
17 JAN – 7 FEB
midsumma.org.au
2027
MIDSUMMA
FESTIVAL
midsumma
festival
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200+
events
150+
venues
22 Days
melb+victoria
THE SUMMER OF QUEER ARTS & CULTURE

WINNER **BEST NEW MUSICAL** OFF WEST END AWARDS

Grindr

THE OPERA!

A MUSICAL PARODY

DIRECT FROM THE UK!

★★★★★
"A F*KING GOOD NIGHT OUT"**
ATTITUDE MAGAZINE

★★★★★
"ROCKY HORROR FOR THE SMARTPHONE GENERATION ...SENSATIONAL!
GAY TIMES

★★★★
WITTY AND AMUSING
BOX OFFICE RADIO

★★★★
"PROVOCATIVE AND PROMISES A GOOD TIME"
LONDON LIVING LARGE

DV Live

20 JAN - 6 FEB | FITZROY ST THEATRE, ST KILDA | TICKETS AT MIDSUMMA.ORG.AU

more
than
money

More out
and proud

Proudly supporting the Midsumma
community since 2013.



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Acknowledgement of Country

Midsumma acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We recognise that First Nations peoples have been sharing stories, knowledge and artistic expressions for thousands of generations, and that these rich cultural practices continue to shape and enrich Australia's creative and cultural landscape. We pay our respects to First Nations peoples, their cultures and Elders past and present.



Nicholas Reece
Lord Mayor

There's nothing quite like Midsumma in the City of Melbourne.

The sun is shining, the energy is electric and our city buzzes with the colour and creativity that you all bring.

We've proudly supported this fabulous festival for many years because Melbourne is a city for everyone. A city that embraces diversity and inclusion and welcomes people exactly as they are.

From the Midsumma Carnival to the Pride March and every event between – thank you to all the organisers, artists and volunteers who help bring the magic.

Year after year, you transform our city, drawing hundreds of thousands of people into the heart of Melbourne and cementing our reputation as Australia's events capital and one of the most welcoming cities in the world.

Happy Midsumma. See you there!



Principal Partner
NAB

Midsumma has a unique way of bringing people together. Through art, performance, storytelling and shared experiences, Midsumma creates opportunities to connect with different perspectives, celebrate identity and build a stronger sense of community. It reminds us of the value of listening, learning from one another and creating spaces where people feel they belong.

That's one of the reasons NAB is proud to support the festival. We know our communities are stronger when people can be themselves, share their experiences and have their voices heard.

Thank you to the artists, performers, volunteers, and organisers who make Midsumma possible. Your creativity, passion and commitment continue to make a meaningful impact on Melbourne and on the many people who participate each year.

I'm looking forward to seeing this year's festival come to life. I hope you find time to explore the program, discover something new and enjoy the many moments of connection, creativity and celebration that make Midsumma so special.

Happy Midsumma!

Andrew Auerbach
NAB Pride Executive Sponsor & Group Executive,
Business & Private Banking

Welcome to Midsumma Festival



Michael Parry
Board Chair — Midsumma



Karen Bryant
Chief Executive & Creative Director — Midsumma

Welcome to Midsumma Festival 2027! Immerse yourself in 22 days of LGBTQIA+ arts, culture and community featuring a stunning array of local, interstate and international artists in what is our most vibrant festival yet.

Midsumma isn't only about visibility. This festival is a celebration of creativity and joy. We believe everyone has a place at Midsumma, where people can find their people, discover new communities and experience a sense of connection and belonging. And this year, more than ever, that celebration is State-wide, as queer culture exists everywhere.

This isn't something we do alone, the festival is created by community, for community. Artists, producers, venues, volunteers, audiences, partners and community organisations all contribute to making Midsumma possible. We could not be more grateful for the bold, adventurous and joyful work that our community will share with you all this year.

As Midsumma approaches its 40th anniversary in 2028, we acknowledge the people and communities who built this festival while celebrating the next generation of queer artists, audiences, producers, volunteers and community leaders who are already shaping its future.

So explore the program, try something unexpected, and find all the ways you can to be part of this incredible celebration. I can't wait to see you out there.

Tides rise. Sands shift.

We live in landscapes shaped by movement, of water, people, journeys and time. On country that has always held story.

Midsumma adopts *Shifting Sands* as our creative vision for 2027. *Shifting Sands* explores and celebrates the many forces and identities shaping queer life across Australia, Asia and the South Pacific. Our communities are not a single story, but a rich and evolving tapestry of cultures, generations, faiths, and lived experiences. Grounded in the enduring knowledge of First Nations peoples and layered with histories of migration, diaspora and belonging.

At a time when we find our rights challenged and once again systematically erased. When misinformation, division and anti-LGBTQIA+ sentiment reach deep into our very essence of being, visibility matters. Storytelling becomes both resistance and renewal, a way to reclaim narratives, deepen human connection, and what it means to be queer here, now, together.

Shifting Sands turns the focus towards queer voices: locally grounded, globally connected and unapologetically diverse.

Through theatre, visual art, dance, film and community exchange, Midsumma Festival 2027 amplifies artists and stories shaped by place, culture and personal truths. Fluid in expression and connected across land, waters, intersectional cultures and across all ages, Shifting Sands positions our region as a centre of queer creative and cultural leadership.

Together, we will create a festival that does more than reflect a changing world.

Because as the tides rise and the sands shift, so too do we.

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Stay in touch

Keep connected to our social media platforms and subscribe to our e-news for ticket discounts, giveaways and updates. Subscribe to e-news at **midsumma.org.au/subscribe**

@midsummafestival

@midsumma

Ticketing and Access Information

Discover all of the ways you can get your tickets to a Midsumma Festival event. 40% of Midsumma events are free.

Midsumma Carnival

Melbourne's biggest queer day out is back!

One massive city park. Four stages. 200+ community stalls. Delicious food, incredible entertainment and thousands of people coming together to celebrate queer culture, community and Melbourne summer.

Midsumma Carnival kicks off 22 days of Midsumma Festival, transforming Alexandra Gardens into a vibrant riverside celebration of LGBTQIA+ arts, culture, community and live entertainment.

From iconic queer superstars and live music to DJs, dancing, sport, food, community stalls and fabulous four-legged friends, there's something for everyone. Bring your mates, your family, your chosen family or come solo. Stay for an hour or make a whole day of it.

Four stages. Endless ways to celebrate. Catch incredible queer artists and performers across the Main, Picnic, Sports and Family stages. Spread out a picnic blanket, discover your next favourite artist, get involved in activities, or take the spotlight yourself at Lip Sync Limelight.

As the sun sets, the party turns up with DJs, major headliners, and thousands of people dancing together.

Explore, connect, and get involved. Wander through 200+ stalls featuring LGBTQIA+ community groups, local businesses and organisations. Grab a bite from the food zones, enjoy a drink, discover inclusive sporting clubs, pick up a giveaway, or find something fabulous to take home.

Everyone belongs here. Whether you're a Midsumma regular or joining us for the first time, Carnival is your invitation to connect, discover something new and celebrate the diversity of our communities.

Free entry. All ages. All welcome. See you there!

Come for the performances, stay for the atmosphere and kick off your Midsumma Festival with a day to remember.

Sunday 17 January 2027
11am–9pm | Alexandra Gardens

Midsumma Carnival is proudly supported by the City of Melbourne

Alexandra Gardens
St Kilda Rd, Melbourne

Midsumma Carnival
Sunday 17 January
11am – 9pm
FREE

No glass, no erected marquees

Image Credit: Sexy Galexy, photo by Suzanne Balding

Midsumma Pride March

History is made when we march together

Every summer, St Kilda becomes a powerful sea of colour, courage and community as thousands take to the streets for Midsumma Pride March. A tradition rooted in protest, visibility and the fight for equality, Pride March is where we honour those who came before us, celebrate how far we've come and make way for the generations of our communities.

On Sunday 31 January, Fitzroy Street transforms into a living river of pride, flowing towards the iconic shores of Catani Gardens. From the roar of Dykes on Bikes and the powerful presence of the Rainbow Aboriginal Float, to community groups, chosen families, allies, heels, wheels and everything in between, every step tells a story. Every banner carries a message. Every person belongs.

This is more than a march. It's a movement. We march for visibility. We march for justice. We march for joy, for love, for community and for a future where everyone can live proudly and one day safe. We march to protect trans youth, stand alongside our most vulnerable communities and reject the hate that seeks to divide us. At a time when our identities are increasingly weaponised for political gain, marching together is an act of solidarity, defiance and hope. Whether you're marching, cheering from the sidelines or experiencing Pride for the first time, there's a place for you here.

Stay for the Pride, stay for the party. And when the march reaches the bay, the celebration is far from over. Join the post-march celebrations at Catani Gardens, where live music, performers and DJs bring the party to the spectacular St Kilda foreshore. Then explore the neighbourhood, where local traders bring their best offers, warm hospitality, delicious food and welcoming atmosphere to one of Melbourne's biggest LGBTQIA+ celebrations.

With Pride after-parties taking over venues across St Kilda and some of the best spots in the city to watch the summer sun set over the bay, there's every reason to make a day of it.



Need a moment to rest and recharge? The **Rainbow Recharge Hub at the Victorian Pride Centre** offers a welcoming retreat for regional visitors, out-of-town guests, families and anyone needing a break from the crowds. Open all day, the space provides air conditioning, comfortable seating and a lower-sensory environment to pause, connect with others and recharge.

You won't miss a moment of the action. The Pride Centre's theatrette will livestream Midsumma Pride March on the big screen, with commentary by **JOY Media**, so you can soak up the atmosphere and follow the march in comfort. Whether you're meeting friends, taking a breather or simply need a quieter place to regroup, the Rainbow Recharge Hub is here for you.

Sunday 31 January
Fitzroy Street to Catani Gardens, St Kilda

Come for the march. Stay for the celebration.
Leave knowing you were part of something bigger.

City of Port Phillip has proudly supported Midsumma Pride March for 10 years

Image Credit: The Merindas

Midsumma Pride March
Fitzroy St, St Kilda

10:30am march starts

Celebrations
Catani Gardens, St Kilda

10am – 4pm

Sunday 31 January

Rainbow Recharge Hub Victorian Pride Centre

FREE | No BYO alcohol

MAJOR EVENTS

Victoria's Pride Street Party

Take over the streets with us!

Melbourne's biggest street party is back! Victoria's Pride takes over two of Naarm's most iconic neighbourhoods for a free, all-day celebration of LGBTQIA+ pride, culture, creativity and community.

Throughout the streets of Fitzroy and Collingwood, the precinct comes alive with live music, circus, drag and DJs across multiple stages, while roving entertainers and pop-up performers transform unexpected spaces into places to gather, watch and play. Start the day with family-friendly activities, discover new local talent and stay into the evening as headline acts take to the main stages.

A neighbourhood block party. Surprises around every corner.

Browse curated market stalls filled with locally made products, connect with queer creatives and community organisations, or settle into a local café, bar or restaurant to eat, drink and watch the party unfold. With traders, venues and cultural spaces throwing open their doors and bringing their best to the celebration, the whole neighbourhood is part of the experience.

Bring your chosen family, your actual family and your favourite friends - or make some new ones on the day! Dance in the streets, support local businesses or find your own spot to soak up everything this vibrant pocket of the north side has to offer.

Victoria's Pride is an annual statewide celebration of LGBTQIA+ pride, visibility and connection, delivered by Midsumma in partnership with the Victorian Government.

Take over the streets with us for Midsumma Festival's closing celebration!

Sunday 7 February
Smith St & Gertrude St precinct
Melbourne, Inner North

Victoria's Pride
Smith St & Gertrude St precinct
Melbourne, Inner North

12pm – 9pm

Sun 7 February

FREE

No glass

Image Credit: Casey Donovan, photo by Suzanne Balding

Victoria's Pride is supported by the Victorian Government

VICTORIA State Government

Victoria's Pride Regional Events Program

Statewide Pride!

Fourteen projects have been funded through the **Regional Activation Program (RAP)**, delivered by Midsumma Festival with support from the Victorian Government, Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH). These projects celebrate LGBTQIA+ arts, voices and creativity in towns and communities right across the state.

From queer songwriting and poetry in Beechworth to cosplay and creature creation in Bendigo, a photography project in the Mallee and LGBTQIA+ history in the Wimmera, the program showcases the breadth of queer creativity and experience across regional Victoria.

Projects also include a summer performance residency in Healesville, a creative residency in Portland, queer creative events across Castlemaine and Daylesford, and culturally safe creative programming for Aboriginal LGBTQIA+SB communities in Wodonga.

Explore the program to discover what's happening in regional Victoria, find an event or project near you, and book your place where bookings are available.

Victoria's Pride is supported by the Victorian Government

VICTORIA State Government


P66

Pub Queer

Beechworth
22 Nov 2026 — 7 Feb 2027

Local lesbian (and award-winning musician/poet) Ruby Gill is taking over Beechworth's halls and pubs with a summer of poetry/songwriting workshops, to celebrate stories of local LGBTQIA+ hotties, and build visibility for community. Join to connect or create!


P37

Mornington Peninsula QUEERmas

Mornington Peninsula
11 Dec 2026

Celebrate queer joy, chosen-family, and camp festive chaos! Live music, drag, burlesque, and a safe, glitter-soaked space for anyone who finds the holidays heavy. Where connection, celebration and community magic come together to create a space that feels like home.


P67

Seams Affirming

Daylesford
9 Jan-6 Feb

Seams Affirming is a joyful, TGD-led sewing series where trans and gender diverse adults learn to alter, upcycle and create clothes that fit who they are, while exploring queer textile histories across cultures, contemporary role models, community connection, wellbeing and creative self-expression.


P66

MIC CHECK

Healesville
13-22 Jan

Bring an idea!

Workshop it with a professional comedian and drag queen.

Develop it further in a week-long venue residency.

Perform it for friends, family, and community.


P65

Creative Healing

Wodonga
14 Jan

Creative Healing is a free, culturally safe creative arts event for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Rainbow Mob. Through art, connection, self-expression and community, participants can celebrate identity, culture, pride and belonging in a supportive and inclusive space.


P52

Pali-Pali MiRi

Mildura
20 Jan

Pali-Pali MiRi is a celebration of LGBTQIA+SB Mob across the Mallee region. It is a powerful collection of photographic portraits reflecting identity, belonging, culture, and togetherness. It celebrates and connects Mob across generations and brings their stories to the fore.


P66

Oceanside Pride: Building the Wave

Portland
20-22 Jan

BEAT ENTERTAINMENT returns to Portland for three days of LGBTQIA+ creativity, connection and community. Come make, move, perform and connect through a vibrant program of workshops and mentoring designed to build confidence, celebrate identity and create belonging.


P69

F*** Fabulous Warehouse Party

Castlemaine
23 Jan

Five hours of queer joy. A party and sanctuary! Fat Fruit brings you a punk, art, performance party created with and for trans, gender diverse and queer community. Artists across Naarm, Castlemaine and Daylesford bring you performances, DJ, flash mobs, crowd karaoke, swap shop and break out zones.


P72

So Last Century

Jeparit/Wimmera
30 Jan

Step into retro glamour at this one-night-only Midsumma celebration in Jeparit, inspired by Dynasty and Number 96, featuring live entertainment, themed dress-ups and powerful LGBTQIA+ stories celebrating regional pride, resilience, visibility and connection. Come dressed to party and enjoy a wholesome feed, all included in your ticket.


P60

Worldbuilders

Bendigo
Jan 2027

Craft costumes and creatures in these cosplay workshops for queer teens. Work with professional artists to sculpt foam armour, build props and design an original creature brought to life in augmented reality. A free workshop series in Bendigo this summer, curated by Arena Theatre Company. No experience needed.


P39

Queerness in Colour: Spoken Word Event

West Gippsland
6 Feb

Queerness is so much better spoken in colour. Queerness in Colour is a live spoken word event in Garfield (West Gippsland) featuring queer, First Nations, and culturally and racially marginalised artists sharing storytelling, performance, and reflection through an intersectional lens.


P33

How To Keep Safe

Castlemaine
6-7 Feb

One Woman Show – The world's scary when you're 10yo, trying to avoid a communist invasion, eternity in Hell and the A bomb in 1950s America. No wonder Cathy escaped to Australia and forgot to tell her family she was lesbian. At 84, she's talking! Written and performed by Catherine Samsury, directed by Kari Van.


P56

Tea Time

Woodend
Available online from 7 Feb

A Southeast-Asian queer animated short about finding unlikely common ground by Kei Khosasih. Shin and Aruni invite their moms over for tea and kueh. How will their moms react to seeing them as a queer couple for the first time? Tea Time is a love letter to Southeast Asian childhoods and positive queer futures.


P49

Heartland

Statewide VIC
7 Feb

Heartland is a collaborative photography series and exhibition documenting queer lives across regional Victoria. Travelling by van across the state, artist Emily Dynes built magic realist portraits with participants intertwining identity and landscape, showcased at Victoria's Pride Street Party 2027.

Shifting Sands

Midsumma adopts *Shifting Sands* as our creative vision for 2027, exploring the many forces and identities shaping queer life across Australia, Asia and the South Pacific. Our communities are a rich, evolving tapestry of cultures, generations, faiths and lived experiences, grounded in First Nations knowledge and shaped by migration, diaspora and belonging.

At a time when LGBTQIA+ rights face renewed challenges, visibility matters. Storytelling becomes both resistance and renewal: a way to reclaim narratives, deepen connection and affirm what it means to be queer here, now, together.

Through theatre, visual art, dance, film and community exchange, *Shifting Sands* amplifies locally grounded, globally connected and unapologetically diverse voices, positioning our region as a centre of queer creative and cultural leadership.

P46



Electric Fields with the Australian Queer Orchestra

Arts Centre Melbourne -
Ian Potter State Theatre
4-5 Feb

Presented by
CMA in association with Arts Centre Melbourne & Midsumma Festival

P42



Temple After Dark

Northcote Town Hall
29-30 Jan

Presented by
Midsumma Festival & Karma Dance

P31



Fekei

Next Wave - Brunswick Mechanics Institute
28-31 Jan

Presented by
Sour Cherry Productions & Midsumma Festival

P45

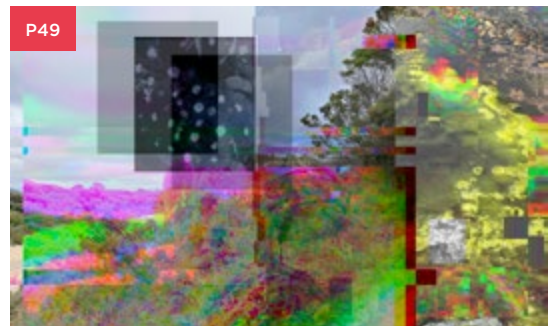


Too Much

Circus Centre Melbourne
4-6 Feb

Presented by
Midsumma Festival

P49



Digital Narratives

Incinerator Gallery
29 Jan - 7 Feb

Presented by
Motherless Collective, Incinerator Gallery & Midsumma Festival

P42



The Joocee Details

Spiegel Haus Melbourne - Empire Rooftop
22-23 Jan

Presented by
by Spiegel Haus & Midsumma Festival.
Produced by Thomas Bevan & Wes Snelling.

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS SHIFTING SANDS


P55

Focus on Queer 中文 Cinema

ACMI
22 Jan - 9 Feb

Presented by
ACMI, CIFF and Midsumma Festival


P30

Crown Jewels - A Comedy and Theatre Festival Celebrating Drag Kings and Things

Northcote Town Hall
22-24 Jan

Presented by
Pip Stachio, Nolan Void & Midsumma Festival


P31

Fantasy Ball II: Strictly Business

Northcote Theatre
30 Jan

Presented by
House of Furia and Midsumma Festival


P39

Queer Joy

State Library Victoria - Conversation Quarter
28 Jan

Presented by
State Library Victoria with Midsumma Festival


P39

Queer Playwriting Award Showcase

Gasworks Creative Precinct
18 Jan

Presented by
Gasworks Creative Precinct and Midsumma Festival


P46

Homophonic!

Gasworks Creative Precinct
5-6 Feb

Presented by
Gasworks Creative Precinct, Midsumma Festival & Homophonic!


P52

Midsumma Art Award

Gasworks Creative Precinct
18 Jan - 7 Feb

Presented by
Midsumma Festival


P48

Digital Fantasy

Bundoora Homestead Art Gallery
20 Jan - 6 Feb

Presented by
Bundoora Homestead Art Centre & Midsumma Festival


P58

Love Love Love Love Love love

ArtPlay
4-7 Feb

Presented by
ArtPlay & Midsumma Festival, Created by Caroline Bowditch and Laura Hook


P58

Midsumma Storytime

The Little Bookroom
19 Jan & 2 Feb

Presented by
Midsumma Festival


P59

The Extradordinary Flying Ship

State Library Victoria - Create Quarter
21 Jan

Presented by Midsumma Festival and State Library Victoria, supported by Rainbow Families Switchboard.


P58

Once Upon A Different Time

State Library Victoria - Create Quarter
21 Jan

Presented by Midsumma Festival and State Library Victoria, supported by Rainbow Families Switchboard.


P59

Rainbow Storytime

State Library Victoria - Create Quarter
19-20 Jan

Presented by Midsumma Festival and State Library Victoria, supported by Rainbow Families Switchboard.





Pillow Talk

Gasworks Creative Precinct
20-23 Jan

Presented by
Gasworks Creative Precinct, Midsumma Festival & Pillow Fight Theatre



ALTAR

Gasworks Creative Precinct
27-30 Jan

Presented by
Gasworks Creative Precinct, Midsumma Festival & Extraterrestrial



Trans Tapes: The Last Actress (A Staged Reading)

Fringe Common Rooms **21-22 Jan**

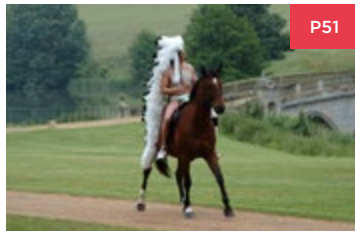
Presented by Tayo Tayo Collective, Aperture Productions & Midsumma Festival



WERK: SERVE with Aysha Buffet

ACCA **29 Jan**

Presented by
ACCA & Midsumma Festival


P51

Kent Monkman: Miss Chief's Picture Show

ACCA
17 Jan - 7 Feb

Presented by
ACCA & Midsumma Festival


P38

PO PO MO CO Best Bit's

Next Wave - Brunswick Mechanics Institute
4-6 Feb

Presented by
PO PO MO CO & Midsumma Festival


P37

MoCo Variety Night

Victorian Pride Centre
5 Feb

Presented by
The Motherless Collective (MoCo)


P43

THEY WILL BE KINGS

Fed Square - The Edge
5 Feb

Presented by
Fed Square & Midsumma Festival


P37

Magnifica Splendido

Bunjil Place
30 Jan

Presented by
Open Space at Bunjil Place & Midsumma Festival


P27

Ballet For Boys

Theatre Works
2-13 Feb

Presented by
Theatre Works & Midsumma Festival


P42

Sun Cut: a lover's dictionary

Dance House
5-6 Feb

Presented by
Dancehouse & Midsumma Festival


P34

IQONS

Melbourne Recital Centre, Peter and Ruth McMullin Beacon
1-2 Feb

Presented by
Melbourne Recital Centre & Midsumma Festival


P30

Desolation

Melbourne Recital Centre, Peter and Ruth McMullin Beacon
29-30 Jan

Presented by
Melbourne Recital Centre & Midsumma Festival


P41

Step by Step - Dancealong

Brunswick Ballroom
4 Feb

Presented by
Midsumma Festival, HeyDowling & Brunswick Ballroom


P71

Plus 55 - Return to the Disco

Victorian Pride Centre
24 Jan

Presented by
Victorian Pride Centre and Lifeview


P70

Library Up Late x Midsumma

State Library Victoria
5 Feb

Presented by
State Library Victoria with Midsumma Festival


P66

NGV x MIDSUMMA

National Gallery Victoria - International
6 Feb

Presented by
NGV International with Midsumma Festival


P70

Nocturnal

Melbourne Museum
4 Feb

Presented by
Melbourne Museum & Midsumma Festival


P60

Minus18 Pride March Banner Making!

