dedicated to developing Australian voices. Creative workshops continue throughout the year to ensure we can consistently present exciting new plays every season.

PROVIDING PATHWAYS TO EMERGING DIRECTORS

The Ensemble Theatre Sandra Bates Director's Award, now in its eighth year, continues to offer emerging directors a unique opportunity to hone their skills. Successful recipients receive a paid assistant director role supporting season plays and other development projects.

The 2023 award is proudly supported by Jinnie and Ross Gavin.

"The Tracey Trinder Playwright's Award encourages women writers with a slant on comedy. Tracey was a stage and screenwriter and had a unique voice in the world of comedy. This award honours her name and her commitment to women's writing."

Mark Kilmurry, Artistic Director

TRACEY TRINDER PLAYWRIGHT'S AWARD

In early 2022, Ensemble announced the inaugural Tracey Trinder Playwright's Award. We received 44 entries for this unique opportunity, and judging has commenced! The winning play will be developed in 2023 and enjoy its world premiere on Ensemble's stage in 2024. Stay tuned for the announcement of the winner in November 2022.

We are delighted to feature four past winners of the Ensemble Theatre Sandra Bates Director's Award in our 2023 season:

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Janine Watson (2016 recipient)
A BROADCAST COUP

Shaun Rennie (2017 recipient)
SUDDENLY LAST SUMMER

Francesca Savage (2017 recipient)
SUMMER OF HAROLD

Rachel Chant (2020/2021 recipient)
THE MEMORY OF WATER

EDUCATION 2023

YOUTH THEATRE PACKS

Looking for ways to spend your NSW Government Creative Kids voucher? Why not use it towards our Youth Theatre Pack and broaden their creative horizons.

Creative Kids can experience 3 plays, choosing from the Q&A performances throughout the year. If eligible for the Creative Kids program, put your \$100 voucher towards a Youth Theatre Pack and only pay the difference of \$23.

It's a great opportunity for young people to explore their passion for the performing arts and learn more about the behind-the-scenes process.

For parents wanting to accompany their kids, we also offer an adult 3 Play Pack at a discounted rate. For more info visit ensemble.com.au/youth-theatre-pack.

ENSEMBLE EDUCATION OUTREACH PROGRAM

Now in its eighth year, the Ensemble Outreach Program is giving more and more students across Australia the opportunity to experience the thrill of live theatre, often for the very first time.

DEDICATED SCHOOL PERFORMANCES

Two performances of Debra Oswald's MR BAILEY'S MINDER will be exclusively offered to school groups thanks to the support of the Clitheroe Foundation and Victoria and Ian Pollard. After the show, students have the opportunity to put their questions to the cast and creative team. Lunch and snacks are provided by our partners Foodbank and Tip Top to ensure they get the full experience of a day at the theatre.

"My students commented on the cultural mix of the audience members and while some may have felt anxious or different when they arrived, the shared experience of shock, laughter and enjoyment pervaded their thinking, helping them understand they too are inclusive members of communities they are yet to meet"

Ken Sullivan, Lomandra School

LIVESTREAMING THEATRE TO REGIONAL AUSTRALIA

For schools unable to attend Ensemble, a special performance of MR BAILEY'S MINDER will be live-streamed direct from the stage into the classroom followed by an interactive Q&A session. This initiative is far-reaching across remote areas of the country and we're continually growing our online schools audience year by year.

SMARTS PROGRAM

We're delighted to continue working in collaboration with The Smith Family's SmArts Program to provide students with an immersive theatre experience. A week-long program of workshops gives them a taste of various production disciplines including set design, directing and stage management.

"We see our partnership with Ensemble Theatre as an exciting collaboration that is providing disadvantaged young people living in low socio-economic or marginalised communities access to live theatre."

Anne Samonte, The Smith Family

MORE WAYS TO MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR ENSEMBLE EXPERIENCE



SIGN UP TO OUR E-NEWSLETTER

Stay up-to-date with our news, reviews and special offers by joining our mailing list at **ensemble.com.au/join-newsletter** or ticking the box on your subscription form. You will also receive a handy pre-show reminder with details about your upcoming show.

