

Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras acknowledges the Gadigal people of the Eora nation, who are the traditional owners of the land on which our celebrations are held on. Always was, always will be Aboriginal Land.

## **Co-Chair's Message**

To be fearless. To face our fears. To triumph. This sense of resilience, of activism, protest, celebration and voice. It is what our communities are made of – it is in the blood that pumps through our veins, it is in our voices as we chant and celebrate.

Tens of thousands of people will be a part of Mardi Gras in 2019. They will come from across the city, the state, the country and the globe. They will come from places where they are safe, and they will come from places where their rights are challenged, diminished or non-existent. We will create a place for them that changes their lives. Across our amazing festival they will stand proud, they will protest, they will create and they will be part of the ephemeral family that Mardi Gras creates each year.

*“No person is your friend (or kin) who demands your silence, or denies your right to grow and be perceived as fully blossomed as you were intended” Alice Walker*

As we look back on our big anniversary and move into an exciting new decade of Mardi Gras, it is important to pay thanks to those who have been fearless for the last forty years. Each year we climb higher on the shoulders of

giants, and we thank all of them for the work they have done. This year, like any other, we could not be as fabulous without the support of an amazing staff and volunteer crew. The board would like to thank them for their incredible contributions, sleepless nights and beaming smiles on event days.

We truly thank you all for joining with us to show how amazing our communities can be. We love you all, each and every one of you fearless champions.

*“Hope will never be silent” Harvey Milk*

Brandon Bear and Kate Wickett  
CO-CHAIRS, SGLMG

## **CEO's Welcome**

Stepping into my third year as CEO, I am honoured to work with the dedicated new SGLMG Board and the extraordinary team of staff and volunteers who work tirelessly to continue to transform our programs and our festival so that we remain relevant to the changing world around us.

This year we bring together over 400 artists, creatives and thought leaders from across the world to showcase, celebrate and disrupt our notions of diversity. In 2019 we embrace a truly global discussion and realign our festival programming back to social justice, human rights and equality and we can't wait to share it with you.

It is a privilege to be one of the caretakers of this extraordinary organisation and I strongly believe that Mardi Gras has a great future and is as important now as it was 20 years ago. It is vital that our community is provided the platforms for protest, to come together to celebrate diversity, showcase creativity and present bold new voices across everything we do.

To achieve our vision, we must continue to listen to all of our members and communities, young and old and in all their diversity, and transform Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras into a forward thinking, visionary organisation that honours its past whilst inspiring its future.

Terese Casu  
CEO, MARDI GRAS ARTS

## **Creative Director's Welcome**

In 2019, we shine the spotlight brightly on what's happening in our world today and on the future, as we celebrate our fearless trailblazers. Our diverse and inclusive program is an exploration of sexuality, gender, body image, power, fearlessness, vulnerability, celebration and desire.

At Carriageworks you'll be in awe of erce vogue dancers at *Sissy Ball* and kickass First Nations drag artists at the *Black Nulla Club Night*. At *Queer Thinking* and *My Trans Story - The Next Generation* you will meet awe-inspiring

activists, advocates, academics, role models and young people speaking up.

At the Seymour Centre expect the unexpected at *Mardi Gras Central*, our fabulous new festival hub of awesome queer performance and home of the swanky late night *Festival Club*. Highlights include the phenomenal *Club Briefs*, *The Rise and Fall of St George* and direct from the UK, *The Butch Monologues* and the brilliant *Cake Daddy*.

Not to be missed is *Requiem Mass: A Queer Divine Rite* by American composer Holcombe Waller at the City Recital Hall. This remarkable choral work is a remembrance for those who have suffered persecution for their sexuality or gender expression.

*Queer Art After Hours* and *Luna Park Family Fun Day* return alongside awesome new events including the fantastic *Strictly Kaftan Party* and the premiere of the glorious *Bent Burlesque* featuring international stars from the Vienna Boylesque Festival.

See you out and about!

Greg Clarke  
CREATIVE DIRECTOR, SGLMG

## **Lord Mayor's Welcome**

The Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Festival is a wonderful celebration of diversity and inclusion. The City of Sydney has a long history of supporting this iconic

community festival and is proud to support it again in 2019.

