



2015

**CIRCA
THEATRE**

“Great theatre is about challenging how we think and encouraging us to fantasize about a world we aspire to.” Willem Dafoe

Find us online at
www.circa.co.nz



WELCOME TO THE CIRCA THEATRE 2015 SEASON

THEATRE ARTISTS CHARITABLE TRUST

‘Above all, Circa is about artists. It was founded by artists back in 1976. Since then, as actors and production teams have gone about their business of providing the rest of us with delight, inspiration and revelation, Circa has been doing its job of sustaining a viable theatre industry here in Wellington. That Circa has become the gold standard for theatre, not just in Wellington but nationally, is a tribute to those who act and produce, those who fund and sponsor - and those who make up the Circa audience. That’s you. Take a bow!’ — Ian Fraser, Chair, TACT

TACT Trustees: Neville Carson, Ian Fraser (Chair), Carolyn Henwood, James Johnston, Anna Kennedy & Paul Sinclair.

The TACT Trustees extend their heartfelt gratitude to all of our sponsors:



Chapman Tripp is proud to support New Zealand’s vibrant and diverse arts community.



Our team of Deloitte Private professionals are committed to working with home-grown Wellington businesses, and we are proud to support excellence in the arts on our local stage.



Creative New Zealand is the national arts development agency, developing, investing in and advocating for the arts.

CIRCA THEATRE

Circa Theatre has two distinct theatre spaces, Circa One and Circa Two. Both present a programme of exciting and provocative theatre - whether it's a family drama, delightful musical, hilarious comedy, mind-bending puppetry, or anything in between, you will find a selection to suit all theatre-goers across both spaces.

We are very proud of our 2015 programme and are thrilled to share it with you. We hope you enjoy the season of exceptional stories, wonderful characters and dynamic experiences as much as we did putting it together.
















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













As registered charitable organisations, Circa Theatre and TACT gratefully accept the assistance of sponsors, donors and Friends to help with supporting our artists to ensure the consistent quality of our productions.

Circa Theatre would like to acknowledge the following people who have been wonderful philanthropists over the years: Peter and Mary Biggs, Brian Steele, Chris Finlayson, Vivien Hirschfeld, Christine and David Kernohan, Anne and Paddy Maloney, Henry Stubbs, Suzanne Snively, Pen Moore, Richard Stubbs, Diana Duff Staniland, Jack Hodder, Roger Hall, John and Jay Benton, Sam Perry, Chris Parkin, The Museum Art Hotel and The Fame Trust.

Circa Theatre is administered by a working council comprising: Charlotte Bates, Neville Carson, Richard Chapman, Andrew Foster, Carolyn Henwood, Ray Henwood, Ross Jolly, Miranda Manasiadis, Lyndee-Jane Rutherford, Linda Wilson, Susan Wilson.

2015 calendar

-
- 6**  **2 - 10 JANUARY** CIRCA ONE
RED RIDING HOOD - THE PANTOMIME
-
- 7**  **16 - 25 JANUARY** CIRCA TWO
THE KITCHEN AT THE END OF THE WORLD
-
- 8**  **17 JANUARY - 14 FEBRUARY** CIRCA ONE
SEED
-
- 9**  **31 JANUARY - 21 FEBRUARY** CIRCA TWO
THE DEMOLITION OF THE CENTURY
-
- 10**  **21 - 28 FEBRUARY** CIRCA ONE
WAKE UP TOMORROW
-
- 11**  **28 FEBRUARY - 21 MARCH** CIRCA TWO
YEP, STILL GOT IT!
-
- 12**  **7 MARCH** CIRCA ONE
CATERPILLARS
-
- 13**  **7 - 21 MARCH** CIRCA ONE
THE PIANIST
-
- 12**  **21 MARCH** CIRCA ONE
BEARDS! BEARDS! BEARDS!
-
- 14**  **28 MARCH - 25 APRIL** CIRCA ONE
THE MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD
-
- 15**  **1 - 18 APRIL** CIRCA TWO
TWO MORTALS
-
- 16**  **7 - 18 APRIL** CIRCA TWO
IMPROV FOR KIDS
-
- 17**  **25 APRIL - 23 MAY** CIRCA TWO
DON JUAN
-
- 18**  **2 - 30 MAY** CIRCA ONE
A SERVANT TO TWO MASTERS
-
- 16**  **3 MAY - 14 JUNE** CIRCA TWO
THEATRESPORTS
-

-
- 19**  **29 MAY - 13 JUNE CIRCA TWO**
SECOND AFTERLIFE
-
- 20**  **6 - 20 JUNE CIRCA ONE**
EDGE
-
- 20**  **6 - 20 JUNE CIRCA ONE**
TURNING PAGE
-
- 21**  **22 JUNE - 4 JULY CIRCA TWO**
MATARIKI DEVELOPMENT FESTIVAL
-
- 21**  **27 JUNE - 11 JULY CIRCA ONE**
THE BEAUTIFUL ONES
-
- 22**  **11 JULY - 8 AUGUST CIRCA TWO**
THE UGLY ONE
-
- 23**  **25 JULY - 29 AUGUST CIRCA ONE**
THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES
-
- 16**  **2 AUGUST - 27 SEPTEMBER CIRCA TWO**
DOWNTON ADLIB
-
- 24**  **5 SEPTEMBER - 3 OCTOBER CIRCA ONE**
THE TRAVELLING SQUIRREL
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- 25**  **26 SEPTEMBER - 10 OCTOBER CIRCA TWO**
THE BOOKBINDER
-
- 26**  **10 - 31 OCTOBER CIRCA ONE**
GIFTED
-
- 27**  **15 - 17 OCTOBER CIRCA TWO**
ADVENTURES IN PIANOLAND
-
- 28**  **24 OCTOBER - 21 NOVEMBER CIRCA TWO**
ACHE
-
- 29**  **5 - 14 NOVEMBER CIRCA ONE**
ALL OUR SONS
-
- 30**  **21 NOVEMBER - 20 DECEMBER CIRCA ONE**
ROBIN HOOD - THE PANTOMIME
-
- 31**  **28 NOVEMBER - 20 DECEMBER CIRCA TWO**
A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS IN WALES
-



ROGER HALL'S Red Riding Hood THE PANTOMIME

Songs by Paul Jenden
and Michael Nicholas Williams
Directed by Susan Wilson

What a big smile you'll have...

