

9.15AM – 6PM
WED 9 MAY 2018

ARTS CENTRE MELBOURNE
TESTING GROUNDS

2018
VICTORIAN
THEATRE FORUM
IN THE
ZONE

Tweet #VTF2018

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FORUM SCHEDULE

- 9.15AM** **REGISTRATION, TEA & COFFEE** (Pavilion Foyer)
- 9.30AM** **SESSION ONE** (The Pavilion)
- Welcome to Country and Introductions
 - Round 1: Firecracker Updates
 - Keynote – Art\$: What do I tell them it costs?
- 10.40AM** **MORNING TEA**
- 11.00AM** **SESSION TWO**
- Ice Breaker
 - Provocations & Breakout Discussions
 - Big Ideas
- 12.10PM** **LUNCH EXPEDITION** (Arts Precinct/Southgate Food Court)
- 1.00PM** **TNA 2018 AGM**
- Announcement of the TNA Indie SMASH Bursary
- 1.15PM** **SESSION THREE**
- Keynote: Arts, Advocacy, Arrogance and Funding
- Why arts need to speak differently to government
 - Considered Responses
 - Table Talk
- 2.40PM** **MINI BREAK**
- 2.50PM** **SESSION FOUR**
- Mini Keynote – Promoting Change
 - Round 2: Firecracker Updates
 - Who's New in the Zoo?
 - Plenary Discussion
 - Note to Self
 - Wrap Up
- 4.00PM** **DEPART PAVILION / RELOCATE TO TESTING GROUNDS**
- 4.15PM** **FIRESIDE YARNS** (Testing Grounds)
Drinks, Yarning, Fire Pits, and Next Wave Installations
- 5.24PM** **'RITUAL' BY JOEL BRAY**
- 6.00PM** **FINISH / NEXT WAVE FESTIVAL CONTINUES**

Welcome to the ninth annual Victorian Theatre Forum -

IN THE ZONE:

Embracing Place, Savouring Difference and Tackling Taboos

Presented in partnership with Next Wave and Arts Centre Melbourne.

WHERE DO WE COME FROM? WHERE ARE WE HEADED? SHOULD WE START AGAIN?

VTF 2018 is designed to challenge the models of social and cultural (non) inclusion, encouraging us to unlock and optimise the often-privileged spaces in which we create, operate and advocate.

We invite you to steer all discussions back to practice. Talk about what you do, who you work with, and why – but, we also urge you to use this space to listen and learn from each other.

As always, our annual VTF gathering is a chance to connect, learn, reflect and strengthen our collective voice as a network. Be sure to flick through the delegate list in this booklet and introduce yourself to someone new today!

KEYNOTES

TIMMAH BALL & AZJA KULPIŃSKA [WITH HANNAH DONNELLY]

ART\$: WHAT DO I TELL THEM IT COSTS?

Timmah is a writer, cultural producer and urban researcher of Ballardong Noongar descent. She has written for The Griffith Review, Un Magazine, Meanjin, Overland, Westerly Magazine, Art Guide Australia, The Lifted Brow online, and won the Westerly Patricia Hackett Prize for writing in 2017. She is currently using zine making to critique mainstream publishing conventions and will produce Wild Tongue zine as part of Next Wave Festival in 2018.

Azja is an immigrant from Poland currently based in Narm on the land of the Kulin Nations. She is a writer, zine-maker, Theatre of the Oppressed practitioner and community mental health worker. Azja has facilitated dialogical theatre and zine-making projects in Australia, Solomon Islands and Poland that explored narratives around identity, queerness, migration, displacement, mental health, intersecting systems of oppression and other topics.

NEIL PHARAOH

ARTS, ADVOCACY, ARROGANCE AND FUNDING

- WHY ARTS NEED TO SPEAK DIFFERENTLY TO GOVERNMENT

Neil is a campaigning guru and government relations consultant with a depth of experience in social purpose, government, public policy and advocacy. He has developed and executed the strategic frameworks, corporate social responsibility and advocacy initiatives for a number of major international and Australian businesses. Having lead corporate affairs, business development and marketing teams, he has been behind many leading social policy and advocacy campaigns professionally, as well as national and international philanthropic and development work – in child welfare, education, refugees and LGBTI issues. Neil is a founding director of philanthropic group, The Channel, and was national co-convenor of Rainbow Labor where he led the internal campaign which achieved over 200 legislative and regulatory reforms, including changing the Labor Party's position on marriage equality.