Victorian Pride Centre
20 Jan

Presented by
Minus18 & Midsumma Festival


P55

MQFF X Midsumma

Fed Square Outdoor Screen
4 Feb

Presented by
Melbourne Queer Film Festival, Fed Square & Midsumma Festival

PRESENTING PARTNERS

Midsumma Hubs



Chapel Off Chapel

Chapel Off Chapel take pride in creating a welcoming and inclusive space for everyone and a platform for artists to connect with their audiences and create memorable experiences. With shows in The Chapel and The Loft, Chapel Off Chapel is the Midsumma Hub of Prahran.

12 Little Chapel St, Prahran



Gasworks Creative Precinct

The south side hub for Midsumma Festival offers a jam-packed program of new and award-winning theatre, comedy, classical music, visual art and line dancing in the heart of Albert Park.

21 Graham St, Albert Park



Grouse Melbourne

Grouse is a retro-modern bar & cafeteria with entertainment and incidental joy. Located in the heart of Melbourne's famous Smith Street hospitality precinct, it's the perfect place to pop in for a drink or three, have a bite or catch some fabulous local entertainment. With events in Room 7 and the front bar, Grouse is full of fun for Midsumma and Victoria's Pride Street Party.

171 Smith Street, Fitzroy



Melbourne Recital Centre

Australia's preeminent destination for music in all its diversity, bringing together world-class artists and audiences to experience the raw, unifying power of performance. With programming across the intimate Primrose Potter Salon, and the new Peter and Ruth McMullin Beacon—join in where extraordinary moments unfold.

31 Sturt St, Southbank



Northcote Town Hall

Northcote Town Hall Arts Centre is proud to be an official festival hub for Midsumma Festival, bringing bold queer arts and culture to Melbourne's northern suburbs in 2027. We are excited to showcase our vibrant and diverse Darebin community and create a safe space of celebration and community.

189 High Street, Northcote



Pride of Our Footscray

Footscray's community-owned queer venue — home to drag, burlesque, cabaret, comedy, parties, functions and community events, found in the heart of Footscray.

86-88 Hopkins Street, Footscray



Spiegel Haus Melbourne

Spiegel Haus Melbourne is the city's newest destination for an unforgettable night out! A bold mix of theatre, music and hospitality, set against an extraordinary backdrop in the heart of the CBD. Located on the rooftop of Golden Square Car Park on Lonsdale Street, this purpose-built entertainment precinct brings together multiple venues with a mix of cabaret and circus, and your new home for summer drinks, music, and fun as the Midsumma Artists bar.

217 Lonsdale St, Melbourne CBD



State Library Victoria

State Library Victoria transforms into a hub for Midsumma with events in the Create Quarter, Conversation Quarter and across the entire Library, there's family programming through to late night dance parties.

328 Swanston St, Melbourne CBD



The Motley Bauhaus

A completely unique, utterly independent and proudly inclusionary multidisciplinary art and craft house dedicated to promoting skills-based art practices and promoting upcoming and independent artists. With three performance spaces for cabaret, music, burlesque, standup and any of the bits in between.

118 Elgin St, Carlton



Theatre Works and Theatre Works Explosives Factory

Theatre Works is one of Australia's longest-running independent theatres, Theatre Works champions artists and work that embrace difference and celebrate risk, working to provide a supportive public platform for marginalised conversations and voices. With multiple works across Theatre Works and Explosives Factory – be sure to visit this hub in St Kilda.

14 Acland St & 67 Inkerman St, St Kilda



Victorian Pride Centre

As Australia's first purpose-built LGBTIQA+ Pride Centre, it brings together practical services, advocacy organisations, affirming spaces, and genuine opportunities for connection under one roof. Housing major LGBTIQA+ resident organisations alongside flexible hire spaces, including meeting rooms, a rooftop terrace, co-working spaces, a theatrette, and a gallery. A hub where community groups share ideas, build resources, and strengthen their work advancing equality, diversity, and inclusion across Victoria.

79-81 Fitzroy St, St Kilda



Westside Events

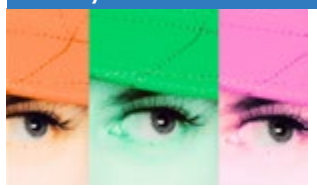
A suite of events Westside in Maribyrnong, Hobsons Bay, Wyndham and Brimbank local council areas.



Performance

Image: Cabaret le Queer: A Little Fosse. P29

Variety



A Grouse Variety Show

Hosted by Wes Snelling

A bursting hour of stunning entertainment featuring queer stars from the cabaret, burlesque and comedy scenes.

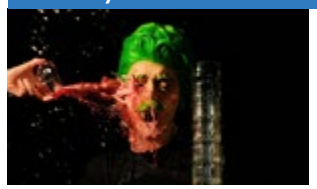
Grouse.

Grouse Melbourne - Room 7, Fitzroy

21-22 Jan, 28-29 Jan, 4-5 Feb	1hr
Thu, Fri 8:45pm	
$32 full | $28 conc | $24 group (min 4)	

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Comedy



Alf Alpha's Cocktail Hour

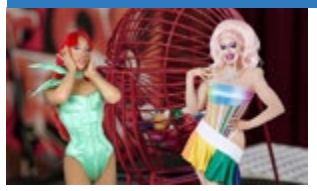
Alf seeks answers, Where are all the lesbian bars?!

Alf Alpha's Cocktail Hour is the ultimate comedy cocktail demonstration featuring the wit, charm and fruity personality of your generous drag king host, Alf Alpha. Bring your friends, your thirst and your sense of humour – this is one cocktail hour you won't want to miss.

Northcote Town Hall STUDIO ONE, Northcote

22 Jan, 24 Jan	1hr
Fri 5:30pm | Sun 2:45pm	
$30 full | $25 conc | $35 a little extra | $15 First Nations	
Presented by Alf Alpha and Crown Jewels	

Cabaret



All-Star Pride Drag Bingo

Musical bingo, number bingo, and fabulous drag shows!

It's the West's famous Drag Bingo!

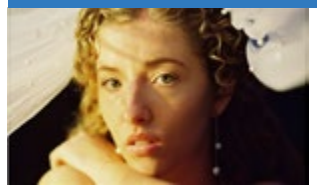
Join your cast of four fabulous drag hosts for an evening of fun bingo games (number bingo and musical bingo), camp drag shows, comedy, cocktails, prizes & much more!

Pride of our Footscray Community Bar, Footscray

22 Jan	2hrs 30m
Fri 7pm	
$19 full | $14 conc	
Image: Background photo by Tom Nguyen	

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Theatre



ALTAR

The Edinburgh Fringe multi-award-winning wedding day you'll never forget

Sutton always knew what she wanted for the happiest day of her life, but when 'something old' walks down the aisle, she's forced to confront every choice she's ever made. Sutton & Dana grew up together in their conservative country town. Dana was invited but never RSVP-ed. Dana won't be in attendance today. Instead, we meet the confident trans adult they've become. Their name is Dan.

Gasworks - Main Theatre, Albert Park

27-30 Jan	1hr
Wed, Fri, Sat 2pm, 7:30pm | Thu 7:30pm | Auslan: Sat 30 Jan 2pm	
$40 full | $35 conc | $30 preview	
Presented by Gasworks Creative Precinct, Midsumma Festival & Extraterrestrial	
Image: by JM Tubera	

Comedy



Anyone But Cis Dudes Comedy

Shattering the glass ceiling, one punchline at a time!

An evening of comedy by literally Anyone But Cis Dudes!

Come along for a fantastic night of jokes, cocktails, pizzas, and a celebration of gender diversity in comedy.

Pride of our Footscray Community Bar, Footscray

2 Feb	2hrs
Tue 6:30pm	
$27 full | $20 conc	

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Theatre



Ballet for Boys

All it takes to be a man is blood, sweat & tutus

Step inside the Senior Boys' dressing room and dab your sweat alongside these four best friends, who are rehearsing Swan Lake under the stern eye of their mysterious new female teacher. Entrenched in a world of traditions and binaries, they grapple with conflicting pressures to be both manly and dainty. (Real men wear tights, right??)

Theatre Works, St Kilda

2-13 Feb	
Tue-Sun 7:30pm | Wed 11am | Fri 2pm	
$60 full | $30 conc | $25 First Nations	
Presented by Theatre Works & Midsumma Festival	

Cabaret



Bang!

Sondheim on sex

A brand-new collision of Stephen Sondheim songs, presented in association with Little Triangle. Seven performers and a live band come together for a playful and proudly queer romp about love, longing and the pursuit of happily ever after. But sex is messy, complicated, ridiculous, sometimes wonderful and often all of those things at once. Bang! takes a cheeky look at what happens between the sheets (and sometimes outside them).

Chapel Off Chapel - The Loft, Prahran

27-28 Jan	1hr
Wed, Thu 7:30pm	
$45 full | $40 conc	
Presented by Little Triangle	
Image: Stephen Sondheim in 1962. Photo: Michael Hardy/Express/Getty Images	

Cabaret



Bangers, Beers and Bears goes Broadway

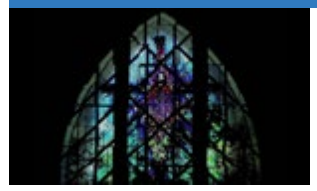
Broadway just got hairier, louder and dangerously easier to sing along to!

Big Kev and Dean tear up the script & pour Broadway into a pint glass. Join them for big belters, bigger bears, and choice costume changes. Don't know the words? Doesn't matter. Hit a high note, support inclusive sporting teams, and they'll try not to lose their shirts!

Mollie's Bar & Diner, Fitzroy

23-24 Jan, 31 Jan	2hrs
Sat, Sun 2:30pm	
$25 full	
Presented by Bangers, Beers and Bears	
Image: Photos by Alastair Bett and Dean Arcuri	

Musical



Bare the Musical

A provocative, powerful & contemporary rock musical

This Midsumma Festival, Melbourne audiences will experience Bare: A Pop Opera, an acclaimed contemporary rock musical set in a Catholic boarding school. Bare follows two students navigating first love, family expectation and the pressure to fit in — a story about honesty, growing up and finding the courage to be yourself.

St Martins - Irene Mitchell Studio, South Yarra

17 Jan, 19-23 Jan	2hrs 30m
Sat, Sun 1pm | Sat, Sun 7:30pm | Tue-Fri 8pm	
$55 full | $52 conc	
Presented by Soundworks	

Circus



begin to be

The universal premiere of Actuate - "Begin to Be"

A beautiful contemporary high skilled circus show/ act with themes of friendship, light existentialism, finding purpose and personal growth. Delving into the most human of thoughts and feelings using the human body through movement and acrobatics.

The MC Showroom - The Showroom, Prahran

19-24 Jan	45m
Tue-Sun 7pm | World Premiere: Tue 19 Jan	
$26 full | $24 conc	
Presented by Actuate	
Image: by Camilo Ayala Arias	





Theatre



The Motley Bauhaus - Theatrette, Carlton

27-31 Jan, 2-7 Feb	1hr
Tue-Sun 7:10pm	
$32 full | $30 conc	
Presented by How Delightful Theatre	

Image: by Mark Gambino

Bev and Myrt and the Clash of Culture

Another amazing adventure with Melbourne's senior sapphic superstars!

Alien investigators Bev and Myrt return for a brand new sci-fi adventure. An interstellar amoeba circles back to Earth to leverage the minds and souls of corporate climbers. Can our dyke-namic duo save the world from endless synergising and mandatory team-building exercises and still get home in time for tea?

Cabaret



Clocktower Centre - Lounge Bar, Moonee Ponds

4-5 Feb	1hr
Thu, Fri 8pm	
$30 full | $20 conc	
Presented by Club Clocktower	

Image: by Stuart Bucknell

Cabaret le Queer: A Little Fosse

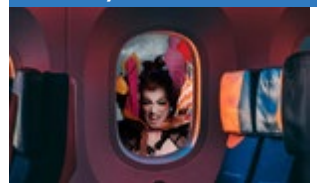
Step into a world of smoky glamour, seductive rhythms and unapologetic queer fabulousness

Join Lady Devine in this highly immersive vaudeville, drag, burlesque, cabaret show.

Inspired by the iconic style of Bob Fosse and the dark. Come for the Cabaret, stay for the Queer.

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Comedy



Northcote Town Hall MAIN HALL, Northcote

22-23 Jan	1hr
Fri 6:45pm | Sat 4pm	
$30 full | $25 conc | $35 a little extra | $15 First Nations	
Presented by Bijoux Boy (aka Sunny Youngsmith) and Crown Jewels	

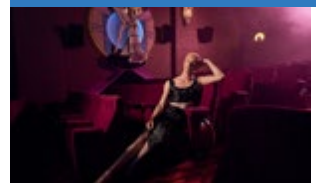
Cabin Pressure

Buckle up for high camp & high altitudes with Bijoux Airlines

Unorthodox Bijoux Airlines has drag, clown and sketch comedy, in this dysfunctional 55 minute social experiment we call economy. Get immersed in the bizarre modern ritual of blasting through the sky with hundreds of strangers in a giant metal tube.

This show includes audience particpation and interaction. You can choose to opt out at any time.

Cabaret



Melbourne Recital Centre - Peter and Ruth McMullin Beacon, Southbank

4 Feb	1hr 30m
Thu 8:30pm	
$45 full | $40 conc	
Presented by Melbourne Recital Centre	

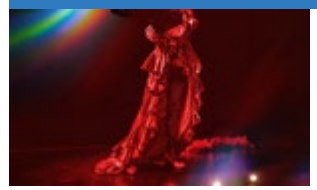
Image: by Daniel Boud

citris ribs

Touching stories and soaring ballads that will take your breath away

Travelling through songs that bring a certain bittersweetness, Tomas Parrish holds your hand as they ask how to squeeze all the juice from the life they're given. Collaborating with the jazz pianist extraordinaire James O'Brien, Tomas and James will have your heart breaking, funny bone tickled, and your mind wandering through the orchard of life to find the juiciest fruit and hold you if you find a barren tree.

Cabaret



Theatre Works - Explosives Factory, St Kilda

26-30 Jan	1hr
Tue-Sat 8:30pm	
$40 full | $30 conc	
Presented by HisPanic	

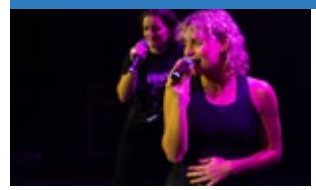
Image: by Jake Bush

Copla: A Spanish Cabaret

Award-winning celebration of Spain's cultural history... with a queer twist

A queer migrant performer reclaims Spain's most dramatic musical tradition, copla, transforming it into a bilingual cabaret of resistance, identity and desire. Once censored and reshaped under Franco's dictatorship, copla carries a history of coded queer desire, longing, and transgression, balancing humour, vulnerability, and political insight. www.coplacabaret.com/show

Interactive Performance



Gasworks - Angel Stage

6 Feb	1hr 30m
Sat 7:30pm	
$40 full | $35 conc	
Presented by Gasworks Creative Precinct	

Image: by Joseph Mayers

Cowboy C*untry with Kath Ebbs

A Queer line dancing event...or should I say rodeo, for all!

Cowboy culture surprisingly (or not) has deep roots in LGBTQ+ culture and deserves to be celebrated. Hosted by Sydney based actor and content creator Kath Ebbs, the night will consist of four-line dancing lessons. This event is for all bodies and experience levels, we're just here to have a good time and dance in a safe environment.

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Theatre



Crown Jewels

A Comedy and Theatre Festival Celebrating Drag Kings and Things

A 3-day festival of theatre and comedy works made exclusively by Drag King & Drag Thing artists.

Drag kings (and their gender-agnostic counterparts: drag things) have a history of making genre-bending, unexpected, and risk-taking art across Melbourne. This festival brings many multi-disciplinary kings and things together all under one roof.

Northcote Town Hall, Northcote

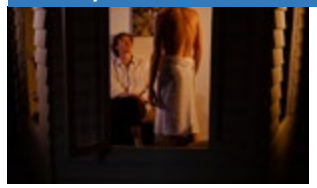
22-24 Jan

Fri 4pm onwards | Sat & Sun 1:30pm onwards

Shows individually priced

Presented by Pip Stachio, Nolan Void & Midsumma Festival

Variety



Darling Boy Art Exhibition and Film Screening

Join a magical night of art, film and live performances as you dive deep into the Darling Boy world

A guided tour through Hunt Club Gallery, exploring key works by Nathan McGlynn and collaborators, live performances and the premiere screening of the film adaptation of "A Glimpse into the Darling Boy" — created by Nathan McGlynn, Charlee Brooks and Hugo Williams.

Hunt Club, Deer Park

7 Feb 3hrs

Sun 6pm

FREE

Presented by Darling Boy Art, Changing Room Gallery and Brimbank City Council.

Image: by Nathan McGlynn

Theatre



Dax Savage: The Last Man on Earth

A queer sitcom at the end of the world

Inspired by conversations with "that uncle that we all have" during the 2017 gay marriage plebiscite, Dax Savage realises that letting gays get married meant the end of our world. So join us on this slippery slope, this January, and celebrate the end of the world!

"In a nutshell the show was so funny I forgot my vagina was in excruciating pain" - Kaleiderscopenews

Theatre Works - Explosives Factory, St Kilda

26-30 Jan 1hr

Tue-Sat 7pm

$40 full | $30 conc

Presented by Fake Blood Co.

Cabaret



Dean Arcuri and the search for Seamen

Are we looking for love or just cruising?

Dean is turning this year's Midsumma into his own personal fleet week. Shaking things up, he's searching for a special someone while standing in the spotlight. Whether it's on the dance floor, in a bar, or in the dark room, there's always something special around the corner. It's love songs and dedications on speed - what could go wrong?

"Truly Impressive"-MCV

Grouse Melbourne - Room 7, Fitzroy

4-6 Feb 1hr

Thu-Sat 6pm

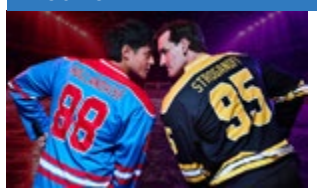
$32 full | $28 conc

Presented by DEANATION

Image: Photo by Marc Delahaye

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Theatre



Deep-Heat Rivalry

Direct from London's West End!

Loosely inspired by a certain hit TV series (and we mean very loosely), this filthy new parody written and directed by Oliver-nominated Trevor Ashley, crashes together locker-room drama, forbidden romance, parody songs, and absolutely no understanding of sport whatsoever.

Expect power ballads. Expect power plays. Expect emotional meltdowns in tiny towels.

Chapel Off Chapel - The Chapel, Prahran

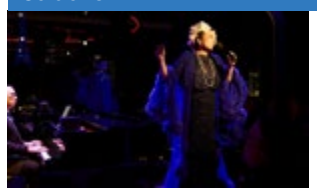
20-25 Jan, 27-31 Jan, 2-6 Feb 1hr

Mon-Sat 8pm | Sat 4:30pm | Sun 5pm

Mon-Thu $59 full | Fri-Sun $69 full

Presented by Trevor Ashley

Cabaret



Desolation

Mama Alto sings songs of Heartache & Heartbreak

One of Australia's finest cabaret artistes, Mama Alto, arrives at the Peter & Ruth McMullin Beacon for her two-hour special.

Enigmatic, multifaceted and resplendent, her weaving of song and story, triumph and tragedy, poignancy and pathos make for an unforgettable musical experience.

Melbourne Recital Centre - Peter and Ruth McMullin Beacon, Southbank

29-30 Jan 2hrs

Fri, Sat 8pm

$55 full | $50 conc

Presented by Melbourne Recital Centre & Midsumma Festival

Image: by Laura Manariti

Variety



EUPHORIC: The Rooftop Experience

Venture Beyond The Ordinary

Take your night to new heights as EUPHORIC takes over the rooftop for a dazzling Midsumma edition packed with drag, burlesque, cabaret, dance and comedy. Dress to impress for the Best Dressed Competition, then keep the party going with live sets from DJ Paul Anderson before and after the show. Strictly 18+.

★★★★★ *- East Regional View*

Victorian Pride Centre - Rooftop, St Kilda

22 Jan 2hrs 30m

Fri 7:30pm

VIP $69 | A Reserve $44.5 full, $40 conc | B Reserve $34.5 full, $30 conc

Presented by Euphoric Events & Co

Comedy



FAGA: The Trump Cabaret!

The critically acclaimed political satire that's taken Australia by storm!

Brought to you by internationally award-winning writer and producer, Nicholas R.T Reynolds, this camp tongue-in-cheek comedy follows a drag-esq Trump as he embarks on an autobiographical cabaret retrospective of his harrowing life and times!

"The audacity is commendable" - That Show Blog

Victorian Pride Centre - Theatrette, St Kilda

27-30 Jan 1hr

Wed-Sat 7:30pm

$34 full | $26 conc | $28 group (min 6) | $25 First Nations

Presented by Nick Reynolds

Image: Poster Design: Joel Van Echteld, Photographs: Harper Owen

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Dance



Fantasy Ball II: Strictly Business

Ballroom Excellence is a non-negotiable

The Kiki House of Furia is excited to announce the highly anticipated return for 'The Fantasy Ball' - and this time around they mean BUSINESS. Where Fantasy meets the corporate world, and the boardroom becomes the runway - it's time to clock in, show up and deliver. Your position is waiting, your performance is under review and your next promotion could be on the floor.

Northcote Theatre, Northcote

30 Jan 5hrs

Sat 6pm

$55 full | $40 conc | $25 First Nations

Presented by House of Furia and Midsumma Festival

Image: by alexisdleaphotography

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Theatre



Fekei

Follow the story of Akanisi, a proud Lesbian navigating the complexities of love and tradition

As her partner, Sam, plans a heartfelt proposal on the anniversary of Akanisi's Grandpa's passing - a sacred day marked by the Hertekof cultural event - Sam is unaware of a crucial secret: Akanisi has yet to come out to her conservative Grandma. Fekei delves into the powerful themes of Queer love, Pasifika identity and the struggle for family acceptance.

Next Wave — Brunswick Mechanics Institute, Brunswick

28-31 Jan 1hr

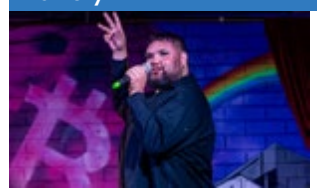
Thu-Sat 7pm | Sat 2pm | Sun 5pm | Relaxed: 30 Jan 2pm

$38 preview | $38 full | $33 conc | $28 First Nations

Presented by Sour Cherry Productions & Midsumma Festival

Image: by DEFNE

Variety



First Nations Drag Showcase

Blak and fabulous!

An evening of performances and conversations by queer Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists, hosted by 2JOOCEE.

Enjoy performances by five stars of drag, cabaret, and dance, while also hearing about their experiences and getting to where they are today.

Pride of our Footscray Community Bar, Footscray

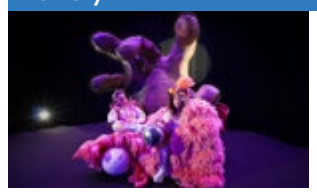
29 Jan 2hrs

Fri 6:30pm

$25 full | $19 conc | $0 First Nations

Image: by Tom Noble

Variety



Fruit Salooon - Queer As!

It's wild, it's west, it's weird!

Come as you are- in rhinestones or tracksuits- an inclusive night of queer joy & chaos. Drag kings, strip, giant puppets, pubes, live music, dance, performance art, strong spoken words. Live drawings projected above dancefloor, video art, food, scooter & wheelchair friendly, cocktails, bean bags! "Never have puppets been more badly behaved" - ArtsHub

Footscray Drill Hall, FOOTSCRAY

4-6 Feb 5hrs

Thu-Sat 7pm

$45 full | $25 conc

Presented by Fat Fruit & Snuff Puppets

Image: by Olivia Floate



Cabaret



Grouse Front Bar

23 Jan

Sat 4-7pm

FREE

Presented by Skank Sinatra & Poussay

Image: by Jens Radda & Bailey Dunnage

Gay Gay It's Saturday! With Skank Sinatra & Poussay

It's Saturday. It's summer. It's gay.

