SEASON 2024

LLABOITE



SEASON 2024 ON SALE NOW







This project is supported by the Queensland



2024 MAINSTAGE

Welcome from Courtney 18 2024 at a Glance

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WE ARE THRILLED TO BRING YOU ANOTHER SEASON OF POWERHOUSE PLAYS IN 2024

Our small but mighty company will collaborate with some of the most exciting artists in our city and join forces with friends across state lines and internationally to bring you Closer, a cult classic; Blue, a tender new tale; Fancy Long Legs, a sparkly new work for our youngest audience members; and Yoga Play, a global comedy.

This thrill of sharing stories comes from being able to respond to our current psychological state as a society - unearthing perspectives that speak to the heart of who we are and where we are at right now. The past couple of years, and even more acutely, the past couple of months, have seen us reach new heights of conflict. In our own country, we had the promise of coming together, of addressing the past, and moving towards a future where all of us could thrive.

In 2024, we reinforce our commitment to making work and presenting productions that shed light on different ways of thinking, feeling, and experiencing the world. As cultural leaders we want to contribute to the improvement of social cohesion, to build trust and dialogue between our artists and audiences, and add to the overall happiness of Australians through the work we make.

Over the past 12 months, I have been really inspired watching incredible

theatremakers all over Brisbane use story to connect artists and audiences together. From small, intimate stories through to epic spectaculars at QPAC – our city is incredible, and the artists here are world-class. I think

what sets Brisbane theatremakers apart from the rest is our mission to develop deep and personal relationships with our audiences.

Relationships are a basic human need that can offer love, connection, togetherness, and joy. Our season in 2024 explores the way relationships impact our lives, for better or for worse. Closer shows us what happens to our relationships when we follow our impulses at all costs. Blue reveals the lasting impacts of relationships welltended, even after someone is no longer with us. Fancy Long Legs celebrates the power and joy of connecting with others, and looks at how our differences can be our greatest superpower. Yoga Play picks apart the idea of selling 'wellness'. and how industries that capitalise on our relationship with ourselves often make it impossible to find our own idea of authenticity.

At La Boite we treasure our relationship with our audiences and have nurtured these relationships for almost 100 years. We are looking forward to continuing our relationship with you into 2024 and hope you find joy and connection in the stories we will be bringing to the Roundhouse!

Courtney Stewart

Artistic Director & CFO

CLOSER

BY PATRICK MARBER DIRECTED BY COURTNEY STEWART



A SHOW OF DESIRE AND BETRAYAL

Alice. Anna. Dan. Larry.

Four strangers caught in a destructive square dance where partners are swapped, lies are told and desire faces off with betrayal.

CREATIVES

PLAYWRIGHT
Patrick Marber
DIRECTOR
Courtney Stewart
SET & COSTUME DESIGNER
M'ck McKeague
LIGHTING DESIGNER
Glenn Hughes
SOUND DESIGNER & COMPOSER
Wil Hughes

CAST

Sophia Emberson-Bain Anna McGahan Colin Smith Kevin Spink

AGE RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommended for audiences aged 15+. Contains strong sexual themes, violence, discussions of death and explicit language.

TICKETS

Adult \$55 - \$65* Concession \$45 - \$55*

See p. 20 for all ticket prices.

Save on ticket prices with Season Saver packages.

*A transaction fee applies

After 24 years, Closer, a cult classic by **Patrick Marber** returns to La Boite to get under the audience's skin once again.

Artistic Director **Courtney Stewart** will direct an all-star Queensland cast in this critically acclaimed work that blends classical tragedy, comedy and melodrama in a contemporary and relatable setting.

The Olivier award-winning work follows the lives of out-of-towner Alice, photographer Anna, obituary writer Dan and dermatologist Larry over several years as they meet, bond, separate and move on.

Described as "bruising and beautiful", Closer offers a confronting reality about how adults approach relationships.

Closer turns its intricate focus on sexual politics, examines the myths of love and romance and dissects the inevitable fall-out when adults cross the lines between love and lust.

