15 JAN — 5 FEB 2017

MIDSUMMA FESTIVAL

30 Years of Celebrating Queer Cultures

#midsumma
midsumma.org.au

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About

Midsumma Festival is Victoria’s premier queer arts and cultural Festival, for and by LGBTQIA+ communities.

In 2017 Midsumma celebrates 30 years of championing diversity, cultivating queer perspectives and creating experiences that flip the status quo – all made possible through our annual open access Festival.

For three weeks over Summer 2017, Melbourne and surrounding areas will be home to a spectacular program of over 120 Midsumma Festival events: visual arts, performance, film, parties, sports, talks and social events.

This year’s Festival is punctuated by three signature outdoor events. **Midsumma Carnival** opens the Festival with an all-day-and-night party-in-the-park at Melbourne’s Alexandra Gardens.

**Midsumma Pride March**, Melbourne’s iconic march of solidarity and celebration, rolls through the streets of St Kilda in the second week of the Festival.

The final weekend explodes with **Midsumma Horizon**, a new-art party at Testing Grounds tucked away in Melbourne’s CBD. And the best thing: they are all free!

Held annually since 1988 Midsumma Festival has become one of Australia’s most significant arts and cultural Festivals. Midsumma works year-round to provide artists with support and tools to create, present and promote their work at Midsumma Festival.

**Acknowledgement of Country**

Midsumma acknowledges that Indigenous Australians are the first peoples of these lands. We pay our respects to all Indigenous Australians, past and present, and we recognise their continuing spiritual and cultural connection to the land.

Midsumma Festival takes place between High Summer and Late Summer according to the Wurundjeri calendar of seasons, on whose land much of this Festival is taking place.

**Cover Image**

*Love is Love – The Seahorses* by Vexta
Board, acrylic, spray paint

Internationally regarded street artist, Vexta, breathes new life into a queer symbol in this vibrant new artwork for the 2017 Midsumma Festival Guide.

“Seahorses are known for their mating dance: a celebration of love and connection,” says Vexta discussing the iconography in Love *is Love*. “With their unique beauty and unparalleled gender fluidity in the animal kingdom they represent free love in a complicated world.”

Known by her quintessential use of fluorescent colours and painterly use of stencils, Vexta utilises colourful geometric pieces representative of the sub-atomic particles that make up all matter. In Love *is Love*, this technique not only speaks to the globally recognised Pride flag but also serves to highlight how we are all made of the same parts.

Vexta is a self-taught artist from Sydney based in New York. Recently named by The Guardian as one of the important women redefining street art, Vexta has exhibited across Australia, Europe and North America.
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Welcomes

John Caldwell
Chair, Midsumma

Welcome to Midsumma Festival 2017 – not just any Festival but our 30th anniversary extravaganza, the result of decades of hard work that has handed us this extremely precious event.

From small beginnings as GayDay in the ’80s to a little-funded Festival run by a small board of volunteers during the ’90s, Midsumma Festival evolved into a highlight of the Melbourne queer calendar. The introduction of Carnival in 1992 and custodianship of Pride March in 2015 strengthened Midsumma’s position in Melbourne’s LGBTQIA+ community, which has grown in size, confidence and exuberance. It’s incredible that Midsumma Festival has become a launchpad for so many community and artistic activities. Despite a rich history not much has changed at the Festival’s core, with community leaders at the helm dedicating their time to make change – and by this I refer to my incredible Board who I am blessed to work with.

This year we will be spoilt with an incredible 120-plus events to share with you across more than 60 venues throughout Victoria.

A huge thank you to our staff, sponsors and volunteers, and our Principal Partners, City of Melbourne and NAB.

Happy Midsumma Festival.

Martin Foley MP
Minister for Creative Industries

Happy 30th anniversary to Victoria’s much-loved Midsumma Festival and congratulations on three decades of outstanding contribution to our creative state.

From the beginning, the Festival has fostered and promoted the creativity, diversity and vibrancy of Victoria’s LGBTI+ communities.

This year’s program is better than ever – everything from theatre, cabaret, live music, family events and art exhibitions to the iconic Midsumma Pride March.

We’ve come a long way in 30 years on the road to inclusion and full participation for everyone, everywhere – but there is more to do. Much more.

The Andrews Government values and celebrates diversity. It affirms the right to equality, fairness and decency for LGBTI+ Victorians, and is committed to removing discrimination from Victorian laws, services and society.

We are determined to continue to set the national standard for LGBTI+ equality and inclusiveness – and in this, we’ve a great partner in Midsumma.

Congratulations to all involved with this year’s program.

Martin Cutter
Acting Chief Executive Officer
City of Melbourne

Welcome to Midsumma Festival 2017!

Midsumma Festival is one of Melbourne’s great arts and cultural celebrations. In 2017, Midsumma Festival celebrates its 30th anniversary – a tremendous milestone in the history of Australia’s largest LGBTIQ arts festival.

This premier event is a highlight of our summer events calendar and is the perfect way to kick off the new year in Melbourne.

This year, we expect more than 110,000 people to party along the Yarra at Carnival and T Dance to celebrate the opening of Midsumma Festival.

With more than 100 activities across three weeks including visual arts, performing arts, live music, dance, film and sporting activities, the Festival is an action-packed celebration of our city’s LGBTIQ community.

The City of Melbourne has been a proud supporter of this vibrant and inclusive event for the past seven years.

Congratulations to the organisers for their hard work and commitment. Enjoy this year’s Festival.

Steve Barrow
Executive General Manager, Culture & Capability, National Australia Bank & Executive Sponsor, Pride@NAB

People and community matter. Our vision is to become Australia and New Zealand’s most respected bank: it’s about More than Money.

Respect is a big word, and we want to be respected by our customers, employees, owners and the communities that we serve.

Inclusion and diversity is central to who we are, and we are proud to demonstrate our support for the LGBTI community once more as the Principal Partner of Midsumma. This is our fifth year as a sponsor, and we are delighted that this is the first of a new five-year commitment, including becoming the Principal Sponsor together with the City of Melbourne.

Huge congratulations to Midsumma on 30 years of celebrating LGBTI community and culture here in Melbourne.

I also want to congratulate the amazing Pride@NAB team and our LGBTI colleagues and allies. I am sure that 2017 will be another outstanding community event to be enjoyed by all.

We look forward to the energy and excitement this Festival brings and wish the organisers and all of you a fantastic 2017 Midsumma Festival!
Access

Wheelchair Access

Wheelchair access varies from venue to venue. To check a venue’s wheelchair accessibility, look for the wheelchair access symbol alongside an event listing.

Midsumma relies on accurate information provided by the more than 60 venues that are part of the Festival. We recommend contacting the venue to confirm wheelchair accessibility and to enquire about accessible parking.

Alternative Format Guides

Large print PDF, large print Word and RTF versions of the program can be downloaded on the Midsumma website. Alternatively, call Midsumma on 03 9415 9819 and we can email or post them to you.

Get in Touch

If you have any questions, feedback or would like any information in another format, please don’t hesitate to contact us on 03 9415 9819 or by emailing ticketing@midsumma.org.au

National Relay Service

If you are Deaf, hard of hearing or have difficulty speaking, contact the National Relay Service on 133 677 or via relayservice.com.au, then ask for 03 9415 9819 during business hours. There is no additional charge for this service.

Disclaimer

Midsumma makes every effort to ensure all details are correct at time of printing, however, details are subject to change where necessary and without notice. Please check event listings at midsumma.org.au for up-to-date details. All text and images in this Guide are published as supplied by event producers. All rights remain with those producers, including moral rights. Midsumma Festival is an open access program and does not have direct control over many of the individual events, or changes made to these, within this program.

This Guide

Dolly Di*mond's Bl*nkety Bl*nks

Everyone’s favourite show hostess, Dolly Diamond, presents a fun-filled night of entertainment with more than a passing nod to a television classic. Each night features six famous faces - much-loved celebrities alongside treasured members of the LGBTI community - all of them helping audience contestants win fabulous prizes.

With Dolly Diamond at the helm, this will be an unforgettable night of comedy and cabaret entertainment at its best and funniest.

Venue & Location

Chapel Off Chapel
12 Little Chapel St, Prahran

Date & Time

20 – 28 Jan
Fri – Sat 8pm, Sun 7pm
Duration: 2hrs

Tickets

$32 full, $26 conc
$26 group (min 8)

Access symbols

Symbol Key

Wheelchair access
Over 18 only
Food available
Auslan interpreted
Audio described
Companion card
Family friendly
Assistive listening

Go West

Go West is an initiative of Hobsons Bay City Council, western region council partners and Midsumma to promote and foster a diverse and inclusive community in western metropolitan Melbourne. Proudly presented by Hobsons Bay City Council and the western region Council partners, Brimbank City Council, Maribyrnong City Council, Melton City Council, Moonee Valley City Council and Wyndham City Council.
Ticketing

HOW CAN I GET MY TICKETS?

Online

Purchase tickets quickly and easily via midsumma.org.au

Tickets are available online until one hour before an event’s start-time, unless otherwise specified.

Call Us

Our friendly ticketing team are available most weekdays from 11am to 4pm on 03 9415 9819 for enquiries and bookings. The office will be closed between Christmas and New Year but online bookings are available over this period.

Midsumma is Relay Service friendly! Contact the National Relay Service on 133 677 or via relayservice.com.au, then ask for 03 9415 9819 during business hours.

At the Venue

Purchase tickets at the door of the venue from approximately one hour prior to the show. Tickets are subject to availability. Contact the venue directly to confirm venue opening times. Some venues may be cash only.

Pop-Up Ticket Booth at Midsumma Carnival

Another reason to love Midsumma Carnival at Alexandra Gardens! Dance, celebrate and then grab your Midsumma tickets, free of booking fees. Credit and debit card transactions only.

Ticket Delivery

All tickets will be emailed to you directly. Save paper and show your Print@Home tickets on your smart-phone at the venue.

Phone ran out of battery? Simply turn up! Venues will have a doorlist, so just show your photo ID.

DISCOUNTS AND CONCESSIONS

Concession

We accept a range of concession cards including seniors, full-time students and health care cards. You will be required to show proof of concession when entering the venue.

Preview

Shows may offer discount tickets for performances early in the season. If you purchase these tickets please be mindful that there may be a few production ‘kinks’ to iron out.

Group

Some events may offer a discount if you purchase tickets as a group! So grab your friends, your colleagues or the people squished up next to you on the 96 tram and book together.

Babes-in-Arms

Children under two years old may be admitted to some events without a ticket, provided they sit on the lap of their parent or guardian. Excludes 18+ events.

Free Events

Lots of our events are free! However, some still require you to secure your place by booking. You can secure your place online or over the phone in the same way you would book a regular ticket. No fees apply for ticketed-free events

Entry to non-ticketed free events is subject to venue capacity and at the discretion of venue staff.

Ticket Specials

Hunting for a bargain? Keep your eyes peeled on #midsumma and our e-news for last-minute discount tickets, promo codes, giveaways and more!

Terms and Conditions

A booking fee of $3 is applied per transaction (not per ticket) for all online and phone bookings. Latecomers admitted at the discretion of the venue. Refunds will only be given in accordance with the LPA guidelines and at the discretion of the Event Producer. Refunds will not be issued for change of mind or missed performances. Exchanges may be possible for the same performance and will incur a fee. Midsumma takes no responsibility for tickets issued through third party ticketing agencies.
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Melbourne is coming up rainbows

The 30th Midsumma Festival opens with an all-day-and-night party-in-the-park at Melbourne’s Alexandra Gardens.