SECTOR UPDATES

- **Veronica Pardo** [Arts Access Victoria] – Arts Front & Human Rights
- **Dr Chris Mead** [Melbourne Theatre Company] – Contemporary Asian Australian Performance Directors Initiative
- **Sharon Custers & Christian Leavesley** [Arena Theatre Company] – Live or Die by Changing
- **Dr Anne Kershaw** [Deakin University] – Next Wave Learning Partnership
- **Erica McCalman** [Next Wave] – Festival Highlights
- **Paul Rae** [University of Melbourne] – Creative Convergence Project
- **Annette Madden** [Australia Council for the Arts] – Arts Practice Theatre Update
- **Devon Taylor** [Women's Circus] – Towards Inclusive Circus
- **Jamie Lewis & Bethany Simons** [Theatre Network Australia] – The List & This Is How We Do It

BREAKOUT DISCUSSIONS TNA RESOURCE LIBRARY

This year, we're promoting quick thinking! Each table will have twenty-minute blocks to unpack three provocations that centre around:

1. Cultural Load (Where we come from)
2. Human Rights (Who we are)
3. Art and Protest (What we do with all of that!)

If we commit to engage with our culture and understand the rights of those around us, we are better equipped to advocate for change in our industry, to open doors for others, and to make rich and relevant work.

So – get talking! Swap stories, interrogate and examine your practice, dissect your workplace. At the end of each discussion, we want to hear your big ideas, plans for action, and burning questions. (And, if there's more to be said, come to Testing Grounds and continue the conversation at Fireside Yarns).

Need some inspiration? Want the facts? We've been collating a number of thought provoking and practical resources in the lead up to our discussions today. Check out the link: <http://www.tna.org.au/vtf2018-resources/>

FIRESIDE YARNS

Cash bar, fire pits, bench seats, conversation starters, and Next Wave installations. Welcome to Fireside Yarns. Network with your peers, get a dose of art, and be sure to hang around until sunset to catch Ritual – a daily pilgrimage at the heart of the Next Wave program – featuring dancer/choreographer, Joel Bray.

NEXT WAVE FESTIVAL

A jam-packed evening awaits: Zine making workshops, dance, spoken word, theatre, video art, raves, performative dinner parties... it's all happening! Check out your Next Wave Festival program and make a plan of (art) attack.

WIFI

Testing Grounds: artartart

Arts Centre Melbourne: chookas!

ATTENDING DELEGATES AND SPEAKERS

Adriano Nunes	Creative Spaces, City of Melbourne
Alexis Drevikovskiy	Writers Victoria
Alison Harvey	Back to Back Theatre
Alison Richards	Black Hole Theatre
Amada Monteiro	TNA Volunteer
Amanda Jane Pritchard	Independent
Aneke McCulloch	Creative Partnerships Australia / Seesault
Angela Conquet	Dancehouse Inc
Angela Pamic	Arts West / Black Hole Theatre
Anna Seymour	Independent
Anna Thomson	New Heights Circus
Dr Anne Kershaw	Deakin University
Annette Madden	Australia Council for the Arts
Annette Vieusseux	Lucy Guerin Inc
Azja Kulpińska	Next Wave / Independent
Bethany Simons	Theatre Network Australia
Caitlin Dullard	La Mama
Callista Reed	Theatre Network Australia
Candy Mitchell	Arts Melbourne, City of Melbourne
Cara Dinley	TNA Volunteer / Independent
Cassandra Chatwin-Smith	Arts Centre Melbourne
Chloe Weavers	Abbotsford Convent Foundation
Dr Chris Mead	Melbourne Theatre Company
Cj Fraser-Bell	Independent
Claire Bradley Duke	Lucy Guerin Inc
Dan Goronszy	Independent
Dan Koop	Independent
Daniel Clarke	Arts Centre Melbourne
Deborah Leiser-Moore	Independent
Devon Taylor	Women's Circus
Dianne Touslon	Theatre Works
Edwina Lunn	Arts Centre Melbourne
Elias Jamieson Brown	Independent
Elliott Gee	The Very Good Looking Initiative
Emma Hall	Independent
Emma Jukic	TNA Volunteer
Erica McCalman	Next Wave
Erin Adams	Union House Theatre
Felicity Green	Spark Strategy
Gabriel Kirley	Auslan Interpreter
Gemma Robertson	VAPAC
Georgie Meyer	Punctum
Hannah Donnelly	Next Wave
Hannah Strout	Independent
Hayley Lawson-Smith	Frankston Arts Centre
Heather Morecroft	Spark Strategy
Ilana Charnelle Gelbart	Auslan Interpreter
J-Maine Beezley	Ilbjerri Theatre Company
Jacqueline Hanlin	Independent
Jamie Lewis	Theatre Network Australia
Jen Tran	La Mama
Jenny Ryssenbeek	VAPAC
Jerry Remkes	Arts Centre Melbourne
Jessica Moody	Independent
Joel McGuinness	Geelong Performing Arts Centre
Jorjia Gillis	Playwriting Australia
Jude Anderson	Punctum
Kate Bailey	Creative Victoria