DOWNLOAD A PROGRAM

Discover more about your play with a digital program packed full of insights including notes from the playwright or director as well as a glimpse into the rehearsal room. You'll receive a link to download a program in your pre-show reminder.

LIVESTREAMED Q&AS

In 2023 we aim to livestream a Q&A session for each of our ten season plays. Follow us on Facebook @ensembletheatre to find out when we're going live and be ready with your questions for our cast and creatives.



Follow us on social media for our latest news and videos:

-  @ensembletheatre
-  @ensembletheatre
-  @ensemblsydney
-  EnsembleTV
- #ensemblsydney

GIVE THE GIFT OF THEATRE

Share your love of theatre by treating friends and family to an unforgettable Ensemble experience. It's the perfect way to put your loved ones in control, so they can choose exactly how to spend their gift. Vouchers can be used to buy show tickets, a season subscription or a delicious meal at Bayly's Bistro, plus they last three years for ultimate flexibility. Purchase a gift voucher online at **ensemble.com.au/gift-vouchers**, at the Box Office or call (02) 8918 3400.

SUBSCRIBE & SAVE

A SUBSCRIPTION IS THE BEST WAY TO EXPERIENCE EXCEPTIONAL THEATRE ACROSS THE ENTIRE YEAR. NOT ONLY DO OUR VALUED SUBSCRIBERS ENJOY GENEROUS SAVINGS ON TICKETS, YOU ALSO UNLOCK A SUITE OF LOYALTY BENEFITS.

EXCELLENT VALUE

Save at least 7% on full-price single tickets and access your discount all year for extra tickets to share with your family and friends. Want to save more? 10-play subscribers save at least 15%.

NO ADDITIONAL FEES

Subscription bookings are free from transaction fees.

BEST SEATS IN THE HOUSE

Book early and secure the best availability before single tickets go on sale.

BRING YOUR FRIENDS

Access your subscription discount all year for extra tickets to share with your family and friends.

EXTRA TIME TO PAY

Spread the cost of your subscription over two payments. A \$6 fee and conditions apply.

EXCHANGE FOR FREE

Plans change? Your first ticket exchange is fee-free as long as you exchange your tickets at least 48 hours before your performance. You'll receive an email confirmation with your new performance date and time.

MISSED PERFORMANCE

Missed your show and want to reschedule? You can purchase tickets for another performance of the show you missed for just \$25 (subject to availability). Simply contact the Box Office to arrange your new tickets.

EXCLUSIVE OFFERS

Get discounts on cinema tickets, classical music, wine and much more with your exclusive Arts Bonus card.

EAT AT THE THEATRE

Join us downstairs at Bayly's Bistro and save 10% on your food order.

SUBSCRIBE EARLY TO WIN!

Book a 10-play 2023 subscription before 31 December 2022 and you could win a 10-play 2024 subscription for two people.*

*T&Cs apply: To enter, submit your completed subscription form by 11.59pm on 31 December 2022. The prize consists of two 10-play 2024 subscriptions excluding special events. The winner will be drawn on Tuesday, 31 January 2023 and notified by phone and email. The winner is responsible for booking their 2024 subscription.

HOW TO SUBSCRIBE

ONLINE

Book the best available seats on the spot by purchasing online at ensemble.com.au/subscribe.

PHONE

Call us on **(02) 8918 3460** and we can fill out your booking form over the phone. Please note, tickets are not booked directly at time of call.

BOOKING FORM

Online: A digital version of the booking form is available to complete on our website at ensemble.com.au/subscribe.

Once you click submit, your form will join the queue to be processed and a member of the team will be in contact shortly to confirm your booking.

Paper Form: Pull out the booking form from this brochure. Complete it and then send to us by:

POST

Ensemble Theatre Subscriptions
78 McDougall Street
Kirribilli NSW 2061

EMAIL

subscriptions@ensemble.com.au

IN PERSON

Feel free to drop by the Box Office to hand in your form and if you require assistance, our friendly team will be available to help. Please note we process booking forms in order of receipt so send your form in as early as possible.