Bask in the sun to a buzzing collection of live music, DJs and sneak-peek acts from the Festival to come. Catch some shade and enjoy cheap eats from Melbourne’s best food trucks as well as fresh brews and bevs brought to you by Ladies of Lager. Get lost in the clouds with family-fun activities, community stalls and the best in queer sports presented by Team Melbourne.

There is even a dog show.

When the sun goes down, Midsumma Carnival turns into T Dance. Inspired by evening dance parties of the early 1900s and now a main fixture of queer festivals across the world, this ostentatious and outrageous dance party curated by Midsumma and JOY FM will have you seeing rainbows.

See website for the full Midsumma Carnival program.

Alexandra Gardens
St Kilda Rd, Melbourne

Sun 15 Jan
Midsumma Carnival: 11am onwards
T Dance: 6pm onwards

FREE
MIDSUMMA PRIDE MARCH

Take to the streets

Parade, pride and party come together once a year in Melbourne’s iconic queer march.

With its origins in the spontaneous demonstrations of Stonewall and speaking to the struggles of LGBTQIA+ peoples everywhere, Midsumma Pride March is a spectacular act of solidarity in a world where many go without rights, dignity and visibility.

Encounter the kilometre-long procession of Victoria’s diverse queer communities as they dance, strut, sing, catwalk, vogue, placard, drag and move together in a celebration of difference, acceptance and equality.

Follow the 22nd Pride March as it surges through St Kilda and culminates in an afternoon of festivities at Catani Gardens.

Whether you join the fanfare by foot or by wheel, with workmates or with family, with friends or with lovers, as ally or as queer, Midsumma Pride March is for you.

**Pride March:** Fitzroy St, St Kilda
**Post-Pride Celebrations:** Catani Gardens, St Kilda

**Sun 29 Jan** 2pm start

**Participate:** Participants in the March must register via midsumma.org.au by 1 Dec 2016

**FREE**

Image: Coal Photography
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Sky is the limit

Experience a new-art extravaganza as the sun sets on Midsumma Festival 2017.

Featuring a cross-section of Melbourne’s experimental artists, Midsumma Horizon celebrates the often-volatile space that queer arts occupy. Unfixed identities, radical perspectives and new politics collide as we ask what does a queer future look like?

Co-curated by Daniel Santangeli and Alison Bennett, Midsumma Horizon is a future-focused art party featuring live-performance, projection, visual art and music: all in the heart of the city at Testing Grounds, Melbourne’s outdoor site for creative risk-taking.

Bring your phone and stroke that screen to experience the locative site of QueerTech.io, an internet-art project of works from around the globe featured as part of Midsumma Horizon.

Testing Grounds
1 – 23 City Road, Southbank (behind Arts Centre Melbourne)

Sat 4 Feb
6pm – 11pm

FREE
QueerTech.io: http://QueerTech.io
For ease of program navigation, advertising has been removed from this page.
Glitterbomb your festival and bring your post-show diva to the

**Midsumma Festival Barre**

for all kinds of fabulousness

featuring DJs, queer cocktails, sing-alongs, special guests, weekend chats, forums + more

full program announced January 2017

FREE
OPEN EVERY NIGHT OF THE FESTIVAL

Arts Centre Melbourne, The Barre
100 St Kilda Road
Premier Events

Beautiful Women

Following the 2016 success of All You Need is Love, photographer Lisa White returns to Midsumma Festival and Incinerator Gallery with a new portrait series. Beautiful Women celebrates the contributions LGBTI women have made to challenging narrow definitions of femininity and perfection. Exploring the power of lesbian, bi, trans and intersex women and the diverse characteristics of their beauty, this exhibition presents ‘beauty’ as beyond-skin to a sense of pride in ‘who we are’. Join Breast Screen Victoria in celebrating all women as part of their work developing LGBTI inclusive services.

Incinerator Gallery
180 Holmes Rd, Moonee Ponds
21 Jan – 12 Feb
Opening: 20 Jan 6 – 8pm
Exhibition: Tue – Sun 11am – 4pm
FREE

Convergent Pathologies

myriad collective and Incinerator Gallery present Convergent Pathologies, a group exhibition by trans and gender diverse (TGD) artists from Melbourne. Convergent Pathologies explores the experiences of TGD people living with mental illness: from making choices to resist against or comply with being pathologised, to negotiating multiple identities and realities.

The show features works by local TGD artists Hiro Mcl, Tama tk Favell, Archie Barry, and Cat Calypso, and is curated by myriad collective’s darcy t gunk.

Image: Archie Barry’s Cardinis (still). Video, 6:40 minutes.
# Dragformation

#Dragformation is the striking and fresh photographic exhibition by Aaron Walker, that documents the visual transformation of Australia’s leading drag performers. His ongoing series beautifully showcases the extraordinary talent, diversity, creativity and passion of these world standard performers, and his unique perspective will restore your faith in drag as an artform that continues to be as vibrant, relevant and culturally significant as ever.

Photo: Dandrogyny

Chapel Off Chapel
12 Little Chapel St, Prahran
20 Jan – 5 Feb
Opening Thu 19 Jan 6 – 8pm
Drag Party Fri 3 Feb 9pm – late
Exhibition daily except 26 Jan, midday - 5pm + show times
FREE

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Premier Event

The Happy Prince

Little Ones Theatre presents its take on The Happy Prince: an adult parable about inequality and compassion. This divine story of the reckless love shared by a golden statue and a selfless swallow, has become an enduring metaphor for the oppression of desire. From the producers of Psycho Beach Party and definitely not for children, this is Oscar Wilde at his most perverse, demented, and tragic.

By Little Ones Theatre after Oscar Wilde.

Performed by Janine Watson and Catherine Davies.
Directed by Stephen Nicolazzo.
Designed by Eugyeene Teh and Katie Sfetkidis.
Sound by Daniel Nixon.

La Mama Theatre
205 Faraday St, Carlton
18 – 29 Jan
Wed 6.30pm, Thu – Sat 7.30pm, Sun 4pm
Duration: 1hr
$25 full, $15 concession,
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**Premier Event**

**HardQueer DeathPony**

Phillip Adams BalletLab presents rising star of dance and queer performance, Chad McLachlan.

HardQueer DeathPony premiered at last year’s Melbourne Fringe to rave reviews. It has now been reimagined especially for Midsumma Festival and Melbourne’s latest contemporary arts and performance venue, Temperance Hall. Starring McLachlan with dancer Matthew Hyde, HardQueer DeathPony’s orgy of myths and rituals takes you way out of your comfort zone. The begrimed sexuality is perverted yet tender and this work can best be described as adult theme-park entertainment. It’s must-see contemporary performance for the queerest of art sake.

Image: Bradley Harper

**Premier Event**

**Kerryn Fields & Little Wise**

These two songstresses are joining forces to bring their whiskey-soaked folk and alt-country music to the Northcote Social Club for a special Midsumma Festival show with their full bands.

Kerryn Fields is an artist with huge personality and a striking voice, showcased on her exquisite debut album ‘RASCAL’.

Little Wise (Sophie Klein) is small in stature, but tells a towering story with the wisdom of an old soul. She has just returned from a national tour launching her album ‘Silver Birch’.

**Premier Events**

midsumma.org.au  #midsumma
The Sparrow Men

The Sparrow Men (Marcus Willis & Andy Balloch) explore the lives of real characters, in this hour-long, entirely improvised, two-man comedic play.

Starting with only two chairs and two Sparrow Men onstage, this totally unique, never-to-be-repeated experience springs to life each night with a single suggestion from the audience. With no sets and no props, this style of contemporary theatre fluctuates between comedic, sentimental, light-hearted and dramatic.

Debuting their first ever full-length performance in Midsumma Festival 2015, The Sparrow Men return as Melbourne’s favourite fast-paced comedy duo.

L1 Studios
Level 1/377 Little Bourke St, Melbourne
27 Jan – 4 Feb
Daily (except 28 Jan) 7.30pm
Duration: 1hr
$22 full, $20 concession, $18 group (min 4)
Auslan Interpreted Fri 3 Feb
★★★★½ - Theatrepeople
“The Sparrow Men are experts when it comes to improvised theatre” - The Age
“whippet quick, high-energy duo” - The Herald Sun

Midsumma
Australia Post Art Prize

New World: Everyone has a vision for the future.

Utopic or dystopic? Hopeful or hapless? Together or apart?

See works by the finalists of the Australia Post Art Prize as they respond to the 2017 theme New World. This exhibition provides interrogative and imaginative offerings for the future of LGBTQIA+ peoples.

Now in its second year, the Midsumma Australia Post Art Prize is a nation-wide non-acquisitive award open to early-career and established artists working in any medium.

Fort Delta
Capitol Arcade, 113 Swanston St, Melbourne
21 Jan – 4 Feb
Opening: Fri 20 Jan 6 – 8pm
Exhibition: Thu – Sun midday – 5pm
FREE
Image: Beefcake Comedown (Gold), 2014, by 2016 Finalist Jake Preval. Photo: Lauren Dunn

Finalists of the inaugural 2016 Australia Post Art Prize included Jake Preval, Alison Bennett, Ying Huang and William Eicholtz. 2017’s finalists announced in December.
For ease of program navigation, advertising has been removed from this page.
MIDSUMMA AT ARTS CENTRE MELBOURNE

From the cream of London’s queer cabaret scene to Melbourne’s most wanted, Arts Centre Melbourne has assembled a Midsumma line-up to frock up and wig out to.

Under the spire, it’s a three week hurricane of notorious and outrageous personalities serving up salacious showstoppers and filthy laughs. Don’t miss this rogue troupe of performers who will defy the expectations of even the most jaded!

The Midsumma Festival Barre can also be found at Arts Centre Melbourne, taking over The Barre with DJs, queer cocktails, sing-alongs and special guests every night of the festival.

**ACM Summa Packages: buy 2 or more Midsumma at Arts Centre Melbourne shows and receive 15% off***

*selected seats only

**Arts Centre Melbourne**
100 St Kilda Rd, Melbourne
Ursula Martinez: 
Free Admission

Presented by Arts Centre Melbourne

Ursula Martinez is many things: an Olivier Award winner, a cult cabaret diva, a star of stages across the world... but above-all-else she is a first-rate provocateur.

Britain's most acerbic performance artist is back on her dirty soapbox for Midsumma, baring her soul (and possibly more). As acclaimed as it is fearless, Free Admission is a new show that sees Ursula build a brick wall on-stage while pondering the contradictions and inconsistencies that make us human.

An original cast member of cabaret phenomenon La Soirée, Ursula is most famous for subverting the striptease in her outrageous magic striptease act ‘Hanky Panky’, where she makes a handkerchief disappear and reappear from just about everywhere...

Directed by Mark Whitelaw.

