Home away from home

Bangarra returns p26
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The City of Greater Bendigo is on Dja Dja Wurrung and Taungurung Country. We acknowledge and extend our appreciation for the Dja Dja Wurrung and Taungurung Peoples, the Traditional Owners of the land. We pay our respects to leaders and Elders past, present and emerging.
WELCOME TO 2020

On behalf of the City of Greater Bendigo, it’s my pleasure to introduce Season 2020.

The Bendigo Venues & Events unit has put together a fantastic selection of dance, drama, music and comedy performances for our community to enjoy throughout the year. Our wonderful venues, Ulumbarra Theatre, the Capital Theatre and the more intimate Engine Room provide the perfect backdrop for a variety of quality performances.

Season 2020 will see the return of Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, Bangarra Dance Theatre, the much loved Bell Shakespeare Company and the Melbourne Theatre Company.

New offerings include the Bendigo Chamber Music Festival which will be held in summer and Adelaide’s acclaimed theatre company isthisyours? bring their performance of Angelique to Bendigo.

There is something for everyone in Season 2020. I look forward to seeing you at one of the performances throughout the year.

Mayor Cr Margaret O’Rourke

What a fantastic array of performances we are proud to present to you in 2020. From contemporary circus to the finest classical music, from comedy through to Australia’s greatest jazz performers, this year has it all.

We were incredibly proud to announce our four year partnership with Bangarra Dance Theatre and after the amazing presentation of Bennelong last year, Bangarra will return with their new work, SandSong.

Additional contemporary First Nation’s work in our 2020 season includes Casus Circus with Chasing Smoke, Lina Limosani and Seeta Patel’s Not Today’s Yesterday and Archie Roach will share his life story through song and storytelling in Tell Me Why.

We are pleased to bring Arena Theatre Company’s Helpmann award winning show, Robot Song, back to Bendigo and to premier Arena’s new work, The Kindling Throne, which is set to enjoy similar success on the national stage.

Please enjoy this year’s offering. We know you’ll find something to love and look forward to seeing you in 2020.

David Lloyd, Manager
In 2020, Capital Venues and Events - The City of Greater Bendigo’s business unit that manages the operations, programming and hire of Bendigo’s venues including Ulumbarra Theatre, The Capital, The Engine Room, Bendigo Town Hall and Dudley House – will change its name to Bendigo Venues & Events.

A rapid expansion in business activity and profile in recent years has created the need to establish a ‘mother brand’, which does not include the name of any single venue and clearly locates the unit in Bendigo.

Manager David Lloyd said that in the past five years since the opening of Ulumbarra Theatre, the team had built a reputation for excellence in performing arts.

“We have been recognised for our work at a national level, winning a Drover Award in 2018 for the Australian Performing Arts Centre of the Year,” Mr Lloyd said.

“Our new name is a logical step to ensure the work we do is recognised locally, regionally and nationally as being based in Bendigo.”

Timed to coincide with the change in name, Bendigo Venues & Events has also reviewed and adopted a vision, mission and set of values specific to its business activity. A new programming policy will be adopted in 2020.

Mr Lloyd said the unit had developed objectives relevant to its unique business.
Our vision supports the City of Greater Bendigo’s vision and values and closely aligns with the themes of the Greater CREATIVE Bendigo Strategy” he said.

“Our team has thought deeply about the nature of our work and the important role we play in contributing to Bendigo’s arts and cultural landscape.

Mr Lloyd said Bendigo Venues & Events was perfectly positioned to continue its work to enrich and delight Greater Bendigo residents.

“Our business is growing, our partnerships are many and varied, and we strive to innovate and excite...bring on the 2020s!”

Bendigo Venues & Events provides ticketing services, event management, marketing, technical and production management services for its venues.

It produces, promotes and delivers events such as the Bendigo Writers Festival, Cushion Concerts, The Engine Room presents... a touring program for small towns throughout central Victoria, the Bendigo Chamber Music Festival and the Bendigo International Festival of Exploratory Music, as well as a year-round program of musical and theatrical highlights.

The unit also supports the community arts sector through a variety of programs and funding opportunities.

Bendigo Venues & Events Vision
To deliver regional Australia’s most dynamic performing arts programs and cultural activity, for a vibrant, creative community.

Bendigo Venues & Events Mission
We enrich and delight. We champion and encourage those who create and perform. We are dedicated to inspiring and being inspired. We exist to enrich the lives of those around us and to delight them with our passion for the arts. We bring our community together, to share culture and celebrate creativity.
Spotlight on: INCLUSIVE ARTS AND CULTURE

CREATEABILITY

CreateAbility is a contemporary performance ensemble creating new work across diverse visual and performance-based mediums.

The company has developed partnerships and working relationships with artists, arts organisations and community groups that are interested in developing inclusive practices that represent the diversity of our community.