KEY DATES

Monday 8 August 2022
2023 Season launches.

Tuesday 9 August 2022
2023 subscriptions go on sale at 9.30am.

Friday 21 October 2022
Last day to secure the best available seats before single tickets go on sale.

Monday 24 October 2022
Single tickets for 2023 Season plays and Special Events go on sale at 9.30am.

2023 SUBSCRIPTION PACKAGE PRICES

PRICE
FREEZE

FULL PRICE PACKAGES	5 plays	6 plays	7 plays	8 plays	9 plays	10 plays
Evenings & weekend matinees	\$370	\$444	\$518	\$568	\$639	\$670
Weekday matinees & previews	\$345	\$414	\$483	\$528	\$594	\$620
SENIORS CARD PACKAGES	5 plays	6 plays	7 plays	8 plays	9 plays	10 plays
Evenings & weekend matinees	\$355	\$426	\$497	\$544	\$612	\$640
Weekday matinees & previews	\$330	\$396	\$462	\$504	\$567	\$590
PENSIONER/GROUPS (10+) PACKAGES	5 plays	6 plays	7 plays	8 plays	9 plays	10 plays
Evenings & weekend matinees	\$335	\$402	\$469	\$512	\$576	\$600
Weekday matinees & previews	\$310	\$372	\$434	\$472	\$531	\$550

PRICE PER TICKET – Including extra tickets for friends and family

10 PLAYS	Full price	Seniors Card	Pensioner/Groups 10+
Evenings & weekend matinees	\$67	\$64	\$60
Weekday matinees & previews	\$62	\$59	\$55
8 & 9 PLAYS	Full price	Seniors Card	Pensioner/Groups 10+
Evenings & weekend matinees	\$71	\$68	\$64
Weekday matinees & previews	\$66	\$63	\$59
5,6,& 7 PLAYS	Full price	Seniors Card	Pensioner/Groups 10+
Evenings & weekend matinees	\$74	\$71	\$67
Weekend matinees & previews	\$69	\$66	\$62

SAVE AT
LEAST 15%

SAVE AT
LEAST 11%

SAVE AT
LEAST 7%

GREAT VALUE FOR STUDENTS AND UNDER 30S

Looking for affordable theatre? We offer significant savings on subscription tickets for Full-Time Students and Under 30s.

STUDENTS/UNDER 30 TICKETS	PRICE PER TICKET
Evenings & weekend matinees	\$41
Weekday matinees & previews	\$36

SINGLE TICKET PRICES

From Monday 24 October 2022, non-subscription prices will be listed on our website ensemble.com.au. Single ticket pricing is subject to change and availability.

REDEEM YOUR CREDIT VOUCHER

If you have a credit voucher remember you can use this towards your 2023 subscription, just mark this on the payment section of your booking form.

SPECIAL ADD ON EVENT

Subscribers enjoy priority access to the best available seats for our Special Event: PHILIP QUAST: THE ROAD I TOOK.

SPECIAL EVENT TICKETS	PRICE PER TICKET
Full price	\$75
Seniors Card	\$72
Pensioner/Groups 10+	\$70