2 - 10 Jan

CIRCA ONE

Performance times

Tues - Sat 6.30pm;
Sun 4pm

Tickets

\$15 - \$46

Bookings

04 801 7992
www.circa.co.nz

Don't miss Circa's fabulous Christmas panto! And this year RED RIDING HOOD is back with one of the great traditional stories - innocent Red Riding Hood and her poor, short-sighted grandmother, and of course the handsome woodcutter and that villain of all villains, the Wolf!

There's lots of laughter, hilarious jokes and musical goodies in Red's basket as she sets off on her journey to entertain young and old with this marvellous magical treat.

"A great way to introduce kids to the magic of theatre, and RED RIDING HOOD is easily the ideal Christmas outing for the holidays ... a treat" – Salient

"Roger Hall's helter-skelter RED RIDING HOOD ... is wonderfully exuberant seasonal fun" – Dominion Post

PRESENTED BY
ARRANGEMENT WITH

NEW ZEALAND PLAYWRIGHTS
PLAYMARKET
AGENT, ADVISOR, BOOKSHOP



The Kitchen at the End of the World

By William Connor

Directed by Steffen Kreft

Music by Phill Jones

*“Something is coming. I don’t know what it is.
And I don’t know if I should fight it or welcome it.”*

16 - 25 Jan

CIRCA TWO

Preview

Thur 15 Jan, 7 pm

Performance times

Tues to Sat
11am and 7pm
(15, 16 and 22 Jan
- 7 pm only)
Sunday 4.30pm

Tickets

\$12 - \$28

Bookings

04 801 7992
www.circa.co.nz

One snowy evening, an empty 83-room hotel on the edge of the Vastness receives a thin guest who has walked all the way from the City. Penniless, he is smuggled into the hotel kitchen where a kind cook works near an extraordinary thyme plant. He says that creativity is dying.

Described as “intensely beautiful”, “provocative and moving”, THE KITCHEN AT THE END OF THE WORLD is the story of marionettes who know they are limited by the extent of their strings - even kissing can tangle them - but crave what lies beyond their reach. A story about home, the unknown, and the courage to face everything in between.

The show captivated audiences at its sell-out debut season at the Greytown Festival 2012 and is a powerful reminder that puppetry is not just a children’s art form.



Seed

By Elisabeth Easter
Directed by Kerry Palmer

Sex & drugs, without the rock 'n' roll

17 Jan - 14 Feb

CIRCA ONE

Previews

Fri 16 Jan, 8 pm
Sun 18 Jan, 4 pm

Performance times

Tues & Wed 6.30 pm
Thur, Fri & Sat 8 pm
Sun 4 pm

Tickets

\$25 - \$46

Bookings

04 801 7992
www.circa.co.nz

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IVF isn't foolproof and IUDs aren't failsafe. iPhones come with ovulation apps and 'choosing from the menu' means selecting your sperm. SEED follows four women as they try to get pregnant, stay pregnant or become un-pregnant - the dilemmas of modern reproduction.

Elisabeth Easter's SEED is winner of the 2014 Adam New Zealand Play Award, which recognises and celebrates the best in new writing for the theatre. It's a multi-narrative play about the mysterious business of fertility, with all of its challenges, heartaches and hormones.

SEED is a drama that'll have you laughing 'til the tears are running down your face, and it's a comedy that'll make you cry.

"Highly entertaining, funny and sophisticated" - Adam Play Award Judges

"[A] sophisticated, witty and very contemporary meditation on the timeless processes of procreation." - NZ Herald

STARRING: Tess Jamieson-Karaha, Jamie McCaskill, Emily Regtien, Holly Shanahan and Amy Tarleton

WARNING: ADULT THEMES AND STRONG LANGUAGE



The Demolition of the Century

By Duncan Sarkies, with music from Joe Blossom

Welcome to the world of Tom Spotswood, an insurance investigator who has lost his socks, his suitcase, and his son, Frank

31 Jan - 21 Feb

CIRCA TWO

Performance times

Tues - Sat 7.30 pm
Sun 4.30 pm

Tickets

\$20 - \$35

Bookings

04 801 7992
www.circa.co.nz

Fresh from performances in the New Zealand Festival, Auckland Writers Festival, Tauranga Arts Festival and Nelson Arts Festival, DEMOLITION OF THE CENTURY sees author/performer Duncan Sarkies (*Two Little Boys/Scarflies/Flight of the Conchords*) stage a humorous and sometimes heartbreaking look at families, memories and the fragility of the human mind. He is accompanied by musician Joe Blossom, who plays a soundtrack that is both haunting and invigorating.

"A series of brilliant vignettes, delivered in an inspired cabaret-style reading by the multi-talented Sarkies, and outstanding musician Joe Blossom... Blossom not only creates fluid and essential musical transitions, but his beautiful vocals, self-accompanied on piano and guitar, imbue this work with a powerful pathos that allow glimpses of the inner landscape of these characters. DEMOLITION is a fast-paced, darkly captivating cabaret-comedy, which leaves us fully entertained and tantalizingly close to solving a puzzle."
— Bay of Plenty Times





Wake Up Tomorrow

Presented by Everybody Cool Lives Here
Directed by Isobel MacKinnon

Welcome aboard Active Airlines!

21 - 28 Feb

CIRCA ONE

Performance times

Tues - Sat 7.00 pm
Sun 4 pm

Tickets

\$18 - \$30

Bookings

04 801 7992
www.circa.co.nz

Join the eccentric passengers during this compelling, surreal and funny flight.

