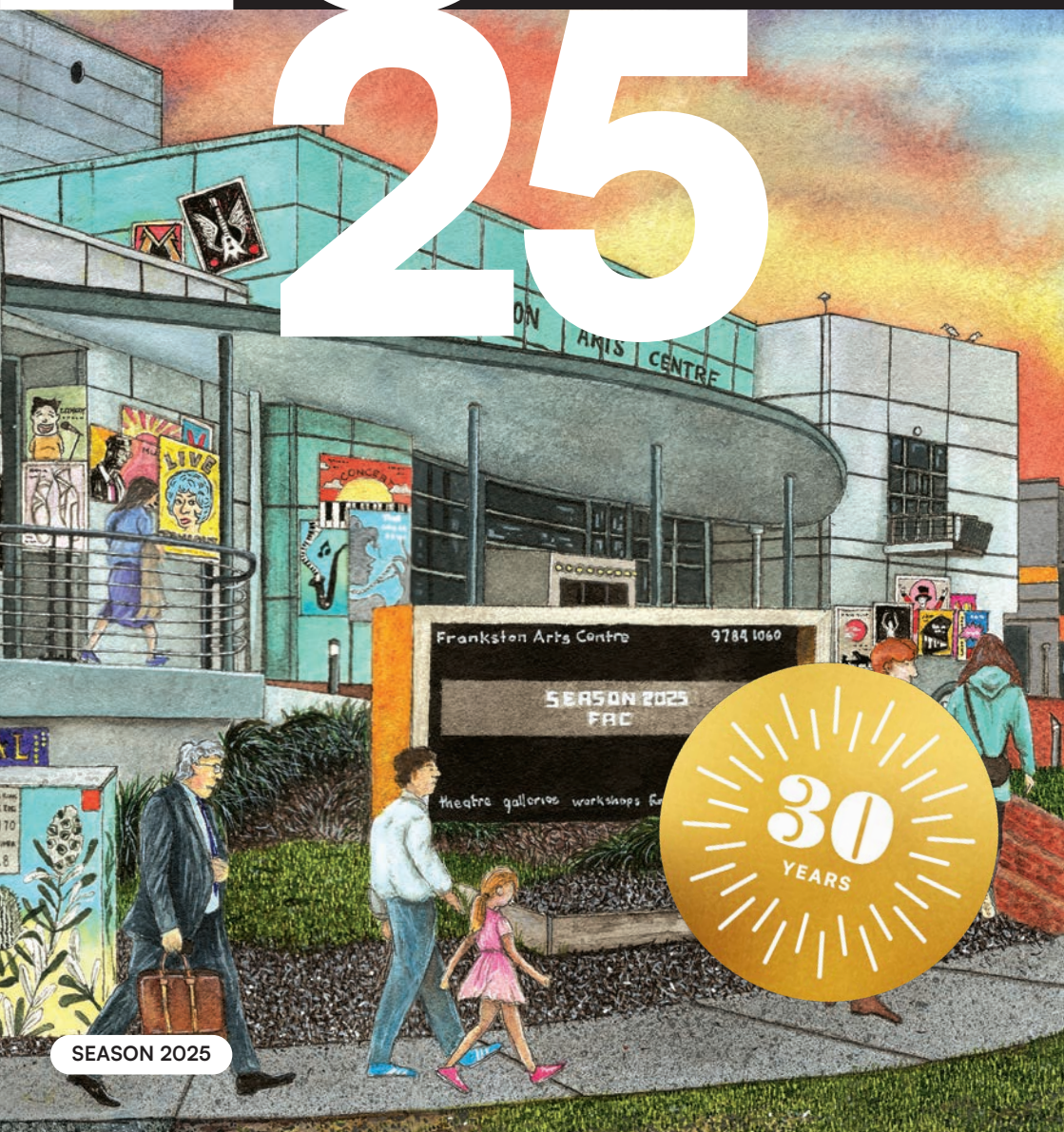


2025

FRANKSTON
ARTS
CENTRE

STORIES THAT
MAKE US

Celebrating 30 years
of Frankston Arts
Centre



SEASON 2025

Sponsors

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Frankston Arts Centre thanks all its partners for their ongoing support of the arts in Frankston.

Cover: Alison Tedesco

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Frankston Arts Centre acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land, the Bunurong and Boon Wurrung peoples of the Kulin Nation, and pay our respect to Elders both past and present and, through them, to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.



Welcome

LIFE BEGINS AT 30, RIGHT?

At the Frankston Arts Centre, we proudly wear every year of our life like a piece of cloth forming a giant patchwork quilt. Memories made, stories shared, something learned, tears of laughter and sadness shed.

In this beautiful quilt, we get to take all these moments and haphazardly sew them together; sometimes roughly, sometimes impeccably - but always with a great sense of love and care... and isn't that just the perfect analogy to share in our thirtieth year on this piece of land?

