

11.30AM – 5.30PM
WEDNESDAY 13 JULY

ARTS HOUSE
NORTH MELBOURNE TOWN HALL

2016
VICTORIAN
THEATRE FORUM

THE NEXT
STAGE

TWEET
#VTF2016

TNV.NET.AU



FORUM SCHEDULE

11.30am – **Registrations / Tea & Coffee (Foyer & Main Hall)**

12.00pm – **SESSION ONE (Main Hall)**
– Welcome and Introductions
– Ice Ice Breaker
– Keynote - Trust & Valuing The Artist In The Marketplace

12.45pm – **Lunch (Foyer & Main Hall)**

1.30pm – **SESSION TWO (Main Hall)**
– Sector Updates
– In and Out
– Keynote – Here I Stand: Cultivating Personal Resilience
In The Face Of Chaos

2.55pm – **Afternoon Tea (Foyer & Main Hall)**

3.15pm – **SESSION THREE (Various)**
– Talk: Group Breakout Sessions
– Walk: ‘Out & About’ tours of North Melbourne

4.20pm – **SESSION FOUR (Main Hall)**
– New Faces
– Responses and Pledges
– Wrap Up

5.15pm – **Sector Party (Supper Room)**

WELCOME TO THE SEVENTH ANNUAL VICTORIAN THEATRE FORUM – ‘THE NEXT STAGE: NEW POTENTIAL AND ADAPTIVE RESILIENCE’.

**VALUE. PLACE. PRACTICE. DIVERSITY.
ENVIRONMENT. TECHNOLOGY.**

**WHEN OUR WORLD SHIFTS, HOW DO
WE REMAIN HEALTHY AND STRONG?**

As the Australian cultural map continues to be redrawn, it's crucial that we stay connected, find new models and devise new practices in order to continue making art in a troubled climate. The 2016 Victorian Theatre Forum is designed to develop adaptive resilience and uncover new potential as we learn to embrace the changing role of culture, both locally and globally.

Over the last twelve months, TNA has worked on behalf of its members and the wider sector to navigate change. We thank all of our members – new and returning - for their financial support at this crucial time.

As we grow our national reach, our dedicated Victorian program will continue to provide spaces for learning that, ultimately, lead to us becoming a more innovative and interconnected sector. But it starts with you: be sure to flick through the delegate list and introduce yourself to someone new today!

KEYNOTES

WILLOH S. WEILAND (APHIDS)

TRUST & VALUING THE ARTIST IN THE MARKETPLACE

Recognising the gap between independents and waged delegates, Willoh proposes ways to shift the balance, placing artists at the centre of our industry's marketplace culture.

Willoh is an artist, writer, curator and the Artistic Director of Aphids. In 2015, she won the prestigious ANTI Festival International Prize for Live Art (Finland). Residencies include an Asialink residency in Beijing, 2009 and Splendid Arts Lab and Visible City, Melbourne 2010. Willoh co-directs the laboratory space Head Quarters and is a member of the Field Theory.

ALISON ROBB (UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE)

HERE I STAND: CULTIVATING PERSONAL RESILIENCE IN THE FACE OF CHAOS

Alison will talk about the impact of chronic uncertainty on wellbeing, define and discuss resilience and provide tips for cultivating personal resilience. The session will end with a brief self-care exercise – something you can use anywhere, anytime to come back to a sense of security in the face of a chaotic world.

Alison is currently re-training as a clinical psychologist after having worked as a director, assistant director, stage manager and theatre technician. She is combining her professional study with a qualitative PhD to investigate factors impacting psychological well-being of actors. Alison's clinical interests include mindfulness, acceptance and clinician self-care, and she hopes to establish targeted support services for actors and other members of the performing arts industry.

'OUT & ABOUT' CURATOR

Yuhui Ng-Rodriguez is a Singaporean Melbourne-based performer and performance maker who lives in Geelong and commutes on the V-line. Fuelled by a preoccupation with how transient places, buildings and people are, her performance work attempts to find a connection between space and human, country and citizen, home and inhabitant, individual body and collective culture. Yuhui is the guest curator for the VTF 'Out & About' series, working with a number of local residents and guest artists to develop three experiences that explore resilience in relation to place, history, technology, entrepreneurship, food security and environment.

SECTOR UPDATES

JACOB BOEHME [INDEPENDENT ARTIST]

MELBOURNE INDIGENOUS ARTS FESTIVAL

VERONICA PARDO

[ARTS ACCESS VICTORIA]

NDIS AND CHILD SAFE STANDARDS

SUE GILES [POLYGLOT THEATRE]

& MEG UPTON [DRAMA EDUCATOR]

YOUTH ARTS UPDATE: YPAA, ASSITEJ AND SECTOR GATHERINGS

JOHN SMITHIES

[CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK]

CULTURAL INDICATORS

JESSICA WILSON &

MARCIA FERGUSON [INDEPENDENTS/ARTISTIC ENTREPRENEURS]

DWELLING: STORIES OF RESILIENCE

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Facilitated by industry experts and special guests, these sessions are inspired by our 2016 theme of resilience and adaptability. Please note that Breakout Sessions and the 'Out & About' series will be running simultaneously. Delegates are invited to select ONE of the breakout topics or activities.