Made under the guidance of Wellington theatre makers in collaboration with Active, a service for intellectually disabled youth, WAKE UP TOMORROW was created from the minds of these incredible young people.

Audiences will be transported from the mundane moments on a long haul flight to bizarre and hilarious scenarios.

Please fasten your seat belts, make sure you are in the upright position and enjoy the journey. We may or may not arrive at the expected destination.

FRINGE

"In work of this kind there is always a delicate balance to be held between presenting a polished product at the same time as allowing for a playful improvised quality to emerge that allows the actors to perform to their strengths. This was very evident in the final few scenes..."

— Madeline McNamara



Yep, Still Got It!

Starring Jane Keller
with Michael Nicholas Williams on the piano
Written by Jane Keller and Sandy Brewer
Directed by Alan Palmer

Youth is a gift of nature, but age is a work of art.
— Stanislaw Jerzy Lec

28 Feb - 21 Mar

CIRCA TWO
World Premiere

Previews

Fri 27 Feb, 7.30 pm
Sun 1 Mar, 4.30 pm

Performance times

Tues - Sat 7.30 pm
Sun 4.30 pm

Tickets

\$25 - \$43

Bookings

04 801 7992
www.circa.co.nz

Following the huge success of BOOMERS BEHAVING BADLY, Jane Keller returns with another hilarious show.

A little older, a little wiser, a lot sassier, and even more confused.

Whatever happened to the days when a cloud was a cloud, when face time was over a G&T, and we punctuated our sentences with full stops - not smiley faces?

From senior sex and those pesky STDs to shopping sprees and colonoscopies, Jane shares stories of abject embarrassment, medical (mis)adventures, empowerment, and acceptance.

In YEP, STILL GOT IT! she embraces the power of an older woman with no FOMO.

Together with the brilliant Michael Nicholas Williams on the piano, Jane brings a brand-new show to Circa Two combining her special style of storytelling with her virtuoso Broadway voice.



Capital E National Arts Festival presents

Sat 7 Mar, 10 am & 11.30 am
CIRCA ONE

Caterpillars

By Kallo Collective
Directed by
Thomas Monckton

A tale of two puppeteers' failed attempts at beautification

In the magical world of flitting butterflies, jumping eggs and giant swaying flowers, two lycra-clad puppeteers try their hardest to remain unseen and at service to their puppets; two enormous plump caterpillars.

Caught in the wrong place at the wrong time, with nothing but their wits to cover up their escalating blunders, two appealingly hopeless clown puppeteers bring upbeat absurdity, slapstick silliness, and a good dose of reality to their hilarious and unpredictable antics.

21 Mar, 10 am & 1 pm
CIRCA ONE World Premiere

BEARDS! BEARDS! BEARDS!

By Trick of the Light Theatre
Directed by Hannah Smith

*Beatrice didn't want a tiara.
Beatrice wanted a BEARD!*

From Charles Darwin to Abraham Lincoln, Karl Marx to Mr Twit, it is said the secret to power and greatness is all in the size and shape of the beard. This is a tale of one young girl's increasingly inventive efforts to grow the world's most magnificent beard. Join a madcap and hilarious musical romp of physical comedy and clowning, as our plucky young heroine shakes up social rules and attempts to answer the questions that have puzzled mankind since the dawn of the beard. Suitable for children 5+.

Bookings 04 913 3740 or capitale.org.nz
Tickets \$16.50 (or 3 Capital E Festival shows for 2)





The Pianist

By Thomas Monckton and Circo Aereo

Directed by Thomas Monckton & Sanna Silvennoinen

Direct from Edinburgh Fringe and the London Mime Festival, last year's hit returns to Circa!

7 - 21 Mar

CIRCA ONE

Performance times

Tues & Wed 6.30 pm
Thur, Fri & Sat 8 pm
Sun 4 pm

Tickets

\$12 - \$35

Bookings

04 801 7992
www.circa.co.nz

"It would be no exaggeration to declare Thomas Monckton nothing short of a genius." — Broadway Baby (UK)

"I doubt very much that you'll see, in fact I am prepared to bet on it, a funnier show this year... miss him at your peril" — Dom Post

Fresh from a five-star reviewed season at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe and a sell-out season at Circa Two last year, award-winning performer Thomas Monckton returns with his smash hit THE PIANIST, this time in Circa One!

THE PIANIST is a solo comic contemporary circus piece by Thomas Monckton (NZ, Chapman Tripp Actor of Year 2012).

The show is centered on, in, under, and around the magnificent grand piano.

Accompanying this elegant apparatus is the poised pianist himself. Only he is so focused on impressing everyone that before he realises it, his show has transformed from the highbrow concert he hoped for, into a spectacularly amusing catastrophe.

Suitable for all ages.





The Mystery of Edwin Drood

A Musical by Rupert Holmes
Directed by Lyndee-Jane Rutherford

Who the Dickens did the deed? You decide!

28 Mar - 25 Apr

**CIRCA ONE
NZ Premiere**

Previews

Fri 27 Mar, 8 pm
Sun 29 Mar, 4 pm

Performance times

Tues & Wed 6.30 pm
Thur, Fri & Sat 8 pm
Sun 4 pm

Tickets

\$25 - \$46

Bookings

04 801 7992
www.circa.co.nz

A non-stop ride of mystery, murder, and musical delight! Based on Charles Dickens' final, unfinished novel, THE MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD is filled with clues, red herrings, villainy, and debauchery. Everyone on stage is a suspect - and it's up to you to decide how this mystery ends!

Hot off Broadway, this Tony Award-winning theatrical work of genius is led by director Lyndee-Jane Rutherford (*Midsummer (a play with songs)*), who reunites with the artistic team that brought *Grease* and *Mamma Mia* to the Wellington stage. The cast includes beloved actor of stage, screen and radio, Lloyd Scott, and internationally renowned soprano, Barbara Graham (*Christine, Phantom of the Opera*). This show boasts spectacular big dance numbers, rousing showtunes, stunning theatrics, magic, and illusions!