This year's theme, 'fearless', appropriately draws attention to the audacious bravery of the LGBTIQ community as you navigate the long journey towards equality.

While we celebrate, we must remember the barriers that still exist. The recent obscene calls to legislate new forms of discrimination highlight that Mardi Gras is also about protest. We must remain fearless to achieve and preserve equality.

And there is a personal dimension to this year's theme—many LGBTIQ people are not okay, many experience loneliness and isolation. I hope this year's festival will encourage anyone who needs help to reach out—to be fearless.

## **Minister's Welcome**

I am pleased to welcome you all to the 2019 Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras.

This is a hallmark event on the NSW calendar and last year's 40th anniversary celebrations saw record numbers attend the festival.

Each year, the Parade alone attracts thousands of overnight visitors to Sydney, injecting millions of dollars into the NSW visitor economy.

The Parade is undoubtedly the marquee event of Mardi Gras but with celebrations and events held throughout the two week festival period, I encourage all visitors to plan an extended stay in Sydney to get out of the city and explore everything regional NSW has to offer. From stunning coastlines and beaches, to iconic landmarks and world-renowned restaurants and shops, there is something for everyone.

I wish everyone an enjoyable stay and a happy Mardi Gras.

Adam Marshall MP  
MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND MAJOR EVENTS

Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras acknowledges the Gadigal people of the Eora nation, who are the traditional owners of the land on which our celebrations are held on.

Always was, always will be Aboriginal Land.

The Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Festival is an eagerly anticipated event in the Sydney calendar. It showcases Sydney as a diverse, welcoming and inclusive city and we are delighted to welcome the thousands of visitors from all over the world to celebrate with our LGBTIQ community.

The City is proud to support the annual Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Festival and I look forward to celebrating with you again.

Clover Moore

LORD MAYOR, CITY OF SYDNEY

## **City of Sydney's Rainbow Flag Raising Ceremony**

Friday 15 February, 6pm

Sydney Town Hall, 483 George St, Sydney

Wheelchair Accessible

FREE

Happy Mardi Gras! The Rainbow Flag Raising Ceremony hosted by Lord Mayor Clover Moore at Sydney Town Hall is the first official welcoming event of the Festival each year.

The rainbow flag originated in San Francisco in 1978 and was designed by artist Gilbert Baker for the Californian city's Gay and Lesbian Freedom Day Parade. Since then it has become a worldwide emblem of gay pride and gay-friendly areas. The red in the flag symbolises life, while orange signifies healing, yellow is for sunlight, green represents nature, blue stands for harmony and violet signifies spirit.

City of Sydney is proud to show support for its many LGBTQI residents, workers and visitors. As a government partner of Sydney's Mardi Gras Festival, the City will fly the rainbow flag above Sydney Town Hall throughout the 2019 Festival from Friday 15 February until Sunday 3 March.

Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras and Seymour Centre  
present

## **MARDI GRAS CENTRAL** at Seymour Centre

Saturday 16 February - Friday 1 March

Seymour Centre, Cnr City Rd and Cleveland St,

Chippendale

Wheelchair Accessible

Get ready to be entertained and inspired at Mardi Gras Central. Our 2019 Festival hub is a wild mix of queer performance, theatre, music, dance, circus, cabaret and burlesque. Over 12 nights leading up to the Mardi Gras Parade, the Seymour Centre's theatres, foyers and courtyard will be transformed, providing a welcoming space to share, celebrate and explore diverse queer identities through performance.

Experience unmissable performances from world-class local and international LGBTQI artists, grab a bite, enjoy a drink, then head upstairs to the late night Festival Club.

Mardi Gras Central is the place to be seen, don't be the one who misses out.

#mardigrascentral

Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras and Seymour Centre  
present

## **FESTIVAL CLUB**

Saturday 16 February – Friday 1 March, 9pm - Late  
Closed Mondays  
Upstairs, Seymour Centre  
Wheelchair Accessible  
Free

At the centre of this year's Mardi Gras will be the official late-night festival club where everybody is welcome. Each night will be a party at the Festival Club where we will feature Sydney's best DJs and artists, pop-up performances by festival guests and special events. With chillout areas and a dance floor, the Festival Club will be the place to meet friends, make new ones, create festival memories and have an absolute ball.