Join Skank Sinatra and Poussay as they take over the Grouse Front Bar for a free, loose and lively Saturday afternoon of drinks, socialising and spontaneous entertainment. Expect pop-up performances, occasional nonsense, audience chats - all over beers, bubbles and 'bucha.

Theatre



Fitzroy St Theatre (formerly Alex Theatre) St Kilda - Theatre, St Kilda

22-24 Jan, 27-31 Jan, 3-6 Feb

2hrs 15m

Wed-Fri 7:30pm | Sat 2pm+7:30pm | Sun 24 Jan 1pm+6pm | Sun 31 Jan 6pm

from $69 - $129

Presented by DV Live | Fitzroy St Theatre

GRINDR The Opera: A Musical Parody

"Winner: Best New Musical, London"

Direct from the UK, Grindr The Opera: A Musical Parody brings the world's most notorious gay hook-up app LIVE to the stage. Bold, outrageous and wickedly funny, this musical parody dives headfirst into the world of gay dating in the digital age – where romance, rejection, lust and connection are all just a tap away.

*"A f**king good night out"* ★★★★★ - *Attitude*

Dance



Victorian Pride Centre - Rooftop, St Kilda

24 Jan

Sun 3-9pm

$39 full | $29 conc | $34 group (min 4) | $20 First Nations | $20 SW

Presented by Hells Belles

Image: by Chaos Heart

Hells Belles Presents: Hotter Than Hell

A queer alternative rooftop party meets hellishly hot burlesque

Hells Belles take over the Victorian Pride Centre rooftop for a scorching night of queer rebellion. Expect a hot af show from the Belles, plus a DJ, dancefloor, and interactive activations (think emo karaoke). Come for the show, stay for the party, and raise a little hell with us.

Cabaret



Pride of our Footscray Community Bar, Footscray

5 Feb 2hrs

Fri 6:30pm

$32 full | $25 conc

Image: Background photo by JXN Miles

Hot Men Doing Things

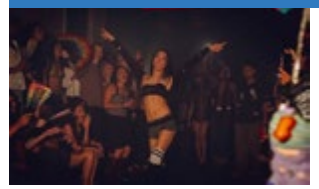
The hottest ticket this summer!

The west is about to get even wilder!

A steamy evening of hot men doing pretty much whatever they want - as long as we get to watch!

Featuring a cast of boylesque, singers, acrobats, and dancers to be announced.

Dance



RUBIX Warehouse, Brunswick

29 Jan

Fri 9pm-3am

$30 full | $15 conc

Presented by House of Diesel & Thorne Harbour Health

Image: by Mohamed Ibra

HOUSE OF DIESEL THH - VOGUE NIGHT

Pump up the Gas, Pump up the Pride!

Back again to turn Midsumma OUT! The House of Diesel and Thorne Harbour Health are serving a night of BIPOC Trans & Queer excellence. Expect ballroom categories, fierce performances and a stacked DJ lineup ready to serve you vogue energy all night. 'We get a taste of Australia's growing ballroom scene and the community it is nurturing' - ABC Radio National

REGIONAL EVENT

Theatre



Phee Broadway Theatre, Castlemaine

6-7 Feb 1hr 30m

Sat 7pm | Sun 2pm

$25 full | $15 conc

Presented by Victoria's Pride | Victorian Government and Midsumma Festival | Crone Theatre

Image: by Yvette Turnbull

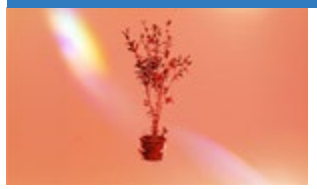
How to Keep Safe

McCarthyism nearly broke her; homophobia almost silenced her

One Woman Show – The world's scary when you're 10 years old trying to avoid a communist invasion, eternity in Hell and the A bomb in 1950s America. No wonder Cathy escaped to Australia and forgot to tell her family she was lesbian. At 84, she's talking!

Written and performed by Catherine Samsury, directed by Kari Van.

Theatre



Theatre Works - Explosives Factory, St Kilda

19-23 Jan	1hr
Tue-Sat 6:30pm	
$40 full | $30 conc	
Presented by Robert Michael James	

Hunterers & Gatherers

A Prehistoric Tragicomedy

The last tribe of Neanderthals are facing their extinction. When they meet Homosapien Oogie, the Neanderthals discover the foundations of modern society, unaware that these new laws of survival could lead to their downfall.

This is a satire about status, heteronormativity and evolution. It champions authenticity, in a playful retelling of the past.

Spoken Word



The MC Showroom - The Showroom, Prahran

21-22 Jan	1hr 15m
Thu, Fri 8:30pm | Captioned: All	
$32 full | $25 conc	
Presented by Dave Oppedisano | I AM. I CAN.	

Image: by Tree Noir Photography

I AM. I CAN.

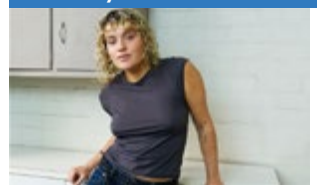
A unique mental health and addiction lived experience performance

Official Launch | Midsumma 2027

Lived-experience spoken word + original music. Real stories. No polish. Dave Oppedisano and Hayley Jade (16) perform songs written from journaling through trauma.

For ages 15+. Moving. Honest. Brutal. If you've been looking for permission to feel less alone, this is it.

Comedy



Gasworks - Main Theatre, Albert Park

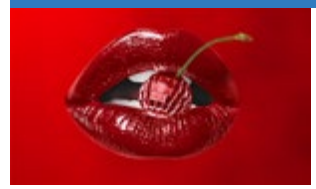
3 Feb	1hr
Wed 7:30pm	
$35 full | $30 conc	
Presented by Gasworks Creative Precinct	

Kath Ebbs - In my Defense

Be the first to see Kath Ebb's debut solo show

Join Kath for a work in progress show as they explore their chaotic dating history by revisiting the scenes of the crime(s) – AKA every single breakup and the choices that came after. Kath Ebbs is a queer actor, presenter, writer and content creator. With over 100,000 followers on Instagram, their work focuses on visibility and advocacy with storytelling at its heart.

Circus



SPIEGEL HAUS MELBOURNE - Spiegeltent, Melbourne

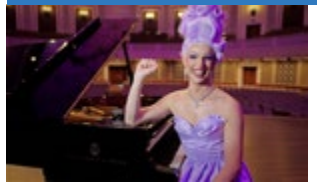
17-31 Jan	
Sun 6pm | Wed, Thu 7pm | Fri 6:30pm | Fri 8:30pm | Sat 5pm | Sat 7:30pm	
tickets from $69	
Presented by Strut & Fret	

La Ronde

With so many five-star reviews, we've lost count

This award-winning production is a lavish cocktail of the highest quality circus, cabaret, and comedy from the internationally renowned creators of Blanc de Blanc and Late Night Vice. Glittering bodies spin overhead in the seductive, velvet-draped world of The Spiegeltent. La Ronde is the ultimate night out you've been searching for!

Theatre



Theatre Works - Explosives Factory, St Kilda

19-23 Jan	1hr
Tue-Sat 8:30pm | Captioned: All	
$40 full | $30 conc	
Presented by Fruitcake Productions	

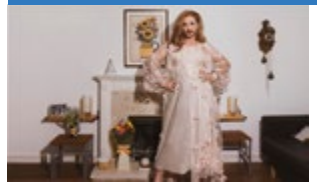
Immeasurable Doubt

A brand new Australian work

Whispered love poems between pews, deep vulnerable conversations in bunk beds of church camp, a deep pit in your stomach that devours all the butterflies. Intimate, funny and heartbreakingly real, 'Immeasurable Doubt' follows Esther and Eden, two young girls who meet at church camp and fall in love. They grapple with what it means to be queer and Christian and if those two things can co-exist.

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Cabaret



Melbourne Recital Centre - Peter and Ruth McMullin Beacon, Southbank

1-2 Feb	1hr 30m
Mon, Tue 8:30pm	
$55 full | $50 conc	
Presented by Melbourne Recital Centre & Midsumma Festival	

Image: by Daniel Burke (photo) & myheadsajungle (drawings)

IQONS

Elton John. George Michael. Freddie Mercury. Peter Allen. Lady Gaga. Chappell Roan.

A celebration of iconic queer songwriters, brought to life by Australia's favourite piano man with special guest Chelsea Dawson. From high-energy rock 'n roll to deeply moving ballads, showcasing many of the world's best-loved songs, delivered with style, heart and a touch of theatrical flair. "Trevor Jones is a National Treasure... or is that National Trevor?" - Out in Perth

Cabaret

Chapel Off Chapel - The Loft, Prahran

29 Jan	1hr 15m
Fri 7:30pm	
$37 full | $32 conc	
Presented by Jacqui Randa	

Image: by Vanessa Krummenacher

Jacqui's Hilarious Healing Circle

Namaste Bitches!

Tired of pretending to have it all figured out? Feel the need to scream into the void?

Singer-pianist and cabaret star Jacqui Randa invites you to join her healing circle of self-love as she channels the likes of Celine, Whitney & Adele. Take a seat and let's discuss the messy work art of figuring yourself out all with a dash of Diva!

★★★★ - *Ed. Fest Mag*

Theatre

Chapel Off Chapel - The Loft, Prahran

5-6 Feb	1hr 10m
Fri, Sat 7pm	
$65 full | $55 conc	
Presented by Hot TKT productions	

Image: by HARRY ELLETSON

Jonny Woo SUBURBIA

Internationally acclaimed and award winning show by the UK's notorious Jonny Woo

Following smash runs in the UK, 'Suburbia' is acclaimed UK performer Jonny Woo's most personal show to date, a culmination of 20 years working in drag and cabaret. From clubs in the 90s and ecstasy, to sex clubs in NYC and present day. Jonny's tale is visceral, vibrant, honest and ultimately joyous, blending drag, cabaret and performance.

Cabaret



Chapel Off Chapel - The Loft, Prahran

2-3 Feb	1hr
Tue, Wed 7:30pm	
$59 full	
Presented by The Local Lesbians	

Image: by Joel Devereux

Lesbian Love Stories

We're Back Butches!

After SOLD-OUT seasons across the country, your favourite gals are u-hauling their way back! LLS features tales of lady love from across the globe, told anonymously through song, speech and prose, giving the audience an inside glimpse of the lesbian experience. Unashamedly honest and raw, buckle in for a good laugh and an awkward moment... or three. "It's funny, it's witty and it's brave!" ★★★★★ - Broadway World

Cabaret



Melbourne Recital Centre - Peter and Ruth McMullin Beacon, Southbank

23 Jan	1hr 30m
Sat 8:30pm	
$45 full | $40 conc	

Image: by Dean Ben Arye

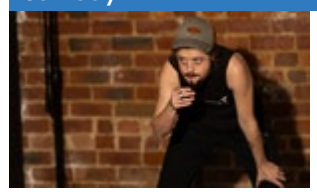
Little Squirt

A one man musical cabaret about sperm donation

When Darby James clicks on a Facebook ad for sperm donation, he finds himself sailing across the tempestuous seas of queer existential mayhem, setting out to discover the absurdities of procreation. It's an unforgettable voyage through genetic questionnaires, medical screening and psychological evaluations, as he considers whether he might ever choose parenthood himself.

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Comedy



Northcote Town Hall STUDIO ONE, Northcote

23-24 Jan	1hr
Sat, Sun 5:30pm	
$30 full | $25 conc | $35 a little extra | $15 First Nations	
Presented by Michele Owen and Crown Jewels	

Loserland

Hey boyz... ever feel like a Loser?

Meet one Aussie bloke who can relate. He's crass, chain-smokes, blows his paycheck on KFC and Marvel tatts and stumbles into knife fights. This is Big Mike - a wiry, heart-on-his-sleeve barista with big plans, good intentions and a magnetism for tragedy. For fans of dark comedy, satire and physical theatre.

"Owen's physicality is hysterical in and of itself" ★★★★ - *Theatre Thoughts*

Cabaret



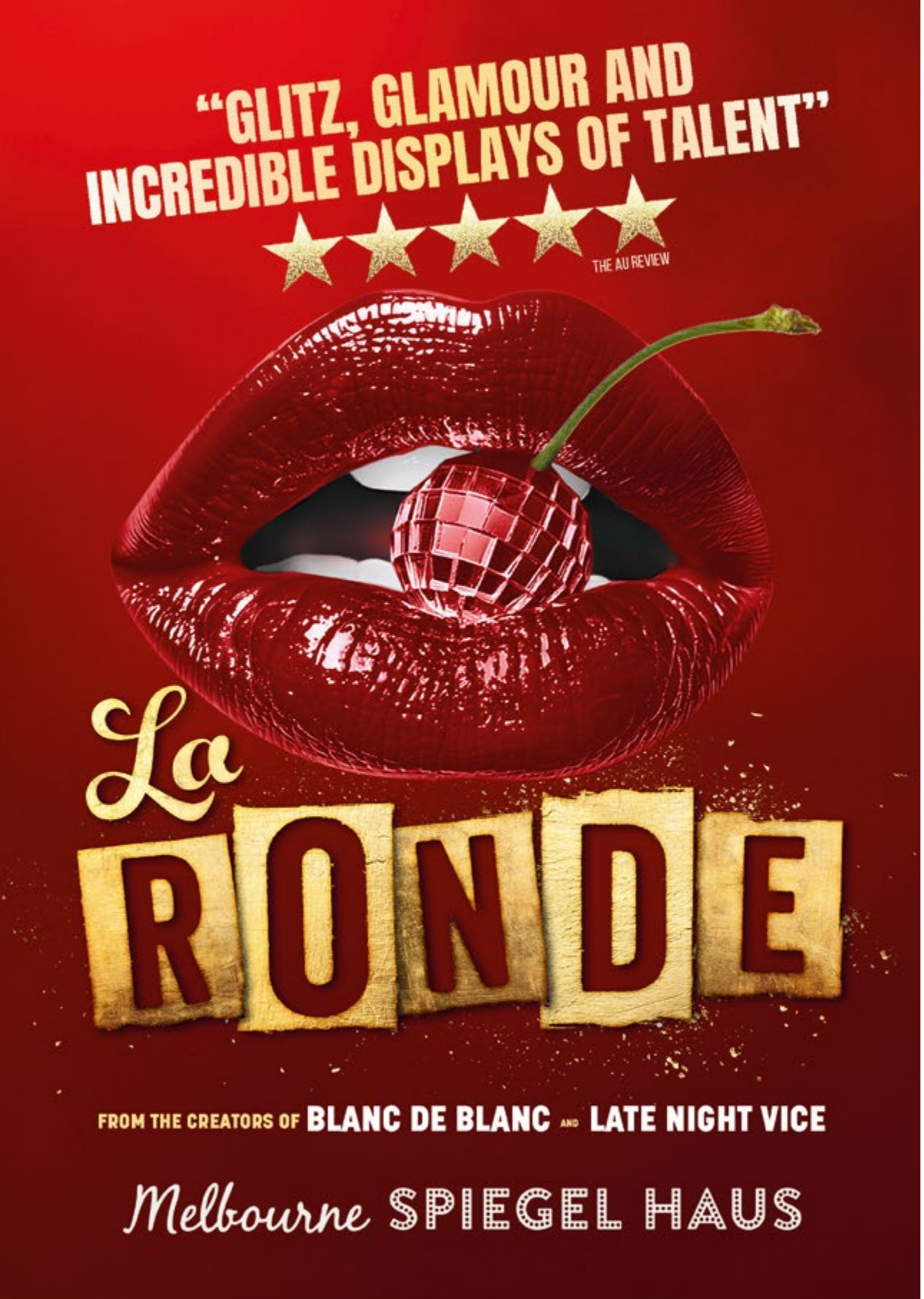
Bluestone Church Arts Space, Footscray

27-30 Jan	
Wed-Sat 7-8:30pm | Sat 2:30-4pm	
Evening: $35 full | $28 conc Matinee: $30 full | $25 conc	

Love Letter to the 90s

Queer anthems, true stories and one unforgettable decade

True stories of queer life in Australia meet the anthems that defined a generation. Join Cherry Charleston and her fabulous singers for a funny, moving and nostalgic celebration of first love, chosen family, dance party shenanigans and the fight to be seen. Expect powerhouse vocals, big laughs and plenty of chances to sing along.



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Variety



Magnifica Splendido

Local talent meets Italo Disco in one gloriously camp spectacle with All The Queens Men

Inspired by Italy's iconic TV variety show Fantastico, Magnifica Splendido brings its resplendent, camp spirit to Midsumma. This homage to Raffaella Carrà will mix Italo Disco, queer spectacle, local talent, high kicks, pizza dough and glorious live-TV style chaos.

Bunjil Place, Narre Warren

30 Jan — 3hrs

Sat 6pm

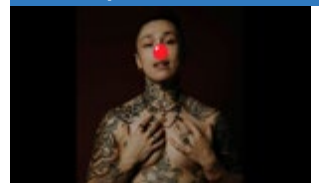
FREE

Presented by Open Space at Bunjil Place & Midsumma Festival

Image: by Sam McGilp

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Comedy



Masking

Sex, Autism and clowning: the masks we wear to survive

Sex worker. Gay icon. Clown. Parent. Autistic asf.

Charlie has spent a lifetime learning how to perform. MASKING is a chaotic, hilarious and vulnerable dive into the masks we all wear, why we wear them and what happens when they finally come off.

Northcote Town Hall MAIN HALL, Northcote

23-24 Jan — 1hr

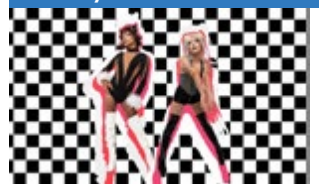
Sat, Sun 6:45pm

$30 full | $25 conc | $35 a little extra | $15 First Nations

Presented by Daddy Charles / Charlie Wan and Crown Jewels

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Variety



MoCo Variety Night

The next generation of Blak Drag

Local legends the Motherless Collective (MoCo) return with a deadly variety night, showcasing Naarm's hottest talent of First Nations drag artists and performers.

Victorian Pride Centre - Theatrette, St Kilda

5 Feb — 2hrs

Fri 7:30pm

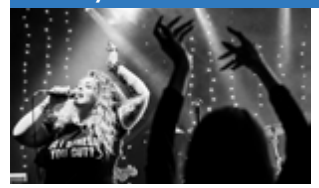
$20 full | $10 conc | $0 First Nations

Presented by The Motherless Collective (MoCo)

Image: by Francis Kaeo @kaeostudio

REGIONAL EVENT

Variety



Mornington Peninsula QUEERMAS

A big gay Christmas party with friends and chosen family

Celebrate queer joy, chosen-family, and camp festive chaos! Live music, drag, burlesque, and a safe, glitter-soaked space for anyone who finds the holidays heavy.

Where connection, celebration and community magic come together to create a space that feels like home.

The Pelly Bar, Frankston

11 Dec — 4hrs

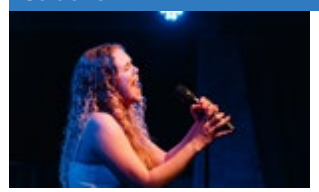
Fri 8pm

$35 full + booking fee

Presented by Victoria's Pride | Victorian Government and Midsumma Festival | Jessi And The Jetts

Image: by Suzanne Phoenix

Cabaret



Mx Tape What Makes Them/They

Thoroughly Modern Millie meets Bo Burnham with a touch of Carrie Underwood

They say life isn't a musical, but Cassie Ogle has always had a soundtrack. Get to know this non binary, bi, belting, newcomer through a personalised live mix tape (oop sorry, Mx. Tape). Musical theatre, jazz, and pop melodies interwoven with ridiculous true stories, all set against the backdrop of Naarm's beautiful skyline at The Beacon this Midsumma.

Melbourne Recital Centre - Peter and Ruth McMullin Beacon, Southbank

28 Jan — 1hr 30m

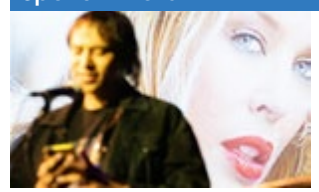
Thu 8:30pm

$45 full | $40 conc

Presented by Melbourne Recital Centre

Image: by Cameron Jones

Spoken Word



My Formative Queers

Stories of the music videos that made us gay

MFQ's back! Presenting heartwarming and hilarious tales from a new line up of storytellers sharing the music videos that ignited, informed and confirmed the glorious queers they were to become. One show only!

"The most moving, inspirational event I've seen in Melbourne" - Queer View Mirror

Howler, Brunswick

30 Jan — 1hr 45m

Sat 2pm

$30 full | $25 conc | $20 group (min 6) | $10 First Nations

Image: by Archibald McGill

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Cabaret



Northcote Town Hall STUDIO ONE, Northcote

22-23 Jan	1hr
Fri 8pm | Sat 2:45pm	
$30 full | $25 conc | $35 a little extra | $15 First Nations	
Presented by Nolan Void/Piano Punk and Crown Jewels	

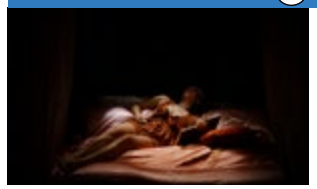
PiaNu-Metal

A tale of Nu-Metal and Nu-Masculinity

The unauthorised and completely biased history of Nu-Metal. Revisit the highs and lows of the late 90s and early 2000s: the suburban angst, the rampant sexism, and the chain wallets. Your guide on this journey is Nolan Void, a Drag King who also happens to be a classically-trained pianist, vocalist, and niche music history buff.

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Theatre



Gasworks - Main Theatre, Albert Park

20-23 Jan	1hr
Wed-Sat 7pm | Thu, Sat 2pm | Auslan: Fri 22 Jan 7pm | Captioned: All	
$30 full | $25 conc | $20 group (min 4)	
Presented by Gasworks Creative Precinct, Midsumma Festival & Pillow Fight Theatre | Image by Nory	

Pillow Talk

Sapphic pain poems to fall into bed with

Created and performed by Jamila Main, Pillow Talk invites you under the covers to share in the candid, heady flares of queer, disabled love and pain. A sapphic love story entwines in the same bed where disabled bodies rest, flare & recover. Poems of pain & pleasure chart the joys and agonies of queer, disabled love and lust, with dreamy 3D animations lovingly crafted by Nory (How to Eat Rabbit) to accompany this theatrical love letter.

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Variety



Northcote Town Hall MAIN HALL, Northcote

22 Jan	1hr
Fri 9:15pm | Opening night: Don that stache, get weird with that gender - make sure to dress your draggy best.	
$40 full | $35 conc | $45 a little extra | $15 First Nations	
Presented by Pip Stachio, Nolan Void, Crown Jewels & Midsumma	

Plunge - Crown Jewels Opening Night Gala

A late night gala showcase of Crown Jewels Artists; where Drag Kings and Things make a splash

We have let the performers loose on their repertoire and told them to bring their silliest, most ridiculous acts so expect the unexpected. If you don't know how to choose which shows you want to see at Crown Jewels, this is the place to get a taste.

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Comedy



Next Wave — Brunswick Mechanics Institute, Brunswick

4-6 Feb	1hr
Thu-Sat 7pm	
$44 full | $37 conc | $30 group (min 4) | $24.99 youth (12-25) | $15 First Nations | $55 Patron to the Arse | $34 Merri-bek Locals	
Presented by PO PO MO CO & Midsumma Festival	

PO PO MO CO's Best Bits

Ten years of outrageous queer physical comedy

Intelligent, puerile and wet-your-pants funny. Experience the best bits of PO PO MO CO's ten-year oeuvre of anarchic physical comedy. These outrageous femme queer clowns dare to play where no nip has slipped before.