"One of the most inventive, inspired and rousing musicals ever devised." – AM New York

"Infectious fun!" – Time Out New York
"Bawdy fun!" – Associated Press
"Sheer fun!" – The Wall Street Journal



BY ARRANGEMENT WITH ORIGIN™ THEATRICAL



Two Mortals

Directed by Geoff Pinfield

Performed by Rachael Dyson-McGregor & Mike McEvoy

Composed by Beatrice Lewis

“A powerful theatrical experience suffused with humour, beauty and emotional intelligence”
— *The Melbourne Age*

1 - 18 April

CIRCA TWO

Performance times

Tues - Sat 7.30 pm

Sun 4.30 pm

Tickets

\$25 - \$39

Bookings

04 801 7992

www.circa.co.nz

TWO MORTALS is a delicate, poetic and humorous exploration of life, death and the moment in between. Composed word-for-word from interviews with people who live and work at the ends of life - morticians, cryogenicists, palliative care workers and ministers - TWO MORTALS weaves these true stories and experiences into a richly theatrical exploration of mortality.

This uplifting work about one of our society's most taboo subjects was directed by Chapman Tripp Director of the Year Geoff Pinfield. Created and performed by Rachael Dyson-McGregor and Mike McEvoy, TWO MORTALS sold out two critically-acclaimed seasons at Melbourne's La Mama Theatre.





CIRCA TWO
7 - 18 April
Mon to Sat, 11 am
Tickets \$10

Improv For Kids

School holiday fun!

Kids love theatre that's interactive. So do The Improvisors. Kids (and their grown-ups) loved the 2014 season of IMPROV FOR KIDS, so we're bringing it back. It's a great opportunity to introduce your kids to the world of live theatre. We may not have millions of dollars worth of computer-generated effects, but we do listen to kids and we make their ideas central to what happens on stage. In IMPROV FOR KIDS, imagination is the best special effect of them all!



3 May - 14 June
Sundays, 7 pm
Tickets \$15 - \$18

Theatresports

*Part of NZ International
Comedy Festival*

The Improvisors are back at Circa with another season of this very popular show. Each night two teams of Improvisors take suggestions from the audience and spin them into short scenes, songs, poems or whatever else takes their fancy. Each show is completely different - what does stay the same is that THEATRESPORTS is always a great night's entertainment for the whole family. We don't know what ideas you are going to throw at us - we do know that our kind of improv magic has kept audiences laughing for many years. THEATRESPORTS - putting the "make up" on stage.



2 Aug - 27 Sept
Sundays, 7 pm
Tickets \$15 - \$18

Downton Adlib

*Quality costume drama
- only funnier*

An aristocratic English family and their servants face the challenges of life in the early twentieth century. A cast of Wellington's top improv comedians face the challenge of making up a brand new episode every night. We supply the characters, you supply the key plot ingredients and the result is costume drama as you've never seen it before. Love, laughter, passion and a wide range of hats!



Don Juan

Created by A Slightly Isolated Dog

Directed by Leo Gene Peters

A sexy, fierce, raucous celebration

25 Apr - 23 May

CIRCA TWO
World Premiere

Previews

Fri 24 April

Tickets

\$20 - \$35

Bookings

04 801 7992

www.circa.co.nz

DON JUAN explodes with the energy of a music gig or a club. It's a cabaret. It's chaos. It's a furious adrenalised romp through the games of attraction and sexuality. It's the BEST... PARTY... EVER.

Five mad performers use a variety of theatrical forms and styles to bring an adaptation of Molière's classic play to life. Loaded with pop songs and flirting, this imaginative work will continually intrigue, delight and surprise.

While the bar keeps serving drinks.
All night long.

Created by A Slightly Isolated Dog, one of Wellington's most innovative and exciting companies. Critically acclaimed and award-winning shows include: *Death and the Dreamlife of Elephants* (2009, 2011), *Perfectly Wasted* (2012 - in partnership with Long Cloud Youth Theatre) and *Settling* (2007).



PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY





A Servant to Two Masters

By Carlo Goldoni

A new adaptation by Lee Hall

Directed by Ross Jolly

Love, passion and pandemonium

2 - 30 May

**CIRCA ONE
NZ Premiere**

Previews

Fri 1 May, 8 pm
Sun 3 May, 4 pm

Performance times

Tues & Wed 6.30 pm
Thur, Fri & Sat 8 pm
Sun 4 pm

Tickets

\$25 - \$46

Bookings

04 801 7992
www.circa.co.nz

Goldoni's much-loved comic classic is a masterpiece starring a wily servant whose cheeky, inventive trickery gets the best of his masters, in a merry mix-up of mayhem and mistaken identity.

Truffaldino, the scheming and perpetually hungry servant, concocts a zany scheme to double his wages (and his meals) by simultaneously serving two masters - the lovelorn Beatrice (disguised as a man) and her lost lover Florindo.

Hilarity abounds in this sharp, new, rapid-fire adaptation by award-winning dramatist Lee Hall (*The Pitmen Painters*, *Billy Elliot*).

A delicious, madcap Italian comedy of lovers, disguises, tricks, traps, mishaps and meatballs!

"A sparkling, wonder-filled new version by Lee Hall... An evening to cherish"
— Daily Mail

"A hugely enjoyable night out"
— Covent Garden Life



Second Afterlife

By Ralph McCubbin Howell
Directed by Kerry Palmer

Return Season of the 2014 Young and Hungry sensation!

29 May - 13 Jun

CIRCA TWO

Previews

Thur 28 May, 7.30pm

Performance times

Tues - Sat 7.30 pm

Sun 4.30 pm

Tickets

\$20 - \$30

Bookings

04 801 7992

www.circa.co.nz

PRESENTED BY
ARRANGEMENT WITH

NEW ZEALAND PLAYWRIGHTS
PLAYMARKET TRUST
AGENT. ADVISOR. BOOKSHOP



Dan was an internet junkie - now he's calling it quits. But in order to forge a new profile, he must face up to his online history and it's not going down without a fight.