Full details at [mardigras.org.au](http://mardigras.org.au)  
\* \$5 entry for *Fair Day After Party*

## **THE COURTYARD**

Saturday 16 February – Friday 1 March  
Closed Mondays  
Courtyard, Seymour Centre  
Wheelchair Accessible  
Free

With its outdoor bar, food trucks, big trees and fairy lights, the Seymour Courtyard is the perfect summer spot to meet friends for a drink and a bite to eat before seeing a show. The Courtyard will also feature the Courtyard Sessions – a

series of free outdoor concerts by emerging local LGBTQI musicians.

Full lineup at [mardigras.org.au](http://mardigras.org.au)

Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras presents

## **BENT BURLESQUE**

Featuring stars of the Vienna Boylesque Festival

Saturday 16 & Sunday 17 February, 8:30pm

York Theatre, Seymour Centre, Cnr City Rd and Cleveland St, Chippendale

\$50 / \$45 Concession + MG Member

Wheelchair Accessible

18+

Directed by Imogen Kelly

Hosted by Yana Alana

Australia | Austria | USA

**WORLD PREMIERE**

Over two spectacular nights, the inaugural Bent Burlesque will feature the crème de la crème of international and national queer burlesque artists. This is going to be Sydney's number one event to experience the ever-bending and outrageous world of fabulous queer burlesque.

Featuring direct from the Vienna Boylesque Festival, Jacques Patriaque (Vienna), Mr Gorgeous (New York) and Isaiah & Johnny (Portland USA) in a fruit cocktail of some of the very best and emerging artists of Australia's bent burlesque scene, including Australian circus superstar Jess Love.

Your host for this tantalising trip into the world of burlesque queens and kings is the award-winning queen of queer cabaret Yana Alana. With an incredible and powerful voice, Yana is a diva in the true sense – brave, brash, unapologetic and larger than life.

Expect underground cabaret, music, circus, satire, drag and performance art with a wild and eclectic mix of different acts each night. **Full line-up to be announced at [mardigras.org.au](http://mardigras.org.au)**

Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras presents

## **CLUB BRIEFS**

Wednesday 20 February – Friday 1 March, 8:30pm  
York Theatre, Seymour Centre, Cnr City Rd and Cleveland St, Chippendale

\$59 / \$49 Concession + MG Members

Wheelchair Accessible

18+

Australia's favourite trash glamour disco circus is coming back to town for Mardi Gras. Cult cabaret hooligans and mischief-makers Briefs present a wild romp of disco

dancing, circus, variety, and burlesque featuring a hand-picked selection of guests from across the world of queer cabaret.

Expect a pumping soundtrack with your favourite dance floor smashes and ridiculous performances from the Briefs boys plus a cavalcade of hand-selected guest cabaret and circus artists. Stomp it out on the catwalk, dance until late, laugh until you ache and experience the club night that spawned the international touring sensation Briefs.

Briefs pays homage to the traditions of circus, the extremities of physical theatre, the artistry of drag, the guts of burlesque, the imagery of theatre, the debauchery of speakeasies and the showmanship of cabaret. The company uses the circus and variety format as a vehicle for engaging audiences, challenging stereotypes, and exploring notions of gender, sexual orientation, race and politics.

SHAUN PARKER & COMPANY and Seymour Centre  
present

## **KING**

By Shaun Parker & Company

Wednesday 20 – Sunday 24 February, 7:30pm, Sunday  
5pm

Everest Theatre, Seymour Centre, Cnr City Rd and  
Cleveland St, Chippendale

\$52.80 / \$42.80 Concession + MG Member

Wheelchair Accessible

*KING* is a new music-dance collaboration between award-winning director/choreographer Shaun Parker and internationally renowned Bulgarian-born songwriter/vocalist Ivo Dimchev.

Set in a theatrical world that is part cocktail lounge, part jungle, *KING* interrogates the notion of male power, control and group dynamics amongst men. Teasing out patterns of behaviour of the cis-hetero-alpha-male against homosexual, bisexual and pansexual perspectives, Parker's highly physical and articulate choreographic world in *KING* will be intertwined with the scorching live sung narration of Dimchev's deconstructed cabaret-esque vocals.