A modern classic, 2024 marks 20 years since the film adaptation starring Julia Roberts, Natalie Portman, Jude Law and Clive Owen hit cinemas and 27 years since the searing play premiered at London's Royal National Theatre.

BLUE



A SHOW OF TRANQUILITY AND GRACE

When Mark moved out of home for the first

time, his mum started writing him letters – just checking in, staying in touch, keeping a gentle hold on her son.

Until one letter brings news no-one wants to hear.

CREATIVES

PLAYWRIGHT
Thomas Weatherall
DIRECTOR
Deborah Brown
SET & COSTUME DESIGNER
Jacob Nash
LIGHTING DESIGNER
Chloe Ogilvie
SOUND DESIGNER & COMPOSER
Wil Hughes
VIDEO DESIGNER
David Bergman

CAST

Thomas Weatherall

AGE RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommended for audiences aged 15+. Contains references to suicide, the use of coarse language, theatrical haze and herbal cigarettes.

TICKETS

Adult	\$55 - \$65*
Concession	\$45 - \$55*

See p. 20 for all ticket prices.

Save on ticket prices with Season Saver packages.

*A transaction fee applies

Blue is a bold and deeply personal new work from a young and revelatory new voice in Australian writing. Journey deep into the beauty and sadness of a young life at its new beginning.

A tender and exquisite monologue written and performed by Logie Award winner, **Thomas Weatherall** (Heartbreak High), Blue marks the writing debut of this accomplished actor and dancer.

The audience bears witness to Mark, alone in his apartment, on a quiet ordinary morning, trying to make sense of his world and navigate a way forward.

He needs to work out how to go on with the day, his studies and the fragility of living. He needs someone to hear his story and the story of his family.

A work of "very personal fiction", *Blue* is drawn from Weatherall's experiences as a teenager and young adult, finding his place in the world and overcoming an onslaught of emotional circumstances.

Delicately lifting the one-person play from its challenging themes with grace, fluidity and movement is director **Deborah Brown**, a choreographer and award-winning dancer.

Blue is a touching and beautiful exploration of a young person's journey through grief, loss, mental well-being and young adulthood. Blue makes its Queensland debut at La Boite in 2024, following its premiere season at Belvoir as part of Sydney Festival 2023.

CO-PRESENTER



RACHEL BURKE'S

FANCY LONG LEGS

ADAPTED FOR THE STAGE BY NAOMI PRICE DIRECTED BY COURTNEY STEWART

12 - 22 SEP

Roundhouse Theatre La Boite 10

Underneath a crafter's cart lived a lively young arachnid. Fancy Long Legs was her name, and she was easily distracted.

A SHOW OF RAZZLE-DAZZLE AND ACCEPTANCE

Fancy Long Legs is a brand-new glittery and vibrant musical adventure for children, based on a new picture book by Brisbane's international tinsel and craft icon, **Rachel Burke**.

Fancy Long Legs is the story of Fancy, a spider who loves to

create but struggles to stay focused on her creative task of web-building. With the support of her friends, Fancy goes on a beautiful journey of self-discovery to find her own style and make something no one else can.

This uplifting story takes a wholesome and relatable look at neurodivergence, offering a playful and glitter-covered adventure of acceptance, staying true to yourself and finding friends who love you and celebrate your differences.

La Boite Theatre, Brisbane Festival and The Little Red Company (Lord Mayor's Christmas Carols, Lady Beatle) join forces this September bringing this bright and bold family work to life, gifting sparkle, inclusivity and catchy tunes to our youngest theatregoers.

Fancy Long Legs has been created with accessibility at its core to ensure the theatre experience is welcoming, safe and inclusive for all. Each performance in the season will be considered 'relaxed' with flexible venue access, ambient lighting, spoiler sheets, sensory warnings, a low-sensory space, accessible seating, plus Auslan interpretation, audio description and tactile tours on select performances.

CREATIVES

CREATORS
Rachel Burke
Naomi Price
DIRECTOR
Courtney Stewart
SET & COSTUME DESIGNER
Rachel Burke
ACCESS CONSULTANT
Madeleine Little
EDUCATION CONSULTANT
Annette Box

AGE RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommended for ages 3 – 8 years old. Theatrical lighting and effects, haze, music. All shows are Relaxed Performances.

