

2017

**THEATRICAL
ADVENTURES
FOR YOUNG
AUDIENCES**

**MALTHOUSE
PROMPT**





WELCOME.

Malthouse Theatre invites you to join us for a season of theatre that searches for empathy in unexpected places, and focuses on characters at epic crossroads. In 2017 we offer a dynamic range of productions, workshops and programs with the support from our Prompt Education Partner, Victoria University. We encourage young audiences and artists to engage deeply with all aspects of our work, and hope to provoke robust discussion, debate and reflections on the world around us. All our activities bring students, teachers and Malthouse Theatre artists together for a year of provocative theatre and inspiring adventures behind the scenes.

We look forward to seeing you at Malthouse Theatre in 2017.



Matthew Lutton /
Artistic Director



Vanessa O'Neill /
Youth and Education Manager

SEASON 2017

#MALTHEOUSEFROMPT



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2017 SEASON



AWAY

3 – 28 MAY

‘WHAT COUNTRY, FRIENDS, IS THIS?’

– *TWELFTH NIGHT*, ACT I, SC. II.

MERLYN THEATRE

BY /

Michael Gow

DIRECTION /

Matthew Lutton

CAST INCLUDES /

Marco Chiappi

Glenn Hazeldine

Natasha Herbert

Heather Mitchell

Liam Nunan

SET & COSTUME DESIGN /

Dale Ferguson

LIGHTING DESIGN /

Paul Jackson

SOUND DESIGN /

J. David Franzke

*A co-production with
Sydney Theatre Company.
Proudly supported by the
Art Series Hotel Group.*

It is summer, 1967, and three families head for the coast to get away, to move on, to change. Set against the backdrop of an Australia recovering from the Vietnam War, and wrestling with social upheaval, this production of a great Australian classic pits the internal conflict of family life against the struggle of a country shaping its indeterminate future.

A triptych of mothers—one recovering from the loss of a child, one who fears the same for her own, and one learning to let go—are each determined to take this holiday as a restful time of rejuvenation.

Taking up playwright Michael Gow’s challenge to break apart the rules of theatre, Matthew Lutton’s production unleashes the full theatricality of the text; intimacy gives way to the epic, and suburbia is replaced with the dark spectacle of a tempest. As the pressure of family secrets gather into a storm and break, each mother and each family feels their way towards new, more hopeful ground.



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2017 SEASON

THE REAL AND IMAGINED HISTORY OF THE ELEPHANT MAN

4 – 27 AUG

**PEOPLE ARE ONLY FRIGHTENED OF
WHAT THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND.**

MERLYN THEATRE

BY /

Tom Wright

DIRECTION /

Matthew Lutton

CAST INCLUDES /

Julie Forsyth

Mark Leonard Winter

SET & COSTUME

DESIGN /

Marg Horwell

LIGHTING DESIGN /

Paul Jackson

COMPOSITION

& SOUND DESIGN /

Jethro Woodward

Joseph Merrick, better known as the Elephant Man, is cast out. He survived circus 'freak shows' and the revulsion of a gawking public before a young doctor offered him asylum at the London Hospital in 1879. So began a life of endless observation. But curiosity works both ways, and Merrick returned the horrified gaze of Victorian punters with wonder and optimism.

Starring Mark Leonard Winter (*The Dressmaker*), this story has inspired multiple theatrical adaptations, novels and a film by David Lynch. Now the team behind Malthouse Theatre's *Picnic at Hanging Rock*, director Matthew Lutton and playwright Tom Wright, reunite to create a poignant new work that wrings empathy from a world that rejects difference.

Weaving through a carnival of hospitals, the circus and the public arena, *The Real and Imagined History of the Elephant Man* is a profoundly moving story that interrogates our capacity for countering hate with hope, and the radical power of compassion.

VCE THEATRE STUDIES & DRAMA

We offer outstanding resources and workshops run by experienced educators, actors and designers to inspire and challenge your VCE students.