The key protagonist and archetype in *KING* will be observed as a naked man, which will be created by, and instructed by Dimchev as the work progresses, and we shall witness the male body as a commodity for observation. Dimchev, as the gender-neutral narrator, creates a kingdom of men commenting on toxic masculinity. The juxtaposition of Dimchev's androgynous counter tenor vocal narration against the male dominated world created in *KING*, will provide a compelling counterpoint to the notion of power and brutality found within the context of historic masculinity and socio-sexual-political structures.

*KING* shall deliver a biting, yet humorous theatrical expose, giving a well-deserved 'nod' to a society in revolt against an exhausted patriarchy.

*Full frontal nudity, violence, adult themes and sexual references. Recommended ages 16+*

Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras in association with Performing Lines present

## **THE RISE AND FALL OF SAINT GEORGE**

By Paul Mac and Lachlan Philpott

Thursday 28 February, 8pm

Everest Theatre, Seymour Centre, Cnr City Rd and Cleveland St, Chippendale

\$50 / \$45 Concession + MG Members

Wheelchair Accessible

16+

George was a pioneer. A trailblazer. An icon. He was our saint.

To celebrate the life of our much-loved star, a beautiful mural appeared across a wall in the Inner West. It became a local shrine, bringing a smile to the faces of thousands of commuters who passed every day on the train.

It stood for eleven months with no hint of complaint or controversy. The dark forces unleashed and forced upon our community by the Marriage Equality campaign changed that. One day after we heard YES, a day to celebrate and heal after the divisive campaign, the mural was destroyed in a series of attacks.

Two of Australia's leading queer artists, pop icon Paul Mac and playwright Lachlan Philpott, have teamed up to tell the

story of St George through the eyes of our community. This is a special opportunity to see this work as it is being made. Join Paul Mac and a choice selection of collaborators from across his career and a community choir for a sneak peek of this big new work.

*The Rise and Fall of St George* is a celebration of our achievements, a thank you to the allies who supported us, and an urgent call to arms to never let these hard-won freedoms go in these dark times.

After the show, a Q&A will involve the audience in a discussion about creating work inspired by real events, and how Paul's music will continue to be informed by the experience.

Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras in association with Theatre Works and wreckedAllprods present

## **CAKE DADDY**

Saturday 16 – Friday 22 February

Sound Lounge, Seymour Centre, Cnr City Rd and

Cleveland St, Chippendale 7pm

\$40 / \$35 Concession+ MG Members

Wheelchair Accessible

18+

Performed By Ross Anderson-Doherty

Written By Ross Anderson-Doherty And Lachlan Philpott

Directed By Alyson Campbell

North of Ireland  
SYDNEY PREMIERE

A delicious new interactive cabaret banquet, *Cake Daddy* will plunge you belly-deep inside one gorgeous queer man's experience of fat/ness, laying bare both the fortitude and fabulosity required to step into the world as a fat person today.

*Cake Daddy* is about being fat in a fat-phobic world. It's about owning the word fat and refusing the scare-mongering and hatred-inspiring messages about an epidemic of obesity. It's about not apologising for taking up space, not trying to diet, not trying to make oneself quiet, not trying to change one's body size.

Ross Anderson-Doherty invites you into his world, one that veers like a set of dieter's scales between the lightness of *Cake Daddy* and the heavy weight of public opinion.

This event is supported by the British Council and Arts Council NI

Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras in association with Theatre Works present

## **THE BUTCH MONOLOGUES**

Saturday 23 February – Friday 1 March, 7pm  
Sound Lounge, Seymour Centre, Cnr City Rd and  
Cleveland St, Chippendale  
\$40 / \$35 Concession + MG Members  
Wheelchair Accessible

14+

Written By Laura Bridgeman

Directed By Julie Mcnamara

Developed By The Drakes, A London-Based Group Of Butches, Transmen And Gender Rebels

UK

SYDNEY PREMIERE

A powerful and often humorous collection of secret stories exploring sexuality, vulnerability and desire taken from interviews with butches, masculine women, gender rebels and transmen living world-wide.

