

the Arts Centre presents

Short+Sweet 2008

SEASON GUIDE

TOP 20 WEEK 1

WEDNESDAY 3 – SATURDAY 6 DECEMBER @ 8PM

Bliss

Writer: John Fraser

Director: Peita Collard

Cast: Anthony Goodwin, Sarah Berry

Synopsis: Things aren't as they should be in Silvia's life.

She needs order to her chaos. A visit by a mysterious Domestic Therapist, Gary....

Silvia realises it's time to take out the trash!

Cheeseburger and Fries

Writer: Tim Lethorn

Director: Liz Perry

Cast: Mick Lo Monaco, Terry Yeboah

Synopsis: Charlie and Bernie don't want to share the same space.

But what if sharing the same space is all that is left?

Drive

Writer: Mary-Anne Butler

Director: Shiralee Hood

Cast: Carl Sørheim, Claire Springett

I could just die for some ice-cream!

Kanat and the Red Army

Writer: Dan Giovannoni

Director: Heath Miller

Cast: Elijah Ungvary, Zoe Dawson

Synopsis: Kanat plays drums for the State. Elly sings in the choir. It is all they know. But through the Iron Curtain, they can hear a different kind of music playing...

Mandragora

Writer: David Sharpe

Director: Daniel Lammin

Cast: Jack Angwin, Stephanie Lillis

Synopsis: "...Not poppy, nor mandragora,

Nor all the drowsy syrups of the world, Shall ever medicine thee to that sweet sleep Which thou owedst yesterday." 'Othello', William Shakespeare



Polygamy

Writer: Jane Harrison

Director: Douglas Montgomery

Cast: Stephanie Lillis, Nathan Strauss, Troy Larkin, Matthew Bolger-Hobson, Keiran King

Synopsis: Thought your partner should be more athletic, more caring, more useful in the home or garden, or even more agile in bed.

Who hasn't? Seems women have found the solution.

Six Minutes and Counting

Writer: Jackie Greenland

Director: Goldele Rayment

Cast: Colin Donald, Sean Mulcahy, Helen Delaney

Synopsis: In the playground of war and international relations two men get the order to play with the big boy's toys!

The Celine Dion Songbook

Writer: Alex Broun

Director: Stephen Nicolazzo

Cast: Josh Futchner, Pip Edwards

Synopsis: "The kitchen of a semi-detached house. 2 am. After another, long exhausting day caring for their terminally ill son, a young couple prepare for bed. Tracey runs through the programme for another long day ahead tomorrow. But Paul sits quietly head bowed at the kitchen table. He has a different option to offer."

Tipping Point

Writer: Mark Andrew

Director: Robert Chuter

Cast: Christopher Pender, Jessikah Brown

Synopsis: "Just let all genetic decisions be made by women". - James Watson, co-discover of DNA.

Tumbletots

Writer: Kate Toon

Director: William Allert

Cast: Renee Palmer, Suzie Thomas

Synopsis: "Two mums, two toddlers and a kindergym. The only thing harder than mothering is hearing advice on mothering."

WEEK 1 WILDCARDS

SATURDAY 6 DECEMBER @ 2PM

A Time For Everything

Writer: Sonal Moore

Director: Steve Weller

Cast: A play about some silverware, a red dress, pink champagne and the support of really good friends.

Job Specs

Writer: Sarah Salas

Director: Celeste Cody

Cast: Ian Tsaoussi, Glenn Van Oosterom, Simon Todman, Sophie Phillips

30 OCT 2008

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Synopsis: John is a high-flying cocksure Gen Y who never takes no for an answer and powers through the ranks of any workplace. Johnny is a underachieving 20 something with an attitude and a loose tongue. Their job agency has sent them to the interview that will suit them perfectly. Or have they?

Love Your Poison

Writer: Christine Croyden

Director: Kathryn Goldie

Cast: Rudie Chapman, Len Lawrence, Elijah Ungvary, Vicki Doak

Synopsis: Time is running out for Rosie. As she takes stock of her life, regret takes hold - but is she losing her mind, or seeing things clearly for the first time?