ALISON ROBB – START WHERE YOU ARE: YOUR PERSONAL RESILIENCE MAP

In this practical workshop, Alison will use your strengths to draw up a personal map of resilience. She will also teach practical skills for accepting difficult emotions and cultivating self-kindness. A toolkit of handouts and links will be provided.

JACOB BOEHME – YESTERDAY AND 'YIRRAMBOI'

YIRRAMBOI'S newly appointed Artistic Director joins City of Melbourne Producer, Erin Milne, to consult with delegates as they outline a new vision for the festival.

MIIJA GWYN – OPERATING FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF THE 'OTHER'

Drawing on her practice as Coordinator of the Deaf Arts Network, Mija will explore the broader perspective of operating as the 'other' in regards to opportunity, limitation, resilience and creativity.

MEG UPTON – CIRCLES OF IDENTITY

Are things being lost in translation? Using a series of provocations around language and adaptability, this session will explore new ways to talk about your work and its value in a range of circles.

MARCIA FERGUSON & JESSICA WILSON – ARTISTIC STRATEGIES FOR RESILIENCE

Let's get to the art of it. Using the DWELLING project as context, this session will explore the 'artistic entrepreneur' model as adaptive resilience in practice.

STEVEN RICHARDSON – NEW MODELS FROM A FUNDRAISING PERSPECTIVE

Join Creative Partnerships Australia's State Manager to discuss resilience and potential in regards to arts fundraising models.

DR RICHARD BARBER – SOCIALLY ENGAGED PRACTICE AS CONFLICT TRANSFORMATION

This session will explore the practice of 'Dialogue Theatre' - a new form of participatory theatre developed in the Asia-Pacific region by Pongjit Saphakhun and Richard Barber of Free Theatre. Learn how to respond to social dilemmas and produce change using this powerful advocacy tool.

SIMON ABRAHAMS – FLEXIBLE AND POP UP STRUCTURES

Is the current system working for or against us? Join Melbourne Fringe CEO/Chair of TNA to reimagine existing models and discuss the pros and cons of experimental organisational structures.

'OUT & ABOUT' SERIES

Facilitated by industry experts and special guests, these sessions are inspired by our 2016 theme of resilience and adaptability. Please note that Breakout Sessions and the 'Out & About' series will be running simultaneously. Delegates are invited to select ONE of the breakout topics or activities.

LORNA HANNAN – WALKING INTO THE PAST

Join North Melbourne expert and elder, Lorna Hannan, on a story-based journey to local sites of significance and resilience.

DAWN WELESKI – FAIR SHARE FARE

A delightfully disturbing take on food distribution and regulation systems during periods of conflict, Dawn Weleski and Jen Rae's Fair Share Fare explores historical, contemporary (and inevitably) future food rationing.

ROBIN FOX, BYRON SCULLIN & YUHUI NG-RODRIGUEZ – MESS

Descend into the Melbourne Electronic Sound Studio - a music labyrinth; a museum where you can touch anything; a gym where you can workout on a synth...

ATTENDING DELEGATES AND SPEAKERS

Willow Weiland	Aphids
Lee Casey	Arena Theatre Company
Christian Leavesley	Arena Theatre Company
Veronica Pardo	Arts Access Victoria
Daniel Clarke	Arts Centre Melbourne
Josh Wright	Arts House
Angharad Wynne-Jones	Arts House
Meg Upton	Arts-in-Sync
Richard Watts	ArtsHub
Selene Bateman	Auspicious Arts Projects
Megan Williams	Auspicious Arts Projects
Nancy Black	Black Hole Theatre
Mark Penzak	BlueBoat Theatre
Imbi Neeme	Chamber Made Opera
Vicky Guglielmo	City of Darebin
Jacob Boehme	City of Melbourne
Rose Bruhn	City of Melbourne
Emma Cochran	City of Melbourne
Michelle Ely	City of Melbourne
Shona Johnson	City of Melbourne
Erin Milne	City of Melbourne
Candy Mitchell	City of Melbourne
Dawn Weleski	Conflict Kitchen
Steven Richardson	Creative Partnerships Australia
John Smithies	Cultural Development Network
Angela Conquet	Dancehouse
Jess Morris Payne	Dancehouse
Mija Gwyn	Deaf Arts Network/Arts Access Victoria
Jessica Moody	Deafferent Theatre
Kim Durban	Federation University Australia
Richard Barber	Free Theatre
Marcia Ferguson	Freelance
Chloe Gunn	Gunnbelievable
Olivia Allen	Independent
Sarah Austin	Independent
Frederica Cunnigham	Independent
Sandy Fairthorne	Independent
Eliza-Jane Gilchrist	Independent
Lorna Hannan	Independent
Yuhui Ng-Rodriguez	Independent
Melissa O'Donovan	Independent
Ian Pidd	Independent
Alison Richards	Independent
Daniel Santangeli	Independent

