

LATE AUG - DEC 2021



BATS Theatre
1 Kent Tce
Wellington

G U A N O 101

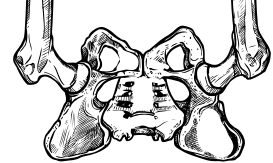


SPECTRAL HAZE

A delicious hazy IPA
brewed to support our
mates at BATS Theatre

Just what's needed to
raise the spirits

GARAGE
ARO ST
WELLINGTON
PROJECT



KIA ORA E TE WHĀNAU!

This Guano is BIG - our biggest Guano yet at a whopping 36 pages. We've gone big because this bad bebe covers a lot!

From August to December - we're orbiting from the depths of winter, through a mo"*Men*"tal spring, and finishing off with some hot summer "*Flames*".

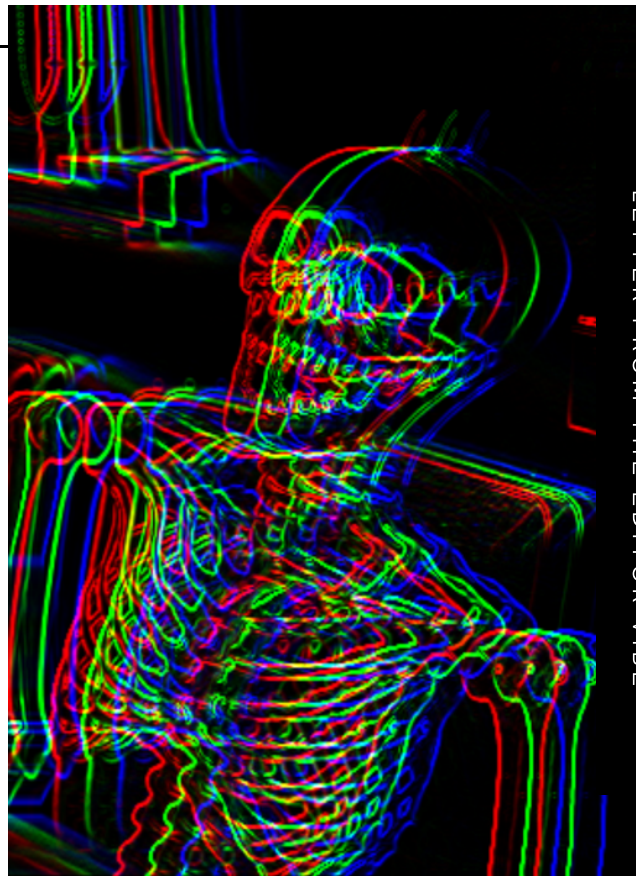
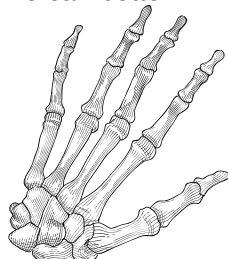
We want to acknowledge how hard the last year has been. Since coming out of lockdown shit has changed. And it just keeps changing, doesn't it?

We're all adapting, shifting and pivoting like mo-fos. With change comes stress, and we can see a lot of our friends and whānau are feeling the burn. Please look after yourselves!

Easier said than done - we know. We're working on it ourselves - trying to work in ways that are sustainable so that we can better look after our artists when they're in our spaces.

We hope to see you soon!

Nā,
Te whānau at BATS



LETTER FROM THE EDITOR VIBE

Her fingers traced
the lines in her
parched skin.

Thirst.

So fucking thirsty.
It had been so long
since she felt
cool, wetness on
her skin, her lips, her
tongue.

No matter how hard
she tried to pull the
seas to her, they
continued to caress
Papa.

She saw them ripple,
swell and sway

Tempted.

They were tempted
to leave Papa and
fill the dips, depths and
valleys of her.

It had been a long time
since she had felt
the tears of Ranginui.
It didn't rain here anymore.

Not since..
Oh, never mind.

In search of wai
she unfurled her fingers,
found folds of
skin on skin
but no wai.

Centuries went by
She kept calling to the sea,
begging it to come.
Then she felt it
Deep in her centre
Heavy, aching

BLOOD.

It grew.
And grew some more.
Gathering heat.
And when the light of rā
left her body

She bled.

She cried out to the
seas to wash it away
but Papa wrapped them
around her a little closer.
Ripples & swells
the only tell-tale signs
they longed for her

Papa was greedy

Her fingers sought out
the source.
To know where it came from.
To learn.
In darkness.

Awa.
She found the opening
of herself.
Her fingers quenched
She raised them to her face
In the darkness saw her
skin smooth beneath the
red.

So she began to paint.

First her face
She traced lines
where tears once fell
before she forgot how.

Smearred her cheeks
with warriors cries,
she roared.

She cupped her full and
tender breasts with
hands dripping red
and held herself
Became herself.