★★★★ ‘It’s a full-frontal statement and demonstration of honesty, vulnerability and power.’ - Time Out

★★★★ ‘...funny, tongue-in-cheek, heartfelt and emotional.’ - The Guardian

Fairfax Studio

31 Jan – 5 Feb
Tue – Wed 6.30pm
Thu – Fri 9.15pm
Sat 3pm & 6.30pm
Sun 5pm
Duration: 1hr

$45 full, $35 restricted view
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<th><strong>Comedy</strong></th>
<th><strong>Midsumma at Arts Centre Melbourne</strong></th>
<th><strong>#midsumma</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Ash Flanders:</strong> Playing to Win</td>
<td>Presented by Arts Centre Melbourne</td>
<td>midsumma.org.au</td>
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<td>How do you win in a world where eight-year-olds on YouTube are the new gurus? Where Hollywood stars dance alone at their own premieres? Where even your own parents disparage you as 'the flavour of the month'? How do you stay optimistic? How do you maintain your dignity? Ash wouldn't know. With his band at the ready, local fey nuisance Ash Flanders (Lilith: The Jungle Girl, Meme Girls, co-founder of Sisters Grimm) dares you to step into the ring with him, as he blends together a darkly funny mix of song and story, pop culture and personal tragedy.</td>
<td>★★★★ “See him before he really is too famous for a small room.” - The Age</td>
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<td><strong>Finucane &amp; Smith’s Glory Box: Lucky 13</strong></td>
<td>Presented by Arts Centre Melbourne</td>
<td>midsumma.org.au</td>
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<td>An explosive variety show of the most subversive ilk, Glory Box is a melting pot of cabaret, dance and transcendent glamour. Dice-rolling divas, ace-in-the-hole aerialists, pokerfaced prima donnas and backroom ballerinas take to the stage in this rock’n’roll Russian roulette, all led by Melbourne’s own unquenchable Queen of Hearts, Moira Finucane. At Glory Box, everyone’s a winner, baby.</td>
<td>★★★★★ “Jaw dropping, feisty, seductive, dynamic... Unmissable.” - Edinburgh Guide</td>
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<td><strong>A Night at the Musicals starring Le Gateau Chocolat and Jonny Woo</strong></td>
<td>Presented by Arts Centre Melbourne in association with Strut &amp; Fret Production House</td>
<td>midsumma.org.au</td>
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<td>UK drag artiste extraordinaire Jonny Woo teams up with the Olivier-winning superstar baritone, Le Gateau Chocolat, to drag you through the back catalogue of musical theatre with ballys ballads, delightfull duets and slaughtered show tunes. From Les Mis to The Lion King, Cabaret to Annie... no musical is safe.</td>
<td>★★★★ “A sensational display of glitzy self-expression with A-class wit” - In-Daily</td>
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<td><strong>Panti: High Heels in Low Places</strong></td>
<td>Presented by Arts Centre Melbourne and THISPOPBABY</td>
<td>midsumma.org.au</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hilarious and poignant, Irish drag star Panti Bliss invites you into her stiletto-shaped world, tracing her journey from small-town boy to the National F*cking Treasure she became after her speech about homophobia went viral, was remixed by the Pet Shop Boys, caused a parliamentary meltdown and fed into Ireland’s marriage equality referendum success.</td>
<td>★★★★ “A wise, hilarious, foul-mouthed jolt to the system” - Time Out</td>
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Dolly Diamond’s Piano Barre

Presented by Arts Centre Melbourne

Monday nights during Midsumma are getting a musical lease of life: Dolly Diamond will lead a sing-along with a bar full of strangers!

There will be VIP guest performers each week – but everyone will have a chance to sing, if they wish. And needless to say, Dolly will be trawling through her own songbook of life!

Join in and sing a collective show-tune or three. Perhaps something from Kylie... or butch it up with a bit of Liza or Judy. ‘Too much’ simply isn’t in the vocabulary at the Piano Barre.

The Barre, Arts Centre Melbourne
16, 23 & 30 Jan
Mon 7pm
FREE

Rhonda Butchmore’s Fabulous Cou-Tours of Arts Centre Melbourne

Presented by Arts Centre Melbourne

Melbourne drag icon Rhonda Butchmore (Thomas Jaspers) and her loyal cohost Kyle Minall are back for a third and final year of fabulous tours of Arts Centre Melbourne.

Get the down low on the famous and the infamous and see the theatres and costumes (including a display of items from the queer folk who have both graced and disgraced our stages) that have helped shape Melbourne’s status as the cultural capital of Australia.

Tour includes a glass of bubbles, darlings!

Arts Centre Melbourne
19 Jan – 5 Feb
Thu (except 26 Jan) & Fri 6 + 8pm
Sat 4.30 + 6.30 + 8.30pm
Sun 4.30 + 6.30pm
Duration: 55mins
$30 full (includes a glass of bubbles)
For ease of program navigation, advertising has been removed from this page.
Gasworks Arts Park in partnership with The Village Festival will transform the Gasworks parklands into a Midsumma destination to ensure you linger longer to enjoy all the festivities.

Take selfies with the giant inflatable rainbow, stay to check out a show or a film screening, and in between, wander around the park to enjoy the bar and lounge, Cuddle Puddle, 10 Minute Dance Party Caravan, Penny Candy Sideshow and so much more.

Gasworks Arts Park
21 Graham St, Albert Park
Auto Bio Queen

The story of Beni Lola’s life journey is told through dazzling cabaret performances by some of Melbourne’s finest from the cabaret, drag and live performance communities, including Karen From Finance, Kathleen Gonzales and the Auto Bio Queen herself, Beni Lola. This journey of self-discovery will touch anyone who has ever searched for somewhere to belong.

Contains adult themes.

CABARET

Gasworks Arts Park
21 Graham St, Albert Park
1 – 4 Feb
Wed – Sat 7.30pm
Duration: 1hr
$28 full, $24 concession
$20 group (min 6)

The Desperettes:
A Guide to being a Wingman

Too long have the secrets of being a wingman been guarded by hetero men. Well, not any more! The Desperettes are girls dressed as boys, using these techniques for picking up while wearing giant pink beehives. In this comedy cabaret, expect sharp wit and tight three-part harmonies as these girls defy gender while singing (and sometimes rapping) a huge soundtrack of pop hits.

Contains adult themes.
★★★★½ - Theatre People
★★★★ - Arts Hub
★★★★ - The Music
The Dog Theatre presents VARIETY

The Dog Theatre Presents: VARIETY - a late-night Midsumma variety show at Gasworks Arts Park. Hosted by our fabulous MC, VARIETY features the very best of Melbourne’s emerging queer comedy, theatre, drag and performance artists, served up sizzling hot with a dash of glitter. Expect anything, assume nothing, and be sure to come the frock along for a stupendously good time!

Contains adult themes.

CABARET

Freaky Sexy Weird

Ever had a dirty or unusual thought? Come join Fox Pflueger for an intimate night of debauched entertainment. Expect everything including, but not limited to, Drag Quings, danger, glitter explosions, songs, nuns, and black magick. This is the kind of performance art event that makes everyone question something.

Contains adult themes.

FILM

Priscilla, Queen of the Desert: Film Screening

Dress to the nines and strut your stuff in our answer to “Drag Race”. Our MC will award best costume prizes before we relive the Australian classic film The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert. Sing your heart out (or lip synch for your life) to the film’s classic tunes from ABBA, Village People, Gloria Gaynor and more.

PARTIES

10 Minute Dance Party Caravan

Hosted by special guest DJs, this crowd favourite is an exclusive dance party for 10 people at a time. It only lasts for 10 minutes, but the concentration of time and dancers ensures a feeling of euphoria that will leave you wanting more.
For ease of program navigation, advertising has been removed from this page.
Cuddle Puddle

Fall into the arms of friends old and new in the Cuddle Puddle. Sounds and scents will help you to relax and unwind in the gorgeous Rajasthani Wedding Tent. Give and receive a shoulder massage or simply gaze out across the Gasworks Arts Park festivities.

Come and go as you please!

Elizabeth Taylor - The Queen of Celebrity Activism

Elizabeth Taylor had a passionate commitment to fighting HIV/AIDS and, in 1985, began donating her personal income as well as raising funds to discover a cure. Today her efforts continue posthumously and contribute significantly to the cause. The legacy of her unwavering and tireless work will surpass the likes of any Kardashian, or wannabe celebrity head. The exhibition will showcase some of Elizabeth's prized personal effects, and collectable items.

So You Think You Can Interpretive Dance

Just like the hit TV show, except with anarchy and absolute hilarity. The host invites members of the audience to register, and as each contestant is called up onto stage, they are given a song: anything from Enya's Sail Away to Kylie's Locomotion. SYTYCID channels extroverts for the amusement of everyone. Three judges go to town with witty commentary.

Summer Treats! A YUMMY Production

Directed by James Welsby (BRIEFS, Finucane & Smith), and featuring performers Karen From Finance, Tanzer, James Andrews, Beni Lola, Hannie Helsden, and surprise special guests. If you know and love YUMMY, this special season of new work tailor made for Midsumma at Gasworks is sure to please your taste buds. Join us in our avant-garde kitchen of delicious performance as we slice and dice dance, circus, drag, and music in a refreshing selection of summer treats with new acts, new ideas, and new flavours.

Contains adult themes.
For ease of program navigation, advertising has been removed from this page.
Playtime Staged Readings

Join us for a unique night in the theatre to witness the first staged readings of brand new queer focussed theatre works. Playtime aims to identify and develop new talent and get queer stories out there for mainstream theatre audiences to enjoy. Now is your chance to experience these fresh new 15 minute excerpts, meet the creators and have your say to help select the Playtime favourite of Midsumma Festival 2017.

Gasworks Arts Park
21 Graham St, Albert Park
25 Jan
Wed 6.30pm
Duration: 1hr
$10 full

Out To Win: Film Screening

An enriching and powerful documentary, ‘Out To Win’ speaks to the potential of sport, as a cultural phenomenon, to be an inclusive community that provides positive representation for future LGBTIQ sports superstars. Although 2014 was dubbed the ‘Year of the Gay Athlete’, 39 years earlier American Football player David Kopay made headlines for being an openly gay sportsman. Chronicling the dramatic history of gay and lesbian sports professionals, acclaimed director Malcolm Ingram interviews all-star players on their identities and advocacy.

Gasworks Arts Park
21 Graham St, Albert Park
26 Jan
Thu 7pm
Duration: 2hrs
$10 full

KEEP IN TOUCH

Join the Midsumma mailing list for the latest in Queer Arts and Culture

midsumma.org.au/enews
For ease of program navigation, advertising has been removed from this page.
Midsumma at the Hare Hole features the 2017 Word is Out program, bringing together a powerful group of artists, performers and writers in 16 events spanning theatre, burlesque, multimedia, comedy, visual arts, forums, spoken word, podcasting, trivia and more. It climaxes in Hares and Hyenas' regular fundraising performance party, Ball of Wax.

Hare Hole Show Package - receive a 15% discount when you purchase two or more Midsumma Festival events at the Hare Hole.

Hares & Hyenas
63 Johnston St, Fitzroy

Hare Hole, winner ‘Best Venue’ award, 2016 Melbourne Fringe Festival.
Animal

"All animals are equal, but some animals are more equal than others." - George Orwell

Mikey J White’s latest multidisciplinary work explores the duality of man and beast in a sexy, queer, dark, funny and provocative exposé on the human animal.

Are we really the superior species?

19 – 21 Jan
Thu – Sat 9pm
Duration: 1hr
$23 full, $17 concession, $20 group (min 4)

Ball of Wax: Festival Climax

Ball of Wax is a regular Hare Hole fundraiser that brings together some of your favourite DJs, performers and visual artists in an other-worldly night of light, music, projection, performance and partying. All profits go to improving the venue for the community. Hosted by Mikey J. White, with line-up to be announced online.