Kate Hood	Independent
Kate Speakman	Monash Uni Student Theatre (MUST)
Kathy Morrison	Ibjijerri Theatre Company
Liz Jones	La Mama
Lou Oppenheim	Circus Oz
Lyn Wallis	HotHouse Theatre
Mark Wilkinson	Independent
Mary Harvey	Arts Centre Melbourne
Meg Upton	Arts-in-Sync
Megan Riedl	Independent
Melanie Smith	Arts Centre Melbourne
Melinda Hetzel	Independent
Michele Bauer	JMC Academy
Michelle Silby	Ausdance Victoria
Mike Mullins OAM	Mike Mullins INK
Mish Grigor	Next Wave / POST
Natasha Phillips	Independent
Nathan Sibthorpe	Next Wave / Counterpilot
Neil Pharaoh	Pharaoh & Associates
Nicole Beyer	Theatre Network Australia
Olivia Allen	City of Yarra: Arts and Culture
Paul Heuston	Auslan Interpreter
Paul Rae	University of Melbourne
Penelope Bartlau	Women's Circus
Pippa Bainbridge	Next Wave
Rainbow Sweeny	Polyglot Theatre
Reagan Maiquez	ALPA/AAPC
Rebecca Jensen	Independent
Rhen Soggee	Next Wave / Act Now Theatre
Rhian Hinkley	Arts Access Victoria
Richard Watts	ArtsHub
Romi Kupfer	Independent
Rosie Dwyer	Regional Arts Victoria
Ru Atma	RAWcollective
Samsara Dunston	Independent
Sara Strachan	Independent
Sarah Greentree	Chunky Move
Sarah Lockwood	Drop Bear Theatre
Scott Gooding	Independent
Selene Bateman	Auspicious Arts Projects Inc
Sharon Custers	Arena Theatre Company
Shaun Larkin	Creative Victoria
Simon Bowland	Independent
Simon Piening	Independent
Simone Schinkel	Theatre Network Australia
Sue Doyle	Creative Victoria
Susannah Day	Next Wave
Tamara Jungwirth	Gasworks Arts Park
Tara Ellis	Creative Victoria
Tim Stitz	Chamber Made
Timmah Ball	Next Wave / Independent
Tobias Manderson-Galvin	MKA Theatre of New Writing
Vanessa Chapple	Independent
Vanessa Pigrum	Chunky Move
Vanessa Wright	Independent
Veronica Pardo	Arts Access Victoria
Victoria Jones	Creative Victoria
Wahibe Moussa	Independent
Xanthe Beesley	Union House Theatre
Yvonne Virsik	Monash Uni Student Theatre (MUST)

THEATRE NETWORK AUSTRALIA

Theatre Network Australia (TNA) is the leading Australian industry development organisation for contemporary small to medium and independent performing arts. TNA strengthens artists and arts organisations; influences cultural policy; facilitates critical debate; and advocates for a more robust, interconnected and innovative sector. TNA is a national organisation with a dedicated Victorian program.

NICOLE BEYER | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Nicole Beyer is a leading Australian advocate for the arts, and a cultural policy expert, representing the arts industry through her many roles on boards, panels and in forums, and has been with TNA since its establishment in 2009.

SIMONE SCHINKEL | GENERAL MANAGER

Simone is a creative producer and project manager with extensive experience in arts and festival management. Prior to joining TNA she worked for KAGE as their Executive Producer and General Manager.

TNA BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

Annette Vieuzeux (Chair), Jill Smith (Deputy Chair), Lou Oppenheim (Treasurer), Ben Graetz, Catherine Jones, Erica McCalman, Sam Routledge, Brad Spolding, Lyn Wallis, Cassie McGannon (Observer)

Event Producer : Bethany Simons

Moderator : Jamie Lewis

BETHANY SIMONS | PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Bethany is a writer, performer, and a teaching artist across Australia. Bethany's evolving role at TNA includes producing TNA's events, and supporting the organisation's communications, membership, business management and marketing strategies.

JAMIE LEWIS | COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

Jamie is an independent artist, facilitator, dramaturg, and co-creator. She consults in audience development, branding, marketing, and communication across the arts and small businesses.

THANKS

All our speakers and facilitators; Erica McCalman, Georgie Meagher and the Next Wave team; Arika, Jason, Steve, Melanie and the rest of the Arts Centre Melbourne team; Arie Rain Glorie and Testing Grounds; Annette Vieuzeux and the TNA Board; all at Creative Victoria; our Auslan interpreters Paul Heuston, Ilana Charnelle Gelbart and Gabriel Kirley; our TNA intern, Callista Reed, and volunteer team Cara Dinley, Emma Jukić and Amada Monteiro; and finally to all of our delegates who give us a reason to stay connected and keep talking about the crucial issues for the performing arts.

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**NEXT
WAVE**



Testing
Grounds
Temporary
infrastructure
for creative
practice



CREATIVE VICTORIA