

LATE MARCH - MAY 2021



BATS Theatre
1 Kent Tce
Wellington

GUANO 99



#BATSBATHROOMSELFIE





KIA ORA WHĀNAU

Kei te pehea koutou?!

We've got that new new!

Being a theatre in the middle of a pandemic is a lot of mahi, yet we continue to forge forward with our strategic plan and the new initiatives we want to implement in 2021 - The Year of the Artist.

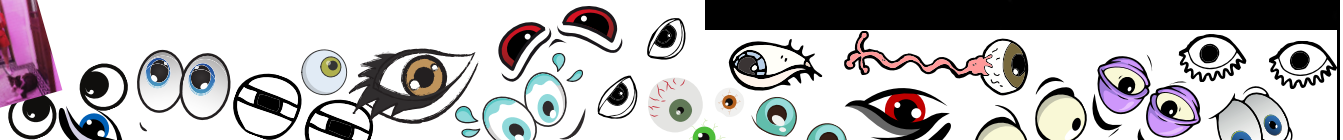
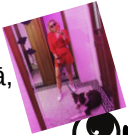
We are stoked to announce our first two partnerships of the newly launched Co-Pro Model. **45c an Hour** and **Transmission** are coming to you this autumn - check out what they're about over the page.

We also have some new (ish) staff appointments of **Carrie Thiel** as Creative Producer and **Neenah Dekkers-Reihana** as Programmer. We are so grateful to have these two top-notch wāhine join us. We also have **Michelle Raurahu-Scott** back to work with **Boni Te Rongopai Tukiwaho** to develop our new Intercultural Policy. Nau mai!

R.I.P. to Guano 96 A.K.A The Guano That Never Was (I mean it was made and printed and physically existed buuut never made it to your hands). This Guano feels a little cathartic now that NZ INTL Comedy Fest is here after being cancelled in 2020. Grateful for every day we get to be here showcasing our stunning artists.

We look forward to welcoming our funny folk to BATS after a very long hiatus.

Mā te wā,
Stevie



LETTER FROM THE EDITOR VIBE

The Price of Lemons

8.99 for a kilo of lemons
Imported american lemons
But there are so many fruitful easy garden lemon trees
"They should crowdsourcse them"

Every walk up or down holloway road i stare at the lemon tree
It stands at the centre of a paved front garden in a hole in the concrete
A bloom burst through a crack in an untended path
It is consistently heavy with bright fruit

The lemons are protected
By a low wall hip height at highest
And the jealous cloudy eyes of stooped figures behind net curtains
They tend to weeds in the courtyard
And decorative plates on the walls
And decorative fruit bowls devoid of lemons
They have access to so many free lemons
They are not picking the lemons at a noticeable rate

The lemons remain
I am tantalus
I can not purchase overpriced lemons
There are free lemons within reach
But i am stilled by fear
Even in the dead of night the watchers wink at me
I can not extend a hand

I dream myself in a peasant's dress the skirt cradling my spoils
Tearing up the sitreet with bright eyes and exposed knees
I am triumphant
I have the lemons
But only the few i am due
And they go unmissed

There is another lemon tree
Gigantic and more productive still
Visible a dozen steps from the scene of my torment
So far up the bank it has never really crossed my mind



The phone rings, but they won't pick it up. They don't want to, and they can't.

For the socially anxious, the depressed, the ones who have an existential crisis most days, to the ones who feel they think too much, who can't get out of bed and who are just trying to get a break from it all.

DON'T WAKE ME UP depicts a young person grappling with the struggle of everyday life. It explores the mundane routine of work, life, love... sleep, get up, go to work, come home, go to bed, repeat. Thrilling.

DON'T WAKE ME UP

MAR 25 - APR 1 | 8.30PM | \$22/\$18



They had everything they needed. They grew vegetables and fruit to eat, they caught fish. They played games with each other and told stories, stories of old and stories of new.

Sometimes they sang those stories. There was one song they sang, of a time when the Rainbow Fish lost its colours, a time when the other fish in the sea had no colours, a time when the wind created great mischief to the people of the island and the fish in the sea.