4 Feb
Sat 8.30pm
5hrs
$22 full, $17 concession, $17 group (min 4), $12 unwaged/low income

Dirty Laundry, Soiled Secrets and Secret Ethnic Fetishes

Warning: Two detergent cups may not get the stains out.

Sexual ethnic fantasies, secret dalliances and guilty pleasures.

22 Jan
Sun 6pm
Duration: 3hrs
$15 full, $10 concession

Expose Ya

As a scene photographer & photojournalist Dean Arcuri documents the lives of GLBTIQ Victorians. As part of his 10 year Midsummaversary, he’s compiled a collection of shots that express the diverse strengths & beautiful moments that make up our queer landscape.

15 Jan – 5 Feb
Mon – Wed 9am – 6:30pm, Thu – Fri 9am – 7pm, Sat 10am – 7pm, Sun 11:30am – 6:30pm, plus show times

See website for displays in other queer venues across town.

FREE

Jen Der

Jen Der grew up like any normal girl, climbing trees, playing with matchbox cars and dreaming of one day becoming a drag queen. This is the debut solo performance from Kat Mroz about becoming a bio-queen and finding a voice (even if it's lipsynced) through the art of drag.

2 – 3 Feb
Thu – Fri 9pm
Duration: 1hr
$22 full, $17 concession, $17 group (min 5)

FREE

Jordan Raskopoulos

Cheers, Big Queers!

Hi, I'm Jordan Raskopoulos. I do lots of stuff but people mostly know me because I sing songs on the internet and last year I came out as trans.

I dunno, come to my show. Let's just hang out. I'll do some stuff. You can laugh at the stuff. It'll be cool. I promise.

2 – 3 Feb
Thu - Fri 7pm
Duration: 1hr
$14 full, $12 concession
Justice & Trainwreck
Change History

Dwayne Justice and Jake Trainwreck are... queer cowboys. The only thing greater than their love of historical re-enactments is their love for each other. These clowns will unknowingly trespass on the sanctity of historical events with all the glee of a horny puppy with a teddy bear.

19 – 21 Jan
Thu – Sat 7pm
Duration: 50mins

$22 full, $17 concession, Preview: $17 full, $12 concession

Love from a Stranger

Love from a Stranger is a classic play from gay playwright Frank Vosper. In this staged performance reading, Simon Chan has adapted the work to bring out the play's queer resonances. This most famous of Vosper's work, who died tragically in 1937, was based on a famous Agatha Christie story.

29 Jan, 5 Feb
Sun 7 – 8.30pm
Duration: 1hr 30mins

$10 full, $5 concession

Outside In: Tuesday Talks

Dean Arcuri curates three talks on Tuesdays, focusing on the experience of some of the voices outside the homonormative gaystream. Who is shaking the queer tree? Come and hear from some of the people who are making a difference to the queer world you live in.

17, 24, 31 Jan
Tue 7:30pm
Duration: 2hrs

FREE

Queers of Comedy

The first night of this new regular comic gathering in October was so popular we decided to bring it back for Midsumma Festival. Hare Hole regular Kirsty Webeck gathers some of Australia's best queer comic talent for another hilarious ride down the Hare Hole. Book quickly; this will sell out.

25 Jan
Wed 7.30pm
Duration: 2hrs

$27 full, $20 concession, $22 group (min 4)

Quippings: Return to Our Roots Show

Quippings: Return to Our Roots Show - Melbourne's bentest Deaf-and-disability performance troupe go retro for one night only, celebrating the highlights of the past six years at the Hare Hole. Join our beautifully diverse and subversive bodies and minds to queer this night with all our might! Don’t miss out!

1 Feb
Wed 8pm
Duration: 1hr

$22 full, $15 concession

Rapid Fire

Rapid Fire is the Hare Hole's longest running spoken word event and one of its most popular. Its recipe is simple: give 12 writers six minutes each to read, draw the order from a hat and ensure that merciless technicians are on hand to turn off the microphone if they go over time.

30 Jan
Mon 7.30pm
Duration: 2hrs

$17 full, $12 concession, $12 group (min 4)

Silver Threads: Podcast Launch

In association with Melbourne Libraries and the UNESCO City of Literature's Known Bookshops fund, we present the launch of a series of 10 podcasts to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Hares & Hyenas. The podcasts feature Joan Nestle, Dennis Altman and Christos Tsiolkas, with more artists to be announced.

16 Jan
Mon 7pm
Duration: 3hrs

FREE
I Hate Myself for Loving You

This year Lisa-Skye’s annual Midsumma spoken word event explores repulsion and attraction. You know the drill by now: a selection of Melbourne’s best Queer-IDing writers present funny, sexy, sad pieces filled with darkness and light.

Hosted by Lisa-Skye. Performers include: John Stevens, Erin Kyan, LJ Maher and Quinn Eades. Pre-booking recommended: this event often sells out.

18 Jan
Wed 7pm
Duration: 2hrs
$49 patron (inc. VIP seating & gift), $22 full, $18 concession, $16 group (min 4)

Technostalgia:
A story of life, lust and mixtapes

Jules wants to make her girlfriend a mixtape, but where the hell has her Sony Walkman gone? Forget your Netflix, Fitbits and iPhones; travel back in time with Jules Wilkinson on her hilarious journey to when discs were floppy, phones had cords and not rewinding your rented videotape was a punishable offence.

27 – 28 Jan
Fri – Sat 9pm
Duration: 1hr
$22 full, $15 concession, $18 group (min 4)
PERFORMANCE

A Drag-A-Thon

Setting out to achieve a world record for the longest continuously running drag show, The 86 stage will not be without a Queen for 34 hours. From 3pm on Friday 27 January through to 1am on Sunday 29 January, join Melbourne’s leading drag performers throughout the 34-hour show where not only will one have to always be on stage but there will not be a repeat song! The venue will be serving breakfast on Saturday morning and the whole weekend is completely free entry. Donations collected throughout for Switchboard community service.

The 86 Cabaret Bar
185 Smith St, Fitzroy
27 – 28 Jan
Fri 3pm – Sun 1am
Duration: 34hrs

FREE

Divine Retribution

She is the Queen of Trash, cult star of Pink Flamingos, Polyester and more. From Baltimore to Hollywood, she rose to become People Magazine’s ‘Drag Queen of the Century’, but how well do you know the real story of Harris Glenn Milstead? Melbourne’s only seven-foot chanteuse Lady Diamond digs through the trash to find the Divine truth. “They call me fatso, and they call me asshole, and I don’t care.”

The 86 Cabaret Bar
185 Smith St, Fitzroy
31 Jan – 4 Feb
Tue – Sat 8pm

$25 full, $20 concession, $20 group (min 4)
For ease of program navigation, advertising has been removed from this page.
PANDORAS presents The Retro Girls Beach Party!

Happy FUN FABULOUS FUN 1st birthday to PANDORAS! Where women gather... a safe space... a beautiful night of entertainment... an inclusive monthly event for queer women and friends, a time for LGBTQI folk to come together and celebrate their diversity!

PANDORAS is always seeking new artists to feature, so please contact us if you are a performer who identifies as female queer-friendly, FUN and outrageous, and you engage positively with your audience!

The Reverence Hotel
28 Napier St, Footscray
4 Feb
Sat 8pm
Duration: 4hrs
$20 pre-purchase, $25 on the door

Sad Digger Mad Mary

‘Digger’ has abandoned his post and retreated to a bush shanty; living happily alone with his billy always on the boil, Bluey by his side and an unshakeable memory of something more than mateship. A storm is brewing and an unexpected turn in the weather ushers in a magical therapist to set things str8, in a Practically Perfect way.

By Tom Halls.
Directed by Yvonne Virsik.
Produced by Anastasia Ryan.

La Mama Courthouse
349 Drummond St, Carlton
3 – 5 Feb
Fri – Sat 7.30pm, Sun 4pm
Duration: 1hr
$25 full, $15 concession

The Life and Times of the Divine Miss P

2017 is somewhat of an exciting milestone for drag performer Pollyfilla - she celebrates 20 years of performing across Australasia. Polly invites you to join her for an intimate night of performance where she spills the T on life and love on and off stage, where she's come from, where she's going to, highlights and challenges she's had along the way, and her candid thoughts and opinions... and presents her favourite performances from the past 20 years. Two shows only - don’t miss it!

“The Merman Dan: Lover of Seamen

Throughout history we’ve heard tales of mysterious siren songs that called from fathoms below to the heart of many a sailor. Come drift away on a nautical journey through songs of love lost, love found and love that would drag you into the dark watery abyss.

Join the Merman Dan for an intimate evening of cabaret in his candle-lit grotto where he invites you to be... part of his world.

The 86 Cabaret Bar
185 Smith St, Fitzroy
18, 25 Jan
Wed 8pm
Duration: 1hr
$24 full, $22 concession, $20 group (min 5)
For ease of program navigation, advertising has been removed from this page.
This Show is Gay

Just when you thought he couldn’t get any gayer – he’s back!
Filled with homoharmonies, cabaret comedian Dean Arcuri is taking it to a whole nother level of gayety in a cabaret with exclusively queer tunes.
BE warned, there will be sequins!
"If you don’t know who Dean Arcuri is by now you must have been living under a rock – or in a closet.”
- Same Same
Part of Dean Arcuri’s Midsummaversary.

What a Drag!
Celebrity Edition

A special night of surprise with local celebrities releasing their fabulous alter egos by dressing and performing in drag with help and accompaniment by local drag queens to help raise funds for the Victorian Aids Council.
Donations accepted on the door.

A Dinner to Die For
- raising funds for Bent TV

Not molecular gastronomy, but a wickedly funny musical, murder-mystery dinner. Dinner, show, free entry to the nightclub AND raise funds for Bent TV.
It’s 1928, Lord Quinten Daventry hosts his birthday bash. Rumour in social circles is that he will announce his engagement to Miss Fanny. Agatha Christie in spirit - all cut glass accents, pearls, flapper dresses, army outfits and monocles - with lashings of sexual innuendo and double entendres.

Dolly Di*mond’s Bl*nkety Bl*nks

Everyone’s favourite game show hostess, Dolly Diamond, presents a fun-filled night of entertainment with more than a passing nod to a television classic. Each night features six famous faces - much-loved celebrities alongside treasured members of the LGBTI community - all of them helping audience contestants win fabulous prizes.
With Dolly Diamond at the helm, this will be an unforgettable night of comedy and cabaret entertainment at its best and funniest.
**Granny Bingo with a VERY Special Guest**

The controversial rockstars of bingo Edith Vale, Caroline Springs and Maureen McGuillicuddy, are putting on a special night just for Midsumma Festival. These two stalled warts of the international bingo circuit are so far right wing – anti-equality, anti-feminist, anti-immigration and anti-personal hygiene – that even their family stopped visiting a long time ago.

**The 86 Cabaret Bar**
185 Smith St, Fitzroy

**16 Jan**
Mon 7.30pm
Duration: 3hrs

$10 on the door

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**CROSSFADE**

CROSSFADE presents as a collaborative exploration into dress ups, gender, transgression, the roles we assume and those thrust upon us.

In a contemporary world obsessed with appearances and the superficial, CROSSFADE works with costume as a stimulus from which layered vocabularies of movement and image emerge.

**The Melba Spiegeltent**
35 Johnston St, Collingwood

**19 – 21 Jan, 26 – 28 Jan, 2 – 4 Feb**
Thu – Sat 10pm
Duration: 1hr

$28 full, $24 concession
**Goddess Grooves**
Goddess Grooves celebrates contemporary female musicians, by showcasing some of our community’s finest. This year coming together for a joyful and gay Midsumma Festival jam session of rock, pop, blues and more. Join local artists Michelle Parsons, Freya Hanly, Ruth Katerelos, Monique Kenny and guests playing originals and covers, solo and with each other. Another unforgettable night.

