

SEASON ONE 2009

FREE FOR MALTHOUSE THEATRE SEASON SUBSCRIBERS

\$10 for NON-SUBSCRIBERS

#1

15 FEBRUARY 2009, 2:30pm

I LOVE ROCK 'N' ROLL

Joan Jett may have sung about how much she loves rock'n'roll but she's not the only one. Everybody wants a piece of the action. In films, stage shows, dance clubs, TV series and more, popular music turns on the tears or steams up the mirror. But is it simply about plonking a song over a scene or does the music have to change to fit the context? Sally Seltmann of New Buffalo, Peter Farnan of Boom Crash Opera and some surprise guests describe their experiences working as composers or songwriters across art forms and regale us with some samples of their work on the guitar and the piano. A rare treat— hosted by music fan (and bad-record collector) Fiona Scott-Norman.

#2

22 MARCH 2009, 2:30pm

BLOOD & TINSEL

Jim Sharman has a truly remarkable life story and here he shares it with us. From traveling with his father's Aboriginal boxing troupe around outback Australia to directing the internationally acclaimed smash hits *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Hair* and *Jesus Christ Superstar*, Jim has seen the highs and the lows of showbiz from every seat in the house. In conversation with performing arts historian Frank Van Straten, Jim recalls a life lived long and hard and reads extracts from his newly released autobiography. This is the story of a showman extraordinaire and an aspect of Australia's cultural history that ignited the future as it bade farewell to a rapidly vanishing past.

#3

31 MAY 2009, 2:30pm

DISTRACTION

In a world where time is constantly saved and the other side of the world only a click away, why do we feel so harried? Or more to the point, distracted. We may no longer go to sleep with the sun and rise with the birds but surely this has freed us up to clock ourselves into whatever space and place we desire. Not so. Damon Young, philosopher, author, radio commentator and keen observer of contemporary life, presents a lecture on the modern malaise of distraction, taking us through the private life of Henry James, Martin Heidegger's alpine hut, the tireless work ethic of Benjamin Franklin and just what it was about those madeleines that caused Marcel Proust such exquisite pain. With a twinkle in his eye, Damon does a quick tour around our own follies and exhorts us to stop and smell the roses.