CreateAbility has collaborated with companies including The Old Van, Back To Back Theatre and Born in a Taxi. Original work by CreateAbility includes Cultural Exchange (2015), No Hands (2017) and DENDRON – The Forest In Us (2018). The CreateAbility Ensemble are: Cheryl Bailey, Francis Bush, Nicholas Cobbold, Kyra Drummond, Ben Dubbuc-Timson, Sarah Goninon, Yvette Keane, Kate Prendergast, David Smith, and Samuel Thompson. CreateAbility is supported by Golden City Support Services and the City of Greater Bendigo.

www.gcss.org.au/activities/createability

PUNCTUM

Founded in central Victoria in 2004, Punctum has a long relationship with Bendigo Venues & Events. Punctum creates live arts performances that lead in the field. Punctum is artist-led producing ambitious experimental productions. Punctum provides exceptional experiences for artists and audiences locally, nationally and internationally, and create diverse opportunities for fresh ideas, adventure, and connection to arts.

Punctum is one of the only regional experimental live performance organisations in Australia to have won several Green Room Awards. Punctum has guided the work of hundreds of artists, many of whom have gone on to establish an international presence. It creates programs for contemporary performances in a regional setting because it is the best place to foster new approaches to performance and audience engagement.

Punctum’s 2020 focus in Bendigo will be the production of Kultur-All Makaan created in collaboration with culturally diverse artists and performers in Bendigo and featuring in Melbourne Design Week’s program. This will open March 14 for the Zinda Festival.

www.punctum.com.au
Now in its third year, the Ulumbarra Foundation is continuing to make a difference in its local community thanks to the generosity of a growing number of passionate supporters and some innovative and unique partnerships.

In 2019, the Ulumbarra Foundation forged a close relationship with Bendigo Health and the Bendigo Health Foundation. In a joint fundraiser for both foundations, the red carpet was rolled out at the Take the Stage for Arts and Health event where guests enjoyed the rare opportunity to dine on the stage of the world class Ulumbarra Theatre whilst raising funds to support arts and health. Ulumbarra Foundation Board Member Rob Blum, Director of Medical Oncology at Bendigo Health Care Group, spearheaded the Foundation’s support of Bendigo Oncology’s music program, where patients enjoy live music performances at the Cancer Centre. This joint collaboration with Bendigo Health Foundation is now funding a part-time music coordinator to ensure these inspirational concerts are a regular feature at the centre.

In a unique partnership with the Rotary Club of Bendigo South, a biennial concert by the Victorian Male Welsh Choir raises funds to support the work of the Ulumbarra Foundation. Further partnerships with Arena Theatre Company and the refugee settlement team at Bendigo Community Health Services ensure that funding from donors is put to good use. Significant benefactors have had the opportunity to choose where they make an impact, with patron Helen Gobbé funding the Cushion Concert series for young children in memory of her late husband Alan, an early supporter of the Foundation.

The Ulumbarra Foundation recognises that a strong performing arts sector, with the ability to contribute to its own development, benefits local residents and businesses and adds to the rich tapestry of cultural experiences in central Victoria. Its purpose is to share a passion for the performing arts, and you are invited to be part of it. Donate now at www.ulumbarrafoundation.org.au/annual-giving or visit www.ulumbarrafoundation.org.au for more information.
Bendigo Venues and Events Creative Communities team works to assist artists, creatives and communities to develop arts and cultural initiatives. The team values diversity and inclusion, encourages participation in the arts and promotes the health and wellbeing benefits of creativity and arts participation.

The Creative Communities team delivers an annual arts program that contributes to the City of Greater Bendigo’s vision to become the world’s most liveable community. The program is closely aligned with the new Greater CREATIVE Bendigo strategy.

The team also plays a key role in developing Bendigo’s temporary public art program by commissioning murals and supporting street artists and arts organisations to develop their skills and create artwork in public spaces.

Current programs include Artists on View, RAW Art Awards, Art in the Conservatory, Ground Level Temporary Public Art, Exhibit B, Pennyweight Walk Open Air Gallery and the much loved Cushion Concert series designed for pre-school children. In addition, the education and engagement program offers schools, families and the community the chance to engage with the touring artists who visit our venues in a variety of ways.

The team is currently working with the Emerge Cultural Hub Bendigo to support First Nations and culturally diverse artists to develop and showcase their creativity. The Emerge Cultural Hub Bendigo is part of Multicultural Arts Victoria’s Emerge Cultural Network. Emerge Cultural Hub Bendigo artists are involved in Bendigo’s annual events such as ZINDA Festival, Bendigo Easter Festival and NAIDOC Week.

Pictured below: Maree Tonkin, Cecile Shanahan and Rohan Phillips.

✉️ arts.info@bendigo.vic.gov.au
FEBRUARY 5 - 9, 2020

15 concerts. 14 world class musicians.
6 venues. 5 days.
1 great city.

TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE AND SELLING FAST
www.bendigocmf.com.au
**BENDIGO CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL OPENING GALA**

Bendigo Chamber Music Festival will launch in 2020 as a major new festival in Bendigo. Musicians of the world famous Chamber Orchestra of Europe will be the artists in residence for the festival, exclusive to Bendigo, alongside Australian favourites such as Sophie Rowell Howlett, Stefan Cassomenos and Merlyn Quaife.