TICKETS

Adult	\$49*
Child	\$29*
Group 4+	\$35*

See p. 20 for all ticket prices.
Save on ticket prices with
Season Saver packages
*A transaction fee applies

CO-PRODUCERS







YOGA PLAY



A SHOW OF SCANDALS AND LAUGHTER

Yoga Play is a sharp comedy that interrogates what it takes to find your authenticity in a world determined to sell enlightenment.

The uproarious exploration of cultural appropriation,

exploitation, consumerism,

fat shaming and yoga pants at any cost is written by US playwright **Dipika Guha** and plays at La Boite as part of its Australian premiere season, directed by internationally renowned director

Mina Morita.

Joan is the new CEO of yoga apparel giant Jojomon, hired to stabilise the athleisurewear company after her predecessor was brought down by an unsavoury scandal.

Just as she finds her stride, more trouble surfaces, sales plummet and Joan comes up with a plan so risky that it could make or break the company and her career.

What her path to success and redemption requires from her CFO, Raj, is far beyond the call of duty.

Yoga Play explores the unusual phenomenon of identity – how one can belong somewhere they least expect, yet feel estranged in places where they ought to belong.

The laugh-out-loud work asks – and answers – burning questions about capitalism and the business of peace, as well as a person's innate quest for understanding and authenticity.

CREATIVES

PLAYWRIGHT Dipika Guha DIRECTOR Mina Morita

CAST

To be announced

AGE RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommended for audiences aged 15+. Contains coarse language and adult themes.

TICKETS

Adult \$55 - \$65* Concession \$45 - \$55*

See p. 20 for all ticket prices.

Save on ticket prices with Season Saver packages.

*A transaction fee applies

CO-PRODUCER



GIRGENSOHN FOUNDATION

A LA BOITE THEATRE, QUEENSLAND PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE AND BRISBANE FESTIVAL PRODUCTION PRESENTED BY BELVOIR ST THEATRE AND SYDNEY FESTIVAL

TIDDAS

BY ANITA HEISS
CO-DIRECTED BY
NADINE McDONALD-DOWD
& ROXANNE McDONALD

12 - 28 JAN

Belvoir St Theatre Sydney

ArtsHub

"FUNNY AND REALISTIC"
The Courier Mail

THE WHOLE WORLD ON SHOW Jacaranda season blooms early in Sydney as our 2022 smash-hit production, *Tiddas*, pays a visit.

A SHOW OF SISTERHOOD AND SECRETS

Tiddas is a page-to-stage adaptation of **Anita Heiss**' much-loved and best-selling novel.

Five women, best friends for decades, meet once a month to talk about books, life, love and the jagged bits in between.

CREATIVES

PLAYWRIGHT Anita Heiss CO-DIRECTORS Nadine McDonald-Dowd Roxanne McDonald SET & COSTUME DESIGNER Zoe Rouse ASSOCIATE DESIGNER Grace Deacon LIGHTING DESIGNER Jason Glenwright SOUND DESIGNER & COMPOSER Wil Hughes FIGHT & INTIMACY DIRECTOR **Nigel Poulton** STAGE MANAGER Mia Kanzaki ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER India Lively

Best friends tell each other everything, don't they? But each woman carries a complex secret and one weekend, without warning, everything comes unstuck.

At its heart *Tiddas* is a story about enduring, unconditional friendship, and women supporting women.

Sydney audiences will be introduced to the story's inimitable stars; Izzy, Veronica, Xanthe, Nadine and Ellen as part of Sydney Festival's Blak Out program.

Tiddas was originally commissioned and produced by La Boite Theatre, Brisbane Festival and Queensland Performing Arts Centre.

CAST

Louise Brehmer Lara Croydon Sean Dow Jade Lomas-Ronan Roxanne McDonald Anna McMahon Perry Mooney CO-PRODUCERS







AGE RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommended for audiences aged 15+.
Contains coarse language,
sexual references, themes of
pregnancy / infertility,
grief and loss, marriage breakdown,
depictions of abuse (alcohol /
emotional), discussions
with or containing offensive /
derogatory language, and use of
theatrical haze.