**The Spotted Mallard**
314 Sydney Rd, Brunswick
27 Jan
Fri 8pm
Duration: 3hrs
$25 full, $20 concession, $22 group (min 10)

**Baby Got Back**
Ready for the jelly? Baby Got Back is BACK baby. After their SOLD-OUT seasons at the 2015 & 2016 Fringe World, these ass-clowns are in hot demand and bringing the booty back to Melbourne!
A show of flesh, sex, profanity & comedy chaos.

**ALGA’s (almost) all-new history walk**
East Melbourne. Gracious mansions, tree-lined avenues, parks and gardens. And the usual cast of shady characters that we have come to expect from the Archives’ relentless poking around. Join us for this (almost) all-new walk as we uncover the secret history of East Melbourne.

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**The Athenaeum Theatre**
188 Collins St, Melbourne
20 – 28 Jan
Wed – Sat 7.45pm, Wed, Sat, Sun 1.45pm
Duration: 2hrs 30mins
$49 full, $39 concession, $39 group (min 10)

**Chriss Crossed**
World premiere of this Australian musical comedy - Chris works as the office manager at his mother’s dress shop and is getting married in five days to Julia. But Chris has a secret - he is a cross dresser and must face the biggest dilemma of his life: does he deceive Julia and say nothing hoping she will never find out, or does he tell her before the wedding and risk losing her? However it seems that Chris is not the only one with secrets!
**Elegies for Angels, Punks and Raging Queens**

A joyous celebration of life, this unique piece of theatre will leave you cherishing the simple moments in life and the connections we make along the way. This high-energy show blends humour, sadness and excitement to create a truly exceptional piece of musical theatre. Let these elegies, commemorating lives which have been affected by AIDS, spill over you to fill the theatre with feel-good exhilaration. Come along and learn about the lives and loves of those special, irrepressible Angels, Punks and Raging Queens. Books and Lyrics by Bill Russell. Music by Janet Hood. By arrangement with ORiGIN™ Theatrical on behalf of Samuel French Inc.

**Homophonic!**

Homophonic!, an evening of new classical music by queer composers. Celebrating sapphic symphonists, homosexual harmonies, and the long and proud tradition of composers being as gay as the day is long. We’re bringing the disco ball to the concert hall! Come along to hear some of Melbourne’s most in demand classical musicians play some outlandishly fabulous music, and experience the sound world of the LGBT composers of today.

**I AM MY OWN WIFE By Doug Wright**

‘I Am My Own Wife’ is the astonishing true story of Charlotte von Mahlsdorf, an elegant and eccentric 65-year-old German transvestite who successfully navigated the two most oppressive regimes of the 20th century - the Nazis and the Communists. In this one-man tour de force, Wright uses more than 30 characters - all played by Ben Gerrard (Molly, Open Slather) - to piece together Charlotte’s controversial life and deliver a morally complex tale about what it takes to be a survivor.

**Some Enchanted Evening**

More so than any composer and lyricist, the songs of Rodgers & Hammerstein have become an integral part of our everyday lives. ‘The Sound of Music’, ‘The King and I’, ‘Oklahoma’, ‘Carousel’, ‘South Pacific’; the hits just keep coming. We sing them in the shower, we dance to them in ballrooms, we hear them on the radio and in clubs and, yes, in elevators and supermarkets too. We still thrill to hear them on the live stage, and this stunning collection of compositions offers the star-studded cast of performers an opportunity to explore the songs within their own styles and personalities, and offers the audience both an insight into some of Australia’s greatest modern singers and a glorious parade of genuine hits, one after another - truly, Some Great Songs, Some Great Artists, Some Enchanted Evening.
S_T_I_G_M_A
HIV prejudices, story-telling by people living with HIV. First stage development of a stunning, moving and enthralling theatre-dance performance.
Some Nudity.
Q&A on HIV Stigma, Tue 31 Jan.
Produced by Devize Co.
In partnership Darren Vizer & Kim Davis.
Director/Choreographer: Darren Vizer.
Creative Director/Dramaturge: Kim Davis.
Collaborators: Bagryana Popov, Nedd Jones, Zac Kazepis.
Performers: Tascha Flowers, Rory Godbold.
Partners: HiVart, VAC, LPV, The Space Dance Centre.
Image: Darren Gill.

The Helendale
Nude Footy Calendar
The footy guys are all kinda accidentally handsome. And their illogical athletic pastime has rendered them quite well-built. And handsome well-built men sure do look good naked. For the good of the town and their love of the sport, the footy shorts are coming off.
From the writer of 'Fraternal', 'Softly Pouting While Walking into Breezes', and co-writer of 'Sexy Dead Schoolboys'.
Warnings: Swearing, Nudity.
Gays of Our Lives

Join Melbourne’s top four gay improvisers as they create an episode of ‘Gays of our Lives’ before your very eyes!

With evil twins, double crosses, and plenty of champagne, Marcus Willis (Misguided, The Sparrow Men), Andy Balloch (The Sparrow Men) Justin Porter (Laugh Masters’ Academy), and Shea Evans (The Improv Conspiracy) join forces to bring you the most dramatic episode of your favourite show, that you’ve never seen before!

L1 Studios
Level 1/377 Little Bourke St,
Melbourne
1 – 4 Feb
Wed & Sat 9.30 – 10.30pm
$25 full, $22 concession,
$20 group (min 4)

On A Night Like This: The Erin Minogue Experience

In the early ’80s, three young Melbourne girls were on the path to stardom. The first was YTT darling Dannii Minogue. The second was Kylie, who shot to fame on Neighbours and instantly acquired about 100 million adoring fans.

But what about the third, their younger sister, Erin Minogue? The forgotten sister?

Now Erin has HER chance. Tonight. On this very stage, SHE could be so lucky.

A one-woman contemporary comic cabaret featuring a swag of classic Kylie and Dannii hits, this is an eye-opening staged-biopic of an extraordinary life unled, revealing untold insight into a celebrity sibling who never existed, based on an entirely untrue story.

Chapel Off Chapel
12 Little Chapel St, Prahran
20 – 21 Jan
Fri - Sat 8pm
$35 full
VISUAL ARTS

CLUBHEADS

Presented by Love Machine, MAMA Marija’s and STUDIO TOONARAMA

“That big TOON disco everybody’s talking about!”

Celebrating in caricature the celebrity, music & glamour of the world’s most famous (and infamous) nightclub STUDIO 54, the 6th annual TOONARAMA exhibition as part of the Melbourne Midsumma Festival - CLUBHEADS fabulously features 40 framed limited edition digital artwork caricature prints by celebrity cartoonist BRETT WILLIS! Opening night @ Love Machine proudly supports the Victorian SEALS Water Polo Club!

Opening (8 Jan 7pm): Love Machine
28a Malvern Rd, Prahran

Exhibition: MAMA Marija’s
185 Commercial Rd, South Yarra

17 – 31 Jan
Tue – Sun 7am – 4.30pm

FREE

be-longing for it

VAC presents 'be-longing for it' - a multi media art exhibition exploring meth use among gay, bi and queer men. PRONTO! will be converted into a dynamic exhibition space exploring real stories of men who have a lived experience of meth use. 'be-longing for it' will feature the work of Sam Wallman, Myke Vescio and Bailey Sharp spanning across mixed mediums of projections, video, print and sound. 'be-longing for it' will stimulate and challenge the audience to reflect on the meaning of connection and intimacy for gay, bi and queer men in 2017 and our relationship to sex and drug use, and encourage conversations on taking care of ourselves and each other.

PRONTO!
175 Rose St, Fitzroy

20 Jan – 4 Feb
Mon, Wed, Thu 9am – 8pm
Tue 4 – 8pm, Sat 10.30am – 2.30pm

FREE

Opening: 20 Jan 6.30 – 8.30pm.
Exposed: Damon Kowarsky and Scott Thomas

Men on Men Art Competition 2016 winners Damon Kowarsky and Scott Thomas expose themselves (or their art anyway) for Midsumma Festival 2017. ‘Exposed’ kicks off with the always popular gender-inclusive open day (14 Jan 2 - 6pm) where the community is invited to come and check it out.

Open 7 days pending special events. Artworks will be for sale unless otherwise noted.

Proudly supported by Midsumma and MCV.

The Laird
149 Gipps St, Abbotsford
14 Jan – 3 Feb
Mon – Sat 5pm – late, Sun 4pm – late
FREE

Mixed Metal - Ten

An instore exhibition of ten mixed metal rings handcrafted by ten of the very best jewellers, designers and artisans based in Australia. Each unique ring features a mixture of precious or semi-precious metals which highlight the unique characteristics of the metals chosen.

Each artisan has their own technique and visual aesthetic which is reflected in the final rings produced.

Lord Coconut
Level 5 Mitchell House, 358 Lonsdale St
18 Jan – 4 Feb
Opening: 18 Jan 5.30 – 7.30pm
Exhibition: Mon – Fri 11am – 6pm
Sat midday – 4pm
FREE

Marching Together

The Joel Gallery presents ‘Marching Together’ - an exhibition that is an arts based enquiry into the experiences and feelings connected to the act of marching in a ‘Pride March’.

Photos and drawings with the accompanying stories will fill the Joel Gallery with the human experience for visitors to share, embrace and connect with. The focus of this exhibition is on building inclusive communities.

Marching Together

Louis Joel Arts and Community Centre
5 Sargood St, Altona
3 – 16 Feb
Daily 10am – 4pm
FREE

muliebrity & other collaborations

Kingston Arts presents muliebrity & other collaborations by Alison Bennett. The exhibition will feature a new video work, muliebrity, exploring feminine identity expression in queer culture. Bennett works in ‘expanded photography’ where the boundaries of photography have shifted in the transition to digital media & become diffused into ubiquitous computing. As a neuroqueer artist, Bennett’s work explores the performance & technology of gender identity & considers the convergence of biological & digital skin as virtual prosthesis. Her work has been featured on Australian Story, New York Times, Mashable, Huffington Post, BuzzFeed, Motherboard, & The Guardian’s ‘best Australian photographs of 2015’.

muliebrity & other collaborations

Kingston Arts Centre
979 Nepean Hwy, Moorabbin
19 Jan – 25 Feb
Opening: 19 Jan 6 – 8pm
Exhibition: Mon – Fri 9am – 5pm
Sat midday – 5pm
FREE
Other Other
Other Other is a group show focussed on the voices of those of the queer community who experience otherness from within our circles. The queer First Nations will be represented as well as those of other cultural and racial backgrounds, members of the trans and gender diverse communities and people who experience disability, from reaches across Melbourne and Australia. Co-curated by Peter Waples-Crowe and Pila Darling.

Wyndham Art Gallery
177 Watton St Werribee
19 Jan – 19 Mar
Opening: 18 Jan 6.30 – 8.30pm
Mon – Fri 9am – 5pm
Sat – Sun 11am – 4pm
FREE

Outing Disability Exhibition and Panel Discussion
Brimbank City Council is proud to present ‘Outing Disability’ in collaboration with Family Planning NSW and internationally acclaimed photographer Belinda Mason. ‘Outing Disability’ invites you on a reflective journey into the lives of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer people with disability. This captivating series of portraits provides a rare insight into the hopes and dreams of 23 unique people as they share their struggles and triumphs of coming out, exploring identity, discovering love and finding pride. Challenge your own assumptions about disability and enter a world of strength and celebration of diversity.
Booking required for Panel Discussion.