*When?* Wednesday February 5, 2020  
*Where?* The Capital

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**MELBOURNE OPERA BEETHOVEN’S FIDELIO**

To celebrate Beethoven’s 250th birthday, Melbourne Opera is mounting a complete new production of his only opera Fidelio. The acclaimed international maestro Anthony Negus leads the 50-piece Melbourne Opera Orchestra, 60-voice Chorus and international star soloists in a full performance of this thrilling work.

*When?* Sunday February 23, 2020  
*Where?* Ulumbarra Theatre

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**50 SHADES! THE MUSICAL PARODY**

50 Shades! The Musical Parody explores the steamy relationship between the well-known characters from one of the best-selling books of all time, Fifty Shades of Grey, as seen through the eyes of three women in a book club.

*When?* Friday February 28 - Saturday February 29, 2020  
*Where?* The Capital
MOLLER - FRATICELLI GUITAR DUO (PARLOUR)
Award-winning European guitarist Johannes Möller’s close collaboration with Argentinean guitarist Laura Fraticelli has resulted in a unique form of musical expression. Their emotional playing style as well as their strong connection and stage presence make their performances unforgettable events.

When?  Tuesday March 10, 2020
Where?  The Capital’s Bendigo Bank Theatre

GRACE UNDER PRESSURE
BY DAVID WILLIAMS & PAUL DWYER
IN COLLABORATION WITH THE SYDNEY ARTS & HEALTH COLLECTIVE
Based on in-depth interviews with doctors and nurses, Grace Under Pressure is a moving theatre experience that reveals hidden stories of health professionals working in hospitals.

When?  Thursday March 5, 2020
Where?  Ulumbarra Theatre

NOT TODAY’S YESTERDAY
An award-winning international collaboration between Australian choreographer Lina Limosani and UK Bharatanatyam artist Seeta Patel, Not Today’s Yesterday blurs the lines between dance and theatre with a poetic narrative and the beauty and disquiet of a dark fairytale.

When?  Tuesday March 10 - Wednesday March 11, 2020
Where?  The Engine Room
THE CHOIR OF MAN

Combining live music, high energy dance and a few surprises, with everything from piña coladas to live pint percussion, the Choir of Man is a rollicking good time; jam packed with all your favourite pub classics, rock ballads and pop hits from Avicii to Adele, Sia to Queen, Guns ‘n’ Roses and more.

When?  Tuesday March 24, 2020
Where?  Ulumbarra Theatre

CDP WITH TALL STORIES’ MAGICAL MUSICAL ADAPTATION

THE GRUFFALO’S CHILD

ADAPTED FROM THE AWARD-WINNING PICTURE BOOK BY JULIA DONALDSON AND AXEL SCHEFFLER

The team behind The Gruffalo, Room on the Broom and the Treehouse series return with The Gruffalo’s Child, bringing together songs and puppetry to deliver laughs and scary fun for children aged three and up, and their adults...

When?  Wednesday March 18, 2020
Where?  Ulumbarra Theatre

JOHN BELL AND SIMON TEDESCHI

ECHOES OF THE JAZZ AGE

Two of Australia’s best-loved artists, John Bell and pianist Simon Tedeschi take audiences back to the brilliance and bedazzlement of the Jazz Age with the words of F Scott Fitzgerald, Mae West and Groucho Marx, and the irresistible music of Scott Joplin, Louis Armstrong, George Gershwin and Fats Waller.

When?  Wednesday April 1, 2020
Where?  The Capital
SUMMER OF THE SEVENTEENTH DOLL
PRODUCED BY CHRISTINE HARRIS AND HIT PRODUCTIONS
DIRECTED BY DENNY LAWRENCE
Ray Lawler’s much loved tale of two Queensland sugar cane-cutters who go to Melbourne every year to party with their barmaid girlfriends. This 2020 production of Summer of the Seventeenth Doll celebrates the 65th anniversary of this iconic play.
When? Wednesday April 8, 2020
Where? Ulumbarra Theatre

HELL SHIP - THE JOURNEY OF THE TICONDEROGA
Michael Veitch will perform his one-man show from the perspective of the young surgeon bravely nursing sick passengers aboard the Ticonderoga in 1852, which arrived in Australia from Liverpool a floating catastrophe after an outbreak of typhus. The surgeon is actually Michael’s great-great grandfather and Hell Ship captures the human aspects of this dark story.
When? Friday April 17 - Saturday April 18, 2020
Where? The Engine Room

AUSTRALIAN YOUTH ORCHESTRA IN CONCERT
Join the Australian Youth Orchestra as they perform Dvořák’s majestic Cello Concerto, featuring a solo appearance by the renowned young cellist Pei-Sian Ng. Conductor Elena Schwarz leads the orchestra as they present this irresistible concert, including orchestral works by Jean Sibelius and Elena Kats-Chernin.
When? Thursday April 16, 2020
Where? Ulumbarra Theatre

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Robot Song has captured the hearts of audiences across Australia and will soon be heading off to the US, UK and China - and it all began here in Bendigo.

“I wish every Australian child had the opportunity to experience this production. I cannot imagine how anyone could sit through it unaffected or without reflecting upon their treatment of others.”
– Claire Johns, Shelford Girls’ Grammar

Robot Song was the first of Arena Theatre Company’s original works to premiere in Bendigo after the company relocated from Melbourne in 2018 to become resident company at The Engine Room on View Street. Critically acclaimed the show went on to tour 23 locations across Australia and in 2019 won the Helpmann Award for Best Presentation for Children and Young People.