CO-PRESENTERS





SILLS DEVELOP MENT

ARTIST MASTERCLASSES

Our acclaimed Masterclass series continues in 2024 with four sensational artist-focused sessions across the year. These 2-hour sessions will cover key aspects of artistic life and practice and will be led by industry professionals sharing their advice and techniques, each culminating with a facilitated Q&A session. They are an excellent opportunity for artists to peek behindthe-scenes and audit creative practice.

Auditions - Monday 15 Apr Technical Theatre - Monday 27 May Stage Management - Monday 14 Oct Directing for Theatre - Monday 18 Nov Tickets - \$25*

Full package discounts available

*A transaction fee applies

ASSEMBLY

Now in its sixth year, our highly acclaimed Assembly program returns in 2024! 27 artists in their first five years of practice are given the opportunity to hone their writing, acting, directing and collaboration skills across a 10-week program led by industry experts, culminating in two public performances.

Applications open - Thursday 28 Mar Applications close - Sunday 28 Apr Price - \$400

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Designed for budding performers aged 12 – 18 years, La Boite's School Holiday Program pairs young people with industry professionals to develop their passion for storytelling, develop acting skills, enhance creativity, and connect with like-minded peers. Each program covers a bespoke topic from acting, directing, musical theatre, auditions and producing a self-tape. Keep your eyes peeled for 2024 dates!



CLOSER

4-20 APR

M	Т	W	Т	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
			6.30pm Preview	6.30pm Preview	7pm Opening Night	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	6.30pm	7pm	7pm	7pm <i>©g</i> 🐚	1pm 7pm	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	6.30pm	7pm	11am (P) 7pm	7pm	7pm	

BLUE

16 MAY - 1 JUN

M	Т	W	Т	F	S	S
13 May	14	15	16	17	18	19
			7.30pm Preview	7.30pm Preview	7.30pm Opening Night	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	6.30pm	7.30pm	7.30pm	7.30pm <i>Eg</i> 🍖	2pm 7.30pm	
27	28	29	30	31	1 Jun	
	6.30pm	7.30pm	11am (P) 7.30pm	7.30pm	2pm 7.30pm	



FANCY LONG LEGS

12 - 22 SEP

M	Т	W	T	F	S	S
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
			10am 6g	6pm	10am 1pm ్ర్మా (మ) గ్లే	10am 1pm
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
		2pm 6pm 6g 🙉 j	10am 1pm (P)	2pm 6pm	10am 1pm 🎒 🙉 🏌	10am

YOGA PLAY

7 - 23 NOV

M	Т	W	Т	F	S	S
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
			6.30pm Preview	6.30pm Preview	7pm Opening Night	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	6.30pm	7pm	7pm	7pm <i>6g f</i> @	1pm 7pm	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	6.30pm	7pm	11am (P) 7pm	7pm	7pm	

Auslan Artist Talk Audio Described Tactile Tour Pay What You Can

PAY WHAT YOU CAN

We are passionate about making theatre accessible – that's why each of our mainstage productions will include a Pay What You Can matinee performance. Tickets will be available to purchase online closer to each event until the allocation is exhausted. Refer to the above marked **P** days for dates.

TICKET

SEASON SAVER

The more you see the more you save! Personalise your Season 2024 experience with La Boite's Season Saver packages. Our mainstage multi-play deals unlock big savings for everyone.

2 PLAYS

From **\$81**Save up to **26%****

3 PLAYS From **\$114.75**Save up to **30%****

4 PLAYS

From **\$144**Save up to **31%****

HOW TO BOOK

Phone

(07) 3007 8600 10am – 5pm, Mon – Fri

In-Person

10am – 5pm, Mon – Fri Level 5, Z1 (6–8 Musk Avenue) Kelvin Grove QLD 4059

Online

At laboite.com.au

*An additional transaction fee applies **Based on a full price Adult ticket for Friday and Saturday performances ^Terms and Conditions apply

CLOSER / BLUE / YOGA PLAY

Preview	\$45*
Adult	\$55 - \$65*
Concession	\$45 - \$55*
Under 35	\$39*
Under 18 / School Groups	\$29*
Group (4+)	\$50*

FANCY LONG LEGS

Adult	\$49*
Child	\$29*
Group (4+)	\$35*
School Groups	\$25*

ARTS INDUSTRY PACKAGES

Artists and arts workers are at the core of everything we do at La Boite. We have developed a range of arts industry packages to celebrate the movers and shakers of the industry. A limited number of packages are available for a short time only.