A poem by Stevie

Want to feature
in the next
Guano?

Send me your
stuff!!

stevie@bats.co.nz

Rose up and let
the blood run.

Knowing now

Her legs now slick
and smooth, stood
grounded

She shook out her hair
it had grown so long.

she had not been alone

i te pō

As the light of rā
began to touch
her skin

this whole time

On her sister's back

she stretched
her limbs through
the night sky

She grew

Her sister had grown strong
they could take the weight
While she had
turned in on herself.

pieces of her
breaking away
and flying far
to shine where they landed

Every breath filling

Stacking the
pieces of her
limb on limb
feeling the pressure
compressing

Te whānau mārāma

Her pepi

Her pepi that had
grown within
the cracks of her
in darkness
without her knowing

forgotten places

she took up the

space

until she was

that had been hers

small

all along.

BATS WORDSEARCH

Made from 21 words found in this guano or the creative teams behind the shows

N O P R I V I L E G E D O P V
 R B S O C K P U P P E T S K D
 X U H S I Y D E M O C P N T N
 E T A T I P A C E D N D A I I
 K C A W O H S E D I S W P O L
 Y H L P H Y S T E R I A C X B
 S M S E X X E D D O G I H E Y
 E E P D R Z V Y D D A D A S L
 C R O I K C I D Y N I T T M L
 R M L I H A R L E Q U E E N A
 E A R E K C A R C T U L S N G
 T I K F J G H O S T L I K E E
 S D E R O C E G A T T O C Z L
 B B T O D Y S S E Y L U T T L
 B M S Q P M A C A R T L U U I

Email stevie@bats.co.nz with the list of words to win a special treat!



Now I don't know what to believe!

Ruthless and inventive, **Doom & Bloom** take an idea from the audience and subvert it into something unexpected.

Like a VHS tape copied far too many times, 'Subvert' produces something wholly unexpected.

What contortions will these two go through for your intellectual curiosity?

DOOM & BLOOM PRESENTS: SUBVERT

REGULAR IMPROV SHOW!
CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS.



Bring a prop, bring a friend, to enjoy the first and last time this play is ever performed!

Ever wanted to see your favourite decorative cushion star in a crime-thriller or a musical comedy?

Well now is your chance!

Set Piece is an improvised play where YOU bring the set and props then watch in awe as The B-Team brings the play to life.

SET PIECE

REGULAR IMPROV SHOW!
CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS.

No two nights are ever the same!



**AUG 10 - 18 | 7.30PM &
9.30PM | \$25/\$20**

Tom Sainsbury is back again with the camptacular intergalactic musical smash-hit *Gays In Space!* Come join the adventures and musical hijinks of a troupe of homosexual astronauts as they make their most perilous space mission yet - probing Uranus.

It's a dream come true when buttoned-down, straight-acting NASA underling, Gnoagh Knight, is called upon to captain his first-ever space mission - a six-year journey to probe Uranus and discover it's gassy secrets. He is joined by a crew of utterly inept (yet utterly fabulous) homosexual astronauts.

There's the ultra-camp Instagrammer, Dayj Cheesemen, obsessed with increasing his social media following, dimwitted model, Brahim Akbar, wanting to be valued for more than his good looks, and fresh-faced Sexbot (think C3PO in hot pants) who longs to be human. Back by popular demand after its sold-out 2018 season, *Gays in Space* is a zany intergalactic musical odyssey full of singing, dancing, and many, many laughs.

GAYS IN SPACE



Each month, Te Whanganui-a-Tara's fierce new improv company, Tiny Dog, will be bringing you a night of fast and loose improvised comedy. Come along and see some of Wellington's most top-of-their-game comedians at their silliest.

T I N Y D O G
M O N T H L Y O N
F R I D A Y S A T 10PM
F I R S T S H O W
A U G U S T 20

Four actors, one act, no script. In One Act/Play, the Locomotive team creates a unique, improvised play for you, right now.

Will it be touching?

Hilarious?

Dramatic and heartfelt?

Very likely, but you'll only find out by being there.

O N E A C T / P L A Y
M O N T H L Y O N S A T U R D A Y S
C R E A T E D A N D
P E R F O R M E D B Y
L O C O M O T I V E



T H I S O N E T I M E
M O N T H L Y O N F R I D A Y S
P R E S E N T E D B Y
K I C K I N ' R A D

A top-quality team of Pōneke improvisors come together in a delicious night of improv inspired by their personal stories.

With new lineups every month selected by improv stalwart Jennifer O'Sullivan, and themes chosen to bring out their best, This One Time promises a magic and hilarious night for those lucky enough to be in the right place at the right time.

REGULAR IMPROV SHOWS



L A T E N I G H T
K N I F E F I G H T
M O N T H L Y O N S A T U R D A Y S
C R E A T E D B Y
L O C O M O T I V E

The improv show where three teams face off in a battle for glory, honour, and the audience's favour.