Robot Song is the heart-warming story of Juniper May, an 11 year old girl on the Autism Spectrum who makes friends with a giant robot and teaches him how to sing. A genuine family show, it is joyful and full of hope. It is for any child who has ever felt isolated and any parent who is desperate for tools to help. The show employs cutting edge digital technology, animatronics and a beautiful original musical score.

BV&E AND ARENA THEATRE CO PRESENT
ROBOT SONG
BY JOLYON JAMES
When? Wednesday May 6 - Thursday May 7, 2020
Where? The Capital
ACROBATS SHOWCASE
human strength

Photography: Darcy Grant
In less than a decade, Adelaide’s acrobatic sensations Gravity and Other Myths have achieved international acclaim with a series of disarmingly accomplished ensemble works.

In Backbone, 10 world-class acrobats take the stage, completing ever more astonishing stunts. Literally thrown back and forth—and in every direction—they toss themselves headfirst into unthinkable configurations; their bodies building blocks as they challenge the various perceptions of what strength is, where it comes from and how it is measured.

Supported by a soaring original live score and staged with a deceptively DIY aesthetic which uses trickery and distraction, this is circus that leaves no viewer unmoved.

Backbone is the culmination of all that’s gone before: a celebration of human connectedness and the meaning of strength, its athletic appeal is combined with a conceptual brilliance.

Sexy but sincere, raw yet utterly disciplined, Backbone is a high-octane display of physical virtuosity and proof you can’t do the impossible without a little bit of sweat.

Gravity and Other Myths is an Australian circus company pushing the boundaries of contemporary circus. Their work utilizes an honest approach to performance to create shows with a focus on human connection and acrobatic virtuosity.

GRAVITY & OTHER MYTHS
BACKBONE
When? Friday May 8 - Saturday May 9, 2020
Where? Ulumbarra Theatre

Backbone has been assisted by the Australian Government’s Major Festivals Initiative, through the Confederation of International Arts Festivals Inc. commissioned by Adelaide Festival, Melbourne Festival & Sydney Festival.
AUSTRALIAN GLOBAL ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS
AN AFTERNOON AT THE PROMS SPECTACULAR 2020
THE BLUE DANUBE ORCHESTRA


**When?** Sunday May 10, 2020
**Where?** Ulumbarra Theatre

INVENTI ENSEMBLE (PARLOUR)

Gustav Holst’s The Planets is a monumental work and audiences will have a rare opportunity to hear it like it has never been heard before. This performance with only five musicians also features brand new works by acclaimed composer, Johannes Luebbers. The Inventi Ensemble invites you to witness this astounding performance of astronomical proportions!

**When?** Wednesday May 13, 2020
**Where?** The Capital’s Bendigo Bank Theatre

CDP KIDS PRESENTS
THE 91-STOREY TREEHOUSE

A play by Richard Tulloch adapted from the book by Andy Griffiths and Terry Denton. Children aged 6 to 12 years and their adults will enjoy a fantastical trip through this wild, weird and wonderful world. Just beware of the fortune-teller...

**When?** Tuesday May 19, 2020
**Where?** Ulumbarra Theatre

This project has been assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body.
MSO

MELBOURNE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PRESENTS
AN EVENING WITH THE MSO

MSO Concertmaster Dale Barltrop takes us on a journey through the greats of English composition, including Vaughan Williams’ The Lark Ascending – a perennial favourite – and music by Holst, Purcell and more. Plus, multi-musically-skilled MSO double bassist Stephen Newton performs Britten’s Les Illuminations as tenor soloist.

When? Tuesday May 26, 2020
Where? Ulumbarra Theatre

MELBOURNE THEATRE COMPANY
SLAP. BANG. KISS.
BY DAN GIOVANNONI

Can young people really change the world? Multi-award-winning playwright Dan Giovannoni knows they can. In SLAP. BANG. KISS. he tracks three individuals whose stories kick-start a series of events none of them could have anticipated. But when their stories go viral and the world is watching, what will they do next?

When? Friday May 29, 2020
Where? Ulumbarra Theatre

MELBOURNE THEATRE COMPANY

SOFT TREAD’S
THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO PAUL
WRITTEN AND PERFORMED BY JONATHAN BIGGINS


When? Sunday May 31, 2020
Where? The Capital
A NEW CHAPTER BEGINS

After eight years of growing popularity, Bendigo Writers Festival is on the move.

Farewell wintry August. Hello autumnal May.

Bendigo’s nationally-recognised festival will build on the strengths of its first-class venues and engaging programming as it makes the transition to new dates in May.

A smaller ‘bookmark’ event will take place in 2020 and then the full festival program will be back in 2021. This will enable Bendigo Venues and Events, on behalf of the City of Greater Bendigo and event partners La Trobe University Bendigo, to seamlessly manage the transition to its new timeslot.