2023 PERFORMANCE CALENDAR

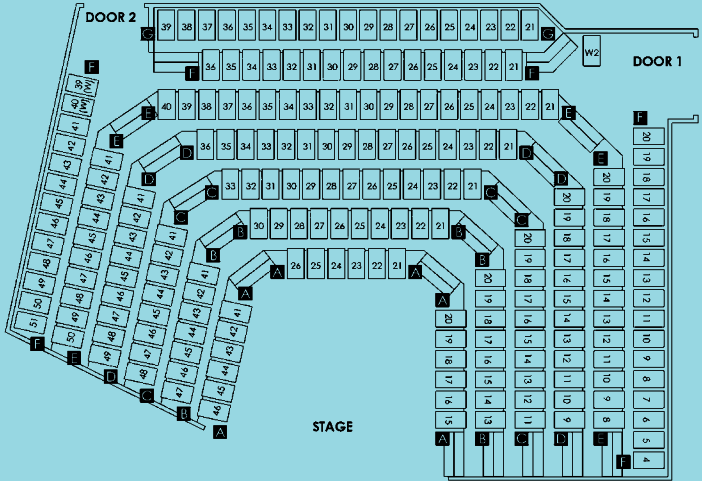
JANUARY			FEBRUARY			MARCH			APRIL			MAY		
Sun	1		S			S			S			S		
Mon	2		M			M			M			M	1	
Tue	3		T			T			T			T	2	
Wed	4		W	1	8pm Opening	W	1	7.30pm FT	W			W	3	CLYDE'S
Thu	5		T	2	7.30pm	T	2	11am, 7.30pm	T			T	4	
Fri	6		F	3	8pm	F	3	8pm	F			F	5	8.15pm P
Sat	7		S	4	3.30pm, 8pm	S	4	3.30pm, 8pm	S	1	3.30pm, 8pm	S	6	2pm P, 8.15pm P
Sun	8		S	5	5pm	S	5		S	2	5pm	S	7	5pm P
Mon	9		M	6		M	6		M	3		M	8	
Tue	10		T	7	7.30pm	T	7		T	4	11am, 7.30pm	T	9	11am, 8.15pm Opening
Wed	11		W	8	7.30pm	W	8	RHINESTONE REX AND MISS MONICA	W	5	7.30pm	W	10	8.15pm
Thu	12		T	9	11am, 7.30pm	T	9		T	6	11am, 7.30pm	T	11	
Fri	13		F	10	8pm Q&A	F	10	8pm P	F	7	Good Friday	F	12	8.15pm
Sat	14		S	11	3.30pm, 8pm	S	11	2pm P, 8pm P	S	8	3.30pm, 8pm	S	13	2pm, 8.15pm Q&A
Sun	15		S	12	5pm	S	12	5pm P	S	9	Easter Sunday	S	14	1pm, 5pm
Mon	16		M	13		M	13		M	10	Easter Monday	M	15	7.30pm P
Tue	17		T	14	11am Q&A	T	14	11am, 7.30pm	T	11	11am Q&A	T	16	11am
Wed	18		W	15	7.30pm	W	15	8pm Opening	W	12	7.30pm	W	17	11am, 8.15pm
Thu	19		T	16	11am, 7.30pm	T	16	7.30pm	T	13	11am, 7.30pm	T	18	8.15pm
Fri	20		F	17	8pm	F	17	8pm	F	14	8pm	F	19	
Sat	21		S	18	3.30pm, 8pm	S	18	3.30pm, 8pm	S	15	3.30pm, 8pm	S	20	4.30pm, 8.15pm
Sun	22		S	19	5pm	S	19	5pm	S	16	5pm	S	21	2pm
Mon	23		M	20		M	20		M	17		M	22	
Tue	24	A BROADCAST COUP	T	21	7.30pm	T	21	7.30pm	T	18	7.30pm	T	23	11am Q&A
Wed	25		W	22	7.30pm	W	22	7.30pm	W	19	7.30pm	W	24	11am AD, 6.15pm
Thu	26	8pm P	T	23	11am AD, 7.30pm	T	23	11am, 7.30pm	T	20	11am AD, 7.30pm	T	25	8.15pm
Fri	27	8pm P	F	24	8pm	F	24	8pm Q&A	F	21	8pm	F	26	8.15pm
Sat	28	2pm P, 8pm P	S	25	3.30pm AD, 8pm	S	25	3.30pm, 8pm	S	22	3.30pm AD, 8pm	S	27	2pm AD
Sun	29	5pm P	S	26	5pm	S	26	5pm	S	23	5pm	S	28	5pm
Mon	30		M	27		M	27		M	24		M	29	
Tue	31	11am, 7.30pm	T	28	11am, 7.30pm	T	28	11am	T	25	7.30pm	T	30	8.15pm
Wed						W	29	7.30pm	W	26	7.30pm FT	W	31	8.15pm
Thu						T	30	11am, 7.30pm	T	27	11am, 7.30pm			
Fri						F	31	8pm	F	28	8pm			
Sat									S	29	3.30pm, 8pm			
Sun									S	30				