Dan finds himself sucked into the Second Afterlife - the dark underworld of the internet, a very real and dangerous landscape of broken memes, deleted pages and the ghosts of profiles past.

SECOND AFTERLIFE is a dark comedy about life (and death) in the digital age. Inspired by *Dante's Inferno*, and in the tradition of *Scott Pilgrim vs the World*, it is a twisted allegory for the facebook generation - a poetic, ass-kicking romp to the darkest corners of the web.

"Ralph McCubbin Howell cements his status as one of NZ's best young playwrights with Second Afterlife and director Kerry Palmer, her designers and crew, and her exemplary cast of six do him proud." — Theatreview



Broadway Star, ANGELICA PAGE
“An actress of the highest possible voltage”
– Wall Street Journal

Performing two shows, alternate nights, two weeks only

Edge

By Paul Alexander

Set in 1963 on the day of Sylvia Plath’s death, **EDGE** presents the self-told story of the troubled poet and author of *The Bell Jar*, *The Colossus*, *Ariel* and the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Collected Poems*.

“... a resurrected Sylvia Plath... the showcase of a lifetime” – New York Times

Returning to our stage 10 years after its sensational 2005 Circa Season.

Turning Page

By Angelica Page

Geraldine Page’s sparkling career earned her a record-breaking eight Academy Award nominations, an Oscar for Best Actress in 1986, and made her one of the most influential American artists of the 20th century. **TURNING PAGE** is the triumphant and heartbreaking true story of one of the most celebrated actresses of all time, written and performed by the person who knew her best: her own daughter.

“A privilege” – Los Angeles Times

CIRCA ONE, 6 - 20 June

Alternate shows: pick one or book for both

EDGE: Preview 5 June. Performances 6, 9, 12, 14, 17, 20 June

TURNING PAGE: Performances 7, 10, 11, 13, 16, 18, 19 June.

Performance times Tues & Wed 6.30 pm; Thur, Fri & Sat 8 pm; Sun 4 pm

Bookings 04 801 7992 or www.circa.co.nz

Tickets \$25 - \$51 or ask about our double-show special

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY
PETER BIGGS CNZM and **MARY BIGGS**


MUSEUM ART HOTEL
WELLINGTON



T
TAWATA

the beautiful ones

Written and directed by Hone Kouka

A hyperreal digital love story

27 June - 11 July

CIRCA ONE
World Premiere

Previews

Fri 26 June, 8 pm

Performance times

Tues & Wed 6.30 pm

Thur, Fri & Sat 8 pm

Sun 4 pm

Tickets

\$20 - \$46

Bookings

04 801 7992

www.circa.co.nz

THE BEAUTIFUL ONES is a story of young love. A promise Hana made to Ihia - a promise to return. Will she return? Will love triumph over temptation? THE BEAUTIFUL ONES bursts from the late night sheen of a city club. Beautiful bodies and vital vocals. Defiant dance moves and the meaning of love.

THE BEAUTIFUL ONES features a dance floor for the audience to share the vibe.

From the company that brought you *I*, *George Nepia*, *Sunset Road* and *TŪ*.

Warning: Contains Big Beats & Dance Music

Matariki Development Festival 2015

22 June - 4 July, CIRCA TWO

An international indigenous playwrights' festival boasting an enviable whakapapa of the very best of contemporary Maori and Pasifika theatre. MDF 2015 features new writing by Natano Keni, James Nokise and Pikihuia Haenga.

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ARTS COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND / TOI AOTEAROA

Toi Māori Aotearoa
Māori Arts New Zealand



The Ugly One

By Marius von Mayenburg

Translated by Maja Zade

Directed by Giles Burton

A scalpel-sharp, absurd comic fantasy about beauty.

11 Jul - 8 Aug

**CIRCA TWO
NZ Premiere**

Previews

Thur 9 July, 7.30pm

Fri 10 Jul, 7.30 pm

Sun 12 Jul, 4.30 pm

Performance times

Tues - Sat 7.30 pm

Sun 4.30 pm

Tickets

\$25 - \$46

Bookings

04 801 7992

www.circa.co.nz

Lette thinks he is normal, but discovering by chance that he is, in fact unbelievably ugly, he turns to a plastic surgeon for help. Suddenly he is the most beautiful man in the world. Fame and riches follow; if you don't want to sleep with him, you want to look like him. And with surgery you *can* look like him. *Exactly* like him.

Received around the world to great acclaim, THE UGLY ONE now receives its New Zealand premiere. With writer, von Mayenburg's star very much in the ascendant, this show is a "must see".

"A stripped bare satire on the nature of beauty. If you are interested in theatrical story-telling see this show"— The Times (UK)

"Savage social satire... A small but perfectly formed play"— The Guardian (UK)

"The concept is simple but the philosophical implications are profound: What if money could buy the perfect face? It's The Elephant Man meets The Matrix"
— Post City (Toronto)



The Hound of the Baskervilles

By Arthur Conan Doyle

Adapted for the stage by Clive Francis

Directed by Ross Jolly

Sherlock Holmes vs the Powers of Evil

25 July - 29 Aug

CIRCA ONE

Previews

Fri 24 July, 8 pm
Sun 26 July, 4 pm

Performance times

Tues & Wed 6.30 pm
Thur, Fri & Sat 8 pm
Sun 4 pm

Tickets

\$25 - \$46

Bookings

04 801 7992
www.circa.co.nz

A bloodcurdling howl is heard across a cold, moonlit moor; the horrifying, spectral hound has claimed another victim ...

When Sir Charles Baskerville is found dead on his remote estate, in eerie, seemingly supernatural circumstances, Sherlock Holmes, the legendary, world-famous detective and his assistant, the ever-reliable Dr Watson are called upon to unravel the extraordinary mystery of THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's most famous and most popular story, in an exhilarating adaptation by Clive Francis (*Our Man in Havana*), sees four actors playing all the parts in this gripping, classic tale of terror.