Bendigo Writers Festival will present The Big Bendigo Bookmark, which will take place on Friday May 8 and Saturday May 9, 2020. With events happening at The Capital theatre, this event will nourish body, mind and spirit, with a star-studded line-up speaking about topics that demand attention.

There’ll be all the features audiences love, such as interviews and panels, as well as Q&As and author spotlights.

Bendigo Writers Festival is renowned for providing an inspirational and engaging program designed to enrich ‘the good life’.

The Big Bendigo Bookmark 2020 aims to provide the same festival quality, but across a more compact format, a perfect opportunity to sample the new autumn event.

The Big Bendigo Bookmark 2020, May 8 and 9, is the festival’s next exciting chapter. We hope to see you there. 🌹

For more information visit www.bendigowritersfestival.com.au

The Bendigo Writers Festival is managed and funded by Bendigo Venues and Events, with the generous support of La Trobe University.
CHASING SMOKE
PRESENTED BY CASUS CIRCUS AND CLUSTER ARTS
Chasing Smoke is an evocative and triumphant performance by Australia’s only Indigenous contemporary circus ensemble. A dynamic, fast-moving and touching performance, Chasing Smoke stokes the fires of identity, challenge and success for a unique cohort of young Australians.
When? Friday June 5, 2020
Where? Ulumbarra Theatre

PAUL GRABOWSKY AND KATE CEBERANO
Kate Ceberano and Paul Grabowsky bring their new duo recording ‘Tryst’ to Bendigo. The Tryst Tour is a very personal and intimate journey into words and music by two of Australia’s most respected musicians reinterpreting some of the great love songs of our time.
When? Thursday June 25, 2020
Where? The Capital

WOLFGANG’S MAGICAL MUSICAL CIRCUS
BY CIRCA
CREATED BY YARON LIFSCHITZ WITH BENJAMIN KNAPTON AND THE CIRCA ENSEMBLE
Mozart appears amid a storm of powder, tumbling and twirling, as musical mayhem and movement fuse in this family show with a circus twist.
When? Tuesday June 30 - Wednesday July 1, 2020
Where? Ulumbarra Theatre
ANIMAL FARM
One of the most enduring political commentaries returns. George Orwell's powerful fairy tale allegorises and satirises communist governments while illustrating how greed and power corrupts with consequences to all who yield.

When? Tuesday July 14, 2020
Where? Ulumbarra Theatre

ARCHIE ROACH: TELL ME WHY
Not many have lived as many lives – from stolen child, teenage alcoholic, seeker, lover, father, musical and lyrical genius, to social advocate and First Nations leader – but it took almost a lifetime to find who he really was. He is Archie Roach.

When? Thursday July 16, 2020
Where? Ulumbarra Theatre

CARMEN
A cast of some of Australia’s finest opera singers assemble with a chamber orchestra and local children’s chorus to perform the world’s most popular opera. Join us for Opera Australia’s 25th Anniversary tour of Bizet’s Carmen.

When? Wednesday July 22, 2020
Where? Ulumbarra Theatre
The Comedy of Errors is a hilarious romp of swapped identities, misguided love, mistaken imprisonment and chaotic mishaps, leading to an unbelievably crazy day for bumbling twins. At the heart of this tale of comedic misfortune is an old man searching for his lost children who has found himself in the fight of his life...to save his life.

As far-fetched coincidences unfold, chaotic hilarity ensues and a man’s life could be saved — if only everything would go to plan. Directed by Janine Watson (Romeo and Juliet, Ensemble Theatre’s Unqualified) this is a beautiful story about reunion, wrapped up in an evening of entertainment and laughter. After a day of mistaken identity leading to unfair thrashings, wrongful arrests and false charges of infidelity, robbery, madness and even demonic possession, can the twins possibly reunite and live happily ever after?
CHRIS HOWLETT
BACH BY CANDLELIGHT
(PARLOUR)
Illuminated only by a circle of candles Chris Howlett performs Bach’s most famous cello suites in an intimate and evocative recital. A performance that verges on the sublime – the minimalism and simplicity of candlelight and flickering shadows enhancing arguably the most famous solo cello works ever written.
When? Wednesday August 26, 2020
Where? The Capital’s Bendigo Bank Theatre

THE VICTORIAN STATE BALLET
PRESENTS
THE NUTCRACKER
The Nutcracker is a feast of outstanding classical ballet that continues to bring joy to every generation through its breathtaking musical score by Tchaikovsky. Don’t miss out on experiencing this enchanting classic tale!
When? Sunday August 9, 2020
Where? Ulumbarra Theatre

CHRIS HOWLETT
BACH BY CANDLELIGHT
(PARLOUR)
Illuminated only by a circle of candles Chris Howlett performs Bach’s most famous cello suites in an intimate and evocative recital. A performance that verges on the sublime – the minimalism and simplicity of candlelight and flickering shadows enhancing arguably the most famous solo cello works ever written.
When? Wednesday August 26, 2020
Where? The Capital’s Bendigo Bank Theatre

TYPE FASTER PRODUCTIONS
PRESENTS
NEWK (THE JOHN NEWCOMBE STORY)
Performed by the star of the recent hit film The Merger, Damian Callinan, NEWK (The John Newcombe Story) is a comedy-drama tracing the life of the great Australian tennis champion. Set in 2014 at his 70th birthday in Sydney, Newcombe is joined by well-known guests to celebrate and share his memories over Cinzanos!
When? Friday September 11 - Saturday September 12, 2020
Where? The Engine Room
There are many benefits to including the performing arts in broad curriculum planning. Throughout Season 2020 there are a number of productions that link with key learning areas and capabilities outlined in the Australian and Victorian Curriculums.