Based on the true stories of butch-identified women living in the UK, Europe, USA, Caribbean and now Australia, this work offers fresh language and intonation on butch beginnings, butch desire and desirability, butch bravado and vulnerability, butch-on-femme sex, butch-on-butche sex, switches, stones, butch as a trap, the butch body, violence, heroes and clothing.

Siren Theatre Co and Seymour Centre present

## **THE MOORS**

Thursday 7 February – Friday 1 March, \$30

Reginald Theatre, Seymour Centre, Cnr City Rd and Cleveland St, Chippendale

From \$30

Wheelchair Accessible

By Jen Silverman

Directed by Kate Gaul

Australia | USA

A hyper-theatrical and kinky homage to the Brontës; this play is about female power and what it is to write your own story.

Two sisters and a dog live on the bleak English moors, and dream of love, power and notoriety. The arrival of a governess, the pointed schemes of a scullery maid, and the musings of a moorhen set this odd assembly on a strange and dangerous path. A cleverly crafted black comedy about love, desperation, and visibility, *The Moors* is a brilliant new work by Jen Silverman, a fresh new voice who takes chances.

From the company who made *The Trouble with Harry*, this is a play of subversive edginess toppling the male-oppressed milieu of the Brontës and taking strong, passionate female characters to new heights.

Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras, Siren Theatre Co and Seymour Centre present

## **PLAYLIST**

Saturday 16 February

Reginald Theatre, Seymour Centre

Cnr City Rd and Cleveland St, Chippendale

9am

Wheelchair Accessible

Free

A peek, taste and celebration of new works by LGBTQIA+ writers.

Where are the new gay Australian plays written, what are the stories and how are they told? PLAYLIST is a selection of writers, theatre-makers and new talent who tell bold, unique LGBTQIA+ stories on stage for audiences hungry for new voices.

Join us for a day of readings, pitches, presentations and performances with some special guests along the way! PLAYLIST is a partnership between Seymour Centre, Mardi Gras and Siren Theatre Co which celebrates the creation and development of original Australian theatre with a LGBTQIA+ focus.

## **QUEER CONTEMPORARY AT NATIONAL ART SCHOOL**

Friday 15 February – Saturday 2 March

National Art School, Cnr Forbes and Burton St,  
Darlinghurst

Wheelchair Accessible

The National Art School's iconic site (the former Darlinghurst Gaol) is a part of the queer past and the queer future, from the infamous Wall to today's Queer Contemporary, which includes exhibitions, conversations, workshops, kids activities and the boutique Moonlite pop

up bar named in honour of former inmate - Bush Ranger Captain Moonlite and his lover James Nesbitt.

Queer as Folklore - Exhibition of works from the collection of Dr Dick Quan and Holdsworth House Medical Practice

Works from the Refracted Light exhibition  
Created by Insideoutdelhi - India's first queer art competition

Moonlite Tour led by artist Todd Fuller Full program at [mardigras.org.au](http://mardigras.org.au)

## **OXTRAVAGANZA**

Saturday 23 February  
Oxford St and surrounds, Darlinghurst  
12pm - 12am  
Free

Celebrate Oxtravaganza as retail and hospitality in and around Oxford Street, Darlinghurst offer up a series of one-off events to celebrate the middle weekend of Mardi Gras. Catch any one of a number of shows in a midday to midnight programme at local clubs, bars and hotels. Whether your choice is boutique beer, bookshop browsing or burlesque dancing, Darlo has you covered! With retail activations, live gigs and special offers, you'll be spoiled for things to do and while you are at it, help raise money for Twenty10.

Full details at [mardigras.org.au](http://mardigras.org.au)

Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras in partnership with ANZ presents

## **FAIR DAY**

Sunday 17 February

Victoria Park, Cnr Parramatta Rd and City Rd, Broadway  
10am – 9pm

Come one, come all. Fair Day's an out-and-out, full-on fabulous day of fun and adventure where you can chill with a picnic spread, browse the community stalls or kick up your heels and have a dance.

Fair Day 2019 will shine a light on rising LGBTQI music talent who are reshaping the arts and culture landscape and breaking new ground. Join us at the ANZ Main Stage to discover a mix of queer trailblazers including Mojo Juju and Electric Fields.