We are beyond proud as a team to share these stories - through dance, song, circus, drama and more. We love that many of you have been here from the beginning, and that every year new faces grace our theatres, galleries, and events. We thank you from the bottom of our heart for your support and continued patronage. She's a beautiful place, the Frankston Arts Centre. Happy Birthday to our magnificent home.

We look forward to welcoming you through our doors in 2025 for the stories that make us - thanks for being a part of the narrative.

Heidi Irvine

Head of Programming

2025

Circus / First Nations

Friday 14 February

7.30pm

NA DJINANG CIRCUS

Arterial

Directed by Harley Mann

Ticket prices

Member: \$43-\$52

Full: \$52-\$63

Concession: \$46-\$56

Under 30: \$28-\$33

Duration

60 minutes, no interval

Please note

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders are advised that the work contains voices of people who have passed away.

Recommended for ages 12+

A moving acrobatic performance linking people, country and culture, where the unseen bonds between the body and the land become beautifully visible.

This award winning Na Djinang Circus performance explores the ancient connections tying First Nations people together, strong through bloodlines but irreparably damaged through colonisation.

Four performers connect with each other physically and spiritually in a display of breathtaking acrobatics scored by avant-garde sound designer Danni Esposito.

Arterial will both excite and move you as the performers celebrate what it means to be First People - the lifeblood of this country. The land its beating heart.



“The effervescence of *Arterial* wraps you up in joy, before leaving tear streaks across your cheeks. Our hearts are theirs when all is said and done”

Stephen A Russell, Timeout



Na Djinang Circus is generously supported by Creative Australia, Creative Victoria, The City of Melbourne, Regional Arts Victoria. This Project was originally commissioned by the Yirramboi Festival.

Image: Cecilia Martin

Music

Saturday 1 March

7.30pm

GRIGORYAN BROTHERS

This Is Us - A Musical Reflection of Australia



“... Slava and Leonard belong in a special category of excellence”
The West Australian

Ticket prices

Member: \$45-\$55

Full: \$55-\$65

Concession: \$48-\$58

Under 30: \$28-\$35

Duration

90 minutes, no interval

Acclaimed guitarists Slava and Leonard Grigoryan have composed a suite of evocative music inspired by objects from the National Museum of Australia.

Each of the 18 compositions corresponds to a specific object, with 3D video projections enhancing the performance. Incorporating all their influences from classical to jazz and contemporary music, performed on a variety of guitars, audiences will see and hear the Grigoryan Brothers like never before.

This program, created during lockdown, marks their first entirely original body of work, highlighting objects like the Madjebebe ochre and Bradman's cricket bat.

Comedy

Sunday 27 April

7.30pm

MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL COMEDY FESTIVAL

Comedy Festival Roadshow



“We were laughing from the moment the lights went down, to well into the drive home.”

Scenestr

Image: Jim Lee

Ticket prices

Member: \$47-\$57

Full \$57-\$67

Concession: \$50-\$60

Under 30: \$30-\$37

Duration

120 minutes, including interval

Please note

May contain coarse language, adult themes, sexual references and material that may offend. Smoke or haze may be used. Recommended for ages 15+

Australia's most iconic comedy tour is hitting the road for a huge 27th year!

Bringing together the brightest stars from the 2025 Melbourne International Comedy Festival, we're delivering top-tier humour straight to your town!

Featuring a dynamic line-up of comedy legends and fresh faces, this year's Roadshow promises nation-wide happiness. So, grab your friends, lock in your tickets and prepare for a much-needed dose of laughter as the 2025 *Melbourne International Comedy Festival Roadshow* rolls into Frankston!



Dance

Saturday 10 May

7.30pm

SYDNEY DANCE COMPANY

momenta

Choreographed by Rafael Bonachela



“*momenta* is an electric and arresting celebration of light and life...”

Sydney Morning Herald

Ticket prices

Member: \$47-\$57

Full: \$57 - \$67

Concession: \$50 - \$60

Under 30: \$30 - \$37

Duration

75 minutes, no interval

Please note

Strobe lighting, strobe-like lighting effects and theatrical haze will be used.

Sydney Dance Company explodes onto the stage in Rafael Bonachela's *momenta*.

From tender exchanges to an intense physical storm, witness an extraordinary force of movement, striking individuality and powerful unity, escalating to a joyous release.

The dancers transcend physical limitations, exploring the full range of their bodies with grace, power and vulnerability. Through the captivating interplay of Bonachela's signature choreographic style, *momenta* gathers the hurtling vectors of our lives into confluence and connection.

For audiences and dancers alike, *momenta* is an invitation to rejoice in the beauty and fragility of our shared humanity.

The Sydney Dance Company 2025 National Tour has been assisted by the Australian Government through Creative Australia, its principal arts investment and advisory body, and is supported by the NSW Government through Create NSW.