A thrilling, ripping good night of fun, drama and suspense!

"A cracking good yarn ... Excellent ... Highly enjoyable." – Daily Telegraph

"Chillingly atmospheric... this fun show will really thrill." – The Observer



The Travelling Squirrel

By Robert Lord

Directed by Susan Wilson

"We that live to please must please to live"
- Dr Samuel Johnson

5 Sept - 3 Oct

**CIRCA ONE
NZ Premiere**

Previews

Fri 4 Sept, 8 pm
Sun 6 Sept, 4 pm

Performance times

Tues & Wed 6.30 pm
Thur, Fri & Sat 8 pm
Sun 4 pm

Tickets

\$25 - \$46

Bookings

04 801 7992
www.circa.co.nz

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From Robert Lord, the author of the award-winning and much loved *Joyful & Triumphant*, comes THE TRAVELLING SQUIRREL, a romp through the fickle nature of the entertainment industry.

Protagonist Bart compares his struggles as a writer to those of Roger the squirrel, a misunderstood painter. Hilarious and packed with larger-than-life characters, this play is a testament to Lord's ability to write brilliant comedy.

A satire tempered with deep affection, THE TRAVELLING SQUIRREL depicts a dangerous world in which fame and fortune are always temptingly just around the corner.

"This is surely one of Lord's funniest plays, just as it is one of the most moving"
- Philip Mann

"For two decades, Robert Lord's plays astonished and entertained theatre audiences with their sharp satire and flamboyant farce"— David O'Donnell



The Bookbinder

Written and performed by Ralph McCubbin Howell
Directed by Hannah Smith

*They say you can get lost in a good book.
But it's worse to get lost in a bad one...*

26 Sept - 10 Oct

CIRCA TWO

Previews

Fri 25 Sept, 7.30 pm
Sun 27 Sept, 4.30 pm

Performance times

Tues - Sat
11 am & 7.30 pm
Sun 4.30 pm

Tickets

\$10 - \$25

Bookings

04 801 7992
www.circa.co.nz

From award-winning company Trick of the Light Theatre (*The Road That Wasn't There*) comes a story of mystery, magic and mayhem. **THE BOOKBINDER** weaves shadowplay, paper art, puppetry, and music into an original dark fairytale in the vein of *Coraline* and *Jonathon Strange and Mr Norrell*. An inventive one-man performance for curious children and adventurous adults...

Suitable for children 8+

Best Theatre and Best in the Fringe

— NZ Fringe 2014

International Excellence Award

— Sydney Fringe 2014

"Spell-binding storytelling at its purest and best..." — Theatreview

"Absorbing and imaginative... a small gem of theatre" — The Dominion Post

"Tuned to perfection... Bookworms of all stripes and ages will adore it.★★★★½"

— The Age, Melbourne

For more information visit
www.trickofthelight.co.nz





Adventures in Pianoland

Written and performed by Jan Preston

Directed by Gaylene Preston

How I learned to stop worrying and love the piano

15 - 17 Oct

CIRCA TWO
World Premiere

Performance times

Thur - Sat 7.30 pm
Sat Matinee

Tickets

\$25 - \$46

Bookings

04 801 7992
www.circa.co.nz

The irrepressible Jan Preston comes clean on her longstanding and sometimes bumpy road to piano stardom.

Jan will spin yarns from dives in Soho to the concert halls of Europe, to stealing a piano in broad daylight from the 1860s Bar in Lambton Quay.

She will accompany herself, of course, on Circa Theatre's lovingly cared for piano.

You will hear Chopsticks as you have never heard it, and Jan's original songs and compositions will provide perfect counterpoint to her story.

Attend a show with a great group of people!

The Circa Theatre Meetup Group has been organising events for theatre enthusiasts since 2010 - it's a great way to see some of the fantastic shows Circa has to offer, and meet a fun group of people while you're at it.



For more information about the group or to join, please visit www.meetup.com/CircaTheatre



Gifted

By Patrick Evans

Directed by Conrad Newport

It is 1955 and beyond the famous hedge something magic is about to happen

10 - 31 Oct

CIRCA ONE

Previews

Fri 9 Oct 8 pm

Sun 11 Oct, 4 pm

Performance times

Tues & Wed 6.30 pm

Thur, Fri & Sat 8 pm

Sun 4 pm

Tickets

\$25 - \$46

Bookings

04 801 7992

www.circa.co.nz

In his beloved garden the “Father of the Nations Fiction” Frank Sargeson is waiting for his old mate Harry to turn up. Instead, he encounters a young woman fresh from a mental institution. Her name is Janet Frame. Their world is about to change forever.

From the director of *Rita and Douglas* comes this very funny and profoundly moving story. Touring the Arts Festivals in 2013 to incredible reviews and widespread acclaim, it’s now Wellington’s chance to experience this celebrated New Zealand production.

“Like an exquisite work of art, the play Gifted is honed to near perfection ... go and see this gorgeous production.” – Taranaki

“Superb performances by all ... it is thrilling ... it makes for astonishingly joyful, mischievous theatre.” – Dunedin

“Sheer quality” – Christchurch

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Ache

By Pip Hall

Directed by Lyndee-Jane Rutherford

Fate, chance and rooftop romance.

24 Oct - 21 Nov

CIRCA TWO

Previews

Fri 23 Oct, 7.30 pm

Sun 25 Oct, 4.30 pm

Performance times

Tues - Sat 7.30 pm

Sun 4.30 pm

Tickets

\$25 - \$46

Bookings

04 801 7992

www.circa.co.nz

ACHE is a fateful comedy about two thirty-somethings trying to find their way through modern love, materialism and the Wellington dating-drought.

At a time when we are promised happiness with the swipe of a card or the swig of a bottle, true joy and connection seems almost impossible.

At crossroads and rooftop gardens, fate decides to surprise them. At last, connection, chemistry, charisma. He's perfect, she's gorgeous. Only timing's not as kind - he's taken. Is it just not meant to be or will she push timing aside and take fate into her own hands?