RAINBOWS AND FISHES

APR 20 - 24 | 10.30AM & 12.30PM | \$15 ADULTS, \$12 KIDS & \$45 GROUP OF 4



45 CENTS AN HOUR

WRITTEN AND PERFORMED BY DOMINIC HOEY

APR 8 - 17 | 6.30PM | \$25 - \$20

Returning to BATS for the first time since his sell out season of *Your Heart Looks Like a Vagina* (2018), Dominic Hoey is back with the premiere of his new show.

45 Cents an Hour tackles classism and gate keeping in our arts institutions, tracking Dominic's journey from rapper and performance poet, to theatre maker and novelist.

It also features dogs, songs and crying.

MARCH - APRIL SHOWS



EXTREMELY SOON I HOPE! HOW

STAB 2021



NOV 2021

LONG ARE YOU HERE THIS TIME?

OLIVIA MAHOOD + POPPY SERANO
O + P WORKS

BATS CO-PRO



TRANSMISSION

APR 20 - MAY 1 | 6.30 PM | \$25 / \$20

TRANSMISSION is an original, multi-media theatre show, drawn from over 20 hours of verbatim interviews recorded since April 2020 with NZ Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern, Deputy Prime Minister Grant Robertson and leading epidemiologist Michael Baker around the decision to lockdown NZ in response to Covid-19 and its targeted elimination. It is a behind the scenes glimpse into how they were thinking and feeling at the time — and into the life events that have shaped them as leaders.

From the creators of *VERBATIM* (1993), *PORTRAITS* (1997), *FLOWERS FROM MY MOTHER'S GARDEN* (1998), *BIOGRAPHY OF MY SKIN* (2009), a verbatim show about "going early and going hard".

APRIL SHOWS CONT.



COMEDYFESTIVAL.CO.NZ



**ANGELLA DRAVID:
STORIES FOR ADULTS**
MAY 4 - 8 | 6.30 PM

From comedian and the winner of Taskmaster NZ, comes an hour of adult stories and fables to learn from. 'Wonderfully cringe-worthy and hugely entertaining'.



**RAY O'LEARY: RAY
AGAINST THE MACHINE**
MAY 4 - 8 | 7 PM

Ray O'Leary (7 Days, Have You Been Paying Attention?, two time Billy T Award loser) is a big brain in an ill-fitting suit. With his wit and awkward bravado, he dissects everything from bizarre beliefs to bad bosses.



HORN Y AND CONFUSED 2: THE SECOND CUMING

MAY 4 - 8 | 7.30PM

It's been a horny and confusing year for these two best-friends, but they're back for round 2. This time they're saying goodbye to missionary and saying hello to new songs, new stand-up and more obscure prop-humour. It's about weird sexy sex, self-service sex and most importantly, friendship.



INSIDE JAMES MUSTAPIC

MAY 4 - 8 | 8.15PM

James is venturing inside himself (Magic School Bus style) to analyse every part of his mind and body to find out why he's just so messed up! Join him for an hour of multi-media comedy as he explores the depths of his deranged brain to figure out what really makes him tick.



JANAYE HENRY: LITERALLY OBSESSED

MAY 4 - 8 | 8.45PM

Aotearoa's "more is more" babe Janaye Henry ensures you are getting more bang for your buck with her fast paced, "will you take a breath?" style of comedy. Ultimately, she's here to unpack a single date - like was he being racist? (spoiler alert: he was) and to share her insights of day-to-day events.



CORI GONZALEZ- MACUER: UP LATE

MAY 6 - 8 | 10PM

Late night comedy at it's best. Join the star of Mean Mums, What We Do In The Shadows and 7 Days regular for an hour of observational, sardonic, dark and self deprecating comedy in classic CGM style, all in a late night theatre setting. A lot of shit has gone down these last couple of years and Cori can't wait to vent.



BOY MESTIZO: THE RETURN

MAY 7 - 8 | 5PM

James always thought his hang-ups about being brown came from when he landed on Kiwi soil. Now he realises he may have accidentally checked-in some baggage back in the Philippines. Join him as he unpacks it all - who knows what will come out.



BYNLEY STENT: SOFT CARNAGE

MAY 11 - 15 | 6.30PM

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.



