



midsumma festival

Victoria's premier festival
of LGBTQIA+ arts and culture

18 Jan –
8 Feb
2026



more
than
money



More out and proud

There's no better time
to be yourself



ONLY IN THIS CITY OF OURS



Metropolis



NGV International



Fed Square



Queen Victoria Market



Yakimono



Shrine of Remembrance



Scan to see
What's On
Melbourne



Midsumma 2026

#midsumma

midsumma.org.au



Michael Parry Acting Chair of Management Board Midsumma Festival

Welcome to Midsumma Festival 2026, where time and place converge to celebrate the vibrant, layered queer life, arts and culture across Melbourne and regional Victoria.

From 18 January to 8 February, we invite you into 22 days of bold connection and joyful belonging. This year's signature program, "Time & Place", responds to this pivotal moment, a time of shifting sands where connection matters more than ever.

It reclaims physical spaces as vital hubs for authentic expression, centering intersectional stories that weave together land, culture, and community. Through this theme, we celebrate how queer identities in our region are uniquely shaped by First Nations wisdom, Asian and Pacific influences, and diverse migration stories, creating something distinctly ours while building bridges across divides.

You're spoiled for choice, with over 200 events across more than 150 venues: performances that move you, exhibitions that inspire, conversations that matter, and free outdoor celebrations that bring us together as community. We open with the beloved Midsumma Carnival at Alexandra Gardens, a free, all-ages gathering that sets the tone for everything to follow. We close with Victoria's Pride Street Party, sending you home uplifted.

Throughout the festival, we're deepening our commitment to First Peoples engagement and cultural protocols, guided by community wisdom. We're expanding access through Auslan-interpreted events, relaxed sessions, and accessible venues, ensuring everyone can participate fully. Our continued focus on safety, wellbeing, and trauma-informed practices reflects our care for all communities.

Beyond these 22 days, Midsumma works year-round to champion queer artists and sustain our communities through partnerships and programs that create lasting impact. We're proud to keep major public events free, made possible by the support of the Victorian Government, our generous partners, and donors who believe in our vision of a world where queer arts and culture flourish.

So dive in, find your people, and claim your space in this year's program. This is your festival. Welcome home.

Welcome to Midsumma Festival

Midsumma is Australia's leading queer arts and culture organisation, championing LGBTQIA+ creativity year-round and welcoming audiences of every age, identity and ability. In 2026, Midsumma Festival spans 22 summer days (18 Jan–8 Feb) across Victoria with 200+ events, involving 5000 artists and culture-makers, across more than 150 venues, showcasing performances, exhibitions, parties, conversations and free outdoor celebrations that reflect depth and diversity of our communities.

Our program invites you to immerse yourself in bold artistic expressions of lived experience, across gender and sexuality, intersecting histories, cultures, life stages and the new ideas shaping our shared future. You'll find visual art, theatre, cabaret, music, comedy, dance, film, literature and digital works alongside sport, family-friendly gatherings and spaces to meet, learn and play.

Beyond the festival, we work year-round to equip artists and culture-makers with tools to create, present and promote their work. For 38 years we've evolved with our communities, growing audiences, and widening engagement, while keeping learning and diversity at our core. We hold space for complexity, celebrate joy, and build bridges in times that call for care and courage. We remain committed to access, self-determination and First Peoples cultural leadership, and safer, trauma-informed practice across everything we do, supporting generations of LGBTQIA+ voices and starting conversations that shape culture for our collective futures.

Thank you for supporting queer artists and arts workers who are the heartbeat of this festival.

Whether this is your first festival or a beloved tradition, we invite you to wander, discover, reflect and be surprised.



The Hon. Colin Brooks MP Minister for Creative Industries

A message from the Minister for Creative Industries

Victoria is a place where creativity, diversity, and community are celebrated, and each year, Midsumma Festival brings all these things together for a summer festival like no other.

For almost four decades, Midsumma Festival has celebrated our LGBTQIA+ communities, arts and culture. With iconic events like the Midsumma Carnival and Midsumma Pride March, as well as more intimate platforms for LGBTQIA+ artists, it's a high energy, creative kickstart to our annual calendar.

This year's program is no different, and includes more than 200 events – from art exhibitions, theatre and live music to regional events and experiences for children and families.

Victorian Government is a proud partner of Midsumma, an inclusive and vibrant festival that celebrates, showcases and reflects the diversity, resilience, talent and pride of Victoria's LGBTQIA+ communities.

Congratulations to the Midsumma team, to the many participating artists who will bring this year's program to life, and to the communities at the heart of this festival.



Nicholas Reece Lord Mayor

Message from the Lord Mayor of Melbourne

Each year, as Midsumma Festival arrives, I'm reminded why I'm so proud to be Melbourne's Lord Mayor. At the top of that list is our city's remarkable diversity and inclusivity.

Melbourne wouldn't be the city it is today without the unique identities, voices and stories of the people who call our city home. Together, we've built a community that thrives on difference – and is stronger for it.

The Midsumma Festival is 22 days full of colour, pride and joy, and a reminder that everyone deserves to be seen, heard and valued – not just during Midsumma, but every single day of the year. It is this welcoming and inclusive spirit that makes us – at the City of Melbourne – so proud to be a long-time supporter of the festival.

In a world where discrimination and prejudice continue to push some voices to the margins, Melbourne says more loudly and clearly than ever: diversity is our best feature.

Congratulations to the festival organisers, staff, volunteers and artists who have conjured another vibrant program – and to your 38th year of lighting up the city in every colour of the rainbow.



A message from NAB

At NAB we believe inclusion is more than a value, it's a commitment to creating a workplace and society where everyone can be out and proud. That's why we're thrilled to once again support Midsumma Festival and celebrate the rich diversity of the LGBTQIA+ community at Australia's premier queer arts and cultural event.

Midsumma is more than a celebration – it's a powerful reminder of the strength in unity, the beauty of self-expression, and the importance of safe, affirming spaces where all identities are respected and uplifted.

We're committed to fostering a culture where everyone can feel seen, heard, and valued regardless of gender identity, sexuality, or lived experience. Through our partnerships, advocacy, and everyday actions, we continue to stand with LGBTQIA+ Australians and champion equity, visibility and belonging.

This year, we invite you to dive in and explore new perspectives, spark meaningful conversations, and connect with voices that reflect the full spectrum of the community. Whether you're discovering emerging artists, attending a much-loved event, or simply listening with empathy, every moment of connection helps build a more inclusive future.

Hundreds of artists and performers are the beating heart of Midsumma – thank you for your creativity and courage and thank you to the volunteers and Midsumma team for making this festival an extraordinary celebration. To everyone attending Midsumma Carnival 2026, we're proud to stand beside you – showing up, speaking out, and celebrating loudly and proudly. There's no better time to be yourself. Happy Midsumma!

CEO Welcome



Karen Bryant
CEO, Creative Director — Midsumma

We are living at a unique and pivotal moment in history, a time of shifting sands. As the world faces a rising tide of division and retreat from progress, the need to connect through shared humanity has never been more urgent. The 2026 Midsumma Festival theme, Time and Place, reflects these challenges while emphasising the power of connection, to land, culture, and each other.

As the days lengthen and the light returns, we step into this year's theme with an invitation to consider where we've come from, where we stand, and where we're brave enough to go next. It's a season to gather, breathe, and belong.

Time speaks to urgency and history, the hard-won progress of LGBTQIA+ communities and the responsibility to protect and extend it. And place, of the lands on which we meet, First Peoples' enduring custodianship, and the physical spaces we reclaim as sites of safety, creative expression and togetherness. Together, Time and Place ground us here in Victoria while opening us to the broader currents of our region, from Asia and the Pacific, to the many diasporas that shape our city's pulse.

Welcome to Midsumma Festival 2026! Across 22 sun-kissed days you'll find premieres and parties, quiet reckonings and loud celebrations; intimate conversations and public moments that turn streets, galleries, parks, and late-night venues into shared places of belonging. We honour cultural leadership and courage in ordinary life. We invite you to listen deeply, speak freely, and welcome difference as a superpower.

We see you, we honour you, and we celebrate you. Mark the dates. Bring your people. Discover a new favourite artist. Leave room for surprise. If it's your first Midsumma, you're warmly welcomed. If you're returning, thank you for building this with us, again and again.

Be present. Make space. And above all dive into everything.

About

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 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



Melbourne-based visual and motion designer "Kits in Motion" aka Blanca González (Paraguay) works across branding, editorial, product and video, with a practice that brings story, rhythm and design into motion. Her 2026 visual design commissioned by Midsumma captures "time and place" through layered textures that move like wind

across echoes of Country, bark, stone, cloud, and the radiant energy of parade. Abstract, organic forms hint at faces and masks, while a sun breaks through as the emotional centre. Subtle references to the Victorian Pride Centre and a Yarra River threads together place, people and motion of the LGBTQIA+ arts and cultural community.

Stay in Touch

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

Join us on socials...

- @midsummafestival
- @midsumma

Use #midsumma in your own posts when you're out and about at events so we can share your pics.

Ticketing and Access Information

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



This Guide

Navigating Event Listings

Subgenre

Day Out

Access



Title

Victoria's Pride Street Party

Melbourne's hottest queer street party

Victoria's Pride is back, spreading queer joy throughout Fitzroy! Join us as Smith and Gertrude Streets transform into a fun-filled block party for all.

Description

Packed with performances from artists across multiple stages, DJ stations, shopfronts and plenty of food and drinks from local businesses - you won't want to miss out!

Curated by

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Location

Gertrude Street and Smith Street, Fitzroy

Date

8 Feb

Duration

9hrs

Day / Time

Sun Midday

Tickets

FREE

Presented by

Presented by Midsumma in partnership with the Victorian State Government

Image credit

Image: by Suzanne Phoenix

Please pass on, or recycle this guide responsibly

Access and Facility Symbols

- Wheelchair access
- English no barrier
- Auslan interpreted
- Open captions
- Audio described
- Closed captions
- Assistive listening
- Relaxed performance
- Tactile tour
- Over 18 only
- Family friendly
- Food available
- Visual rating
- Bar
- Three ticket discount

For full details on all Access and Facility Symbols please visit midsumma.org.au/access

Disclaimer

Midsumma makes every effort to ensure all details are correct at the 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 rights remain with event producers.

NGV

Westwood Kawakubo

7 DEC 2025 – 19 APR 2026

PRESENTING PARTNER: MELBOURNE EVERY BIT DIFFERENT

PRINCIPAL PARTNER: VICTORIA State Government, CREATIVE VICTORIA

MAJOR PARTNERS: Mercedes-Benz, T, MACQUARIE, QANTAS

LEARNING PARTNER: THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

TIMEPIECE PARTNER: ROLEX

(left) Comme des Garçons, Tokyo Look 2, from the Wonderland collection, autumn–winter 2009 (detail). Photo © firstVIEW. Model: Melodie Dagault
 (right) Vivienne Westwood, 1994 (detail). Photo © Inez van Lamsweerde and Vinoodh Matadin

AMPA
 AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM OF PERFORMING ARTS

11 December – 26 April
 Arts Centre Melbourne

DIVA

Creativity and costume from opera stars to pop icons

Exhibition exclusive to Melbourne
 Book now at artscentremelbourne.com.au/diva

Arts Centre Melbourne | VICTORIA State Government | CREATIVE VICTORIA

Created by the V&A – touring the world



Contents

Major Events

Midsumma Carnival	12
Midsumma Pride March	14
Victoria's Pride	16
Victoria's Pride Regional Program	18
Midsumma Presents Program	20
Midsumma Hubs	26

Performance

A Comprehensive & Profoundly Queer Accounting of the Brief (Yet GLORIOUS!) History of The Gay & Lesbian Kingdom of the Coral Sea Islands by Tom Ballard	29
Afterglow	
All-Star Pride Drag Bingo	
Anyone But Cis Dudes Comedy	
Asexual Fantasies and Hopeless Aromantics	
Australian Open	
Baylie Carson: Queer Is A Battlefield	
BEASTIES	
Bent Burllesque 2026	
Bev and Myrt and the Scrolling of Doom	
Blak & Fabulous	
bodies no bodies: the performance	
Campfire	
Chookas	
Ciouxe	
DADDY in DON'T DROP THE SOAP!	
Darling Divaz	
Disco Is Dead	
Drag Me to Broadway	
Drag Storytime for Adults with Narelda Jacobs & Karina Natt	
Elegies for Angels, Punks and Raging Queens	
Final Queen	
Finding Glitter in the Storm	
FREAK OUT! THE AFTERPARTY	
Friends of Comedy	
Frock's Tenthiversary Supper Club	
From Grindr To Blindr	
GARABARI by Joel Bray Dance	
GROUSE COMEDY	
He Partied Like It's 1999	
He's Every Woman	
Hot & Heavy	
Hot Men Doing Things	
HOUSE OF DIESEL THH - VOGUE NIGHT	

I'm only dating these men because my uncle bequeathed me money and I need to get married by the end of the year	
Identity Quest, a trans and gender demythology	
Kiki House of Furia Presents: The Fantasy Ball	
Late Night Vice	
Magical Prescriptions	
Mama Alto: Transcendent	
Milo Hartill: Black, Fat and F**gy	
MoCo: Summer Break	
MR BIG aka Tatay, A Transwoman and That Tiring Tune!	
Much to do with Law, but more to do with Love	
Mushroom's Dungeon Crawl	
Peter Pan: Twinkle in Time	
PiaNu Metal	
Playing To Win	
PORN	
Post Hole Digger	
Prahran Square Piano Bar	
QLC x BLINDSIDE presents QUEERS LOVE WRESTLING	
Queer Comedy Gala	
Queer Playwriting Award Showcase	
Reflector	
RENT - The Musical	
Robert the Octopus	
Rooftop Piano Bar: Hosted by Tina Del Twist	
Samuel Roberts - F.A.A.G	
sentiments of sentiments	
She Slayed: A Drag Murder Mystery	
Skank Sinatra: The Name On Everybody's Lips	
SKIN: THE PERFORMANCE	
Slow-Cooked Mutton Cabaret	
Snuff Saloon	
State of Play by Christopher Bryant	
Strip The Life Fantastic	
Sugar	
That's The Way The Mop Flaps	
The Placeholder	
The Pole Shebang	
The Self Possessed	
TINA A Tropical Love Story	
Vincent Hooper - Club Clocktower	
WERK - SERVE	
Wise Words - A Night of Intergenerational Storytelling	

Music

Bangers, Beers & Bears: Princess and Villains	47
Dynamic Darkness	
FUNERAL - KING IV	
Goddess Of Pop - A Tribute to CHER	
Hetslayer: Amplifying Trans Voices with Music of Resilience	
Homophonic!	
Morris House Rooftop DJs	
My Heart by Danaë Killian	
New Beginnings	
Pride Piano Bar at Ivy	

Visual Arts

2099: Messages to our queer future	49
Be Photographed for Body Language	
BEASTIES Exhibition	
Behind the Zip	
bodies no bodies	
Brimbank LGBTQIA+ History Exhibition - Opening Night Gala	
DIVA	
Fluid - Celebrating Queer Artists	
Isabella Capezio: To build a home	
It's Hard... Being a Human	
Midsumma Art Award	
MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM: A Magical Queer Group Show	
Molten Tongues	
O UT at BSG	
Out Loud on the Ninch	
Party Hard	
Pia de Bruyn - Female Trouble	
Presence (Performance)	
Queer bodies	
Queer Reckoning	
Queer Reclamation: Elyas Alavi & Ayman Kaake	
r e a c l a i m e d	
Reflections of a Decaying World	
SKIN: THE EXHIBITION	
Stand Out Exhibition	
Tourmaline: Transcendent	
Wenmiao Xin - I am a lesbian, a feminist, a woman of colour	
You Are Here: Melbourne Memory-scapes	

Film

All Bodies Of Water Connect	55
Let's Do the Time Warp Again: Trivia and Movie Night	
MQFF Presents: Midsumma Movies	
Rainbows, Camera, Action: Spotighting LGBTQIA+ Creatives Through Music in Motion	
Save the Bears!	

Kids & Families

Carlton Baths Pride Party 2026	56
Fractured Fairytales	
Little BEASTIES Kids Disco	
Love Love Love Love Love Love	
Mural of Me	
Rainbow Families Extravaganza	
Rainbow Storytime	
See you in the Soup!	

Youth

Night at the Museum: Midsumma Youth Party	58
Queer Westside Studios Session	
Stories for All Seasons - School Holiday Workshops	

Community & Culture

5th Annual Roller Derby Pride Cup	59
Active Pride Pool Party	
Bi+ Pride Victoria Annual Picnic	
Casey Rainbow Picnic	
Euphoria Social Pop-Up Geelong	
Gay Stuff Market	
LGBTQIA+ Ageing Community Social Club	
Midsumma Carnival	
Midsumma Pride March	
Oceanside Pride	
Park Lounge	
Picture Me	
Queer Sound Exchange	
Queer-ways: Retracing Ballarat's Queer Footprints Mural	
Rainbow Greys	
Rainbow Recharge Hub	
Regional Transgender Podcast - Series 2	
Social Butterflies	
St Kilda Pride Afterparty at The Espy	

Sunset Pride Party	70
Surf Coast Slay - Pride Fest	
The "Queen" of Wales Hotel Pride Party	
The Pearl Prize Season Exclusive Signing Session at The Emporium Melbourne	
The Pearl Prize Season Exclusive Signing Session with Hares and Hyenas at The Victorian Pride Centre	
Trans & Gender Diverse Clothes Swap	
Victoria's Pride Street Party	

Talks, Tours & Workshops

AIDS Memorial Garden Tour	66
Auslan Interpreted Tour of the Victorian Pride Centre	
Babies and Barking Dogs: Keith Haring & Melbourne	
Beyond the Binary: Marlow Moss	
Customised Clothing Workshop	
Fluid Beauty	
Furby Folx	
GAYmazing Race	
LGBTQIA+ Youth History Workshop	
LGBTQIA+ Workshop Series	
Midsumma Matters: Queer Joy	
Peninsula Sauna Kink Workshop - Bondage	
Peninsula Sauna Kink Workshop - Sounding Playback	
Portraits of Queer GV	
Queer History Walking Tour - St Kilda	
Queer Worldmaking: Women Photographers 1900-1975	
Queer Youth Histories	
Queerways Walking Tour - City of Yarra	
Re-Imagining Gender: Rei Kawakubo & Vivienne Westwood	
Telling It With Pride Speakers Night	
The Pearl Prize Season 'Vogue Versus Madonna' The Panel	
There's a story in you: Queer filmmaking workshop	

Parties

Amplio Rocks! Deaf Club & Dance Party	70
Blankē POP Secret Garden Party	
FURocious @ Wet 2026	
Hot and Steamy	
Lady Like Pool Party 2026	
Library Up Late x Creative Acts	
NGV Friday Nights: Midsumma	
Northside Pride Pool Party	
Peninsula Sausage Fest	
Pride Pool Party in Sunshine	
Pride Rooftop Party Presented by Chemist Warehouse 2026	
Pride Tide Boat Party	
Queens Of The Galaxy	
Queer AF @ Wet 2026	
SAPPHIC DISCO	
Southside Queer Pool Party	
Sunday Sizzle: Pride March Rooftop Party	
The Pearl Prize Awards Gala	
Under 30s @ Wet 2026	
Wet Pool Party 2026	

Sports

Discover Inner Yarra Regeneration with The Nomads	75
Glamourhead Sharks "Give Swimming a Go" Day	
Plunge for PRIDE!	
Rainbow Golf 2026	
Women on the Water	

Accessible Events

Our People & Patrons	76
Our Valued Partners	78
	79

Midsumma Carnival

Draaaag the crew together and kick off Midsumma 2026 at Carnival.

Set beside the Birrarung in Melbourne's vibrant CBD, Alexandra Gardens hosts Midsumma Carnival, free to attend and loved by more than 120,000 festival-goers. Bursting with sights, sounds and flavours, Carnival is the ultimate day-long outdoor arts and performance celebration, lighting the fuse for our three-week festival.

Across 55,000 square metres you'll discover three performance stages, two food hubs with diverse options, pop-up bars, and aisles of stalls from LGBTQIA+ supporting businesses, essential community organisations and support services, many with giveaways.

Round up friends and family and settle into lush grassy pavilions around the stages to soak up the entertainment. Expect standout vocalists, dancers, DJs and variety performers, plus a chance to shine in our Lip Sync Limelight competition. Furry pals are welcome too, enter them in the annual Dog Show for extra joy!

Whether you're a first-timer or Carnival regular, this signature summer moment brings community together in the heart of the city, sun on skin, music in the air, story, rhythm and pride in motion.



Midsumma Carnival. Photo by Matto Lucas

Alexandra Gardens
St Kilda Rd
Melbourne

Sun 18 Jan

Midsumma Carnival
11am - 9pm

FREE

No glass or erected marquees



Alexandra Gardens, Melbourne

MIDSUMMA CARNIVAL 2026



- Volunteers Tent
- Carnival Stallholders
- Food Vendors
- First Aid
- Bar
- Toilets
- Accessible Toilet
- Free Drinking Water
- Main Information Tent
- Box Office
- Wheelchair Charging Station
- Wheelchair Accessible Path
- Closest Public Transport
- Artist Check-in
- Dog Show Registration Tent
- Midsumma Merchandise Tent
- Entrance to Gardens
- 18 + wristbands

midsumma festival
#midsumma
midsumma.org.au

Midsumma Pride March

Make Way For The Future

This summer, take your place in a living river of pride as we move together from Fitzroy Street to the shores of Catani Gardens. On Sunday 1 February 2026 (earlier start: 10:30am), arrive bold, arrive joyful, arrive as you are.

Traditions roar to life with Dykes on Bikes, then we honour Boon Wurrung Elders and the Rainbow Aboriginal Float at the front of the procession. What follows is a kaleidoscope of community groups, families, allies and pride groups, heels, wheels and everything in between, each bringing their own rhythm, story and style.

One kilometre, countless identities: glitter, banners, drums, quiet pride and loud love. At Catani Gardens, the celebration rolls on with food and friendship by the foreshore. You can then spill into St Kilda's restaurants, cafés and bars to keep the summer-afternoon vibes going.

We march for visibility, for joy, for justice. We march for those beside us, those before us and those not yet here. Step with us, claim your space, make your noise, and march the streets with power and pride.

Midsumma Pride March
Fitzroy St, St Kilda

10:30am march starts

Celebrations
Catani Gardens
St Kilda

10:30am - 3:30pm

Sun 1 Feb

Rainbow Recharge Hub
Victorian Pride Centre - pg 63

FREE |
No BYO alcohol



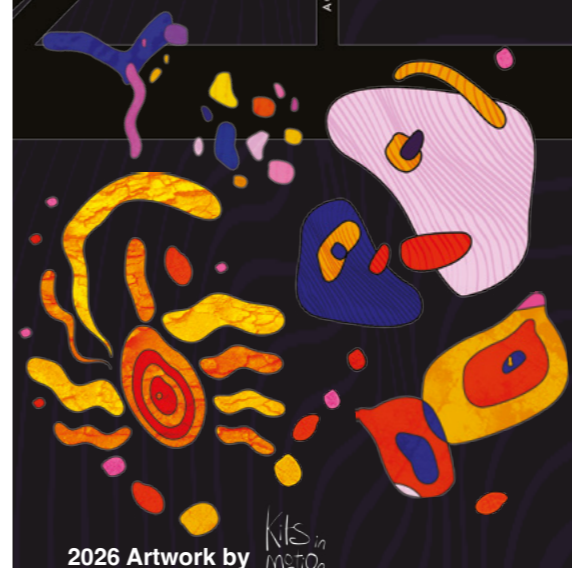
Image: Midsumma Pride March by Suzanne Balding



MIDSUMMA PRIDE MARCH 2026

St Kilda

#midsumma
midsumma.org.au



2026 Artwork by KIS in MATO

- Midsumma Merchandise
- March Route
- Vehicle Assembly
- Accessible Drop-Off Point
- Marshalling Area
- Food Vendor
- Water Station
- Information Tent
- Participant Registration
- Public Drop-Off Point
- Toilets
- First Aid

Victoria's Pride

Pride Takes the Streets

Victoria's Pride returns in a free, all-day street party on Sunday 8 February 2026 across Naarm/Melbourne's iconic Gertrude and Smith Street precinct. Delivered in partnership with the Victorian Government, Victoria's Pride champions statewide participation and access, bringing regional and metropolitan communities together for one electrifying street festival.

Fitzroy and Collingwood will come alive with multiple stages and pop-up zones showcasing musicians, dancers, comedians, circus artists and more, alongside interactive experiences and community stalls that foreground cultural representation and creative diversity. Expect live performances and party vibes, quiet moments and big, collective celebrations, made by and for LGBTQIA+ communities and allies.

Make a day of it: wander galleries, support local retailers, and sample the neighbourhood's cafes, bars and eateries as the program spills into the streets. Join us as we celebrate our collective identities, our pride, our places, our people.

