

2026

ROUND

Whitehorse City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Owners of the land. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

Welcome to A Colourful Life — where every story is a brushstroke, every voice a note, every movement a glimmer. Come together in the art of live performance and feel the colours of our community come alive.

## LET US ENTERTAIN YOU

Reasons To Subscribe

## OUR SEASON IN FULL COLOUR

Exclusive benefits include flexible bookings, the ability to pay in instalments, and early access to the best seats in the house. Every hue is for you.

#### **MORE FOR LESS**

A subscription is the most cost-effective way to enjoy our season. Our high-pigment packages start from just \$276 with savings of up to \$128!

#### THE BEST SEATS

Be first in line to secure your favourite seats before tickets are released for general sale. As a subscriber, you will enjoy peace of mind knowing your view is picture-perfect for every performance.

#### **PAY IN INSTALMENTS**

With no upfront payments required, splatter the cost across the canvas of the year and pay only when you see the show.

## **ENJOY FREE TICKET EXCHANGES**

Change of plans? Want to switch your tickets? Easy! As a subscriber, you can exchange tickets for the same show anytime during the year – because your season should flex when you do.

#### **SUPPORT THE ARTS**

With your subscription, the arts bloom – and The Round keeps weaving stories, lighting stages, and painting Melbourne's East in vibrant hues.

# YOU ARE THE ARTIST

Choose your perfect palette, with our package options offering you the freedom to bring your year to life with as much colour, creativity and vibrancy as you wish.

6+

#### SUBSCRIBER

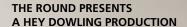
#### **A SPLASH OF COLOUR**

Select 6 shows from our season to become a subscriber. Packages of 6 to 9 shows will be charged at the 6+ ticket price. 10+

#### **SUBSCRIBER**

#### **PAINT THE TOWN**

Fill your calendar with 10 or more shows from our season to unlock the 10+ ticket price and experience the full spectrum of live performance.



## RACHAEL BECK: IN THEIR OWN WORDS

This is a multi-disciplinary one-woman show starring well-known stage and screen performer Rachael Beck. *In Their Own Words* celebrates the songs and stories of 20 trailblazing Australian women – some recognised and many who are not.

Rachael weaves verbatim words and anecdotes collected from women including Ita Buttrose, Tanya Plibersek, Marcia Langton and Carlotta with the music of famous Australian songwriters, such as Missy Higgins, Kate Miller-Heidke, Kate Ceberano and Dami Im, to create a powerful tapestry of female strength and achievement. From artists to scientists, politicians to humanitarians, these are stories of triumph, resilience and breakthrough – most never before heard on stage.

Developed with writer James Millar and directed by Miranda Middleton, *In Their Own Words* is a moving musical tribute to some of the extraordinary Australian women who have defined and made their mark on our culture.

"A captivating and moving performance that celebrates Australian women."

— Broadway World

Hey.Dowling

SATURDAY 28 FEBRUARY 1.30PM\* & 7.30PM

\*Q&A post-show

**Duration:** 1 hr 10 mins (no interval)

Subs 10+ \$52 Subs 6+ \$55 Full \$60 Conc \$57 Under 30 \$30

**Patron advice:** contains coarse language, adult themes, references to death

Suitable for 15+ years

**Space:** Theatre

Image credit: Claudio Raschella



## DAVID CAMPBELL: GOOD LOVIN' & MORE

Good Lovin' & More features David Campbell's album in full – a thundering collection of classic '60s blue-eyed soul.

Tracks such as 1-2-3, Baby Now That I've Found You, You've Lost That Lovin' Feelin', Devil With The Blue Dress On and, of course, Good Lovin' will be brought to the stage with David's larrikin charm and incredible voice.

David and his 7-piece band will also perform material from his multi-platinum 'Swing Sessions' albums, so expect classic Johnny O'Keefe, some *Dreamlover* Bobby Darin chart toppers and so much more!

For a show full of classic hits and superb showmanship, don't miss David Campbell's *Good Lovin' & More*!

