

## *Sydney Fringe Festival launches 2025 program with over 460 events transforming the city this September*

*- New South Wales' largest independent arts festival will showcase over 2,900 artists across four precincts and 10 festival hubs, including the reopening of Eternity Playhouse -*



**Sydney Fringe Festival** has today unveiled its full 2025 program, featuring more than **460 events** and over **2,900 artists** across **four precincts** and **10 festival hubs** this September. Tickets are on sale now, with highlights including the immersive theatre experience ***When Night Comes*** by **Broad Encounters**, internationally acclaimed shows by renowned storytelling duo **Wright & Grainger**, the return of the **Queer** and **First Nations Hubs**, and the much-anticipated reopening of the **Eternity Playhouse**, which will showcase ambitious and cutting-edge works as part of the **Off Broadway Hub**.

To mark the official opening of the festival, Sydney Fringe kicks off with a **free street party** on **Thursday 4 September** at **The Rocks**, transforming the historic laneways and heritage buildings with hidden performances and live music. It also signals the return of **SIDESHOW** every **Tuesday to Sunday** throughout the festival, with an exciting lineup of immersive and experiential shows performed in pop-up spaces throughout the precinct. The unmissable ***When Night Comes*** by **Broad Encounters** is set to take over the **Union Bond Store** at **6-8 Atherden Street** for its Sydney premiere, a bespoke, multi-sensory performance for small groups that blends cocktails and theatre in an interactive show across multiple rooms.

Renowned storytelling duo **Wright & Grainger** will present three of their internationally acclaimed shows: ***Orpheus***, ***Helios***, and the family-friendly ***Grandpa Poseidon***; the ultimate sing-along experience **Lola's Piano Bar** is back at a new home at **The Rawson Hotel**; and every Saturday, **SIDESHOW Wildcard** presents one festival show for free at **The Rocks Square**. From festival favourites to hidden gems, each performance will be hand-selected by the Sydney Fringe team.

For the first time in over a year, Darlinghurst's **Eternity Playhouse** will open its doors as the new home of the **Off Broadway Hub** from **2 - 27 September**, welcoming back artists and audiences to one of Sydney's most beloved performing arts venues. Showcasing bold and innovative shows across theatre, music, contemporary dance and cabaret, highlights include rising star of Australian dance, choreographer-director **Lewis Major**'s critically acclaimed triple bill

performance ***Triptych***, fresh off the back of a world tour. Also at Eternity Playhouse, **The Ghana Road Show** blends circus arts, music and dance in a vibrant, high-energy performance that celebrates the richness and diversity of West African culture; and the haunting music of Kate Bush is reimagined in exquisite choral and instrumental arrangements by vocal ensemble **Eklektika** for their brand new show ***Kate Bush Unmoored***.

Now in its second year, the **Yagali First Nations Hub** is back at **PACT Centre for Emerging Artists** from **28 - 30 August**. Highlights include a live reading by **Adam Nobilia** from his upcoming memoir ***Australia's Least Wanted***, which draws from his ten year tenure working as the Special Education Teacher in Sydney's infamous Long Bay Jail. First Nations voices feature prominently across the festival program, including ***First Sounds Showcase*** on **30 August** presented by **Koori Radio, Community Broadcasting Association Australia (CBAA), Gadigal Information Service (GIS) and Kameygal Music Studio** — a night of powerful voices and unfiltered energy featuring a stacked lineup of emerging and established First Nations talent. **Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-operative** presents a new group exhibition showcasing works from 11 emerging artists connected to Bundjalung Country.

The **Queer Hub** is back at **Qtopia Sydney** amplifying the work of LGBTQIA+ storytellers. Highlights include the epic comedy-variety show ***Queen Out (Verb)*** by LA-based drag queen duo **Lorelei and Annie Biotixx**; and musical comedy show ***Let's Unpack That*** by comedians **Kate Wilkins and Nick Harriott**, blending music theatre, stand-up and improvisation with songs produced by award-winning Australian musician **Montaigne**.

The **Cabaret Hub** finds a new home at **Marrickville Town Hall** from **2 - 28 September** with a packed month-long program, including one-man show ***Upside Down Fantasyland***, a raw and poetic exploration of **Troy Rogers'** journey from the shadows of his dark past into the light of his future; and ***La Dolce Vita...Down Under***, a heartfelt cabaret by **Illeana Piptone** that intimately recounts her journey from Italy to Australia. Marrickville Town Hall will also be transformed by ***Dorothy In Oz***, a brand new experience from the creator of the global smash hits ***The Alice: An Immersive Cocktail Adventure***, ***The Wizards Den*** and ***The Art of Murder***. Audiences are transported to the wonderful world of Oz and tasked to craft their own delectable cocktail as they explore the characters within.

The **Dance Hub** returns to **Sydney Dance Company's Neilson Studio**, featuring stunning contemporary dance work by local and international artists. Highlights include multidisciplinary New Zealand artist **Liv Tennet's** solo show ***For You to Know and Me to Find Out*** examining matrescence and the transformation of motherhood, which was recently awarded 'Best in Fringe' at NZ Fringe Festival 2025. At **Erskineville Town Hall**, the **Emerging Artists Share House**, supported by the James Kirby Foundation, showcases contemporary works from rising theatremakers, while the annual month-long **Sydney Fringe Comedy** at the **Factory Theatre** features an incredible lineup of both emerging and established comedians.