Victoria's Pride
Smith St and Gertrude St precinct
Melbourne Inner North

12pm - 9pm

Sun 8 Feb

FREE

No glass



Image: Victoria's Pride. Image by Suzanne Phoenix

Victoria's Pride is a State Government initiative, delivered by festival partner Midsumma



VICTORIA'S PRIDE

STREET PARTY 2026



Gertrude St + Smith St

#midsumma
midsumma.org.au



- Accessible Drop-Off
- Food Vendors
- First Aid
- Community Stalls
- Toilets
- Accessible Toilet
- Free Drinking Water
- RideShare Zone
- Information Tent
- Performance Space
- Picnic Tables
- Performance Stage
- Event Precinct



VICTORIA'S PRIDE

Regional Program

To ensure statewide representation of LGBTQIA+ arts and cultures. Victoria's Pride commissioned community groups, organisations and artists in regional Victoria to facilitate involvement in Victoria's Pride event activities, either in the lead-up to or on the day of Victoria's Pride one-day street party in Melbourne's inner north.



2 LGBTQIA+ Workshop Series Warrnambool

Led by local artist Daniel Newell (DANDROGYNY) with Brophy Family & Youth Services in Warrnambool, VIC. Daniel shares their creativity, expertise, and joy through bold, playful workshops that invite LGBTQIA+ participants of all ages to connect across generations via costume, makeup, portrait-making, and more! Celebrating creativity, dialogue, and vibrant community expression.



3 Surf Coast Slay — Pride Fest Torquay | 31 JAN 2026

Let's go to the beach, beach, let's go to the waves! A day to night party-wave of LGBTQ+ excellence at the Torquay Hotel, presented by Thursgay. With a lineup of DJ and Drag superstars, hosted by the iconic, Kween Kong (RuPaul's Drag Race DU, RuPaul's Drag Race Global Allstars), Max Drag Queen (Drag Race DU), Diloncé and much more!



4 Rainbows, Camera, Action: Spotlighting LGBTQIA+ Creatives Through Music in Motion Bright | Online from 8 FEB

Directed by Mieke Louise, this project will capture the LGBTQIA+ community from regional North East Victoria on screen, through the creation of a music video accompanying Mieke's original song. This video will display talented performers and celebrate Pride. Mieke will also create a behind the scenes documentary to platform LGBTQIA+ stories, while simultaneously showcasing her creative journey and production process.



5 Hetslayer: Amplifying Trans Voices with Music of Resilience Castlemaine | 31 JAN - 1 FEB 2026

Castlemaine Pride is partnering with Hetslayer, a queer and trans punk band, to record their debut album. Centering trans visibility, resilience, and joy, this project invites multigenerational local LGBTQIA+ community members to sing and collaborate in creating a cultural artifact that amplifies queer voices through music. Everyone's invited to the album launch and record signing to celebrate the project.



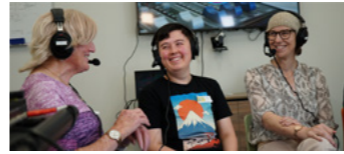
6 5th Annual Roller Derby Pride Cup Gippsland | 8th NOV 2025

Experience fierce, full-contact action, junior showcases, and community vibes that champion LGBTQIA+ inclusion and visibility. Celebrate bold hits, skill, and unstoppable energy on wheels. Take part in a colourful photoshoot, crown yourself with a flower crown, and soak up the circus-inspired festival atmosphere. More than derby, it's a full-force celebration of diversity, joy, and community.



7 Queer-ways: Retracing Ballarat's Queer Footprints Mural Ballarat | 4th JAN 2026

Come down and contribute to a lasting artwork that embeds queer history into the city's public space. Together, we will celebrate and paint the key figures, events and groups from the Ballarat Area/ Wadawurrung country LGBTQIA+ community. By retracing queer footprints, we can step into a future where all of our histories are celebrated and acknowledged.



8 Regional Trans Podcast: Series 2 Echuca | NOV 2025 - FEB 2026

The Regional Transgender Podcast returns with Series Two, amplifying the voices of trans and gender diverse people across regional Victoria. Recorded in Central Victoria and shaped by participants, five new episodes will share powerful stories of identity, resilience, and Pride — available on Spotify and Flipbook.



9 All Bodies of Water Connect Aireys Inlet & Winchelsea | 8 FEB 2026

Blame the Shadows Collective presents, a new video work exploring the stories of queer migrants in regional Victoria through a series of interviews, dance, and moving images. Blame the Shadows Collective is made of interdisciplinary artists from across the globe. Collaborating closely with each other, their desire is to tell captivating stories about raw human experiences.



10 Oceanside Pride Portland | NOV - DEC 2025

Oceanside Pride is for everyone! All ages, genders, abilities, and (good) vibes. From youth karaoke-pizza-parties, to drag workshops with Cerulean, dance classes to costume creation, there's something for everybody. Whether you're performing, volunteering, or cheering from the crowd, you're part of creating Pride history in Portland, with this celebration of queer joy and creativity.



11 Portraits of Queer GV (Goulburn Valley) Multiple locations | NOV 2025 - FEB 2026

Portraits of Queer GV is a series of workshops taking place across Victoria with the aim of creating 500+ portraits. Participant will be asked to express themselves, showcasing different aspects of their identity using paper collage. The portraits will be displayed at galleries and other venues, and collated in a book.



12 Friends of Comedy Mildura | 7 DEC 2025

A raucous afternoon of very adult humour from the loudest and proudest people in comedy. Lineup includes Robinvale's Kat Zam (Best Up and Coming Creator at the AiMCO Awards); Mildura-born Freddie Arthur (RAW Comedy National Finalist, as seen on SBS); Carmelo Costa (Sloppy Toppy); Chris Demos (Actually Kinda Hot); and Bianka Ismailovski (We Want To Be Better podcast).



13 Picture Me Bairnsdale | 22 NOV 2025

Picture Me is on a mission to spark visibility and unlock opportunity in regional and rural areas by creating community through playful self-expression, one joyful event at a time. A day for LGBTQIA+ people to come together in a safe and inclusive environment to playfully explore self-expression and identity with access to free hair, clothing, and make-up services.

14 Pridefinder Podcast Season 3 Multiple locations in Regional VIC NOV 2025 - FEB 2026

Season 3 of The Pridefinder Podcast arrives with a new host and a fresh focus. Exploring LGBTQIA+ lives across regional Victoria, this season amplifies youth voices while continuing to celebrate intergenerational stories of pride, resilience, and community. Inspired by Midsumma's 2026 theme Time and Place, we journey deeper into the diverse landscapes of queer identity and belonging.



15 Out Loud on the Ninch Mornington Peninsula | 7 FEB 2026

Out Loud on the Ninch is a sunset event at the Peninsula Community Theatre, bringing together live music and DJs. A celebration of community, identity, and creativity. At the heart of the evening is the photographic exhibition 'You & I', a bold project celebrating queer pride across generations. Developed by local artists Noa Wolf Smith Fletcher and Roe Bonnici.



1 Playback: TGD Takes on Identity and Industry Bendigo | 16th NOV 2025

Playback: TGD Takes on Identity and Industry is a bold, vibrant gathering of trans and gender diverse creators from across Victoria. Blending storytelling, networking, and intergenerational insight, this one-of-a-kind event celebrates TGD voices from across the media and entertainment industries. Presented by WIFT VIC & TGD Bendigo and Beyond.



Midsumma Presents

Now is the time to congregate and come together, for movement, for support, for celebrations of Queer Joy. This is the time, this is the place.

#midsumma

midsumma.org.au



pg 34

GARABARI by Joel Bray Dance

Presented by Joel Bray Dance, BlakDance and Midsumma Festival

30, 31 Jan

Meat Market - Blackwood Box

Image: by Jeff Busby

JOEL BRAY

BLAKDANCE



pg 52

Pia de Bruyn - Female Trouble

Presented by Bundoora Homestead Art Centre and Midsumma Festival

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

Bundoora Homestead Art Centre

Image: Pia de Bruyn, Female Trouble (detail), 2019-2025a



pg 48

Homophonic!

Presented by Homophonic! and Midsumma Festival

6-7 Feb | Theatre Works

Image: Tom Noble



pg 41

Queer Playwriting Award Showcase

Presented by Gasworks and Midsumma Festival

19 Jan

Gasworks Arts Park - Gasworks Theatre

Image: courtesy of Anthony Nocera



pg 37

Kiki House of Furia Presents: The Fantasy Ball

Presented by State Library Victoria, Midsumma Festival and House of Furia

24 Jan | State Library Victoria

Image: by @nam.chops



pg 44

The Placeholder

Presented by Ben MacEllen and Midsumma Festival

27 Jan- 1 Feb, 3-8 Feb

fortyfivedownstairs

Image: by Meagan Harding



pg 35

Hot & Heavy

Presented by Shiny Shiny Productions and Midsumma Festival

22-23 Jan, 29-30 Jan

Meat Market - Cobblestone Pavilion

Image: by Cristina Bevilacqua



pg 38

Much to do with Law, but more to do with Love

Presented by Gasworks and Midsumma Festival

4-7 Feb

Gasworks Arts Park - Gasworks Theatre

Image: by Tom Noble



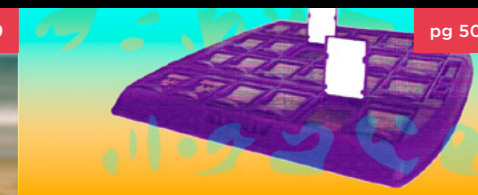
pg 29

A Comprehensive & Profoundly Queer Accounting of the Brief (Yet GLORIOUS!) History of The Gay & Lesbian Kingdom of the Coral Sea Islands by Tom Ballard

Presented by Gasworks & Midsumma Festival

28-31 Jan

Gasworks Arts Park - Gasworks Theatre



pg 50

It's Hard... Being a Human

Presented by Midsumma Festival and Emma "Ruby" Armstrong-Porter.

22-25 Jan, 29 Jan-1 Feb

Galleria Crocodillo



pg 70

Amplio Rocks! Deaf Club & Dance Party

Presented by Asphyxia and Midsumma Festival

Sat 31 Jan | 6hrs

Meat Market - Cobblestone Pavilion

Image: by Kate Nutt and Asphyxia



pg 67

Midsumma Matters: Queer Joy

Presented by Fed Square, Midsumma Festival and Nelly Thomas

31 Jan | Fed Square - The Edge



pg 51

Midsumma Art Award

Presented by Midsumma Festival

28-31 Jan, 3-7 Feb

No Vacancy Gallery

Image: 2025 winner Chris Ferric 'Saint Jo, Scribe of Our Souls'. Photo by Suzanne Balding



pg 37

Magical Prescriptions

Presented by Midsumma Festival and Jessie Ngai

29-31 Jan | Meat Market - Stables

Image: by Eff Pan



pg 39

PiaNu Metal

Presented by Midsumma Festival and Piano Punk

29-31 Jan | Meat Market - Stables

Image: by Act Four Photography



pg 53

Reflections of a Decaying World

Presented by Midsumma Festival and Teague Leigh

28-31 Jan | Meat Market - Stables

Image: by @wild_hardt



pg 44

State of Play by Christopher Bryant

Presented by Midsumma Festival and Before Shot

30 Jan | Meat Market - Stables

Image: Darren Gill



pg 38

MR BIG aka Tatay, A Transwoman and That Tiring Tune!

Presented by TayoTayo Collective and Midsumma Festival

7-Feb | Malthouse - The Tower

Image: by Jordan Hanrahan-Carnay



pg 57

Love Love Love Love Love Love

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

5-8 Feb | ArtPlay



pg 33

Drag Storytime for Adults with Narelda Jacobs & Karina Natt

Presented by State Library Victoria and Midsumma Festival

31 Jan | State Library Victoria - Conversation Quarter

Image: courtesy of UQP



pg 71

Library Up Late x Creative Acts

Presented by State Library Victoria with Midsumma Festival

5 Feb | State Library Victoria

Image: by James Braund



pg 39

Prahran Square Piano Bar with Trevor Jones

Presented by Midsumma Festival and City of Stonnington

31 Jan | Prahran Square



pg 57

Little BEASTIES Kids Disco

Presented by Fed Square, Midsumma Festival and Deep Sea Astronauts

31 Jan | Fed Square - The Edge

Image: by Deep Sea Astronauts



pg 56

Fractured Fairytales

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

21 Jan

State Library Victoria - Create Quarter

Image: by JB Photography



pg 57

See you in the Soup!

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

21 Jan

State Library Victoria - Create Quarter

Image: Emma Chandler



pg 38

Milo Hartill: Black, Fat and F* * gy

Presented by Midsumma Festival and Milo Hartill

4-5 Feb | Chapel Off Chapel - The Loft

Image: by Lazyfair



pg 37

Mama Alto: Transcendent

Presented by Melbourne Recital Centre, Mama Alto and Midsumma Festival

29-31 Jan | Melbourne Recital Centre - Primrose Potter Salon

Image: by Shawn Salley Photography



pg 50

DIVA

Presented by AMPA and Arts Centre Melbourne for Midsumma Created by the V&A - touring the world

18 Jan - 8 Feb | Australian Museum of Performing Arts (AMPA)

Image: © Victoria and Albert Museum



pg 57

Mural of Me

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

22 Jan

State Library Victoria - Create Quarter

Image: Ryley Clarke



pg 57

Rainbow Storytime

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

20 Jan, 27 Jan

State Library Victoria - Create Quarter

Image: by Eva Gorobets



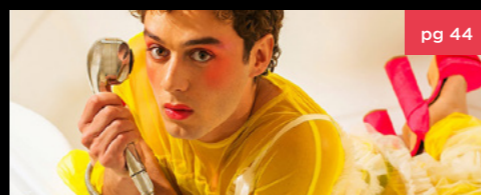
pg 58

Night at the Museum: Midsumma Youth Party

Presented by Midsumma Festival, Minus18 and Immigration Museum

24 Jan | Immigration Museum

Image: by Leah Hulst



pg 44

Sugar

Presented by Arts Centre Melbourne and Midsumma Festival

18-25 Jan

Arts Centre Melbourne-The Show Room

Image: by Meagan Harding



pg 41

Rooftop Piano Bar: Hosted by Tina Del Twist

Presented by Midsumma Festival and Spiegel Haus

23-24 Jan, 30-31 Jan, 6-7 Feb

Spiegel Haus - Rooftop Tent

Image: by Joel Devereux



pg 34

FREAK OUT! THE AFTERPARTY

Presented by Flynn V and Midsumma Festival

7 Feb | Spiegel Haus - Spiegel Tent

Image: by Ezra Alcantra



pg 38

MoCo: Summer Break

Presented by Motherless Collective and Midsumma Festival

24 Jan

The Motley Bauhaus - Cabaret Stage

Image: by MoCo



pg 41

Robert the Octopus

Presented by Fish and Twiner and Midsumma Festival

29-30 Jan, 1 Feb, 4-7 Feb

Next Wave — Brunswick Mechanics Institute

Image: by Hannah Spence



pg 34

From Grindr To Blindr

Presented by Midsumma Festival and Karan Nagrani

7 Feb

Victorian Pride Centre - Theatrette

Image: supplied by artist



pg 55

MQFF Presents: Midsumma Movies

Presented by Melbourne Queer Film Festival and Midsumma Festival

31 Jan - 1 Feb | Cinema Nova

Image: Matto Lucas



pg 66

Babies and Barking Dogs: Keith Haring & Melbourne

Presented by Midsumma Festival in partnership with NGV

7 Feb | NGV International

Image: Keith Haring Untitled (Mural signature door) (1984) © Keith Haring Foundation



pg 66

Beyond the Binary: Marlow Moss

Presented by Midsumma Festival in partnership with NGV

7 Feb | NGV International

Image: © The Estate of Marlow Moss

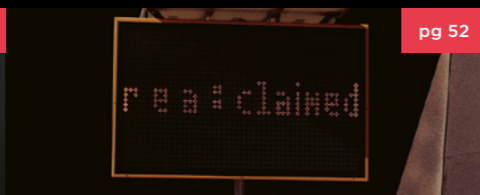


pg 45

WERK - SERVE

Presented by ACCA and Midsumma Festival
31 Jan | ACCA - Australian Centre for Contemporary Art

Image: Meagan Harding



pg 52

re:claimed

Presented by ACCA and Midsumma Festival
18 Jan-8 Feb | ACCA - Australian Centre for Contemporary Art

Image: Courtesy the artist and ACCA



pg 53

Tourmaline: Transcendent

Presented by ACCA and Midsumma Festival
18 Jan-8 Feb | ACCA - Australian Centre for Contemporary Art

Image: Tourmaline, Untitled (Venice Series) 2025. Courtesy the artist



pg 69

Re-Imagining Gender: Rei Kawakubo & Vivienne Westwood

Presented by Midsumma Festival in partnership with NGV

7 Feb | NGV International

Image: Courtesy of NGV



pg 68

Queer Worldmaking: Women Photographers 1900-1975

Presented by Midsumma Festival in partnership with NGV

7 Feb | NGV International

Image: © Ellen Auerbach, VG Bild-Kunst/Copyright Agency



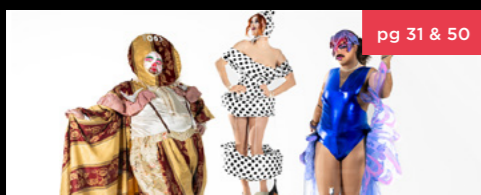
pg 61

Queer Sound Exchange

Presented by Forest Collective and Midsumma Festival

31 Jan | Meat Market - Foyer

Image: Mark Gambino



pg 31 & 50

bodies no bodies Exhibition & Performance

Presented by Sydney Sydney and Midsumma Festival

4-8 Feb | Smith + Gertrude

Image: by Beau Howell



pg 30 & 49

BEASTIES Exhibition & Performance

Presented by Deep Sea Astronauts and Midsumma Festival

28-31 Jan | Meat Market - Stables

Image: Deep Sea Astronauts



pg 43 & 53

SKIN: The Exhibition & Performance

Presented by Jessi Ryan and Midsumma

6-8 Feb | @14 Gallery

Image: by Karen Bryant



pg 52

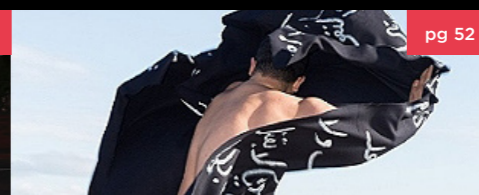
Queer Reckoning

Presented by Gasworks and Midsumma Festival

19 - 25 Jan, 27 Jan - 8 Feb.
Artist Talk & Performance 31 Jan

Gasworks Arts Park - Galleries

Image: by Scotty So



pg 52

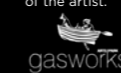
Queer Reclamation: Elyas Alavi & Ayman Kaake

Presented by Gasworks and Midsumma Festival

19 - 25 Jan, 27 Jan - 8 Feb

Gasworks Arts Park - Galleries

Image: The black shroud //, 2024, Ayman Kaake. Image courtesy of the artist.



pg 51

Molten Tongues

Presented by Incinerator Gallery and Midsumma Festival

31 Jan, 4-7 Feb | Incinerator Gallery

Image: Priyageetha Dia, Blood Sun II, 2024, looped animation



Midsumma Hubs



Chapel Off Chapel

Chapel Off Chapel is your intimate Midsumma 2025 hotspot in Prahran, showcasing diverse performances and iconic LGBTQIA+ stories.

12 Little Chapel St, Prahran

Chapel Off Chapel - The Chapel

Afterglow

30-31 Jan, 2-8 Feb

Goddess Of Pop - A Tribute to CHER
24 Jan

He's Every Woman
23 Jan

Chapel Off Chapel - The Loft

Baylie Carson: Queer Is A Battlefield
23-24 Jan

Milo Hartill: Black, Fat and Fgy**
4-5 Feb

Playing To Win
28 Jan

Skank Sinatra: The Name On Everybody's Lips
6-7 Feb



Image by Daryl Groves

Gasworks Arts Park

This south side hub for Midsumma Festival offers a 2025 program of innovative circus and Playwriting—celebrate creativity in the parklands!

21 Graham St, Albert Park

Gasworks Arts Park - Galleries

Queer Reckoning 19-25 Jan, 27 Jan-8 Feb

Queer Reclamation: Elyas Alavi & Ayman Kaake 19-25 Jan, 27 Jan-8 Feb

Gasworks Arts Park - Gasworks Theatre

A Comprehensive & Profoundly Queer Accounting of the Brief (Yet GLORIOUS!) History of The Gay & Lesbian Kingdom of the Coral Sea Islands by Tom Ballard
28-31 Jan

Much to do with Law, but more to do with Love 4-7 Feb

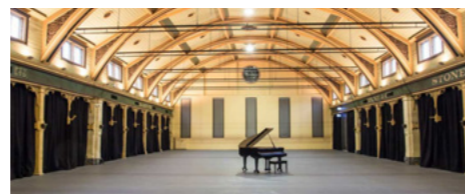
Mushroom's Dungeon Crawl 8 Feb

Queer Playwriting Award Showcase
19 Jan

Gasworks Arts Park - Studio Theatre

Final Queen 5-7 Feb

Identity Quest, a trans and gender demythology 20-24 Jan



Meat Market

Meat Market is an iconic heritage listed building in North Melbourne featuring original cobblestone floors, period fretwork, stone arches and a captivating barrel ceiling.

Meat Market - Cobblestone Pavilion

Amplio Rocks! Deaf Club & Dance Party
31 Jan

Hot & Heavy
22-23 Jan, 29-30 Jan

Meat Market - Foyer

Queer Sound Exchange
31 Jan

Meat Market - Stables

BEASTIES 31 Jan

BEASTIES Exhibition 28-31 Jan

Magical Prescriptions 29-31 Jan

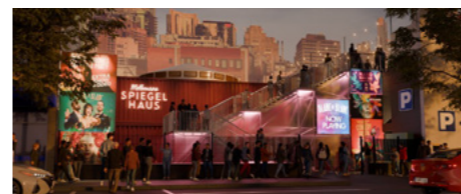
PiaNu Metal 29-31 Jan

Reflections of a Decaying World
28-31 Jan

State of Play by Christopher Bryant
30 Jan

Meat Market - Blackwood Box

GARABARI by Joel Bray Dance
30-31 Jan



Spiegel Haus

Spiegel Haus is a vibrant new arts venue featuring a Spiegeltent, rooftop, and theatre, transforming into **Midsumma's Artists Bar** for dynamic programming.

217 Lonsdale St, Melbourne VIC 3000

Spiegel Haus - Spiegel Tent

FREAK OUT! THE AFTERPARTY 7 Feb

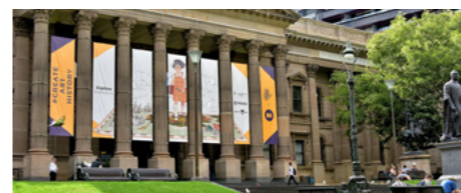
Late Night Vice

18 Jan, 22-25 Jan, 29 Jan-1 Feb

Spiegel Haus - Rooftop Tent

Rooftop Piano Bar: Hosted by Tina

Del Twist 23-24 Jan, 30-31 Jan, 6-7 Feb



State Library Victoria

From Rainbow family programs and workshops to late night events and book signings with DJs the Library comes alive for Midsumma.

328 Swanston Street, Melbourne 3000

State Library Victoria

Drag Storytime for Adults with Narelda Jacobs & Karina Natt 31 Jan

Kiki House of Furia Presents: The Fantasy Ball 24 Jan

Library Up Late x Creative Acts 5 Feb

State Library Victoria - Create Quarter

Fractured Fairytales 21 Jan

Mural of Me 22 Jan

Rainbow Storytime 20 Jan, 27 Jan

See you in the Soup! 21 Jan



Image by Matto Lucas

The Motley Bauhaus

Carlton's independent arts hub, offering queer performances, galleries, cocktails, and unforgettable art experiences for Midsumma Festival 2025.

118 Elgin St, Carlton

The Motley Bauhaus - Cabaret Stage

Bent Burlesque 2026

27 Jan-1 Feb

MoCo: Summer Break
24 Jan

New Beginnings
7 Feb

Slow-cooked Mutton cabaret
3-8 Feb

Strip The Life Fantastic
31 Jan-1 Feb

The Motley Bauhaus - Theatrette

Bev and Myrt and the Scrolling of Doom
27 Jan-1 Feb, 3-8 Feb

DADDY in DON'T DROP THE SOAP!
2-7 Feb

Darling Divaz
19-25 Jan

Post Hole Digger
25 Jan

Samuel Roberts - F.A.A.G
21-24 Jan



Theatre Works

In 2025, Theatre Works will buzz with seven shows celebrating the rainbow community through theatre, music, participatory events in St Kilda.