DESIGN PRESENTATION

with Matthew Lutton

Join Malthouse Theatre's Artistic Director Matthew Lutton on the Merlyn Theatre stage for an in-depth presentation of the lighting, sound and set design for *Away* and *The Real and Imagined History of The Elephant Man*. Matthew will provide students with a unique insight into how the director's vision is realised through stagecraft.

DATE Wednesday 17 May
TIMES 5.00pm – 6.30pm: Design Presentation
 7.30pm: Performance of *Away*

DATE Wednesday 16 August
TIMES 5.00pm – 6.30pm: Design Presentation
 7.30pm: Performance of *The Real and Imagined History of The Elephant Man*

VCE ENSEMBLE EXCHANGE

Back for a third year by popular demand

The VCE Ensemble Exchange provides VCE Drama students with the rare opportunity to perform part of their VCE Ensembles and discuss playmaking processes in a professional theatre. This year we will also offer the option of working with a stimulus created specifically for this program.

DATES Tuesday 9 & Wednesday 10 May
TIME 1.00pm – 5.30pm

REVISIT THE PLAY

A chance for students to access an in-depth revision of VCE productions with a close analysis of archival footage and facilitated discussions about the plays in preparation for the VCE Written Examination.

WHEN Sessions will take place in the first week of the September holidays

THE SOLO

This workshop engages students in a dynamic exploration of solo work, facilitated by an experienced VCE Teacher and featuring a solo performance by a professional actor. We spend a day devising, viewing and analysing works to help liberate individual voices within prescribed theatrical structures.

DATES 7 – 11 August

TIME 10.00am – 3.30pm

THE MONO

This is an opportunity for students to be actors, directors and designers, as they work with professional artists and educators to share creative strategies. Students respond to monologue performances and design presentations, as they begin to develop their own interpretations for the Stagecraft Examination.

DATES 21 – 25 August

TIME 10.00am – 3.30pm

For more information and a full list of pricing, visit malthousetheatre.com.au/education.



WORKSHOPS & TOURS

Available on demand.

BACKSTAGE TOURS

This is your chance to explore behind the scenes of the heritage-listed Coopers Malthouse building and its many theatrical spaces. Uncover the history of the building and find out about the range of people who work in the theatre – onstage, backstage and beyond.



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WORKSHOPS

Design your own or choose from one of these:

UNREEL

From screen to stage. We use cinema as a stimulus for exploring non-naturalistic theatrical devices.

RECONTEXTUALISING

Investigate adaptation, reinterpretation and reimagination. We uncover new ways of understanding old texts.

EXTREME CHARACTERS

Explore physical theatre approaches to creating highly theatrical and non-naturalistic characters.

ARTS IMMERSION DAY

**** NEW IN 2017 ****

Spend a full day exploring contemporary visual arts, theatre and dance. The three sessions are hosted by Malthouse Theatre, ACCA (one of Australia's flagship contemporary art spaces) and Chunky Move (one of Australia's leading contemporary dance companies). Join us for a day of inspiration, exploration and creativity.



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THE SUITCASE SERIES

The Suitcase Series empowers young people to tackle the greatest challenge of their generation: climate change. Year 9 and 10 students devise their own works in response to a specially commissioned script. This innovative and celebrated program is a chance for students to expand their theatre-making skills and to share a performance day with their peers, before viewing Malthouse Theatre's full production of the play.

TURBINE BY DAN GIOVANNONI IS THE FOURTH PLAY COMMISSIONED FOR THIS AWARD-WINNING PROGRAM:

TURBINE

By / Dan Giovannoni

You can't stop progress, right? A loved one, a place, a memory, an icon, a way of life – when loss is inevitable, what do you hold on to? And how? Turbine uses a range of theatrical forms to present vignettes of people who are moving...but aren't getting anywhere.

ABOUT THE WRITER

Dan Giovannoni is playwright and arts educator. He has written plays for adults and children, including the multi-award winning and widely toured VCE Drama playlisted *Cut Snake* (Arthur), *Jurassica* (Red Stitch) and *Bambert's Book of Lost Stories* (Barking Gecko Theatre Company).