Image by Theresa Harrison.

"What the truck!? That was AWESOME!" ★★★★★ *- The Adelaide Hipster 2026*

Cabaret



Wyndham Cultural Centre, Werribee

5 Feb	2hrs
Fri 7:30pm	
$49 full | $39 conc | $39 First Nations	
Presented by Shalom Kaa	

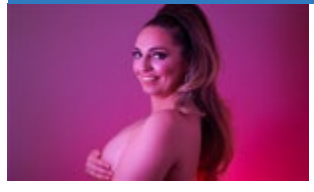
Purple Plastic Maori

Award-winning queer Māori cabaret packed with comedy, music and haka

Shalom Kaa's queer Māori cabaret about identity, culture & belonging. Blending comedy, live music, outrageous storytelling, dance and unexpected vulnerability, it's hilarious, heartfelt and fabulously hard to categorise. Come for the comedy, stay for the music — and by the end: everyone does the Haka.

★★★★ *– Adelaide Theatre Guide*

Cabaret



Melbourne Recital Centre - Peter and Ruth McMullin Beacon, Southbank

5 Feb	1hr 30m
Fri 8:30pm	
$45 full | $40 conc	
Image: by Jens Radda	

Pursuing Pleasure

'Welcome to all my secrets.'

Opera singer turned curvaceous cabaret cantatrice Piera invites audiences the intimate truths of her body and mind in Pursuing Pleasure - a sexy, deeply human solo cabaret. With a voice that moves effortlessly between Puccini and Cardi B, Piera combines extraordinary vocal versatility with candid storytelling, humour for her audiences. Come for the powerhouse voice. Stay for the secrets, the silliness and the hope.

Comedy



Pride of our Footscray Community Bar, Footscray

21 Jan	2hrs
Thu 7pm	
$29 full | $22 conc	

Queer Comedy Gala

The loudest and proudest comedy in the west!

Our annual Queer Comedy Gala is back, showcasing seven of our favourite LGBTQIA+ comedians!

Join us for an evening of cocktails, pizza, and plenty of laughter.

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Spoken Word



Conversation Quarter State Library Victoria, Melbourne

28 Jan	3hrs
Thu 6:30pm | Auslan: Available on Request	
$24 full | $21 conc | $10 First Nations	
Presented by State Library Victoria with Midsumma Festival	
Image: by Sevim Dogan Ozkan	

Queer Joy

Award-winning comedian Nelly Thomas hosts a lineup of storytelling and performance

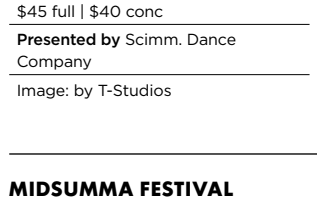
Join us at State Library Victoria for an unforgettable evening of Queer Joy.

Hosted by award-winning comedian Nelly Thomas this celebration brings together an exceptional lineup of storytellers for a night of heartfelt, affirming and joyful stories from (and for) our community.

Lineup to be announced soon.

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Theatre



Gasworks - Main Theatre, Albert Park

18 Jan	2hrs
Mon 7pm	
$25 full | $22 conc	
Presented by Gasworks Creative Precinct and Midsumma Festival	
Image: by Georgia Wiggs, Tom Ballard's The Coral Sea, QPAS winner 2024	

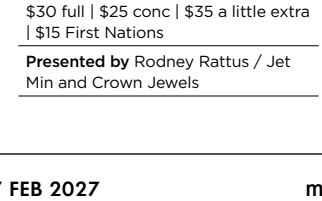
Queer Playwriting Award Showcase

See the next generation of Queer storytelling first

Each year Gasworks Creative Precinct partners with Midsumma for the Queer Playwriting Award, providing the opportunity for leading playwrights to present excerpts of works in progress. Help choose the winning script from our finalists: Addy Fawcett (FANGIN' IT), Domenica Garrett (Send Nudes, A New Musical), Samuel Gaskin (GOOD PEOPLE) & Tuia Suter (Pussy Pie)!

REGIONAL EVENT

Spoken Word



Garfield Picture Theatre, Garfield

6 Feb	5hrs
Sat 2pm	
$20 full | $15 conc | $0 First Nations	
Presented by Victoria's Pride | Victorian Government and Midsumma Festival | Ine Dambo and Third Space Narrative. Queerness in Colour	

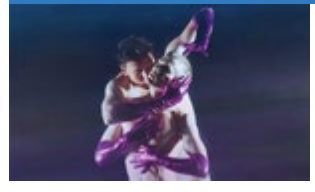
Queerness In Colour: Spoken Word Event

Queerness is so much better spoken in colour

Queerness in Colour is a live spoken word event in Garfield (West Gippsland) featuring queer, First Nations, and culturally and racially marginalised artists sharing storytelling, performance, and reflection through an intersectional lens.

Image: by Third Space Narrative

Dance



Dancehouse - Sylvia Staehli Theatre, Carlton North

21-23 Jan	1hr
Thu-Sat 7pm	
$45 full | $40 conc	
Presented by Scimm. Dance Company	
Image: by T-Studios	

Reflector

A visceral contemporary dance double bill of identity, intimacy and the human gaze

Two works. One charged conversation about identity, desire and the human gaze. Scimm. Dance Company pairs the bold, high-fashion world of Reflector with the intimate queer storytelling of Q in a visceral contemporary dance double bill.

"Scimm. Dance Company reaches into exacting and technical precision." – Dance Informa

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Cabaret



Northcote Town Hall STUDIO ONE, Northcote

23-24 Jan	1hr
Sat, Sun 8pm	
$30 full | $25 conc | $35 a little extra | $15 First Nations	
Presented by Rodney Rattus / Jet Min and Crown Jewels	

Rodney Rattus' After Dark Cabaret

A night of music and chaos, hosted by a Rat-Man in a suit and his talented friends

Enter the unpredictable world of Rodney Rattus - a chaos Daemon who is the most charming Rat-Man in a suit you'll ever meet! In this bold, genre-blurring cabaret, this business rat brings you a classic night of songs, laughter and a little bit of chaos.

CMA Presents in association with Arts Centre Melbourne & Midsumma Festival

ELECTRIC FIELDS WITH THE AUSTRALIAN QUEER ORCHESTRA



TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

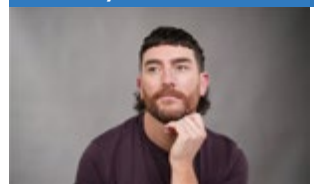
4 & 5 FEB • ARTS CENTRE MELBOURNE

cma

Arts Centre Melbourne

midsumma festival

Comedy



Samuel Roberts - When You Win

A new comedy cabaret!

Grouse Melbourne - Room 7, Fitzroy

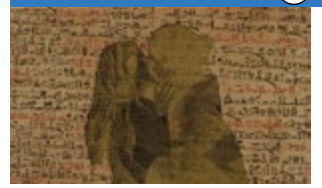
28-30 Jan	1hr
Thu-Sat 7:30pm	
$35 full | $32 conc	

Image: by Ghanem

After touring the country with his fabulous football show, F.A.A.G, a country coming out story, Samuel is back to tell you what comes after. A brand new hour of musical comedy - focusing on life, love and things that kick up his stink. With stories and new songs that you will be humming weeks after.

"insightful...raw...pointedly relevant" ★★★★ *- Hugging Comedians*

Theatre



Searching for Sappho

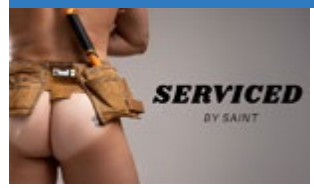
An exploration of ancient queer history, set in a modern love story

The Motley Bauhaus - Theatrette, Carlton

1-7 Feb	1hr
Mon-Sun 8:30pm | Relaxed: 3 Feb 8:30pm | Captioned: 3 Feb 8:30pm	
$29 full | $19 conc | $22 group (min 4) | $10 First Nations	
Presented by The Other Monet Productions	

Ten years ago, Liv and Salome wrote a bestselling Sappho translation, but a last-minute change to the manuscript tore their friendship apart. Today, with the media outside their door, Liv and Salome must come together to reckon with the consequences of that long-ago choice, for their own lives and for how they depicted Sappho's.

Cabaret



SERVICED

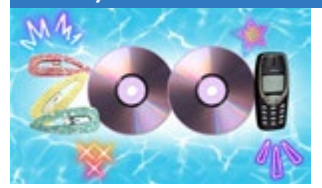
MUSCLES, MISCHIEF AND MENTAL HEALTH - ALL IN ONE SERVICE

SPIEGEL HAUS MELBOURNE - Empire Theatre, Melbourne

5-6 Feb	1hr
Fri, Sat 9:30pm | lock out period applies, feel free to dress up in whatever masculinity means to you.	
$30 full | $22 conc | $25 group (min 4) | $25 group (min 6) | $22 First Nations	
Presented by Saint	

Part sexy mechanic's garage, part community service, SERVICED is an all-masc presenting cabaret where the boys are bringing the tools, the talent, and absolutely no shame. Expect circus, burlesque, live singing and sideshow mayhem, all delivered with a generous dose of grease, glamour and good old-fashioned camp.

Variety



SO FRESH: THE HITS OF SUMMER 2001

Hosted by Samuel Roberts & Wes Snelling

Grouse Front Bar

30 Jan	3hrs
Sat 4pm	
$44 full | $38 conc	

A queer party. Special guests perform and interpret the album track listing of 'So Fresh: The Hits of Summer 2001' in order, in its entirety.

That's all.

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Interactive Performance



Step By Step - Dancealong

A dancealong journey through pop culture history

Brunswick Ballroom, Brunswick

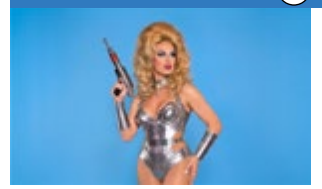
4 Feb	1hr
Thu Doors 6.30pm for Dinner, & Show 8pm (1hr)	
From $34.99	
Presented by Midsumma Festival, HeyDowling & Brunswick Ballroom	

Image: by Aaron Walker

A fully immersive dance party charting the songs and moves that have shaped the last century of pop culture. From the Macarena to YMCA, from the Conga to the Hustle; our fabulous dance captains will guide you through a time-warping journey with moves you know, and some you don't. It's your move.

Doors 6:30pm, Show 8pm.

Theatre



Stroppy Queens

Finding your voice never sounded so fabulous!

Gasworks - Studio Theatre, Albert Park

27-30 Jan, 1-4 Feb	1hr
Mon-Fri 6:30pm | Sat 1pm+6:30pm | Relaxed: 1 Feb 6:30pm | Captioned: 1-3 Feb 6:30pm	
$36 full | $28 conc | $20 First Nations	
Presented by Gary Helmore	

Drama. Divas. Disaster. STROPPY QUEENS is a camp comedy about queer resilience, artistic ambition and what we do for the spotlight. Channelling 'Barbarella', David finds his voice in rapid-fire humour, drag and pop-art absurdity, as friends and queer elders roast him, rally behind him and remind him the hardest performance is simply being himself.

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Dance



Sun Cut: a lover's dictionary

A mesmerising epic

Sun Cut: a lover's dictionary is a living lexicon drawing from 'Lesbian Peoples: Materials for a Dictionary' by Monique Wittig and Sandie Zeig. Come and go as the performance shapes and embodies the dictionary's 366 entries moving word by word, body by body. "Like an alchemic reaction, simple movements are transfigured into fabulating, imaginative images." ★★★★★ - Dancing Sydney

Dancehouse - Upstairs Studio, Carlton North

5-6 Feb | 2hrs 30m

Fri 6:30pm | Sat 4pm | Relaxed: All

$29 full | $24 conc | $39 donor | $19 First Nations

Presented by Dancehouse & Midsumma Festival

Image: by Stine Sampers

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Cabaret



Temple After Dark

From the award-winning creators of Temple of Desire

Cross the threshold into an after-hours playground of sensual dance, gender-defiant burlesque, and euphoric performance from an all-queer and trans cast of artists of colour and their allies.

Sultry, provocative, politically charged and gloriously unfiltered, Temple After Dark is equal parts club night, performance and celebration.

Northcote Town Hall MAIN HALL, Northcote

29-30 Jan | 3hrs

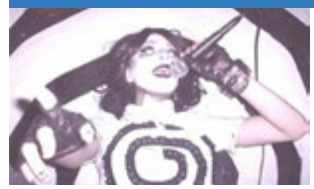
Fri, Sat 8pm

$70 full | $60 conc | $80 donor

Presented by Midsumma Festival & Karma Dance

Image: by @carlinandcamera

Theatre



The Night Flower

A sad girl gig from your sad clown nightmares

A music, poetry, clowning & performance art piece of theatre. Created by Victoria Angelique Mertzanidis, it amalgamates the cacophonous turmoil of drowning in disorientating and devastating emotion. Deeply Divulging into the confluence of neurodivergence, queerness and perceptions of womanhood; braided into an ornate bow.

"An impressive thing to witness" - Praise Dionysus

The Motley Bauhaus - Theatrette, Carlton

20-24 Jan | 1hr

Wed-Sun 8:30pm | Captioned: all

$35 full | $32 conc | $25 group (min 6) | $15 First Nations

Presented by The Orderly Chaotic Theatre Company

Image: by Skye Wilhelmina

Cabaret



The Rocky Horror Picture Show Shadowcast with The Pelvic Thrusts

You might have seen Rocky Horror before... but it's THE PELVIC THRUSTS that drive you insane!

Join Melbourne's Most Notorious Shadow Cast, THE PELVIC THRUSTS, for a wild Rocky Horror Picture Show shadow cast screening! Dress up, sing, dance and shout call-backs at this cult classic. Showbags available, prizes for best dressed, and audience participation encouraged.

Wyndham Cultural Centre, Werribee

6 Feb | 1hr 40m

Sat 7:30pm

$30 full | $25 conc

Presented by Wyndham Cultural Centre Theatre and The Pelvic Thrusts

Image: by Lucky Frawley @ luckyfrawleyphotography

Comedy



The Ex Files: A Comedy True Crime Tour

Award-winning comedian Matt Bell unravels Melbourne's most sinister dating crime

Melbourne has a dark secret and only one gay man knows where the bodies are buried. Join this scandalous walking tour to uncover one of the city's most shocking true crimes - a tale of desire & dating gone horribly wrong.

'An extremely talented comedian.' ★★★★★ *- The AU Review*

Melbourne Town Hall Corner, Melbourne

28-30 Jan | 1hr 10m

Thu-Sat 7:30pm

$25 full | $20 conc

Comedy



The House

The final four contestants. One very big problem.

The final four contestants in new reality show 'The House' claim they're best friends, family even. But with a looming elimination, and voting underway, cracks begin to appear, and the facade begins to fail.

"Rapid wit, face aching comedy and a brave statement on human rights" ★★★★★ *- Theatre Matters*

Theory Bar, Melbourne CBD

30 Jan | 1hr

Sat 6pm

FREE

Presented by Andy Balloch

Image: by Andy Balloch

Spoken Word



The Threads Between Us

What if the smallest moments in our lives are the ones that change everything?

The Threads Between Us weaves poetry and original songs through synchronicity, roads not taken, chosen family and unexpected connections. Warm and intimate, it invites us to wonder at the people, choices and seemingly ordinary moments that ripple through our lives, and how something small can change everything.

The Motley Bauhaus - Theatrette, Carlton

6 Feb | Sat 5:45pm | 1hr

see @joannaevenvenn on instagram for accessibility info.

$32 full | $27 conc | $25 First Nations | $25 group (min 4)

Presented by Joanna Evervenn

Image: by Brendan Bonsack

Theatre



The Tree

A tree with schizophrenia

"The Tree" is a night of story telling, comedy, music and schizophrenia. Following the journey of a little tree aka Ruairí O'Keeffe, the audience will visit wonders of the world, mind and soul. At its heart this is a trans story and a retelling of becoming in a world that may or may not be ready for acceptance.

The Motley Bauhaus - Cabaret Stage, Carlton

18-24 Jan | 1hr

Mon-Sun 7pm

$35 full | $32 conc

Presented by Ruairí O'Keeffe

Image: by Hannah Cameron

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Cabaret



The Joocee Details

Step into 2Joocee's secret speakeasy!

Brimming with vivacious vocals and their comedy sequined wit, the multi-talented 2Joocee is here to entertain with an evening of pure guilty pleasures.

Complete with an entourage of guests in tow, this is a fresh hour of songs and scoops from one of our finest!

Produced by Thomas Bevan and Wes Snelling

SPIEGEL HAUS MELBOURNE - Empire Theatre, Melbourne

22-23 Jan | 1hr

Fri 8pm | Sat 6:30pm

full $28 | conc $25 | group (min 4) $25 | First Nations $10

Presented by Spiegel Haus & Midsumma Festival

Image: by Sea Smoke Alchemy

Theatre



The Last Song

A tender queer love story about ageing, loss and survival

On a final morning in the home he shared with Hugh, Alex looks back on love, music, chosen family and survival. Tender, witty and deeply moving, The Last Song is a new Australian solo play about queer love, mortality, memory and the people who make a life worth living.

Theatre Works, St Kilda

19-23 Jan | 1hr

Tue-Sat 7:30pm | Opening night party and Q&A sessions with Matt Scholten and Ben Grant: Tue 19 Jan 7:30pm

$40 full | $30 conc

Presented by If Theatre

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Theatre



THEY WILL BE KINGS

The SMASH HIT, SOLD OUT show from Sydney - THEY WILL BE KINGS – comes to NARRM

A performance work about the politics of joy, power and gender. The show unpacks the contemporary stereotypes of trans & gender diversity, from the perspective of trans-masc, non-binary and lesbian Drag Kings. THEY WILL BE KINGS works to rewrite the queer history of 21st Century Australia.

Image: by Tanja Bruckner

Fed Square - The Edge, Melbourne CBD

5 Feb | 1hr

Fri 8pm | Join the cast and director for a panel discussion following the show

FREE

Presented by Fed Square & Midsumma Festival

Cabaret



Tina's Lucky Dip

An unpredictable spectacle of wit, chaos, and fabulousness

An entire show built from scratch in one hour! Special guests create a new routine with a random topic and art-form they pull out of Tina's fishbowl. All the while Tina entertains. And all within 60 mins.

Hosted by Tina Del Twist with a bevy of esteemed guests.

Wednesdays. 7.30pm. Grouse.

Grouse Melbourne - Room 7, Fitzroy

20 Jan, 27 Jan, 3 Feb | 1hr

Wed 7:30pm

$25 full | $20 conc | $18 group (min 4)

Presented by Grouse Melbourne

Image: by Joel Devereux

BENDIGO PRIDE FESTIVAL

2ND - 11TH APRIL 2027

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MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Cabaret



Circus Centre Melbourne, Collingwood

4-6 Feb	1hr
Thu-Sat 8pm	
$35 full | $28 conc | $33 group (min 4) | $20 First Nations	
Presented by Midsumma Festival	
Image: Joel Devereux	

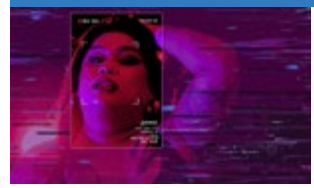
Too Much

Lilikoi Kaos - The Hawaiian Hurricane - is going solo, and she's not going quietly

After a Multi-Award winning season, TOO MUCH is the show to be seen. Lilikoi astounds with her incredible circus skills, charismatic storytelling and immaculate comedic timing. You will laugh, cry and beg for more. Too Much simmers with the molten force of Pasifika heritage, a joyful reckoning with legacy, difference, and defiance. ★★★★★ "Whirlwind of talent"- Hugging Comedians

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Theatre



Fringe Common Rooms, Carlton

21-22 Jan	1hr
Thu, Fri 7pm	
$20 full | $15 conc	
Presented by Tayo Tayo Collective, Aperture Productions & Midsumma Festival	
Image: by Tayo Tayo Collective	

Trans Tapes: The Last Trans Actress (A Staged Reading)

Three trans actresses. One role. The last one.

Three trans actresses audition for an AI building the last trans role anyone will ever play. Every prior performance is already scheduled for deletion. Only one of them survives the archive.

Cabaret



Chapel Off Chapel - The Loft, Prahran

30 Jan	1hr 10m
Sat 7:30pm	
$65 full | $60 conc	
Presented by Goddess Of Pop - A Tribute To CHER	
Image: by David Lam	

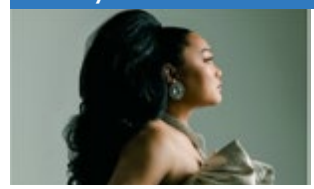
'Welcome To Burlesque' LIVE CABARET SHOW

Inspired by the Iconic CHER movie!

Inspired by the 2010 film starring Cher and Christina Aguilera, Welcome To Burlesque – LIVE CABARET SHOW brings iconic soundtrack hits, modern music, live vocals, dance, burlesque and Vegas glamour to the stage with a fresh twist.

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Variety



ACCA - Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Southbank

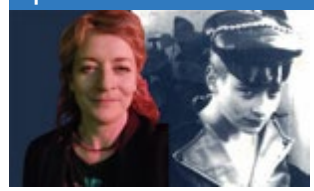
29 Jan	3hrs 30m
Fri 6:30pm	
FREE	
Presented by ACCA & Midsumma Festival	
Image: by Meagan Harding	

WERK: SERVE with Aysha Buffet

A Night of Queer Performance with Guest Curator, Hostess, and Headliner Aysha Buffet

The second instalment in ACCA's new series, WERK: SERVE is a one-night living exhibition curated by Trans Drag icon, Aysha Buffet. Following the success of WERK: Tough Love with Kween Kong, SERVE promises a bold celebration of drag and queer performance.

Spoken Word



Victorian Pride Centre - Theatrette, St Kilda

4 Feb	2hrs
Thu 7pm	
$40 full | $25 conc	
Presented by Tiger Salmon	
Image: Tiger 2024 & 1989	

Wicked Words

Showcasing stories that centre trans strength, resilience, and outrageous queer beauty

A delicious storytelling event that continues the legacy of Wicked Women by celebrating dyke and trans beauty in all its guises.

Come along to hear trailblazers tell tales about our raucous queer heritage then gird your loins for some contemporary erotica.

Comedy



The Graveyard Bar, Melbourne

19-20 Jan, 23-24 Jan	1hr
Tue, Wed 7:30pm | Sat 2pm | Sun 6pm	
$30 full | $20 conc	
Image: by Liam Johnston	

Window is my name

Audience is apparently not North Queenslanders??

She's a hack of all trades and she's a Jack of all trade... But she's also in a LOOOONG term relationship and has young kids now, so gone are the juicy bits with anyone to share her hacky-jacky bits... there's possibly a double entendre in there somewhere?! From accidentally topping the Sex Industry to bottoming the domestic duties... Jess Window has accidentally had a big fat life so far!



Music

Image: IQONS. P22

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Popular Music



Electric Fields with the Australian Queer Orchestra

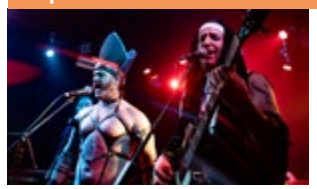
2 shows only

Fresh off releasing new material, Electric Fields return to Melbourne during Midsumma with two very special shows accompanied by the Australian Queer Orchestra at the newly renovated Ian Potter State Theatre at Arts Centre Melbourne. Expect an 'emotionally moving and breathtaking' performance guaranteed to get you up on your feet.

Arts Centre Melbourne - Ian Potter State Theatre, Southbank

4-5 Feb	2hrs
Thu, Fri 7pm	
Tickets available from Arts Centre Melbourne	
Presented by CMA in association with Arts Centre Melbourne & Midsumma Festival	

Popular Music



Father Daddy

Queer Pop Uncoded

Queer-coded not cutting it any more? Singing honestly about gay stuff, 'His Eminence' sheds shame (and clothing) while ploughing through original cabaret numbers, pop bangers, and good old fashioned, tits-out, Aussie rock 'n' roll.