14 Acland St, St Kilda

Theatre Works

Australian Open

21-24 Jan, 27-31 Jan

Camp Fire
29-31 Jan

Homophonic!
6-7 Feb

Theatre Works - Explosives Factory

Disco Is Dead
3-7 Feb

He Partied Like It's 1999
27-31 Jan

I'm only dating these men because my uncle bequeathed me money and I need to get married by the end of the year
19-23 Jan

Peter Pan: Twinkle in Time
20-24 Jan

PORN
27-31 Jan

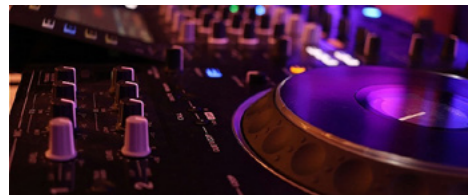


Victorian Pride Centre

The Victorian Pride Centre hosts a bold Midsumma 2025 program: creative workshops, inspiring talks, markets, and rooftop events celebrating diversity.
79-81 Fitzroy St, St Kilda

- Victorian Pride Centre - Theatrette**
Chookas 23-24 Jan
From Grindr To Blindr 7 Feb
LGBTQIA+ Ageing Community Social Club 21 Jan
Queer Youth Histories 19 Jan
Rainbow Families Extravaganza 31 Jan
Rainbow Recharge Hub 1 Feb
She Slayed: A Drag Murder Mystery 29-31 Jan
Telling It With Pride Speakers Night 20 Jan
There's a story in you: Queer filmmaking workshop 24-25 Jan
- Victorian Pride Centre - Pride Gallery**
Behind the Zip
 19-24 Jan, 26-31 Jan, 2-7 Feb

- Victorian Pride Centre - The Forum**
Auslan Interpreted Tour of the Victorian Pride Centre 7 Feb
Gay Stuff Market 31 Jan
Queer History Walking Tour - St Kilda 29 Jan
Trans & Gender Diverse Clothes Swap 7 Feb
- Victorian Pride Centre - Rooftop**
Plunge for PRIDE! 31 Jan
Pride Rooftop Party Presented by Chemist Warehouse 2026 30 Jan
Sunday Sizzle: Pride March Rooftop Party 1 Feb
- Victorian Pride Centre - Hares and Hyenas**
The Pearl Prize Season Exclusive Signing Session with Hares and Hyenas at The Victorian Pride Centre 6 Feb



Westside Events

- 2099: Messages to our queer future**
Louis Joel Gallery \ Louis Joel Arts & Community
 20-24 Jan, 27-31 Jan, 3-4 Feb
- Stories for All Seasons - School Holiday Workshops**
100 Story Building 20-21 Jan
- Customised Clothing Workshop**
Aa is for Art 22 Jan
- Stand Out Exhibition**
Airtime 18 Jan-8 Feb
- Let's Do the Time Warp Again: Trivia and Movie Night**
Altona Theatre 7 Feb

- Bluestone Church Arts Space**
Asexual Fantasies and Hopeless Aromantics 5-7 Feb
Cioux 28 Jan-1 Feb
The Self Possessed 5-7 Feb
- Vincent Hooper - Club Clocktower**
Clocktower Centre - Lounge Bar 30-31 Jan
Snuff Saloon Footscray Drill Hall 6-7 Feb
Park Lounge Kelly Park 31 Jan
- Queer Westside Studios Session**
Newport Community Hub 5 Feb
- Pride of our Footscray Community Bar**
All-Star Pride Drag Bingo 23 Jan
Anyone But Cis Dudes Comedy 3 Feb
Bangers, Beers & Bears: Princess and Villains
Mollie's Bar & Diner 31 Jan, 7 Feb
Pride of our Footscray Community Bar 21 Jan
- Blak & Fabulous** 31 Jan
Hot Men Doing Things 31 Jan
Queer Comedy Gala 22 Jan
Save the Bears! 28 Jan

- Pride Pool Party in Sunshine**
Sunshine Leisure Centre 24 Jan
- Brimbank LGBTQIA+ History Exhibition - Opening Night Gala**
The Bowery Theatre - St Albans Community Centre 22 Jan
- Fluid Beauty**
Woods Street Arts Space 31 Jan

Performance



Theatre



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Gasworks Arts Park - Gasworks Theatre, Albert Park
 28-31 Jan 1hr
 Wed-Sat 7pm
 \$43 full | \$33 conc
 ⚠ Strong language | Mature themes
Presented by Gasworks & Midsumma Festival
 Image: courtesy of the artist

A Comprehensive & Profoundly Queer Accounting of the Brief (Yet GLORIOUS!) History of The Gay & Lesbian Kingdom of the Coral Sea Islands by Tom Ballard

The true(ish) legend of a magical queer nation where marriage was equal.

Cabaret



Pride of our Footscray Community Bar, Footscray
 23 Jan 2hrs 30m
 Fri 7pm
 \$16 full | \$11 conc
 ⚠ Strong language
 Image: by Pride of our Footscray

All-Star Pride Drag Bingo

A supersized edition of Footscray's famous drag bingo!

Join four fabulous drag hosts for an evening of fun bingo games, camp drag shows, comedy, cocktails, prizes and much more!

Hosted by HollyPop, Gloss, Rubi Taboo, and Bruno Salsicce. Balls drop 7:30pm sharp!

Theatre



Chapel Off Chapel - The Chapel, Prahran
 30-31 Jan, 2-8 Feb 1hr 30m
 Mon-Thu 7:30pm | Fri-Sat 6:30pm & 9:30pm | Sun 5pm
 \$69 full | \$59 conc
 ⚠ Nudity | Themes of a sexual nature | Strong language
Presented by Midnight Theatricals
 Image: by Mati Gelman

Afterglow

The climax is just the beginning

S. Asher Gelman's international hit play Afterglow heads to Melbourne for its Australian premiere! When a married couple invites a third man into their bed, love, loyalty, and trust are tested in this raw, funny, and sensual exploration of polyamory, desire, and modern relationships.

"Funny and sensual" ★★★★★ - *Queer Guru*
 "Incredible... should not be missed!" ★★★★★ - *Theatre Reviews*

Comedy



Pride of our Footscray Community Bar, Footscray
 3 Feb 2hrs
 Tue 7pm
 \$27 full | \$20 conc
 ⚠ Strong language
Presented by Pride Comedy
 Image: by Pride of our Footscray

Anyone But Cis Dudes Comedy

Shattering the glass ceiling, one punchline at a time!

An evening of hilarious stand-up comedy from a cast of literally Anyone But Cis Dudes!

Starring headliner Kirsty Webeck (she/her), MC Maddy Weeks (they/them), and five more incredible acts still to be announced.

Cabaret



Asexual Fantasies and Hopeless Aromantics

A joyful ace spectrum cabaret

Interweaving songs and stories, from Golden Age musicals to Queen, from childhood memories to coming-of-age epiphanies, join Sophie Harvey as she navigates the growing pains of an aspect identity in the theatre and beyond.

A voice that can just as easily melt you with soprano as it can rouse you with theatrical bravado - thetheatre.au

Bluestone Church Arts Space, Footscray
5-7 Feb 1hr
Thu-Sat 8:30pm | Sat 2pm
\$35 full | \$25 conc
△ Themes of a sexual nature | Strong language
Image: by Jackie Harvey

Theatre



Australian Open

Bold, camp, and unapologetically queer, Australian Open is a wild rally through lust, fame, and the messy love lives that play out behind the world's biggest tennis tournament

Serving scandal, smashing egos, and dripping sweat — welcome to the Australian Open you've never seen before. Angus Cameron's razor-sharp queer comedy takes you courtside, where ambition, lust and rivalry collide both on and off the court.

Theatre Works, St Kilda
21-24 Jan, 27-31 Jan 1hr
Tue-Sat 7pm | Audio Described & Captioned: 27 Jan 7pm
\$42 full | \$34 conc
△ Themes of a sexual nature
Presented by Theatre Works
Image: by Tom Noble

Cabaret



Blak & Fabulous

A performance showcase celebrating LGBTQIA+ First Nations artists

An intimate evening of performance and discussion, hosted by Cerulean (reigning Miss First Nations Supreme Queen).

Featuring drag and variety performers (to be announced) who will share both their talents and stories with the audience in a night celebrating culture and community.

Pride of our Footscray Community Bar, Footscray
31 Jan 2hrs
Sat 7pm
\$25 full | \$19 conc
△ Strong language
Image: by Kyle Archie Knight

Variety



bodies no bodies

The transgenre transgender gallery show

Performance meets installation in this glittering gender- and genre-bending show by six trans and gender diverse artists. In this night-at-the-gallery activation, each artist brings their work to life and invites you to step inside. Caught between the gallery and the stage, blurring the line between body and work, bring your own body to be part of the show.

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS
Smith + Gertrude, Fitzroy
5-7 Feb 1hr
Thu-Sat 8pm | Exhibition hours: 11am-4pm
\$25 preview | \$30 full | \$20, \$25 conc
△ Nudity | Themes of a sexual nature
Presented by Sydney Sydney and Midsumma Festival
Image: by Beau Howell

Cabaret



Baylie Carson: Queer Is A Battlefield

"A tornado made human, wreaking havoc across the stage!"

London West End's star of Mean Girls the Musical and S!X, Baylie Carson returns to Melbourne with their celebratory tale of queer identity. Using the hairbrush songs of the 80s, Baylie's once-in-a-generation vocal prowess is joined by a live rock band with Musical Direction by Shanon Whitelock (Reuben Kaye).

Chapel Off Chapel - The Loft, Prahran
23-24 Jan 1hr
Fri, Sat 7:30pm
\$26 full | \$22 conc
△ Strong language | Mature themes
Image: by Harvey House

Variety



BEASTIES

"Fabulously realised and genuinely creative."

Burlesque meets ritual, performance meets party as you enter the transformative world of the BEASTIES.

This one-of-a-kind show brings together performers from many traditional and modern styles, turning them into the sexiest trash monsters you've ever seen.

"An innovative celebration of art & queerness." - ArtsHub

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS
Meat Market - Stables, North Melbourne
31 Jan 2hrs
Sat 8pm
\$35 full | \$30 conc | \$15 First Nations
△ Nudity | Flashing lights
Presented by Deep Sea Astronauts and Midsumma Festival
Image: by Deep Sea Astronauts

Circus



Campfire

CAMPFIRE goes wild!

Two men in the middle of nowhere, a tent, a sleeping bag, a campfire and a mysterious creature chasing them. What could go wrong? Campfire is a fun comedy from sunset to sunrise that perfectly blends physical theatre and circus in a high energy show.

WINNER - WA Touring Award, Melbourne Fringe 2024

Theatre Works, St Kilda
29-31 Jan 1hr
Thu-Sat 9pm
\$38 full | \$30 conc
△ Nudity | Themes of a sexual nature | Strobe lights
Presented by Split Focus
Image: by Aaron Walker, edited by Louis Green

Cabaret



Chookas

Absurdist cabaret meets feathered chaos

Absolutely fowl. Utterly unhinged. Adore Händel, Penelope Splendour and Mae B. Wilde bring you a coop cabaret, delivering variety through burlesque, ballads, beats, and beaks. There's no plot, no morals, just poultry in motion. The perfect hen's night out. Bring nuggets.

Victorian Pride Centre - Theatrette, St Kilda
23-24 Jan 50m
Fri, Sat 7:30pm
\$30 full | \$25 conc | \$22 group (min 6)
△ Nudity | Themes of a sexual nature | References to drug use
Image: by Frenchie Holiday

Cabaret



Bent Burlesque 2026

★★★★★ "An Orgy of Glamour And Daring ..."

Bent Burlesque is celebrating its 15th year - satirical, sexy, and subversive spectacular from Australia's queer underground. Curated by the World Queen of Burlesque, this riotous cabaret delivers twisted tease, grotesque glamour, and outrageous hilarity from the nation's finest LGBTQIA+ mischief-makers.

Wild, shocking, deliciously unhinged — Bent always packs a punch... or perhaps a fist.

The Motley Bauhaus - Cabaret Stage, Carlton
27 Jan-1 Feb
Tue-Sun 8:20-9:20pm | Auslan: 29 Jan 8:20pm
\$35 preview | \$39 full | \$35 conc
△ Nudity | Strong language | Smoke/haze
Presented by Imogen Kelly
Image: Imogen Kelly by Joel Devereux

Theatre



Bev and Myrt and the Scrolling of Doom

Heartfelt sci-fi comedy featuring two heroic women d'un certain âge

Married alien investigators Bev and Myrt are members of the Orphic Wise Lady Society (OWLS). Their mission: to save the world from extraterrestrial, supernatural or other strange threats. Can they stop a sinister new mobile phone company from absorbing Melbourne's brains?

The Motley Bauhaus - Theatrette, Carlton
27 Jan-1 Feb, 3-8 Feb 1hr
Tue-Sun 7:10pm
\$28 full | \$24 conc
Presented by How Delightful Theatre
Image: by Mark Gambino

Theatre



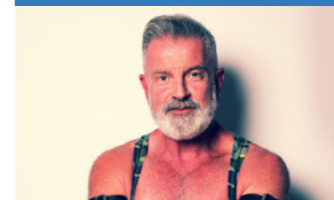
Cioux

Cioux's back, but the truth is she never left

The name on everyone's lips is Cioux. Well she's back, big time. After years abroad hiding from scandal she has returned to Melbourne. Once home she will have to face her demons and battle the chaos that follows her wherever she goes. Come along for a fun night at the theatre and see Australia's most controversial woman up close.

Bluestone Church Arts Space, Footscray
28 Jan-1 Feb 1hr
Wed-Sat 7:30pm | Sat, Sun 1:30pm
\$35 full | \$30 conc
△ Themes of a sexual nature | Depictions of violence | Strong language
Presented by Joseph Lai and Sara Grenfell
Image: by Chloe Miller

Theatre



DADDY in DON'T DROP THE SOAP!

A prophet of gay culture

DON'T DROP THE SOAP! traverses a fabulous queer landscape from Sydney's Oxford Street to getting cancelled at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival to San Francisco. From crazy nights at Sydney's infamous Taxi Club to stories about cruising, gar bars and sweaty bathhouses and darkrooms to the political clout of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, this is a celebration of queer culture at its best.

The Motley Bauhaus - Theatrette, Carlton
2-7 Feb 1hr
Mon-Sat 8:30pm
\$35 full | \$28 conc
△ Nudity | Themes of a sexual nature | Strong language
Presented by DADDYCORP
Image: by Nathan J Lester

Melbourne
SPIEGEL HAUS

CARNIVAL ROOFTOP AFTERPARTY

LATE NIGHT VICE

FREAKOUT THEAFTERPARTY

TINA DEL TWIST ROOFTOP PIANO BAR

AND MORE!

OFFICIAL ARTIST BAR

MIDSUMMA CBD HUB

NOW PLAYING AT
Melbourne
SPIEGEL HAUS

STREET & FRET PRESENT
CABARET · CIRCUS · COMEDY and Champagne
BLANC DE BLANC
ENCORE
A night of pure fun

魔 法
MAHO MAGIC BAR
DIRECT FROM JAPAN
PART SHOW.
PART BAR.
ALL MAGIC!

@SPIEGELHAUSMELB
SPIEGELHAUSMELB.COM

Performance

midsumma.org.au

Cabaret



Darling Divaz

A love letter to a man named Art

Three divas. One stage. A lifetime of love affairs with music, men and mystery. Showtunes, stories, scandal, sass — and they're not afraid to belt it. It's cabaret fabulous, darl. Guaranteed to warm your cockles. Book a ticket. Grab a fizzy bev. Take your seat. Cue jazz hands!

The Motley Bauhaus - Theatrette, Carlton
19-25 Jan 1hr
Mon-Sun 7:10pm
\$34 full | \$31 conc | \$30 group (min 4)

Cabaret



Drag Me to Broadway

Past, present, future - still belting, still queer, still fabulous

Step into a dazzling journey of queer lives told through Broadway's greatest hits. Three performers, two fabulous drag queens and a shining cabaret star, take you from the struggles of the past, to the self-love of today, and into a future of dreams. Expect laughter, heart, and powerhouse vocals in this bold, heartfelt, and hilarious celebration of authenticity.

Grouse Melbourne - Room 7, Fitzroy
22 Jan, 29 Jan, 5 Feb 1hr
Thu 8pm
\$25 full | \$22 conc
Presented by Misty Boxx, Samuel Roberts & Linh Uendo

Theatre



Elegies for Angels, Punks and Raging Queens

A piece of queer history

Born from the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt, *Elegies for Angels, Punks and Raging Queens* gives life and voice to those lost and left behind in the wake of the AIDS crisis.

The MC Showroom - The Showroom, Prahran
29 Jan-1 Feb 1hr 30m
Thu-Sat 7:30pm | Sun 5pm
\$44 full | \$39 conc
△ Mature themes
Presented by Heirlume Productions
Image: by Tansu Topuzoglu

This new production revives Bill Russell's free verse poetry and Janet Hood's music, striking right to the heart of what it means to survive and be remembered.

Theatre



Disco Is Dead

A campy cannibal comedy

Freddy and the Four, the 70s biggest disco boyband have just released their brand new album. Little do they know the hell they unleashed along with it. Camp, comedic and a little bit crass, DISCO IS DEAD will leave you hungry for the uprising of disco's true power.

Theatre Works - Explosives Factory, St Kilda
3-7 Feb 1hr
Tue-Sat 8:30pm | Captioned: All
\$38 full | \$30 conc
Presented by Fruitcake Productions
Image: by Tom Noble

Spoken Word



Drag Storytime for Adults with Narelda Jacobs & Karina Natt

Join Narelda Jacobs and Karina Natt for a playful twist on storytime, celebrating their new queer picture book *If Queers Weren't Meant to Have Kids*. Hosted by drag artists, this adults-only event blends performance, satire and storytelling in a joyful celebration of rainbow families.

State Library Victoria - Conversation Quarter, Melbourne
31 Jan 1hr 15m
Sat 7:30pm | Auslan: on request
\$30 full
Presented by State Library Victoria and Midsumma Festival
Image: courtesy of UQP

Book signing and sales available.

Circus



Final Queen

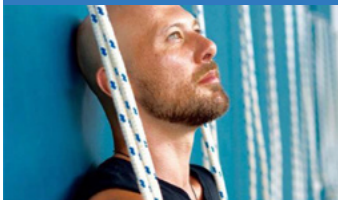
A drag circus horror comedy

Join Australia's own circus queen Grace Lightning as she embarks on a road trip through the outback, dodging deadly snakes and spiders, bigoted cryptids, and axe-wielding bushrangers on a murderous rampage. But are these monsters really what they seem...?

Gasworks Arts Park - Studio Theatre, Albert Park
5-7 Feb 1hr
Thu-Sat 8pm
\$34 full | \$30 conc
△ Strong language
Presented by Gasworks
Image: by Anais Stewart. Design by Rachel Kerry

Think Priscilla Queen of the Desert meets Texas Chainsaw Massacre under the Big Top!

Theatre



Finding Glitter in the Storm

Darkly comic queer coming-of-age story.

Queer kid growing up in Byron who just wanted a doll, but Santa left a bong.

From that wicked twist, Josh Moyes spins a sharp, tender, darkly comic memoir of growing up queer, staying afloat and choosing pride. Skilful storytelling, big laughs, bigger heart. "Finding Glitter in the Storm" will leave you grinning and a little braver.

Club Voltaire, North Melbourne
22-25 Jan 1hr
Thu-Sat 7:30pm | Sun 6pm | Auslan & Relaxed Performance: 25 Jan 6pm
\$24.50 preview | \$31.50 full | \$22.50 conc
△ Depictions of violence | References to drug use | References to suicide and/or self-harm

Variety



FREAK OUT! THE AFTERPARTY

The 90s club night you always dreamed would return!

A wild fusion of dance, circus, burlesque and live acts set to a pumping 90s house soundtrack. Expect jaw dropping talent, bold performances, fierce choreography and the nostalgic beats of your favourite club anthems. With no seats and no barriers, you become part of the action in a glitter soaked explosion of joy.

"Mind-blowing" ★★★★★ - The List

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS
Spiegel Haus - Spiegel Tent, Melbourne
7 Feb 2hrs
Sat 10pm
\$49 full | \$44 conc | \$43 group (min 6) | \$20 First Nations
△ Strobe lights | Smoke/haze | Long periods of standing
Presented by Flynn V and Midsumma Festival

Comedy



GROUSE COMEDY

Midweek Midsumma Melbourne. We got you covered!

Guaranteed giggles from our nation's finest queer comics.

Every Wednesday during the Fest featuring a rotating roster of special guests.

Hosted by Carmelo Costa and Chris Demos.

Grouse Melbourne - Room 7, Fitzroy
21 Jan, 28 Jan, 4 Feb 1hr 30m
Wed 7pm
\$28 full | \$25 conc | \$25 group (min 4)
Presented by Grouse Melbourne

Theatre



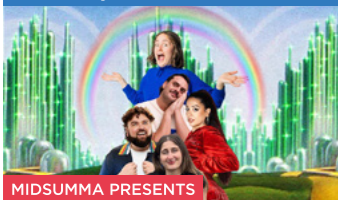
He Partied Like It's 1999

One wild night. One queer reckoning. One glitter-soaked survival story.

Set in the glitter-stained heart of late-90s St Kilda, just days before Y2K, with drag, psychic readings, heartbreak, and one unforgettable New Year's Eve party, it's a love letter to queer survival, chosen family, and the messy beauty of reinvention. Not just a show, but a reckoning with the past, a celebration, and a high-stakes, heels-on countdown to midnight.

Theatre Works - Explosives Factory, St Kilda
27-31 Jan 1hr
Tue-Sat 8:30pm
\$38 full | \$30 conc
△ Themes of a sexual nature
Presented by Gary Helmore & Andrew Blogg

Comedy



Friends of Comedy

Comedy lineup featuring the fruitiest folks from Mildura to Melbourne

A raucous night of very adult humour from the loudest and proudest people in comedy. Lineup includes Robinvale's Kat Zam (Best Up and Coming Creator at the AiMCO Awards); Mildura-born Freddie Arthur (RAW Comedy National Finalist, as seen on SBS); Carmelo Costa (Sloppy Toppy); Chris Demos (Actually Kinda Hot); and Bianka Ismailovski (We Want To Be Better podcast).

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS
The Setts, Mildura
7 Dec 1hr
Sun 2pm | See website for updates
\$30 full | \$25 conc | \$10 mob | \$22 group | \$40 extra applause
Presented by Victoria's Pride | Victorian Government and Midsumma Festival
Image: by Freddie Arthur

Cabaret



Frock's Tenthiversary Supper Club

One night only!

Celebrate a decade-ence of queer joy with Frock Hudson.

Special guest Miz Ima Star.

All-inclusive package from 7-11 pm, includes show ticket, cocktail on arrival, 3-course meal + drinks package.

Drinks package includes beer, wine, soft drink, coffee, and tea. Three-course meal is a choice of three entrees, mains and desserts.

South of Johnston, Collingwood
6 Feb 3hrs 30m
Fri 7pm
\$135 full
Presented by Dean Arcuri
Image: by Matto Lucas Photography

Cabaret



He's Every Woman and he's back in business

Powerhouse vocalist Justin Clausen dazzles in He's Every Woman—the smash-hit cabaret saluting the divas who shaped our lives. With soaring ballads, glittering anthems and backed by an 8 piece band, Justin channels Whitney, Cher, Celine, Tina, and more. This fearless celebration of glamour, resilience, and timeless music proves that one man really can be every woman.

"This is exceptional, a first rate vocalist"★★★★ - The Advertiser

Chapel Off Chapel - The Chapel, Prahran
23 Jan 1hr
Fri 8pm
\$55 full | \$50 conc | \$65 Cabaret Table Seating | \$60 group (min 6)
Image: by Nadia Tornese

Interactive Performance



Hot & Heavy

The future is Hot, the conversation is Heavy

Part performance, part dance floor uprising. An immersive, interactive experience. A non-binary, de-capitalised, de-extinction future imagining. Hot & Heavy is an aural, visual and sensory experience that invites you to lose your friends, go deep and shake free. A surge of immersive sound design and projected, augmented interiors, performance art, dance, aerialists, an ironing board electronic band and banging beats.

Meat Market - Cobblestone Pavilion, North Melbourne
22-23 Jan, 29-30 Jan 1hr
Thu, Fri 6pm
\$35 full | \$30 conc | \$20 First Nations
△ Smoke/haze | Flashing lights
Presented by Shiny Shiny Productions and Midsumma Festival
Image: by Cristina Bevilacqua

Comedy



From Grindr To Blindr

It's a Match! Enjoy your date with That Blind Guy

You're invited to go on a date with Karan Nagrani aka That Blind Guy. Not a real date—calm down, this isn't Grindr. From awkward hookups to NSFW bedroom stories, Karan's ready to get naked (emotionally, you thirsty gremlins) and open up like never before. A proud gay man of colour, Karan brings his unfiltered lived experience and sharp wit to the stage to raise awareness, smash stereotypes and make you laugh.

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS
Victorian Pride Centre - Theatrette, St Kilda
7 Feb 1hr
Sat 5pm | Free glass of wine on arrival
\$35 full | \$30 conc
△ Strong language | References to suicide and/or self-harm
Presented by Midsumma Festival and Karan Nagrani

Interactive Performance



GARABARI by Joel Bray Dance

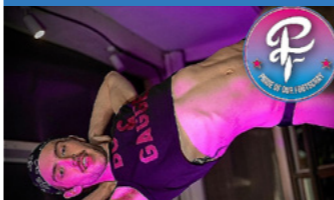
A reimagined corroboree for today

Garabari is a high energy dance gathering where Wiradjuri story meets a pulsing techno beat. Step onto the dance floor, join the movement and feel the shared spirit of corroboree as traditional song and modern sound come alive together.