SYDNEY
DANCE
COMPANY

ARTS
FRANKSTON
TOUR

Australian Government

Creative
Australia

NSW
GOVERNMENT

SOUTHSIDE FESTIVAL

Image: Pedro Greig featuring Ngaere Jenkins (left) and Tayla Garner (right).

Participatory Performance

Wednesday 14 May

7.30pm

Thursday 15 May

6pm

ALTERNATIVE FACTS

Sincere Apologies

By Dan Koop, Jamie Lewis & David Williams

Based on an original concept by Roslyn Oades & David Williams

Produced by Suzie Franke for Alternative Facts



A participatory performance that will try to fix the world, just a little bit.

Ticket prices

Tickets: \$25

Duration

60 minutes, no interval

Experience a verbatim theatre-style performance based on all the apologies that the world keeps offering — the famous, the obscure, the deeply personal and those that begin every second email in our inboxes.

Sincere Apologies investigates how we say sorry, and how we really mean it. A wild interactive ride that transforms the audience into a temporary community, coming together to move through our collective regret through a place where we might try to fix the parts of the world that are broken.

This unique experience is awkward, funny, unexpectedly intimate and strangely moving.

This project is supported by the Victorian Government through Creative Victoria, and assisted by the Australian Government through Creative Australia, its principal arts investment and advisory body. This project was developed with support from Vitalstatistix.



Opera / Family

Wednesday 21 May & Friday 23 May

6.30pm

VICTORIAN OPERA

The Lyrebird's Voice



A family-friendly opera about the power of your voice.

Ticket prices

Member: \$33

Full: \$42

Concession (limited): \$34

Senior: \$37

14 and under: \$28

Family of 4: \$112

30 and under: \$30

Group 6+: \$33ea

Duration

55 minutes, no interval

When a trickster lyrebird takes mimicking a step too far, they learn an important lesson about the way we use our voice. In this family-friendly opera you'll meet a quirky assortment of native animals and discover the power of being different.

This sweet story was developed by Peter Rutherford and six youth participants of the New Work Opera Studio 2023.

Told with colour, Australian spirit and a big dose of humour, this opera imparts important lessons on identity and the ways in which we use our voice.

IN ASSOCIATION WITH Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, University of Melbourne. GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED BY Jane Hemstrich OA



Comedy / Drama

Saturday 7 June

7.30pm

DAMIAN CALLINAN

Hall Stories

Ticket prices

Member: \$38-\$48

Full: \$45-\$55

Concession: \$40-\$50

Under 30: \$28-\$35

Duration

90 minutes, no interval



Join us for a unique, heart-warming and hilarious gala performance celebrating 30 years of the Frankston Arts Centre.

Every hall has a story to tell, and celebrated performer Damian Callinan will bring the stories of Frankston Arts Centre to life in this specially-curated show.

Using his skills as a comedian, actor and storyteller, he'll pull back the curtain on his own tour stories to examine the quirks, traditions and characters of rural Australian halls and meeting places.

With specific focus on the history and characters of the Frankston Arts Centre, Damian will deliver a hilarious show and later deliver a podcast to document our much-loved venue's story.

Join us for a Pre-Show Cocktail party!

Dress to impress in your finest gala outfit or go black-tie as you enjoy a complimentary arrival drink and a delectable menu of canapés in our Function Centre from 6pm. Mingle with fellow theatre lovers or unwind with friends as we toast to this incredible milestone in style!

Cocktail Party tickets: \$27



“Hall Stories helps to bring a community together to share their story and the story of their families growing up around these central community spaces.”

Matt Schroeders, Riverlinks Manager



Image: Alan Moyle - Photobar

Family

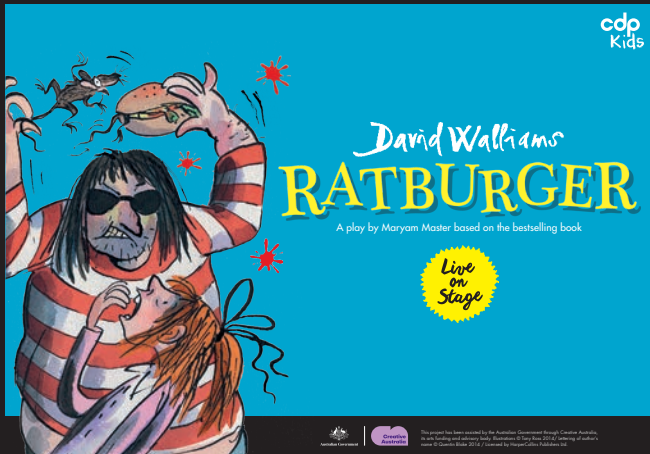
Friday 13 June

12pm & 6pm

CDP KIDS

Ratburger

A play by Maryam Master based on the bestselling book



Ticket prices

Member: \$35
 Full: \$42
 Concession: \$37
 Family of 4: \$100

Duration

60 minutes, no interval

Please note

Theatrical smoke/haze and cartoon violence.