"Good Lovin' is fun, pure and simple. Every song is delivered with conviction and a healthy dose of charisma."

— Sounds of Oz

#### SATURDAY 14 MARCH 1.30PM & 7.30PM

**Duration:** 1 hr 30 mins (no interval)

Subs 10+ \$81 Subs 6+ \$84 Full \$89 Conc \$86 Under 30 \$30

Patron advice: contains

smoke effects





Step into the dazzling world of Stephen Sondheim with Colour & Light: The Art of Sondheim, a spellbinding new revue from Australia's very own Sondheim repertory company, Watch This. After 10 critically acclaimed productions, Watch This invites you on a journey through the genius of one of musical theatre's greatest storytellers.

This handpicked collection blends Sondheim's most cherished songs with lesser-known treasures, celebrating his unmatched ability to capture the complexities of the human experience. From moments of heartbreak to bursts of hilarity, each piece reveals the wit, depth and emotional resonance that define Sondheim's work.

Prepare to experience Sondheim in a whole new light, with Watch This breathing new life into his extraordinary repertoire through powerful new arrangements performed in an intimate setting. Join us in honouring the legacy of a master and enjoy the artistry that continues to inspire. 25 MARCH 8PM THURSDAY 26 MARCH 8PM FRIDAY 27 MARCH 8PM SATURDAY

**WEDNESDAY** 

SATURDAY 28 MARCH 2PM\* & 8PM

\*Q&A post-show

**Duration:** 2 hrs (including interval)

Subs 10+ \$54 Subs 6+ \$57 Full \$62 Conc \$59 Under 30 \$30

**Patron advice:** contains adult themes, sexual references, smoke effects

Space: Studio



"Each musical number is not merely sung, it is presented with intelligence and passion, showcasing the brilliance of Stephen Sondheim's story telling."

— Theatre Matters

## BEYOND THE NECK

Director Suzanne Chaundy
Cast Frances Greenslade, Emmaline Carroll
Southwell, Cassidy Dunn, Freddy Collyer

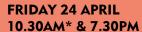
In the wake of tragedy, four strangers find themselves connected by an unspoken grief. *Beyond the Neck*, by award-winning playwright Tom Holloway, is a deeply affecting and poetic meditation on trauma, resilience and the human need for connection.

Set against the backdrop of the Port Arthur massacre, this gripping ensemble work weaves together fragmented voices to reveal the ways in which personal and collective grief shape our lives. With striking theatricality and emotional depth, *Beyond the Neck* does not retell history; it explores its echoes, the silent spaces between survivors, and the profound impact of loss on those left behind.

This is a hauntingly beautiful work that confronts, compels and ultimately finds hope in the resilience of the human spirit.

"Audiences will be deeply moved by this fine production."

— Beat Magazine



\*Q&A post-show

**Duration:** 1 hr 15 mins (no interval)

Subs 10+ \$47 Subs 6 + \$50 Full \$55 Conc \$52 Under 30 \$30

**Patron advice:** this production sensitively addresses the aftermath of a real-life tragedy and themes of grief and recovery

Suitable for 16+ years











# IS SHAKESPEARE IN THIS MOVIE?

Written and directed by David Williams

"I can remember watching the fairly terrible A Midsummer Night's Dream film with Kevin Kline and Calista Flockhart in it. We were watching that in the classroom and one of the kids actually put his hand up and said, 'So, is Shakespeare in this movie?'"

This wonderful new play is an ode to the English teacher – a verbatim play that celebrates the complex work of teaching and the power of imagination to transform lives. Four teachers reflect upon their professional journeys, the emotional struggles they face working in schools, as well as the challenges and joys of working with students.