Mainstage 4 Plays	\$80*^	
Masterclass 4 Masterclasses	\$60*^	
All-In 4 Plays & 4 Masterclasses	\$126*^	





DROP-OFF

A passenger drop-off area is located immediately outside La Boite Theatre. Accessible via Gona Parade when turning off Kelvin Grove Road, this area is perfect for rideshares, taxis, or the quick jump out of the car.

PARKING

Undercover parking is available in The Village Centre. QUT also operates a Pay & Display carpark directly across the road from La Boite. Street parking is available in many locations, see the map below.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

La Boite is conveniently located near the Normanby and QUT Kelvin Grove Northern Busway Stations. Regular buses also service Kelvin Grove Road.

LA BOITE ESPRESSO BAR & BOX OFFICE

The Box Office will open 60 mins prior to each performance. The La Boite Espresso Bar opens 90 mins prior to performances with a range of drinks and light snacks available to purchase. For opening hours, menus and packages visit laboite.com.au.

SEATING

Most events at La Boite have allocated seating. If you would like to sit with others, please ensure to book at the same time. Alternatively, book together and take advantage of our 4+ group discounts!

ACCESS

La Boite is committed to providing accessible venues and performances. Please visit laboite.com.au/venue/access for a comprehensive guide to access at La Boite. Alternatively, get in touch at (07) 3007 8600 or info@laboite.com.au.



LOCATION

Roundhouse Theatre, La Boite Studio and Espresso Bar are located at 6–8 Musk Avenue (The Works, Z1) just off Kelvin Grove Road at Kelvin Grove QLD 4059.



LA BOITE ASSOCIATES

The La Boite Associates are Brisbane arts enthusiasts on a unique artistic journey with La Boite's Artistic Director, Courtney Stewart. With unrivalled behind-the-scenes access and insight into the world of live theatre, you will be part of Courtney's vision that seeks to celebrate Brisbane's incredible talent with a strong focus on social cohesion through unifying artists, audiences, partners and communities. The La Boite Associates Program is a once-in-a-lifetime investment, culminating at our 100th birthday in 2025.

SUPPORT ARTISTS

Create a future for artists by donating to this program. Funds raised go directly to the making of new work and the development of Australian artists. Your donations will fund and support:

- Commissioning new Australian plays
- Access to skills development programs for artists
- Research and development of new ideas and works from Brisbane based artists and companies

"I am so glad I took the leap and joined the La Boite Associate Program. It has been such a treat to learn about the design process, sit-in on first readings on day one of rehearsals, attend Snapshot events, and participate in the excitement of Opening Nights.

I have thoroughly enjoyed every one of La Boite's productions in 2023. I am looking forward to the 2024 season and all it has to offer.

Congratulations to Courtney and the La Boite team for all the fabulous work you do."

Leisa Prowse

La Boite Associate

TAKE A SEAT

La Boite's Take a Seat program celebrates the moments we share in our theatre, as a community. Tell your La Boite story, and join the passionate theatre-goers, artists, and arts workers who have made our 99-year legacy possible. Your \$500 tax-deductible donation will acknowledge a seat in the Roundhouse Theatre for the life of the theatre.

WALL OF LIGHT

The Wall of Light is an ongoing installation to celebrate those who celebrate us. Residing in the Espresso Bar Foyer, this highly visible public acknowledgement is situated at the entrance to La Boite's Studio and Roundhouse Theatre.

Shine with us and join our award-winning Wall of Light. A \$2,000 tax-deductible donation secures your name or acknowledgement on the Wall of Light for three years and may be paid in one instalment or via a two-year or three-year payment plan.