Recommended for ages 6+



12pm performance will be Auslan interpreted

From the creative mind of bestselling children's author David Walliams (*The World's Worst Children*, *Gangsta Granny*), don't miss the screamingly funny *Ratburger* when it comes to life on stage, with stunning sets and charming puppetry!

Join Zoe in this action-packed adventure, as she sets out to save her pet rat Dapper from the evil Burt from Burt's Burgers.

From the team behind the Australian tours of *The 78-Storey Treehouse*, *Dog Man the Musical*, and *The Midnight Gang*, don't miss this hilarious and touching play about kindness, bravery, (and of course) burgers.

This project has been assisted by the Australian Government through Creative Australia, its principal arts investment and advisory body.



Musical / Drama

Thursday 3 July

7.30pm

HIT PRODUCTIONS

Waltzing the Wilarra

Written and composed by David Milroy



Image: Jon Green

“...a highly evocative musical tale of love, jealousy, friendship and family. It is a beautiful, heartfelt production about love and loss.”

Australian Stage

Ticket prices

Member: \$45-\$55
 Full: \$55-\$65
 Concession: \$48-\$58
 Under 30: \$28-\$35

Duration

170 minutes, including interval



This performance will feature Live Theatre Open Captioning

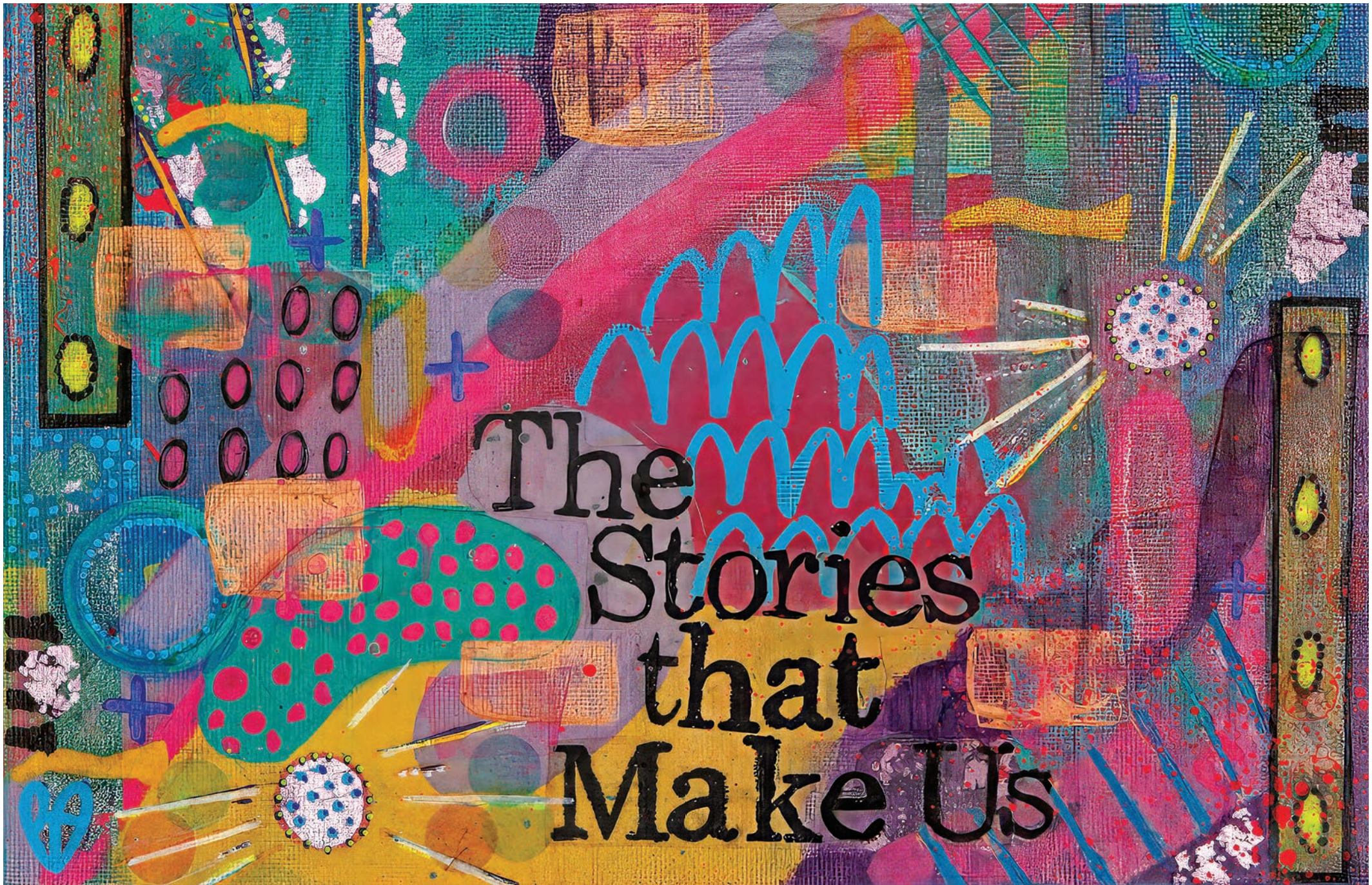
Journey back to 1940's post-war Perth, with this toe-tapping, funny and poignant Australian musical performed by a stellar cast backed by a live band.