JUNE			JULY			AUGUST			SEPTEMBER		
S			S			S			S		
M			M			M			M		
T			T			T	1	11am, 7.30pm	T		
W			W			W	2	8pm Opening	W		
T	1	11am	T			T	3	7.30pm	T		
F	2	11am	F			F	4	8pm	F	1	8pm
S	3	4.30pm, 8.15pm	S	1	3.30pm, 8pm	S	5	3.30pm, 8pm	S	2	3.30pm, 8pm
S	4	2pm	S	2	5pm	S	6	5pm	S	3	
M	5		M	3		M	7		M	4	
T	6	11am	T	4	11am Q&A	T	8	7.30pm	T	5	
W	7	11am, 6.15pm FT	W	5	7.30pm	W	9	7.30pm	W	6	SUMMER OF HAROLD
T	8	8.15pm	T	6	11am, 7.30pm	T	10	11am, 7.30pm	T	7	
F	9	8.15pm	F	7	8pm	F	11	8pm Q&A	F	8	8.15pm P
S	10	2pm	S	8	3.30pm, 8pm	S	12	3.30pm, 8pm	S	9	2pm P, 8.15pm P
S	11		S	9	5pm	S	13	5pm	S	10	5pm P
M	12		M	10		M	14		M	11	
T	13		T	11	7.30pm	T	15	7.30pm	T	12	11am, 8.15pm Opening
W	14	BENEFACTORS	W	12	7.30pm	W	16	7.30pm	W	13	8.15pm
T	15		T	13	11am AD, 7.30pm	T	17	11am Q&A, 7.30pm	T	14	
F	16	8pm P	F	14	8pm	F	18	8pm	F	15	8.15pm
S	17	2pm P, 8pm P	S	15	3.30pm AD, 8pm	S	19	3.30pm, 8pm	S	16	2pm, 8.15pm Q&A
S	18	5pm P	S	16	5pm	S	20	5pm	S	17	1pm, 5pm
M	19		M	17		M	21		M	18	7.30pm P
T	20	11am, 7.30pm	T	18	11am, 7.30pm	T	22	7.30pm	T	19	11am
W	21	8pm Opening	W	19	7.30pm FT	W	23	7.30pm	W	20	11am, 8.15pm
T	22	7.30pm	T	20	11am, 7.30pm	T	24	11am AD, 7.30pm	T	21	8.15pm
F	23	8pm	F	21	8pm	F	25	8pm	F	22	
S	24	3.30pm, 8pm	S	22	3.30pm, 8pm	S	26	3.30pm AD, 8pm	S	23	4.30pm, 8.15pm
S	25	5pm	S	23		S	27	5pm	S	24	2pm
M	26		M	24		M	28		M	25	
T	27	7.30pm	T	25		T	29	11am, 7.30pm	T	26	8.15pm
W	28	7.30pm	W	26	MR BAILEY'S MINDER	W	30	7.30pm FT	W	27	11am
T	29	11am, 7.30pm	T	27		T	31	11am, 7.30pm	T	28	11am AD, 6.15pm
F	30	8pm Q&A	F	28	8pm P	F			F	29	8.15pm
			S	29	2pm P, 8pm P				S	30	2pm AD
			S	30	5pm P						
			M	31							