*Is Shakespeare in this Movie?* transports audiences from the classroom into places dark, strange and filled with wonder

FRIDAY 29 MAY 1PM\* & 7PM\*

\*Q&A post-show

**Duration:** 1 hr 20 mins (no interval)

Subs 10+ \$37 Subs 6+ \$40 Full \$45 Conc \$42 Under 30 \$30

Patron advice: contains coarse language, mature/

adult themes, references to violence and mental health, smoke effects, loud sound effects

Suitable for 14+ years

**Space:** Studio

Image credit: Mark Gambino













CREATIVE VICTORIA

This project has been supported by the Victorian Government through Creative Victoria, the SRL Community Projects Fund and Monash University Performing Arts Centres.



THE ROUND PRESENTS
A CLUSTER ARTS & 60% WATER PRODUCTION

## SEA WOLVES HOWL

Based on true stories of a remarkable community, Sea Wolves Howl is vivid theatre with catchy songs. Early each morning, an intrepid intergenerational group of women and gender-fluid people meet on the beach, enter the freezing sea, join hands, howl like wolves, and immerse together.

Five characters take us from home to shore, into the brine and back, each step evoking stories, memories, fears, triumphs, connections, courage and laughter. It's a metaphorical plunge into the joys and challenges of cold-water swimming culture.

Subs 10+ \$49 Subs 6+ \$52 Full \$57 Conc \$54

**Under 30** \$30

contains strong coarse language,

Patron advice:

adult themes, sexual references

Suitable for 16+ years

**Space:** Theatre

FRIDAY 12 JUNE 7.30PM\*

SATURDAY 13 JUNE 1.30PM\*

\*Q&A post-show

Image credit:

Noah Smith-Fletcher

**Duration:** 1 hr 15 mins (no interval)

"Funny, heartbreaking, playful, and sexy... it is stunning theatre... What a triumph this show, these stories, these people saying yes to the lifeline of possibility and no to fear and inhibition..."

— Tracee Hutchison







## **WATER MIRROR**

## A stunning explosion of percussion, dance and visual beauty

Created and choreographed by Paulina Quinteros

Water Mirror is a breathtaking fusion of Taiko percussion, dance, acrobatics and cutting-edge projection and lighting design. This exhilarating production invites audiences of all ages to embark on a captivating journey that transcends traditional performance.

The powerful rhythms of Taiko, led by a group of extraordinary percussionists, resonate throughout the theatre, captivating audiences with Danza del Arte's athletic acrobatic dancers. The interplay between musicians and performers is sublime and finely crafted.

Set against a stunning multimedia backdrop, Water Mirror creates an immersive experience that engages the senses. With acclaimed reviews, award nominations, and standing ovations, this show is a standout choice for anyone seeking a remarkable and unforgettable performance.

"The choreography by Quinteros was phenomenal, showcasing the acrobatic prowess and gracefulness of the dancers."

— Leo Chau, Arts Hub

#### WEDNESDAY 24 JUNE 7.30PM

**Duration:** 1 hr (no interval)

**Subs 10+** \$47 **Subs 6+** \$50

**Full** \$55

**Conc** \$52

**Under 30** \$30

**Patron advice:** contains smoke effects, loud sound effects/music

**Space:** Theatre

Image Credit: Jamie Plaza











THE ROUND PRESENTS
A HIGHWIRE ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCTION

## **PRIMAL**

Untamed desires, captivating wonders: a provocative circus inspired by the animal kingdom.

From the creators of the critically acclaimed adult circus cabaret *Rouge* comes *PRIMAL*, a non-stop circusgone-wild ride that draws inspiration from the animal kingdom and the natural world.

Featuring Australia's most exciting circus and cabaret artists, this new work showcases spectacular acrobatics, breathtaking cabaret and song, scintillating dance and the strong ensemble work that Highwire is well-known for.

Playful, joyous and inclusive, this is a show that celebrates differences. *PRIMAL* pushes boundaries, subverts expectations, interrogates stereotypes and explores the diversity inherent in spectrums of gender and sexuality, while at the same time celebrating diversity in circus arts.

"Breathtaking, astonishing and flamboyant production."

