

**La Boite**

**HWY**

**12-24 June**

**ENGAGE**

**WITH**

**NEW**

**WORK**

**IN**

**REAL TIME**

**AT**

**HWY 2017**

# A NEW WORK PLATFORM FEATURING REHEARSED READINGS, SHOWINGS, WORKSHOPS, MASTERCLASSES, AND FERVENT CONVERSATIONS ABOUT THEATRE PRACTICE – ALL IN REAL TIME.

## ARTISTIC DIRECTOR WELCOME

Hello,

Welcome to this year's HWY festival!

It is our pleasure to invite you to join us at La Boite over the next two weeks, for an eclectic array of festival activity. Now in its second year, HWY presents an opportunity to engage with an impressive cross-section of Brisbane's current theatre and performing arts scene.

In 2017 we are proud to present HWY as the new work platform that is encouraging artists to stretch boundaries and take risks and inviting you to enter into a critical discourse around each work. You are the HWY brains trust and our artists' valuable advisers. We hope that these works will find a life well beyond this program, but this is the first, critical step in seeding ideas and developing material for presentation. The festival will inform La Boite's future programming and this is your chance to gain insight, have input and observe this process in action.

HWY is an introduction to La Boite's Artists-in-Residence, associates and assistant creatives. This year, Black Honey Company will present a showing of their latest work, *Twelve*. Steven Oliver will present the first public reading of his full length play, *From Darkness Whence They Came* and Digi Youth Arts will present the next iteration of their incredible work with local Indigenous youth, *Dislocated*. HWY is also an opportunity for us to invite artists and companies we are thinking about and interested in programming to present works and ideas for consideration. In 2017, these artists are Suzie Miller & The Farm, Ben Knapton, Alea Monsour, Jodee Mundy and Essential Media.

HWY also continues to provide access to a suite of professional development opportunities, including workshops and masterclasses in participatory and immersive theatre practice, scenography, physical theatre, producing, sound and composition. These opportunities are intended to provide anyone with a keen interest in a specific field with a chance to develop skills, meet likeminded individuals and further inform their artistic practice under the guidance of established artists. Public talks and forums will also provide a platform for the industry and wider arts community to engage in robust conversation about the future of theatre and our collective power to make change happen, if we want it.

This year we launch the HWY Sessions – free live gigs as part of the festival program, which will activate our newly revamped foyer space and invite you to support some incredible local artists, enjoy the music and keep the conversation going. In the second week of HWY, we are also excited to present The Pitch – an ideas lab featuring six artists who will pitch their ideas live in half hour slots, inviting you to ask questions, open up a dialogue and provide honest feedback – no holds barred.

This is also an opportunity to meet our new Creative Producer, Sanja Simic, who has curated this festival and will be facilitating workshops and events throughout the two weeks. Please introduce yourself to her and all of us, we would love to meet you.

Flip through the 2017 HWY program and take the time to curate your own festival experience. Thank you for joining us, enjoy the ride!

Yours truly,

*Todd MacDonald*

## HWY PERFORMANCE PROGRAM

The HWY Performance Program will showcase a range of new works in development; in the shape of showings, readings, pitches and demonstrations. The 2017 artists all hail from diverse backgrounds, recognised by La Boite for their relevance and potential - this is a snapshot of the future of theatre in this city.

### THE MATHEMATICS OF LONGING by Suzie Miller

*The Mathematics of Longing* juxtaposes the poetics of science and the complexity of modern relationships in a series of theatrical provocations culminating in a play. Physics and Mathematical theorems jostle against the characters and stories they inspire in a nuclear fusion of Art and Science, investigating the infinite complexity of the human heart. Join us for an intriguing adventure into science, math, love and longing.

Presented by La Boite Theatre Company, Gavin Webber and The Farm, and Suzie Miller and The Uncertainty Principle

Format: Rehearsed Reading  
Where: Roundhouse Theatre  
When: Tuesday 13 June 2017  
Time: 5:30 - 7:30pm  
(including Artist Talk, Performance and Feedback)  
Price: \$12

### JULIET & ROMEO adapted by Mark Rogers

A twenty-first century adaptation of Shakespeare's iconic love story, Mark Rogers' *Juliet & Romeo* takes no prisoners in its irreverent re-imagining. Two families at war, two teenagers in love - a three day affair that results in six deaths. Did Juliet and Romeo love too much, too hard, too soon? Did their union even stand a chance? And why do we still care? A tragi-comic romance for today.