Our Education and Engagement Officer can provide schools with information relating to Season 2020 performances and their suitability to one of the following:

- Early years (Preschool - Year 2)
- Middle years (Year 3-8)
- Senior years (Year 9-12)

In addition to these exciting offerings there are many instances where workshops/masterclasses or other engagement activities for students or teachers may be available.

Teachers can be notified of relevant opportunities and associated teaching and learning resources by joining the 2020 Education Opportunities mailing list. Simply email c.shanahan@bendigo.vic.gov.au to be added to the appropriate age group mailing list.

Tickets are $12 per student (unless otherwise stated) with one complimentary ticket for teaching staff per 10 student tickets purchased.

CONTACT FOR SCHOOL BOOKINGS
Cecile Shanahan
Education and Engagement Officer
e. c.shanahan@bendigo.vic.gov.au
t. 5434 6241

Bendigo Venues & Events Education and Engagement Officer position is made possible thanks to the generous support of the Ulumbarra Foundation.
Home away from home

Photography: Daniel Boud
For three decades, Bangarra Dance Theatre has been a major force in bringing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures into the national and international consciousness through its powerful and unique dance theatre story-telling.

In September 2020, and owing to the support of the Victorian Government, Ulumbarra Theatre in Bendigo is proud to be a ‘home away from home’ to this iconic Indigenous company offering workshops, youth programs and a performance season of Bangarra’s latest work, SandSong. The second performance will be followed by an ‘In Conversation’ with the creative team – a chance to learn about the creative process and the stories behind the stories.

Bangarra’s mission, ‘to create inspiring experiences that change society’ guides all Bangarra’s activities and programs, which Bangarra will share when they return to Bendigo:

**Rekindling Youth program:** Bangarra’s senior teaching artists team work with a group of young Kulin people in an extended residency program involving senior community members and Elders. Rekindling uses dance-making as a powerful medium to express cultural identity and restore and celebrate cultural life – creating a future where cultural knowledge is cared for, where individuals can grow as leaders, and where the communities are strengthened.

**Winhanga-rra:** a professional learning program for school teachers in primary and secondary schools. The workshops are run as a creative and collaborative space for ideas to flow, exploring ways to effectively bring Indigenous content into the classroom while respecting traditional protocol and custodianship.

**Masterclass workshops:** dance students will have the chance to learn Bangarra repertoire and experience a form of contemporary dance expression that is unique in the world.

Bangarra Dance Theatre’s passionate storytelling, rich artistry and deep community connections are a powerful voice for Australia’s First Nations People, and a touchstone for all people to connect with the world’s most ancient living culture.

**BANGARRA DANCE THEATRE**

**SANDSONG**

**When?** Friday September 18 - Saturday September 19, 2020

**Where?** Ulumbarra Theatre

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*bendigo venues & events SEASON 2020 | 27*
The 2019 Bendigo International Festival of Exploratory Music (BIFEM) was the seventh annual edition of the city’s most innovative music festival. The festival focused on music from the southern hemisphere, an array of Australian, New Zealand and South American works. This year’s BIFEM program brought the total number of premieres throughout BIFEM’s history to a staggering 91 world and 216 Australian premieres. BIFEM gained further global recognition winning the 2019 APRA|AMCOS Art Music Award for Excellence in Experimental Music.

BIFEM’s free sideshow-esque series of small-audience multiple-repetition shows saw audiences roaming between venues, getting an up-close, almost ‘private-viewing’ of the artists and their work. Dubbed ‘The Category is...’ these events were a huge success and will now become a regular feature of BIFEM for the next two editions.

The coming years will see BIFEM introduce activities outside of the three-day festival format under the banner of its lauded house ensemble Argonaut. In 2020, the festival will permanently move to October. With leaves on the trees, warm spring weather and BIFEM’s low-cost and free events, 2020 is set to be better than ever. If you’ve never been to BIFEM, then 2020 is the perfect year to make your début! See you in spring in Bendigo: October 2-4, 2020.
FLINDERS QUARTET:
BEETHOVEN 132 (PARLOUR)

Concluding their year-long 20th birthday celebrations, Flinders Quartet will perform their favourite Beethoven string quartet, Op. 132, and collaborate with the talented Lloyd Van’t Hoff.


When? Friday October 9, 2020
Where? The Capital’s Bendigo Bank Theatre

WALLFLOWERING
BY PETA MURRAY

Wallflowering by Australian playwright Peta Murray, revolves around the lives of Peg and Cliff, a suburban, middle aged couple who were once prize-winning ballroom dancers. This delightfully amusing and poignant play also features world class ballroom dancing by a younger couple representing Peg and Cliff in their glory days.