Achingly funny and heart-breakingly sad, ACHE is a modern story of love, timing and seizing the day.

Don't miss this WELLINGTON PREMIERE, finally on our stage after its SOLD-OUT season at Christchurch's Court Theatre.

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All Our Sons

Presented by Taki Rua Productions

By Witi Ihimaera

Courage and loyalty is tested in this new play by Witi Ihimaera

5 - 14 Nov

CIRCA ONE

World Premiere

Performance times

Tues & Wed 6.30 pm

Thur, Fri & Sat 8 pm

Sun 4 pm

Tickets

\$25 - \$46

Bookings

04 801 7992

www.circa.co.nz

“Once they fought each other, now shoulder to shoulder they fight together.”

Two generations go to war while a third fights a battle to keep her family at home. Waru Mataira and his two sons Tai and Rangi volunteer to represent the Māori iwi of Mataira Mountain in the New Zealand Native Contingent to Gallipoli. Under the guidance of their Pākehā leader Alec Campbell, they join the battle on the western front as part of the newly titled Pioneer Battalion where their courage is tested and so too are their loyalties.

Taki Rua Productions presents the World Premiere of ALL OUR SONS, a ground-breaking play by Witi Ihimaera.

taki rua
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creative*nz*
ARTS COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND - TE Kaitiaki

Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council
Me Heke Ki Pōneke



ROGER HALL'S Robin Hood THE PANTOMIME

Songs by Paul Jenden
and Michael Nicholas Williams
Directed by Susan Wilson

There he is! Oh no he isn't. Oh, yes he is!!

21 Nov - 20 Dec

CIRCA ONE

Previews

Fri 20 Nov, 6.30pm
Sun 22 Nov, 4pm

Performance times

Tues to Sat - 6.30pm;
Sun 4pm
Extra matinees
on Saturday in
December.

Tickets

\$15 - \$46

Bookings

04 801 7992
www.circa.co.nz

With loaded bow behind a tree
You never know where he will be
He moves like velvet, sleek and svelte
Around the Wellington town belt

His eye is quick, his aim is sure
He robs the rich to feed the poor
He's always on the side of good
The hero known as Robin Hood

He lies in wait for those who own
A big estate and second home
For millionaires who don't pay tax
For bankers who don't watch their backs

You'll see them suffer their defeat
In Circa's brand new summer treat
A pantomime for one and all
It's ROBIN HOOD by Roger Hall

"Fabulously fast and furious... A treat"
— Capital Times

"Action-packed... tons of fun for young and old!" — Dominion Post

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A Child's Christmas in Wales (*and other memories of childhood*)

By Dylan Thomas

Dramatised and presented by Ray Henwood

*One of the most magical Christmas stories...
brought to the stage by Ray Henwood.*

28 Nov - 20 Dec

CIRCA TWO

Previews

Fri 27 Nov, 7.30pm

Sun 29 Nov, 4.30pm

Performance times

Tues - Sat 7.30 pm

Sun 4.30 pm

Tickets

\$25 - \$46

Bookings

04 801 7992

www.circa.co.nz

What has been described as one of the most magical of Christmas stories is brought to the stage by Ray Henwood. It is rounded out by other memories of childhood, first presented by Dylan Thomas in one of his regular talks on the BBC Welsh Home Service. Thomas had a very happy childhood and so many of his young experiences resonate still with us today.

The town of Swansea which is the locale of his stories had changed little by the time Ray was growing up. While Dylan lived in more salubrious surroundings, Ray was a "Sandfields" boy referred to by Dylan - and played in many of the areas described in the stories.

It is a truly timeless tale and family celebrations have changed little, even in countries that celebrate a summer Christmas. Dylan's work brings back memories that resonate so well with young and old. It is a true celebration of our experiences growing up.

Treat Your Seat!

We're delighted to announce the arrival of our new seats for Circa One - installation date is July 2015.

This new state-of-the-art seating system replaces the seats that were originally installed when our current waterfront location opened in 1994 - that's over two decades worth of audiences, so they've served us well over the years!

The *Millionth Bum* campaign was launched in November 2012 to raise money for this new seating system. Many thanks to all of the generous donors who have very kindly supported the campaign, we look forward to seeing you at Circa Theatre to try out the new seats when they arrive.

We will continue to take seat donations right up until the installation date, so if you would like to contribute to this fund, or towards our other fundraising efforts, please contact our Business Development Manager - clare.creely@circa.co.nz or phone 04 801 8137.



HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT CIRCA?

BECOME A FRIEND OF CIRCA

The small annual fee is a valuable contribution to Circa Theatre. Please turn to the back flap for more information.

MAKE A DONATION

Circa very much appreciates any donations - large or small. To make a donation, simply call the Box Office on 801 7992, stop in at Circa, visit www.circa.co.nz/site/Donate-Now or send a cheque to Circa Theatre, PO Box 968, Wellington.

Individuals can claim a tax credit for up to one third of all donations up to their limit of taxable income. Companies can claim a deduction for the total amount of donations made up to their limit of taxable income.

BECOME A 'STARDUST FUND' SUPPORTER

TACT's Stardust Fund supports artists in their personal development and helps Circa to host out-of-town artists' accommodation and travel expenses while they perform in a show at Circa. This fund helps ensure Circa productions feature the best talent from around New Zealand. All donations are appreciated.

Please contact clare.creely@circa.co.nz if you would like more information on becoming a Stardust member.

SPONSOR A SHOW

Show sponsors not only support the directors, actors, designers and technicians to mount the best production possible, but also receive special benefits including name recognition on show-related marketing material and complimentary tickets to the show. For more information please contact clare.creely@circa.co.nz

Accessibility at Circa Theatre

Circa Theatre is dedicated to understanding and providing for the needs of our audience and ensuring that our work is accessible for all people. We are committed to providing Audio Described performances for our blind and low vision patrons, and New Zealand Sign Language interpreted performances for our Deaf patrons. We will announce when these will take place on www.circa.co.nz.