Juliet & Romeo will be read by 2<sup>nd</sup> year Bachelor of Fine Arts (Acting) students, directed by Sanja Simic.

Format: Rehearsed Reading  
Where: Roundhouse Theatre  
When: Wednesday 14 June 2017  
Time: 5:30 - 7:30pm  
(including Artist Talk, Performance and Feedback)  
Price: \$12

### FROM DARKNESS WHENCE WE CAME by Steven Oliver

The year is 2016 and a middle class nuclear Indigenous family, complete with one elder, live an unremarkable life in the Australian suburbs. That is, except for the occasional visit from spirits. Unable to communicate with them, the only thing they know for sure is that the spirits are drawn to the teenaged son of the family and that their visits, through dreams, have become more frequent. Things take a turn when the spirits' teachings are revealed: time travel. However, the son is the only one who is permitted to travel and only to the past.

The family toy with the idea of thwarting Captain Cook's landing to prevent the suffering of their people, but there are just two problems; they will cease to exist and it is forbidden. Is this a test? Do they actually want him to go? Will he?

Format: Rehearsed Reading  
Where: Roundhouse Theatre  
When: Thursday 15 June 2017  
Time: 5:30 - 7:30pm  
(including Artist Talk, Performance and Feedback)  
Price: \$12

### DISLOCATED by Digi Youth Arts

*I know not the depth of my past  
Just what is hidden beneath my skin.  
This silent war shall not last,  
For me people are this land's kin.*

History never learns from mistakes. Digi Youth Arts' *Dislocated* takes us into the future; set in 2044 this story unfolds in a fringe suburb cut-off from the rest of Brisbane. This gritty tale follows the journey of a group of youth who must return to the city they have never known in order to survive.

Format: Showing  
Where: Roundhouse Theatre  
When: Friday 16 June 2017  
Time: 5:30 - 7:30pm  
(including Artist Talk, Performance and Feedback)  
Price: \$12

## TWELVE by Black Honey Company

Set in the twelve days and nights after a major flood, *Twelve*: a Soul musical from the streets, written by Candy Bowers with music by Busty Beatz, is an exploration of love under crisis. *Twelve* opens up the private moments and honors the communities that grew stronger after sharing in the devastation of natural disasters.

Drawing inspiration from the real-life experiences of the Brisbane flood, Hurricane Sandy in New York, Katrina in New Orleans and the landslides of Hiroshima, Candy Bowers' adaptation of William Shakespeare's tragic-comedy *Twelfth Night* speaks to what is most human in all of us; connection, hope and friendship.

Format: Showing/Concert  
Where: Roundhouse Theatre  
When: Monday 19 June 2017  
Time: 5:30 - 7:30pm  
(including Artist Talk, Performance and Feedback)  
Price: \$12

## THE PITCH: IDEAS LAB

Six artists, six thirty-minute slots, six new works. This is the HWY Ideas Lab - a selection of rough drafts, challenging proposals, and new material that is brimming with potential. Artists are given an opportunity to pitch a brand new idea to an engaged audience of industry, community, fellow artists, and programmers. The audience is invited to ask questions, give feedback, and engage critically with what is in front of them - no holds barred.

Format: Pitching sessions  
Where: Roundhouse Theatre  
When: Tuesday 20 June 2017  
Time: 5:30 - 8:30pm  
Price: FREE

## REMEMBERING PALESTINE by Aleea Monsour

*Remembering Palestine* is a verbatim community theatre project which explores the lives, stories and experiences of Palestinian immigrant women who have settled in Brisbane and whose voices have been marginalised. *Remembering Palestine* will celebrate and share Palestinian cultural practices; traditional food and dance, while retelling the stories of the Palestinian women interviewed and engaged in the project.

Format: Showing  
Where: Roundhouse Theatre  
When: Wednesday 21 June 2017  
Time: 5:30 - 7:30pm  
(including Artist Talk, Performance and Feedback)  
Price: \$12

## FOUND IN TRANSLATION by Jodee Mundy

You know when you are a foreigner amongst a conversation and you wished you understood what people were saying? With conversations whispered close by and signed afar, this project is exploring translation techniques and access aesthetics of signed and spoken languages.

Director Jodee Mundy is committed to producing high quality theatre works, public events, installations and artistic interventions, bringing together diverse cross sections of the community who may not regularly encounter one another.