The winner returns in the headline spot next month, while the losers wail and gnash their teeth...

We bring the knives. You bring the judgement.

Co-Pro Show



SAPPHIC LAKE

AUG 17 - 28 | 6.30 PM |
\$ 25 / \$ 20

Gender isn't real - but love is.

When ancient Greek enby cutie Iphis finds themselves in love with the babe next door Ianthe, a family secret threatens their cottagecore romance. Luckily the Goddesses are on their side.

A new comic queer ballet based on the Ancient Greek myth of Iphis and Ianthe.

From the creators of **The Slutcracker** and **Galathea: Into The Bush**

Creative Team:

Produced by **Butch Mermaid** and **School for Gifted Children**
Created by **Ania Upstill**, **Brigid Costello**, and **Jean Sergent**

MADE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH BATS THEATRE AS OUR FOURTH CO-PRO SHOW OF 2021

RS

THE ADAM FOUNDATION SEASON OF



WHITE MEN

9 - 18 SEPT, 7:30PM

PRESENTED WITH THE SUPPORT OF BATS' CO-PRO 2021



Community Noticeboard is a newly devised 50-minute improvised show from Wellington's truth-based improv troupe, Best on Tap. Using real-life notes found on the community noticeboards at supermarkets throughout Wellington, the show explores the needs, wants, desires, lives and relationships behind the notice writers and readers. Sometimes sad, sometimes funny, the truth-based improvised show interweaves characters, narrative, and scenarios, bringing to life our community's ephemera.

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

AUG 17 - 21 | 8 PM |
\$ 18 / \$ 14



Bridges is a set of six brand new, 10 minute scripts written by Jo Randerson, Mitch Tawhi Thomas, Stella Reid, Sam Brooks, Anya Tate-Manning and Ahi Karunaharan. The end result is a show that is as dynamic and engaging as the world we live in; a show that doesn't shy away from the dark but continues to celebrate the light. It sticks to no one particular genre, each script performed in a back to back buffet of art. We jump between green-party house-parties, murdering the Royal family, Black Mirror Omega and existential dread.

BRIDGES

AUG 24 - 28 | 7 PM |
\$ 20 / \$ 15



Over the past five years, a feature length documentary has been in production following Adam Rohe's transition.

Now— you're invited behind-the-scenes! A live exposé adventure into an already intimate and earnest film.

MAN LESSONS

SEP 2 - 11 | 7 PM |
\$ 25 / \$ 20

Featuring clowning, sock puppetry, narration, live music, and never-before-seen footage, this show has it all.

Five men (all played by women) are sitting on the top of a mountain. The sea laps at their feet. The rising tide has engulfed the whole world and only the most privileged remain.

Soon the sea will envelop them, if they do not figure out a plan.

A hilarious new satire from award-winning playwright Abby Howells (*Harlequeen*, *Benedict Cumberbatch Must Die*), directed by Carrie Green (*He Kura Kōrero*).



WHITE MEN

SEP 9 - 18 | 7.30 PM |
\$ 25 / \$ 20



C H A N C E

SEP 12 - 18 | 7PM | \$18/\$22

Engrossing, spellbinding: 'Chance' will leave you musing on the thrill and horror of love.

These award-winning plays are all about love: how we find it, how we hold onto it and the part that destiny plays in it.

Kirkman and Lloyd give stand-out performances - complex and exquisitely nuanced - that reflect their impressive acting careers.



H I G H R I S E

SEP 15 - 18 | 9PM | \$20/\$25

Henry Lewis dreams of becoming a somebody, but just how far will he go in order to get there?

Winning awards at the Hollywood Fringe festival, HIGH RISE is the incredible true story of a modern day Icarus, set in the excess and chaos of 1980's New Zealand.



T R O J A N W A R

SEP 21 - OCT 2 | 7.30PM | \$20/\$25

Five flirtatious "French" performers meet you at the door.

They bring you in, they show you to your seat, they flirt with you.

Maybe they fall a little bit in love with you.

Then they tell the story - with you.

Like a wild dress-up party, this show combines theatrical magic, twisted pop songs and explosive wit. The most charming performers you can hope to meet play a revolving repertoire of outrageous characters.

Created and performed by A Slightly Isolated Dog, this New Zealand theatre company delivers a frantic and hilarious mash-up in the style of Python meets The Boosh. Leave your inhibitions at the door and play.

Starring Cherie Moore, Ravi Gurunathan, Jonathan Price, Brynley Stent and Andrew Paterson with sound design from Sam Clavis and direction from Leo Gene Peters.

SEPT - OCT SHOWS



Dr Drama unpacks masculinity, performance and whiteness.

When Dr Drama makes a show, expect the unconventional.

Using comedic storytelling, multimedia & dance, James Wenley unpacks masculinity, performance & whiteness.