2017 Queer Art Prize Australia
Queer Art Prize Australia (QAPA) is a new non-acquisitive art prize to celebrate LGBTI art achievements in Australia. QAPA is a non-discriminatory art prize that celebrates works relating to the LGBTI community or themes by any artist who resides in Australia or works by those identifying as LGBTI. The exhibition will showcase the best in LGBTI art from across the nation and will also feature selected works in a limited edition coffee table publication. The winning entry will be announced at the exhibition launch event and the people’s choice award will be awarded at the end of the exhibition. Finalist entries will also take part in a promotional art exhibition tour around the nation.

QueerTech.io
QueerTech.io will be launched at Midsumma Horizon with an evening of spectacular outdoor data projections and installations to complement the QueerTech.io online exhibition. Responding to the growing international inquiry into practices of #queertech in digital art circles, the QueerTech.io curatorium (Alison Bennett, Travis Cox, Xanthe Dobbie & Mark Payne) have invited artists from around the world to come together digitally, physically and oh-so-queerly to contribute internet artworks, projects and provocations to the ongoing #queertech conversation. Harnessing the power of digital technology, QueerTech.io will be showcased simultaneously at Midsumma Horizon, the Melt Festival (Brisbane Powerhouse) and online.
Image: Xanthe Dobbie 2014, Not Today Satan
**Scarlatta: Exhibition**

The colour of the heart. An exhibition by queer artist Eureka at the Abbotsford Convent’s St Heliers Gallery, based on his recent Venice residency. Eureka poses the unclothed male figure to explore tensions between the carnal and the unearthly, exclusion and acceptance.

Lighting design by ILAN EL.

Opening: Thu 19 Jan 6.30 – 8.30pm.

LGBTI Carers Forum: Sat 21 Jan 4pm – see ‘Caring for Ourselves’ event.

Life Drawing Classes: Sun 22 Jan 3pm – see ‘Scarlatta Queer Alternative Life Drawing’ event.

Artist talks: Sun 29 Jan 4 – 6pm.

St Heliers Street Gallery
1 St Heliers St, Abbotsford
18 – 29 Jan
Opening: Thu 19 Jan 6.30 – 8.30pm
Exhibition daily: 8.30am – 4.30pm
FREE

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**The Great Gay Goddess Gallery**

The Great Gay Goddess Gallery presents the richness of lesbian culture through her multifaceted modern identities. This body of work uses the concept of The Goddess to explore themes of self expression and identity and the key theme works around the notion that our identities are expressions of the same female essence. The tone is exuberant, there’ll be colour galore and everyone is welcome, so please, DO come!

katechurchward.com

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**Scarlatta: Queer and Alternative Life Drawing**

Draw diverse and queer bodies in this celebration of the queer gaze. Interactive workshop led by artist Eureka (Michael James O’Hanlon) in the St Heliers Gallery where his Scarlatta exhibition is installed. Charcoal and paper supplied. Suitable for artists, beginners to advanced. Enquiries from artists and models welcome.

St Heliers Street Gallery
1 St Heliers St, Abbotsford
22 Jan
Sun 3 – 5pm
$20 full, $15 concession
Door sales only

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The Queen of Ireland

Presented by Melbourne Queer Film Festival in association with Arts Centre Melbourne

Hilarious, heartwarming and inspirational, The Queen of Ireland is a social justice documentary with a difference. In the lead-up to Ireland’s 2014 Marriage Equality Referendum, Drag Queen Panti Bliss (and her alter ego Rory O’Neill) was catapulted into the centre of the political turmoil when an interview with her on the homophobic behaviour of the mainstream media was broadcast on TV, and all the fury of Ireland’s conservative commentators descended. Undaunted, Panti stood up against hatred and ignorance and became a rallying figure in the campaign for marriage equality in the traditionally conservative country.

Panti Bliss will be introducing the film and there will be a short Q&A following the screening.

ACMI
Federation Square, Melbourne
1 Feb
Wed 7pm
Duration: 2hrs
$22 full, $20 concession
**It’s Who We Are**

“It’s Who We Are” documents the first twenty years of the Jewish Lesbian Group of Victoria, providing an intimate view of the controversies these feisty women confront as they challenge heterosexism, lesbophobia, anti-Semitism, racism and xenophobia in their communities.

The film screening will be followed by a panel discussion.

Entry via laneway between Blyth & Hickford Streets.

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**Cloudburst**

Stella and Dot have been together for 31 years and have faithfully accompanied one another through life’s ups and downs. Now in their seventies, Stella is hard of hearing and Dot is legally blind. Dotty’s prudish granddaughter decides the best place for Dot is a nursing home. This forces Stella and Dot to make a bold decision: they will leave their hometown and make their way to Canada, where same-sex marriage is legal. This film is rated MA 15+

Free but bookings required.
Caring for Ourselves: Art as a tool for LGBTIQ self-care

Art can help us take a break and care creatively for our own health. This is particularly important for LGBTIQ people in care relationships who may support a friend, partner or family member with disability, mental health, age-related or chronic health condition, or alcohol/drug problem. Join us for a lively discussion exploring the use of art as a tool for self-care. Includes exhibition tour by artist and queer carer, Eureka. This event is hosted by Carers Victoria in collaboration with queer artist and carer, Eureka. It includes an artist’s tour of the Scarlatta exhibition, on show throughout Midsumma at the St Heliers Street Gallery in the beautiful Abbotsford Convent.

St Heliers Street Gallery
1 St Heliers St, Abbotsford
21 Jan
Sat 4pm
Duration: 2hrs
FREE

Colouring the Rainbow: Blak Queer and Trans Perspectives

Join a panel of Blak Queer speakers for an evening of stimulating discussion about the lives and experiences of First Nations LGBTIQ people. The starting point for this event is the groundbreaking book Colouring the Rainbow that uncovers the often hidden world of Queer and Trans Blak Australia and tells it like it is.

Northcote Library
32-38 Separation St, Northcote
7 Feb
Tue 7pm
Duration: 1hr
FREE
**Courageous Conversations**

Some of the most important conversations in our lives never happen. Talking can feel like too big a risk. So we adjust to silence. Following on from her moving Midsumma talk last year, Making Peace With Your Parents, Melbourne-based psychotherapist Carol-Ann Allen takes up the subject: How to begin a courageous conversation. Proudly sponsored by Switchboard Victoria. Celebrating 25 years of courageous conversations with the LGBTIQ community.

**Magnet**
Level 2, 640 Bourke St, Melbourne
1 Feb
Wed 6.30pm
Duration: 1hr 30mins
FREE

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**Maria Katsonis in Conversation and LGBTI Proud as Book Launch**

Come along to this excellent literary event and hear author Maria Katsonis speak about, ‘Rebellious daughters’, an anthology of true stories by some of Australia’s most talented female writers, edited by Maria and Lee Kofman. Maria will also have the pleasure of officially launching the Maribyrnong Library Service Proud as Book group.

Free event but bookings required.
Rainbow Rights & Advocacy

The Rainbow Rights and Advocacy event is centered on LGBTIQ rights for people with disabilities with a video production around advocacy. This event will showcase the anti-hate campaign as well as other published material around individual rights and the law. Guest speakers such as the Gender and Sexuality Commissioner will kick off the event.

Tackling the Impossible with Will Kostakis

Hobsons Bay Libraries present Sydney based author Will Kostakis. Kostakis has tackled and achieved the impossible. He scored his first book deal in high school and his 2016 novel “The Sidekicks” touches hearts. He perfectly depicts the pain and pleasure of the teenage world. Mixing personal anecdotes, writing tips, and advice, join Will for a fantastic evening at Newport Community Hub this Midsumma Festival. Free event but booking required.
Melbourne Frontrunners Pride Run & Walk

Join Melbourne Frontrunners in a fun run/walk in celebration of diversity around Melbourne’s famous Tan track.

Participants will walk or run one or two laps around the Tan in an inclusive event for all fitness levels. This event is both dog and child friendly as well as being a great way for keen runners to kick off their 2017 running calendar.

Tickets available through Midsumma.

Tan Track
Meet: Observatory Gates, Birdwood Av, South Yarra
22 Jan
Sun 8.30 – 10.30am
$20 full, $15 concession, Under 15s free

Melbourne Renegades Pride Harmony Day

Presented by The Melbourne Renegades and Cricket Victoria in association with Proud 2 Play, the afternoon will feature a family-friendly cricket experience, whilst promoting LGBTIQ inclusion within cricket, and sport more broadly. A marquee pride game including Altona Cricket Club will take centre stage, whilst other activities will include children’s cricket-themed games, MILO in2CRICKET skills, Melbourne Renegades giveaways and a family friendly cricket experience.

J.K. Grant Reserve
Sugargum Drive, Altona
21 Jan
Sat 1 – 5pm
Duration: 4hrs
FREE
Muddy Gras

Muddy Gras is an obstacle challenge celebrating the LGBTI community open to anyone who wants to challenge themselves, have fun and get muddy in the process! There are two course distances available and all of the obstacles are optional.

The event will be held at the Peninsula Obstacle Racing Course in Moorooduc on Saturday 4 February. The Short Course (3km) costs $58pp and the Long Course (6km) costs $88pp. Limited tickets.

Peninsula Obstacle Racing Course
480 Mornington-Tyabb Road
4 Feb
Sat 9am – 4pm
Duration: 7hrs
$88 individual 6km course,
$58 individual 3km course

NOMADS Capital City Trail Cycling

Join The Nomads for a leisurely and scenic cycling circuit, totally on cycling paths, starting and ending at Federation Square. We’ll stop for coffee beside the Yarra, with lunch at the Abbotsford Convent. After lunch (at 13 km), you can cycle a further 17 km back to Federation Square, or exit by train (various options available).

Limit of 20 riders. Free event but booking required.

Federation Square: meet beside the Visitor Centre
Cnr Swanston and Flinders St,
Melbourne
20 Jan
Fri 10.30am
FREE

NOMADS Community Walk

Enjoy a walk in bushland in sight of the CBD. Commencing at Victoria Gardens in North Richmond, explore some historic Kew homes then stroll along the banks of the Yarra River to the Fairfield Boat Sheds. Public transport is accessible to/from the event.

BYO water, a hat, closed shoes and sunscreen plus snacks and food. Lunch will be at the Studley Park Boathouse.

Detailed instructions will be provided. Free event but booking required.

Victoria Gardens: meet at
Victoria Gardens, corner of Victoria and Burnley St, North Richmond
4 Feb
Sat 10.30am – 4.30pm
Duration: 6hrs
FREE

National Water Polo League (NWPL) Pride Cup

The 2017 Water Polo Pride Cup is where you can celebrate diversity, inclusion and equality in sport and show that everyone is welcome and belongs at all sporting events.

This year the Victorian Seals men’s & women’s teams will compete against the Sydney University Lions at MSAC in an elite water polo match featuring Olympians and current Australian team players.

Also including an intense tussle between two of Australia’s LGBTI water polo clubs, Melbourne Surge and Sydney Stingers.

Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre – MSAC
1 Aughtie Drive, Albert Park
3 Feb
Fri 5.30 – 9.30pm
$17 full, $10 concession
For ease of program navigation, advertising has been removed from this page.
Smashing the Binary

Smashing the Binary ... an event embracing gender diversity in the sports and wellness community through increasing awareness, promoting existing safe & inclusive environments and educating clubs in developing a flexible mode of engagement.

Meat Market - The Stables
5 Blackwod St, North Melbourne
28 Jan
Sat 10am – 5pm
Duration: 7hrs
$25 full

The Australian Same Sex Dancesport Championships 2017

It's our 21st birthday, and it's going to be a real coming of age event. There's entertainment for all your family and friends with sequins, feathers, and all manner of other sparkly bits. We have fabulous, just as sparkly hosts, yummy caterers and an extensive bar to keep your thirst at bay. Our competitors travel from all over Australia for this iconic event which showcases all levels of dance experience with a united level of extreme enthusiasm that is infectious and makes this community event very special and an absolute must for your Midsumma calendar.

Footscray Park and Victoria University Footscray Campus
40 Maribyrnong Blvd, Footscray
4 Feb
Sat 10am – 4pm
Duration: 6hrs
FREE

Sports Festival by Team Melbourne

The Sports Festival by Team Melbourne is the ultimate “come and try” day. With over 18 GLBTIQ sports showcasing what they do week to week, along with a strong community atmosphere, the day proves to be lots of fun for everyone.
ALL AGES EVENTS

Queer Family Portrait


Whether you love or tolerate your own, families come in all shapes and sizes and from across the entire spectrum of the rainbow.

In our post-binary gender-fluid world, what can we learn from the generations above and below us? And what does ‘family values’ mean for those of us flying with our flock somewhere over the rainbow?

Arts House and Midsumma invite you to a family get-together with local LGBTQIA+ artists to think through what a Queer Family Portrait might look like. An afternoon of short works, presentations and discussions for the whole rainbow; bring a plate, bring your kids, your parents, your siblings, your pets, your tribe and anyone you love for a celebration and inquiry into what family means today.

Free event but bookings required.

As part of Queer Family Portrait, we will be releasing a limited number of opportunities to have your ‘Queer Family’ portrait taken by local photographers – bookings available from Mon 23 Jan.

Arts House
North Melbourne Town Hall, 521 Queensberry St, North Melbourne

4 Feb
Sat 2pm
Duration: 3hrs
FREE

midsumma.org.au
#midsumma
**Family Pride Storytime**

It’s love that makes a family! Come along to Williamstown Library for family stories that celebrate diversity and inclusiveness. Join us as we share songs and tales about how our families come in all different shapes and sizes. Free event but booking required.

**Williamstown Library**
104 Ferguson St, Williamstown
17 Jan
Tue 6 – 7pm
Duration: 1hr
FREE

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**Australia Day Picnic**

This Australia Day, take a drive in the country and join the Melbourne Rainbow Band and the Melbourne Gay & Lesbian Chorus for their annual picnic. Take a stroll around 14 acres of stunning private gardens at Forest Glade, Mt Macedon, while the MGLC and MRB provide a musical touch and Motafrenz display some of their classic cars. As the gardens are private property, no pets or BBQs are permitted.

**Forest Glade Gardens**
816 Mount Macedon Rd, Mount Macedon
26 Jan
Thu 10am – 4pm
Duration: 6hrs
$10 entry at the gate, children free

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**Big Queer Brunch**

Why wait till the March to kick off Pride! Celebrate before the parade at Mavis Brown’s, entertained by Christina Andrews and Frock Hudson in the queerest brunch in town. Tickets are limited, so grab your mates and book your spots as you enjoy some scrumptious delights and sip unlimited mimosas, coffee & juice as you warm up for an afternoon of celebration, fabulousness and pride. Part of Dean Arcuri’s Midsummaversary.

**Mavis Brown’s**
35-37 Fitzroy St, St Kilda
29 Jan
Sun 11am – 1pm
Duration: 2hrs
$80 full

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**Motafrenz Magical Mystery Tour**

Join your Motafrenz for this great annual event. Try your best navigation, observation and problem solving skills in the most enjoyable way as you drive to our fabulous secret lunch spot. Pack a picnic lunch or pick up something along the way. Prizes for highest scores and wooden spooners! Bring: picnic lunch, e-tag, sunscreen, insect repellant, hat and chair/rug. No guarantee that BBQs will be available at this time of year.

Event concludes at approximately 3.30pm at a location within one hour’s drive of the Melbourne CBD. All profits to charity.

**Como Park North: meet at**
Alexandra Ave & Williams Rd, South Yarra
22 Jan
Sun 9.45am – 3.30pm
Duration: 5hrs 30mins approx
$22 per car (incl driver), $5 per passenger
Walk with Pride

The Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre is establishing an annual event starting in 2017, open to all and aimed at supporting the Hobsons Bay LGBTIQ community.

Join us for our inaugural ‘Walk with Pride’ - wear the rainbow and walk, dance, skip or hop your way from the Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre through the main shopping precinct.

Louis Joel Arts and Community Centre
5 Sargood St, Altona
3 Feb
Fri 6pm
Duration: 1hr
FREE

Mad Hatters Tea Party

Come join the Mad Hatters Tea Party madness for this free event on Saturday 4 February, at Melbourne’s Treasury Gardens. Meet other young people for a day out in the sun with a DJ, fashion runway with our best-dressed participants on the day, prizes and giveaways, music performances, info stalls and rainbow yoga.

Bring sunscreen and money for food trucks. This is a drug and alcohol free event.

Treasury Gardens
13 Spring St, Melbourne
4 Feb
Sat midday – 4pm
Duration: 4hrs
FREE
**Music on the Deck**

Celebrate Midsumma Festival by relaxing at the Newport Community Hub and enjoying tunes from some of summer’s hottest young artists. Win movie passes and other great prizes, and keep cool with complimentary icy poles, drinks and mouth-watering food. Between acts will be expression sessions - pick up a guitar and jam in front of the audience, show off your sensitive side with a poetry reading, or anything else that expresses who you are. Your time to shine!
Free event but booking required.

Newport Community Hub
13 Mason St, Newport
19 Jan
Thu 4 – 6pm
Duration: 2hrs
FREE

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**Park Lounge**

Park Lounge transforms Kelly Park into a boutique lounge experience. From colourful inflatable couches you can take in twilight music, avant-garde drag, circus and dance that personify the place we call home. Come and soak up the old-school vibe of our community hall, packed with a plethora of information and services along with special nooks for conversations and catch-ups.

All ages, family-friendly event in Melbourne’s West.

Kelly Park Centre
Cnr Synnot and Cherry St, Werribee
4 Feb
Sat 4 – 9pm
Duration: 5hrs
FREE

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**Family Pride Book Cubby**

It’s Midsumma and we’re celebrating our diverse families by creating stories! Come along to Altona Library and get creative in the Book Cubby where you can design a book that showcases your own family’s tale.
Free event but booking required.

Altona Library
123 Queen St, Altona
28 Jan
Sat 10am – midday
Duration: 2hrs
FREE
ADAM

ADAM is Melbourne’s rather fabulous nude bar for guys! Now in our second year, we’ll be celebrating January and February with an exceptionally festive Midsumma flavour.

ADAM is relaxed, diverse, and even a little thrilling. Come enjoy the friendly atmosphere, have a few drinks, a game of pool, and make some new friends. Great music, great crowd. This year ADAM is also proud to present POOL PARTY at Wet on Wellington, Saturday 04 February (see separate listing).

Dragnation Australia

Season 2 has landed! Performers once again from every state in Australia go head to head at The GH Hotel on Friday 3 Feb for your viewing pleasure!

This year is special, it’s themed! A judges’ selection to match the theme, a duo of Drag hosts and some sneaky surprises will keep the Drags on point.

This winner will walk away with a national tour, gift pack from Addicted, a new weave styled by Esther and a makeup pack from It’s all about Makeup!

There will be crowns, there will be sashes, there will be comedy!

Production shows following the competition for the after-party all under one roof!

Proudly Supported by JOY 94.9. Book your tickets soon through Midsumma!
### Blended Fruits

Help GLOBE celebrate its 25th birthday at the 2017 Blended Fruits. For two and a half decades GLOBE has been promoting professional and social networking in the Melbourne LGTBI community. Come join us at one of our most popular venues, the spectacular 28 Skylounge at the Crown Metropol. We’ll provide some delicious canapes and drinks can be purchased from the bar.

**28 Skylounge and Bar**
Crown Metropol, 8 Whiteman St, Southbank

**12 Jan**
Thu 6 – 9pm

$15 pre-purchase, $20 door sales, GLOBE and Corporate members FREE

### Mooning

Hosted by Dean Arcuri, Mooning is a fun, cheeky event. With the ‘talent’ and ‘wet-jock’ segments, Mooning guarantees an all-round view of contestants as they compete for some great prizes thanks to major sponsor The Groomed Man Co. as well as Mannhaus.

Throw in a half time comedy act with rapid-auction and it’s a great night’s entertainment for bugger-all money.

**The Laird**
149 Gipps St, Abbotsford

**20 Jan**
Fri 8pm
Duration: 3hrs

$17 full

### Miss Gay & Miss Transsexual Australia 2017

Spectacular, amazing, vibrant and always exciting to watch, this beauty with a purpose transgender pageant grabbed media and peoples’ attention for its effective and unique approach towards engaging trans-awareness and acceptance.

This year, contestants from all over the world compete for the prestigious crowns in a 3 hour breathtaking show.

A spellbinding box office hit not to be missed!!! See you there.

**Yarraville Club**
135 Stephen St, Yarraville

**28 Jan**
Sat 6pm
Duration: 3hrs

$35 full, $30 concession

### Nudemanifest

Nudemanifest - A place where you play with Nature and Nature plays with you. A place where body and mind connect, where nudity is embraced and a fraternal sharing of one’s spirit and body occurs. A state of perfect communion with Nature, where sexuality and sensuality coexist in a state of wonderment and fulfilment, and where your senses are reawakened to live in the naked village of masculine appreciation and love.

Encompasses the Australia Day long weekend - you’re welcome to stay for the whole period, or any part of it.

**Riverview**
648 Tolmie Rd, Tatong

**26 – 30 Jan**
Daily

$180 full

Men only
Seven Deadly Sins Ghost Tour

Spend an evening indulging in your darkest desires as we step back in time to discover stories of lust, envy, gluttony, greed, sloth, wrath and pride.

Tour includes stops at three haunted pubs.

The Steam Packet Hotel
13 Cole Street, Williamstown

21, 28 Jan, 4 Feb
Sat 8.30pm
Duration: 2hrs

$34 full
$25 group (min 10)

SHAZAM

Get your geek on as SHAZAM returns for Midsumma and takes over Sircuit. It’s time to strap on some spandex, set your phasers to stunning and get ready to cut up the dance floor faster than Wolverine can say SNIKT!

With performances by Zelda Moon, video games, pokestops, a cosplay competition and more it’s time to let your fanboy fly and get your geek chique on!

A mixed gender event.

Sircuit Bar
103 – 105 Smith St, Fitzroy

21 Jan
Sat 8.30pm
Duration: 7hrs

$22 full, $20 concession
Speed Hating

Dating with Dean is joined by comedy legend Kirsty Webeck in a speed dating event like never before. Embrace your cheeky inner devil at this all-inclusive same-sex attracted speed-dating extravaganza. Put down the phone, get face-to-face, come along, make new mates.

The last day of the festival could be the start of something new.