Wheat, Wine & Whisky, Collingwood

4 Feb	1hr
Thu 7pm	
$20 full | $15 conc	
Presented by BVM Records	
Image: by 3chordimages / Shotkickers	

Folk



Goddess Grooves - Finale

Goddess Grooves - Finale. Midsumma's premier Women's Music event

Five lesbian singer/songwriters on stage together in a scintillating round robin of song. Michelle Chandler, Chris Falk, Michelle Parsons, Ruth Katerelos and Monique Kenny. An eclectic mix of Rock, Folk, Jazz, Blues ... impromptu harmonies, evocative storytelling, laughter, tears, camaraderie and a cover or two. Audiences rave. Don't Miss it.

Brunswick Ballroom, Brunswick

21 Jan	3hrs 30m
Thu 6:30pm	
$32 full	
Image: by Michele Bennett	

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Classical



Homophonic!

Bringing the disco ball to the concert hall: new music by queer composers

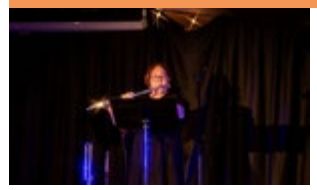
Homophonic! invites you to experience the entrancing sound world of todays LGBTQIA+ composers. Performed by the Homophonic! Chamber Ensemble and The Consort of Melbourne. Featuring the world premiere of The Homophonic! Pride Prize recipient Leila Harris, performed by Niki Johnson.

"Creates nothing less than musical utopia." - Stage Whispers

Gasworks - Main Theatre, Albert Park

5-6 Feb | 2hrs | Relaxed matinee 1hr	
Fri 7pm | Sat 11am | Sat 5pm	
evening: $38 full | $30 conc | $30 group (min 4) | $60 art lover matinee: $25 full | $20 conc	
Presented by Gasworks Creative Precinct, Midsumma Festival & Homophonic! | Image by Darren Gill	

Classical



Radiant Music

Contemporary flute music by LGBTQIA composers

Join flutist Melanie Walters for an eclectic performance of contemporary solo music by LGBTQIA+ composers. Program includes music by Yoshi Weinberg, Timothy Hagen, Eve Beglarian, Cameron Lam and Nico Muhly.

"Mesmerising and inspiring" ★★★★★ *-Fringe Feed (Perth)* ★★★★★ *-The Advertiser*

The Motley Bauhaus - The Cellar, Carlton

23 Jan	1hr
Sat 7:15pm	
$30 full | $20 conc | $15 group (min 4) | $10 First Nations	
Presented by Melanie Walters	
Image: by Missy Smiley	

Soul



Tribe by the Sea

Tribe Soundsystem beach party starting with yoga and sound healing in the morning to celebrate the Autumn equinox and pride, with dancing into the sunset and the line-up to be announced.

South Beach Reserve, St Kilda

31 Jan	
Sun 9am-8pm	
$10 full	
Presented by Tribe Soundsystem	
Image: by Harrison Baker	

Soul



Tribe Soundsystem

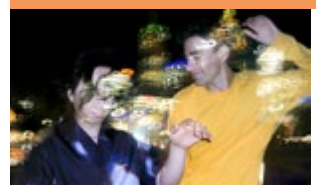
Tribe Sound system and Wildlife join forces for a day of disco to techno

Tribe Soundsystem and Wildlife join forces for a day of disco to house, featuring Zepherin Saint and Jnett, with more DJs to be announced.

South Beach Reserve, St Kilda

30 Jan	10hrs
Sat Midday	
$60 full | $ 50 group (min 4)	
Presented by Tribe Soundsystem	
Image: by Harrison Baker	

Classical



Wasted Light

Two pianists celebrate queer composers with washes of sound, gossamer harmonies, and electric text

Ronan Apcar and Po Goh join forces in a two piano concert of contemporary music meditating on queer joy, love, and identity. Hear a rare performance of music from New York City's Julius Eastman alongside two Australian works from composers Connor D'Netto and Bryn Renard, this concert is a nostalgic and candid expression of the complexities of queerness.

Melbourne Recital Centre - Primrose Potter Salon, Southbank

28 Jan	1hr 30m
Thu 7pm	
$45 full | $40 conc	
Image: by Jasmine Milton	



Image: Deep Fried Disco. P69



Visual Arts

Image: Soft Static. P52

Exhibition



A Little Peckish

Immerse yourself in the winsome world of illustrator Paul Smith (Ballsy Creative)

Satisfy your appetite for cute at this delightful exhibition. Feast your eyes on a colourful mix of prints that serve up whimsical cartoon critters, boisterous Australian birds, radiant rainbows, sweet treats and enchanting images of Elwood.

Kremma Cafe, Elwood

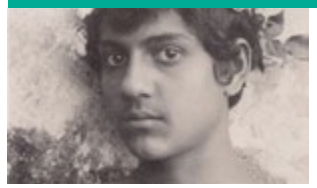
18-31 Jan

Mon-Sat 7am-2pm | Sun 7:30am-1pm

FREE

Image: by Ballsy Creative

Exhibition



An Incomplete Survey of Gay Photography

From the XYZ Photo Gallery Collection

A dive into the gallery's stockroom and collection. Featuring photographs from the last 150 years will be on the wall, along with some rare books. See how far we have come and see the artists that have come before us. This is not a complete history but what has been collected so far.

XYZ Photo Gallery, Docklands

17 Jan, 21-24 Jan, 28-31 Jan, 4-7 Feb

Thu-Sun 1-6pm

FREE

Presented by XYZ Photo Gallery

Image: by Guglielmo von Plüschow

Public Art



Beneath the Surface

Beneath the Surface, by young local queer artist Ruby Ripps, depicts distorted and mutated fish people. While fantastical, it represents the mistreatment of our oceans and its effect on our marine life.

The exhibition is presented at Airtime, a temporary public art space across a series of large-scale flags at Altona Meadows Skate Park.

Airtime, Altona Meadows

17 Jan-7 Feb

Daily, 24 hrs

FREE

Presented by Hobsons Bay City Council

Image: by Ruby Ripps

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Exhibition



Digital Fantasy

Digital Fantasy is a survey of self through Y2K nostalgia and adolescence in the digital age

Using oil painting, low-fi video, and hand-painted ceramics, Chira Grasby explores her associations with early 2000s internet culture. Her works are informed by meme culture, digital ephemera, and memory. She paints on unconventional surfaces such as circuit boards and computer parts. Chira Grasby was awarded the Bundoora Homestead Art Prize at the Midsumma Art Award 2026.

Bundoora Homestead Art Centre, Bundoora

20-23 Jan, 27-30 Jan, 3-6 Feb

Wed-Fri 11am-4pm | Sat 10am-5pm

FREE

Presented by Bundoora Homestead Art Centre & Midsumma Festival

Image: Chira Grasby, Self in Hyperlink Blue, 2026

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Exhibition



Digital Narratives

Where do you stand?

The age of information is now, but is it inherently Indigenous? Are First Nation futures able to be digitised or are our futures handmade? Oral tradition and stories, are they able to be stored on the cloud? Are they in code? Is the internet fluid enough to flow like our waterways, or is it simply consuming all of our remaining clean water with its data centres? What does it look like to coincide; is there resistance or embrace?

Incinerator Gallery, Aberfeldie

30 Jan-28 Mar

Wed-Sat 11am-4pm
Auslan: Opening: Fri 29 Jan 6pm

FREE

Presented by Motherless Collective, Incinerator Gallery & Midsumma Festival

Image: by Motherless Collective

Exhibition



Feel Something

Solo presentation by visual artist, Jess Kease aka 23rd Key

Jess Kease aka 23rd Key's exhibition brings together stencils and new works. She draws on experiences of coming of age as a queer person in the 1990s and 2000s. Kease examines identity through the lens of pop-culture at the emergence of the internet era.

Stencil Art Workshop — Sat 6 Feb 1:30-3:30pm: For 13 to 25 year-olds, Nillumbik Youth Hub, Diamond Creek.

Eltham Library Community Gallery, Eltham

22 Jan- 28 Feb

Mon-Thu 9am-9pm | Fri 9am-6pm
Sat, Sun 10am-5pm
Opening: 28 Jan 6:30-8:30pm
Workshop: 6 Feb 1:30-3:30pm

FREE | Image: by Jess Kease

Presented by Nillumbik Shire Council

Exhibition



GAVIN BROWN AT LENNOX ST GALLERY

'Stay on the Path'

My work is constantly evolving and I am forever refining it. Each new body of work reflects something of my prior show, but it also explores several new directions, be that in technique, mood or vision.

Collage has long been the basis for most of my work and I tend to derive my source material from advertising and popular culture media.

Lennox St. Gallery, Richmond

19-23 Jan, 26-30 Jan

Tue-Fri 11am-6pm | Sat 11am-5pm | Opening: 16 Jan 2-4pm

FREE

Presented by Lennox St. Gallery

Image: Courtesy the Artist and Lennox St. Gallery

Exhibition



Glenn Walls: Everything is going to be ok?

Tracing Melbourne's forgotten queer landscapes of connection and loss

Discover Melbourne's hidden queer histories through immersive sculptural installations that reveal stories of LGBTQI+ community, resilience, loss and remembrance embedded within the city's public spaces.

MPavilion, Melbourne

17 Jan

Sun 10am-4pm

FREE

Presented by Supported by Swinburne University School of Design and Architecture

Image: by Glenn Walls

Exhibition



Group Show : SOULS

Art Exhibition

SOULS is a vibrant visual art exhibition celebrating the creativity and diversity of LGBTIQA+ artists and communities. Through diverse artistic practices, the exhibition explores identity, resilience, connection, and the power of creative expression.

"A must-visit celebration of LGBTIQA+ artists and the diverse stories they share through art."

Sol Gallery, Fitzroy

26-31 Jan, 2-7 Feb

Tue-Sat 11am-5pm | Sun 11am-4pm | Opening : Thu 28 Jan 6-8:30pm

FREE

Presented by Sol Gallery

Image: Vesselform #1 by Dr Matiu Bush

REGIONAL EVENT

Public Art



Heartland

An exhibition of collaborative portraits of queer life across Victoria

Heartland is a collaborative photography series and exhibition documenting queer lives across regional Victoria. Travelling by van across the state, artist Emily Dynes built magic realist portraits with participants intertwining identity and landscape, showcased at Victoria's Pride Street Party 2027.

Gertrude Street and Smith Street, Fitzroy

7 Feb 9hrs

Sun Midday

FREE

Presented by Victoria's Pride | Victorian Government and Midsumma Festival | Emily Dynes

Image: by Freyja Hooper

OPEN SPACE
AT BUNJIL PLACE
CELEBRATING MIDSUMMA

OUTDOOR FILM: LABYRINTH
FRI 29 JAN 6 – 9 PM

MAGNIFICO SPLENDIDA
BY ALL THE QUEENS MEN
SAT 30 JAN 6 – 9 PM

FREE ENTRY.
NO TICKETS. NO BARRIERS.

Bunjil Place

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Exhibition



In Full Colour

In Full Colour: celebrates LGBTQIA+ artists

In Full Colour is Red Gallery's 2027 Midsumma program, presented as part of Midsumma Festival. Bringing together LGBTQIA+ artists through exhibitions, artist talks, performances and special events.

RED Gallery, Fitzroy North

13-24 Jan

Wed-Sun 10am-5pm | Opening: Fir 15 Jan 6-8pm

FREE

Presented by Red Gallery

Exhibition



Inkwashing our Community

Creating an artistic snapshot of our local pride community

Sit for a live 5-to-10 minute ink and brush portrait by artist Jimmy Twin (he/him), while sharing what 'Pride' means to you in 2027. The artwork based on your image (gifted to you!) will frame your interview and help build an emotive visual snapshot of our LGBTIQA+ community.

Pride of our Footscray Community Bar, Footscray

4 Feb

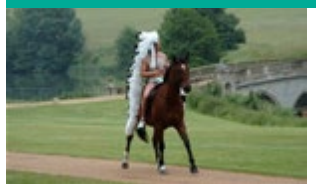
Thu 7-9pm

FREE

Image: by Jimmy Twin

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Exhibition



Kent Monkman: Miss Chief's Picture Show

ACCA presents the first Australian solo exhibition by celebrated Cree artist Kent Monkman

Kent Monkman, a member of ocêkwi sîpiy (Fisher River Cree Nation) in Treaty 5 Territory, Canada, is an internationally acclaimed interdisciplinary artist whose work spans painting, film, video, performance, and installation. His practice powerfully engages with themes of colonisation, sexuality, truth-telling, and resilience.

ACCA - Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Southbank

17 Jan, 19-24 Jan, 27-31 Jan, 2-7 Feb

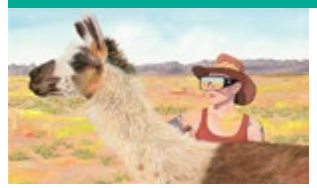
Sat, Sun 11am-5pm | Tue-Fri 10am-5pm

FREE

Presented by ACCA with Midsumma Festival

Image: Kent Monkman, Taxonomy

Exhibition



Kim Leutwyler @Lennox St. Gallery

Tender Ground

Lennox St Gallery is proud to present Tender Ground, a solo exhibition by Sydney-based artist Kim Leutwyler that subverts the hyper-masculine iconography of the cowboy and the American desert through a queer lens. Drawing on Leutwyler's formative years in the American Southwest, the exhibition reframes the frontier.

Lennox St. Gallery, Richmond

19-23 Jan, 26-30 Jan

Tue-Fri 11am-6pm | Sat 11am-5pm | Opening: 16 Jan 2-4 pm

FREE

Presented by Lennox St. Gallery

Image: Courtesy the Artist and Lennox St. Gallery

Exhibition



KWEER - A history of LGBTIQA+ in Marvel and DC Comics

The untold queer history of superhero comics

KWEER documents LGBTIQA+ representation in Marvel and DC Comics from the 1950s to today.

Curated by Paul Stone, this exhibition traces the Comics Code's ban on queer characters through to the first out superheroes and how they are represented today.

Victorian Pride Centre - Pride Gallery, St Kilda

18-23 Jan, 25-30 Jan, 1-6 Feb

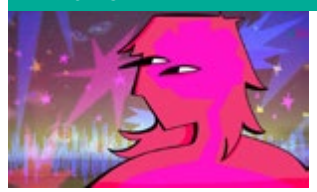
Mon-Fri 9am-5pm | Sat 10am-5pm

FREE

Presented by Victorian Pride Centre

Image: by Paul Stone

Exhibition



Love is Stored

A public art exhibition by Tara Mathews

This Laneway Gallery exhibition centres around the connection between identity and belonging, exploring how the love given both to ourself and from others shape who we are.

Laneway Gallery, Laverton

17 Jan-7 Feb

Daily, 24 hrs

FREE

Presented by Laneway Gallery, Hobsons Bay City Council

Image: by Tara Mathews

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Exhibition



Midsumma Art Award

Australia's leading queer visual arts award

2027 will be the twelfth year of this prestigious art award, where a selection of queer artists from across the country showcase their personal and political perspectives of the world. Award winners share in a prize pool of $8K including a development and exhibition with Bundoora Homestead Art Centre.

Gasworks - James McCaughey Foyer and Angela Robarts-Bird Gallery - Albert Park

19 Jan-7 Feb

Mon-Fri 10am-4pm | Sat, Sun 10am-3pm | Auslan: Opening: 19 Jan 6pm

FREE | Image: by Suzanne Balding: 2026 Winner, J Davies with A Tender Revolt, 2024-2025

Presented by Midsumma Festival

Exhibition



MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM: A Magical Queer Group Show

"And I serve the Fairy Queen, To dew her orbs upon the green"

Step into a realm of enchantment as Artemisia Gallery proudly presents the third iteration of its annual Midsumma exhibition. This exhibition invites you to cross the threshold into a world of vibrant queer art inspired by mythology, folklore, fantasy and all things magical.

Artemisia Gallery & Event Space, Windsor

20-24 Jan, 27-31 Jan

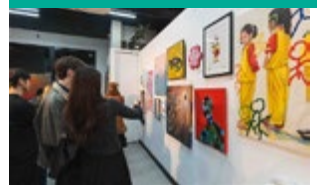
Wed-Fri 11am-5pm | Sat, Sun 10am-4pm | Opening: Fri 22 Jan 6-9pm

FREE

Presented by Artemisia Gallery & Event Space

Image: Painting by Richard Dadd

Exhibition



Soft Static: Exhibition

A queer group exhibition living in the space between noise and softness

A group exhibition bringing together 35+ artists across painting, drawing, installation, new media, textile and more. Together, they explore what it means to be static: the noise, the interference, the parts of ourselves too loud or too much to resolve into something easily read, and the softness of the people and selves that hold us through it.

The Blender Studios, West Melbourne

20-24 Jan, 27-31 Jan

Wed-Sun 8am-5pm | Opening: Sat 23 Jan 4-9pm $17.20

FREE

Presented by Platform Presents

Image: by Mason Mo

Exhibition



Summer Daze

OFF THE KERB'S 2027 MIDSUMMA FESTIVAL GROUP SHOW

Off the Kerb gallery is proud to kick off 2027 with our Midsumma Festival group show, 'Summer Daze'. This group show creates a platform spotlighting the diverse voices of our immensely talented queer community through their distinctive and prolific visual art forms.

Off the Kerb Gallery, Collingwood

17 Jan, 21-24 Jan, 28 Jan

Sat, Sun 12-5pm | Thu 12-6pm | Fri 12-8pm | Opening: Fri 22 Jan 6pm

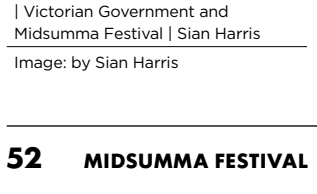
FREE

Presented by Off the Kerb

Image: by David Le Goon

VISUAL ARTS

Exhibition



Opening Night: Soft Static [Exhibition]

A queer group exhibition, opening with live performance, DJs and interactive art

Join us for the opening night of 'Soft Static', a queer group exhibition of 35+ artists across painting, drawing, installation, new media, photography and textile. Step inside the exhibition's noise and softness for one ticketed night of live performances, DJs and interactive stations. Blenders Studio, West Melbourne. 23 January, ticketed entry.

The Blender Studios, West Melbourne

23 Jan 4hrs

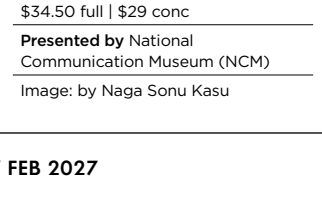
Sat 4pm

$17.20 full

Presented by Platform Presents

Image: shot by Mason Mo

Exhibition



Outfit Out Loud

An exhibition of upcycled fashion celebrating identity

Outfit Out Loud is a vibrant exhibition of wearable artworks created through an upcycled fashion project celebrating LGBTQIA+ identity, creativity and self-expression.

Louis Joel Arts & Community - Louis Joel Gallery, Altona

18-23 Jan, 25-30 Jan, 1-6 Feb

Mon-Fri 9:30am-4:30pm | Sat 11am-2pm

FREE

Presented by A is for Art, Louis Joel Gallery and Creative City Hobsons Bay

Exhibition



The Body Language Project

After a successful launch at The Victorian Pride Centre in 2026, Body Language comes Northside!

Body Language is a collaborative photography project which brings attention to the expansive expression of gender identity. Opens Wednesday 27 January, closes Sunday 14 February, 11am to 6pm daily. Big Eye Studios, North Fitzroy.

Big Eye Studios, North Fitzroy

27 Jan - 14 Feb

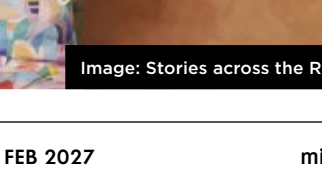
Mon-Sun 11am-6pm

FREE

Presented by Vicki Jones

Image: by Vicki Jones

Exhibition



You belong to me

An exhibition all about love

Set on Gertrude St in the heart of Pride, You Belong to Me is an art exhibition that celebrates love in its many incarnations. Bringing together works by modern and contemporary artists, it explores romance, friendship, family and our sense of place – from the people we love to the communities we call home. Love, you belong to us.

Art & Collectors, Fitzroy

23 Jan, 25-30 Jan, 1-6 Feb

Mon-Sat 10am-4pm | Opening: Sat 23 Jan 2-4pm

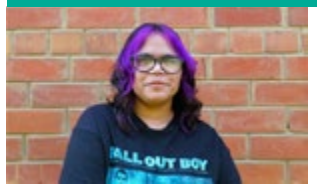
FREE

Presented by Art & Collectors

Image: Paul Compton - 'Lovers / Weavers' (2025), linocut on paper

REGIONAL EVENT

Exhibition



Pali-Pali MiRi

Photo exhibition of Queer Mob in the Mallee

Pali-Pali MiRi is a celebration of LGBTQIA+SB Mob across the Mallee region. It is a powerful collection of photographic portraits reflecting identity, belonging, culture, and togetherness. It celebrates and connects Mob across generations and brings their stories to the fore.

Mallee Arts CoLab, Mildura

20 Jan 3hrs

Wed 3pm

FREE

Presented by Victoria's Pride | Victorian Government and Midsumma Festival | Sian Harris

Image: by Sian Harris

Exhibition



Soft Nights at NCM

A night of gentle spaces amongst the hardware for Queer joy and connection

Slow down and explore NCM exhibitions after-hours, including Radical Computing, a love letter to the personal computer. Hear curators & creative technologists share Queer stories from our collection, bedazzle a floppy disc, weave a secret love note, create a new connection.

National Communication Museum (NCM), Hawthorn

4 Feb

Thu 6-9pm | Auslan: Available on Request

$34.50 full | $29 conc

Presented by National Communication Museum (NCM)

Image: by Naga Sonu Kasu

Image: Stories across the Rainbow with Emma. P59

At RMIT, we make pride a commitment, not a campaign.



Building a culture of inclusion and respect is something we practice every day.

Across our campuses and locations, people who are part of LGBTIQA+ communities are seen, valued, and are supported to bring their whole selves to work and study.

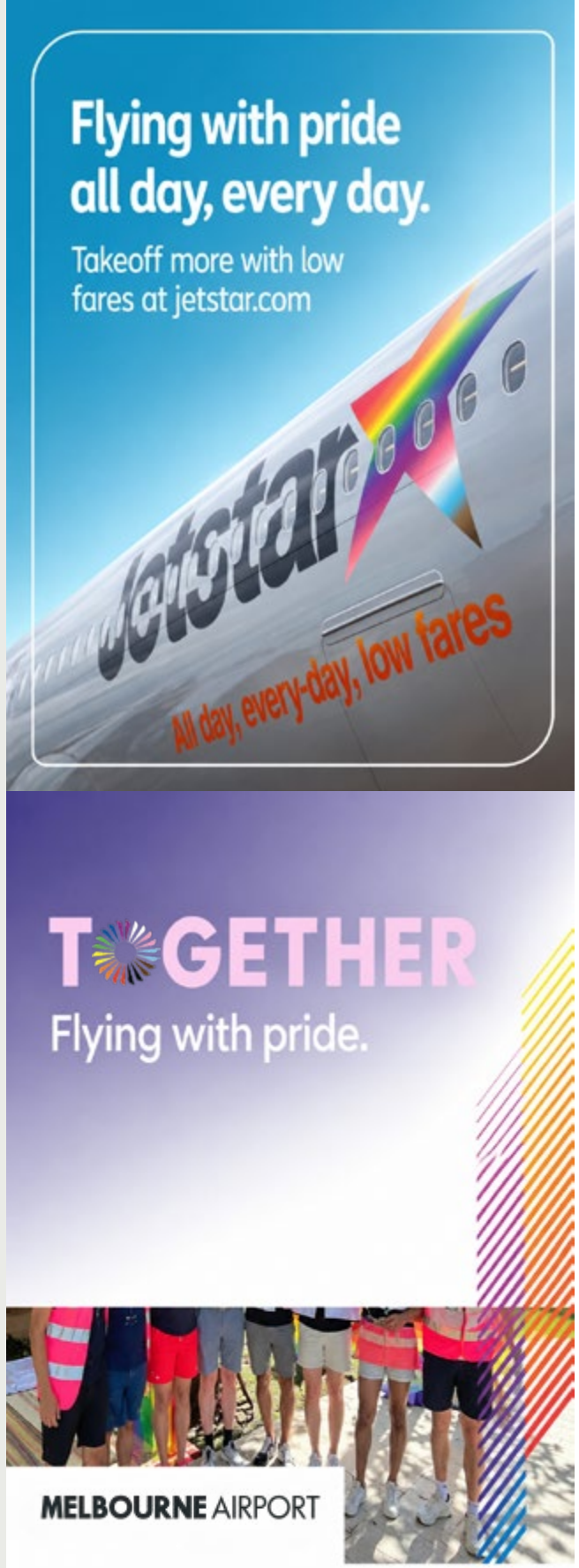
We're proud to be one of the top universities in Australia to hold Platinum Employer status with Pride in Diversity*.