"An enlivening experience that celebrates our earth, our first peoples and everyone else in the freest way imaginable" - Limelight Magazine

Meat Market - Blackwood Box, North Melbourne
30-31 Jan 1hr 10m
Fri, Sat 8pm | Sat 2pm
\$40 full | \$30 conc | \$25 First Nations
Presented by Joel Bray Dance, BlakDance and Midsumma Festival
Image: by Jeff Busby

Cabaret



Hot Men Doing Things

The west is about to get even wilder!

A steamy evening of dance, burlesque, and circus by a cast of handpicked, certified Hot Men.

Grab your friends, bring your dollar bills, and prepare for everything from cheeky striptease to jawdropping stunts!

Pride of our Footscray Community Bar, Footscray
31 Jan 2hrs
Sat 7pm
\$34.50 full | \$27 conc
△ Nudity | Themes of a sexual nature

Dance



HOUSE OF DIESEL THH - VOGUE NIGHT

Pump up the gas, pump up the pride

Pumping up the gas at Midsumma, The House of DIESEL joins forces with Thorne Harbour Health for a night of BIPOC trans and queer excellence at Miscellania. Expect fierce ballroom categories, dazzling performances, a stacked DJ lineup, prizes, and goodies. Don't miss your chance to experience pure Vogue energy. Do you speak the language? PUMP IT!

Miscellania, Melbourne
7 Feb
Sat 9pm-3am
\$30 full | \$15 conc
△ Long periods of standing | Mature themes | Loud or sudden noises
Presented by House of Diesel & Thorne Harbour Health
Image: by Nam Chops



PROUD SPONSOR
midsumma festival

hello@civicoutdoor.com.au | civicoutdoor.com.au | 03 8580 6091 [in](#) [f](#) [ig](#)

Performance

midsumma.org.au

Comedy

18+ Y <50



I'm only dating these men...

because my uncle bequeathed me money and I need to get married by the end of the year

When Larry learns he's inherited almost a million dollars; but only if he's married to the love of his life within a year, he throws himself into a parade of Grindr dates, old friends, emotionally unavailable men, and the occasional inter-dimensional being. A very gay and chaotic new musical.

Theatre Works - Explosives Factory, St Kilda

19-23 Jan 1hr

Tue-Sat 7pm

\$38 full | \$32 conc

△ Themes of a sexual nature | Depictions of violence | Strong language

Image: by Tom Noble

Dance

18+ Y <50



Kiki House of Furia Presents: The Fantasy Ball

Midsumma's first ball arrives—Naarm is burning, Ballroom commands

Tap in, darling—the first official Midsumma Ball is here. From Harlem to Naarm, Oceania's houses light up the floor, battling across electrifying categories, all for the Grand Prize on this historic night of Ballroom culture.

State Library Victoria - The Ian Potter Queen's Hall, Melbourne

24 Jan 4hrs 30m

Sat 6:30pm

\$55 full | \$49 conc

Presented by State Library Victoria, Midsumma Festival and House of Furia

Image: by @nam.chops

Interactive Performance

18+ Y <50



Magical Prescriptions

Tell the "Doctor" what ails you

Come to me, "Dr" Jessica Ngaio Smith, with something that troubles you. Whether physical, psychological, spiritual or emotional, tell me about your problem and I'll write you a prescription. Appointments are one-on-one and you'll have 10 minutes to speak. If your words get stuck in your throat, that's ok, I'll work with what I see in the stillness and silence.

Meat Market - Stables, North Melbourne

29-31 Jan

Thu-Fri | 5-7:30pm | Sat 4-6pm

\$30 full | \$25 conc | \$15 First Nations
 1 on 1 appointments every 20 mins

Presented by Midsumma Festival and Jessie Ngaio

Image: by Eff Pan

Cabaret

18+ Y <50



Identity Quest, a trans and gender demythology

She took ages to find herself, the story in pictures of her epic journey

As a child, people kept telling Julie Peters she was a boy, and could never be a girl. She didn't believe them! It took decades of searching to get close to finding a coherent identity and becoming her authentic self. She needed to overcome all the negative labels and stress inflicted by wrong puberty.

Gasworks Arts Park - Studio Theatre, Albert Park

20-24 Jan 1hr

Tue-Sat 7pm

\$47 full | \$32 conc

△ Themes of a sexual nature | Depictions of violence | References to suicide and/or self-harm

Presented by Gasworks

Variety

18+ Y <50



Late Night Vice

NO PHONES. NO CAMERAS. NO EVIDENCE.

Enter a no-phones world of late-night revelry. Direct from a completely sold-out Brisbane Festival season, this is a cocktail-drenched fever dream of seductive spectacle and subversive performance that lingers long after the final curtain. With an atmosphere so thick with vice you could bottle it, some things are better left unposted.

Spiegel Haus - Spiegel Tent, Melbourne

18 Jan, 22-25 Jan, 29 Jan-1 Feb 2hrs

Thu 9:30pm | Fri-Sat 9:45pm | Sun 8:30pm

tickets from \$69

△ Nudity | Strobe lights | Mature themes

Presented by Strut & Fret

Cabaret

18+ Y <50



Mama Alto: Transcendent

Velvet-voiced songstress Mama Alto is the consummate jazz cabaret diva

One of Australia's finest cabaret artistes, Mama Alto returns to Melbourne Recital Centre for Midsumma. With musical director Joshua Haines, she weaves an exquisite show that epitomises & eclipses her 15 years performing across the globe. First created for the legendary Joe's Pub at The Public Theatre New York, this show is truly transcendent.

Melbourne Recital Centre - Primrose Potter Salon, Southbank

29-31 Jan 1hr 15m

Thu-Sat 7pm | Auslan: 30 Jan 7pm

\$50 full | \$40 conc

△ Themes of a sexual nature | Strong language | Mature themes

Presented by Melbourne Recital Centre, Mama Alto and Midsumma Festival

Cabaret



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Milo Hartill: Black, Fat and F**gy

At the centre of the Venn diagram of queer, chunky, brown women with the voice of a goddamn angel, you'll find the terrifying talent that is Milo Hartill

Part cabaret, part song-cycle and part influencer-takeover, 'Black, Fat and F**gy' is a tonic for our times and a queer Black fantasia that will leave audiences screaming with joy.

"One of the country's most exciting new entertainers" ★★★★★ - Time Out Sydney

Chapel Off Chapel - The Loft, Prahran
4-5 Feb 1hr 10m
Wed, Thu 8pm
\$40 full | \$35 conc
△ Themes of a sexual nature | Strong language | Mature themes
Presented by Midsumma Festival and Milo Hartill
Image: by Lazyfair

Variety



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

MoCo: Summer Break

Want to catch the next wave of Naarm Drag?!

Catch the next wave of drag as MoCo takes over Motley Bauhaus with a heat-soaked night of bold new voices and unapologetic performance. Hosted by Mora Money and featuring Stone Motherless Cold, Summer Break spotlights the rising stars of Naarm's Blak drag scene - unfiltered, unpredictable, and utterly unforgettable.

The Motley Bauhaus - Cabaret Stage, Carlton
24 Jan 1hr
Sat 7pm
\$24 full | \$20 conc | \$10 First Nations
△ Mature themes
Presented by Motherless Collective and Midsumma Festival
Image: by MoCo

Cabaret



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

PiaNu Metal

Revisit rock's most dismissed genre, with a classically-trained pianist

Revisit rock's most dismissed genre. The white boy dreadlocks, the rampant sexism, the suburban angst, the chain wallets. With arrangements that showcase the melodies beneath the distortion, Piano Punk plays your favourite Nu-metal songs. Reminisce about the highs and lows of the late 90s and early 2000s with a classically-trained pianist, vocalist, music history buff, and boylesque dancer.

Meat Market - Stables, North Melbourne
29-31 Jan 1hr
Thu, Fri 8pm | Sat 6pm
\$30 full | \$25 conc | \$20 First Nations
Presented by Midsumma Festival and Piano Punk
Image: by Act Four Photography

Cabaret



Playing To Win

A cabaret about football, feelings, and falling dangerously in love with Jamie Elliott

Will Hanley's "Playing to Win" is a hilarious, heartfelt cabaret blending songs, stories, and Collingwood trivia. Part confession, part celebration, it explores masculinity, love and the camp side of footy, with iconic anthems and a Jamie Elliott shrine. A nostalgic, absurd, and tender homage to Australia's weirdest religion: the game that raised—and sometimes ruined—us.

Chapel Off Chapel - The Loft, Prahran
28 Jan 1hr
Wed 7:30pm
\$47 full | \$42 conc
△ Strong language

Theatre



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

MR BIG aka Tatay, A Transwoman and That Tiring Tune!

What happens when you are haunted by a rock ballad?

What happens when you're haunted by a memory, a rock ballad, and the ghosts of your family's past? MR BIG aka Tatay, A Transwoman and That Tiring Tune! is a darkly comedic new play by Dax Carnay-Hanrahan, exploring grief, identity, and Asian filial piety. A theatrical fever dream that delivers something Melbourne has never seen.

Malthouse - The Tower, Southbank
7 Feb
Sat 2pm | development reading & Q&A
FREE - registration required
△ References to sexual violence | Mature themes
Presented by TayoTayo Collective and Midsumma Festival
Image: by Jordan Hanrahan-Carnay

Theatre



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Much to do with Law, but more to do with Love

In his award-winning lecture-performance, Danish Sheikh returns to the courtroom that broke his heart, and the play that healed it

Interweaving colonial legacies that refuse to die, court transcripts that won't let him move on, and a pop star's faith in shaking it off, he asks: what's the point of loving the law when the law won't love you back?

Gasworks Arts Park - Gasworks Theatre, Albert Park
4-7 Feb 1hr
Wed-Sat 7pm | Artist Talk: Sat 31 Jan 4pm
\$33 full | \$23 conc
Presented by Gasworks and Midsumma Festival
Image: by Tom Noble

Theatre



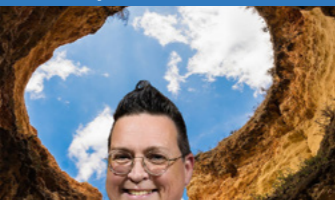
PORN

Get ready to delete your search history

Porn is embedded in our society. It's scandalous, shameful but also very gay. 'PORN' takes this taboo topic and views it through a queer lens. From the rise of Pornhub to the queer panic we feel when two women on TV might kiss. This dark comedy will make you blush, cringe and question your relationship with adult industry.

Theatre Works - Explosives Factory, St Kilda
27-31 Jan 1hr
Tue-Sat 7pm
\$38 full | \$30 conc
△ Themes of a sexual nature | Strong language | Mature themes
Presented by Keelan Armstrong
Image: by Tom Noble

Comedy



Post Hole Digger

Laughing yourself smart by being silly

Jack's last three shows have been about failing the expectations of family (Gold Star Failure), church (God Hates Me) and the military (Erasing Mamhood) -- and now they are coming for the anti-intelligentsia with Post Hole Digger (PhD). Given they were a high school dropout, it's best to have zero expectations of this show, except to laugh yourself smart, without feeling silly. All profits from this show will go to Midsumma Festival.

The Motley Bauhaus - Theatrette, Carlton
25 Jan 1hr
Sun 5:45pm
\$25 full | \$15 conc
△ Strong language | Mature themes
Presented by Jack Brady
Image: headshot by Angel WL

Variety



Gasworks Arts Park - Gasworks Theatre, Albert Park

Mushroom's Dungeon Crawl

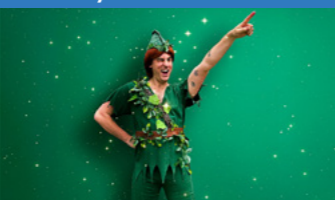
A D&D Themed Cabaret

What do you get when a Mimic, a Bard, and a Changeling walk into a room? You get Mushroom's Dungeon Crawl; A D&D themed cabaret!

With a show full of D&D themed circus performances; will the venturing party roll a Nat 20 and survive the dungeon? Or will they roll a Critical Fail and... well we won't talk about that.

8 Feb 1hr
Sun 7pm
\$52 full | \$32 conc
△ Strong language
Presented by Gasworks
Image: artwork by Mushroom

Comedy



Peter Pan: Twinkle in Time

"What happens when the boy who won't grow up... finally does?"

We all know Peter Pan was the original Twink, but is he still a Twink when the boy who won't grow up, grows up?

Peter Pan has left Neverland and begun to finally grow up, but in this world of social media, online dating and beauty standards, how will he fit in?

Theatre Works - Explosives Factory, St Kilda
20-24 Jan 1hr
Tue-Sat 8:30pm
\$38 full | \$32 conc
△ Themes of a sexual nature | Strong language | Mature themes
Presented by Dean Robinson

Variety



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

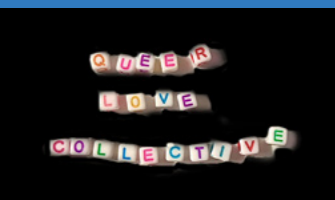
Prahran Square Piano Bar

with Trevor Jones

An open air piano bar where you choose the songlist. Sing along to all of your favourite songs by request, from gay anthems to showtunes; classic pop and rock to recent hits. Think ABBA, Beyonce, Chappell, Cher, Elton, Elphaba, Freddie, Gaga, and of course our Kylie. Hosted by Australia's favourite piano man, Dr Trevor Jones, with surprise performances from Midsumma artists.

Prahran Square, Prahran
31 Jan
Sat 5-9pm
FREE
Presented by Midsumma Festival and City of Stonnington

Interactive Performance



QLC x BLINDSIDE presents QUEERS LOVE WRESTLING

Queer Love Collective presents a major one-day performance event at Blindside Artist Run Space, where we will be exposing the queer-goopy centre that has produced the art form we know as pro-wrestling. A white-cube gallery space will turn into a stage for athleticism mixed with theatrical storytelling.

Blindside Artist Run Space, Melbourne
31 Jan
Sat 2-5pm
FREE
△ Nudity | Themes of a sexual nature | Loud or sudden noises
Presented by Queer Love Collective
Image: Queer Love Collective logo. Courtesy of the Collective.

RuPaul's Drag Race meets WWE... BUT 1000000x MORE QUEER!

Identity Quest

a trans and gender demythology

Gasworks
Albert Park
20-24 Jan, 7pm

As a child, people kept telling Julie she was a boy, and she could never be a girl. She didn't believe them! It took her ages to find herself. We meet the 'personae dramatis' of her life; family, teachers, nuns, monks, Macbeth's witches, colleagues.

The Self Possessed!

The Castrato & The CounterTenor

Two Very Queer Voices - Two Very Odd Lives
One Very Unusual Theatrical & Musical Event!

presented by
M. Glenn McKenzie
"a consummate performer"
"a raw, vulnerable, brave & deeply inspiring journey"

Maribyrnong CITY COUNCIL
Arts & Culture

NZ Theatreview 2025

Bluestone Church Arts Space
8A Hyde St. Footscray (behind Footscray Town Hall)

Feb: Thurs 5, Fri 6 @ 6.30 Sat 7 @ 3.30 & 6.30

Comedy



Queer Comedy Gala

The loudest and proudest comedy in the west!

A stacked line-up of seven LGBTQIA+ comedians ready to make you laugh, led by our iconic MC Dolly Diamond.

From coming out stories to clubbing disasters, no topic is off-limits for our cast!

Pride of our Footscray Community Bar, Footscray
22 Jan 2hrs
Thu 7pm
\$29 full | \$22 conc
△ Strong language
Presented by Pride Comedy

Dance



Reflector

Queer stories. Raw movement. Reflective, full-body performance.

Award-winning Scimm. Dance Company presents a double bill of explosive new contemporary works. Q (world premiere) is a verbatim-inspired piece shaped by real queer voices. Reflector explores identity through mirrors, fashion, and self-perception. Two bold, physical, immersive works. Raw. Hypnotic. Unapologetically queer. This is dance that invites you to see, and be seen, differently.

St Martins - Irene Mitchell Studio, South Yarra
23-24 Jan 1hr 15m
Fri, Sat 8pm | Sat 5pm
\$40 full | \$35 conc
△ Strobe lights | Smoke/haze | Mature themes
Presented by Scimm. Dance Company
Image: by Matthew Chen

Theatre



Robert the Octopus

A queer surreal farce about looking for love. And an octopus

Sadie has a crush on her co-worker Georgia. But they only ever see each other online. In a desperate attempt to capture Georgia's attention, Sadie buys a pet octopus.

Starring Lily Fish, Mich McCowage, Hallie Goodman. Directed by Kimberley Twiner. Written by Alex Duncan.

'Intricately crafted physical comedy' - The Age

Next Wave — Brunswick Mechanics Institute, Brunswick
29-30 Jan, 1 Feb, 4-7 Feb 1hr
Wed-Sat 7pm | Sun 4pm
Auslan: 4 Feb 7pm
\$30 prev | \$40 full | \$30 conc | \$35 group (min 4) | \$50 arts patron | \$10 First Nations | Image: by Hannah Spence
Presented by Fish and Twiner and Midsumma Festival

Theatre



Queer Playwriting Award Showcase

Come and see the next generation of queer stories from our 5 finalists

Each year Gasworks partners with Midsumma for our Queer Playwriting Award, providing the opportunity for leading playwrights to present excerpts of works in progress.

Finalists include Lyall Brooks, Sammaneh Pourshafighi, Gabrielle Fallen, Hiroki Kobayashi and Anthony Nocera.

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS
Gasworks Arts Park - Gasworks Theatre, Albert Park
19 Jan 2hrs
Mon 6pm
\$28 full | \$25 conc
Presented by Gasworks and Midsumma Festival
Image: courtesy of Anthony Nocera

Musical



RENT - The Musical

Jonathan Larson's RENT - The Musical

Experience Jonathan Larson's electrifying, critically acclaimed production performed by St Michael's Grammar School alumni to celebrate the school's 130th Anniversary year. Step into the vibrant streets of New York City's East Village, where dreams are born, friendships are tested, and the power of love prevails against all odds.

Performing Arts Centre, St Georges (St Michael's Grammar School), St Kilda
21-24 Jan 2hrs
Wed-Sat 7:30pm | Sat 2pm
\$49 full | \$39 conc
△ Mature themes
Presented by St Michael's Grammar School

Variety



Rooftop Piano Bar: Hosted by Tina Del Twist

Cocktails, cabaret and comedy collide at Tina's rooftop hour

Tina Del Twist hosts a cabaret and comedy cocktail hour every Friday and Saturday at Spiegel Haus Melbourne Rooftop. With her velvet voice, wicked wit and dazzling guests, Australia's much-loved nightingale serves glamour, mischief and sparkle against Melbourne's glittering skyline. Free entry.

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS
Spiegel Haus - Rooftop Tent, Melbourne
23-24 Jan, 30-31 Jan, 6-7 Feb 1hr
Fri 8pm | Sat 6:30pm
FREE
Presented by Midsumma Festival and Spiegel Haus
Image: by Joel Devereux

"A vocal delight" - Weekend Notes



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

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

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

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

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


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

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



CRICOS: 00122A | RTO: 3046

Cabaret 🚶 🗣️ 🏠 🍷 <50




Samuel Roberts - F.A.A.G
Footballers Are A Godsend

Samuel returns to his roots in a comedy cabaret about a young queer man's life in country football. This star forward will dazzle you with original songs and stories straight from the locker room. After a couple of years on the pine, there has never been a better time to see this blinder of a show. Strap on your boots and get ready to play!

"Nostalgic references delivering huge laughs" - Hugging Comedians

The Motley Bauhaus - Theatrette, Carlton
 21-24 Jan 1hr
 Wed-Sat 5:45pm
 \$28 full | \$25 conc
 ⚠️ References to sexual violence
 Image: by William Boyd

Dance 🚶 🗣️ 🏠 🍷 75 🌐



sentiments of sentiments

Dive into the extreme dynamism of choreographer Amelia Watson's wholehearted dance narrative performance

Handwritten letters sent by LGBTQIA+ people from across the globe form an anthropological examination of love, pain and safety. Set in a museum of queer heartbreak, Felicity Boyd, Alix Kuijpers and choreographer Amelia Watson present this highly physical dance-theatre performance.

Clocktower Centre Studio, Moonee Ponds
 30-31 Jan 50m
 Fri 8pm | Sat 6:30pm | Sat 8:30pm
 \$25 full | \$20 conc
 ⚠️ Nudity | References to sexual violence | Mature themes
 Presented by Amelia Watson

Cabaret 🚶 🗣️ 🏠 🍷 <50




She Slayed: A Drag Murder Mystery
Melbourne's Original Drag Murder-Mystery!

Tensions mount during a diva-themed drag show, culminating in a fierce murder! While waiting for the police, the night is swiftly transformed into a whodunnit! Can you figure out who slayed?

Starring Australian theatre and cabaret drag legends Dolly Diamond, Jens Radda, POUSSAY and Iva Rosebud! Created by Nicholas Reynolds.

Victorian Pride Centre - Theatrette, St Kilda
 29-31 Jan 1hr
 Thu-Sat 7:30pm
 \$35 full | \$26 conc
 ⚠️ Strong language | References to suicide and/or self-harm
 Presented by Nicholas Reynolds & Victory People Productions

Cabaret 🚶 🗣️ 🏠 🍷 <50




Skank Sinatra: The Name On Everybody's Lips
"The best solo drag show I've ever seen" ★★★★★ - Stage Whispers

Two-time Winner of Best Cabaret at Adelaide Fringe, with sell-out performances across Australia and in Edinburgh comes a BRAND NEW SHOW from the powerhouse diva who belts and bedazzles with her electrifying live-vocals and camp bangers, reinventing Broadway with spicy, show-stopping twists.

Chapel Off Chapel - The Loft, Prahran
 6-7 Feb 1hr
 Fri, Sat 8pm
 \$40 full | \$32 conc
 ⚠️ Themes of a sexual nature | Smoke/haze | References to drug use
 Presented by Jens Radda
 Image: by Verity Lo

Theatre 🚶 🗣️ 18+ <50 🌐




SKIN: THE PERFORMANCE
Critically acclaimed artist Jessi Ryan returns to Midsumma in an anarchic one night only performance art ritual

Jessi Ryan dives into the cartographic language of collective queer bodies in this blistering performance art ritual, climaxing in a live tattooing amid the haze and lasers.

"Ryan is a dynamic, evocative and engaging performer" ★★★★★ - ArtsHub

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS @14 Gallery, Collingwood
 6 Feb 1hr 30m
 Fri 8pm
 \$40 full | \$30 conc
 ⚠️ Nudity | Strong language | Mature themes
 Presented by Jessi Ryan and Midsumma
 Image: by Karen Bryant

Cabaret 🗣️ 18+ 🏠 🍷 <50

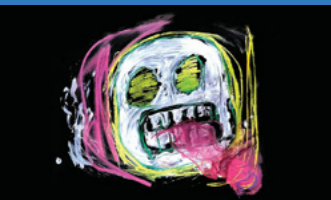


Slow-Cooked Mutton Cabaret
Hilarious heartfelt post-menopausal post-post punk!

Sassy, honest, queer women over 50, irreverently feminist, exploring smart cabaret comedy as the Apocalypse approaches. Gabrielle Griffin & Simone O'Brien are Mutton: consummate multi-disciplinary performers, with decades of touring with Circus Oz, Club Swing, and Legs on the Wall between them, sprinkling witty banter between dodgy covers and original songs, adult puppetry, and political satire.

The Motley Bauhaus - Cabaret Stage, Carlton
 3-8 Feb 1hr
 Tue-Sun 7pm
 \$34 full | \$29 conc
 ⚠️ Themes of a sexual nature | Strong language | Mature themes
 Presented by Simone O'Brien & GG
 Image: by Kate Holmes Photography

Variety



Footscray Drill Hall, Footscray
6-7 Feb 4hrs
Fri, Sat 7pm | Tactile Tour: all 6:30pm
\$35 full | \$25 conc
△ Themes of a sexual nature | Depictions of violence
Presented by Snuff Puppets
Image: by Chris Ferric

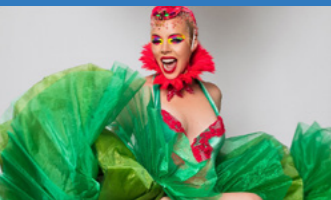
Snuff Saloon

Loud! Loon! Snuff Saloon!

Step into Snuff Puppets' giant workshop-turned-saloon where spectacle descends into chaos. Queer performance art, live music, and puppet shows unleash your imagination. Boundaries are demolished. Then the DJ takes over: giant puppets loom, live drawings flicker overhead, beanbags sprawl. Saloonatic cocktails flow. A sweat-soaked night where anything will happen.