Nightdreams and Daymares

Writer: Jon Bauer

Director: Natalie Faulkner

Cast: Phoebe Appleton

Synopsis: "What if your dreams only come true when you're dating a nightmare? A lesson in what not to do when life doesn't measure up."

Pinot Noir Noir

Writer: Andrew Harry

Director: Rossleigh Brisbane

Cast: Liam Pedersen, Angela Faith, Michael Sharkey, Ben McEwen, Dean Flanagan

Synopsis: blackmail, sex and a nice drop of red

Quality Control

Writer: Kylie Seeberg

Director: Stacey Baldwin

Cast: Cat Commander, Jacquie Hall, Maree Barnett

Synopsis: Two comfortably urban women come to terms with increasing globalisation in their weekly yoga class. The universe may well provide, but must it all be made in China?

The Dinner

Writer: Jo Calleri, Kate Herbert

Director: Alicia Harrington

Cast: Mike Bishop, Mat Wearing, Luke Prendergast, Georgia Beasley

Synopsis: 'The Dinner' by Joe Calleri and Kate Herbert is a dark and candid glimpse into the world of two barristers. After 10 years, they re-unite in the private room of an Asian Restaurant.

The Park

Writer: Jason Cavanagh

Director: Angeliki Balayannis

Cast: Alex Marriott, Jude Hansen, Kendy Gable, Robert Fragnito, Fanny Hausin

Synopsis: A boy awakes to find himself lost in a dream and looks to some passing animals for guidance.

The Prisoners Dilemma

Writer: Graeme Simson

Director: Marnie Gibson

Cast: Anthony West, Yuhan Lim, David Gannon

Synopsis: A dramatic interpretation of a classic logic problem.

30 OCT 2008

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Trevors Epiphany

Writer: Philip Lindsell

Director: Tim Budas

Cast: Sean Weatherly, Alastair Brown

Synopsis: "Will man's eternal fight for the perfectly toasted bread ever be over? Does the afterlife bring the things we have sought so hard in life? Toast anyone?"

**WEEK 2 INDEPENDENT THEATRE ENSEMBLES
WEDNESDAY 10 – SAT URDAY 13 DEC @ 8PM**

After the Tower

Ensemble: The Town Bikes

Director: Maude Davey

Cast: Carla Yamine, Gabi Barton, Ania Reynolds

Synopsis: Rapunzel fell pregnant out of wedlock and gave birth to twins. Born from an exiled mother, these twins lived in the forest in wretchedness. Conjoined by endless strands of hair, they relied on each other for survival.

Bodybag

Ensemble: Itch Productions

Writer: Hop Dac Nguyen

Director: Alice Bishop

Cast: Des Fleming, Olivia Connolly

Synopsis: A famous movie star lays dying in his New York apartment.

He is visited by an angel that bears a striking resemblance to Marilyn Monroe.

She offers him a difficult choice....

Finding Your Place

Ensemble: The Hounds

Writers/Cast: Tegan Higginbotham , Robert Lloyd, Adam McKenzie

Synopsis: This production is about a writer, Mary, with Alzheimer's Disease. It looks at the comedy of loss as Mary watches her literary creations pack away their world.

Grimm

Ensemble: Company 13

Writer: Kate Hunter

Director: James Pratt

Cast: Glynis Angell, John Forman, Andrew Gray, Kate Hunter, Aurora Kurth, Josephine Lange, Fiona Roake.

Synopsis: Grimm presents a modern interpretation of The Grimm Brothers story of Snow White. With song, melodrama, chorus and the grotesque Co 13 will tell this old delicious narrative, that pits a voracious and murderous Stepmother against the guileless and beautiful Snow White.

6 Hours Later

Ensemble: Born In A Taxi

Cast: Penny Baron (Director), Mickael Havir (Music), Nick Papas, Carolyn Hanna

Synopsis: 6 Hours Later...but later than what? Beginning at the end and ending at the beginning, is it ever really over? Born in a Taxi stretches the lines between movement, text, non-linear narrative, sound and improvisation.