Enrol now for an intellectually stimulating and thoroughly entertaining academic journey.

DR DRAMA MAKES A SHOW

SEP 21, 23 & 24 | TIMES VARY | \$15/\$20



Why do we do theatre? What does it mean to you?

Learn about the social origins of dramatic performance, browse Dr Drama's collection of theatre programmes, and collaborate with fellow audience members to create your own unique performance.

A fun and highly interactive theatre experience.

DR DRAMA MAKES A SHOW WITH YOU

SEP 22, 24 & 25 | TIMES VARY | \$15/\$20



THE SECRET LIVES OF SIXTEEN-YEAR-OLD GIRLS

SEP 28 - OCT 2 | 7 PM * | \$20/\$25

RETURNING to BATS AFTER A SELL OUT SEASON

The Secret Lives of Sixteen-Year-Old Girls is a contemporary coming-of-age tale across generations. Sharp, awkward and funny with a gut-punch; honest experience and cutting realities form this powerful new play about our digital age.

When almost anything is available from your smartphone, where – if anywhere – is truly safe? And what does that mean for parenting? An inter-generational cast and crew delve into the secrets, sex and Snapchat accounts of being sixteen.

A show that swings artfully between the comedy of being a cool parent and the heart-dropping consequences of social expectations and normalised violence on our young people.

SEPT - OCT SHOWS



ANXIETY... THE MUSICAL!?

OCT 7 - 9 | 7PM | \$18/\$22

At its best it's fine art, at its medium it's theatrical comedy, and at its worst it's a hot mess.

An energetic, award-winning show for those who are surviving on anxiety & coffee that they have been told they aren't allowed.

Come join overwhelmed millennial Maria Williams (Mournmoor Murders, Stoge Chollonge 2006) for storytelling, singing and laughing that will inspire you, and if not inspire it will entertain you, and if it doesn't entertain it will fill an hour.

"Clever and also very, very funny" – **Theatreview**



LITTLE TOWN LIARS

OCT 5 - 9 | 8.30PM | \$20/\$25

The award-winning musical is back and more chaotic than ever!

Set in the deep south of 1950s Louisiana, Little Town Liars follows three kids as they sneak out on Halloween to take what they think are just innocent herbal pills.

Three days later, they emerge from the woods, dazed, confused and smelling like dog's balls. What begins as a simple cover-up story quickly snowballs into mass hysteria within the town where "I was abducted by aliens" becomes a trendy scapegoat for everyone's atrocious behaviour.

Little Town Liars premiered at BATS Out-of-Site in 2013 as part of the NZ Fringe Festival, winning awards for Best Ensemble and Pick of the Fringe. More recently, the show has had sell-out seasons with Auckland Musical Theatre and Yellow-Shaped in Stockholm, Sweden.

OCT SHOWS

NEW ZEALAND 4-16 OCT 2021
IMPROV FESTIVAL
A FESTIVAL OF MOMENTS





PERFORMANCE SHOWCASE

Comedy, drama, mystery, mischief, music, sci-fi, fantasy, and immersive... anything (and everything) could happen!

TUESDAY 12 OCTOBER

6:30pm: Here's A Thing: NZIF Opening

8:00pm: Completely Improvised
Shakespeare

8:30pm: Murder on a Boat

WEDNESDAY 13 OCTOBER

2:00pm: The Secret Superhero Galaxy-
Traveling Family Band Show

6:30pm: The I-Files

8:00pm: JunkITS

8:30pm: Dungeons & Improvisers

9:00pm: Grab Bag

THURSDAY 14 OCTOBER

6:30pm: Your Extraordinary Life

8:00pm: Apocalypse Today

8:30pm: Weasels

9:00pm: Scratch Night

FRIDAY 15 OCTOBER

6:30pm: A Very Important Meeting

8:00pm: Sounds Like A Song!

8:30pm: Quiz-Prov (working title)

9:00pm: Bryce Halliday's Log Jam

SATURDAY 16 OCTOBER

6:30pm: Blind / Sighted

8:00pm: Shuffle Gods

8:30pm: NZ vs The World: Bubble Edition

TICKETS

Full \$20, Conc \$15, Groups 6+ \$18,

Three Show Pass \$45

Full programme and more at

improvfest.nz



NEW ZEALAND
IMPROV FESTIVAL
A FESTIVAL OF MOMENTS



WORKSHOPS

9-16 OCTOBER

Our masterclass programme features 33 workshops in improvised theatre techniques, open to actors and improvisors at all levels of experience. Learn from top teachers from across NZ and (hopefully) Australia.

Register at my.improvest.nz

CONFERENCE

11-15 OCTOBER

NZIF brings together some of the finest minds in improv from around NZ for conversation, connection, and education in five afternoons of panels and presentations.