Format: Open Rehearsal  
Where: Roundhouse Theatre  
When: Friday 23 June 2017  
Time: 5:30 - 7:30pm  
(including Artist Talk, Performance and Feedback)  
Price: \$12

## UN-AUSTRALIAN

On his eighteenth birthday, unaccompanied Afghan refugee Akmal, is moved into a small flat in an arcade in Moorooka by social worker Lewis and Cenrelink hard arse Giang. Akmal has one dream, to learn how to swim. In the arcade Akmal meets besties South Sudanese Australian schoolgirl Aisha and high school dropout Brianna who complicate the young Afghani's journey of assimilation into contemporary Brisbane suburbia.

UnAustralian is a 10 x 6 minute comic webisode series produced by Essential Media (Qld) created by award winning writer and script producer Roger Monk and co-producer Emily Avila supported by Screen Queensland. It was written by diverse emerging screenwriters including Future Fidel (Prizefighter), Ngoc Phan (Motion of Light and Water), Daniel Evans (The Seagull & Oedipus Doesn't Live Here Any More), Tristan Savage (Black Comedy & Magpie Pictures), Khalid Warsome (creative writer) and Bec Macintosh (Love TV).

Format: Reading  
Where: Roundhouse Theatre  
When: Saturday 24 June 2017  
Time: 5:30 - 7:30pm  
(including Artist Talk, Performance and Feedback)  
Price: \$12

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## HWY SESSIONS

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Hang back after the HWY Performance showings and amplify your festival experience with the HWY Sessions at La Boite. Kicking off at 7:30pm on Friday 16 and Saturday 24 June, enjoy free live music by local artists in our newly refurbished foyer space - relax, unwind and take advantage of our fabulous new bar. A perfect addition to jam-packed festival week, HWY Sessions is guaranteed to hit your music sweet spot.

2017 HWY Sessions artists to be announced soon.

## HWY SCHEDULE

	Mon 12 June	Tue 13 June	Wed 14 June	Thu 15 June	Fri 16 June	Sat 17 June
<b>Roundhouse Theatre</b>		<p><i>The Mathematics of Longing</i></p> <p>Artist Talk: 5:30 - 6pm</p> <p>Performance: 6 - 7pm</p> <p>Critique: 7 - 7:30pm</p> <p>Opening Night Drinks 7:30 - 9pm</p>	<p><i>Let Us Be Blak:</i> Interrogating process with First Nations Artists</p> <p>3 - 5pm</p> <p><i>Juliet + Romeo</i></p> <p>Artist Talk: 5:30 - 6pm</p> <p>Performance: 6 - 7pm</p> <p>Critique: 7 - 7:30pm</p>	<p><i>From Darkness Whence We Came</i></p> <p>Artist Talk: 5:30 - 6pm</p> <p>Performance: 6 - 7pm</p> <p>Critique: 7 - 7:30pm</p>	<p><i>Dislocated</i></p> <p>Artist Talk: 5:30 - 6pm</p> <p>Performance: 6 - 7pm</p> <p>Critique: 7 - 7:30pm</p> <p><i>HWY Sessions:</i> Live Music in the La Boite Courtyard</p> <p>7:30 - 9pm</p>	<p><i>Considering Identity:</i> De-constructing Australian - ness through form</p> <p>12 - 2pm</p> <p><i>Scoring the Political:</i> The art of re-framing history through music</p> <p>3 - 5pm</p>
<b>Rehearsal Room</b>		<p><i>Independent Producers Intensive</i></p> <p>9am - 5pm</p>	<p><i>Physical Theatre Masterclass:</i> Considering Grotowski</p> <p>10am - 2pm</p>	<p><i>Dressing the Theatre Space:</i> Approaches to set and costume design</p> <p>9am - 5pm</p>	<p><i>Crankin' the Volume:</i> The basics of sound design for theatre</p> <p>9am - 5pm</p>	<p><i>Gaming the Narrative:</i> Participatory and Immersive theatre practice</p> <p>9am - 5pm</p>
	Mon 19 June	Tue 20 June	Wed 21 June	Thu 22 June	Fri 23 June	Sat 24 June
<b>Roundhouse Theatre</b>	<p><i>Twelve</i></p> <p>Artist Talk: 5:30 - 6pm</p> <p>Performance: 6 - 7pm</p> <p>Critique: 7 - 7:30pm</p>	<p><b>THE PITCH:</b> <i>Ideas Lab</i></p> <p>5:30 - 8:30pm</p>	<p><i>Remembering Palestine</i></p> <p>Artist Talk: 5:30 - 6pm</p> <p>Performance: 6 - 7pm</p> <p>Critique: 7 - 7:30pm</p>	<p><i>Masterclass for Teachers:</i> First Nations work in context</p> <p>9am - 5pm</p> <p><i>Access All Areas:</i> Making work with, for and about artists with disability</p> <p>6 - 8pm</p>	<p><i>Found in Translation</i></p> <p>Artist Talk: 5:30 - 6pm</p> <p>Performance: 6 - 7pm</p> <p>Critique: 7 - 7:30pm</p>	<p><i>Un-Australian</i></p> <p>Artist Talk: 5:30 - 6pm</p> <p>Performance: 6 - 7pm</p> <p>Critique: 7 - 7:30pm</p> <p><i>HWY Sessions:</i> Live Music in the La Boite Courtyard</p> <p>7:30pm - 9pm</p>