— The Closeline





## BRITNEY SPEARS: THE CABARET

Starring Christie Whelan Browne
Director Dean Bryant
Musical Director Matthew Frank
Choreographer Andy Hallsworth

Following her spectacular debut at The Round in 2025, Christie Whelan Browne returns with her smash hit show, *Britney Spears: The Cabaret*. Not so much a cabaret as a cry for help, Christie reprises her critically acclaimed performance in this hilariously funny and strangely touching satirical look at the perils of fame.

Experience the pop-culture phenomenon that has audiences laughing, crying and singing along in equal measure. Christie Whelan Browne's razor-sharp wit and powerhouse vocals collide in this uproarious yet unexpectedly poignant exploration of celebrity, mental health and survival in the spotlight.

Part comedy show, part therapy session, and entirely unforgettable – this is your chance to witness one of Australia's most beloved performers at her unhinged best. Whether you're a die-hard Britney fan or simply love smart, subversive entertainment, this cabaret will leave you both entertained and enlightened.

#### FRIDAY 3 JULY 7.30PM

**Duration:** 1 hr 10 mins (no interval)

Subs 10+ \$50 Subs 6+ \$53 Full \$58 Conc \$55 Under 30 \$30

Suitable for 15+ years



THE ROUND PRESENTS AN OPERA AUSTRALIA PRODUCTION

# DON GIOVANNI

It is the last day of Don Giovanni's life, but he doesn't know that.

For opera's own Casanova, it is just another day of pleasure seeking. Seducing a bride on her wedding day. Breaking into a woman's bedroom in the dead of night. Killing her furious father.

Even before the curtain rises, Mozart reveals Don Giovanni's fate. An earth-shattering chord from the orchestra signals the gates of hell clanging open. The scoundrel's debauched days are at an end.

"A dramatically convincing and visually beautiful production."

— Canberra Critics Circle

**THURSDAY** 23 JULY 7.30PM

**Duration:** 2 hrs (including interval)

Subs 10+ \$80

Subs 6+ \$83

**Full** \$88

**Conc** \$85

**Under 30** \$30

Patron advice: contains

adult themes, coarse

language, sexual

references, references

to violence/abuse,

smoke effects

Suitable for 16+ years







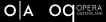


















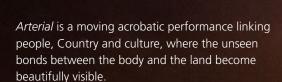
THE ROUND PRESENTS
A NA DJINANG CIRCUS PRODUCTION

## **ARTERIAL**

"They already have the crowd, quite literally, in the palm of their caring hands, hands that carry bloodlines, song and storytelling that reaches back thousands of years on this land."

— Time Out





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 with striking visual techniques and a score by avantgarde sound designer Danni Esposito.

Arterial will 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.

#### SATURDAY 25 JULY 8PM\*

\*Q&A post-show

**Duration:** 1 hr (no interval)

Subs 10+ \$40

**Subs 6+** \$43

**Full** \$48

**Conc** \$45

**Under 30** \$30

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

Suitable for 12+ years

**Space:** Studio













## GRIMM

#### Tales from the Brothers Grimm Adapted and created by Shake & Stir

Happily ever after? Never.

Grimm, the latest tour de force from Shake & Stir, beckons you into a world where fairytales are reimagined with a profound intensity. Be warned – these bedtime stories may cause nightmares...

Within darkened corridors and haunting landscapes, Cinderella, Little Red Riding Hood and many other intriguing characters emerge from the shadows, where the truth behind their stories – warts and all – boil and bubble to the surface.

From the company that brought you 1984 and the award-winning stage spectacles *Frankenstein, Jane Eyre* and *A Christmas Carol, Grimm* is a bold adaption of tales from the Brothers Grimm in a bewitching theatre experience.

Adapted by Nelle Lee, directed by Daniel Evans and with costumes designed by Australian fashion icon Paul McCann, expect a lavish, loud and lucid night. Tuck yourself in...

"Memorable, boundary-pushing theatre... entertaining, unsettling and thought-provoking."