Free | Programme at improvest.nz

YOUTH PROGRAMME

4-8 OCTOBER

NZIF invites teens (13-18 years) to take part in five full days of workshops & two nights of performance, facilitated by experienced improvisors renowned in the theatre community.

You'll learn and practice everything you need to set you up for success on stage: Spontaneity, Collaboration, Storytelling, and Stagecraft.

You'll also get a double pass to see three performances in the main programme, as well as a whole week of fun!

For registration and information email youth@improvfest.nz



NEW ZEALAND
IMPROV FESTIVAL
A FESTIVAL OF MOMENTS



DON'T MISS A MOMENT

Every year, hordes of improvisors take over BATS for a festival of made-up mayhem. There are no scripts, no lines to remember; only spontaneity and generosity on stage, creating theatre that has never been seen and will never be seen again.

We were one of many events affected by 2020, and we're thrilled that 2021 sees us welcoming back artists from around NZ and - if the bubble returns - Australia. Whether it's open or not, we've put together an incredible line-up this spring - we can't wait to make it all up with you!

Jennifer O'Sullivan
Director | New Zealand Improv Festival

KEEP CONNECTED



BATS.CO.NZ



04 802 4175



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BATSTHEATRE



@BATS_THEATRE



SUBSCRIBE TO BATSMAIL
AT BATS.CO.NZ

INTRODUCING THE DIFFERENCE

The Difference ticket type is for those who **CAN** afford more and **WANT** more money to go directly to our artists. At \$40 per ticket 'The Difference' ticket does what it says it does - makes a bloody big difference to the sustainability of our artists careers.

Thank you for supporting our artists!

TAHI

19 - 23RD
OCTOBER 2021

A celebration of solo performance, TAHI is a five-day Festival at BATS Theatre dedicated to showcasing the finest and most engaging solo theatre from all around Aotearoa.

TAHIFESTIVALNZ.COM

 @TAHIFESTIVALNZ #TAHI2021

 creative nz
ARTS COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND / TE AOTEAROA



Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council
Me Heke Ki Pōneke



TED TALKS CRIMES

Created by Dastardly Productions,
Written by Jeremy Hunt and Ricky
Dey, Performed by Jeremy Hunt

Ted is a criminal. Ted likes to teach.
Ted. Talks. Crimes.

Learn how to do crimes like the pros
with science based, tried, true and
tested techniques for committing
crimes and getting away with it. For
everything from mastering disguise
to the importance of lettuce, Ted will
teach it all. Experience and watch real
life examples, take pop quizzes, and
earn your certificate in criminology.
By the end of the talk you will be fully
prepared to begin your journey to the
top of the criminal underworld.

* 6.00PM, Tuesday 19,
Thursday 21, Friday 22 October
* The Dome
* \$18 / \$14 / \$12

* Writing consultant: Matt Schaw *
Lighting/AV design and operator: Bekky
Boyce * Graphic design/Marketing
consultant: Robert Lindsay *



TAMI

BACK TO SQUARE ONE?

Written & Performed by Anders Falstie-
Jensen, Damaturgy by Simon O'Connor

* 6.30PM, Wednesday 20 October
* Random Stage
* \$22 / \$18 / \$15

The Rebel Alliance invites you into 95-year-old
Inga's living room in Denmark as she reaches
out through space and time to her grandson in
New Zealand. Inga has seen world wars, cold
wars, and civil wars. In real life and on TV. And
when you're close to 100 you know a thing or
two about a thing or two. Sometimes all you
need is an old lady to set you straight.

It's theatre, but only just!



TE TUPUA – THE GOBLIN

Written & Performed by John Davies

* 8.30PM, Wednesday 20 October
* Random Stage
* \$22 / \$18 / \$15

A dynamic and engaging performance of a
rollicking story, *Te Tupua – The Goblin* tells
the life story of John Davies' ancestor: James
Graham. While a fantastical fictional tale,
these reflections on his exile as a child from
the Scottish Highlands, life as a sailor, years
living with Māori, his subsequent return to
England and life as a freak in a carnival until
his death and spiritual return to his Māori
family are based in historical record. *Te Tupua*
openly confronts a story of early contact and
with the act of expiation the audience is led
to consider and reflect on inter-racial healing
and sharing of our mutual origins.

* Composer: Michael Williams *
Performance advisers: Teiaro Taikato,
Ariana Williams & Alexandra Witham *
Design: Moko Smith *



WHĀNAU

Directed by Kerryn Palmer
& Sally Richards

Four actors, ten monologues,
sixty minutes. Following a
sell-out season of BATCH last
year, TAHI presents its new work,
Whānau, a dynamic and poignant
performance on what it means to
be a family; featuring extracts
from twelve brilliant New Zealand
solo shows.

By agreement with Playmarket.