## HWY WORKSHOPS & MASTERCLASSES

An opportunity to roll up your sleeves and dig deep in this line-up of intimate and participatory classes designed by industry professionals for the HWY community. This is an opportunity to learn practical skills and further your understanding of theatre-making as a multi-faceted practice. This is the moment to explore unfamiliar territory, meet like-minded individuals and connect with prospective collaborators.

### INDEPENDENT PRODUCERS INTENSIVE

A day-long intensive for aspiring independent producers that will explore what it means to produce and manage effectively and creatively. Led by the La Boite artistic team, participants will be engaged in conversations and exercises that explore the role of the producer, development of creative projects, collaborative processes, strategies for marketing work, pitching and programming from one season to the next, grappling with budgets and anything else that we can squeeze into an eight hour day!

Led by Sanja Simic (Creative Producer) with Katherine Hoepper (General Manager) and Todd MacDonald (Artistic Director) from La Boite Theatre Company

Date: Tuesday 13 June 2017  
Where: Rehearsal Room  
Time: 9am - 5pm  
Price: \$25

### PHYSICAL THEATRE MASTERCLASS: CONSIDERING GROTOWSKI

This masterclass is a unique opportunity for performing artists of all stripes to experience a taste of the Grotowski Method; a physical approach to generating devised work that focuses on the performing body in space. Led by Brisbane's Alex Ferrero, performers will explore a specific approach to voice, impulse and action as an ensemble of theatre makers.

Led by Alexander Forero (Actor)

Date: Wednesday 14 June 2017  
Where: Rehearsal Room  
Time: 10am - 2pm  
Price: \$25

### DRESSING THE THEATRE SPACE: APPROACHES TO SET AND COSTUME DESIGN

This one-day workshop examines the role of scenography in theatre and strategies for working from concept to realisation on new Australian work. Set and costume designer Renee Mulder will draw upon her recent work for Griffin Theatre (*The Bleeding Tree*, 2017), Queensland Theatre (*Rice*, 2017) and Sydney Theatre Company (*Battle of Waterloo*, 2015) to share her approach to theatre design and offer practical insight into working with theatre directors and creative teams.

Led by Renee Mulder (Set & Costume Designer)

Date: Thursday 15 June 2017  
Where: Rehearsal Room  
Time: 9am - 5pm  
Price: \$25

### CRANKIN' THE VOLUME: THE BASICS OF SOUND DESIGN FOR THEATRE

Sound Designer Guy Webster leads this one-day masterclass for musicians, composers and anyone with an interest in transferring their musical talents to theatre. Guy will focus on the use of sound, music and noise as critical production elements, using practical exercises and case studies to highlight ways in which sound design has the ability to occupy the physical space.

Led by Guy Webster (Sound Designer)

Date: Friday 16 June 2017  
Where: Rehearsal Room  
Time: 9am - 5pm  
Price: \$25

## **GAMING THE NARRATIVE: PARTICIPATORY AND IMMERSIVE THEATRE PRACTICE**

A day-long workshop on interactive theatre, engaging audiences and blurring the lines between performance and play. Join noted playwright, theatremaker and game designer Caleb Lewis in a practical workshop, filled with examples, exploring story, gaming and theatre and the possibilities that arise when you smash them together.

Led by Caleb Lewis (Playwright & Theatremaker)

Date: Saturday 17 June 2017  
Where: Rehearsal Room  
Time: 9am - 5pm  
Price: \$25

## **MASTERCLASS FOR TEACHERS: FIRST NATIONS WORK IN CONTEXT**

Facilitated by Digi Youth Arts' Alethea Beetson and La Boite's Youth & Participation Producer, Claire Christian, this masterclass will address approaches to teaching work by and about Indigenous Australians. Alethea & Claire will use hands-on exercises and practical examples, across art forms, to encourage teachers to think laterally about teaching culturally sensitive and, at times, contentious subject matter.