— TheatreTravels







#### SATURDAY 15 AUGUST 1.30PM & 7.30PM

**Duration:** 1 hr 30 mins (no interval)

Subs 10+ \$58 Subs 6+ \$61 Full \$66 Conc \$63 Under 30 \$30

Patron advice: contains adult themes, sexual references, simulated violence and gore, infrequent coarse language, smoke effects, strobe lighting and loud sound effects/music

Suitable for 14+ years



## NATHAN CAVALERI: GROWING PAINS TOUR

Growing Pains isn't about fame – it's about being human. The ache of identity. The weight of expectation. The fight to find yourself again.

From child prodigy to cancer survivor, from global stages to mental health collapse, Nathan Cavaleri lays bare an extraordinary journey. In this raw, solo show filled with storytelling and music, he traces his path from busking in Campbelltown to the heights of stardom – and back home to himself.

A soulful, real-time reckoning with the highs, lows, and healing that define a life lived out loud.

"A journey of music and the life around it, leaving audiences in awe, uplifted and inspired."

— Diesel



**Duration:** 1 hr 15 mins (no interval)

**Subs 10+** \$49 **Subs 6+** \$52

**Full** \$57

**Conc** \$54

**Under 30** \$30

#### Patron advice:

contains adult themes

Suitable for 12+ years

**Space:** Studio



## **DUST**

They lived in the darkness, so we could live in the light!

England. 2020. Pinderfields Hospital. Lockdown. 2.20am.

A man fights for each breath, determined to make it home to Dot. In his isolated, morphine-fuelled delirium, we witness a frail man reliving his fragmented past: a boxer, a soldier, a boilermaker, a miner – dancing with Lady Luck as he battles to win. But is it fate, or sheer will to survive, that determines when we return to dust?

DUST is one man's unforgettable journey, examining generational trauma, resilience and survival against the backdrop of post-World War II England. DUST is dedicated to the servicemen who fought for their country, the seven men who tragically lost their lives in the 1973 Lofthouse Colliery disaster, and to every miner who lived their lives in darkness, so we could live in the light.

Winner of Adelaide Festival's 2025 inSPACE Fringe Award for best original premiere, this one-man performance is based on a true story and infused with Northern British humour, heart and grit. FRIDAY 9 OCTOBER 1PM\* & 8PM\*

SATURDAY 10 OCTOBER 2PM\*

\*Q&A post-show

**Duration:** 1 hr (no interval)

**Subs 10+** \$38

**Subs 6+** \$41

**Full** \$46

**Conc** \$43

**Under 30** \$30

Patron advice: contains strong language, violence, war themes, PTSD, trauma, mental health, substance use, loud noises, audience interaction

Suitable for 16+ years

**Space:** Studio





THE ROUND PRESENTS
A SOFT TREAD PRODUCTION

# THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO PAUL

Written and performed by Jonathan Biggins

FRIDAY 16 OCTOBER 7.30PM

SATURDAY 17 OCTOBER 1.30PM\*

\*Q&A post-show

**Duration:** 1 hr 30 mins (no interval)

Subs 10+ \$62 Subs 6+ \$65 Full \$70 Conc \$67

**Under 30** \$30

Patron advice: contains

coarse language

Suitable for 15+ years

**Space:** Theatre



The Sermon on the Mount returns to our stages for a victory lap as Jonathan Biggins – co-creator and star of *The Wharf Revue* and one of Australia's favourite comic actors – transforms into the visionary reformer and rabble-rouser Paul Keating.

Exploring the former Prime Minister's landmark political achievements and personal obsessions, *The Gospel According to Paul* takes the light on the hill and shines it on a man who grew up in the Labor Party at the knee of Jack Lang, approached economics as an artform, and demanded we confront the wrongs of our past. This production captures Keating's eviscerating Question Time wit and wraps it up in a Zegna suit.

With fresh takes on Keating's recent media moments and zeitgeist zingers, no scumbag is safe in this show, not even our humble narrator.