OCTOBER				NOVEMBER				DECEMBER				JANUARY 2024			
Sun	1	5pm	2pm	S				S				S			
Mon	2			M				M				M	1	New Year's Day	
Tue	3	8.15pm	11am, 6.15pm FT	T				T				T	2	7.30pm	
Wed	4	8.15pm	11am Q&A / AD	W	1	7.30pm		W		MIDNIGHT MURDER AT HAMLINGTON HALL		W	3	7.30pm	
Thu	5	11am Q&A	8.15pm	T	2	11am, 7.30pm		T				T	4	11am, 7.30pm	
Fri	6	6.15pm FT	8.15pm	F	3	8pm Q&A		F	1			F	5	8pm	
Sat	7	4.30pm, 8.15pm	2pm AD	S	4	3.30pm, 8pm		S	2			S	6	3.30pm, 8pm	
Sun	8	2pm	5pm	S	5	5pm		S	3	5pm P		S	7	5pm	
Mon	9			M	6			M	4			M	8		
Tue	10	11am	8.15pm	T	7	11am Q&A		T	5	11am, 7.30pm		T	9	7.30pm	
Wed	11	11am	8.15pm	W	8	7.30pm		W	6	7.30pm		W	10	7.30pm FT	
Thu	12	8.15pm	11am	T	9	11am, 7.30pm		T	7	8pm Opening		T	11	11am, 7.30pm	
Fri	13	8.15pm	11am, 6.15pm	F	10	8pm		F	8	8pm		F	12	8pm	
Sat	14	4.30pm, 8.15pm	2pm	S	11	3.30pm, 8pm		S	9	3.30pm, 8pm		S	13	3.30pm, 8pm	
Sun	15			S	12	5pm		S	10	5pm		S	14	5pm	
Mon	16			M	13			M	11			M	15		
Tue	17			T	14	7.30pm		T	12	7.30pm		T	16		
Wed	18	THE MEMORY OF WATER		W	15	7.30pm		W	13	7.30pm		W	17		
Thu	19			T	16	11am AD, 7.30pm		T	14	11am, 7.30pm		T	18		
Fri	20		8pm P	F	17	8pm		F	15	8pm Q&A		F	19		
Sat	21		2pm P, 8pm P	S	18	3.30pm AD, 8pm		S	16	3.30pm, 8pm		S	20		
Sun	22	5pm P		S	19	5pm		S	17	5pm		S	21		
Mon	23			M	20			M	18			M	22		
Tue	24	11am, 7.30pm		T	21	11am, 7.30pm		T	19	11am Q&A, 7.30pm		T	23		
Wed	25	8pm Opening		W	22	7.30pm FT		W	20	7.30pm		W	24		
Thu	26	7.30pm		T	23	11am, 7.30pm		T	21	11am, 7.30pm		T	25		
Fri	27	8pm		F	24	8pm		F	22	8pm		F	26		
Sat	28	3.30pm, 8pm		S	25	3.30pm, 8pm		S	23	3.30pm, 8pm		S	27		
Sun	29	5pm		S	26			S	24			S	28		
Mon	30			M	27			M	25	Christmas Day		M	29		
Tue	31	7.30pm		T	28			T	26	Boxing Day		T	30		
Wed				W	29			W	27	7.30pm		W	31		
Thu				T	30			T	28	11am AD, 7.30pm					
Fri								F	29	8pm					
Sat								S	30	3.30pm AD, 8pm					
Sun								S	31	New Year's Eve					

FORM POSITIONED HERE – PANTONE 7677 DOES NOT PRINT

SEAT MAP



The experience from all seats is excellent in our intimate theatre. Please refer to the seating map to work out where you'll be most comfortable and contact the Box Office to discuss specific seating or access requirements.

ACCESSIBILITY

AUDIO DESCRIBED PERFORMANCES



Vision Australia provides a complimentary audio description service for audience members who are vision impaired. Audio described performances are marked AD in the performance calendar and are listed on our website.

HEARING LOOP



Our upgraded hearing loop amplifies sound to seats throughout the theatre. If you would like to use this service, please let us know when booking and a receiver will be available at the Box Office.

WHEELCHAIR SEATS AND LEVEL ACCESS



Ensemble Theatre is fully accessible with wheelchair friendly seating, including street level access to row F in our auditorium, and lift access to facilities and Bayly's Bistro. If you have seating requirements, please let us know when completing your subscription form.

CONCESSION DISCOUNTS

Discounts are available for:

- Seniors (with valid Seniors Card)
 - Pensioners (with valid Pensioner Concession Card)
 - Australian full-time students (with valid Student Card)
 - Under 30s (aged 30 and under at time of booking)
 - Media, Entertainment & Arts Alliance (MEAA) members
 - Australian Writer's Guild (AWG) members
- (Proof of age or valid concession card must be provided at time of booking.)