Meanwhile, enjoy games in the Sports Village, the deliciousness on offer from the many food trucks, or watch precious pups from across Sydney lapping up the attention at Doggywood. All that and so much more.

Our communities shine bright at Fair Day. Whether you're young or old, tame or bold, whoever you are, whoever you love, Fair Day is the must-do event which brings us all together.

## **FAIR DAY OFFICIAL AFTER PARTY**

Festival Club, Upstairs Seymour Centre  
9pm until late

\$5 or entry with a Mardi Gras Central show ticket for 17 February

Join us at Mardi Gras Central's Festival Club for the official Fair Day after-party, where very special guests will delight partygoers with pop-up performances while our esteemed DJs will fill the floor with the ultimate dance and party tunes until the early hours.

Full details at [mardigras.org.au](http://mardigras.org.au)

Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras presents

## **STRICTLY KAFTAN PARTY**

With your party hosts the Topp Twins

NZ | Australia

Tuesday 19 February

ivy Pool Club, Level 4, 320 George Street, Sydney

4pm – 11pm

From \$50

18+

Make a splash and oat into the Strictly Kaftan Party, a pool party with a twist.

It's the kind of pool party with the most fabulous of dress codes. Please don't dress down for this one – we want to see YOU hit the poolside in your most vibrant kaftan, comfy moo-moo or equally glamorous poolside couture.

It's fun, it's playful, it's dress up... it's where you need to be.

Let your worries drift away and enjoy a fabulous wave of outrageous entertainment, with special guests the Topp Twins from New Zealand, DJs and more. Win fabulous prizes or categories including Best Kaftan, Best Cabana Lounging Ensemble and Most Outrageous Summer Accessory.

Strictly Kaftan Party is an all-inclusive summertime social by the pool, where Every Body's Welcome.

Enjoy an authentic Italian two-course meal in the chic poolside surroundings of Uccello restaurant on the ivy rooftop for an additional charge. Bookings are essential.

Full details at [mardigras.org.au](http://mardigras.org.au)

Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras and City Recital Hall present

## **REQUIEM MASS: A QUEER DIVINE RITE**

By Holcombe Waller

Thursday 21 February

City Recital Hall, 2 Angel Pl Sydney

7:30pm

\$50

Wheelchair Accessible

USA | Australia

Requiem Mass: A Queer Divine Rite is an evening length original choral work, by American singer and composer Holcombe Waller, that invokes remembrance and peace for the dead who suffered persecution for their sexual orientation or gender expression.

The piece is an emotional and personal work informed by research into the pivotal gay history from the 1980s through present day. Driven by community engagement and local community input, Waller's Requiem explores the theatricality of ceremony as a means for collective catharsis and cultural introspection around the intersection of religion and LGBTQI identity.

Working with local singers, musicians, artists and faith leaders, the performance invites collaborative participation to make it most relevant to its particular time, venue, and cultural context, reflecting on the shifting and complex local narrative of the evolution of social justice for LGBTQI people. The work will be performed by Sam Allchurch and the Sydney Chamber Choir, inviting participation from singers of all abilities who feel called to the project's mission, supported by professional singers and instrumentalists. Building off of millennia of queer leadership in religious ceremony, Requiem Mass audaciously plays with the intersection of music, theatre and ceremony to propose a claim for Queer power within our most sacred cultural spaces.

The Australian premiere of Requiem Mass was originally produced by Performance Space for Day For Night: 24 HRS, 2016

Sydney Opera House presents in association with Trevor Ashley Enterprises

## **TREVOR ASHLEY'S MARDI GALA**

Sunday 24 February

Concert Hall, Sydney Opera House Bennelong Point, Sydney

6pm

From \$59 / Premium from \$129

Wheelchair Accessible

Bigger, better and dare we say, Gayer than ever, Trevor Ashley's Mardi Gala returns to the Concert Hall for one fabulous night only.

Live onstage with a 12 piece orchestra, this variety gala is jam-packed with surprises, laughs and power ballads, that will have everyone on their feet. Joining "Mardi Gras Royalty" Trevor Ashley is the deliciously camp Rhonda Burchmore, the electrifying Tim Campbell, the acerbic wit of Tom Ballard, Oxford St legends Shauna Jensen and Minnie Cooper, and more surprises!