“A fantastically fun alternative to the standard ways of meeting and dating” - SameSame.com.au

The Carlton Club: Palms Rooftop
193 Bourke St, Melbourne
5 Feb
Sun 3pm
Duration: 2hrs 30mins
$20 full

Simply the Best - A Tribute to Kerrie Le Gore

Kerrie Le Gore was a true Legend of the Melbourne LGTBI community and the mother of drag. Join Tabitha Turlington, Barbra Quicksand, Miss Candee, Sue Ridge, Caresse FU and Dulcie Du Jour as they salute the days of “Le Gore’s Backyard” & The Lipstixs.

The event is a fundraiser for Switchboard.

The GH Hotel
1 Brighton Rd, St Kilda
22 Jan
Sun 5pm – midnight
Duration: 7hrs
$15 full

Trivial HERsute

For over three years Dean has hosted the cheekiest trivia in town, but he’s switching things up this Midsumma. The Laird Hotel opens its doors to all genders for a one night triviaganza and cheeky fundraiser for Switchboard.

Take the trivial low-road with this no-morals team-oriented game show. That’s right! Expect low standards as Dean delves deep into the seedy world of pop culture and naughty challenges!

One Night Only.

The Laird
149 Gipps St, Abbotsford
23 Jan
Mon 8pm
Duration: 2hrs 30mins
$15 full

ADAM presents POOL PARTY

The boys from ADAM (Melbourne's famous nude bar for guys) are exceptionally pleased to present POOL PARTY! Taking place at Wet on Wellington for the last eight years, ADAM will deliver what has become one of Midsumma’s most iconic and favourite events. Wear your most glamorous swimmers or go nude - it’s completely up to you! DJs include Adam Love (Sydney) and a host of special guests to keep the party pumping. This is definitely one to book in advance.

Wet on Wellington
62 Wellington St, Collingwood
4 Feb
Sat midday – 8pm
$26 pre-purchase, $30 on-the-door (unless sold out)

Men Only
Girls at Sea Boat Party

Ahoy! The fourth annual Girls at Sea Boat Party returns.
The renowned girls boat party will set sail on Saturday 21 Jan. Come aboard for the best night of the year!

DJs playing all your favorite music. Two levels, dance floors and massive deck for enjoying drinks in the sun.

Ticket includes finger food, pizza, floral lei and an exclusive secret after-party, details to be announced.

Victoria Star Cruises
Dock 9, Central Pier,
Victoria Harbour, Docklands

21 Jan
Sat Boarding 6.30pm, Cruise 7 – 11pm

$35 full, $30 group (min 10)
1. Alexandra Gardens  
   Alexandra Ave, Melbourne  
   Train: City Loop to Flinders Street  
   Tram: Any Swanston or Flinders St tram to stop 14

2. AMES Australia — Multi Cultural Hub  
   506 Elizabeth St, Melbourne  
   Train: City Loop to Melbourne Central  
   Tram: 19, 35, 57, 59 to stop 7

3. Arts Centre Melbourne  
   100 St Kilda Rd, Melbourne  
   Train: City Loop to Flinders Street  
   Tram: Any Swanston or Flinders St tram to stop 14

4. Deakin Edge  
   Federation Square, Cnr Swanston & Flinders St, Melbourne  
   Train: City Loop to Flinders Street  
   Tram: Any Swanston or Flinders St tram to stop 14

5. Federation Square, Cnr Swanston & Flinders St, Melbourne  
   Train: City Loop to Flinders Street  
   Tram: Any Swanston or Flinders St tram

6. fortyfivedownstairs  
   45 Flinders Lane, Melbourne  
   Train: City Loop to Flinders Street  
   Tram: Any Collins, Spring or Flinders St tram

7. Lord Coconut  
   Lvl 5, Mitchell House, 358 Lonsdale St, Melbourne  
   Train: City Loop to Melbourne Central  
   Tram: Any Elizabeth, Swanston, Bourke or La Trobe St tram

8. L1 Studios, Lvl 1, 377 Little Bourke St, Melbourne  
   Train: City Loop to Melbourne Central  
   Tram: 86, 96 to stop 4 or tram 19, 57, 59 to stop 3

9. Magnet  
   Lvl 2, 640 Bourke St, Melbourne  
   Train: City Loop to Southern Cross  
   Tram: 86, 96 to stop 1

10. The Athenaeum Theatre  
    188 Collins St, Melbourne  
    Train: City Loop to Flinders Street  
    Tram: Any Collins St tram to stop 6 or Swanston St tram to stop 11

11. Speakeasy HQ  
    522 Flinders St, Melbourne  
    Train: City Loop to Flinders Street  
    Tram: Any Spencer or Flinders Street tram

12. Tan Track  
    Observatory Gates, Birdwood Av, South Yarra  
    Train: City Loop to Flinders St  
    Tram: Any St Kilda Rd tram, except tram 1, to stop 19

13. Testing Grounds  
    1–23 City Rd, Southbank  
    Train: City Loop to Flinders Street  
    Tram: Any St Kilda Rd tram to stop 14

14. The Carlton Club: Palms Rooftop  
    193 Bourke St, Melbourne  
    Train: City Loop to Parliament  
    Tram: Any Bourke St tram to stop 7 or Swanston St tram to stop 10

15. Treasury Building  
    20 Spring St, Melbourne  
    Train: City Loop to Parliament  
    Tram: 11, 12, 48, 75, 109 to stop 8 or tram 86, 96 to stop 9

16. Treasury Gardens  
    2–18 Spring St, East Melbourne  
    Train: City Loop to Parliament  
    Tram: 11, 12, 35, 48, 75 or 109 to stop 8

17. Victoria Star Cruises, Dock 9, Central Pier, Victoria Harbour  
    Train: City Loop to Southern Cross  
    Tram: 30, 35, 70, 75, 86 to stop D2

18. 28 Skylounge and Bar  
    8 Whiteman St, Southbank  
    Train: City Loop to Southern Cross  
    Tram: 12, 96, 109 to stop 124A/B
8 Forest Glade Gardens
Mt Macedon Rd, Mt Macedon
PT: No public transport

1 The Good Room
390a Lygon St (cnr Blyth St), Brunswick East
Tram: 1, 8 to stop 125

3 Mechanics Institute
Performing Arts Centre
Cnr Sydney & Glenlyon Rd, Brunswick
Train: Upfield line to Jewell
Tram: 19 to stop 21

4 Northcote Library
32–38 Separation St, Northcote
Train: South Morang line to Northcote
Tram: 86 to stop 33

2 Northcote Social Club
301 High Street, Northcote
Train: South Morang line to Northcote
Tram: 86 to stop 32

5 Reservoir Library
23 Edwardes St, Reservoir
Train: South Morang line to Reservoir

7 Riverview
648 Tolmie Rd, Tatong
PT: No public transport

6 The Spotted Mallard
314 Sydney Rd, Brunswick
Train: Upfield line to Brunswick
Tram: 19 to stop 21
2 Artists Studio 106  
Level 2, 106 Barkly St, St Kilda  
Tram: 3a, 16 to stop 33 or tram 3, 67 to stop 34

3 Chapel Off Chapel  
12 Little Chapel St, Prahran  
Train: Sandringham line to Prahran  
Tram: 72 to stop 31 or tram 78 to stop 47

4 Como Park North  
Alexandra Ave & Williams Rd, South Yarra  
PT: Public transport not applicable — car-oriented event

5 Fitzroy Street  
St Kilda  
Tram: 3a, 16 or 96 to stop 133 or tram 12 to stop 143

6 Gasworks Arts Park  
21 Graham St, Albert Park  
Tram: 1 to stop 31

7 The GH Hotel  
1 Brighton Rd, St Kilda  
Train: Sandringham line to Balaclava  
Tram: 3/3a, 16, 67 to stop 35

8 Love Machine  
228A Malvern Road, Prahran  
(Entry via Little Chapel St)  
Train: Sandringham line to Prahran  
Tram: 6, 72 to stop 31 or tram 78 to stop 46

9 MAMA Marija’s  
185 Commercial Rd, South Yarra  
Train: Sandringham line to Prahran  
Tram: 72 to stop 29 or tram 78 to stop 47

10 Mavis Brown’s  
35-37 Fitzroy St, St Kilda  
Tram: 16 or 96 to stop 134 or tram 12 to stop 143

11 Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre — MSAC  
1 Aughtie Dr, Albert Park  
Train: Sandringham line to Prahran  
Tram: 6, 72 to stop 31 or tram 78 to stop 46

12 Peninsula Obstacle Racing Course, 480 Mornington-Tyabb Rd, Moorooduc  
PT: No public transport

13 St Kilda Town Hall  
99a Carlisle St, St Kilda East  
Train: Sandringham line to Balaclava  
Tram: 3/3a, 16, 67 to stop 35 or tram 78 to stop 37

14 Temperance Hall  
199 Napier St, South Melbourne  
Tram: 1 to stop 24 or tram 12 to stop 129

15 Saint Martins Place  
374 St Kilda Rd, St Kilda  
Train: Sandringham line to Balaclava  
Tram: 3/3a, 16, 67 to stop 35 or tram 78 to stop 37
Midsumma Festival 2017

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Aaron O’Shanessy
Secretary
Meg Edwards
Kiara De Vere
Anthony McDonough
Rhys Cranney
Chair - Fundraising
Sub committee

Key Staff & Volunteers

Karen Bryant
Chief Executive
Daniel Santangeli
Program Manager
Gavin Faull
Production Manager
Tania Owen
Marketing Manager
Irene Swensen
Administrative Officer
Alexina Coad
Ticketing Manager
Alan Drummond
Communications & Website
Ara Dolatian
Volunteers Coordinator
& Visual Arts Coordinator
Daniel Chia
Social Media
Cameron Hull
Administrative & IT Assistant
Bill Coleby & Bianca Eden
Risk & Emergency Management
Consultants
Suzanna Zivanovic, Lager Sisters
Bar Management
Mathieu Reysset
Website Technician
Adrian Joannou
Consultant
Designers
Guide design by Forde + Nicol
Maps design by Copy Boy

Life Members

Ray Arthur
Angela Bailey
Tim Bateson
Claire Beckwith
Dean Bryant
Scott Campbell
Glyn Cryer
John Cummins
Sasha Cunningham
Kris Darmody
Alan Drummond
Jeff Dycer
Peter Edmonds
Sue Fletcher
Luke Gallagher
Brenton Geyer
Ian V. Gould
Jeffrey Grad
Ian Greer
Nigel Higgins
Crusader Hills
Leigh Johns
Geraldine Kirby
Matto Lucas
Lee Matthews
David Micallief
Letizia Mondello
David Owen
Kaye Sera
Rohan Sheam
Ron Thiele
Rowland Thomson
Danny Vadasz
Harry Walford
Tracey Wall
Will Walton
Lisa Watts
Roxy B. Wilde

2017 Midsumma Festival Patrons

Diamond ($5,000 or more)
Stephen Fleming
Andrew Staite
Lachlan Pettit-Young
Stephen Barrow & Lawrence Yu
Anonymous donor

Gold ($2,000 to $4,999)
Ben Fleming
Kiara De Vere
Malcolm Farfor
Evelyn
Daniel McCluskey
Emelia Rusciano

Silver ($1,000 to $1,999)
John Caldwell
Jess Morden
James Bonwick

Rainbow ($500 to $999)
Aaron O’Shannonessy
Jamal Hakim
Meg Edwards
Mark Grogan
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