GROUPS

Discounts and priority bookings are available to groups of ten or more.

CONDITIONS

Tickets cannot be refunded after purchase except as outlined in the Live Performance Australia (LPA) Code of Practice. See liveperformance.com.au for details. For all other conditions of sale including transaction fees and ticket exchanges, please see our website ensemble.com.au or contact Box Office on (02) 8918 3400.

Please note: subscription bookings do not have any transaction fees.



GETTING HERE IS EASY

HOP ON
A FERRY

CATCH
A TRAIN

SEE YOU
HERE!

JUST A HOP, SKIP AND A JUMP NORTH OF THE BRIDGE FROM THE CBD, ENSEMBLE THEATRE IS NESTLED OVER THE WATER IN KIRRIBILLI.

- TRAIN**

Take the train to Milsons Point station, one stop north after Wynyard Station, exit at Ennis Road and it's just a 5 minute walk down Willoughby Street.
- FERRY**

The most scenic way to travel, jump on a ferry to Milsons Point (15 minute walk) or Kirribilli Wharf (15 minute walk).
- CAR**
















There's free (but time-limited) street parking all around the theatre. Please allow ample time to park before your performance or booking at Bayly's Bistro.
- VAL THE MATINEE BUS**

We offer a bus service for weekday matinee performances. The bus departs from Ennis Road, outside Milsons Point train station from 10am to 10.45am, then returns to the station after the performance. We also offer an after lunch service for Bayly's Bistro diners. Bookings are not required but there is a suggested \$3 donation to help cover costs.

This service is offered thanks to the generosity of our donors, Ros and Alex Hunyor. Ros' mother Val Lovett treasured her visits to the Ensemble and the bus is fondly named in her memory.

OUR PARTNERS

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS FOR PLAYING A VITAL ROLE IN OUR SUCCESS.

MAJOR PARTNER		GOVERNMENT SUPPORT	
			
ASSOCIATE PARTNER		STRATEGIC PARTNER	
			
SUPPORTING PARTNERS			
			
			
ENSEMBLE ED PARTNERS			
			
			
ENSEMBLE AMBASSADORS			
Thanks to our Ambassadors for their continuing support.			
TODD MCKENNEY	BRIAN MEEGAN	GEORGIE PARKER	KATE RAISON

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(02) 8918 3455
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SAFETY
Ensemble Theatre is a COVID Safe registered business. For the most up-to-date info, please visit ensemble.com.au/safety



STAY CONNECTED
Join our mailing list at ensemble.com.au or tick the box on your subscription form to receive our monthly e-newsletter packed with news, reviews and special offers plus a handy preshow reminder email with details about your upcoming show.

@ensembletheatre

@ensembletheatre

@ensemblesydney

EnsembleTV

SUBSCRIPTION OFFICE HOURS
Monday to Friday
9.30am–5pm

BOX OFFICE HOURS*
Monday – Saturday
9.30am – 5pm

60 minutes prior to a performance, the Box Office is open for ticket collection to that performance only.

Sunday
Open 60 minutes prior to matinee performance for ticket collection only.

*Box Office phone line closes 45 minutes prior to all evening performances.

Opening hours are subject to change dependent on the performance calendar.

Box Office is closed on Public Holidays. Check the website for more details.

SEE YOU AT THE THEATRE

SPECIAL THANKS

A huge thank you to the team who made this brochure possible.

Designer
Alphabet Studio

Photographers
Gary Heery, Daniel Boud,
Karen Watson, Richard Hedger
Jaimi Joy & Prudence Upton

Stylist
Emma White
Ella Butler

Hair and Make-up
Lei Tei
Annabel Barton

Videographers
Blake Lisk &
Mitchel Loveday

Printer
Special T Print

Details in the brochure are correct at time of publication. Ensemble Theatre reserves the right to add, withdraw or substitute artists and to vary the program and prices.

ENS
THEATRE
MLE