Against a backdrop of curfews, and the fear of arrest, white and black manage to form their own club where they can forget their worries and experience rare happy times, and with a little luck... romance.

Forty years on, as the club faces demolition, our characters meet once again to stage a musical reunion and protest in an attempt to save their old stomping ground.

Dark secrets and ghosts that have lingered for more than half a century are revealed, and we discover that reconciliation is more than saying sorry.





MELBOURNE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

An Evening with the MSO: Mozart and the Mendelssohns



An evening of pure musical bliss, featuring music by Mozart and the Mendelssohn siblings, conducted by Jaime Martín.

Ticket prices

Member: \$65-\$70
Full: \$70-\$75
Concession: \$67-\$72
Under 30: \$35
Group 10+:
\$59.50ea-\$63.75ea

Duration

90 minutes,
including interval



Pre-Show Dining Experience

Enjoy a complimentary drink on arrival and a gourmet two-course dinner in an exclusive VIP area. Relax and enjoy your meal served 2 hours before the show commences.

Members \$54 | Full \$60

Melbourne Symphony Orchestra

CLUSTER ARTS GLOBAL IN ASSOCIATION WITH BTC PRODUCTIONS

Breaking the Castle



Image: Grant Leslie

“Cook’s performance is spectacular...You will leave the theatre reflecting on how you see the world and those struggling within it.”

Always time for Theatre,
London

Ticket prices

Member: \$38
Full: \$42
Concession: \$40
Under 30: \$35

Duration

85 minutes, no interval

Please note

Coarse language, simulated drug use, portrayal of mental illness, adult themes.

Recommended for ages 15+

After five-star seasons in Edinburgh and Off-West End in London, *Breaking The Castle* returns to Australia.

Described as “the most significant theatre production audiences may ever experience”, it follows the story of David, a struggling actor whose life is a chaotic blend of substance abuse, Shakespearean soliloquies, failed auditions and debilitating mental health. David takes himself to the brink, until an unlikely lifeline offers hope in the mountains of South-East Asia.

A genuine work of empathy, *Breaking the Castle* is an extraordinary, often hilarious, and true story about the indomitable nature of the human spirit.

Family / Puppetry

Friday 8 August

10am & 1pm

TERRAPIN

The Paper Escaper

By Gita Bezard

★★★★½ “A beautifully crafted work written for the young and to be enjoyed by all ages.”

ArtsHub, Lesley Graham, 2023

Ticket prices

Member: \$35

Full: \$42

Concession: \$37

Family of 4: \$100

Duration

45 minutes, no interval

Please note

Suitable for all ages

Benny, the plucky puppet protagonist in *The Paper Escaper*, knows they are destined for greater things than a simple pop-up book.

But in a world that's trying to squash Benny between its pages - from a wily dancing fire to a disillusioned illustrator - Benny will need the help of a new friend to achieve their dreams.

This bright new puppetry work from Terrapin tells a story of determination, friendship and the power of following your own path.



Image: Darcie Richards

Terrapin



ARTS
ON
TOUR

Family / Physical Theatre

Friday 22 August

11am & 6pm

LEGS ON THE WALL

Beetle



★★★★★

“A striking show which takes young viewers on an immersive journey into nature by fusing puppetry, physical theatre, circus, video projection, and set and costume design with seamless imagination.”

The Scotsman

Ticket prices

Member: \$35
Full: \$42
Concession: \$37
Family of 4: \$100

Duration

50 minutes, no interval

Please note

Use of flashing lights and haze.

Recommended for ages 6-14.

Even the smallest voices matter. An instant Australian classic, *Beetle* tells the story of a child who finds a friend in her backyard; together, they embark on an adventure to search for the now elusive Christmas Beetle.

The magic of the bush habitat is brought to life through Legs On The Wall's trademark physical storytelling, and animation created from original artworks by beloved children's author and illustrator Freya Blackwood. A tale of resilience and hope, *Beetle* reminds young audiences that there's an important place in the world for all of us.

Family / Magic

Tuesday 23 September

2pm & 6pm

School Holidays

Wednesday 24 September

10.30am & 1.30pm

Mario the Maker Magician



“The best kids’ magician in the world!!”

David Blaine

Ticket prices

Tickets: \$20
Family: \$75

Duration

50 minutes, no interval

Please note

Recommended for ages 5+ and grown-ups!