Right after the show, the Northern Foyers play host to the best party in Sydney with breathtaking views in a sunset soiree like no other, sparkling with the sounds of DJ Victoria Anthony.

Come and join us for the ultimate Mardi Gras pre-party and celebrate with the stars!

This event supports the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Community Fund.

Queer Screen's 26<sup>th</sup>

## **MARDI GRAS FILM FESTIVAL**

Wednesday 13 – Thursday 28 February

Event Cinemas George St and other venues

\$19.90 / Concession \$17.90

Queer Screen Member \$16.90

+ opening night and special events

From romance to comedies, documentaries to dramas, and everything in between, Queer Screen delivers a huge 26th Mardi Gras Film Festival with an exciting array of diverse films that showcase the LGBTIQ experience.

The 2019 festival will feature a raft of Australian and Sydney premieres from all corners of the globe. Highlights include the hotly anticipated *Sauvage*, a powerful portrait of a gay hustler on the streets of France that sent shockwaves through Cannes for its unrelenting and visceral imagery.

*Snapshots* will transport you back to the 60's and a sexy secret love affair between two women, whilst *Freelancers Anonymous* fills the screen with a fabulous, mostly female

cast in a hilarious screwball comedy without the heteronormativity.

One of the many documentary highlights comes to us from Tonga, as we meet the incredible Leitis In Waiting and their spirited fight for equality; and don't miss the sparkling documentary that raises the curtain and shines a spotlight on acclaimed playwright and LGBTIQ activist Terence McNally.

The teaser films listed above plus more will be announced and on sale from November 8 ahead of the launch of the full festival program on January 9.

Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras presents

## **LUNA PARK FAMILY FUN DAY**

Sunday 24 February

Luna Park, 1 Olympic Drive Milsons Point

11am – 4pm

\$36+bf

Wheelchair Accessible

Our action-packed day for the whole rainbow family premiered at last year's Mardi Gras festival and was a sell-out success. For 2019, we're turning Luna Park rainbow again, giving LGBTQI families with kids a super exciting day of unlimited rides, plus DJs and surprise performances in the Crystal Palace Kids Dance Party.

This will be a special fun-filled treat for kids of all ages with activities for the whole family.

Ticket includes entry to the Crystal Palace Dance Party and unlimited rides all day.

Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras presents

**QUEER THINKING DAY 1** Curated by Charlie Murphy

Saturday 23 February

Carriageworks, 245 Wilson St, Eveleigh

12pm – 6pm

Individual Sessions: \$15 / \$10 Concession

4 Sessions: \$45 / 30 Concession

## **After Safe Schools: Queer Youth Still in Crisis**

12pm – 1pm

In the wake of the national conversation on Safe Schools, our queer youth in schools continue to be a vulnerable target for conservative politics, often with youth shut out from the discussion themselves. By including the voices of the queer school students themselves, this panel opens a proper dialogue and lets the youth tell their own stories, their way.

*Moderated by Liz Duck-Chong.*

## **What It Means to be Non-Binary**

2pm – 3pm

In the new millennium, non-binary identities broke into the mainstream consciousness, emerging largely in online communities, including Tumblr and other social media networks.

A conversation exclusively with millennial non-binary identities, including artists and media commentators, they will share their own experiences and views of the future for non-binary people.

*With YouTuber and social media personality Riley J Dennis, performance artist Māra Māyā Devi, and writer and activist Nevo Zisin.*

## **Queers Vs Capitalism: Reform or Revolution?**

3:30pm – 4:30pm

Millennials and Gen Z have been strongly represented in popular support for the resurgent leftist Jeremy Corbyn and Bernie Sanders campaigns. As the coming generations drift further left, in this panel young, queer, pro- and anti-capitalist voices ask, should we reform capitalism or have revolution?

*Panelists to be announced.*

## **Iraq and Queer Rights: In Conversation with Amir Ashour**

5pm – 6pm

An intimate conversation with Amir Ashour, One Young World Ambassador and the founder of IraQueer, the first and only support network for queer Iraqis. Fleeing from his native

Iraq to Sweden, and now based in the United States, Ashour joins us to tell his story and share his vision for progressive change for in Iraq.