"Never have puppets been more badly behaved" - ArtsHub

Cabaret



The Motley Bauhaus - Cabaret Stage, Carlton
31 Jan-1 Feb
Sat, Sun 4-5pm
\$30 full | \$25 conc
△ Nudity | Themes of a sexual nature | References to sexual violence
Presented by Imogen Kelly
Image: by Joel Devereux

Strip The Life Fantastic

A one woman revolution- the audience are her co-conspirators

Step into the sequin-soaked, grit fortified life of Imogen Kelly, notorious striptease revolutionary and World Queen of Burlesque. From Darlinghurst dives to royal palaces, Tokyo peep shows to The Opera House, her tales shimmer with transformation, humour and heartbreak. An intimate odyssey via decades of subversive spectacle; part game show, part memoir.

Comedy



Club Voltaire, North Melbourne
30 Jan-1 Feb 1hr
Fri, Sat 6:30pm | Sun 6pm
\$27.50 full | \$22.50 conc
△ Strobe lights | Loud or sudden noises | Flashing imagery
Image: by Ash Goodison

That's The Way The Mop Flaps

From acclaimed lesbian and award-winning comedian, Hannah Malarski

After three sold out seasons of her hit show Big Dyke Energy, Hannah is back with a brand new, sh*t hot variety hour. This fresh hour of sapphic sketch, original musical comedy and razor-sharp satire will probably blow your panties off, so bring a spare. Limited run only.

"A terrific actor with impeccable comic timing." - Time Out

Theatre



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS
Meat Market - Stables, North Melbourne
30 Jan 1hr
Fri 4pm | development showing
FREE - registration required
Presented by Midsumma Festival and Before Shot
Image: by Darren Gill

State of Play by Christopher Bryant

A magical journey to dispel our deep-seated fear of a fallible mind and body

Somewhere between performance lecture, creative forum, and high camp extravaganza, State of Play uses pop culture, queer theory, and theatre history to interrogate assumptions about the way queer-disabled people live their lives. Anything can happen at any time: even so, we have to keep on living.

Cabaret



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS
Arts Centre Melbourne-The Show Room, Southbank
18-25 Jan | 1hr 10m
Tue-Thu 7pm | Fri 7:30pm
Sat 2pm + 7:30pm | Sun 1pm
\$50 full | \$25 First Nations
Presented by Arts Centre Melbourne and Midsumma Festival
Image: by Meagan Harding

Sugar

Tomáš Kantor excels in this award-winning show

Theatrical, outrageous, silly and sexy, Sugar is a radiantly beautiful gender-queer twink in a 'transactional relationship' (though their primary source of information is Pretty Woman). Superstar-in-the-making Tomáš Kantor sings everything from Kylie to Chappell Roan in this show about luxury, power, and being paid to have sex on a grand piano.

Auslan: 18 Jan 1pm & 23 Jan 7:30pm

Theatre



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS
fortyfivedownstairs, Melbourne
27 Jan-1 Feb, 3-8 Feb 2hrs
Tue-Sat 7:30pm | Sun 5pm
\$45 full | \$39 conc | \$38 preview
Presented by Ben MacEllen and Midsumma Festival
Image: by Meagan Harding

The Placeholder

Small-town bonds, hidden truths, and the courage to change

Six friends bound by loss face a reckoning when one announces his transition. Set in a regional town, The Placeholder is a fierce, new queer Australian play about identity, feminism, and belonging — a defiant story of love, loyalty, and the courage to live truthfully in a world afraid of change.

Theatre



The MC Showroom - The Showroom, Prahran
18 Jan, 20 Jan, 22-25 Jan 1hr
Sun 6pm | Tue, Thu-Sat 8pm
\$34.50 full | \$24.50 conc | \$29.50 group (min 4)
△ Strong language | Strobe lights | Mature themes
Presented by Andrea James Lui

The Pole Shebang

A solo storytelling pole dancing show

One Person. One Pole. One Hour. Take a behind the scenes detour on this journey of a tomboy pole dancer, as she is unexpectedly called up to the biggest stage in the country - a stage full of the most iconic, glamorous, and glittering pole dancers in the land!

"A fun, high-energy romp... highly recommended" - The Vibe Hamilton

Cabaret



The Round Theatre, Nunawading
6 Feb 1hr
Fri 8pm
\$49 full | \$46 conc | \$30 Under 30
△ Strobe lights | Smoke/haze | Mature themes
Presented by The Round
Image: by Josphe Mayers

TINA A Tropical Love Story

A captivating blend of storytelling and cabaret, this is not just a show but a heartfelt tribute to the indomitable spirit of Tina Turner. Enter the enchanting realm off Miss Ellaneous, aka First Nations Drag performer Ben Graetz, as he shares his deeply personal tale of growing up in Darwin and the profound impact Tina had on his life.

"Breaking the well-worn mould of the tribute show, this dazzling production excels in its capacity to generate joy."

Variety



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS
ACCA - Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Southbank
31 Jan 3hrs 30m
Sat 6:30pm
\$39 full | free drink on arrival
△ Mature themes
Presented by ACCA and Midsumma Festival
Image: by Meagan Harding

WERK - SERVE

A night of queer performances curated by Aysha Buffet

The second iteration of WERK - ACCA's new drag performance series - SERVE is a one-night living exhibition curated by Aysha Buffet. Following the success of WERK: Tough Love, the night promises a bold celebration of the queer body, and runs alongside exhibitions by two trans artists, Tourmaline: Transcendent and r e a c l a i m e d.

Theatre



Bluestone Church Arts Space, Footscray
5-7 Feb 1hr 15m
Thu-Sat 6:30pm | Sat 3:30pm | Relaxed: All
Evenings: \$30 full, \$20 conc
Afternoon: \$25 full, \$16 conc
△ Mature themes

The Self Possessed

The Castrato & The Countertenor - Two VERY queer voices!

18th century European opera superstar, Gaetano Guardagni duets across 275 years with obscure 21st century Kiwi performance artist Glenn McKenzie. Together they playfully explore their lives' performance, both on and off stage, looking for their true selves through a "period-incorrect" muddle of music & musings. Includes works by Handel, Gluck, Scarlatti, Gilbert & Sullivan, Noel Coward & Billie Eilish.

Cabaret



Clocktower Centre - Lounge Bar, Moonee Ponds
30-31 Jan 1hr
Fri, Sat 8pm
\$30 full | \$25 conc
Presented by Club Clocktower

Vincent Hooper - Club Clocktower

Lose yourself in the voice and interpretations of Vincent Hooper

Step inside Club Clocktower for a night of music and stories. We invite you to settle in with a drink, sink into the lounge, and lose yourself in the voice and interpretations of Vincent Hooper. The evening blends Vincent's original music with camp classics that honour the glamour, grit, and resilience of queer identity.

Variety



75 Reid St, Melbourne
5 Feb
Thu 6:30-8:30pm
\$10 full | Refreshments provided
△ Strong language
Presented by Thorne Harbour Health
Image: by Laura Du Ve

Wise Words - A Night of Intergenerational Storytelling

Our annual sellout spoken word event is back!

A line-up of some of Australia's most prominent and talented LGBTIQ+ women and gender diverse folk. Previous guests include Joan Nestle, Sophie Cunningham, Laniyuk, Giselle Au-Nhien Nguyen, Amy Middleton, Claire G. Coleman, Sez, Kirsty Webeck, Sarah Ward, Aurelia St Clair and many more.



ST KILDA
WHAT'S ON
SOUTHSIDE

Home of Midsumma Pride March

Sunday 1 February 2026
Fitzroy Street, St Kilda

proudly port phillip



Visit whatsonstkilda.com for the latest news, events and things to do in St Kilda and Melbourne's Southside.



The TAC is proud to partner with Midsumma Festival again in 2026.

Let's celebrate safely — plan your journey, gather your crew, and get ready to experience the energy, art, and unity that makes Midsumma unforgettable.

See you there — loud, proud, and full of pride!



Music

Popular Music



Bangers, Beers & Bears: Princess and Villains

Wicked good times with villainous vocals & princely pints

Join Big Kev and Dean Arcuri for hairy storybook magic. Bears, beers & ballads collide as we storm the castle in a singalong like no other. Expect diva wails, villain cackles, and roaring good fun. This isn't just a show—it's a pint-sized fairytale takeover. All show profits donated to Queer Sporting Alliance.

Pride of our Footscray Community Bar, Footscray | **Mollie's Bar & Diner,** Fitzroy
21 Jan, 31 Jan, 7 Feb 2hrs
Wed 7pm | Sat 3:30pm
\$25 full
Presented by Bangers, Beers & Bears

Popular Music



Dynamic Darkness

'Soulful journey into the depths of the human experience!' - NewcastleLive

DYNAMIC DARKNESS is a tight set of soulful Synth-pop songs from Fringe award-nominated performer Madam Nightingale, exploring what it means to embrace the dark night of the soul. Performance includes recent single 'Into The Dark', prize winning 2023 debut single 'Dance With Me', and an interpretation of 'Have A Cigar' as you've never heard it before.

Bard's Apothecary, Melbourne
31 Jan 1hr
Sat 9pm
FREE booking required
△ Strobe lights | Smoke/haze | References to drug use
Image: by Hailli Luxa Idak

Popular Music



FUNERAL - KING IV

A live music performance from dark electronic alt-pop phenomenon, KING IV.

King IV cordially invites you to FUNERAL. A night of avant-garde and cinematic visuals, erotic and powerful choreography, a live band and the electric performance of KING IV's dance-pop album 'PSYCHOPOMP: THE OTHER SIDE'.

It's time to lay your old self to rest — and be reborn as the ultimate version of yourself, as you were always meant to be.

Howler, Melbourne
29 Jan 1hr
Thu 8pm
\$45 full | \$35 conc
△ Strobe lights | Mature themes
Image: by GG McG

Popular Music



Goddess Of Pop - A Tribute to CHER

The most FABULOUS tribute show comes to Midsumma!

Step into a world of glitz, glamour and the unforgettable magic of Cher. Goddess of Pop is a dazzling tribute show like no other. This Australian based production celebrates the enduring legacy of the ultimate pop icon with an electrifying performance that spans her greatest hits from the 60s to today.

Chapel Off Chapel - The Chapel, Prahran
24 Jan 2hrs 20m
Sat 7pm | See our website or socials for all tickets and shows (2026 tour)
\$49.30 full | \$45.30 con | \$45.30 group (min 6) | \$55.30 table
△ Strobe lights | Mature themes | Loud or sudden noises
Image: by Shoot Everything

15 JAN - 1 FEB

LATE NIGHT VICE

COCKTAILS. CABARET. CHAOS.
NO CAMERAS. NO PHONES. NO EVIDENCE.

The SOLD-OUT Brisbane Festival sensation comes to Melbourne. Get tickets while you still can at SPIEGELHAUSMELB.COM



Melbourne
SPIEGEL HAUS

Popular Music



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Hetslayer: Amplifying Trans Voices with Music of Resilience

Hetslayer's debut album

Table Records, Castlemaine
 31 Jan-1 Feb
 Sat, Sun 10-11am | See website for updates | Relaxed: All
 FREE booking required
Presented by Victoria's Pride | Victorian Government and Midsumma Festival
 Image: by Hetslayer

Castlemaine Pride is partnering with Hetslayer, a queer and trans punk band, to record their debut album. Centering trans visibility, resilience, and joy, the project invites multigenerational LGBTQIA+ community members to collaborate in creating a cultural artifact. Everyone's invited to the album launch and signing to celebrate!

Classical



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Homophonic!

Classical Music... but gayer

Theatre Works, St Kilda
 6-7 Feb 2hrs 15m
 Fri 7:30pm | Sat 1pm | Sat 5pm | Audio Described: Sat 7 Feb 5 pm | Relaxed: Sat 7 Feb 1 pm
 \$38 full | \$30 conc | Latecomer Lockout
Presented by Homophonic! and Midsumma Festival
 Image: by Tom Noble

Homophonic! is bringing the disco ball to the concert hall and inviting you to experience the entrancing sound world of today's LGBTQIA+ composers. Performed by the Homophonic! Chamber Ensemble and 6 voices of The Consort of Melbourne. Featuring the world premiere of Midsumma Presents: The Homophonic! Pride Prize performed by Homophonic! Artistic Director and double bassist Miranda Hill, works for voices and strings telling the stories of LGBTQIA+ seniors, and so much more.

Visual Arts



Electronic



Morris House, Melbourne
 22-24 Jan, 29-31 Jan, 5-7 Feb
 Thu-Sat 7pm-1am
 FREE
Presented by Morris House

Morris House Rooftop DJs

Groove Above the City, Celebrate Pride at Morris House

Join us for our rooftop takeover, featuring a stellar lineup of LGBTQIA+ DJs every Thursday, Friday & Saturday throughout Midsumma. Whether you're a local or a visitor, our rooftop is the perfect place to soak in the best music, vibes, and community spirit the festival has to offer.

Classical



Melbourne Recital Centre - Primrose Potter Salon, Southbank
 22 Jan 1hr 40m
 Thu 7:30pm | Album Launch
 \$55 full | \$45 conc | \$45 First Nations | \$40 group (min 4)
 Δ References to sexual violence | Mature themes
Presented by Forest Collective

My Heart by Danaë Killian

an expressionist solo piano adventure, with words and a bucket of tarot cards

Music by Evan J Lawson, Arnold Schönberg, Christine McCombe, Amelia Barden, Colin McKellar, Howard Dillon, Gregers Brinch, and Danaë Killian.

Words by Danaë Killian and Else Lasker-Schüler.

"Utterly mesmerising" - Australian Arts Review

Exhibition



Louis Joel Gallery | Louis Joel Arts & Community, Altona
 20-24 Jan, 27-31 Jan, 3-4 Feb
 Tue-Fri 9:30am-4:30pm | Sat 11am-2pm | Opening: Sat 24 Jan noon | Workshop: Sat 31 Jan 1-5pm
 FREE
Presented by The Artist Known As Foot, in collab with Louis Joel Gallery and support from Creative City Hobsons Bay

2099: Messages to our queer future

An exhibition featuring love letters, in any medium, to the future of queer community

How far has queer liberation come in the past 75 years? If you could call out to the future, what would you tell the young queer folk of 2099, what would you tell yourself? These are the questions that have guided these select multi-medium love letters of artists, creatives and makers of all ages, in this beautifully diverse exhibition.

Exhibition



Big Eye Studios, North Fitzroy
 27-31 Jan, 2-7 Feb
 Mon-Sat 10am-6pm
 FREE - Booking via email required
Presented by Vicki Jones Photography at Big Eye Studios
 Image: by Vicki Jones (after Claude Cahun)

Be Photographed for Body Language

Share your gender identity story through this collaborative portraiture project.

Inspired by the gay studio photographers of the 1930s/40s with studio lights and large format cameras, Big Eye Studios will be styled in the fashion of the day from New York to Paris. Book with Vicki via vickijones@vjp.com.au for your one hour photoshoot.

Electronic



The Motley Bauhaus - Cabaret Stage, Carlton
 7 Feb 1hr
 Sat 8:20pm
 \$28 full | \$24 conc
 Δ Strong language | Strobe lights | Mature themes

New Beginnings

Telling a story of redemption through spellbinding synthpop

'New Beginnings' is a gripping musical performance story telling what it means to be human. Cloutie Will sings as a "fallen woman" seeking a personal path to redemption. Madam Nightingale sings the joy of overcoming adversity as the goddess of song. A contemporary rap and 80s influenced synthpop show that's not to be missed.

Popular Music



IVY Windsor, Windsor
 22 Jan, 29 Jan, 5 Feb 2hrs
 Thu 7:30pm
 \$27 full
Presented by Ivy Windsor & Frock Hudson

Pride Piano Bar at Ivy

A pride piano bar like no other!

Ivy Windsor's Thursday night Piano Bar gets a drag makeover, as Frock Hudson and friends bring an aural experience like no other.

With a welcome drink included on arrival, join this fabulous evening of musical entertainment.

(Be ready to sing along!)

Exhibition



Meat Market - Stables, North Melbourne
 28-31 Jan
 Wed-Fri 5-10pm | Sat 4-10pm
 Opening: Wed 28 Jan 6-8pm
 FREE
Presented by Deep Sea Astronauts and Midsumma Festival
 Image: by Deep Sea Astronauts

BEASTIES Exhibition

BEASTIES embraces the shadows of queer identity with fervent imagination

BEASTIES brings to life chimera creatures made of discarded materials to shine a light on the resilience and resistance of the LGBTQIA+ community.

This cross-cultural exhibition explores the darkness and beauty of being "other," drawing powerful parallels between queer identity and the underworlds of monster mythologies.

Exhibition



Victorian Pride Centre - Pride Gallery, St Kilda
 19 Jan-7 Feb
 Mon-Fri 9am-5pm | Sat 10am-5pm
 FREE
 Δ Nudity
Presented by Victorian Pride Centre
 Image: by Sean Y

Behind the Zip

Sexy Galaxy shines a light on Australia's drag king culture

An exhibition curated by legendary drag king Sexy Galaxy, celebrating Australia's rich drag king culture.

This powerful showcase lifts the veil on a bold, gender-bending artform often overlooked in mainstream drag narratives.

Featuring images from across Australia, including Drag King Victoria.

Exhibition



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Smith + Gertrude, Fitzroy

4-8 Feb

Wed-Sun 11am-4pm | Performance nights: 5-7 Feb 8pm (ticketed)

FREE

△ Nudity | Themes of a sexual nature

Presented by Sydney Sydney and Midsumma Festival

Image: by Beau Howell

bodies no bodies

The transgenre transgender gallery show

Performance meets installation in this glittering gender- and genre-bending show by six trans and gender diverse artists. Spanning from facial recognition to collaged metamorphosis to dining tables, visit the gallery during the day and bring your own body to the show. Or join us at night, when the artists step into the show and the gallery comes to life.

Exhibition



The Bowery Theatre - St Albans Community Centre, St Albans

22 Jan 2hrs

Thu 6pm

FREE booking required

△ Mature themes

Presented by Brimbank City Council

Image: by Brimbank City Council

Brimbank LGBTQIA+ History Exhibition - Opening Night Gala

Join us on the opening night to explore down the rainbow road of Brimbank's queer history

Join Brimbank City Council as we open an incredible exhibition that explores the deep, diverse and rich history of the LGBTQIA+ community within the Brimbank local government area.

Exhibition



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

No Vacancy Gallery, Melbourne CBD

28-31 Jan, 3-7 Feb

Tue-Fri 12-4pm | Sat 1-4pm

FREE

△ Nudity | Mature themes

Presented by Midsumma Festival

Image: 2025 winner Chris Ferric 'Saint Jo, Scribe of Our Souls'. Photo by Suzanne Balding

Midsumma Art Award

Australia's leading queer art prize

Finalists are selected from across the country to exhibit works in a showcase of outstanding queer, political, potent and personal art. Award winners share in a prize pool of \$7K and a paid artist residency with Bundoora Homestead Art Centre. Audiences can cast their vote for People's Choice Award during the exhibition.

Exhibition



Artemisia Gallery & Event Space, Windsor

21-25 Jan, 28 Jan-1 Feb

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

Opening: Fri 23 Jan 6-9pm | Relaxed: All

FREE

Image: 'Scene from A Midsummer Night's Dream' by John Simmons (1873)

MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM: A Magical Queer Group Show

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

Step into a realm of enchantment for Artemisia Gallery's second annual Midsumma exhibition, as we showcase a captivating collection of queer art inspired by mythology, folklore, fantasy and all things magical.

Exhibition



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Australian Museum of Performing Arts (AMPA)

18 Jan - 8 Feb

Mon-Fri 12pm-7pm | Sat-Sun 10am-7pm

\$30 adult | \$28 conc

Presented by AMPA and Arts Centre Melbourne for Midsumma

Created by the V&A - touring the world

Image: © Victoria and Albert Museum

DIVA

An exhibition of creativity and costume from opera stars to pop icons.

Celebrate history's greatest performers in this first of its kind exhibition direct from the V&A, London. Discover the artistry and courage of divas from opera stars to pop icons, featuring costume, fashion, jewellery, photography and music from Dame Joan Sutherland, Maria Callas, Elton John, Grace Jones, Cher, Lady Gaga, Rihanna, Kylie Minogue and more. Exclusive to Melbourne.

Exhibition



Fitzroy Public Gallery, Fitzroy

18 Jan, 24-25 Jan, 31 Jan-1 Feb, 7-8 Feb

Sat, Sun 11am-5pm | Opening: Sun 1 Feb 4-7pm

FREE

△ Mature themes

Presented by Fiona Newton

Image: by Colin Mowbray

Fluid - Celebrating Queer Artists

Fluid - a celebration of queer artists

Fluid is a vibrant group exhibition of queer artists working across painting, photography and sculpture. Coinciding with the iconic Victoria's Pride Street Party, this uplifting show celebrates identity, creativity and connection at the Fitzroy Public Gallery.

Exhibition



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Incinerator Gallery, Aberfeldie

31 Jan, 4-7 Feb

Wed-Sat 11am-4pm | Opening: Fri 30 Jan 6-8pm

FREE

Presented by Incinerator Gallery and Midsumma Festival

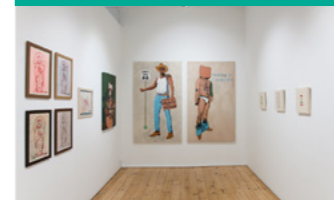
Image: Priyageetha Dia, Blood Sun II, 2024, looped animation

Molten Tongues

An Exhibition in the Language of Fire

This exhibition speaks in the primal, alchemical language of fire—a force that warms, consumes, ignites, and transforms. Fire is at once origin and omen, a source of life and an agent of destruction. Bringing together works by contemporary Australian and international artists, the exhibition engages fire as material, metaphor, and memory—tracing its roles across ritual and industry, love and loss, technology and ecology.

Exhibition



Brunswick Street Gallery, Fitzroy

24-25 Jan, 27 Jan-1 Feb, 3-8 Feb

Tue-Sat 10am-5pm | Sun 11am-4pm |

Opening: Sat 24 Jan 6-8pm

FREE

Presented by Brunswick Street Gallery

Image: Emerge: O UT 2025 at BSG

O UT at BSG

A vibrant exhibition platform for LGBTQIA+ artists to create, connect, and thrive—free from constraint.

In our O UT rendition, we seek to amplify the voices of LGBTQIA+ artists working in the emerging space. Without a particular theme or brief which artwork needs to conform to, O UT: Emerge will be a snapshot of the artist's current practice, or allows the opportunity to present new and experimental works—perhaps deviating from their usual offerings.

Public Art



Story Wall, Mornington

18 Jan-8 Feb

Mon-Sun 24hrs

FREE

Presented by Mornington Peninsula Shire

Image: by Lesley Turnbull

Isabella Capezio: To build a home

Large-scale collage

Influenced by Sara Ahmed and Donna Haraway's writing, Isabella Capezio's 'to build a home' is a proposition for a new way of thinking about family, identity, the body and desire.

The large-scale collage includes figures overlaid and overlapping on textured surfaces by blending and splicing failed photographic prints, photographs, clippings from old textbooks and test strips.

Exhibition



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Galleria Crocodillo

22-25 Jan, 29 Jan-1 Feb

Thu 11am-6pm | Fri, Sat 12-8pm | Sun 1-6pm | Opening: Fri 23 Jan 6-8pm

FREE

Presented by Midsumma Festival and Emma "Ruby" Armstrong-Porter

It's Hard... Being a Human

A visual art exhibition about navigating mental health and relationships

A multidisciplinary group of 12 artists explore the nuances of being human in the world through a queer, autobiographical lens. Statistically a higher number of people in LGBTQIA+ communities experience poorer psychological wellbeing and mental health compared to other humans. The artists discuss how they navigate relationships whilst maintaining mental health.

Exhibition



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Peninsula Community Theatre, Mornington

7 Feb 6hrs

Sat 4pm

\$30 full | \$10 conc

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

Image: by Roe Bonnici and Noa Wolf Smith Fletcher

Out Loud on the Ninch

Midsumma arrives on the Mornington Peninsula

A sunset event at the Peninsula Community Theatre, bringing together live music and DJs. A celebration of community, identity, and creativity. At the heart of the evening is the photographic exhibition 'You & I', a bold project celebrating queer pride across generations. Developed by local artists Noa Wolf Smith Fletcher and Roe Bonnici.

Exhibition



Tasma Terrace, East Melbourne

5 Feb

Thu 6-8:30pm | This is the pre-opening event. Co-Curator talks and responses to the work will be particular to this night.

\$35 full

Presented by National Trust of Australia (Victoria)

Image: Photographer Gerard O'Connor

Party Hard

Every stitch a story, every party a protest.

Party Hard - After The Party is a glittering ode to what survives after the night. From Edwardian gatherings to Mardi Gras parades and today's queer clubs, garments carry rips, stains and sequins as witnesses to joy, intimacy and protest. Worn hard, danced in and remembered, they reveal that every after-party tells a story.

Exhibition



Pia de Bruyn - Female Trouble

Exploring archetypal femininity through the lens of cinema

Taking its title from John Waters' cult classic, 'Female Trouble' invites audiences into a cinematic universe where female identity takes centre stage, camp aesthetics reign supreme, and the stereotypical portrayal of women in film is radically upended.