- * 8.30PM, Tuesday 19, Friday 22
& Saturday 23 October
- * Random Stage
- * \$18 / \$14 / \$12



Images: 2020 BATCH season, credit Dianna Thomson

HATCH

Created & Performed by Chloe
Jaques, Louise Jiang, Amy McLean,
Viki Moananu, Kealan Schmidt &
Maea Shepherd

TAHI is a dedicated platform for
the hothouse of local talent to
present their work, and an important
component of our work is valuing and
fostering emerging artists.

HATCH gives a platform to students
of acting programmes from Te Auaha
(Kealan & Maea), Toi Whakaari: NZ
Drama School (Chloe & Louise) and
Victoria University (Amy & Viki)
providing them with the opportunity to
develop their craft through a series of
showings with industry professionals.

This process not only connects these
students with their peers in other
institutions, but also potential mentors
and venues in the Wellington region.
HATCH is a great opportunity for these
six students to gain experience, skills
and connections. Come support these
exciting emerging voices.

- * 7.00PM, Thursday 21, Friday 22
& Saturday 23 October
- * The Studio
- * \$15 / \$10



TAHI

ORLANDO

Co-created by Jessie Alsop & Jade Eriksen, Performed by Jessie Alsop, Directed by Jade Eriksen

Orlando is a work in development. It's about parenting and progress, life, death and family.

On Sunday, September 2nd, 2018 I wake up in an armchair at the NeoNatal intensive care unit of Wellington Hospital. My wife is asleep in the wards after a long, tough labour. Our son is alive, but only just.

A kind, practical NICU nurse walks hesitantly toward me with a brown paper gift bag. "Well. Happy Father's Day"

Not unlike Virginia Woolf's titular character it seems I have gone to bed a woman and awoken a man. I feel terrified and also elated. Freed from one set of rules, conned by another?

Contains: suicide, gender dysphoria, birth trauma. Despite all these trigger warnings, it's also got lots of laughs.

- * 8.00PM, Wednesday 20, Thursday 21 & Friday 22 October
- * The Dome
- * \$18 / \$14 / \$12



ECHOLALIA

Created & Performed by Jen McArthur

A young woman on the autistic spectrum prepares for a much needed job interview and society's social norms are put under the spotlight in this utterly mesmerizing clown theatre show by Jen McArthur. Inspired by the different perspectives, struggles and joys of autistic children she worked with, McArthur's delightful character Echo doesn't register social niceties, yet wants to be part of the world. *Echolalia* is "a genuinely comic yet heartwarming piece of gentle brilliance. *****" *Edinburgh Guide*

- * 6.30PM, Thursday 21 October
- * Random Stage
- * \$22/\$18/\$15



THEM FATALE

Written & Performed by James Hilary Penwarden

A warm and welcoming night out for gays, theys, and comedy-loving baes. *Them Fatale* is a safe space and a sexy place to be.

Them Fatale directly addresses a few cis-het normative elephants in the room: Why is this non-binary person not altering their feminine body? How did a Catholic get this queer? What does bisexuality even mean if the whole concept of gender is kaput? Is this just a trend?

- * 8.30PM, Thursday 21 October
- * Random Stage
- * \$22/\$18/\$15

* Costume: Amira El Orfi * Mentor: Eli Matthewson *



TAHI FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENTS

THE GREAT TEDDY BEAR ESCAPE

Created & Performed by
Beth Kayes

- * 10.00AM, Saturday 23 October
- * Random Stage
- * \$10

The Great Teddy Bear Escape is a 30-minute storytelling show for 3 to 5 year old children filled with comic characters, dynamic movement and music.

The Teddies are sitting at the windows of their houses. The children are having a teddy bear hunt and count the teddies as they walk or zoom past on their bikes. But one young teddy can't sit still! He is so bored! Why can't he go and play? The other teddies tell him to sit still and watch out for the children. It is impossible, his legs start to jiggle, his paws click, he wriggles and squirms. He looks out the window and plans to escape! Bring your little ones and join this adventurous bear in his great escape.



TENNIS

Created & Performed by
Patrick Adderley

Patrick Federer is the lesser-known younger brother of Roger Federer. But Patrick is no ball boy! He has some grand slam tennis tricks and stunts of his own.

After the show is Wimble-done put on your dancing shoes because we're heading to the tennis ball. So grab yourself a soft serve and bring the whole family to see the circus show people are calling an absolute racket.

- * 11.30AM, Saturday 23 October
- * Random Stage
- * \$10



HOW TO WIN @ LIFE

Written & Performed by Samantha Hannah,
Directed by Ben Targat

A guide to life and how to win it. With puppies and kittens. And jokes! Death has killed over 100 billion people so far. Sadly, experts believe this number will only go up. From the creator of *How to Find a Husband in a Year* and *How to Find Happiness (in a Year)*, this annum, Sammy was set to take on life with a scenic tour of her formative years, hilariously punctuated with the embarrassing moments that continue to haunt her years later.