RP Relaxed Performance at 10.30am on Wednesday 24 September

Robots and magic and slapstick... oh my!

Following appearances on Sesame Street, Universal Kids, and on The Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon, *Mario the Maker Magician* heads to Frankston.

Contagiously upbeat and full of heart, the ever-endearing Mario leads you through a romping explosion of energy and belly laughs punctuated with moments of heart and emotion that will catch you by surprise.

Prepare for a world of vaudeville and magic, cardboard and robots, science and innovation, instilling a positive message that will last in the minds and hearts of all audiences.

NCM



Circus

Thursday 2 October

7.30pm

CIRCA

Duck Pond

Created by Yaron Lifschitz and the Circa Ensemble

Ticket prices

Member: \$45-\$55

Full: \$55-\$65

Concession: \$48-\$58

Under 30: \$28-\$35

Duration

75 minutes, no interval

Feathers will fly in Circa's exuberant take on Swan Lake.

The world's most romantic ballet is re-imagined as a circus spectacular, full of Circa's signature physicality and shot through with cheeky humour and a thoroughly contemporary energy.

Be swept away by this tale of swans and hapless princes sparkling with quirky touches like the sequined flipper-wearing duck army and a burlesque black swan.

There are sumptuous aerials, jaw-dropping acrobatics and of course feathers! Touching, funny and utterly entertaining, *Duck Pond* is a tale of identity and finding your true self.

Circa is based in Meanjin (Brisbane) on the lands of the Jagera and Turrbal people.

Circa acknowledges the assistance of the Australian Government through Creative Australia, its principal arts investment and advisory body and the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland.

Duck Pond is co-commissioned by QPAC and The Arts Center at NYU Abu Dhabi, The Art House Wyong, Frankston Arts Centre, HOTA - Home of the Arts, Merrigong Theatre Company and Orange Civic Theatre.

"Messing with Swan Lake is a risky business. You wouldn't want to do that unless you were a bit of a genius. It so happens Yaron Lifschitz is"

In Queensland

CIRCA



Image: Damien Brederberg

Calendar

February

Friday 14 February, 7.30pm	Arterial	Circus / First Nations
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March

Saturday 1 March, 7.30pm	Grigoryan Brothers: This Is Us	Music
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April

Sunday 27 April, 7.30pm	Melbourne International Comedy Festival Roadshow	Comedy
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May

Saturday 10 May, 7.30pm	Sydney Dance Company: <i>momenta</i>	Dance
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Wednesday 14 May, 7.30pm Thursday 15 May, 6pm	Sincere Apologies	Participatory Performance
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Wednesday 21 May & Friday 23 May, 6.30pm	Victorian Opera: The Lyrebird's Voice	Opera / Family
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June

Saturday 7 June, 7.30pm	Hall Stories	Comedy / Drama 
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Friday 13 June, 12pm & 6pm	Ratburger	Family 
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July

Thursday 3 July, 7.30pm	Waltzing the Wilarra	Musical / Drama 
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Friday 4 July, 7.30pm	An Evening with the MSO: Mozart and the Mendelssohns	Music 
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Friday 11 July & Saturday 12 July, 7.30pm	Breaking the Castle	Drama Cube 37
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August

Friday 8 August, 10am & 1pm	The Paper Escaper	Family / Puppetry
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Friday 22 August, 11am & 6pm	Beetle	Family / Physical Theatre
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September

Tuesday 23 September, 2pm & 6pm Wednesday 24 September, 10.30am & 1.30pm (School Holidays)	Mario the Maker Magician	Family / Magic 
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October

Thursday 2 October, 7.30pm	Circa: Duck Pond	Circus
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Life in the fast lane.