'She Devil's on Wheels' screening and Panel Discussion Sat 7 Feb 5-7pm

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS
Bundoora Homestead Art Centre, Bundoora
 21-24 Jan, 28-31 Jan, 4-7 Feb
 Wed-Fri 11am-4pm | Sat 10am-4pm
 FREE
 ⚠ Strong language
Presented by Bundoora Homestead Art Centre and Midsumma Festival
 Image: Pia de Bruyn, Female Trouble

Exhibition



Presence (Performance)

Being in the moment, the way the subject wants to be represented.

The invited artists are responding to the theme, presence (performance). Each find an intriguing and different way to visually explore this. The work connects the personal to the collective, to history and emotion, to take us on a journey. Artists: E.F.P., Jaxom McKie, Tyler Tippet, Kevin Bernardin, Matt Lucas and Edwin Adrianta.

XYZ Photo Gallery, Docklands
 18 Jan, 22-25 Jan, 29 Jan-1 Feb, 5-8 Feb
 Thu-Sun 1-6pm
 FREE
 ⚠ Nudity | Themes of a sexual nature
Presented by XYZ Photo Gallery
 Image: by Kévin Bernardin

Exhibition



Reflections of a Decaying World

Seeing ourselves in nature: Reflections of a Decaying World

What if seeing ourselves intrinsically entwined with nature encouraged us to reverse the effects of climate destruction? "Reflections of a Decaying World" uses Teague Leigh's landscape photography as the heart of deconstructed disco balls. This artwork asks the viewer to see themselves as part of a world in decline and take action to stop the rot.

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS
Meat Market - Stables, North Melbourne
 28-31 Jan
 Wed-Fri 5pm | Sat 4pm
 Opening: Wed 28 Jan 6-8pm
 FREE
Presented by Midsumma Festival and Teague Leigh
 Image: by @wild_hardt

Exhibition



SKIN: THE EXHIBITION

Critically acclaimed artist Jessi Ryan returns with an immersive new video exhibition

Bringing new queer histories to the fore, through an immersive video presentation that centres the physical cartography and personal histories of six diverse community members.

"This exhibition is excellent and is well worth experiencing." ★★★★★ - ArtsHub

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS
@14 Gallery, Collingwood
 6-8 Feb
 Fri 12-5:30pm | Sat 12-8pm | Sun 11am-7pm
 FREE exhibition
 SKIN: The Performance: Fri 6 Feb 8pm (ticketed)
 ⚠ Nudity | Mature themes
Presented by Jessi Ryan and Midsumma
 Image: by Karen Bryant

Exhibition



Queer bodies

Solo presentation by emerging visual artist Tess Hider

Tess Hider's exhibition Queer bodies explores personal storytelling and looks at an overarching theme of queer identity through the lens of disability theory, queer theory and crip theory. The LGBTQIA+ and disabled communities both exist outside the heteronormative able-bodied world, Hider's exhibition highlights the idea of 'other'. This 2026 Rainbow Program is proudly presented by Nillumbik Shire Council.

Eltham Library Community Gallery, Eltham
 23 Jan-8 Feb
 Mon-Thu 9am-9pm | Fri 9am-6pm | Sat-Sun 10am-5pm | Celebration event: Fri 30 Jan 6:30-8:30pm | Banner Making Workshop: Sun 8 Feb 10-11:30am
 FREE
Presented by Nillumbik Shire Council

Exhibition



Queer Reckoning

Queer Reckoning presents performance and visual artwork by leading Naarm based artists, working at the intersections of queerness, identity and form. Including a performance by Scotty So, a banner by Lux Newman, a screen-based work by Xanthe Dobbie and a conversation with Danish Sheikh and lawyer and advocate Paul Rudd.

Image: Scotty So, Guchi, 2021 Courtesy of the artist and MARS Gallery

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS
Gasworks Arts Park - Galleries, Melbourne
 19-25 Jan, 27 Jan-8 Feb
 Mon-Sun 10am
 Artist talk: 31 Jan 4pm
 Scotty So performance: Sat 31 Jan 6pm
 FREE
Presented by Gasworks and Midsumma Festival
 Image: by Scotty So

Public Art



Stand Out Exhibition

An outdoor exhibition by Hobsons Bay artist Tara Mathews

Using bright colours and a distinctive style, Tara dedicates their exhibition to the queer women and gender-diverse individuals who feel like they don't fit in. The artworks visually represent the alienating feeling of not quite fitting the mould, but also the solidarity in knowing that there is a whole community of people who are facing the same struggle.

Airtime, Altona Meadows
 18 Jan-8 Feb
 Mon-Sun 24hrs
 FREE
Presented by Creative City Hobsons Bay
 Image: by Tara Mathews

Exhibition



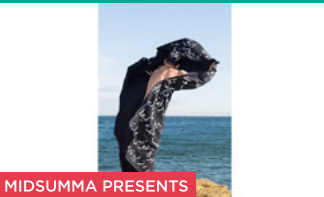
Tourmaline: Transcendent

A powerful and joyful exhibition that speaks to urgent contemporary issues disproportionately facing LGBTQIA+ and PoC communities, Transcendent extends Tourmaline's research into the life and legacy of Marsha P. Johnson. The exhibition spans video and photography including, the global premiere of a new video work commissioned by ACCA.

Curated by: Sophie Prince

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS
ACCA - Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Southbank
 18 Jan-8 Feb
 Tue-Fri 10am-5pm | Sat-Sun 11am-5pm
 FREE
Presented by ACCA and Midsumma Festival
 Image: Tourmaline, Untitled (Venice Series) 2025. Courtesy the artist

Exhibition

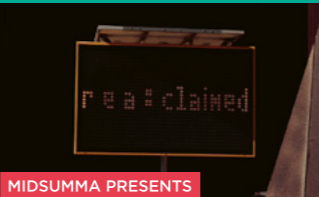


Queer Reclamation: Elyas Alavi & Ayman Kaake

Lebanese-born artist Ayman Kaake and Hazara-Australian artist Elyas Alavi explore ideas of queer reclamation through cultural and religious frameworks. Through this work, and in the face of discrimination and persecution, these two artists have offered the most powerful tool at their disposal: LOVE.

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS
Gasworks Arts Park - Galleries, Melbourne
 19-25 Jan, 27 Jan-8 Feb
 Mon-Sun 10am-4:30pm | Opening: Sat 31 Jan 5-7pm | Artist talk: Sat 7 Feb 4pm
 FREE
Presented by Gasworks and Midsumma Festival
 Image: The black shroud //, 2024, Ayman Kaake. Image courtesy of the artist.

Exhibition



re:claimed

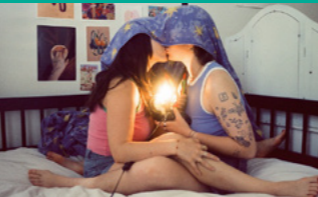
A focused retrospective of Gamilaraay, Wailwan and Biripi digital media artist, r e a.

This summer ACCA presents a focused retrospective of r e a, playfully titled r e a : c l a i m e d. Alongside a curated selection of work spanning more than three decades, r e a : c l a i m e d includes an exciting new commission and coincides with the launch of a major artist monograph.

Curated by: Myles Russell-Cook

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS
ACCA - Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Southbank
 18 Jan-8 Feb
 Tue-Fri 10am-5pm | Sat-Sun 11am-5pm
 FREE
 ⚠ Mature themes
Presented by ACCA and Midsumma Festival
 Image: Courtesy the artist and ACCA

Exhibition



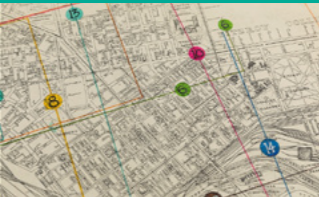
Wenmiao Xin - I am a lesbian, a feminist, a woman of colour

Grounded in Sara Ahmed's writing on identity 'I am a lesbian, a feminist, a woman of colour' is a photography exhibition that explores the intricate connection between women through their bodies, emotions and relationships.

Wenmiao Xin is a photographer and visual artist based in Naarm (Melbourne), Australia.

Trocadero Projects, Footscray
 21 Jan-22 Feb
 Thu-Sun 12-5pm | Exhibition Opening: Wed 21 Jan 6-8pm
 FREE
 ⚠ Mature themes
Presented by Trocadero Projects
 Image: by Wenmiao Xin

Exhibition



You Are Here: Melbourne Memory-scapes

Explore the nuances of memory, place and connection.

'You Are Here' features a collection of black-and-white aerial photographs of Melbourne from the 1960s. Visitors are invited to join curator Angela Bailey on 31 January for a tour of the exhibition, followed by a queer history walk around the nearby streets. Bookings are required for the walking tour.

2 Oct-6 Feb
 Mon-Fri 8.30am-5.00pm | Tour: 31 Jan 2pm-3:30pm
 FREE | walking tour booking required
Presented by City of Melbourne
 Image: City of Melbourne Art and Heritage Collection. Photographer: Tobias Titz

MQFF.COM.AU

**31 JAN
1 FEB
6 FEB**

**MELBOURNE QUEER
FILM FESTIVAL**

PRESENTS

**MIDSUMMA
MOVIES**



Film



film



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Aireys Inlet Community Centre, Aireys Inlet

8 Feb 1hr 30m

Sun 2pm

FREE

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

Image: by Mick Haupt

All Bodies Of Water Connect

A video exploring stories of queer migrants from regional Victoria

Blame the Shadows Collective presents, a new video work exploring the stories of queer migrants in regional Victoria through a series of interviews, dance, and moving images.

film



Let's Do the Time Warp Again: Trivia and Movie Night

Altona Theatre, Altona

7 Feb 3hrs 30m

Sat 6:30pm

\$15 full | \$10 conc

△ Nudity | Themes of a sexual nature | Strong language

Presented by Creative City Hobsons Bay

Image: The Rocky Horror Picture Show

Get ready for a wild night of trivia and sing-along with the cult classic The Rocky Horror Picture Show! Test your knowledge, belt out iconic tunes, and join the fun. Costumes encouraged, energy required – whether you're a longtime fan or first-timer, expect laughter, music, and all things spooky and spectacular! Don't dream it, be it!

film



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Cinema Nova, Carlton

31 Jan-1 Feb

see website for movies and session times

\$23-\$28

Presented by Melbourne Queer Film Festival and Midsumma Festival

Image: by Matto Lucas

MQFF Presents: Midsumma Movies

A sizzling weekend of the best in queer cinema

Get ready for a hot summer weekend of queer cinema as Melbourne Queer Film Festival presents back-to-back screenings at the iconic Cinema Nova. Gather your mates, bring a date, and immerse yourself in a prime selection of LGBTQIA+ films.

film



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Digital Event

Available online from 8 Feb

On demand | Captioned: All

FREE

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

Image: by Nat Ord Photography

Rainbows, Camera, Action: Spotighting LGBTQIA+ Creatives Through Music in Motion

A music video and documentary featuring LGBTQIA+ talent and stories

Directed by Mieke Louise, this project will capture the LGBTQIA+ community from regional North East Victoria on screen, through the creation of a music video for Mieke's original song.

film



Pride of our Footscray Community Bar, Footscray

28 Jan 3hrs

Wed 6:30pm

FREE

△ Themes of a sexual nature | Depictions of violence

Presented by Jimmy Twin

Image: by Jimmy Twin

Save the Bears!

Pilot episode of Summowntown by Jimmy Twin

Bones is your ordinary queer skeleton who loves nothing more than to spill the tea with their summoned creature neighbours. Unfortunately, though, Bones tends to be summoned into battle at the most inconvenient of times. Those necromancers know no manners!

'Save the Bears!' is the pilot episode of the animated show Summowntown, inspired by fantasy RPGs and 1980s sitcoms.

Kids & Families



Kids and Families



Carlton Baths Community Centre, Carlton
31 Jan
Sat 4-8pm
\$11.80 full | \$6 conc

Presented by Carlton Baths Community Centre

Image: by Sana Nicolas

Carlton Baths Pride Party 2026

Join us for live music by the pool and social activities for everyone!

In celebration of the Queer community and allies, Carlton Baths will host an afternoon of family-friendly fun including live music, giveaways and activities.

Come and enjoy performances from your favourite LGBTQIA+ artists, connect with local community organisations and engage in fun activities throughout the centre.

Kids and Families



State Library Victoria - Create Quarter, Melbourne

21 Jan 1hr
Wed 11:30am, 3:15pm
\$10 child

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

Image: by JB Photography

Fractured Fairytales

A world of imagination where fairytales get a delightful twist

Explore classic stories, then flip them on their head with creativity, music and movement in this fantastical drama workshop by Emma Chandler.

Kids and Families

Kids and Families



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Little BEASTIES Kids Disco

A FREE high-energy, interactive dance party for little monsters and their families

This joyful, music-fuelled experience for small children has plenty of fun for their grown-ups too. Featuring upbeat tunes, ferocious dance moves, and laugh-out-loud silliness, BEASTIES will get everyone moving.

1+ years (byo guardian)

Fed Square - The Edge, Melbourne CBD

31 Jan 1hr
Sat 10:30am
FREE booking required

Presented by Fed Square, Midsumma Festival and Deep Sea Astronauts

Image: by Deep Sea Astronauts

Kids and Families



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Mural of Me

Collage workshops with Nicky Tsekouras

Calling all curious, creative kids! Join artist Nicky Tsekouras in this imaginative hands-on workshop to express yourself through colour, texture and playful paper collage.

State Library Victoria - Create Quarter, Melbourne

22 Jan 1hr 30m
Thu 11:30am | Thu 1:45pm
\$10 child

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

Image: by Ryley Clarke

Kids and Families



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Rainbow Storytime

Stories, songs and a bit of sparkle!

To celebrate the upcoming Midsumma Festival, we're adding a splash of rainbow flair to our beloved Storytime sessions with special guests Dandy Boy and Jax Brown.

This event will also be livestreamed by State Library Victoria.

State Library Victoria - Create Quarter, Melbourne

20 Jan, 27 Jan 30m
Tue 1:30pm
FREE - Registration required

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

Image: by Eva Gorobets

Kids and Families



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Love Love Love Love Love Love

Come one, come all, come big, come small, there is plenty of love for us all

Be bathed and enveloped in all the colours that make up who we are.

A show for children under one years old. Bring your little one and join Caroline Bowditch and friends for a work in progress performance where your babies will inspire the future of the work.

ArtPlay, Melbourne

5-8 Feb 1hr
Thu-Sun 10:30am | Sat 2pm
\$15 for 1 baby and up to 2 carers

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

Image: courtesy of the artist

Kids and Families



Rainbow Families Extravaganza

Join us for the Rainbow Families Extravaganza, a joyful all-ages celebration of community and connection

Enjoy drag story time for little ones, performances for teens and adults and movement and music for everyone. Capture memories at our family photo booth, take part in inclusive games and share in an afternoon of fun, pride, and togetherness for LGBTQIA+ parents, caregivers and young people.

Victorian Pride Centre - Theatrette, St Kilda

31 Jan 2hrs
Sat 12:30pm | Relaxed: Sat 31 Jan 12:30pm
FREE booking required

Presented by Rainbow Families, Switchboard and Victorian Pride Centre

Image: by Jacq Moon

Kids and Families



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

See you in the Soup!

A musical adventure with Emma Chandler about love, joy, and being very, very silly

Join performer Emma Chandler and her musical friend Callum Bodman in this enchanting concert in celebration of being curious, kind and exactly who you are.

This event will also be livestreamed by State Library Victoria.

State Library Victoria - Create Quarter, Melbourne

21 Jan 1hr
Wed 1:30pm
FREE booking required

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

Image: by Emma Chandler

Youth



Youth



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Immigration Museum, Melbourne CBD
24 Jan 3hrs
Sat 6pm | Auslan: on stage
FREE booking required
Presented by Midsumma Festival, Minus18 and Immigration Museum
Image: by Leah Hulst

Night at the Museum: Midsumma Youth Party

It's time for a free youth dance party with Minus18!

To celebrate Midsumma, Minus18 is taking over the Immigration Museum after dark for another huge Night at the Museum party for queer young people.

There'll be music, drag, snacks, activities, new friends and exclusive access to view the exhibitions after dark!

Youth



Newport Community Hub, Newport
5 Feb
Thu 5-7pm
FREE
Presented by Hobsons Bay City Council Youth Services

Queer Westside Studios Session

A special Midsumma Edition of Westside Open Studios

Hobsons Bay Youth Services and the Westside Studios crew present a queer open mic night for young people in the west.

Hop on the mic, jam with others, perform for peers, or just hang out.

Free with snacks provided. This event is exclusively for young people and is smoke, alcohol and vape free.

Youth



100 Story Building, Footscray
20-21 Jan 7hrs
Tue, Wed 9am
FREE booking required
Presented by 100 Story Building
Image: by Gianna Rizzo 2024

Stories for All Seasons - School Holiday Workshops

An inclusive one-day writing workshop for LGBTIQ+ teens, allies and families to celebrate creativity and community

Through fun writing exercises, creative activities and guidance from experienced facilitators, participants will develop confidence, explore identity and connect with like-minded peers. Open to young people aged 12-17. Come share your story!

Community & Culture



Day Out



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Warragul Leisure Centre, Warragul
8 Nov 7hrs
Sat 8am
\$5 full | \$0 child Door sales only
Presented by Victoria's Pride | Victorian Government and Midsumma Festival
Image: Gippsland Ranges Roller Derby

5th Annual Roller Derby Pride Cup

Gippsland Ranges Roller Derby: Five years fierce

Experience fierce, full-contact action, junior showcases, and community vibes that champion LGBTIQ+ inclusion and visibility. Celebrate bold hits, skill, and unstoppable energy on wheels. Take part in a colourful photoshoot, crown yourself with a flower crown, and soak up the circus-inspired festival atmosphere. More than derby, it's a full-force celebration of diversity, joy, and community.

Day Out



Oakleigh Recreation Centre, Oakleigh
24 Jan
Sat 2-5pm
\$8.70 full | \$7.80 conc | \$5.20 child Door sales only
Presented by Active Monash - City of Monash

Active Pride Pool Party

Active Monash is excited to announce the return of our annual Active Pride event for Midsumma Festival 2026! Oakleigh Recreation Centre will be the home of the Active Pride Pool Party and we are inviting LGBTIQ+ people of all ages, Rainbow families and allies to experience our facilities in a friendly and inclusive environment to celebrate PRIDE!

Social



Bi+ Pride Victoria Annual Picnic

The annual community picnic in the park for bi+ folks and allies

A social gathering in a relaxed outdoor setting, aimed at building connections within the bi+ community and our allies. Bring your kids, bring your dogs, bring some yummy picnic food and enjoy an afternoon of quiet community in the beautiful Edinburgh Gardens.

Edinburgh Gardens - Circle of Trees

24 Jan

Sat 12-3pm

FREE booking required

Presented by Bi+ Pride Victoria

Image: by Bi+ Pride Victoria

Day Out



Casey Rainbow Picnic

Celebrate pride, diversity, and community at the Casey Rainbow Picnic 2026—part of Midsumma in the Southeast! Enjoy live DJ beats, photo booth fun, all-ages activities, and beautiful gardens. Bring your friends, good vibes and picnic goodies. Hosted with Casey Cardinia Pride Inc., this free event welcomes LGBTQIA+ folks, families, and allies. See you there!

Old Cheese Factory, Berwick

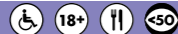
7 Feb

Sat 1-4pm

FREE booking required

Presented by Casey Cardinia Pride Inc.

Day Out



Euphoria Social Pop-Up Geelong

Planting queer joy across regional Victoria

A grassroots initiative by Euphoria Social, led by local LGBTQIAPN+ volunteers.

Regional Spotlight: Geelong brings people together through inclusive events, local partnerships, and peer-led connection. It's all about building safe, welcoming spaces where queer community can thrive — starting right here in Geelong.

Industry26, Geelong West

24 Jan

4hrs

Sat 2pm

\$20 full | \$15 conc

△ Nudity | Strong language | Loud or sudden noises

Presented by Euphoria Social Group Inc.

Image: artwork by Ben Ross

Market



Gay Stuff Market

Come get some Gay Stuff

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

We're here to celebrate queer creativity in all its glory, with a dazzling line-up of vendors bringing you the very best of Melbourne's queer and allied artists, makers, and style icons.

Victorian Pride Centre - The Forum, St Kilda

31 Jan

Sat 12-4pm

FREE

Image: by Luke David Photography

What's on offer?

Fashion, Accessories, Homewares, Jewellery, Art, Crafts, Zines, Plants, Books, Handmade treasures & more!

Social



LGBTQIA+ Ageing Community Social Club

Are you 50 or over and looking to connect with like-minded people?

Looking for connection, conversation, and community? The LGBTQIA+ Ageing Community Social Club is the perfect place to meet other fabulous 50+ folks in a relaxed, friendly, and inclusive space.

Victorian Pride Centre - Theatrette, St Kilda

21 Jan

2hrs

Wed 2pm

FREE booking required

Presented by Victorian Pride Centre and Lifewell

Image: by Natalie Edge

Day Out



Midsumma Carnival

Open celebrations for Midsumma Festival 2026 with Carnival!

Kick off 22 days of Midsumma events with a free, family-friendly, all-day festival of fun at Carnival. With three stages, tonnes of community stalls, heaps of activities, and of course the iconic Dog Show, there's something for everyone. Dance into the warm summer evening with live entertainment, DJ sets, and sparkling energy. Don't miss out!

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Alexandra Gardens, Melbourne CBD

18 Jan

Sun 11am - 9pm

Auslan: Main & Picnic Stages

FREE

Presented by Midsumma Festival

Image: Midsumma Carnival - Photo by Suzanne Balding

Day Out



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Fitzroy St and Catani Gardens, St Kilda

1 Feb

Sun 10:30am-3:30pm | Auslan: for official proceedings

FREE

Presented by Midsumma Festival

Image: Midsumma Pride March - Photo by Suzanne Balding

Midsumma Pride March

LOUD & PROUD

Grab your friends, family, and loved ones to flaunt your pride at Midsumma Pride March this year! Whether you join the parade by foot or wheel, with workmates or with loved ones, as an ally or as a member of the LGBTQIA+ community, Midsumma Pride March is the place to celebrate all gender expressions, sexualities, experiences, and personalities with colours, sparkle and style.

Day Out



Kelly Park, Werribee

31 Jan

Sat 6-10pm | Auslan: Sat 31 Jan 6pm

FREE

△ Strong language | Mature themes

Presented by Wyndham City Council

Image: by Theresa Harrison

Park Lounge

Park Lounge returns for its 14th year: So should you!

Get Ready to shine at Park Lounge, Enjoy an evening of music, dance, and community, featuring LGBTQIA+ artists and fabulous allies. Whether you're part of the rainbow or cheering from the sidelines, Glitter is optional, dancing is encouraged, and EVERYONE is welcome. Let's light up the night together!

Day Out



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Portland Arts Centre, Portland

1-2 Dec, 8-13 Dec

1hr

Mon-Sat Midday | See website for updates | Relaxed: ALL

FREE booking required

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

Image: by Suzanne Balding

Oceanside Pride

The Coast is Queer

Presented by Portland Arts Centre in collaboration with BEAT Entertainment. Oceanside Pride is for everyone! All ages, genders, abilities, and (good) vibes. From youth karaoke-pizza-parties, to drag workshops with Cerulean, dance classes to costume creation, there's something for everybody. Whether you're performing, volunteering, or cheering from the crowd, you're part of creating Pride history in Portland, with this celebration of queer joy and creativity.

Day Out



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

The Hub - Bairnsdale, Bairnsdale

22 Nov

4hrs

Sat 11am | Relaxed: All

FREE

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

Image: by Picture Me

Picture Me

Creating community through playful self-expression

Picture Me is on a mission to spark visibility and unlock opportunity in regional and rural areas by creating community through playful self-expression, one joyful event at a time. A day for LGBTQIA+ people to come together in a safe and inclusive environment to playfully explore self-expression and identity with access to free hair, clothing, and make-up services.

Networking



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Meat Market - Foyer

31 Jan

1hr

Sat 4pm

FREE booking required

Presented by Forest Collective and Midsumma Festival

Image: by Mark Gambino

Queer Sound Exchange

Where queer musicians come together for an afternoon of connection

Join us at the Queer Sound Exchange, where queer musicians, composers, and sound artists come together for an afternoon of creativity, networking and connection. Hosted by Forest Collective at the Meat Market, this event is all about sparking conversations, sharing ideas, and celebrating the vibrant world of queer sound in Naarm-Melbourne.

Social



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

CAFS Ballarat, Ballarat Central

4 Jan

8hrs

Sun 9am

FREE

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

Image: by Queer-ways

Queer-ways: Retracing Ballarat's Queer Footprints Mural

Join us as we create a new mural in Ballarat!

Come down and contribute to a lasting artwork that embeds queer history into the city's public space. Together, we will celebrate and paint the key figures, events and groups from the Ballarat Area/Wadawurrung country LGBTQIA+ community.

Host. Create. Connect. All under one iconic roof.

From \$200



Looking for a vibrant space to bring your next event to life? At the Victorian Pride Centre, our architecturally iconic venue offers flexible spaces perfect for:

- Parties & celebrations
- Panels & community forums
- Board meetings & corporate gatherings
- Anything else you can imagine!