- * 6.30PM, Friday 22 October
- * Random Stage
- * \$22/\$18/\$15

* Online Moderator & Manager:
Daisy Francis *



ITI KAHURANGI

Created & Performed by
Kahurangi Bronsson-George

*Whāia te iti kahurangi, ki te tuohu koe, me
he maunga teitei.*

*Seek the treasure you value most dearly,
and if you bow your head, let it be to a
lofty mountain.*

This whakatauki is about perseverance and endurance, and is a central theme for Bronsson-George's show exploring his whakapapa, his Māoritanga and combining Māori theatre with Circus arts. In a show that makes use of dynamic movement, storytelling, te reo Māori and projected imagery, *Iti Kahurangi* is "visceral, heart-warming and important."

Contains loud music, flashing lights and semi-nudity.

- * 6.00PM, Saturday 23 October
- * The Dome
- * \$22/\$18/\$15

* Visual Artist, Projection Designer &
Operator: Darrell Smith aka VJ Cubeman *



SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS

Written, Produced & Performed by Cian
Parker, Directed by Laura Haughey

Sorry For Your Loss is a story of growing up, and explores the effects of having a sometimes-there-mostly-not Dad. A raw and real performance, *Sorry For Your Loss* sees Parker open up to audiences and expose something she never thought she needed to revisit. This story is about the strength of a woman; and the gift of strength from one woman to another.

- * 6.30PM, Saturday 23 October
- * Random Stage
- * \$22/\$18/\$15

* Dramaturg: Laura Haughey *
Music: Andrew Duggan * Technician:
Alec Forbes *



DEEP AND MEANINGFUL

Written, Produced & Performed by Alayne
Dick, Directed by Jen O'Sullivan

It's the final night before the Earth is destroyed, so Alayne is throwing a party. Tomorrow we will be eaten by a black hole. It's definitely not her fault. *Deep and Meaningful* is an absurdist poetry, comedy show that explores depression and modern fears about our limited time left on Earth.

- * 8.00PM, Saturday 23 October
- * The Dome
- * \$22 / \$18 / \$15

* Set Design: Jen O'Sullivan * Live Music
& Sound Design: Aaron Pyke *



TAHI WORKSHOPS

TAHI offers six workshops over the season and you are warmly invited to join six of our main-bill artists behind the scenes to learn from their creative development process.

Our Workshops are open to the public, running 12.30pm / 2.30pm each day at Thistle Hall. To find out more sign up to the TAHI newsletter for more details when they are released - www.tahifestivalnz.com

* Wednesday

Join award-winning actor Cian Parker and multi-award winning international director and actor-trainer Laura Haughey as they guide you on an exploration of physical storytelling using autobiographical stories to generate material.

Then, from the creator of *How to Find a Husband in a Year* and *How To Win @ Life*, Samantha Hannah brings you a workshop about bringing comedy into your work by using lived experiences to generate comedic material.

* Thursday

Ever wondered what would circus look like if it married Māori movement and acrobatics? Aotearoa's Māori Circus Acrobat and Musician, Kahurangi Bronsson-George is here to show you.

John Davies—with 30 years' experience working as a director, performer and tutor in the performing arts—will take us back to the roots of creating work in his workshop, 'I contain Multitudes'.

* Friday

James Hilary Penwarden, creator of *Them Fatale* and fabulous non-binary comedian, is here to teach us about audiences. How does one win them over and keep their favour?

Beth Kayes, founder of Co. Theatre Physical, has something special up her sleeve to end our workshop series with a bang!

Within TAHI's line-up of workshops, there is something for everybody.





SOFT CARNAGE

OCT 26 - 30 | 6.30PM | \$20/\$25

Here's to stealing free samples, dancing to call-waiting music, being attracted to gay men and dealing with emotional stuff through the tried-and-true medium of "making jokes".

Because people like jokes but people don't like crying.

Off the back of her bizarre and charming show *Filthy Little Goblin*, Brynley Stent (*Taskmaster NZ*, *Jono & Ben*, *Have You Been Paying Attention NZ*) is back, with more absurd sketches and situations that make you laugh and wince at the same time.

Winner – Best Performance (Comedy) 2018, Auckland Fringe Festival
Billy T Nominee 2021, NZICF



DADDY-SHORT-LEGS

OCT 26 - 30 | 8.30PM | \$20/\$25

Encore season - winner of the 2021 Fred Award (Best Show, NZ International Comedy Festival).

One of New Zealand's best joke writers is back behind the wheel with a brand new hour of stand-up about the huge life-revelations that take place in shittiest of cars.

Eli is almost old enough to be a "daddy", but his own father is stealing some of his thunder...