30 OCT 2008

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Last Drinks

Ensemble: Interior Theatre

Director: Telia Nevile

Cast: Bronwyn Batters, Matt Kelly, Heath Miller, Alice Palermo, Tina Evans

Synopsis: Drunken slurs, emotional upsets, hidden thoughts and social manoeuvres - if you take away the noise, the smoke and the surface of bar life, the people inside have a rhythm of their own. Between dance and theatre, naturalism and artifice, the surface of things and the beating heart of their innards... *Last Drinks* is a sound piece without instruments or audio equipment, just friends, exes and one-too-many.

Match

Ensemble: Barking Spider Visual Theatre

Cast: Penelope Bartlau, Jason Lehane

Music: Leah Scholes

Crew: Edward Dowling

Synopsis: *Directions for use:* Simple and easy to use, *Match* explores the nature of love and what happens when it cocks up. *Warning:* Wrestling, smearing, thumping, pinching and unfair flicking may be used during this performance.

Morbid Porn

Ensemble: Skite Vikingr

Director: Nancy Black

Cast: Tamara Rewse

Music: Kerry Simpson

Sound: Kelly Ryall

Synopsis: Post feminist, pre menstrual, torn and more dangerous than ever before, *Morbid Porn* tells the story of a woman propelled by the urgency of her crazed biological clock.

12 Nights (First Night)

Ensemble: Little Death Productions

Director: Ben Packer

Cast: Mark Winter, Ben Pfeiffer, Benedict Hardie, Ben Hjorth.

Synopsis: "Not yet old enough for a man, nor young enough for a boy; as a squash is before 'tis a peascod, or a cooling when 'tis almost an apple: 'tis with him in standing water, between boy and man."

Tea for Two

Ensemble: Dislocate

Cast: Kate Fryer (Director), David Garner, Geoffrey Dunstan

Synopsis: "Tea For Two" is an acrobatic black comedy set in a surreal yet very recognizable world. Life continues whether you want it to or not, only you can choose the direction it takes.

Tinsel Town

Ensemble: Spilt Second

Director: Daniel Koerner

Sound Designer: Rob Stewart

Cast: Paul Reichstein, Lachlan Mantell, Russ Pirie

Synopsis: Three villains. No heroes. Hollywood horrors of the 1940s come back to wreak their debauched revenge in Spilt Second's new offering combining foley art, gore and a good smattering of charm.



WEEK 3 TOP 20
WEDNESDAY 17 – SATURDAY 20 DECEMBER @ 8PM

Alchemy

Writer: Jodi Cramond

Director: Larelle Bossi

Cast: Mat Wearing, James Deeth

Synopsis: What does it mean to count? Are there answers to why in a pattern of numbers? Is singularity nonsensical? Jay wants to count. If he knew how much there is of everything, then he would know what it was for. He just wants to count.

Birdmonster

Writers: Christine Brown and Andrew Bertuleit

Director: Julia Greenham

Cast: Renee Palmer, Tiffany Davis, Camilla Jackson

Synopsis: Birdmonster reflects on the special joys of motherhood: never finishing a sentence, attempting to do all parenting from a seated position and inflicting psychological torment on the very young.

Black Eyed Susan

Writer: Judy Doubas

Director: Brenda Addie

Cast: Vicki Mitsianis, Tiffany Davis, Christine Husband, Lou Endicott, David McRae, Colin Donald, Uschi Felix, Adam Wiczorek

Synopsis: Susan Black is a landscape gardener with a thorny problem. Dr Kutt, Dr Burns, Dr Probe (and others) are intent on rearranging her personal landscape.

Who are the winners in this garden warfare?

Blue

Writer: Meg Courtney

Director: Peter Flaherty

Cast: Harry Paternoster

Synopsis: A good woman. A good dog. That's all a bloke needs.

Falling Praying

Writer: Tom Taylor

Director: Jacqui Schulz

Cast: Josh Futcher, Sonya Kerr.

Synopsis: Two people meet. They fall for each other... then they fall out of a plane.

This is the story of what happens next.