From \$50



Host your event in a welcoming, inclusive atmosphere in Australia's first purpose built LGBTIQ+ hub.

Special discounts available for LGBTIQ+ workers and organisations.


Learn more at www.pridecentre.org.au.



Community and Culture

midsumma.org.au

Social



Rainbow Greys
Calling all long noodles and their hoomins!


Rainbow Greys is a chance to let our snoots frolic in a safe off-leash space, while we celebrate all things Greyhound. Featuring readings on the wonders of greys by Patrick Lenton, author of spicy rom-com "In Spite of You", Jules Wilkinson and more. Greyhound-curious people are welcome to join us and find out more about adopting/fostering these unique dogs.

All profits go to support Greyt Greys Rescue.

Barks and Recreation Dog Daycare, Coburg North

7 Feb
Sat 11am-12pm
\$15 full | \$10 conc

Day Out



Rainbow Recharge Hub

Take a break from the buzz of Midsumma Pride March at the Rainbow Recharge Hub inside the Victorian Pride Centre's Theatrette. This free, inclusive, and accessible "Rest and Recoup" station is designed to support the community, especially our regional and rural communities or anyone needing a quiet space amidst the celebrations.

Victorian Pride Centre - Theatrette, St Kilda

1 Feb
Sun 10am-5pm | Relaxed: Sun 1 Feb 10am
FREE

Presented by Victorian Pride Centre, Midsumma

Social



Regional Transgender Podcast - Series 2
Amplifying voices of regional trans and gender diverse people

The Regional Transgender Podcast returns with Series Two, amplifying the voices of trans and gender diverse people across regional Victoria. Recorded in Central Victoria and shaped by participants, five new episodes will share powerful stories of identity, resilience, and Pride.

Digital Event (Midsumma Festival), Melbourne

Available online from 8 Feb
On demand | Captioned: All
FREE

Presented by Victoria's Pride | Victorian Government and Midsumma Festival
Image: by Thorne Harbour Country

Social



Social Butterflies
Be Yourself - Make Friends - Find Community


Join our community for trans women, non-binary, and femme-leaning gender-queer people for our Fourth Birthday! Experience the relief of being in the majority and living your authentic self. Located at Wheat, Wine & Whisky on Smith Street, we are a movement that changes lives and fosters new friendships in a relaxed, welcoming environment.

Wheat, Wine & Whisky, Collingwood

23 Jan
Fri 7:30-8:30pm | Relaxed: All
FREE

Presented by Francine Ellis
Image: by Jemba Photography 2025

Day Out



St Kilda Pride Afterparty at The Espy
The Beats Are Queer. The Energy Is Iconic. Espy's Pride March afterparty is back!


From the street to the stairs - The Espy keeps the pride pumping with DJs, drag, and our unmissable annual staircase performance. It's the after party that's become a tradition. Iconic venue, iconic energy. Everyone's invited. Free entry. Let's dance, love & celebrate every colour of the rainbow.

Hotel Esplanade, St Kilda

1 Feb 24hrs
Sun Midday
FREE

Presented by The Espy
Image: by Carmen Zammit

Market



Sunset Pride Party
Celebrate pride, connection and creativity in Banyule

Returning for its second year, the Sunset Pride Party is a free, all-ages twilight celebration of pride, creativity and connection in the heart of Greensborough. There will be Disco DJs, roaming performers, market stalls, fun activities and plenty of surprises. This joyful event brings the LGBTIQ+ community and allies together for an evening of fun, expression and togetherness as part of the Midsumma Festival.

Greensborough Walk, Greensborough

6 Feb
Fri 5-9pm
FREE

Presented by Visit Greensborough
Image: by Simon Aubor

WHAT'S HOT AND PINK AND READ ALL OVER?



MELBOURNE
starobserver™

WWW.STAROBSERVER.COM.AU

Social



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Surf Coast Slay - Pride Fest

The Queer Fest on the Surf Coast!

Let's go to the beach, beach, let's go to the waves! A day to night party-wave of LGBTQIA+ excellence at the Torquay Hotel, presented by Thursgay. With a lineup of DJ and Drag superstars, hosted by the iconic, Kween Kong (RuPaul's Drag Race DU, RuPaul's Drag Race Global Allstars), Max Drag Queen (Drag Race DU), Diloncé and much more!

Torquay Hotel, Torquay
31 Jan 6hrs
Sat 6pm | Tickets available via Thursgay
\$15 full

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

Image: by Thursgay

Day Out



The "Queen" of Wales Hotel Pride Party

March loud, dance proud - St Kilda's ultimate Pride celebration awaits

Celebrate the spirit of Pride from one of the best vantage points in St Kilda - The Prince of Wales. Join us for a day of colour, music, and community as we cheer on the Pride March. With great vibes, DJs, and non-stop energy, it's the ultimate place to gather, dance, and show your pride.

The Prince Of Wales Hotel, St Kilda
1 Feb 24hrs
Sun Middy
FREE

Presented by The Prince

Networking



The Pearl Prize Season Exclusive Signing Session at The Emporium Melbourne

AWAKEN YOUR IMAGINATION

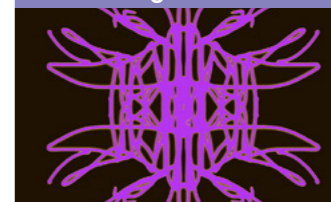
The Emporium upstairs in the realm of Readings is an opportunity to purchase your copy of The Pearl Prize 2026, and get it signed in this exquisite locale in which couture meets your imagination.

Readings - Emporium, Melbourne
5 Feb 40m
Thu 6:30pm
FREE

Presented by Osborne and Fawcner Publishing

Image: by Hot Pussy

Networking



The Pearl Prize Season Exclusive Signing Session with Hares and Hyenas at The Victorian Pride Centre

STEP OUT: AS YOU ARE

Come to this exclusive signing session in the beating heart of Hares and Hyenas. Your opportunity to buy your copy of The Pearl Prize 2026 and meet your Author idols.

Victorian Pride Centre - Hares and Hyenas, St Kilda
6 Feb 30m
Fri 1pm
FREE

△ Mature themes

Presented by Osborne and Fawcner with Hares and Hyenas

Image: by Hot Pussy

AWAKEN THE AUTHOR WITHIN

Market



Trans & Gender Diverse Clothes Swap

Join us for a fabulous day of fashion, fun, and community

Whether you're looking to swap out some pre-loved pieces or simply browse for your next favourite outfit, everyone is welcome!

Bring along any clothing items you'd like to trade, or just pop in and pick up a free new look - no contributions necessary.

Victorian Pride Centre - The Forum, St Kilda
7 Feb
Sat 11am-5pm
FREE

Presented by Ballarat Trans & Gender Diverse Clothing Swap Shop and Victorian Pride Centre

Day Out



Victoria's Pride Street Party

Melbourne's hottest queer street party

Victoria's Pride is back, spreading queer joy throughout Fitzroy! Join us as Smith and Gertrude Streets transform into a fun-filled block party for all.

Packed with performances from artists across multiple stages, DJ stations, shopfronts and plenty of food and drinks from local businesses - you won't want to miss out!

Gertrude Street and Smith Street, Fitzroy
8 Feb 9hrs
Sun Middy
FREE

Presented by Midsumma in partnership with the Victorian State Government

Image: by Suzanne Phoenix

Talks, Tours & Workshops



#midsumma

Tours

<50 RP



Melbourne Polytechnic College Fairfield - AIDS Memorial Garden, Fairfield

23 Jan 2hrs

Fri Midday | Fri 4pm | Relaxed: All

FREE booking required

△ Mature themes

Presented by Thorne Harbour Health

Image: by Matto Lucas

AIDS Memorial Garden Tour

Honouring lives, remembering history, walking together

Join us for a guided tour of the AIDS Memorial Garden at the old Fairfield Hospital. Honouring those impacted by HIV/AIDS and the legacy of Fairfield Hospital—closed 30 years ago—the Garden is a place of remembrance and learning. Explore this historic space with community members sharing deep personal connections and stories.

Tours

♿ 6g 100



Auslan Interpreted Tour of the Victorian Pride Centre

Discover the Pride Centre: Auslan interpreted tour

Victorian Pride Centre - The Forum, St Kilda

7 Feb 1hr

Sat 3pm

FREE booking required

Presented by Victorian Pride Centre

Image: by Tom Noble

Deaf and Hard of Hearing communities are invited to join our Auslan-interpreted guided tour to learn about the Victorian Pride Centre's award-winning architecture, its resident organisations, bookable spaces, and events plus explore the Pride Gallery and Hares and Hyenas bookshop.

Talks

♿ 75



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

NGV International, Melbourne

7 Feb 30m

Sat 11am | Auslan: Available on request

FREE

Presented by Midsumma Festival in partnership with NGV

Image: Keith Haring Untitled (Mural signature door) (1984) © Keith Haring Foundation

Babies and Barking Dogs: Keith Haring & Melbourne

Renowned queer artist Keith Haring visited Melbourne in 1984. During his short trip, he produced several artworks, including the still extant Collingwood mural, and spontaneous artworks on the Hardware Club's DJ booth panels. Join this discussion to learn about these works and Haring's lasting legacy, especially within the LGBTIQ+ community.

Talks

♿ 75 <50



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

NGV International, Melbourne

7 Feb 30m

Sat 12pm | Auslan: Available on request

FREE

Presented by Midsumma Festival in partnership with NGV

Image: © The Estate of Marlow Moss

Beyond the Binary: Marlow Moss

To celebrate the NGV's landmark acquisition of queer British artist Marlow Moss's painting Composition yellow, blue, black, red and white, 1956-57, on display at NGV International, we reflect on Moss's indelible contributions to 20th century queer art and culture. Hear about Moss's contributions to the Neoplasticist movement, and how living an openly queer life shaped their artistic practice.

Workshops

18+ <50



Aa is for Art, South Kingsville

22 Jan 4hrs 30m

Thu 11am

\$5 full | \$5 conc

Presented by Creative City Hobsons Bay

Image: by Anna Kulusniewski

Customised Clothing Workshop

Join us for a customised clothing art workshop where fashion, art, and sustainability collide

Participants will have the opportunity to turn plain denim jackets and recycled clothing into unique pieces of art or just altered to fit. Repurpose and create new haute couture and avant-garde looks using scissors, sewing machines and safety pins.

Talks, Tours and Workshops

midsumma.org.au

Workshops

18+ <50



Woods Street Arts Space, Laverton

31 Jan 2hrs

Sat 11am

\$5 full Door sales only

Presented by Creative City Hobsons Bay

Image: by Mish Winters

Fluid Beauty

People 18+ are invited to a free, empowering workshop exploring identity through makeup, styling, and self-expression. Learn techniques to express your individuality, reflect on gender fluidity in a supportive community, and enjoy a professional photoshoot capturing your unique look. Celebrate fluid identities in a safe, creative space. Spaces are limited - bookings essential!

Tours

3 75



Pacino's Italian Family Restarant (carpark), Flemington

26 Jan 3hrs

Mon 10am

\$20 car and driver | \$5 additional passenger

Presented by Motafrenz Car Club

Image: by Motafrenz Car Club

GAYmazing Race

Melbourne's premier queer observation rally

Like trivia? Like orienteering? Like a nice casual cruise? Then join us for a fun filled day. For over twenty years, Motafrenz has presented this great annual Midsumma event. Gather some friends to share the fun. You need many eyes to help with the questions en-route. Use your best navigation, observation and problem-solving skills along the way. Relax and catch up with Motafrenz.

Workshops



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Warrnambool

Various dates

See website for updates

FREE

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

Image: by Matto Lucas

LGBTQIA+ Workshop Series

Loud, Proud, Together

Led by local artist Daniel Newell (DANDROGYNY) with Brophy Family & Youth Services in Warrnambool, VIC. Daniel shares their creativity, expertise, and joy through bold, playful workshops that invite LGBTQIA+ participants of all ages to connect across generations via costume, makeup, portrait-making, and more! Celebrating creativity, dialogue, and vibrant community expression.

Talks

♿ 3 75 <50



National Communication Museum (NCM), Hawthorn

22 Jan 1hr 30m

Thu 5:30pm

\$22 full | \$18 conc

Presented by National Communication Museum

Image: by Rebekah Hall

Furby Folx

A devotional gathering at NCM celebrating the non-binary icon, FURBY

Step into the world of Furby who knows what it is to be all things. Hear Freddy Weir and Patrick Lenton discuss Furby as revered Queer non-binary icon. Bring your own Furby or other companion creature along to compete for the title of Supreme Companion. See the Furby choir displayed at NCM's summer exhibition FRIEND in a special afterhours viewing.

Workshops

6g <50



LGBTQIA+ Youth History Workshop

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

If you are an LGBTQIA+ person aged 16-25 in Naarm/Melbourne, join us to explore LGBTQIA+ histories, have fun making stuff and contribute to a research project. It's free, snacks are provided and you'll receive a \$50 voucher. Presented with the support of the Australian Queer Archives. Registration is essential - book at queryouthhistories.com

Australian Queer Archives (AQUA)

20, 24, 27, 29 Jan

Tue, Thu 6pm | Sat 2pm | Auslan: 29 Jan

FREE

Image: by Jacq Moon

Talks

♿ 6g 75



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS

Fed Square - The Edge, Melbourne CBD

31 Jan 3hrs

Sat 2pm doors open, 2.30pm show start | including interval

FREE booking required

Presented by Fed Square, Midsumma Festival and Nelly Thomas

Image: by Midsumma Festival

Midsumma Matters: Queer Joy

With Joel Creasey, Narelda Jacobs, Commissioner Ro Allen, Jay Wymarra, Quah Ee Ling, Bec Goddard, T-Rex, Kirsty Webeck, Tina Del Twist & Renee Thompson

Queer Joy gathers the rainbow community to tell stories of delight, defiance and triumph, in our own way and on our terms. Host Nelly Thomas will wrangle ten of our finest story-tellers, speaking to our theme: TIME & PLACE.

Workshops



Peninsula Sauna Kink Workshop - Bondage

Bound in Pleasure: An Introduction to Rope & Bondage

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

Peninsula Sauna, Seaford
19 Jan 5hrs
Mon 7pm
\$25 full
△ Nudity | Themes of a sexual nature | Mature themes
Presented by Peninsula Sauna and Thorne Harbour Health

Workshops



Peninsula Sauna Kink Workshop - Sounding

Unmasking Desire: A Sounding Journey

Join us at Peninsula Sauna for a transformative, hands-on workshop designed to ignite your senses and explore the depths of your desires. In collaboration with Down an' Dirty. Guided by the magnetic Daddy Schadenfreude, his workshop invites you to step outside the everyday and into a world of connection and pleasure.

Peninsula Sauna, Seaford
21 Jan 5hrs
Wed 7pm
\$25 full
△ Nudity | Themes of a sexual nature | Mature themes
Presented by Peninsula Sauna and Thorne Harbour Health

Talks



Playback

TGD Takes On Identity and Industry.

Playback: TGD Takes on Identity and Industry is a bold, vibrant gathering of trans and gender diverse creators from across Victoria. Blending storytelling, networking, and intergenerational insight, this one-of-a-kind event celebrates TGD voices from across the media and entertainment industries. Sparking connection, creativity, and industry change during Trans Awareness Week 2025. Presented by WIFT VIC & TGD Bendigo and Beyond.

MIDSUMMA PRESENTS
Julie-Anna Inn, Bendigo
16 Nov 3hrs
Sun 2pm | Tickets available via WIFT VIC | Auslan: Sun 16 Nov 2pm
\$20 full | \$10 conc | \$0 First Nations
Presented by Victoria's Pride | Victorian Government and Midsumma Festival
Image: by Alex Riches

Workshops



Portraits of Queer GV

A collection of LGBTQIA+ portraits from across Victoria facilitated by Ruby Wyatt-Carter & GV Pride

"Portraits of Queer GV" is a series of workshops taking place across Victoria with the aim of creating 500+ portraits. Participants will be asked to express themselves, showcasing different aspects of their identity using paper collage. The portraits will be displayed at galleries and collated in a book.

GV Pride Community Hub, Shepparton
9 Nov
Sun 12-5pm | See website for updates
FREE
Presented by Victoria's Pride | Victorian Government and Midsumma Festival
Image: by Ruby Wyatt-Carter

Talks



Queer Youth Histories

How has growing up LGBTQIA+ changed over time?

Come along to a panel conversation about growing up LGBTQIA+ over time, celebrate the launch of the new Queer Generations book and learn how to get involved in LGBTQIA+ Youth History workshops at the Australian Queer Archives (www.queeryouthhistories.com). Featuring Daniel Marshall and Tinonee Pym (Adelaide University), Timothy Jones (La Trobe), Mary Lou Rasmussen and Alistair Ott (ANU).

Victorian Pride Centre - Theatrette, St Kilda
19 Jan 2hrs
Mon 6pm
FREE booking required
△ Mature themes
Image: by Jacq Moon

Tours



Queerways Walking Tour - City of Yarra

Step into Yarra's queer history—where every street (and dark alley) holds a story

A vibrant journey through Yarra's LGBTQIA+ history! Starting at Fitzroy Library and finishing at Collingwood Library, this guided walk with local queer community member Tex explores sites of queer significance, featuring stories from Queerways' Retracing Queer Footprints tours. Bring sturdy shoes, water, and sun protection.

Fitzroy Library, Fitzroy
30 Jan 2hrs 30m
Fri 5:30pm
FREE booking required
△ Themes of a sexual nature | Strong language | Long periods of standing
Presented by Yarra Libraries and Rainbow Yarra
Image: by Matto Lucas

Talks



Re-Imagining Gender: Rei Kawakubo & Vivienne Westwood

These designers questioned, reimagined and transformed the way we think about fashion. NGV curator Meg Slater hosts a panel of interdisciplinary creatives to discuss the queerly inflected nature of Kawakubo and Westwood's approaches to fashion design.

NGV International, Melbourne
7 Feb 1hr
Sat 3pm | Auslan: Available on request
FREE, Booking required
Presented by Midsumma Festival in partnership with NGV
Image: Courtesy of NGV

Talks



Telling It With Pride Speakers Night

This evening celebrates the TiPS Program graduates' courage and creativity as they share their personal stories to inspire social change

The showcase for the 2025 cohort of the Victorian Pride Centre's Telling it with Pride Speakers (TiPS) Program is a milestone event that highlights the achievements and growth of participants following an intensive three-month mentorship and training journey.

Victorian Pride Centre - Theatrette, St Kilda
20 Jan 2hrs
Tue 7pm
FREE booking required
△ Mature themes
Presented by Victorian Pride Centre
Image: by Matto Lucas

Tours



Queer History Walking Tour - St Kilda

Step Into St Kilda's Queer Past and Present

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

Victorian Pride Centre - The Forum, St Kilda
29 Jan 1hr 30m
Thu 5:30pm
FREE booking required
△ Long periods of standing | Mature themes
Presented by Thorne Harbour Health
Image: by Angela Bailey

Tours

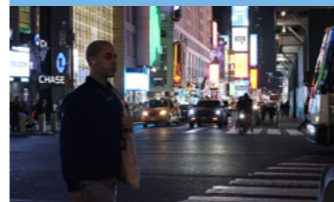


Queer Worldmaking: Women Photographers 1900-1975

This exhibition features many significant moments in 20th century queer history. Join NGV curators Maggie Finch and Meg Slater for a tour exploring LGBTQIA+ themes within this powerful photographic legacy, with special guest - Midsumma's CEO, Karen Bryant.

NGV International, Melbourne
7 Feb 1hr
Sat 1:30pm | Auslan: Available on request
Free with an exhibition ticket
Presented by Midsumma Festival in partnership with NGV
Image: © Ellen Auerbach. VG Bild-Kunst/ Copyright Agency

Talks



The Pearl Prize Season 'Vogue Versus Madonna' The Panel

"Only when I am dancing can I feel this free" - Madonna and Stephen Bray

A panel will be getting into "being material in a material world". The crossover of fashion into music, film and arts intermix. Everything VOGUE related will be discussed. Who sets a trend?

The Wheeler Centre - Downstairs
29 Jan 1hr
Thu 6pm
\$36 full | \$34 conc
△ Latecomer lockout
Presented by Osborne and Fawcner
Image: by Martha Ackroyd Curtis, copyright 2024

Workshops



There's a story in you: Queer filmmaking workshop

Produce your own short film!

In this two-day weekend workshop you'll learn the filmmaking process, with a special focus on queer representation on the screen. Topics include the craft of scriptwriting, production techniques and in-camera editing to produce a 5-10 min film. Sponsored by Creative Head Rentals.

Victorian Pride Centre - Theatrette, St Kilda
24-25 Jan 7hrs
Sat, Sun 9am
\$120 full per day | \$100 conc per day
Presented by Louise Lever
Image: by Sarah Dawes

Parties and Social Events



#midsumma

Parties and Social Events

midsumma.org.au

Party



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS
Meat Market - Cobblestone Pavilion,
 North Melbourne
 Sat 31 Jan | 6hrs
 Deaf club: 5-11pm | Concert: 6:30-7:30pm
 \$29.95
Presented by Asphyxia and Midsumma Festival
 Image: by Kate Nutt and Asphyxia

Amplio Rocks! Deaf Club & Dance Party

Auslan music videos, cutting-edge Deaf tech and powerful vibrations

Dance and sign along to Auslan music videos, feel the beat with powerful vibrations, and explore cutting-edge music tech designed for Deaf people. A Deaf club night of music, connection and fun, hosted by Asphyxia. Hearing people welcome - discover how Deaf people experience music!

Party



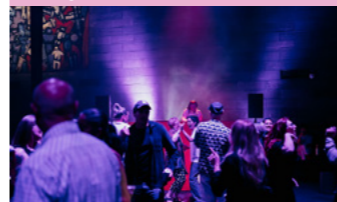
The Mission to Seafarers Victoria - Courtyard, Melbourne
 31 Jan
 Sat 3-11pm
 \$30 full | \$25 conc
 △ Nudity | Strobe lights | Smoke/haze
Presented by Blankë POP
 Image: by Telepathic Creative

Blankë POP Secret Garden Party

A magical hideaway in the heart of Melbourne

The iconic Blankë Pop returns to Mission to Seafarers for a Midsumma fling. Set within the lush surroundings of the secret inner city garden, dance away the afternoon to queer house music while magical performances from Melbourne's most talented queer artists keep you entertained.

Party



NGV International, Melbourne
 30 Jan 4hrs
 Fri 6pm | Auslan: available on request
 \$50 full | \$44 conc
Presented by NGV in collaboration with Midsumma Festival
 Image: by Deshani Berhardt, courtesy of NGV

NGV Friday Nights: Midsumma

For one-night only, Midsumma curates NGV Friday Nights. Enjoy exclusive after-hours access to the gallery as Midsumma curates a vibrant line-up of performances, set against the NGV's major international summer exhibition Westwood | Kawakubo - which explores the remarkable careers and creative outputs of two of fashion's most influential designers, Vivienne Westwood and Rei Kawakubo of Comme des Garçons.

Party



Fitzroy Swimming Pool, Fitzroy
 24 Jan 4hrs
 Sat Midday | Tactile Tour: 24 Jan 11:45am
 \$10 full
Presented by Rainbow Yarra, Yarra Leisure and Thorne Harbour Health
 Image: by Charlie Brophy

Northside Pride Pool Party

Splash into Pride on the Northside: Cool Off, Celebrate, Connect!

Queers, Femmes and Thems — dive into Pride! Brought to you by Rainbow Yarra, Yarra Leisure and Thorne Harbour Health, this pool party is a summer celebration of LGBTQIA+ community and allies. Enjoy music, BBQ, entertainment, sunshine and good vibes. Pack a picnic, bring your chosen family, and get ready to float, play, dance, or connect.

Party



Wet on Wellington, Collingwood
 3 Feb 7hrs
 Tue 7pm
 \$45 full
 △ Nudity | Themes of a sexual nature | Smoke/haze
Presented by Melbourne Saunas

FURocious @ Wet 2026

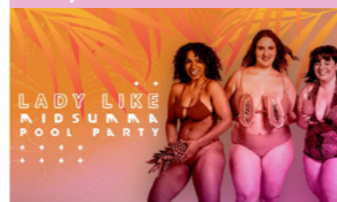
A FURocious time!

Join hundreds of bears, cubs, otters, pandas & ALL that love them at Wet on Wellington's biggest bear event of the year!

Dance to the tunes of our DJ, drink and play your way around the double story venue. The music is pumping and the boys are... well.

It'll be a night to remember!

Party



Wet on Wellington, Collingwood
 4 Feb 6hrs 30m
 Wed 7pm
 \$45 full
 △ Nudity | Themes of a sexual nature | Smoke/haze
Presented by Melbourne Saunas

Lady Like Pool Party 2026

Biggest femme event of the year!

Melbourne's Biggest femme event of the year is back again at Wet on Wellington with our Midsumma Lady Like Pool Party!

Join our DJ & hundreds of femme people of all backgrounds and experiences!

This event is open to all female, femme-presenting, butch, trans-femme & AFAB peoples.