**LIMITLESS** has a new dedicated hub at **Bondi Pavillion** from **16 - 20th September**, celebrating the work of d/Deaf and neurodivergent artists, and artists living with a disability. Highlights include performances by singer, song-writer and disability advocate **Elly-May Barnes**; three-man cabaret show ***The Crooners: Swinging & Spinning*** featuring all-time

favourite jazz classics; and **Criptonite**, a dynamic variety show and defiant celebration of disabled brilliance, curated by international pole champion **Deb Roach** and hosted by improv king **Tom North**.

Taking over **Entertainment Quarter** from **29 August - 12 October**, the **Fool's Paradise** garden presented by the award-winning **Head First Acrobats**, brings high-energy entertainment including the gravity-defying, laugh-out-loud spectacle **Elixir Revived**; and **Lash Out**, an all-female showcase of the fiercest women in the Australian circus industry. For the entire two weeks of the school holidays from **27 September - 12 October**, Entertainment Quarter will also host the mini-festival **Fringe Kids**, featuring the best in kids shows. Highlights include **Camp Culture**, an interactive circus show for campers of any age, hosted by Kamilaroi man and one of Australia's most prolific circus artists **Dale Woodbridge Brown**. Further Fringe Kids programming includes the beloved stars of ABC Kids TV in **Lah-Lah Meets Sydney Youth Orchestra** at **Turner Hall, TAFE NSW**.

The inaugural open access literature festival **Parramatta's Lit!** joins Sydney Fringe from **11 - 14 September** with an expansive program across multiple venues, featuring panel discussions, keynote speeches, live readings, masterclasses, workshops and a zine and book fair. Sydney Fringe also extends its presence in Western Sydney with a series of programs in collaboration with performing arts venues **PYT Fairfield** and **Riverside Theatres**, presenting original works by emerging Australian artists.

An exciting new partnership with **UNSW's School of Arts & Media, TheLab@UNSW** will showcase exceptional experimental performance, and Sydney Fringe is also teaming up with **The Old Fitz Theatre** to present two bold new theatre shows from **2 - 27 September**. Challenging audiences with urgent, complex questions about patriarchy and consent, **She Threaded Dangerously** follows four teenage girls as they fight to forge identity in a system that stifles them; and **Way Back When**, a gothic revenge drama by Palawa writer and actor **Dylan Van Den Berg** who won the 2020 Griffin Award for new Australian playwriting.

These highlights join a packed program which includes the previously announced **Made in Sydney** program, showcasing the best of Sydney's independent theatre-makers; inaugural collaborations with **Canberra Theatre Centre** through their **NEW WORKS** program and Wollongong's **Merrigong Theatre Company** through their **MERRIGONGX Artists** program; the annual **Touring Hub** bringing smash hit shows from around the world, including acclaimed UK theatremakers **Sh!t Theatre** with **Or What's Left Of Us**; and the return of comedian **Jennifer Wong's** sell-out show **FEAST** and the brand new **FEAST: Morning Tea Edition**.

**Interim CEO Patrick Kennedy said:** *"The Sydney Fringe 2025 program is our most expansive yet and we're thrilled to be bringing artists and audiences together across more venues and precincts than ever before. From the return of major hubs, to the highly anticipated reopening of the Eternity Playhouse, this year's program pushes boundaries and spotlights new voices, inviting Sydneysiders to rediscover their city through unforgettable experiences in every corner."*

Tickets are now on sale for all Sydney Fringe Festival events at <https://www.sydneynfringe.com/>



**MEDIA RELEASE**  
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*Ends*

**MEDIA CONTACTS:** For further information and to request interviews for Sydney Fringe 2025 please contact Isabel Wright, [isabel@articulateadvisory.com](mailto:isabel@articulateadvisory.com), 0400 359 485 or Clare Callaghan, [clare@articulateadvisory.com](mailto:clare@articulateadvisory.com), 0450 223 485

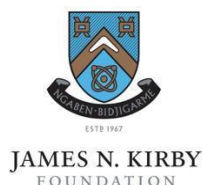
**IMAGE CAPTIONS L-R:** Elly-May Barnes; *When Night Comes*; *Dorothy In Oz*; *Triptych*

**IMAGES** available to download [HERE](#)

**ABOUT SYDNEY FRINGE FESTIVAL:** The Sydney Fringe Festival is the largest independent arts festival in NSW and a NSW Foundation Event, representing thousands of artists across all art forms. It has built a reputation for nurturing and supporting emerging artists, presenting established artists in the development of new works, promoting small to medium-sized venues and activating public spaces. In addition to the presentation of art, this festival engages the local community of residents and supports small business and night-time economy. This festival aims to give a voice to those who produce work all year round and compete with main stage events for publicity, and large corporations for custom. This festival represents the cultural heart of the city and celebrates all things Sydney from local community groups to well-known touring artists. <https://www.sydneymfringe.com/>

The Sydney Fringe Festival is proudly supported by the NSW Government through its tourism and major events agency Destination NSW, Create NSW and Place Management NSW. As well as local government support from City of Sydney and the Inner West Council.

Partners of Sydney Fringe Festival 2025



Full partner list [HERE](#).