When? Monday October 26 - Tuesday October 27, 2020
Where? The Engine Room

Australia’s Premier Theatre Touring Company
Curiously Alice in Wonderland-esque in its quirky, black-comedic narrative, Angelique captures audiences’ imaginations. This theatre installation by isthisyours? tells a promenade coming of age tale about a curious, rebellious young girl, Angelique. While she appears to be your average inquisitive teen, Angelique is in fact starting to see the world crack open in front of her eyes: her sister is missing, her parents are acting like strangers, and a talking bird haunts her day and night.

Shocked at seeing her father destroy this peculiar parrot, Angelique is forced to exit her world’s now shattered confines. But then the theatre also cracks open, and the audience are invited into this broken new world where an untrustworthy character, a series of unaddressed letters, and a troupe of over-excited ushers coax them to explore the rest of the theatre.

Angelique engages its audience in a way never before seen, offering a chance to explore the rabbit-hole of possibilities within the story and also the theatrical mechanisms of its creation; posing questions on the individual versus the collective and ultimately highlighting the fabrication in the idea of choice.

Collaborating with acclaimed playwright Duncan Graham, designers Jonathon Oxlade, Chris Petridis and composer Alice Keath, isthisyours? creates a wonderful theatrical world for an audience to explore.

INSITE ARTS & KATHERINE FYFFE PRESENT
ANGELIQUE BY Isthisyours?
When? Friday October 16 - Saturday October 17, 2020
Where? Ulumbarra Theatre

Originally commissioned by the Adelaide Festival Centre as part of the inSPACE program, this project has been assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body.
BV&E AND ARENA THEATRE CO PRESENT
A KINDLING THRONE
Blending mythology, music, massed voices and an immersive environment, you are invited to step into an ancient metaphorical forest to ask one of the most pressing and urgent questions of contemporary times, “What does a positive vision of masculinity look like in Australia today?”

When? Thursday October 29 - Friday October 30, 2020
Where? The Capital

ROMANTIC SERENADES PERFORMED BY MELBOURNE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
Dvořák’s virtuosic showpiece, the Serenade, is one of the highlights of the chamber orchestra repertoire. Markiyan Melnychenko performs the show-stopping solo in a new arrangement of Glazunov’s Violin Concerto.

When? Wednesday November 11, 2020
Where? The Capital
At Strategem we pride ourselves on our client relationships being built on a foundation of trust. We are committed to enriching your life through better financial decisions.

We are extremely proud of our involvement with our local community through the Strategem Community Foundation and are thrilled to continue our relationship with The Ulumbarra Foundation.
THANK YOU

The City of Greater Bendigo together with its Bendigo Venues & Events unit would like to acknowledge and thank its donors, partners and sponsors for their continued support and commitment to the performing arts. This support is significant and so important – we offer our heartfelt thanks to all as we continue to engage with our community through arts, education, business and community events.

We especially thank the board and supporters of the Ulumbarra Foundation.

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GOTIX is the dedicated ticketing service owned and operated by the City of Greater Bendigo through Bendigo Venues & Events. Visit gotix.com.au for performances at Ulumbarra Theatre, Capital Theatre and The Engine Room. Not all performances are listed in this brochure.
BENDIGO CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL
February 5 - 9
Bendigo Arts Precinct

OPENING GALA SF
February 5 • 7.30pm
The Capital

BEETHOVEN’S FIDELIO TS
February 23 • 4pm
Ulumbarra Theatre

SF Soul Food: Intimate chamber recitals to mass choirs and orchestras, fine music and contemporary sounds.

ER Engine Room: Theatrical experiences that challenge, inspire and delight. Experimental works-in-progress and up-close content.

FS First Stages: Quality performances designed to educate, engage and entertain.

TS Theatre Season: Dance or drama, musical or physical, premium performing arts of national and international significance. Proudly presented by Strategem.

Bonus: A selection of premium performances for exclusive subscriber access.

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AUTUMN

ECHOES OF THE JAZZ AGE SF
April 1 • 8pm
The Capital

SUMMER OF THE SEVENTEENTH DOLL TG
April 8 • 8pm
Ulumbarra Theatre

AUSTRALIAN YOUTH ORCHESTRA IN CONCERT SF
April 16 • 7.30pm
Ulumbarra Theatre

AUTUMN

HELL SHIP ER
April 17 - 18 • 8pm
The Engine Room

MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL COMEDY FESTIVAL ROADSHOW
April 28 • 8pm
Ulumbarra Theatre

ROBOT SONG FS
May 6 - 7 • 10am/1pm
The Capital

AUTUMN

BACKBONE TG
May 8 - 9 • 1pm/7pm
Ulumbarra Theatre

BENDIGO WRITERS FESTIVAL
May 8 - 9
Bendigo Arts Precinct

AN AFTERNOON AT THE PROMS SPECTACULAR
May 10 • 2pm
Ulumbarra Theatre

To view our entire calendar of events in 2020, visit gotix.com.au
INVENTI ENSEMBLE  
(PARLOUR) 
SF 
May 13 • 8pm 
The Capital's  
Bendigo Bank Theatre