Party



The Timber Yard, Port Melbourne
 25 Jan 9hrs
 Sun 2pm
 \$89 full
 △ Strobe lights | Smoke/haze | Long periods of standing
Presented by Rogue Productions & JPNC Management
 Image: by Debbie Snibson

Hot and Steamy

Tropical Vibes, Inclusive Tribes

Dive into the ultimate tropical escape as Hot and Steamy transforms Melbourne into a vibrant paradise! Join us for a day of electrifying performances, infectious rhythms, and a community bursting with Happiness, Love, and Respect.

Featuring: Global Drag Race Superstar KWEEN KONG.

DJs: Jessie Boyd, Kayty Banks, Ney-Like a Horse & Salomigs.

Party



MIDSUMMA PRESENTS
State Library Victoria, Melbourne
 5 Feb 3hrs
 Thu 7:30pm
 \$36 full | \$30 conc | \$25 First Nations
 △ Strobe lights
Presented by Presented by State Library Victoria with Midsumma Festival
 Image: by James Braund

Library Up Late x Creative Acts

Party late into the night as the Library transforms into your after-dark playground

Library Up Late returns for Midsumma with DJs, dancefloors and after-hours access – all under the Library's iconic Dome.

Party



Peninsula Sausage Fest

Let it all hang out!

Join us at Peninsula Sauna in Seaford for any nudist's dream! Xposed Sausage Fest is a special Midsumma session of our Nude Sunday event. Sausage sizzle and drink specials all day, with hundreds of sexy men letting it all hang out. Bask in the sun in our courtyard, enjoy a spa and even play your way across our multi-level venue!

Peninsula Sauna, Seaford	
1 Feb	8hrs
Sun Midday	
\$25 full	
△ Nudity Themes of a sexual nature Smoke/haze	
Presented by Melbourne Saunas	

Party



Pride Pool Party in Sunshine

Best pool party in the west!

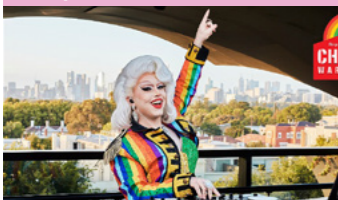
Celebrate Brimbank's vibrant LGBTQIA+ community with a fun day out in Sunshine. Bring your picnic blankets and loved ones and we'll sort out the rest!

Sunshine Leisure Centre, Sunshine	
24 Jan	
Sat 10am-3pm	
FREE booking required	
Presented by Brimbank City Council	
Image: by Matto Lucas	

Featuring activities, inflatable slides for the little ones, live music, and FREE catering, stalls and so much more!

All genders and bodies celebrated!

Party



Pride Rooftop Party Presented by Chemist Warehouse 2026

Cocktails Nibbles Freebies Drag Brand Activations

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

Victorian Pride Centre - Rooftop, St Kilda	
30 Jan	3hrs
Fri 6:30pm	
\$10 full	
△ Long periods of standing Mature themes	
Presented by Chemist Warehouse	
Image: by ANIMA-ID	

Party



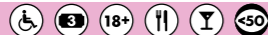
Pride Tide Boat Party

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

Join us for the boat party that warmly welcomes everyone from the LGBTQIA+ community and our cherished allies. Get ready to dance from day to night to the electrifying beats of top DJs, be dazzled by live performances from fabulous drag queens and kings, and enjoy breathtaking views of Melbourne's skyline.

Victoria Star Cruises, Melbourne	
24 Jan	3hrs 30m
Sat 6:30pm	
\$40 full	
△ Smoke/haze	
Presented by Dragged To Events	

Party



Queens Of The Galaxy

* Slay with your Stars *

Are you ready to blast off on an interstellar adventure unlike any other? Queens of the Galaxy is a one-of-a-kind drag show that takes the art of lip-syncing and performing to galactic new heights. Hosted in a mind-bending sci-fi-inspired event, this cosmic party features a cast of celestial queens & distant gas giant of a DJ who will leave you gagging with their out-of-this-world talent, otherworldly looks, and pure fabulousness.

Coburg RSL, Coburg	
24 Jan	3hrs
Sat 7:30pm	
\$27.50 full \$22.50 conc	
△ Strobe lights Smoke/haze Flashing imagery	
Presented by Beyond Rainbows Events	
Image: by Beyond Rainbows Events	

Party



Queer AF @ Wet 2026

The biggest and most queer pool party event of the year!

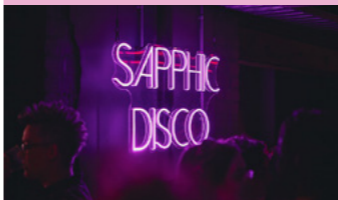
Be you, be QUEER at Wet on Wellington's biggest queer event of the year!

Wet on Wellington, Collingwood	
5 Feb	7hrs
Thu 6:30pm	
\$45 full	
△ Nudity Themes of a sexual nature Smoke/haze	
Presented by Melbourne Saunas	

Drink, swim, dance and play your way across the double story venue surrounded by hundreds of Melbourne's LGBTQI+ people from all backgrounds and experiences.

It's a night you don't want to miss!

Party



SAPPHIC DISCO

Sapphic dance party and show comes to Midsumma!

Sapphic Disco is a sapphic-focused dance party for sapphics from all walks of life, bringing you sapphic DJs, burlesque and drag performers, plus free lollipops, candy, bubbles and masks (stay safe!) at the door. Sapphic Disco actively fosters a safe space to party specifically for LGBTQIA+ people. Sapphic Disco always sells out, so early purchase of tickets is recommended.

Fringe Common Rooms, Carlton	
31 Jan	
Sat 9:30pm-2am	
\$28.50 full \$22.15 conc	
△ Nudity Flashing lights	
Presented by Sapphic Disco	
Image: by PrideWA	

Party



Southside Queer Pool Party

Splash. Shantay. Celebrate. Thorne Harbour's iconic southside queer pool party!

Dive into Thorne Harbour's iconic Queer Pool Party at Prahran Pool! Celebrate Midsumma with live beats, dazzling drag entertainment, and fabulous floats in a fun, inclusive space. Connect with community, savour a free sausage and icy-pole, make waves in bumper polo or simply soak up the summer sun—shade and sunscreen provided for a safe, joy-filled afternoon.

Prahran Aquatic Centre, Prahran	
25 Jan	
Sun 12-4:30pm Tactile Tour: 25 Jan 11:45am	
\$22.50 full \$17.50 conc	
Presented by Thorne Harbour Health	
Image: by Laura Du Ve	

After Party



Sunday Sizzle: Pride March Rooftop Party

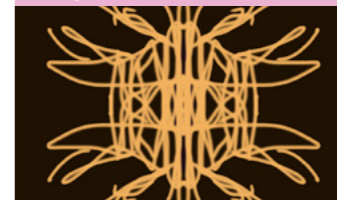
Pride March After Party at the Victorian Pride Centre

Celebrate Pride March with an epic after-party on the stunning rooftop of the Victorian Pride Centre!

Join us for fabulous live performances, dance to queer anthems spun by Sugarplump Fairy and DJs Callum & Ron, enjoy refreshing beverages by Sundalicious Drinks, and treat yourself to a snag at our famous sausage sizzle.

Victorian Pride Centre - Rooftop, St Kilda	
1 Feb	
Sun 12-6pm	
FREE	
Presented by Victorian Pride Centre	
Image: by Sam Copland	

Party



The Pearl Prize Awards Gala

WORDS.ART.FOOD.FASHION.

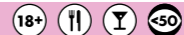
Who has won The Pearl Prize 2026 International?

Raise a glass to writers, legends, young creatives, and industry paragons. SET THE NIGHT.

MEET THE FUTURE OF LGBTQIA+ WRITING - Star Observer

The Wheeler Centre - Performance Space, Melbourne	
30 Jan	1hr
Fri 6pm	
\$40 full \$36 conc	
△ Latecomer lockout	
Presented by Osborne and Fawkner	
Image: by Hot Pussy	

Party



Under 30s @ Wet 2026

The greatest-of-all-time event for men 30 and under!

This summer is going to be hot, hott, hott!

Join hundreds of the sexiest men aged 30 and under at Melbourne's biggest gay and bisexual sauna! Play your way across two levels filled with the hottest Under 30s and dance to the sweet sounds from our sexy DJs.

Wet on Wellington, Collingwood	
2 Feb	7hrs 30m
Mon 6:30pm	
\$45 full	
△ Nudity Themes of a sexual nature Smoke/haze	
Presented by Melbourne Saunas	

Party



Wet Pool Party 2026

The most infamous & gayest pool party of the year!

This summer is going to be hot, hott, hott! Join hundreds of sexy men for Melbourne's largest and most infamous pool party of the season!

Bask in the sun on our exclusive sundeck. Quench your thirst at our two bars. Cool off in our 25m pool. Play your way across two levels filled with men. Dance to the sweet sounds from our hot DJs.

Wet on Wellington, Collingwood	
7 Feb	8hrs
Sat Midday	
\$70 full	
△ Nudity Themes of a sexual nature Smoke/haze	
Presented by Melbourne Saunas	

LGBTQIA+

Hot and Steamy

2026

SUNDAY
25TH JANUARY
2026

2:00 PM – 11:00 PM
AT THE TIMBER YARD

Featuring
Kween Kong
Super Disco Club

Ney, Like a Horse + Kayty Banks + Salomigs + Jesse Boyd & More

hotsteamy.com.au

Sports



Sport

18+ 100



Discover Inner Yarra Regeneration with The Nomads

Walking is great exercise!

This one-way walk from Hawthorn to Abbotsford, on a combination of unsealed and sealed paths, brings alive past and current associations with the river. Lots of shade and riverside breezes should the day be hot. BYO water bottle, snacks and lunch. Wear a hat, sunscreen and closed footwear. Registration essential.

Hawthorn Station, Hawthorn
25 Jan 4hrs 30m
Sun 10:30am
FREE booking required
△ Latecomer lockout | Long periods of standing
Presented by The Nomads Outdoors Group Inc

Sport

18+ 75



Glamourhead Sharks "Give Swimming a Go" Day

Melbourne's Glamourhead Sharks swim club invites everyone from beginners to seasoned swimmers to 'Give Swimming a Go' this Midsumma Festival.

Tackle the dreaded butterfly or just do a few lazy laps with us.

Prahran Aquatic Centre, Prahran
7 Feb 1hr
Sat 10:30am
\$5 full
Presented by Glamourhead Sharks
Image: by Glamourhead Sharks

Sport

18+ 100



Plunge for PRIDE!

From fearless descents to fearless futures - are you bold enough to go over the edge for a cause that matters?

This is your chance to abseil the iconic five-story Victorian Pride Centre in St Kilda and raise funds that help keep this vital community hub thriving, vibrant, and proud. Bring your courage, your friends and take the plunge for a purpose.

Victorian Pride Centre - Rooftop, St Kilda
31 Jan 45m
Sat Midday | Sat 12:30pm | Sat 1pm | Sat 1:30pm | Sat 2pm | Sat 2:30pm | Sat 3pm | Sat 3:30pm | Sat 4pm | Sat 4:30pm
\$150 full
Presented by Victorian Pride Centre

Sport

18+ 75



Rainbow Golf 2026

Join us on Sun 8 Feb for a fun and social game of golf

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

Beginners are welcome, with equipment available upon request.

Event start time: 8:30am

Tee-off time: 9:30am, shotgun start

Format: Ambrose (9 holes)

Presentations: 12.00pm (refreshments provided)

Yarrambat Park Golf Course, Yarrambat
8 Feb 4hrs
Sun 8:30am
\$30 full
Presented by Belgravia Leisure
Image: by Belgravia Leisure

Sport

100 <50



Women on the Water

Experience small-boat sailing

A day on the water for queer women and non-binary folk. Come and experience small-boat sailing at the beautiful Somers Yacht Club.

Experienced female sailors will take you out for an hour of sailing, followed by a refreshing drink and socialising at the bar. Boats and essential equipment provided.

Somers Yacht Club, Somers
18 Jan 3hrs
Sun 2pm
\$45 Sailing | \$24 Spectator
Image: by Somers Yacht Club

Access Midsumma

At Midsumma, we recognise our responsibility to provide genuine access to our events and services wherever possible. For this reason, we have several ways for everyone to access information about our events, to view these sources visit midsumma.org.au/access. On the website, you can click the "Show event filters" button then choose an **Accessibilities** option to display a list of all events that provide your selected accessibility option. If you have any questions, feedback or would like any information in another format, please contact us by emailing boxoffice@midsumma.org.au. Midsumma is National Relay Service Ready.

Accessible Events

Please see individual event listings for Midsumma Festival across this page or visit midsumma.org.au/access for further information about services such as Auslan interpretation, audio description and tactile tours.

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 venues; we recommend contacting the venue to confirm their accessibility.

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 9296 6600 during business hours. There is no additional charge for this service.

Companion Card Holders

Companion Card holders qualify for a complimentary ticket for their companion. Please contact Midsumma Ticketing by email boxoffice@midsumma.org.au or **03 9296 6600** Mon-Fri to book.

Alternative Format Guides

Large print, plain text, and screen reader versions of the Midsumma Festival program can be downloaded on the Midsumma website midsumma.org.au/access.

Accessible Events

Relaxed Performances

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

Relaxed Performances

AIDS Memorial Garden Tour (pg 66)
23 Jan 4pm

Finding Glitter in the Storm (pg 34)
25 Jan 6pm

Hetslayer: Amplifying Trans Voices with Music of Resilience (pg 48)
31 Jan, 1 Feb

Homophonic! (pg 48)
7 Feb 1pm

Love Love Love Love Love Love (pg 57)
5 - 8 Feb 10:30am | Sat 2pm

MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM: A Magical Queer Group Show (pg 51)
21 - 25 Jan, 28 Jan - 1 Feb

Oceanside Pride (pg 61)
1 - 2 Dec, 8 - 13 Dec

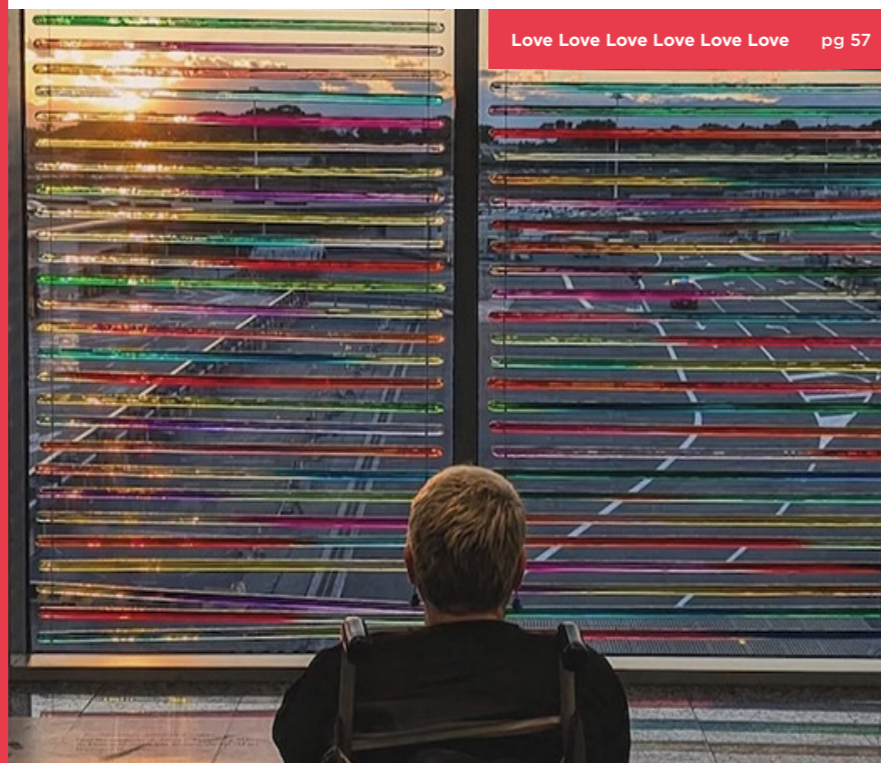
Picture Me (pg 61)
22 Nov 11am

Rainbow Families Extravaganza (pg 57)
31 Jan 12:30pm

Rainbow Recharge Hub (pg 63)
1 Feb 10am

Social Butterflies (pg 63)
23 Jan 7:30pm

The Self Possessed (pg 45)
5 - 7 Feb 6:30pm | Sat 3:30pm



Love Love Love Love Love Love pg 57

Auslan Interpreted

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

Auslan Interpreted Events

Amplio Rocks! Deaf Club & Dance Party (pg 70)
31 Jan Deaf club: 5-11pm | Concert: 6:30-7:30pm

Auslan Interpreted Tour of the Victorian Pride Centre (pg 66)
7 Feb 3pm

Babies and Barking Dogs: Keith Haring & Melbourne (pg 66)
7 Feb 11am | Auslan on request

Bent Burlesque 2026 (pg 30)
29 Jan 8:20pm

Beyond the Binary: Marlow Moss (pg 66)
7 Feb 12pm | Auslan on request

Drag Storytime for Adults with Narelda Jacobs & Karina Natt (pg 33)
31 Jan 7:30pm | Auslan on request

Finding Glitter in the Storm (pg 34)
25 Jan 6pm

From Grindr To Blindr (pg 34)
7 Feb 5pm

Hot & Heavy (pg 35)
22-23, 29-30 Jan 6pm

Kiki House of Furia Presents: The Fantasy Ball (pg 37)
24 Jan 6:30pm

LGBTIQA+ Youth History Workshop (pg 67)
29 Jan 6pm

Love Love Love Love Love Love (pg 57)
5-8 Feb 10:30am | Sat 2pm

Mama Alto: Transcendent (pg 37)
30 Jan 7pm

Midsumma Carnival (pg 60)
18 Jan - Auslan: all stages

Midsumma Matters: Queer Joy (pg 67)
31 Jan 2pm

MoCo: Summer Break (pg 38)
24 Jan 7pm

MR BIG aka Tatay, A Transwoman and That Tiring Tune! (pg 38)
7 Feb 2pm

NGV Friday Nights: Midsumma (pg 71)
30 Jan 6pm | Auslan on request

Night at the Museum: Midsumma Youth Party (pg 58)
24 Jan 6pm | Auslan on stage

Park Lounge (pg 61)
31 Jan 6pm

Playback (pg 68)
Sun 16 Nov 2pm

Prahran Square Piano Bar (pg 39)
31 Jan 5pm

Queer Playwriting Award Showcase (pg 41)
19 Jan 6pm

Queer Worldmaking: Women Photographers 1900-1975 (pg 68)
7 Feb 1:30pm | Auslan on request

Queer Youth Histories (pg 69)
19 Jan 6pm

Rainbow Storytime (pg 57)
20, 27 Jan 1:30pm

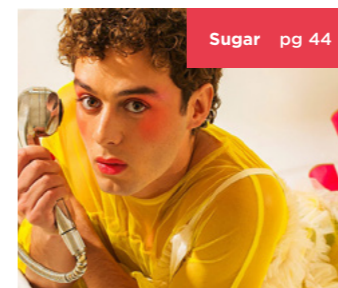
Re-Imagining Gender: Rei Kawakubo & Vivienne Westwood (pg 69)
7 Feb 3pm | Auslan on request

Robert the Octopus (pg 41)
4 Feb 7pm

See you in the Soup! (pg 57)
21 Jan 1:30pm

Sugar (pg 44)
18 Jan 1pm & 23 Jan 7:30pm

Victoria's Pride Street Party (pg 65)
8 Feb - Auslan: on Stages



Sugar pg 44

Audio Described

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

Audio Described Events

Australian Open (pg 30)
27 Jan 7pm

Homophonic! (pg 48)
7 Feb 5pm

Love Love Love Love Love Love (pg 57)
5 - 8 Feb 10:30am | Sat 2pm

NGV Friday Nights: Midsumma (pg 71)
30 Jan 6pm Exhibition only

Midsumma Carnival (pg 60)
18 Jan | Describer guides onsite from 1-3pm. Meet at Info Tent

State of Play (pg 44)
30 Jan 4pm

Tactile Tours

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

Tactile Tours

Love Love Love Love Love Love (pg 57)
5-8 Feb 10:30am | Sat 2pm

Northside Pride Pool Party (pg 71)
24 Jan 11:45am

Snuff Saloon (pg 44)
6 - 7 Feb 6pm

Southside Queer Pool Party (pg 73)
25 Jan 11:45am

Midsumma Carnival (pg 60)
18 Jan | Tactile Tour from 11:30am to 1pm booking essential

Captioned

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

Captioned Events

Amplio Rocks! Deaf Club & Dance Party (pg 70)
31 Jan 6:30pm

Australian Open (pg 30)
27 Jan 7pm

Disco Is Dead (pg 33)
3-7 Feb 8:30pm

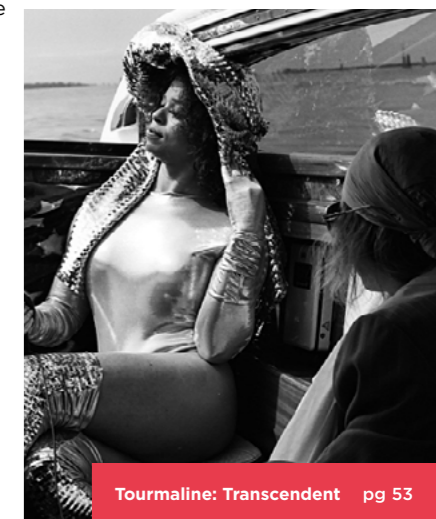
DIVA (pg 50)
Mon-Fri 12pm-7pm | Sat-Sun 10am-7pm

r e a c i a i m e d (pg 52)
18 Jan - 8 Feb

Rainbows, Camera, Action: Spotlighting LGBTIQA+ Creatives Through Music in Motion (pg 55)
Available online from 8 Feb

Regional Trans Podcast - Series 2 (p 63)
Available online from 8 Feb

Tourmaline: Transcendent (pg 53)
18 Jan - 8 Feb



Tourmaline: Transcendent pg 53

Our People

Midsumma Festival Staff

Chief Executive & Creative Director
Karen Bryant

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

Finance & Administration Manager
Priscilla Jeffery

Head of Programming
Pieta Farrell

Head of Production & Operations
Michael Ryan

Programming Producer
Martin Broadley

Producer
Harriet Devlin

Producer and Artist Support
Rachel Edward

Festival Access Support
Joshua Lynzaat

Partnerships & Fundraising Coordinator
Josh Hernandez

Marketing & Communications Coordinator
Simón Spencer

Production Coordinator
Timothy Ryan

Stalls and Vendors Coordinator and Trader Liaison
Jim Beattie

Ticketing & Presenter Services Manager
Cy Martin

Ticketing & Presenter Services Coordinator
China Paul

Volunteers Coordinator
Claire Ferguson

Festival Administrator
Flynn Smeaton

IT & Applications
Alan Drummond

Victoria's Pride Staff

Project & Program Manager
Bec Cooen

Community Engagement Manager
Yvette Turnbull

Programming Producer
Martin Broadley

Summer Work Placements

Programming & Artist Coordination
Christine Paige Templeton

Programming and Ticketing
Jasmin Yujing Wu

Ticketing and Admin
Marla Añonuevo Belle White

Productions & Operations
Alana Cotela Charlotte Donelly Coral Johnson

Marketing & Communications
Hélène Delaleau Jace Nangoy Kelvin Nguyen

First Nations Consultant
Craig Holloway

Risk Consultant
Public Safety Australia

Midsumma Board

Chair
Michael Parry

Secretary
Jane Smith AM

Treasurer
Mitchell Ajduk

Ordinary Board Members

Rhys Cranney Enrico Burgio Geoffrey Renton Sarah Geistendor Jennifer Elmer

Our Valuable Patrons

Diamond Patrons
 Anonymous
Jason May Paul Gonzalez

Gold Patrons
Tony Egan Helen Furrow Leigh Johns OAM Kean Mac Tom Marshall Mark Matthews and Antony Jarvis James Mitchell Michael Parry & Brett Tuer Tim Smyth Robbie Van Dijk

Silver Patrons
Craig Amundsen & Jason Forde Liz Austin (on behalf of Austin Legal) Susanne Dahn AM Brad Danaher Rob Gould David Johnston-Bell David Marantelli Julie Peters Roy Ruiz Judy Small AM Jane Smith AM Gail Veal Alan Wright

Rainbow Patrons
Mitchell Ajduk Rohan Astley Enrico Burgio Helen Donnard Matteo Marantelli

Stephen Masterman Mark Meierjohann Carol Nichols Garry Oliver Aaron O'Shannessy Geoffrey Renton Sam Szwed Beau Webb and Rhys Cranney Jo Whyte

Life Members

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

PRINCIPAL PARTNERS



MAJOR PARTNERS



GOLD PARTNERS



AIRLINE PARTNER



SILVER PARTNER



LEGAL PARTNER



PROGRAM PARTNERS



ACCESS AND INCLUSION PARTNERS



MEDIA PARTNERS



FESTIVAL PRODUCTION PARTNERS



FESTIVAL PARTNER





www.midsumma.org.au