DATES 25 – 27, 30 October
and 1 – 3, 6 – 10 November*

TIMES Term 3 in-school and
Term 4 in-theatre day (9.00am – 3.30pm)

COST \$30 per student

**Please note that The Suitcase Series has completely sold out in previous years. Book early to ensure your ticket for 2017.*

MORE FROM SEASON 2017



LITTLE EMPERORS

9-26 FEB

Set in both Melbourne and Beijing, and weaving between Mandarin and English, this new play takes us deep into China's one child policy and a generation of secret and only children.

HEART IS A WASTELAND

29 JUN – 16 JUL

A four-day road trip across Australia, from two of our most exciting Indigenous artists, combining theatre, film and live music, as two strangers expose, hide and risk themselves.

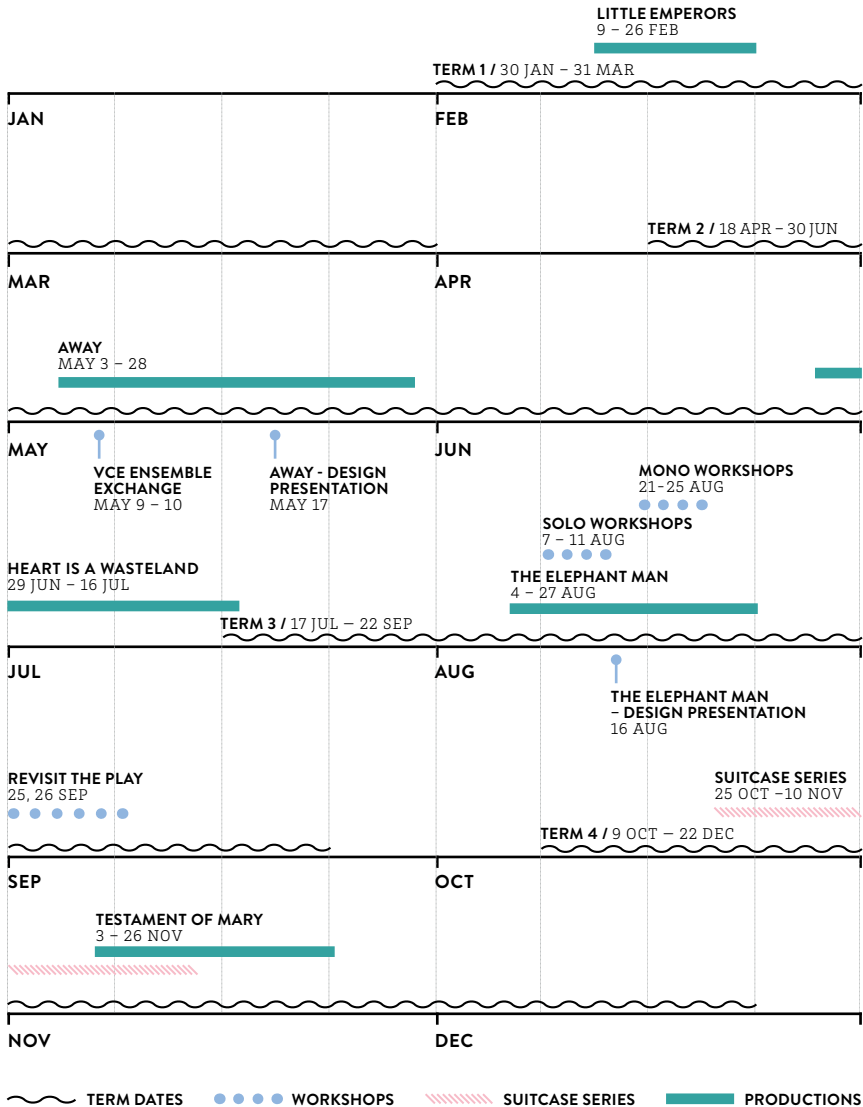


THE TESTAMENT OF MARY

3-26 NOV

Pamela Rabe returns to Malthouse Theatre to give a voice to the mother of Jesus - one of the world's greatest and most silenced icons.

SEASON CALENDAR



f MalthouseTheatre
MalthouseMelb
MalthouseTheatre
malthousetheatre.com.au

// what happens next