Led by Alethea Beetson (Artistic Director, Digi Youth Arts) and Claire Christian (Youth & Participation Producer, La Boite Theatre Company)

Date: Thursday 22 June 2017  
Where: Roundhouse Theatre  
Time: 9am - 5pm  
Price: \$25

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## **HWY CONVERSATIONS**

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The HWY Conversations are an opportunity to explore the ideas, processes and politics behind the works in this year's festival. Seize the opportunity to deepen your engagement with the works, meet the artists, exchange thoughts and ideas, ask questions and have your say!

### **LET US BE BLAK:** *Interrogations into creative process*

A panel discussion that invites some of the country's leading artists to share past experiences and discuss strategies for establishing safe and comfortable spaces in which to make work as Indigenous Australians. Taking their respective forms and practices into consideration, panelists will delve into specific processes for seeding ideas, choosing collaborators and identifying preferred methodologies for making culturally-informed theatre.

Panel members include Steven Oliver (Black Comedy) and Alethea Beetson (AD, Digi Youth Arts)

Date: Wednesday 14 June 2017  
Where: Roundhouse Theatre  
Time: 3 - 5pm  
Price: FREE

### **CONSIDERING IDENTITY:** *Deconstructing 'Australian-ness' through form*

What does it mean to identify as 'Australian' in 2017, and how does an individual's identity inform their artistic practice? A diverse panel of practitioners converge in an attempt to answer these questions and discuss ideas around the written form, the framing of identity and pulling apart a singular notion of what it means to be Australian today.

Panel members include Roger Monk (Development Producer, Essential Media) and Ngoc Phan (Actor)

Date: Wednesday 14 June 2017  
Where: Roundhouse Theatre  
Time: 12 - 1pm  
Price: FREE



**SCORING THE POLITICAL:** *The art of re-framing history through music*

A panel of music lovers and makers will consider the legacy of Brisbane's music history, how far we have come and what we have forgotten as imparted by those who came before us. Join the conversation as our panelists consider the impact music has on other forms of creative practice and its incredible power to not only move us, but to inspire collective action.

Panel members include Alethea Beetson (Artistic Director, Digi Youth Arts) and John Willsteed (Senior Lecturer, Music, QUT)

Date: Saturday 17 June 2017  
Where: Roundhouse Theatre  
Time: 3 - 5pm  
Price: FREE

**ACCESS ALL AREAS:** *Making work with, for and about artists with disability*

A panel of artists and industry professionals working in the arts and disability sector will enter into a wide ranging conversation about work by artists who identify as disabled. Through conversation and discussion about practice, pathways, platforms and possibilities, the panel will reflect on specific processes for making work with and for individuals with diverse needs.

Panel members include Jodee Mundy (Artist)

Date: Thursday 22 June 2017  
Where: Roundhouse Theatre  
Time: 6 - 8pm  
Price: FREE

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**ARTIST TALKS AND FEEDBACK**

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Prior to each showing, each artist in the HWY program will discuss their practice and the development of the work they are about to show. Following each presentation, audiences are invited to participate in a brief feedback session with the artists.

Artist Talks: 30 min prior to the respective artists' showing  
Feedback: Following HWY showings where specified  
Price: Included in the ticket price

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**HWY TICKETS**

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HWY Showings & Rehearsed Readings:	\$12
HWY Festival Pass:	\$80
HWY Workshops & Masterclasses:	\$25
HWY Workshops & Masterclasses Pass:	\$69 (for 3)
HWY Conversations:	Free
HWY Sessions:	Free
The Pitch: Ideas Lab:	Free

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## HWY SUPPORTERS

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La Boite HWY is supported by Brisbane Airport Corporation and Creative Partnerships Australia through Plus 1.

*From Darkness Whence We Came* has been developed in partnership with La Boite Theatre Company and Playwriting Australia. This project has been assisted by the Australian government through the Department of Communication and the Arts' Catalyst - Australian Arts and Culture Fund and Brisbane City Council's Creative Sparks Program. Creative Sparks is a joint initiative of Brisbane City Council and the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland.

*Remembering Palestine* has been developed in partnership with La Boite Theatre Company and the Australia Council for the Arts.

*Un-Australian* has been developed in partnership with Multicultural Development Australia (MDA)



9am - 5pm, Monday - Friday  
La Boite at the Roundhouse Theatre  
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La Boite Theatre Company is assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its funding and advisory body