GIFT A TICKET

Share the magic of theatre. Do you remember your first time in a theatre, when the lights went down, and a new world appeared in front of your eyes? By gifting a ticket, you can uncover the magic of theatre for a young person today.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit laboite.com.au/donate or contact our Head of Partnerships & Stakeholder Engagement, Jackie Maxwell, at jackie@laboite.com.au.

BOARD

Chair Adam Brunes Gresham Congoo Amanda Jolly Sarah McAree Lynn Rainbow-Reid AM Jessica Simpson Sarah Townsend

SENIOR

LEADERSHIP TEAM Artistic Director & CEO

Artistic Director & CEO

Courtney Stewart

Head of Business

Ian Prowse

Executive Producer

(Acting)

Krista Barker

Head of Partnerships & Stakeholder Engagement

Jackie Maxwell

Head of Marketing & Audience Development

Yuverina Shewpersad

TEAM

Associate Producer

Jess Bunz

Resident Dramaturg

Katrina Irawati Graham Marketing Coordinator

Siluni Kumarapperuma

Graphic Designer

Sarah Ridgway-Cross

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Andrew Mills

Venue Technician

Natalie Scott

Venue & Operations

Manager

Nick Seery

Ticketing & Executive

Officer

Sophie Wickes

Company Accountant

Karen Mitchell

Finance Officer

Elizabeth Lepua

Espresso Bar Coordinator/

Barista

Peta Kishawi

2024 CREATIVE

Creative Direction & Design

Andy Geppert

Creative Collaborators

PixelFrame

Photography

David Kelly

Photographer Assistant

Richard Waugh

Supporting Design

Sarah Ridgway-Cross

Hair & Wig Stylist

Epic Hair Design

Costuming & Styling

Laura Churchill Lisa Naumann

Key Makeup Artist

Sarah Smith

Makeup Assist Brooke Cavanagh

Supporting Photography

Daniel Boud (p. 8)

Farley Ward (pp. 14, 16-17)

Dylan Evans (p. 21)

Markus Ravik (p. 22)

Tai Bobongie (p. 24)

PHOTO CAPTIONS

Cover Sophia Emberson-Bain, Anna McGahan, Kevin Spink

pp. 1-2 Rachel Burke, Shannon Miko, Selena Koning, Colin Smith, Sophia Emberson-Bain, Kevin Spink, Anna McGahan, Thomas Weatherall

p. 4 Courtney Stewart

p. 6 Colin Smith, Sophia Emberson-Bain, Kevin Spink, Anna McGahan

p. 8 Thomas Weatherall

p. 10 Rachel Burke

p. 12 Shannon Miko, Selena Koning

p. 14 Chenoa Deemal, Shakira Clanton

Every effort has been made to ensure that all information was correct at the time of printing. La Boite Theatre reserves the right to alter the program or any other details as necessary. Please check laboite.com.au for updates.

Our partners come from a wide variety of business and community backgrounds and each enrich the life of the Company through their support.

For La Boite, nearly a century of operation has required resilience and ingenuity.

Much has changed since its inception in 1925, but La Boite's appetite for development, transformation and renewal remains the same.

We understand that a partnership needs to be a good investment. That's why we work with our Partners to design tailored packages that match their priorities. We thrive on finding ways to leverage our assets to ensure that each partnership complements and enhances your unique marketing message. By investing in a partnership with us, you can feel proud in the knowledge that your business is supporting an important commitment to invest in the development of new work by Queensland's finest creative minds — whose projects create life-enriching, unforgettable experiences for audiences in Brisbane and beyond.

Whether you're interested in entertaining your clients or staff at Opening Night functions and exclusive events; strengthening your brand through cause-related advertising and profiling opportunities; or engaging with regional communities through the arts, La Boite can help you achieve these goals.







oile Theatre Company is supported by the
This project has been assisted by the Australian Government through Arts Queensland











Media Partners







JCDecaux

scenestr



Season Partners

















JOVAL WINE GROUP

















Presenting & Development Partners





BRISBANE LESTIVAL

GIRGENSOHN FOUNDATION





















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