Legends and the Fall

Writer: Jane Miller

Director: Larry Boyd

Cast: Nathan Geeves, Alisha Ryan, Luke Prendergast

Synopsis: Corporate ruthlessness, double standards and hypocrisy are exposed as a CEO downsizes the company. Who becomes a Legend and on whom will the axe fall?



Love and Light

Writer: Jerome Parisse

Director: Traicee Evison-Griffith

Cast: Charity Shaw, Julianne Donovan, Steve Kennedy

Synopsis: A session with a psychic turns into an unusual argy-bargy.

Permanently Engaged

Writer: Dan Clancey

Director: Deborah Rohde

Cast: Jamie Mcguane, Shane Lee

Synopsis: 2 men locked in adjacent toilets find they have more than one thing in common.

Prime Angus Buttock

Writer: Gerry Greenland

Director: Jonathan Katz

Cast: Hannah Moore, Nick Colla, Jack Angwin

Synopsis: Young lawyer Justin has a bad dose of ethics, and wants to resign from the Grand Order of Anthropophagi. In the club's elite dining room The Grand Master helps him discover that he and his morals are but human after all.

Religion Shop

Writer: Adam Gelin

Director: Michael McManus

Cast: Troy Larkin, Carl Sorheim, Nathan Strauss

Synopsis: "Once in a lifetime a play comes along that will fundamentally change the way you see the world. This could have been that play."

WEEK 3 WILDCARDS SATURDAY 20 DECEMBER @ 2PM

Facing Away

Writer: Suzanne Hauser

Director: Michele McNamara

Cast: Phillipa Bain

Synopsis: After the end of a relationship how do you deal with the pain and love that's still there?

Genre Bender

Writer: Jessica Muschamp

Director: Jessica Muschamp

Cast: Chris Gaffney, Tory Rodd, Reuben Krum, Julianne Donovan

Synopsis: A self-important director can't decide on a style for his low-budget movie. His actors, the scriptwriter and crew bow to his whims, but can his frenzied ego ever be satisfied?

Little Star

Writer: Stephen Nicholas

Director: Ami-Lou Sharpe

Cast: Sarah Hamilton, Nathaniel Kelly

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Synopsis: "Up above the world so high... Like a diamond in the sky... Sometimes we gaze up at the stars and yet forget to see the wonder of the things right in front of us."

Mercy Kitchen

Writer: David Astle

Director: Andrea Cheung

Cast: Mick Lo Monaco, Anne Smith, Anthony Goodwin

A sick woman smuggles a suicide pill from Mexico. When a smug cop raids her home there are deadly consequences. Inspired by a true story.

Thankyou, Mr Pongpat

Writer: Frank Leggett

Director: Paul Bugeja

Cast: Carolyn Ramsey, Chris Duckworth, David Ly

Synopsis: Your brother dies in Thailand.

Filled with grief, you go to recover the body.

And what should be a fairly simple task becomes a moral dilemma...with a solution you could never have imagined...

Ticking Clock

Writer: Susan Pellegrino

Director: Natasha Moszenin

Cast: Kirsty Mitchel, Peter Lesley

Ticking Clock is about a married couple. The wife is desperate for a baby but the husband is not so sure. Will there be a happy ending?

The Bullfrog

Writer: Carly Nugent

Director: Daniel Rice

Cast: James Deeth, Claire McArdle

Synopsis: Do you know how much film a two hour movie uses? What about the only animal that never sleeps? Don't you want to know? Aren't you curious?

A play about our need to know - at any cost.

The Cellar Children

Writer: MichelleLee

Director: Simon Gorman

Cast: Lara Gissing, David Macrae, Anne Smith

Synopsis: Michelle Lee's script struck me as neo-impressionistic. It haunted me like a Grimm faerie tale, disarmed like Zen. From there, it became about body language perversion, and abstraction of individualism

The Russian Bride

Writer: Vince Bailey

Director: Christine Durbridge

Cast: Rueben Krum, Milijana Cancar

A Russian woman comes to terms with her past as she is being questioned following the death of her child.