"A masterclass in biographical theatre. Biggins' superb acting alone carries the play but his sparkling and provocative script, channelling the protagonist's characteristic acerbic wit, elevates the performance to another level."

— ArtsHub

Image credit: Brett Boardman



Wolf by Circa is a gasp-inducing acrobatic thrill ride.

Clad in designer Libby McDonnell's form-hugging costumes and set to DJ Ori Lichtik's relentless primal rhythms, the cast of 10 extraordinary Circa artists grasp, tear, climb, leap and balance with fierce abandon.

For Director Yaron Lifschitz, the wolf is a symbol of our untameable selves: liberating, anarchic and savage. In two contrasting acts, the wolves evolve from disruptive forces of chaos into a ferocious pack whose intense choreographies overflow with raw energy and astounding physicality.

Wolf is circus with fangs. Join the pack.

**Duration:** 1 hr 40 mins

Patron advice: contains smoke effects, flashing (not strobing) lights, loud music

Suitable for 12+ years

Co-produced by the Chamäleon Theatre, Berlin Commissioned by La Comete

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

Circa is based in Meanjin (Brisbane) on the lands of the Jagera and Turrbal people. We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the many lands on which we create and perform. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging. Always was. Always will be.





## BIG AND SMALL PRINT

#### **BOOKINGS**

www.theround.com.au

#### **Box Office**

Monday to Friday 10am – 4pm



9262 6555



tickets@whitehorse.vic.gov.au

#### LOCATION

The Round is located at the rear of the Whitehorse Civic Centre and Nunawading Library: 379–399 Whitehorse Road, Nunawading.

#### **PARKING**

Free parking is available on site. Check our website for details.

#### \$30 TICKETS (U30)

If you are under the age of 30 take advantage of our \$30 tickets as part of the Season 2026 shows. Proof of age may be required.

#### **PAY BY INSTALMENTS**

Create a subscription package of 6+ or 10+ main season shows and have the option to pay in instalments.

Please note the following terms and conditions:

- You are committed to paying the full amount of your package.
- If your nominated credit card expires during the year, please contact us with updated details.

#### **INDIVIDUAL TICKETS**

Individual tickets to the main season go on sale Tuesday 13 January.

Phone and internet bookings incur a \$4 handling fee. Fees waived for subscription package buyers.

#### **TICKET EXCHANGES**

You may exchange your ticket for another performance of the same show (where available) prior to the first performance.

This service is free for subscribers

Visit theround.com.au for full ticketing terms and conditions.

#### **ACCESSIBILITY**

The Round is accessible for patrons in wheelchairs or with limited mobility. If you require a wheelchair location, please request this when booking tickets or choose 'accessible seating' online.

Accessible parking is available. National Relay Service 13 36 77.

#### **KEY DATES**

## **12 JAN**

#### **LAST DAY OF PRE-SALE**

Last day to secure the best available seats before individual tickets go on sale.

## **13 JAN**

#### ON SALE

Individual tickets on sale at 10am.



## WE'VE GOT MORE SHADES TO SHOW

#### **MAKE A NIGHT OF IT**

Feel the buzz. Bubbly beverages and blissful bites.

Discover our carefully curated selection of craft beers, award-winning wines, premium sparkling, and sophisticated non-alcoholic alternatives.

A bustling bar by night and Espresso @ The Round by weekday. Whether you are looking for a night-cap or an extra frothy double-shot cap, we have got you covered.

#### **ELEVATE YOUR NEXT EVENT**

Savour the atmosphere, style and sophistication of our state-of-the-art spaces, available for hire to make your occasion outstanding.

Whether you are planning a large-scale conference, a corporate retreat, an intimate board meeting, gala dinner, birthday celebration or even a wedding, our dedicated event professionals will support you from start to finish.

MORE TO EXPLORE theround.com.gu

### THE ROUND



CREATIVE WHITEHORSE

Whitehorse City Council proudly presents The Round's Season 2026, one of the major features of its arts program.







theround.com.au 9262 6555