Performances like these require a large financial obligation and the extra assistance of volunteers. If you would like to contribute to Circa's ongoing commitment to accessibility, through a donation or volunteering, please contact Circa Marketing at marketing@circa.co.nz or 801-8137.



NZSL interpreter Saran Goldie-Anderson, *Constellations*, Circa Theatre, 2014. Photo by Yael Gezentsvey.

The gift that keeps on giving!



Circa Theatre has gift ideas for the theatre enthusiast on your list: gift vouchers in any ticket denomination or the Circa Six Pack - a pack of six vouchers for the price of five tickets that can be redeemed in a number of ways.

For more information, contact the Circa Box Office on 801-7992 or in person at 1 Taranaki Street.



encore

BAR | RESTAURANT | CAFE

Encore Restaurant serves eclectic fusion style contemporary fare with an enchanting harbour view and specialise in pre-show dining to enhance your theatre going experience. We dish up delicious, seasonally fresh and local ingredients along with fabulous show specials. Our latest menus are available to view online under the restaurant tab at www.circa.co.nz and bookings are always very welcome!

Encore Bar also offers light meals, snacks, refreshments, scoop ice-cream and distinctive fair-trade organic coffee.

Encore hospitality offers a range of finger food and set menu packages for group functions that we can tailor to your needs. For more information about daytime or evening functions for your group please email the Restaurant Manager jacinta@encoreatcirca.co.nz.

Restaurant bookings & general enquiries: 04 801 7996

More information: www.encoreatcirca.co.nz, www.circa.co.nz

Opening hours:

RESTAURANT Tuesday to Saturday, 5pm - 8.30pm

Sunday Roast from 6pm (advance bookings essential)

BAR Tuesday to Sunday

CORPORATE ENTERTAINMENT

Entertain your clients or staff at Circa Theatre and Encore Restaurant by hosting a cocktail party or sit-down dinner, combined with an award-winning show. We have a range of packages that can be individually tailored to your needs.

For more information about Group Bookings and Corporate Events, please visit the Circa website (www.circa.co.nz) or contact Circa Marketing on 04 801-8137 (marketing@circa.co.nz)



Bookings

04 801 7992

www.circa.co.nz

To book, phone us, use our online booking system, or call into the theatre at 1 Taranaki Street on Wellington's waterfront, next to Te Papa.

Credit card bookings (MasterCard or Visa) and online bookings - no extra charge. Our postal address:

PO Box 968, Wellington 6140

BOX OFFICE HOURS

The Box office is open for bookings:

Monday 10 am - 4 pm

Tuesday to Saturday 10 am - show start time

Sunday 1 pm - 4 pm (or show start time)

Please note, for the hour leading up to the show start time, bookings will only be taken for that show.

ENCORE RESTAURANT AT CIRCA

Restaurant Hours:

Tuesday - Sunday 5pm to 8.30pm.

Book to avoid disappointment.

Reservations:

04 801 7996.

Encore Restaurant at Circa Theatre

1 Taranaki St, Wellington

www.encoreatcirca.co.nz



FIND US ONLINE!

PRICES

Circa One and Two:

Adults **\$46**

Students, senior citizens and beneficiaries **\$38**

Friends of Circa (for the first two weeks of production)

\$33 Groups 6+ **\$39** | Groups 20+ **\$36**

Student/Equity stand-by **\$25**

Under 25s **\$25**

Prices may vary for some productions.

No refunds are available, although tickets may be transferred to another performance of the same production. (Minimum 24 hours notice. Subject to availability.)

PERFORMANCE TIMES

Circa One:

Tuesday and Wednesday 6.30 pm

Thursday, Friday and Saturday 8 pm

Sunday 4 pm

Circa Two:

Tuesday - Saturday 7.30 pm

Sunday 4.30 pm

Please note these are our usual performance times. Times may vary - please check with the Box Office.

The information contained in this booklet is correct at the time of print. Circa reserves the right to make alterations to the programme at its discretion.

Become a Friend of Circa

FEEL GOOD ABOUT YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO THEATRE IN WELLINGTON AND RECEIVE BENEFITS AND DISCOUNTS.

A FRIEND OF CIRCA MEMBERSHIP ALLOWS YOU TO MAKE AN ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE OPERATION OF CIRCA THEATRE - THEREBY HELPING TO KEEP THEATRE IN WELLINGTON GOING STRONG. MEMBERSHIP FEES GO TOWARDS THE GENERAL UPKEEP OF THE BUILDING SO THAT BOX OFFICE REVENUE CAN CONTINUE TO GO DIRECTLY TO THE ARTISTS WHO WORK SO HARD ON EACH AND EVERY ONE OF OUR 20+ PRODUCTIONS PER YEAR.

A Friends of Circa membership helps you to see more great theatre at Circa with a variety of benefits and discounts.

Each \$50 per annum membership fee entitles you to:

- Two tickets at our special Friends price of \$33 (normally \$46) for the first two weeks of each production. The membership will pay for itself after just two shows!
- Regular newsletters (at least 10 per year), with information on the latest shows, news of what is happening in the theatre and profiles of some of our best-known actors, directors and other theatre practitioners.
- Invitations to special events at Circa.

To become a Friend, fill out the form overleaf and drop it off at the Circa Box Office along with the membership fee. Or call 801 7992 with your credit card at the ready. You will receive your Membership card and first newsletter at the time of joining.



Yes please!

I would like to become a Friend of Circa

Name
Address
Phone (Home)
Phone (Work)
Email

Please find my membership of \$ 50.00

And I would like to make a donation of \$

Total \$

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CHEQUE CREDIT CARD Visa Mastercard

CARD NO.

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EXPIRY DATE

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SIGNATURE

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Mail to:
Circa Friends
PO Box 968
Wellington 6140

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Wellington City Council

Me Heke Ki Pōneke

THE BREEZE

RADIOLIVE
WELLINGTON 98.7FM

THE
DOMINION POST



BROCHURE DESIGN

Kraftwork

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