This achievement reflects RMIT's commitment to creating an environment where everyone can thrive.

During Midsumma, and every day, RMIT celebrates LGBTIQA+ communities.

*Pride in Diversity is Australia's leading LGBTQ+ workplace inclusion organisation.

RMIT UNIVERSITY



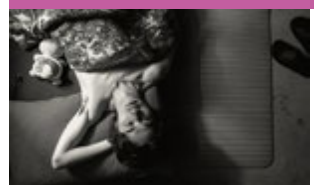


Film

Image: Worldbuilders. P60

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

film 100



Focus on Queer 中文 Cinema

A landmark program dedicated to queer Chinese-language filmmaking

ACMI Cinemas, Melbourne
22 Jan-9 Feb
various session times
$20 full | $16 conc | $14 ACMI member
Presented by ACMI, CIFF and Midsumma Festival
Image: from 'Queerpanorama'

Spanning 10 feature films across different periods, genres and filmmaking traditions, the program moves between cult classics, modern masterpieces and recent works, by filmmakers who have challenged conventions of gender, sexuality, identity and representation across China, Taiwan, Hong Kong and more.

film 18+



Frocks, Flicks and Op-Shop Fabulousness

A queer film and fashion event at Williamstown Town Hall

Williamstown Town Hall, Williamstown
30 Jan 4hrs 30m
Sat 5:30pm
$17.70 full | $12.20 conc
Presented by Hobsons Bay City Council

The program combines a participatory upcycled fashion workshop and runway led by award-winning collective Fast Fashun with a hosted screening of an Australian indie short and a cult classic queer film. The event invites LGBTIQA+ communities and allies to come together in celebration, creativity and belonging.

film



Labyrinth

Presented as part of Open Space at Bunjil Place

Bunjil Place, Narre Warren
29 Jan 3hrs
Fri 6pm
FREE
Presented by Open Space at Bunjil Place
Image: by Pictorial Press Ltd / Alamy

Fancy a little fantasy, a touch of glamour and a whole lot of Bowie-esque magic?

Join us for The Labyrinth, an enchanting evening of eccentric characters, fabulous music and cult-classic chaos.

Before the film, get ready to strut into the strange and wonderful world of the Labyrinth with a Bowie-inspired performance.

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

film



MQFF x Midsumma

Settle in for a screening in Fed Square

Federation Square, Melbourne
4 Feb 2hrs
Thu 8pm
FREE
Presented by Melbourne Queer Film Festival, Fed Square & Midsumma Festival
Image: from Baby Talk by Lizzie Cater

Join Melbourne Queer Film Festival for a special screening featuring the brightest and best Australian queer filmmakers from their 2026 Australian Shorts program. This selection of award-winning shorts highlights the richness of storytelling and the breadth of original talent working in Australia today.

film



Priscilla Queen of the Desert – Film Screening plus shadow cast

Live drag legends bring Priscilla's bus back in sell-out show!

See local drag legends Art Simone, Lazy Susan, Zelda Moon, and Pashion Couture bring every moment of this classic film to life right in front of you.

Don't miss it!

Victorian Pride Centre - Theatrette, St Kilda

22-23 Jan 2hrs

Fri, Sat 8pm

$34 full

Presented by Victorian Pride Centre

Image: by Victorian Pride Centre

film



Queer Movie Club: Equal the Contest (ally friendly)

When the rules exclude you, rewrite them!

Join us for a special Midsumma film screening - celebrating gender diversity and allyship.

This is an inclusive, accessible, free community event.

Newport Community Hub, Newport

27 Jan 2hrs

Wed 6:30pm

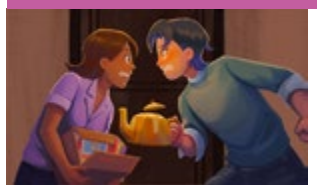
FREE

Presented by Hobsons Bay Libraries for Midsumma Westside.

Image: by Mitch Nivalis

REGIONAL EVENT

film



Tea Time

A Southeast-Asian queer animated short about finding unlikely common ground

Shin and Aruni invite their moms over for tea and kueh. The couple nervously prepares their house to create the perfect meeting. How will their moms react to seeing them as a queer couple for the first time? Can they break the awkwardness and connect? Tea Time! Is a love letter to a Southeast Asian childhood mixed with a positive imagining of queer futures.

Digital Event

Available online from 7 Feb

On demand | Captioned: ALL

FREE

Presented by Victoria's Pride | Victorian Government and Midsumma Festival | Kei Khosasih

Image: by Kei Khosasih



Image: Bev and Myrt and the Clash of Culture. P29



Kids & Families

Image: Love Love Love Love Love Love. P58

Kids and Families



Ched & Charles

A fun high energy circus show for families

Ched & Charles is a heartwarming circus show for families with children ages 5 and up. Join these funny friends in a series of skits and sketches as they perform circus and magic mixed with oodles of fun!

Circus Centre Melbourne, Collingwood

30 Jan, 6 Feb 50m

30 Jan 12:30pm + 3:30pm + 6pm
6 Feb 12:30pm + 3:30pm

$30 full | $25 conc | $22 under 16s | $20 child | $10 First Nations

Image: by Ian Sutherland

Kids and Families



Collingwood Underground Roller Disco presents YASS KWEEN at the QVM

YASS KWEEN

Collingwood Underground Roller Disco bring their all-ages event to the city at Queen Victoria Markets Underground Car Park for Midsumma Festival. With skating, dancing, games and more - don't miss it!

Pram and wheelchair friendly on the rink.

Queen Victoria Market Underground Car Park, Melbourne

29 Jan 8hrs

Fri 3pm

$30 full | $15 conc

Presented by CU Roller Disco

Image: by James McPherson

Kids and Families



Fractured Fairy Tale Workshop

Explore magical stories together through movement, imagination, and play

Join storyteller Emma Chandler for a playful drama workshop where classic fairytales are reimagined with creativity, music and movement. Using everyday objects, children aged 6-12 create magical worlds and discover the joy of making stories their own.

Sunshine Library, Deer Park

20 Jan 1hr

Wed 12:30pm

FREE

Presented by Brimbank Libraries and Brimbank City Council

Image: by Lilian Hudson

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Kids and Families



Hugo's Rainbow Show

A drag show for kids about the science of rainbows!

Join drag super star Hugo Grrrl (New Zealand) for a musical, magical adventure exploring the skies above. Together we'll make the mysteries of meteorology fun with original songs, colourful stories, and - of course - outrageous, glittery costumes.

"★★★★★ Outstanding" - Theatre Review

Northcote Town Hall MAIN HALL, Northcote

22-24 Jan 1hr

Fri 4pm | Sat, Sun 1:30pm | A show for children from 2-10 years old

$30 full | $25 conc | $35 a little extra | $15 child | $15 First Nations

Presented by Hugo Grrrl and Crown Jewels

Kids and Families



Joy Stations

Joy Stations is a playful, hands-on artistic experience for all ages by Slow Art Collective and Lichen Kelp. In this pop-up event you are invited to explore a series of creative stations filled with colour, flowers, sound, craft materials and everyday objects, inspired by Queer joy (the pleasure and freedom of being yourself).

Woods Street Arts Space, Laverton

30 Jan

Sat 12-4pm

FREE

Presented by Hobsons Bay City Council

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Kids and Families



Love Love Love Love Love Love

Be bathed and enveloped in colour, sound and sensation, in a space that celebrates who we are

An immersive performance and interactive play experience for babies under one year old and their carers. Explore colour, light, sound and non-verbal communication through Auslan, gesture and sensory play, creating a fully relaxed performance where audiences engage at their own pace.

ArtPlay, Melbourne

4-7 Feb 40m

Thu-Sun 10:30am | Sat 2pm

$20 for 1 baby and up to 2 carers

Presented by ArtPlay & Midsumma Festival, Created by Caroline Bowditch and Laura Hook

Image: by Sarah Walker

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Kids and Families



Rainbow Storytime

LGBTQIA+ storytellers share their favourite tales, and celebrate diversity, inclusion and joy

Do you love stories, songs and a bit of sparkle? To celebrate the upcoming Midsumma Festival, we're adding a splash of rainbow flair to our beloved Storytime sessions. Join us in late January as LGBTQIA+ storytellers share their favourite tales, and celebrate diversity, inclusion and joy. Perfect for kids aged 3–8. Register now for free.

Image: by Eva Gorobets

State Library Victoria - Create Quarter, Melbourne

19-20 Jan 30m

Tue, Wed 1:30pm | Auslan: Available on Request

FREE

Presented by Midsumma Festival and State Library Victoria, supported by Rainbow Families Switchboard.

Kids and Families



Stories across the Rainbow with Emma

Folktales come alive through timeless storytelling

Experience live storytelling with storyteller, theatre-maker and magician Emma Chandler. Discover folk and fairy tales passed through generations, featuring unexpected twists, forgotten treasures and timeless themes of love, truth and belonging. Suitable for all ages.

Sunshine Library, Deer Park

20 Jan 1hr

Wed 10:30am

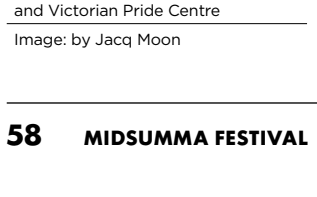
FREE

Presented by Brimbank Libraries and Brimbank City Council

Image: by Lilian Hudson

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Kids and Families



Midsumma Storytime

Come celebrate Rainbow families and stories this Midsumma Festival

This Midsumma Festival we have a new rainbow storytime at The Little Bookroom in Brunswick East. The Little Bookroom is the oldest bookshop specialising in books for children in the world! Come hear stories and celebrate Rainbow families and identities over two unique sessions. Special guest readers to be announced.

The Little Bookroom, Brunswick East

19 Jan, 2 Feb 30m

Tue 9:30am | Auslan: Available on Request

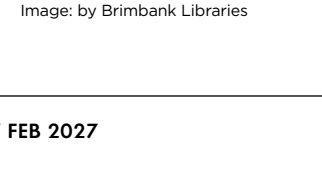
FREE

Presented by Midsumma Festival & The Little Bookroom

Image: by Michael Earp

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Kids and Families



Once Upon a Different Time

Join Emma Chandler as she shares well-loved stories that don't go quite as you expect

Once upon a time there were three bears...but it wasn't always Goldilocks who broke into their home! Join storyteller Emma Chandler as she shares well-loved stories from around the world that don't go quite as you expect. Highly interactive, song-filled, and at times very silly – perfect for kids aged 5 years and older. Register now for free.

State Library Victoria - Create Quarter, Melbourne

21 Jan 50m

Thu 11:30am | Auslan: Available on Request

FREE

Presented by Midsumma Festival and State Library Victoria, supported by Rainbow Families Switchboard.

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Kids and Families



The Extraordinary Flying Ship

Performed by Emma Chandler, enjoy a wonder tale about misfits who save the day

A flying ship, a band of superheroes, and a sky-shanty or two! The Extraordinary Flying Ship is a wonder tale about misfits who save the day. But how did this little kingdom end up with such a maniacal monarch? And what about the other outstanding outsiders hidden in the fairytale forest? Best for kids aged 8 years and older.

State Library Victoria - Create Quarter, Melbourne

21 Jan 50m

Thu 1:30pm | Auslan: Available on Request

FREE

Presented by Midsumma Festival and State Library Victoria, supported by Rainbow Families Switchboard

Kids and Families



Rainbow Families Extravaganza

Rainbow family fun starts here featuring dancing, dress ups and drag story time

Family-friendly school holiday fun. Bring your babies, toddlers and kids under 12 for a colourful, inclusive morning of music, dancing and dress-ups. Come in your favourite party outfit and hit the dancefloor. Adult supervision required.

Victorian Pride Centre - Theatrette, St Kilda

19 Jan 2hrs

Tue 12:30pm

FREE

Presented by Switchboard Victoria and Victorian Pride Centre

Image: by Jacq Moon

Kids and Families



Rainbow Families Storytime

Celebrate families of all kinds at Rainbow Storytime

Join us for a fun, inclusive Storytime.

Discover stories and songs that support early literacy, empathy and acceptance.

Everyone welcome! (All Ages)

Sunshine Library, Deer Park

22 Jan 1hr

Fri 10:30am

FREE

Presented by Brimbank Libraries and Brimbank City Council

Image: by Brimbank Libraries



Image: Minus18 Pride March Banner Making! P60

KIDS & FAMILIES



Youth

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Youth



Minus18 Pride March Banner Making!

Come make a Pride March banner with other queer teens!

This is an event for LGBTQIA+ teens to make Pride March banners and signs together! All materials provided.

Not sure if you're going to Pride March? Still come along, make new friends, and enjoy the fun and activities!

Victorian Pride Centre - The Forum, St Kilda

20 Jan	3hrs
Wed 6:30pm	
FREE - registration required	

Presented by Minus18 & Midsumma Festival

Youth



A Midsummer's Daydream

Celebrate Midsumma: The FREE LGBTQIA+ youth whimsical fairy party of your daydreams!

Drawing on the fantasy of Shakespeare's fairytale to transform Chapel Off Chapel into an enchanted world with fairies, sparkles and spells for a joyous afternoon of celebration, drag performances and craft stations perfect for young people 12-25.

Chapel Off Chapel - The Chapel, Prahran

20 Jan
Wed 1-4pm
FREE

Presented by Stonnington Youth Services

Image: by Anastasia of Studio Kirpy

Youth



Queer Youth History Workshops

What was life like for LGBTIQA+ young people in the past?

LGBTIQA+ young people aged 16-25 are invited to join us for workshops on queer youth histories. Topics include histories of: queer youth activism (28 Jan), socialising, parties and performance (29 Jan) & ways of living together (30 Jan).

Workshops are free to attend & registration is essential. For more info see queeryouthhistories.com

Australian Queer Archives (AQuA), St Kilda

28-30 Jan	2hrs
Thu 6:30pm | Fri, Sat 2pm	
FREE	

Presented by Queer Youth Histories

Image: by Jacq Moon

REGIONAL EVENT

Youth



Touch Grass with Crystal Queer

A Garden of Queer Magic Awaits!

Join the Crystal Queer program, run by Brimbank Youth Services, for the official launch of Melbourne west's brand-new queer garden, a beautiful space dedicated to celebrating and supporting LGBTQIA+ young people across the west.

Westvale Community Centre, Kings Park

18 Jan	2hrs
Mon 11am	
FREE	

Presented by Brimbank Youth Services

Image: by Brimbank Youth Services

Youth



Worldbuilders

Craft costumes & creatures in these cosplay workshops for queer teens

Work with professional artists to sculpt foam armour, build props and design an original creature brought to life in augmented reality.

A free workshop series in Bendigo this summer, curated by Arena Theatre Company.

No experience needed.

Bendigo

Jan
Multiple dates | See website for details | Relaxed: See website for details
FREE booking required

Presented by Victoria's Pride \| Victorian Government & Midsumma Festival \| YACVic \| Arena Theatre Company



Community & Culture

Social



Bi+ Pride Victoria Annual Community Picnic

A social gathering in the beautiful relaxed outdoor setting of Edinburgh Gardens, aimed at building connections within the bi+ community & our allies.

People of all ages, genders and cultures welcome. Come with your kids, your partner(s), your friends or your pets, or come by yourself and make some new friends! Please BYO picnic rug, food & drink.

Edinburgh Gardens - Circle of Trees

23 Jan
Sat 12-3pm
FREE

Presented by Bi+ Pride Victoria

Image: by Bi+ Pride Victoria

Social



City of Port Phillip's Pride March Flag Raising

The flags will fly with pride in St Kilda

Join the City of Port Phillip as we raise the Pride Flag above St Kilda Town Hall to launch Midsumma Festival. This free community event celebrates pride, inclusion, visibility and belonging for LGBTIQA+ communities and allies.

St Kilda Town Hall, St Kilda

27 Jan
Wed 4-5pm
FREE

Presented by City of Port Phillip

Image: by City of Port Phillip

Market



Gay Stuff Market

Come get some Gay Stuff!

Gay Stuff is back at Midsumma Festival for a 9th year!

Gay Stuff is prideful and celebrates everything queer with a fabulous line up of vendors. Featuring specialty goods from a collection of Melbourne's finest queer and allied artists, creatives and style makers.

Victorian Pride Centre - The Forum, St Kilda

23 Jan
Sat 12-4pm
FREE

Image: by Gay Stuff Markets

Day Out



GAYmazing Race

Like trivia? Like orienteering? Like a nice casual cruise? Then join us for a fun filled day!

Use your best navigation, observation and problem-solving skills along the way. Pack a picnic lunch or pick up a little something from one of the many great places we stop at along the way. Relax and catch up with Motafrenz.

Pacino's Italian Family Restarant (carpark), Flemington

26 Jan	3hrs
Tue 10am	
$25 Car & driver | $7.50 each passenger	

Presented by Motafrenz Car Club

Image: by Motafrenz Car Club

Networking



Hobsons Bay Pride Big Brunch

Come together for a community brunch

Hobsons Bay Pride Big Brunch brings our community together for a vibrant morning of connection, inspiring guest speakers, and a delicious brunch. Celebrate inclusion, meet new people, and enjoy a welcoming space that uplifts LGBTQIA+ residents, allies, families, and friends across Hobsons Bay.

Newport Community Hub, Newport

30 Jan 3hrs

Sat 11am

FREE

Presented by Hobsons Bay City Council

Social



Lanterns of Pride

Where Lunar New Year and Pride share one table

Lanterns of Pride brings LGBTQIAPN+ people, family and friends together for Lunar New Year. Lion dance, lantern making, food, games and community stalls, plus the Lantern Wishes Tree for your hopes for the year ahead. Come as you are, with whoever you love.

75 Reid St, Fitzroy North

23 Jan 3hrs

Sat 11am

FREE

Presented by Euphoria Foundation and Our Point 3

Image: by Andrew Coulter

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Day Out



Midsumma Carnival

Big queer energy. All day long.

Grab your mates, rally your family, rock your festival finest and kick off Midsumma with a banger of a day! Enjoy live music and performances, and DJs across 2 big stages, 200+ community stalls, a sports precinct, family fun, lipsync comp and the Dog Show. There's (literally) something for everyone. Free entry, all ages, all welcome!

Alexandra Gardens, Melbourne CBD

17 Jan 10hrs

Sun 11am | Auslan: Picnic & Main Stages

FREE

Presented by Midsumma Festival

Image: by Teague Leigh

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Day Out



Midsumma Pride March

This is what Pride looks like

Friends, families, community groups and loved ones are all welcome to join the Midsumma Pride March! Whether by foot or wheel, with workmates or with family, allies, or community, Midsumma Pride March is the place to celebrate all gender expressions, sexualities, LGBTQIA+ experiences and personalities, loud and proud.

Fitzroy St and Catani Gardens, St Kilda

31 Jan 5hrs

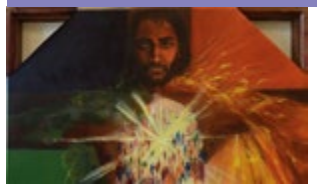
Sun 10am | Auslan: for official proceedings

FREE

Presented by Midsumma Festival

Image: by Suzanne Balding

Faith



Open to all. We mean it.

Progressive Christian Sunday worship joined by The Consort of Melbourne

Come as you are!

St Michael's is an Open and Affirming church, celebrating every person and every story.

Join Rev Elizabeth Gray-King and The Consort of Melbourne for a worship service full of music, community, hope, joy and Divine Love.

St Michael's Uniting Church, Melbourne CBD

7 Feb

Sun 10-11am

FREE

Presented by St Michael's Uniting Church

Image: Nativity Tancred by Elizabeth Gray-King

Day Out



Out Loud on the Ninch

A sunset celebration of queer art, performance, and community connection

Out Loud on the Ninch returns bringing Midsumma to the Mornington Peninsula. Enjoy queer music, performance, food, stalls and intergenerational storytelling in a welcoming celebration of pride, connection and culture.

'With Love, From the Future: The Regional Queer Letter Project" - Noa Wolf Smith Fletcher

Peninsula Community Theatre, Mornington

6 Feb 4hrs 30m

Sat 4pm

$28 full | $12 conc | $12 First Nations | $12 youth (12-25) | under 12's FREE with adult

Presented by Flinders Fringe Festival Inc with the Mornington Peninsula Shire

Social



Outdoors for All: Inclusive Camping Experience

Free overnight camping for LGBTQIA+ adults. All welcome

A free, inclusive overnight camping experience for LGBTQIA+ adults. Nature walks, camp skills, shared meals & storytelling. Transport & gear available. No experience needed. Just bring yourself.

Werribee South Tourist Park, Werribee South

30 Jan 24hrs

Sat Midday

FREE

Presented by Oot and Aboot Outdoors Ltd proudly supported by Greater Western Water

Image: by Tim Lai

Day Out



Pack is All: Roller Derby Champs

How a Melbourne roller derby team rose to world No. 1

In 2017, the Victorian Roller Derby League made history as the first team ever to take the Hydra Trophy out of America.

Ten years on, this exhibition revisits the story of a team that came out on top against the odds, exploring what it means to pursue excellence without compromising the radical inclusivity at the heart of this grassroots sport.

City Library Gallery, Melbourne

3-7 Feb

Wed-Fri 9am-6pm | Sat 10am-4pm | Sun 12-4pm | Captioned: All

FREE

Image: by Marko Niemelä

Faith



Rainbow Mass: A celebration of faith, diversity and inclusion

Celebrating the vital presence of LGBTQIA+ people in the Church

Experience inspiring liturgy, music and preaching, followed by supper and drinks on the lawn.

Preacher: The Revd Professor Russell Goulbourne (Warden, Trinity College, University of Melbourne)

St Mark's Anglican Church Fitzroy, Fitzroy

5 Feb 2hrs

Fri 7pm

FREE

Presented by St Mark's Anglican Church, Fitzroy

Image: by Fr Stuart Soley

Faith



Rainbow Quaker Meeting for Worship

What do Quakers do? Clue: nothing to do with oats

You are invited to a Rainbow Quaker Meeting for Worship! Meet Rainbow Friends and allies, spend some time with us in silent worship, and discover what we do and believe. "Meeting for Worship" is a unique experience where people sit in a circle in silence, listening for the leading or wisdom within. Includes free afternoon tea.

Victorian Quaker Centre, West Melbourne

24 Jan

Sun 2-3:30pm

FREE

Presented by Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) Australia

Social



Rainbow Recharge Hub

Rest. Recharge. Reconnect.

Take a break from the buzz of Midsumma Pride March at the Rainbow Recharge Hub inside the Victorian Pride Centre's Theatrette - a free, inclusive, and accessible space designed to support the community, especially our ageing, regional and rural communities.