Head Writer – *Have You Been Paying Attention*
Winner – Director's Award 2019, NZ International Comedy Festival
Nominee – Fred Award for Best NZ Show 2017, NZICF
Nominee – Billy T Award 2015 & 2013, NZICF

OCT SHOWS



#BATSBATHROOMSELFIE



I'M NOT GOING TO LIE TO YOU

OCT 27 - 30 | 7PM | \$18/\$22

What do you see in me?
What do I see in you?
Are the impulses I feel a legitimate expression of the deeper self?
Are you dreaming of me the way I dream of you?
'I'm Not Going To Lie To You' is an exploration into female performativity, the self and desire.
Tessa Redman returns to BATS after a successful premiere season at the 2021 New Zealand Fringe Festival.



YOU KNOW I

NOV 9 - 13 | 7PM | \$18/\$22

'You Know I' is an escalation. A lesson on when to stop and when to jump on the pendulum and enjoy the ride.

Colliding dance and fragmented text, exploring themes like dishonesty, self-righteousness, judgement, compassion and morality.

You Know I is a solo performance that seeks to find out what is really important.



DO YOU TRUST ME

NOV 9 - 13 | 8.30PM | \$15/\$20

It's dark, it's twisted, it's all made up!

An improvised psychological thriller, devised by a seasoned group of improvisers and an onstage musician.

Each night we create a new demented world for you the only question is:

Do You Trust Me?



WAITING

NOV 16 - 20 | 7.30PM | \$20/\$25

'Waiting' is an evocative coming-of-age story that emulates beat poetry delivered through physical grace.
Written and performed by Shadon Meredith, 'Waiting' is a letter written to his son, taking the audience through a journey of his life and breaking down the human condition of waiting.
Growing up in New Zealand as a Sāmoan New Zealander, the insights are both personal and reflective of cultural challenges faced by those who are navigating identity as a minority race in Aotearoa New Zealand.

OCT - NOV SHOWS

BATS THEATRE

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RICOH



13-27 NOV

STAB

Co-Pro Show



ILLEGALLY BLIND

DEC 7 - 11 | 6.30PM

| \$25 / \$15

Tragedy!
Hardship!!
Inspiration!!!
This. Is. NOT. That. Show.

Susan is a perfectly normal queer, fat, functionally blind, Autistic, chronically and mentally ill, nonbinary person, who just happens to be collecting diagnoses faster than they collect eel facts.

In this not-so-solo solo show, Susan just wants to get stuff done. Instead, they end up on an epic quest, battling sock-puppets, ableist audio-describers, a pile of laundry, and people who don't provide digital copies of important documents.

Drawing on twenty years of theatre and performance skills, Susan brings their real-life experiences to the stage. The result is a whimsical romp through the world of identity and shattered expectations, mixing traditional theatre with stand up comedy, poetry, improvisation, and more silly voices than you can shake an eel at.

Illegally Blind is fully accessible to disabled people (including inbuilt audio description); a token effort has been made to include the abled as well.

Co-Pro Show



DEC 7 - 18 | 8 PM |

\$ 25 / \$ 20

'THE NEST: Street Styles Solo Festival' also known as 'THE NEST', platforms, amplifies and centres Street Styled dance artists and forms, seeking to develop the personal practice of the artists, and to share their stories, their whakapapa and creativity in new spaces.

'THE NEST' seeks to open pathways and more opportunities for performance and test new ideas, as well as offering some resources and sustainability within the creation and development process. Curated by Ooshcon, Jahra Wasasala and produced by Elyssia Wilson-Heti, THE NEST follows in the footsteps of festivals like London's Breakin' Convention.

This special festival is a place for Street Styles artists and audiences to exchange, talanoa and up-skill, whilst centering Street Style forms of knowledge that are inherently connected to global indigenous communities.

THE NEST: Street Styles Solo Dance Festival had it's inaugural season this year in July at Basement Theatre in Tamaki Makaurau, and the village behind it is excited to bring it to Te Whanganui-a-Tara later this year.

THE NEST: STREET STYLES SOLO DANCE FESTIVAL



**PARKIN DEVELOPMENT
AWARD WINNERS**

DEC 7 - 18 | 8 PM | \$25 / \$20
 Private Detectives Morgan Reid and Ian Sheff are two of the best detectives in Wellington. Morgan is the long standing top agent in the country.
 By-the-book, sophisticated and with a ghostlike ability to escape. Ian is the young, prodigal son of the agency. He is a sore loser and a rebel with an unorthodox ability to get the job done.
 After both being forced into a simple arson case due to reckless behaviour, they must move past their differences and work together to overcome the odds and uncover a much larger conspiracy that reaches internationally.



THANK YOU TO...

You!

For reading this, and supporting us.

You're a bloody legend.



**Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council**

Me Heke Ki Pōneke

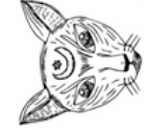


BUT ALSO...

RANDOM GROUP



ARTS COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND TOI AOTEAROA



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