Visit EastLink.com.au

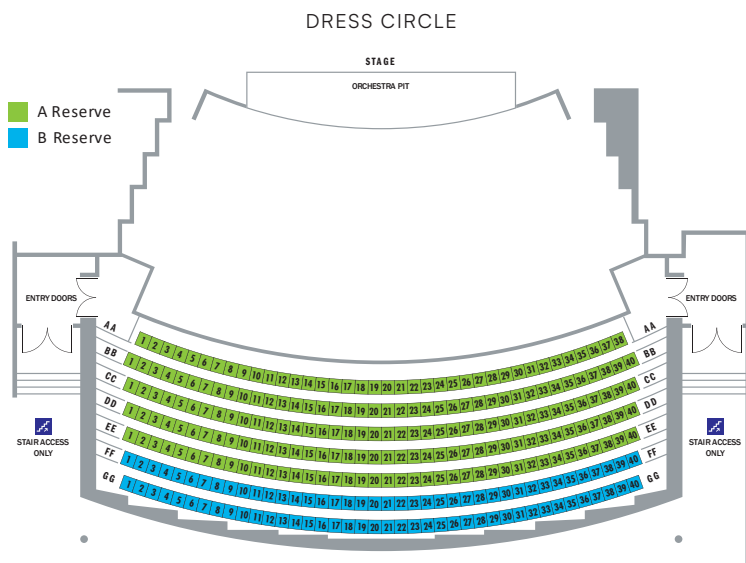
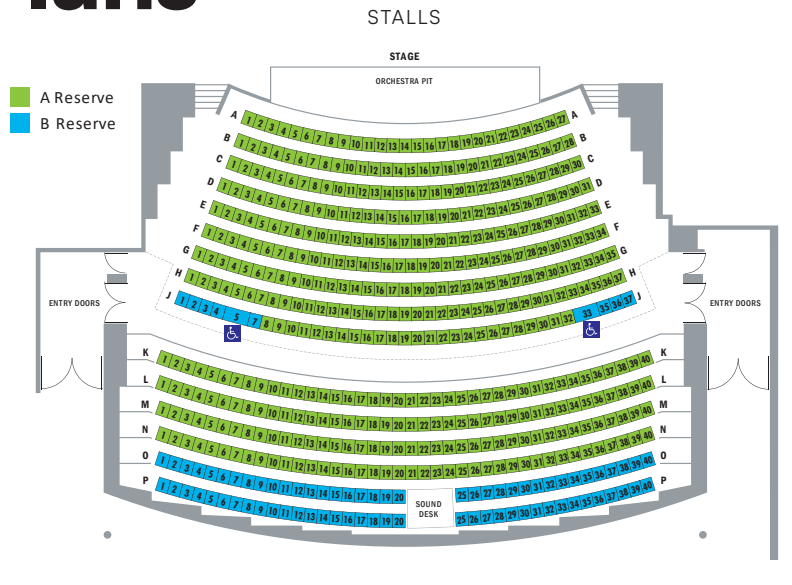
Your personal time machine.



Visit EastLink.com.au

Theatre Seating Plans

Scan the QR Code for
Cube 37 Seat Map



Theatre Information

HOURS

Our Box Office Counter is open:
10am-5pm Tuesday to Friday,
10am-2pm Saturday and 1 hour before
performances.

Our Box Office Ticket Hotline is open:
10am-5pm Monday to Friday,
10am-2pm Saturday

TICKETS

Booked tickets may be collected at
the Box Office, downloaded to mobile,
printed at home or can be mailed for
a nominal fee.

Concession

Unless otherwise stated, concession
includes Government Pension Card/
Senior Card, full time student or
person in receipt of unemployment
benefits. Some performances may
have limited concessions detailed.

CAR PARKING

For undercover parking, enter from
Young Street. Fees apply.

CONTACT DETAILS

03 9784 1060
thefac.com.au
thefac@frankston.vic.gov.au

ACCESS FOR ALL

We provide access for all abilities.
Please advise the Box Office when
booking.

Hearing Assistance

Receivers are available for loan
from the Box Office.

Social Scripts

Frankston Arts Centre is committed
to promoting meaningful access and
participation for all. Social scripts,
containing information about venue
accessibility and the high and low
sensory areas of the venue and your
visit, are available on request or
download from thefac.com.au.


 **Live Theatre Open Captioning**

 **Auslan Interpreted Performance**

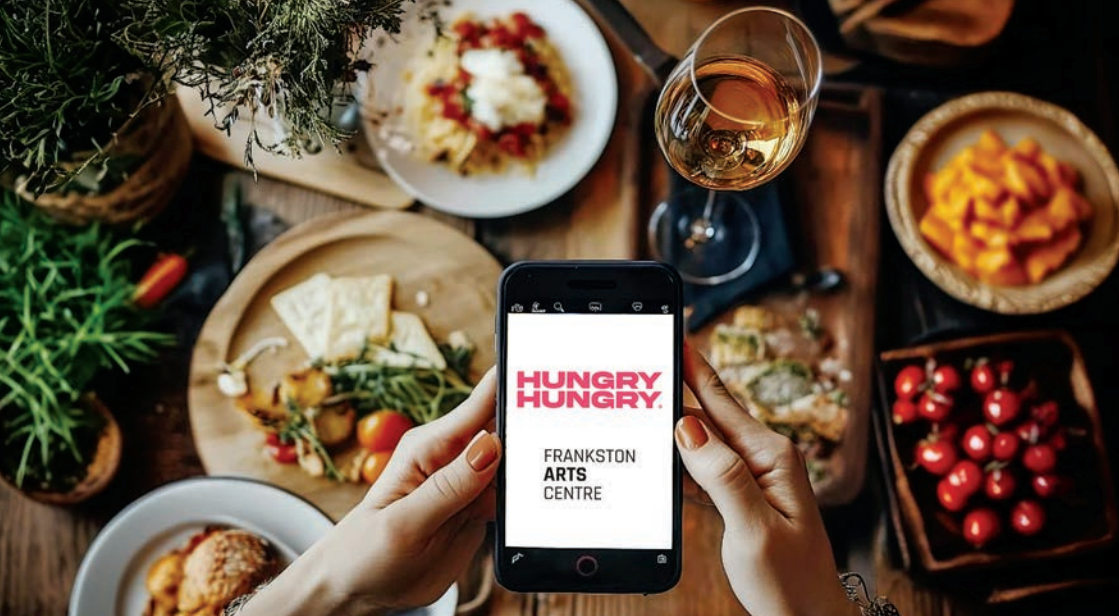
Suitable for patrons who are
Deaf or hard of hearing.