Victorian Pride Centre - Theatrette, St Kilda

31 Jan

Sun 10am-5pm

FREE

Presented by Victorian Pride Centre and Switchboard Victoria

Image: by Victorian Pride Centre

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Fashion



Screenprinting with Chira Grasby and Oxy Customs

Dress up your clothes with cool new prints

Join artist Chira Grasby, and local creative Oxy Customs for a free drop-in screen printing event and pop- up market. Bring an item of clothing, or buy a thrifted piece, and customise it with prints of Chira's paintings, exploring Internet culture and Y2K nostalgia.

Bundoora Homestead Art Centre, Bundoora

6 Feb

Sat 1-4pm | Auslan: Available on Request | Captioned: On request

FREE

Presented by Midsumma Festival and Bundoora Homestead Art Centre

Image: by Chira Grasby

Social



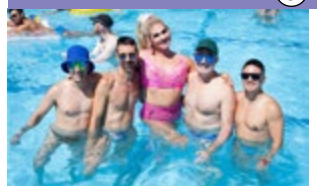
Social Butterflies

Find Friends - Find Community - Find Yourself

Join our community for trans women, non-binary, and femme-leaning gender-queer people for our 5th Birthday! Experience the relief of being your authentic self in a space that fosters new friendships in a relaxed, welcoming environment.

Wheat, Wine & Whisky, Collingwood
22 Jan
Fri 7:30-11:30pm
FREE
Presented by Francine Ellis
Image: by Jemba Photography 2027

Social



Southside Queer Pool Party

Get wet, cool off & celebrate with Thorne Harbour's iconic south-side queer pool party!

Dive into Thorne Harbour's iconic Queer Pool Party at Prahran Pool. Celebrate Midsumma with live beats, dazzling drag entertainment and fabulous pool floats in a fun, inclusive space. Free sausage, icy-poll and bumpa polo activities included!

Prahran Aquatic Centre, Prahran
24 Jan
Sun 12-4pm | Tactile Tour: 24 Jan 11:45am
$22.50 full | $17.50 conc | $5 First Nations | $5 PLHIV
Presented by Thorne Harbour Health
Image: by AF Jones

Market



Sunset Pride Party

Celebrate Pride in Banyule!

Sunset Pride Party returns to Greensborough Walk for a free, all-ages celebration of Pride in Banyule. Enjoy live music, drag, DJs, roaming performers, market stalls, creative activities and more, with local LGBTIQA+ artists, performers and businesses at its heart.

Come as you are – everyone is welcome!

Greensborough Walk, Greensborough
5 Feb
Fri 5-9pm
FREE
Presented by Visit Greensborough
Image: by Simon Aubor

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Day Out



Victoria's Pride Street Party

The hottest queer street party north of the river

Victoria's Pride Street Party is back and spreading the queer joy throughout Fitzroy and Collingwood for another year!

Join us as Smith and Gertrude Streets transform into a fun-filled block party for all. Packed with performances across multiple stages, DJ stations, shopfronts, stalls and plenty of food and drink, don't miss the festival closing event!

Gertrude Street and Smith Street, Fitzroy
7 Feb
Sun 12-9pm | Auslan: Smith & Gertrude Street Stages
FREE
Presented by Midsumma in partnership with the Victorian State Government


Image: Fruit Salooon - Queer As!. P31



Talks, Tours & Workshops

Image Credit: Telling it with Pride Showcase

Tours



AIDS Memorial Garden Tour

Honouring lives, remembering history, walking together

Join a guided tour of the AIDS Memorial Garden at the former Fairfield Hospital. Honour those impacted by HIV/AIDS and explore this historic place of remembrance, with community members sharing personal stories and connections.

Melbourne Polytechnic College Fairfield - AIDS Memorial Garden, Fairfield
21 Jan 1hr 30m
Thu Midday | Thu 4pm | Relaxed: All
FREE
Presented by Thorne Harbour Health
Image: by Matto Lucas

Workshops



Bound in Pleasure: An Introduction to Rope & Bondage

Unleash the art of bondage in a safe, supportive and playful environment at Peninsula Sauna. This workshop is your entryway into the world of rope bondage, whether you're a curious beginner or looking to refine your skill. Guided by the expert Sir Z.

Peninsula Sauna, Seaford
20 Jan 4hrs
Wed 6:30pm
$25 full
Presented by Peninsula Sauna & Thorne Harbour Health

REGIONAL EVENT

Workshops



Creative Healing: Identity, Culture & Connection

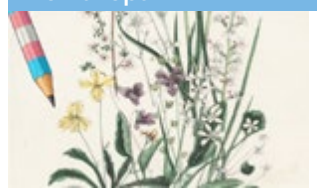
Culture, Creativity & Colour - Rainbow Mob Style!

Creative Healing is a free, culturally safe creative arts event for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Rainbow Mob. Through art, connection, self-expression and community, participants can celebrate identity, culture, pride and belonging in a supportive and inclusive space.

Image: by Hayden Sines

Burraja Cultural Centre, Wodonga
14 Jan 5hrs
Thu 10am
FREE
Presented by Victoria's Pride | Victorian Government and Midsumma Festival | Victorian Aboriginal Child and Community Agency (VACCA)

Workshops



Gather for Good:

Blossoming Trans Allyship and Drawing Queer Floriography (ALIA Program)

The event begins with an informative workshop focused on strengthening allyship for trans and gender diverse people. Attendees will be introduced to the fascinating world of queer floriography, the symbolic language of flowers. Participants will then join Craig Burgess from Drawing Plants Together for a relaxed botanical drawing session.

Newport Community Hub, Newport
6 Feb 3hrs
Sat 10am
FREE
Presented by Hobsons Bay City Council

REGIONAL EVENT

Workshops



MIC CHECK

LGBTQIA+ Comedy and Drag Performance Workshops & Residency at The Memo

Bring an idea!

Workshop it with a professional comedian and drag queen.

Develop it further in a week-long venue residency.

Perform it for friends, family, and community.

Image: by Cathy Ronalds

The Memo Healesville, Healesville

13-22 Jan — 1hr 30m

Mon-Sun 10am | Fri 6pm | Relaxed: 22 Jan 6pm

FREE

Presented by Victoria's Pride | Victorian Government and Midsumma Festival | Yarra Ranges Council

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Tours



NGV x MIDSUMMA

An afternoon of free programs that celebrate queer histories, futures and creativity

Join us as we highlight and explore LGBTQIA+ stories and experiences woven throughout the 2027 NGV Triennial, an exhibition that unfolds across all four levels of NGV International, bringing together the work of some of the most respected artists and designers from around the world.

NGV International, Melbourne

6 Feb

Sat Various times | Auslan: Available on request

FREE

Presented by NGV International with Midsumma Festival

Image: Kawita Vatanajyankur Lady Papaya 2023 (still). Courtesy of the artist

REGIONAL EVENT

Workshops



Oceanside Pride: Building the Wave

Growing Pride. Building Belonging.

BEAT ENTERTAINMENT returns to Portland for three days of LGBTQIA+ creativity, connection and community. Come make, move, perform and connect through a vibrant program of workshops and mentoring designed to build confidence, celebrate identity and create belonging.

Portland Arts Centre, Portland

20-22 Jan — 2hrs

Wed-Fri 6pm

FREE

Presented by Victoria's Pride | Victorian Government and Midsumma Festival | BEAT ENTERTAINMENT

Image: by CASIMARIA

Workshops



Printing Pride: Stories in Ink

Printing Pride: Stories in Ink is a six-session inclusive visual arts program celebrating LGBTQIA+ identity, community, storytelling and creative expression through contemporary printmaking. Delivered at Woods Street Studios in Laverton, the workshops will introduce participants to three accessible printmaking techniques.

Woods Street Studios, Laverton

22 Jan, 24 Jan, 29 Jan, 31 Jan, 5 Feb, 7 Feb — 4hrs 30m

Fri, Sun 11am

$17.2 full/ $12.2 conc (per session)

Presented by Hobsons Bay City Council

Image: by Aa is for Art

REGIONAL EVENT

Workshops



Pub Queer

Connecting queers across North-East Victoria with Pubs and Poetry workshops.

Local lesbian (and award-winning musician/ poet) Ruby Gill is taking over Beechworth's halls and pubs with a summer of poetry/songwriting workshops, to celebrate stories of local LGBTQIA+ hotties, and build visibility for community. Join to connect or create! "The power of Ruby Gill, she knows how to write pop songs... incredible songwriting" - Zan Rowe

Old Stone Hall, Tanswell's Hotel, Beechworth

22 Nov, 13 Dec, 24 Jan, 4 Feb, 7 Feb — 3hrs

Sun 1pm | Thu 7pm | Relaxed: See website for details

FREE

Presented by Victoria's Pride | Victorian Government and Midsumma Festival | Ruby Gill

Tours



Queer History Walking Tour - St Kilda

Step into St Kilda's Queer Past and Present

Join the Australian Queer Archives and Thorne Harbour Health for a walking tour of St Kilda's LGBTQIA+ history. Explore sites like the Ritz Hotel, El Sombrero, Mandate, Pride March route, and Queerways murals, brought to life through community stories and AQuA's collection, celebrating queer heritage past and present.

Victorian Pride Centre - The Forum, St Kilda

27 Jan

Wed 5:30-7pm

FREE

Presented by Thorne Harbour Health and Australian Queer Archives

Image: by Ange Bailey

Talks



Queer Melbourne in Historical Novels

Writers Tara Calaby and Alli Parker in conversation with Kelly Gardiner

Step into the hidden histories of Melbourne's queer past, through the lens of historical fiction. From the strict societal boundaries of the 1890s to the glitz and secrets of the 1950s theatre scene, delve into how these authors uncover, reclaim, and fictionalise LGBTQIA+ narratives that standard history books often leave behind.

Victorian Pride Centre - Theatrette, St Kilda

3 Feb — 2hrs

Wed 7pm

FREE

Presented by Hares & Hyenas, with Australian Queer Archives

Tours



Queer Nature

Celebrate diversity in nature and our community

Many of Hobsons Bay's most fascinating animals are nocturnal, preferring to come out after dark. Hosted by a proudly LGBTQIA+ conservation ranger, this relaxed and welcoming walk celebrates diversity in nature and our community. Whether you're a keen wildlife enthusiast or simply looking for a unique Midsumma experience, everyone is welcome.

Truganina Explosives Reserve, Altona

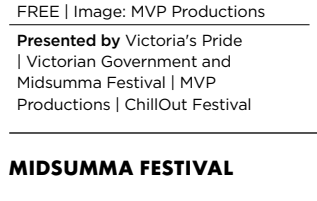
4 Feb — 2hrs

Thu 7:30pm

FREE

Presented by Hobsons Bay City Council

Talks



REPRESENT!?!

A roundtable of queers

A series of panel discussions about what it means to represent as queer. Why is it important? Why do we have to? Do we have to? Who are we representing?

7pm Thu 21 Jan 2027: Representing as Queer in the Arts.

7pm Fri 22 Jan 2027: Representing as Queer in Sports.

2pm Sat 23 Jan 2027: Representing as Queer on the daily.

Grouse Melbourne - Room 7, Fitzroy

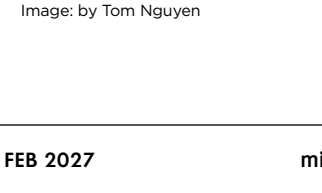
21-23 Jan — 1hr

Thu, Fri 7pm | Sat 2pm

FREE

Presented by Grouse Melbourne

Tours



Retracing Stonnington's Queer Footprints tour

Queer-ways tour

Join us for a tour of Stonnington's queer history, guided by Thorne Harbour Health. Listen to voices and music from the local queer community. Midway you will be treated to food, refreshments and a Dolly Diamond performance at Chapel Off Chapel.

In front of the Braille Library, 31-51 Commercial Rd, South Yarra, South Yarra

4 Feb — 2hrs

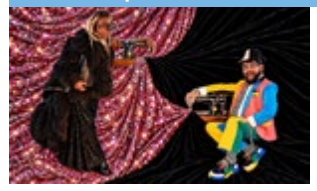
Thu 10am

FREE

Image: by City of Stonnington

REGIONAL EVENT

Workshops



Seams Affirming

We don't have to reshape ourselves to fit clothes, we can reshape clothes to fit our true selves

Seams Affirming is a joyful, TGD-led sewing series where trans and gender diverse adults learn to alter, upcycle and create clothes that fit who they are, while exploring queer textile histories across cultures, contemporary role models, community connection, wellbeing and creative self-expression.

Image: by Maropa Vagabond Productions

Daylesford Neighbourhood Centre, Daylesford

9 Jan, 13 Jan, 16 Jan, 20 Jan, 23 Jan, 27 Jan, 30 Jan, 3 Feb, 6 Feb

Sat 10am-4pm | Wed 5-9pm

FREE | Image: MVP Productions

Presented by Victoria's Pride | Victorian Government and Midsumma Festival | MVP Productions | ChillOut Festival

Workshops



Sketchy Behaviour

A bad art class for good people!

An evening of laughter, strange drawings, and surprising conversations, hosted by drag king Roxy Rawhide. Come draw like a kid, laugh like a fool, and leave with memories instead of masterpieces! All supplies provided, no artistic experience necessary.

Pride of our Footscray Community Bar, Footscray

4 Feb — 2hrs

Thu 6:30pm

$19 full | $14 conc

Image: by Tom Nguyen

TALKS, TOURS AND WORKSHOPS

Talks



The Inaugural Jamie Gardiner OAM Oration

An oration about LGBTIQA+ rights in honour of a trailblazing activist

The Victorian Council for Civil Liberties presents the inaugural Jamie Gardiner OAM Oration in honour of Jamie's long-standing activism. The Hon. Justice Elizabeth Bennett of the Federal Court of Australia will deliver an oration about the history of LGBTIQA+ rights.

The Wheeler Centre - Performance Space, Melbourne

4 Feb	1hr
Thu 6:30pm	
$30 full | $20 conc	

Presented by The Victorian Council for Civil Liberties (Liberty Victoria)

Workshops



Unmasking Desire: A Sounding & Electro Journey

A transformative, hands-on workshop designed to ignite your senses and explore the depths of your desires. Guided by Daddy Schadenfreude, his workshop invites you to step outside the everyday and into a world of connection and pleasure.

Peninsula Sauna, Seaford

21 Jan	4hrs
Thu 6:30pm	
$25 full	

Presented by Peninsula Sauna & Thorne Harbour Health

Workshops



Weaving Connections - Bilang (dilly bags)

A hands-on weaving workshop with queer Boonwurrung artist Bianca Easton exploring dilly bag making

Bilang (dilly bags) are traditional bags that First Nations people used to carry foods, tools and more. Drawing on cultural knowledge, storytelling and contemporary making practices, Bianca will guide participants through the process of weaving their own small dilly bag.

Woods Street Arts Space, Laverton

6 Feb	2hrs
Sat 1pm	
$6.55 full	

Presented by Hobsons Bay City Council

Image: by Bianca Easton



Image: Fekei. P31



Parties and Social Events

Image: Sunset Pride Party. P64

Party



Aruma All-Abilities Pride Disco

A free all-ages, all-abilities celebration of belonging

Join Aruma's first-ever Midsumma event! Enjoy a free, all-ages, all-abilities Pride Disco featuring music, creativity, connection and community. Dance, create, make friends, explore interactive activity zones and celebrate Pride your way in a welcoming, inclusive environment at Collingwood Town Hall.

Collingwood Town Hall, Collingwood

30 Jan
Sat 1-5pm
FREE

Presented by Aruma

Party



Deep Fried Disco

Rooftop Party by Tanzer

For one night only, Tanzer takes over The Big Top against the St Kilda skyline.

Step through a light-up doorway into a nightclub where everybody's a star. The perfect soundtrack of Eurodance, disco and house. Disco divas encouraged, prosecco at sunset a must!

Slow dance at 130bpm with the diva of your dreams.

Dress code: Maximum Glamour.

Victorian Pride Centre - Rooftop, St Kilda

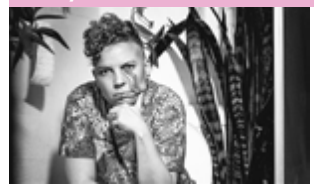
23 Jan
Sat 4-10pm
$44 full | $34 conc | $24 First Nations

Presented by Victorian Pride Centre

Image: by Wilk

REGIONAL EVENT

Party



F*** Fabulous Warehouse Party Castlemaine

Five hours of queer joy. A party and sanctuary!

Fat Fruit brings you a punk, art, performance party created with and for trans, gender diverse and queer community. Artists across Naarm, Castlemaine and Daylesford bring you performances, DJ, flash mobs, crowd karaoke, swap shop and break out zones.

Theatre Royal, Castlemaine

23 Jan	5hrs
Sat 6pm	
$45 FT worker | $25 low inc/conc | $10 Mob	

Presented by Victoria's Pride | Victorian Government and Midsumma Festival | Fat Fruit

Image: by Alexis Desaulniers-Lea

Party



Furocious @ Wet

A FURocious evening!

Calling all bears, cubs, otters & everyone who loves a little fur.

A night packed with bold energy, great music from our DJ and plenty of chances to connect.

If you're proudly furry or simply love the bear scene, it will be a night to remember!

Wet on Wellington, Collingwood

2 Feb
Tue 6:30pm-2am
$35 full

Presented by Melbourne Saunas

Party



Gay Skate: Reimagined

Roll into the '70s at Gay Skate: Reimagined!

Lace up your best roller skates and head to the Sunshine Roller Rink for a fabulous night of all-ages skating, good vibes and plenty of queer '70s flair.

Sunshine Roller Rink, Sunshine

29 Jan	3hrs
Fri 6pm	
FREE	

Presented by Brimbank City Council

Image: by Australian Queer Archives

Party



Happy Hour @ Wet

The weekend starts at Wet!

Turn up the heat & start the weekend off the right way at Wet on Wellington for some drink specials and amazing tunes from our DJ!

Sip, mingle, flirt and see where the night takes you.

Cold drinks. Hot beats. Even hotter company.

Wet on Wellington, Collingwood

5 Feb	
Fri 6:30-11pm	
$35 full	

Presented by Melbourne Saunas

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Party



Plus 55 - Return to the Disco

Turn back the clock for one more spin on the dancefloor

Plus 55: Return to the Disco is a Midsumma event made for the older members of our LGBTIQA+ communities. Drag legends Sondra and Sue Ridge, familiar faces from iconic venues including the Xchange Hotel and Diva Bar bring back the music and magic of Melbourne's 80s and 90s queer scene. Sing from your seat or get up and boogie!

Victorian Pride Centre - Theatrette, St Kilda

24 Jan	3hrs
Sun 6pm	
FREE	

Presented by Victorian Pride Centre and Lifeview

Image: by Ejay Freeman

Party



Pride Rooftop Party Presented by Chemist Warehouse 2027

Cocktails Nibbles Freebies Drag Brand Activations

Join us, along with some amazing brands, as we celebrate the Midsumma Festival! Explore beauty and wellness activations and dance the night away! We proudly celebrate the LGBTQIA+ community as the Founding Major Partner of the Victorian Pride Centre.

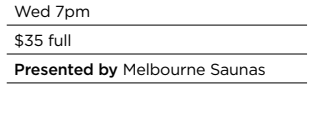
Victorian Pride Centre - Rooftop, St Kilda

29 Jan	3hrs
Fri 6:30pm	
$10 full	

Presented by Chemist Warehouse

Image: by DJ Barb B Doll

Party



Lady Like Pool Party 2027

The BIGGEST femme event of the year!

A Lesbian, Queer, Trans-femme, AFAB & Sapphic Event!

Join hundreds of femmes at the biggest femme event of the year as you swim, drink, dance and play your way accross a multi level venue at Wet on Wellington.

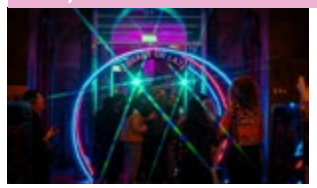
Wet on Wellington, Collingwood

3 Feb	6hrs 30m
Wed 7pm	
$35 full	

Presented by Melbourne Saunas

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Party



Library Up Late x Midsumma Festival

Australia's oldest public library transforms into an after-hours celebration

Your childhood Book Week just got an adult upgrade.

Library Up Late returns to State Library Victoria for Midsumma Festival, transforming Australia's oldest public library into an after-hours celebration for literary lovers, bookworms, queer community and those who simply love an excuse to dress up for a themed event.

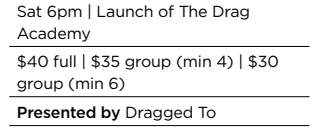
State Library Victoria, Melbourne

5 Feb	
Fri 7:30-10:30pm	
$36 full | $30 conc | $25 First Nations	

Presented by State Library Victoria with Midsumma Festival

Image: by Matto Lucas

Party



Pride Tide Boat Party

An All-Inclusive Party on the Waves for Buoys & Babes

Join Kween Kong and the Dragged To crew for THE Boat Party that warmly welcomes everyone from the LGBTQIA+ community and our cherished allies.

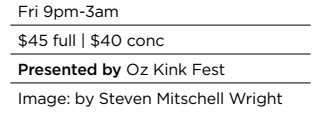
Get ready to dance from day to night to the electrifying beats of top DJs, be dazzled by live performances from fabulous drag queens and kings, and enjoy breath-taking views of Melbourne's skyline.

Victoria Star Cruises, Docklands

23 Jan	4hrs
Sat 6pm | Launch of The Drag Academy	
$40 full | $35 group (min 4) | $30 group (min 6)	

Presented by Dragged To

Party



Provocation

Summer heat meets fetish energy. Jelly wrestling, Wet T-Shirt Competition & Kinky beach-club vibes

Provocation turns up the summer heat with jelly wrestling, a Wet T-Shirt Competition, DJ Slave Barbie and beach-club mayhem. An 18+ kink & fetish event with a strict dress code, where consent is mandatory and things are guaranteed to get wet.

Inflation Nightclub, Melbourne

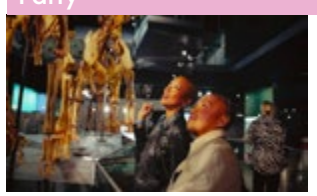
22 Jan	
Fri 9pm-3am	
$45 full | $40 conc	

Presented by Oz Kink Fest

Image: by Steven Mitschell Wright

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Party



Nocturnal

Melbourne Museum kicks off 2027 Nocturnal with a very special Pride edition

Wander the galleries after dark, once the daytime crowds have left and the place is all yours. Discover new perspectives through a curated program of talks and tours, with rare behind-the-scenes insights into our exhibitions and collections. As the night unfolds, enjoy a live DJ, drinks and snacks from the Museum Market Café. Relax, explore and experience Melbourne Museum in a whole new light - after dark.

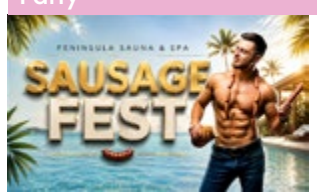
Melbourne Museum, Carlton

4 Feb	3hrs 30m
Thu 6pm	
$25 full | $22.50 conc | $20 museum member	

Presented by Melbourne Museum & Midsumma Festival

Image: by Lisa Businovski

Party



Peninsula Sausage Fest 2027

No clothes. No shame. Just sausage.

Get ready for a day that's serving meat in more ways than one.

Strip off, strut your stuff, grab a sausage from the sizzle & wash it down with a drink special while you mingle with a room full of exposed boys.

Cold drinks. Hot sausages. Come Hungry.

Peninsula Sauna, Seaford

31 Jan	8hrs 30m
Sun Midday	
$30 full	

Presented by Melbourne Saunas

Party



Queer AF @ Wet

Come as you are. Play as you please.

A bold, welcoming night created for the queer community to connect, explore and express themselves freely.

No labels, no judgement — just good energy, open minds and endless possibilities.

Drink, dance and play at Wet on Wellington!