Frida Wallin	Independent
Jessica Wilson	Independent
David Woods	Independent
Clare McKenzie	KAGE
Caitlin Dullard	La Mama
Liz Jones	La Mama
Claire Bradley Duke	Lucy Guerin Inc
Annette Vieusseux	Lucy Guerin Inc
Mark Pritchard	Malthouse Theatre
Simon Abrahams	Melbourne Fringe
Dan Koop	Melbourne Fringe
Jeremy Rice	Melbourne Theatre Company
Mike Mullins OAM	Mike Mullins INK
Kerith Manderson-Galvin	MKA Theatre of New Writing
Tobias Manderson-Galvin	MKA Theatre of New Writing + Doppelgangster
Dr Tom Payne	MKA Theatre of New Writing + Doppelgangster
Lella Cariddi	MulticulturalArts Victoria
Lucy Mcnamara	Next Wave
Georgie Meagher	Next Wave
Jeannie Haughton	Off The Leash Theatre inc
Kristy Ayre	Phillip Adams BalletLab
Laura Hartnell	Platform Youth Theatre
Sue Giles	Polyglot Theatre
Viv Rosman	Polyglot Theatre
Julie Wright	Polyglot Theatre
Jude Anderson	Punctum
Kate Sulan	Rawcus
Louise Howlett	ReAction Theatre
Fiona Symonds	Red Stitch Actors Theatre
Ella Bucovaz	Regional Arts Victoria
Samantha Butterworth	Regional Arts Victoria
Justin Murphy	Regional Arts Victoria
Andy Freer	Snuff Puppets
Angela Pamic	Snuff Puppets
Sheah Sutton	Snuff Puppets
Narda Shanley	St Martins
Brad Spolding	THE SUBSTATION
Nicole Beyer	Theatre Network Australia
Bethany Simons	Theatre Network Australia
Susie Thatcher	Theatre Network Australia
Megan Riedl	Tripwire Theatre Co-op
Alison Robb	University of Adelaide
Scott Gooding	Vicious Fish Theatre/RAG Theatre/is theatre
Valentina Serebrennikova	VSTheatreDesign

THEATRE NETWORK AUSTRALIA

Theatre Network Australia (TNA) strengthens artists and arts organisations; influences cultural policy; facilitates cultural debate; and advocates for a more robust, interconnected and innovative sector. TNA is a national service organisation for the professional, small to medium and independent performing arts industry.

NICOLE BEYER – DIRECTOR
NICOLE@TNV.NET.AU

Nicole is the founding director of Theatre Network Australia. Since 2009, Nicole and her team have worked to attain greater recognition of the contribution that independent artists and small-to-medium organisations make to social, cultural and economic wellbeing. Nicole is a champion for Indigenous artists, artists from diverse backgrounds and those with disabilities, and she advocates for a more inclusive arts sector. Nicole's past positions include CEO roles at Back To Back Theatre and Arts Access Victoria. She works as a facilitator and consultant, has sat on many arts boards, and is the producer of the biennial Australian Theatre Forum. Nicole is on the executives of the advocacy bodies Arts Industry Council (Vic) and ArtsPeak national, she is a member of the Deakin Arts and Cultural Management Advisory Board, and has recently been appointed to Victoria's Creative State Advisory Board to provide advice on aspects of strategy and implementation of the new Creative Industries Strategy, Creative State. Nicole has a Masters of Public Policy and Management (MPPM) from Monash University (2013).

BETHANY SIMONS
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
BETHANY@TNV.NET.AU

Born and raised in Dubbo, NSW, Bethany is a four-time Green Room Award nominated writer and performer. Her work has toured extensively throughout Australia, appeared on the 2012 and 2015 VCE Drama Playlist and been awarded the RAVE Touring Award from Regional Arts Victoria for outstanding contribution to regional arts and culture. Bethany has experience as a teaching artist, workshop facilitator, producer, arts administrator and writer. She regularly facilitates drama, playwriting and industry workshops across Australia. Bethany joined TNA in 2014, producing the events program and leading the organisation's communications, membership, business management and marketing strategies.

TNA BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

Simon Abrahams, Alice Nash, Jill Smith, Sarah Austin, Benjamin Graetz, Catherine Jones, Lou Oppenheim, Sam Routledge, Brad Spolding and Annette Vieusseux.

THANKS

All our speakers and facilitators, Josh Wright, Jackie Johnston and all at Arts House; the team at City of Melbourne Arts Grants Program; Simon Abrahams and the TNA Board; all at Creative Victoria; our Auslan interpreters Susan Emerson, Paul Heuston and Georgia Knight; Yuhui Ng-Rodriguez and our 'Out & About' tour leaders; Ben Wright; Know Studio; Susie Thatcher; and finally to all of our delegates who give us a reason to stay connected and keep talking about the crucial issues for the arts.

Event Producer: Bethany Simons
'Out & About' Curator: Yuhui Ng-Rodriguez

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