THE 91-STOREY TREEHOUSE 
FS 
May 19 • 12.30pm/6pm  
Ulumbarra Theatre

AN EVENING WITH THE MSO 
SF 
May 26 • 7.30pm  
Ulumbarra Theatre

SLAP. BANG. KISS. 
May 29 • 11.30am  
Ulumbarra Theatre

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO PAUL 
TS 
May 31 • 7pm  
The Capital

CHASING SMOKE 
June 5 • 11am  
Ulumbarra Theatre

PAUL GRABOWSKY AND KATE CEBERANO 
SF 
June 25 • 8pm  
The Capital

WOLFGANG’S MAGICAL MUSICAL CIRCUS 
FS 
June 30 - July 1 • 10am/6pm  
Ulumbarra Theatre

ANIMAL FARM 
TS 
July 14 • 8pm  
Ulumbarra Theatre

ARCHIE ROACH: TELL ME WHY 
SF 
July 16 • 8pm  
Ulumbarra Theatre

CARMEN 
TS 
July 22 • 7.30pm  
Ulumbarra Theatre

THE COMEDY OF ERRORS 
TS 
July 28 • 8pm  
Ulumbarra Theatre
## WINTER

**THE NUTCRACKER**  
FS  
August 9 • 2pm  
Ulumbarra Theatre

**BACH BY CANDLELIGHT**  
SF  
August 26 • 8pm  
The Capital’s Bendigo Bank Theatre

**NEWK (THE JOHN NEWCOMBE STORY)**  
ER  
September 11 - 12 • 8pm  
The Engine Room

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## SPRING

**SANDSONG**  
TS  
September 18 - 19 • 7.30pm  
Ulumbarra Theatre

**BIFEM**  
October 2 - 4  
Bendigo Arts Precinct

**FLINDERS QUARTET: BEETHOVEN 132 (PARLOUR)**  
SF  
October 9 • 12pm/8pm  
The Capital’s Bendigo Bank Theatre

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## SPRING

**ANGELIQUE BY ITHISYOURS?**  
TS  
October 16 - 17 • 2pm/7pm/8pm  
Ulumbarra Theatre

**WALLFLOWERING**  
ER  
October 26 - 27 • 8pm  
The Engine Room

**A KINDLING THRONE**  
FS  
October 29 - 30 • 12pm/7pm  
The Capital

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## SPRING

**ROMANTIC SERENADES**  
SF  
November 11 • 8pm  
The Capital

**BENDIGO BLUES & ROOTS FESTIVAL**  
November 12 - 15
SUBSCRIPTIONS

Our Season 2020 subscribers have access to the best seats across our theatres before tickets are placed on sale to the general public; and at a discounted price. Our subscribers are valued by our team and our presenting partners and will receive additional benefits, offers and invitations as well as a quarterly e-newsletter.

We look forward to sharing quality performing arts experiences with you in 2020 and beyond!

WHAT IS A SUBSCRIPTION?

A subscription is your commitment to purchase tickets to a minimum of four productions in Season 2020.

Being a subscriber is easy:
• Collect a subscription form
• Select four or more shows from Season 2020
• You may also like to choose from the additional subscriber and bonus offers
• Tell us how you’d like to pay (cash, credit card or deferred)
• Provide us with your contact details, including email address
• Return your subscription form

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Can I choose my seats?
Indicate your seating preference on your subscription form and we will do our best to seat you there where possible.

Can I sit with my friends?
If you subscribe and wish to sit with a group of friends, list their names on your form and send everyone’s form in the same envelope. It is essential that we receive all forms together.

Is there a concession price?
Subscriber tickets are offered at a reduced price and no further discounts apply to the subscriber price.

Concession priced tickets offered in Season 2020 apply to pensioners, Health Care Card holders, Senior Card holders and full-time tertiary students.*

Student price tickets offered in Season 2020 apply to children aged 12 months and over including primary and secondary school students.*

* While concession and student prices are offered on Season 2020 shows, they may not be offered on other performances in our venues or those ticketed by gotix. Proof of entitlement of discount must be presented when asked.
Can I cancel my subscription?

You cannot cancel your subscription during the year. Subscription tickets can be transferred to another performance of the same event or given to friends or family.

Can I get a refund?

There is no refund or exchange on tickets except as provided for under the Live Performance Australia Ticketing Code of Practice.

Is my privacy protected?

We do need to collect some personal details including your name, address and contact phone number. But we never sell, loan or give away your information. We may send you things we think would interest you; however you can always opt out of our mailing lists.

Are The Capital and Ulumbarra Theatre accessible theatres?

Yes. If you require special seating due to hearing or vision impairment or lack of mobility, be sure to complete the access section on the subscription form.

For more information on performances or to collect a subscription form contact the Box Office on 5434 6100 or alternatively email boxoffice@bendigo.vic.gov.au

Return your subscription form in one of the following ways:

By mail
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50 View Street, Bendigo VIC 3550

In person
Drop the form with payment to:
The Capital Box Office
50 View Street, Bendigo

By email
Scan both sides of the form to
gotix@bendigo.vic.gov.au

Subscriptions cannot be processed while you wait. Subscriptions are processed in order of receipt and your tickets will be mailed to you.

If you require assistance phone 03 5434 6100.