Wet on Wellington, Collingwood

4 Feb	
Thu 6:30pm-2am	
$35 full	

Presented by Melbourne Saunas

After Party



Rooftop Rodeo

A Disco Rodeo Hoedown with Kitty & Lu

HOEDOWN! Disco Rodeo's Kitty & Lu are back at the Victorian Pride Centre for one event only! Featuring beginner line dance lessons, two-stepping with crowd favourite, Ro Allen, & plenty of social dancing to all the Disco Rodeo faves! So bust out those boots and join us on the iconic rooftop for summer's biggest hoedown this side of Tamworth!

Victorian Pride Centre - Rooftop, St Kilda

6 Feb	
Sat 6-10pm	
$27.50 full | $20 conc	

Presented by Disco Rodeo Boot Scooting

Image: by Kitty Wursthorn

Party



Shattered Heels

Disney Inspired - Drag Night

Step into a magical world of Disney-inspired drag, where fabulous performers bring your favourite characters to life! Expect fierce performances, a live DJ, craft beer & wine, easy going food snacks, a hilarious dress-up competition, prizes, dancing, and plenty of surprises. Grab your crew and prepare for a night of pure sparkle.

Coburg RSL, Coburg

30 Jan	3hrs
Sat 7:30pm | One Night Only	
$21.50 full | $17.50 conc	

Presented by Beyond Rainbows Events

Image: by Andrew

REGIONAL EVENT

Party



So Last Century

A "Dynasty" and "Number 96" themed party celebrating regional pride.

Step into retro glamour at this one-night-only Midsumma celebration in Jeparit, inspired by Dynasty and Number 96, featuring live entertainment, themed dress-ups and powerful LGBTQIA+ stories celebrating regional pride, resilience, visibility and connection. Come dressed to party and enjoy a wholesome feed, all included in your ticket.

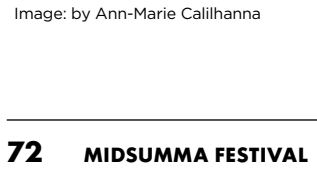
Jeparit Memorial Hall, Jeparit

30 Jan	4hrs
Sat 7pm	
$30 full	

Presented by Victoria's Pride | Victorian Government and Midsumma Festival | Hindmarsh Pride Committee

Image: by Hindmarsh Shire Council

After Party



Sunday Sizzle: Pride March Rooftop Party

You marched. Now dance, cool down and grab a snag

This is THE spot to land after Pride March to beat the heat: fabulous live performances, queer anthems spun by DJ Sugarplump Fairy, a cold one from Stomping Ground and a snag at our famous sausage sizzle.

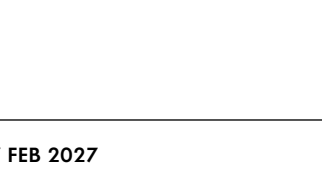
Victorian Pride Centre - Rooftop, St Kilda

31 Jan
Sun 12-6pm
FREE

Presented by Victorian Pride Centre

Image: by Sam Copland

Party



The Coast Is Queer x DIVE BAR Carpark Party

The Coast Is Queer Party brings Geelong's queer community together for a Carpark Party at Dive Bar

Get ready for an outdoor celebration of queer culture, music and community featuring a headline act, DJ's, Drag and group performances.

"A celebration of Geelong's LGBTIQA+ community unlike anything seen before."

Dive Bar Geelong, Geelong

30 Jan	6hrs
Sat 6pm	
$55 full | $40 conc	

Presented by The Coast is Queer Party and Dive Bar

Image: by Thirty Five Million

Party



THICK 'N' JUICY Pride Pool Party

Make a splash this Midsumma!

THICK 'N' JUICY is turning up the heat this summer at the iconic Fitzroy Pool. Get ready for an afternoon of sun-soaked fun, DJs serving funky house beats and an unforgettable Pride celebration! Have a swim and dance with your mates - this is your invitation to enjoy 5 glorious hours of THICK 'N' JUICY poolside magic.

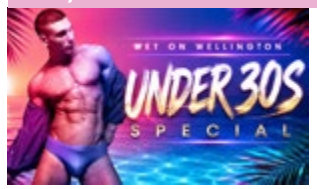
Fitzroy Pool, Fitzroy

30 Jan	5hrs
Sat 2pm	
$35 full	

Presented by THICK 'N' JUICY

Image: by Ann-Marie Calilhanna

Party



Under 30s @ Wet

Turn up the heat at Under 30s!

Make a splash at our Under 30s Midsumma Special! Join us for a hot night of swimming, drinks, music from our DJ and good vibes at Wet on Wellington!

Meet new people, unwind and enjoy the party—exclusively for guys aged 18-30.

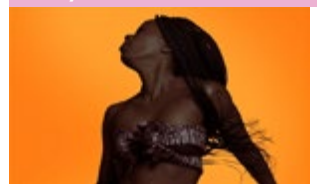
VCAT: #112/2023

Wet on Wellington, Collingwood

1 Feb
Mon 6:30pm-2am
$35 full

Presented by Melbourne Saunas

Party



Verbena Pride

Afro-Latin & Global Sounds

Verbena is back.

After bringing the heat to Victoria's Pride Street Party 2026, Verbena returns for its next chapter — taking over Spiegel Haus Melbourne for a day-and-night celebration of queer culture, Latin sounds, global rhythms and pure dance floor energy.

Start early. Catch the sunset at the rooftop. Lose yourself on the dance floor. Go late.

SPIEGEL HAUS MELBOURNE, Melbourne

30 Jan	8hrs
Sat 2pm	
FREE	

Presented by Pink Dolphin Group Entertainment

Image: by HM

Party



Wet Pool Party 2027

The biggest pool party of the year is here!

Dive into an unforgettable day of sun, beats and premium vibes at Wet on Wellington.

Multiple DJs, spectacular laser shows, an epic pool atmosphere and Melbourne's hottest men all in one place.

Wet on Wellington, Collingwood

6 Feb	8hrs
Sat Midday	
$70 full	

Presented by Melbourne Saunas



Image: Oceanside Pride Building the Wave. P66



Sports

Image: Pack is all. P75

Sport



Aikido Shudokan

Aikido Shudokan — a traditional martial art with modern-day application, for Mind Body & Spirit

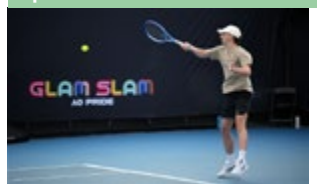
Join a welcoming self-defence class with Fulori Smith, 5th Dan Aikido Shudokan instructor (40+ yrs teaching in Melbourne). No experience needed — learn real skills to read a situation, move, and protect yourself with calm over force. Proudly part of our LGBTQIA+ community, at Midsumma. Come as you are, leave stronger.

Aikido Shudokan, Coburg

23 Jan, 30 Jan	1hr
Sat 3pm	
FREE	

Presented by Aikido Shudokan

Sport



AO Glam Slam

Pride Takes Centre Court

Part of a global series of LGBTQIA+ tournaments, the AO Glam Slam brings LGBTQIA+ tennis players together at the Australian Open to celebrate queer visibility, inclusion, competition and community. The event culminates in the Glam Slam Finals from 2pm on Sunday, with the Courtside Bar adjacent to Court 6 providing a party-like atmosphere for spectators to enjoy.

Melbourne Park, Melbourne

29-31 Jan	
Fri - Sun | Various times	

ENTRY into Melbourne Park requires an Australian Open Ground Pass Ticket - starting from $19

Presented by BOSS

Image: by Tennis Australia

Sport



AO Pride Day

Game, set, pride!

AO Pride Day brings LGBTQIA+ communities, allies and tennis fans together for a day of world-class tennis, entertainment and celebration. Explore the courts, catch the Semi Finals and connect with community at the Australian Open all day. Celebrate inclusion and help make sport a place where everyone belongs.

Melbourne Park, Melbourne

29 Jan	
Fri 11am-9pm	

ENTRY into Melbourne Park requires an Australian Open Ground Pass Ticket - starting from $19

Presented by Tennis Australia

Image: by Tennis Australia

Sport



Evolution Of St Kilda Road Through A Gay Nomads Lens

Melbourne's Grandest Boulevard

From a swamp to a commercial, entertainment & recognition space, explore St Kilda Rd's features, with background stories, from Fed Square to Toorak Rd. The walk ends at Botanical Gardens. Bring closed footwear, water and lunch. Bookings Essential.

Federation Square, Melbourne

24 Jan	4hrs 35m
Sun 10:30am	
FREE	

Image: by G. Oliver

Sport



Glamourhead Sharks "Give Squad Swimming a Go" Day

Ever wanted to try Squad Swimming??

Melbourne's Glamourhead Sharks swim club invites social swimmers to competitive swimmers to 'Give Squad Swimming a Go' this Midsumma Festival. Tackle the dreaded butterfly or just do a few laps with us to get a taste of a squad swimming session. Coach Kodie and coach Dee will be on deck to provide feedback to swimmers.

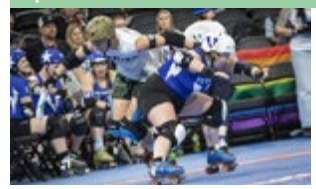
Fitzroy Pool, Fitzroy

6 Feb	1hr
Sat 10:30am	
$5 full	

Presented by Glamourhead Sharks

Image: by Glamourhead Sharks

Sport



Pack Is All: Roller Derby & Open Skate

Fierce, fast, fun - experience Roller Derby this Midsumma!

Victorian Roller Derby League invites you to its home in Preston for an action-packed celebration of grassroots sport.

Watch some of Australia's best roller derby athletes battle it out in an electrifying game, then lace up your skates and hit the track yourself for an open skate session, with great tunes keeping you rolling all night long!

The Factory, Preston

6 Feb	
Sat 5:30-10:30pm	
$10 game | $10 open skate | $15 game and skate combo	

Presented by Victorian Roller Derby League

Image: by Marko Niemelä

Sport



Rainbow Golf 2027

Rainbow Golf Day is a social golf day for LGBTQIA+ golfers and allies of all ages and abilities

Hosted on Sun 7 Feb at Yarrambat Park Golf Course (649 Yan Yean Rd, Yarrambat), it is a fun and inclusive day with plenty of colour, laughs and good times.

Beginners are welcome. No equipment? No worries! Equipment is available upon request.

Yarrambat Park Golf Course, Yarrambat

7 Feb	4hrs
Sun 8:30am	
$33 full	

Presented by Belgravia Leisure

Image: by Golf Australia



Image: Hobson Bay Pride

Access at Midsumma

At Midsumma, we're committed to making our events and services accessible as possible. We offer several ways to access information about our events. Visit **midsumma.org.au/access** to explore these resources.

To find events with specific accessibility features, select **Show event filters** on our website and choose your preferred accessibility options to view matching events.

If you have questions, feedback or would like information in another format, please email **ticketing@midsumma.org.au**.

Accessible Events

Check individual Midsumma Festival event listings for accessibility information, or visit **midsumma.org.au/access** to learn more about services such as Auslan interpretation, audio description and tactile tours.

Wheelchair Access

Wheelchair accessibility varies between venues. Look for the wheelchair access symbol alongside event listings for information. As accessibility information is provided by venues, we recommend contacting the venue directly to confirm its accessibility.

National Relay Service

If you are Deaf, hard of hearing or have difficulty speaking, contact the National Relay Service on **133 677** or visit **relayservice.com.au**. Ask to be connected to Midsumma on **03 9296 6600** during business hours. There is no additional charge for this service.

Companion Card Holders

Companion Card holders are entitled to a complimentary ticket for their companion. To book, contact Midsumma Ticketing at **ticketing@midsumma.org.au** or call **03 9296 6600** during business hours, Monday to Friday.

Auslan Interpreted

Auslan interpreter services provide equal access to arts and entertainment for people who are Deaf, their friends and families.

ALTAR
Gasworks - Main Theatre
30 Jan 2pm

Digital Narratives
Incinerator Gallery
Opening: Fri 29 Jan 6-8pm

Fantasy Ball II: Strictly Business
Northcote Theatre
30 Jan 6pm

Lanterns of Pride
75 Reid St
23 Jan 11am

Love Love Love Love Love Love
ArtPlay
4-7 Feb

Midsumma Art Award
Gasworks - James McCaughey Foyer
Opening: 19 Jan 6pm

Midsumma Carnival
Alexandra Gardens Picnic & Main Stages
17 Jan

Midsumma Pride March
Fitzroy St and Catani Gardens for official proceedings
31 Jan

Midsumma Storytime
The Little Bookroom
Available on Request
19 Jan & 2 Feb

NGV x MIDSUMMA
NGV International
Available on request
6 Feb

Once Upon a Different Time
State Library Victoria - Create Quarter
Available on Request
21 Jan

Pillow Talk
Gasworks - Main Theatre
Fri 22 Jan 7pm

Queer Joy
State Library Victoria - Create Quarter
Available on Request
28 Jan

Queer Melbourne in Historical Novels
Victorian Pride Centre - Theatrette 3 Feb 7pm

Queer Playwriting Award Showcase Gasworks - Main Theatre
18 Jan 7pm

Rainbow Storytime
State Library Victoria - Create Quarter
Available on Request

Screenprinting with Chira Grasby and Oxy Customs
Bundoora Homestead Art Centre
Available on Request

Soft Nights at NCM
National Communication Museum (NCM)
Available on Request

The Extraordinary Flying Ship
State Library Victoria - Create Quarter
Available on Request

THEY WILL BE KINGS
Fed Square - The Edge
5 Feb 8pm

Victoria's Pride Street Party
Gertrude Street and Smith Street
Smith & Gertrude Street Stages
7 Feb 12pm

Relaxed Performances

Relaxed performances, or Sensory Friendly performances, are designed to create a safe and welcoming environment for people with learning difficulties and/or sensory and communication challenges.

AIDS Memorial Garden Tour
Melbourne Polytechnic College Fairfield - AIDS Memorial Garden
21 Jan

Aruma All-Abilities Pride Disco
Collingwood Town Hall
30 Jan 1-5pm

Creative Healing: Identity, Culture & Connection
Burraja Cultural Centre
14 Jan 10am

Fekei
Next Wave – Brunswick Mechanics Institute
30 Jan 2pm

Homophonic!
Gasworks - Main Theatre
6 Feb 11am

Love Love Love Love Love Love
ArtPlay
4-7 Feb

MIC CHECK
The Memo Healesville
22 Jan 6pm

Outdoors for All: Inclusive Camping Experience
Werribee South Tourist Park
30 Jan Midday

Pali-Pali MiRi
Mallee Arts CoLab
20 Jan 3pm

Pub Queer
Old Stone Hall

Rainbow Families Extravaganza
Victorian Pride Centre - Theatrette
19 Jan 12:30pm

Searching for Sappho
The Motley Bauhaus - Theatrette
3 Feb 8:30pm

Social Butterflies
Wheat, Wine & Whisky
22 Jan 7:30pm

Southside Queer Pool Party
Prahran Aquatic Centre
24 Jan 12-4pm

Stroppy Queens
Gasworks - Studio Theatre
1 Feb 6:30pm

Sun Cut: a lover's dictionary
Dancehouse - Upstairs Studio
5-6 Feb

The Threads Between Us
The Motley Bauhaus - Theatrette
6 Feb 5:45pm

Worldbuilders
Arena Theatre Company

Captioned

Captions are displayed on a screen, enabling the audience/viewer to read what is being said.

Father Daddy
Wheat, Wine & Whisky
4 Feb 7pm

I AM. I CAN.
The MC Showroom - The Showroom
21-22 Jan

Immeasurable Doubt
Theatre Works - Explosives Factory
All

Lanterns of Pride
75 Reid St
23 Jan 11am

Pack is All: Roller Derby Champs
City Library Gallery
3-7 Feb

Pillow Talk
Gasworks - Main Theatre
20-23 Jan

Screenprinting with Chira Grasby and Oxy Customs
Bundoora Homestead Art Centre
On request

Searching for Sappho
The Motley Bauhaus - Theatrette
3 Feb 8:30pm

Stroppy Queens
Gasworks - Studio Theatre
1-3 Feb 6:30pm

Labyrinth
Bunjil Place
29 Jan 6pm

The Night Flower
The Motley Bauhaus - Theatrette
20-24 Jan

Tactile Tours

Tactile tours allow patrons who are blind or have low vision to have a hands-on experience of the work.

Love Love Love Love Love Love
ArtPlay
4-7 Feb

Southside Queer Pool Party
Prahran Aquatic Centre
24 Jan 11:45am

Audio Described

Through the use of a headset or with support from describer guides, audience members can listen to a description of the visual aspects of the event during appropriate breaks in the dialogue. Not all the events listed below make use of headset technology. Some events are supported by describer guides and/or embedded self descriptions.

Homophonic!
Gasworks - Main Theatre
6 Feb 5pm

Love Love Love Love Love Love
ArtPlay
All

Our People & Patrons

Midsumma Staff

Chief Executive & Creative Director: Karen Bryant

Finance & Administration Manager: Priscilla Jeffery

Head of Marketing, Communications & Fundraising - Deputy CEO: Felicity McIntosh

Partnerships & Fundraising Coordinator: Josh Hernandez

Co-Head of Programming: Pieta Farrell

Co-Head of Programming & Programming Producer: Martin Broadley

Head of Production & Operations: Michael Ryan

Production Coordinator: Ella Kerr

Producer: Em Tambree

Visual Arts Coordinator: Sammaneh Pourshafighi

Festival Administration Coordinator: Zack Lewin

Volunteers Coordinator: Beck Sutherland

Stalls and Vendor Coordinator: Eliot Davenport

Digital Communications Coordinator: Hélène Delaleau

Ticketing Coordinator: Erin Garman

Presenter Services Administrator: Jasmin Yujing Wu

IT & Applications: Alan Drummond

Victoria's Pride

Creative Producer: Bec Cooen

Community Engagement Manager: Yvette Turnbull

Programming Producer: Martin Broadley

Production Manager: Zach Mangan

2026–27 Summer Work Placements

Jo Samson

Marc Repse

Ellen Rodrigo

Sage McCrae

Consultants

Risk Consultant: Public Safety Australia

Midsumma Board

Michael Parry
Board Chair

Mitchell Ajduk
Treasurer

Kergen Angel
Secretary

Ordinary Board Members

Jennifer Elmer

TQ Quirk

Sarah Geistendo

Enrico Burgio

Cuong Lam

Britt Wickes

Rhys Cranney

Alexander Batsis

Our Valuable Patrons

Diamond Patron

Stealth Investments Pty Ltd

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Tim Smyth

Gold Patrons

Jason Bright and James Mitchell

Leigh Johns OAM

Kean Mac

David Marantelli

Mark Matthews and Antony Jarvis

Henry Ruge Rojas and David Owen

Alan Wright

Silver Patrons

Susanne Dahn AM

Brad Danaher

Robbie van Dijk

Jo Whyte

Rainbow Patrons

Mitchell Ajduk and Simon Haigh

Enrico Burgio

Helen Donnard

David Imber

Nick Johnson

David Johnston-Bell

Maria Katsonis

Matteo Marantelli

Stephen Masterman

Mark Meier-Johann

Carol Nichols

Garry Oliver

David Owen

TQ Quirk

Roy Ruiz

Simon Sherrin

Beau Webb and Rhys Cranney

Marcus Williams

Frazer Wilson

Life Members

Ray Arthur

Angela Bailey

Tim Bateson

Claire Beckwith

Dean Bryant

John Caldwell

Scott Campbell

Glyn Cryer

John Cummins

Sasha Cunningham

Michael Dalton

Kris Darmody

Alan Drummond

Jeff Dycer

Peter Edmonds

Sue Fletcher

Luke Gallagher

Brenton Geyer

Ian Gould

Jeffrey Grad

Nigel Higgins

Crusader Hillis

Leigh Johns

Geraldine Kirby

Matto Lucas

Lee Matthews

David Micallef

Letizia Mondello

David Owen

Kaye Sera

Ron Thiele

Rowland Thomson

Danny Vadasz

Tracey Wall

Will Walton

Lisa Watts

Roxy B. Wild

Our Valued Partners

PRINCIPAL PARTNERS

MAJOR PARTNERS

GOLD PARTNERS

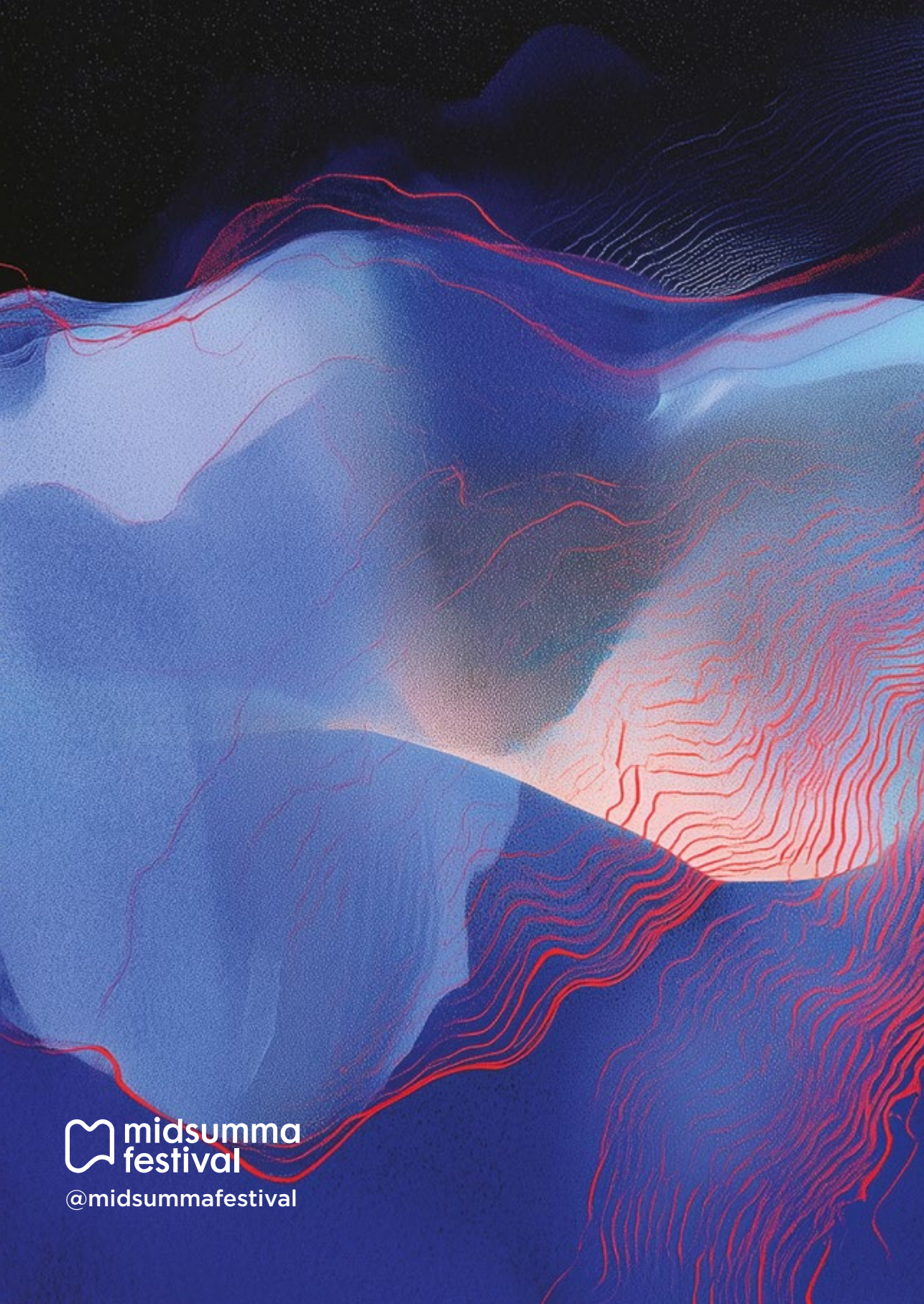
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