SERA DEVCICH: GENERAL ADMISSIONS

MAY 11 - 15 | 7PM

A confessional booth of comedy, straight stand-up, no gimmicks just a microphone and a show crammed with jokes, there's no message, no moral of the story, there's just a lot of laughs. Sera Devcich is hilarious, dark and not to be missed.



ELI MATTHEWSON: DADDY-SHORT-LEGS

MAY 11 - 15 | 8.15PM

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...

NZ INTL COMEDY FEST

ABOUT BATS

BATS Theatre is a not-for-profit theatre that aims to light up lives with live art. For over 30 years BATS has nourished various artistic communities, played a key role in developing new creative voices in Aotearoa, launched many successful careers, and become a second home for people on and off stage.

Join us in our mission to create safe spaces for artists and audiences to expand possibilities. BATS has always been the place to take a risk, so why not take a stab at what's coming up... check out bats.co.nz for more info.

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!

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kristin@bats.co.nz

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Email: bar@bats.co.nz

THE PIT
Gallery

Call for artists!

Musicians and visual artists to perform or exhibit in The Pit!



DAVID CORREOS: IS DAVID POSTOFFICE

MAY 11 - 15 | 8.45PM

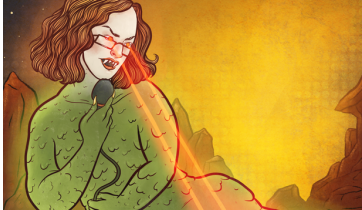
Like a Jackson Pollock of comedy, his expression is abstract and doesn't mind splattering ideas – or cat food – around the room. Joyful, random, delightful, just what you want from a twenty-something-Filipino-comedian that you can't wait to see what he'll come up with.



PLAYSHOP PRESENTS BABESHOP

MAY 13 - 15 | 10PM

Your favourite Wellington improv company is back with our sell-out show BabeShop. Femme, queer, on the spot comedy with five of our top players. This is an improvised snack you do not want to miss. Three nights only and a 10pm slot? Yup, it's going to get silly. You don't know what you're in for; neither do we!



JADWIGA GREEN: CARDIGAN FAGET

MAY 13 - 15 | 10.30PM

A wry and silly exploration of life on the margins of mental health, gender and sexuality. The show chronicles Jadwiga's experience of entering the stand-up comedy scene the same week she was discharged from a psychiatric hospital. If you're daunted by watching straight white men tell the same jokes about their wives and kids, this show offers a refreshing reprieve.



LAURA DAVIS: IF THIS IS IT

MAY 18 - 22 | 6.30PM

Will leave you feeling uplifted, somewhat bewildered and utterly amazed by such blistering talent. A show for current times, it addresses the upheaving mix of doom and hope that we're all living with. Laura delivers valiantly uplifting, intimate and heartfelt comedy that blurs the line between artist and audience.



IF YOU MET MY MUM, YOU'D UNDERSTAND

MAY 18 - 22 | 7PM

Hailing from the misty vales of remote South Westland, Bobby Wood is one of those rare comedic gems, still untarnished by the modern excesses of high-speed internet, packaged meat, and introspection.



AUSTEN FOUND: THE UNDISCOVERED MUSICALS OF JANE AUSTEN

MAY 18 - 22 | 8.15PM

Addicted to Darcy? Bonkers for big balls? Lost all Sense & Sensibility? Well stop watching Bridgerton & get ready to enjoy an entirely improvised musical in the style of Jane Austen.



NICK GIBB MAKES SENSE OF IT ALL

MAY 18 - 22 | 8.45PM

A show that will make you say "Wow, in this age of constant information overload he still managed to find a fresh perspective in a way that was insightful, hilarious, and didn't even have that lull at the forty minute mark that a lot of shows do.



THE SABOTEUR: AN INTERACTIVE GAME OF TRUST

MAY 19 - 22 | 10PM

Five performers are all working hard to put on a good improv show. Well, almost all of them. One of them is trying to sabotage the show without getting caught. Will The Saboteur be unmasked before the evening is ruined?

NZ INTL COMEDY FEST



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...



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FOUNDATION**

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