 **Relaxed Performance**

Suitable for patrons with
autism spectrum conditions,
sensory, communication or
learning disabilities.

 **Interpreter service: 131 450**

Disclaimer: Every effort has been made
to ensure the accuracy of the details in this
brochure, however the FAC reserves the
right to withdraw, substitute or vary the
details of performances and to rectify any
errors at a later date.



GOLD MEMBERSHIP

30 YEARS

Eat & Drink

Enjoy a quick bite at our Foyer Bar, open an hour before the show. Delight in theatre favourites like popcorn, choc tops, and Maltesers. Choose from our pre-show or interval small bites and beverages or something more substantial.

Online ordering is here!

Plan ahead and use our Hungry Hungry online ordering system for food and drink orders. Before your show, we'll send you a link to browse the menu and make purchases for arrival or interval refreshments (if your show has an interval). You can also place interval orders at the venue by scanning a QR code in the foyer.

Your pre-ordered items will be ready for pick-up at your specified time, so you can skip the queues and enjoy quick, easy service!

VIP Treatment

Not only do our members enjoy the VIP express lane, they also receive a 10% discount off all food and beverage purchases at the bar.

Sign up today to enjoy all the membership benefits. (See page 33 for further details).

Membership

To celebrate our 30th Birthday we have introduced a Gold Membership for 2025.

FAC Memberships: Individual \$50, Joint \$100

Gold Membership: Individual \$70, Joint \$140

Individual members are eligible to purchase two discounted tickets and joint members are eligible to purchase four discounted tickets to performances where membership prices are available. Get your friends together and share your love of theatre!

As an FAC member, you will receive exclusive benefits, including:

- Member discounts to FAC Season Shows and other nominated shows
- Priority bar service — walk the red carpet and skip the queues (some exclusions may apply for community & school performances)
- Advance copy of the FAC Season Shows booklet and pre-sale booking opportunities
- Invitation to FAC Season Launch party to preview upcoming shows
- Deferred payment to FAC Season Shows — choose the best seats now and pay later!
- Pre-sale booking opportunities and exclusive offers
- 10% discount off all Bar purchases

Gold Members receive all the usual FAC benefits plus more!

- A free ticket to a Season Show from a shortlist
- Entry into a Surprise Ticket Lottery each month. The winner gets a double pass to a mystery show

Join online at thefac.com.au or phone Box Office on **03 9784 1060**.

2024 Cover Art Competition

This Season Brochure proudly showcases artwork from the talented local artists who participated in our Cover Art Competition. Alison Tedesco's winning piece graces the cover, while Rebecca Abbey's stunning work is featured in the centre spread.

About Alison Tedesco

Frankston-based artist Alison Tedesco has spent the last decade capturing urban landscapes. During the Covid-19 pandemic, an Artist Project Grant from Frankston City Council allowed her to explore Frankston's unique scenery, transforming select locations into captivating works on paper. In 2024, Alison won the Frankston Rotary Art Prize for best watercolour.

"My first exhibition in 2022, supported by a grant from the Frankston City Council, launched my career and connected me to a wonderfully supportive community at the Art Centre. I'm forever grateful - it was truly life-changing."



About Rebecca Abbey

Rebecca Abbey held her debut solo exhibition, *Colour and Flow*, at Frankston Arts Centre from November 2023 to April 2024. In the same year, she won First Prize for Best Small Work at the Frankston Art Show. Now pursuing studies in Holistic Integrated Creative Arts Therapy (HICAT), Rebecca is dedicated to using art as a means of healing within the Frankston community.

"To me, Frankston Arts Centre means connection, creativity, and lots of fun! I feel delighted and moved each time I'm there."

DANCER

A National Portrait Gallery touring exhibition

Frankston Arts Centre Galleries
Friday 7 February to Saturday 27 April 2025 FREE ENTRY

From letting loose in the lounge room to entrancing audiences on stage, this exhibition captures the experience of lives lived through dance. Drawn from the National Portrait Gallery collection and incorporating the work of contemporary photographers, *Dancer* reflects the freedom and joy of dance and its power to connect.

**NATIONAL
PORTRAIT
GALLERY**



**FRANKSTON
ARTS
CENTRE**

Steven Heathcote 2007, Julian Kingma, type C photograph on paper © Julian Kingma