*Featuring Amir Ashour.*

Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras and FEM in association with Trans Pride Australia present

## **MY TRANS STORY: THE NEXT GENERATION**

Saturday 23 February

Carriageworks, 245 Wilson St, Eveleigh

7pm

\$30 / \$25 Concession + bf

In 2018, Trans Stories sold out and audiences gave it a triple standing ovation. In 2019 we present My Trans Story featuring fearless next generation story-tellers.

Meet 14 year old Evie Macdonald, the girl who faced off with the PM on The Project and star of ABC's First Day, Liz Duck Chong, writer, sexual health nerd, pun aficionado and self-described post-fertile funny girl and Nevo Zisin, Jewish, queer, non-binary, activist and author of award-winning Finding Nevo. Plus young trans and gender

diverse people who will be stepping into the spotlight for the first time.

My Trans Story – The Next Generation launches where Trans Stories – 40 Years left off. In 2018 we looked back at our activists who fought for the early hard-won rights and toward a brighter and more inclusive future. In 2019 we will be looking at the future. Traversing the next generation's struggles, loves, triumphs and pursuit of a society that celebrates multiple intersecting gender identities. These are the kids we whispered to, grab your ticket and hear them roar.

Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras presents

**QUEER THINKING DAY 2** Curated by Maeve Marsden

Sunday 24 February

Carriageworks, 245 Wilson St, Eveleigh

12pm – 6:30pm

Individual Sessions: \$15 / \$10 Concession

4 Sessions: \$45 / 30 Concession

## **The Medical Pink Dollar**

12pm – 1pm

An ageing HIV+ population and an unreliable aged care sector, the prohibitive cost of medical transition and a lack of informed care, profiteering by the IVF industry, and forced surgeries on intersex people: our community has

serious bones to pick with the medical industrial complex.  
Can we combine forces to fight back?

*Dr. Vanessa Lee, Dr. Nicole Vincent, Jax Jacki Brown,  
Paul Kidd and more.*

## **POVO: On Class and Community**

2pm – 3pm

LGBTQI+ people are more likely to live in poverty, but the class divide also has the ability to divide us. Not everyone has the time or education to be up on the latest language, enough cash to hop a train to queer events or data to reply to a Grindr message. Are we leaving people behind or can we transcend class?

*Dr. Elizabeth Humphrys, Peter Polites, Jinny-Jane Smith  
and more.*

## **Death of the Gay Bar**

3:30pm – 4:30pm

Cultural leaders explore the history and future of LGBTQI+ space(s): with ‘community’ increasingly being sought online, with gay venues being shut down – gentrification, lock out laws, intolerance of sex-on-premises venues – can queer nightlife survive or is the party fading?

*Bhenji Ra, William Yang, Joy Ng, jonny seymour and  
more.*

# **Decolonise NOW**

5pm – 6:30pm

Three keynotes exploring the impact of colonialism, diaspora and race on the LGBTQI+ experience, delivered by Indonesian human rights lawyer Yasmin Purba, Canadian artist and academic Vivek Shraya and Kuku-Yalanji, Waanyi, Gangalidda, Woppaburra, Bundjalung and Biripi writer, comedian Jax Jacki Brown and poet Steven Oliver.

Moogahlin Performing Arts in association with Carriageworks and Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras presents

## **KOORI GRAS**

Monday 18 – Saturday 23 February  
Carriageworks, 245 Wilson St, Eveleigh

Curatorial: The Koori Gras curatorial group consists of Liza-Mare Syron (Moogahlin Performing Arts), Jinny Jane Smith (Community Engagement) and Graham Simms (First Nations Rainbow).

A series of creative cultural arts events featuring local, interstate and international First Nations qweer artists, thinkers and communities.

## **Black Nulla - Qweer Blak**

Creative development workshops, pushing the boundaries

of Black Qwee Drag  
18 — 23 February

Five qwee black emerging drag artists will undertake a one-week intensive creative development workshop program with local First Nations performance artists to push the boundaries of what is Qwee Black Drag. Participants will perform their developed works at Black Nulla Club Night alongside your favourite local and interstate drag artists.

## **Black Point**

22 February  
Free

A communal “feed” and open mike night for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander guests to share stories and discuss relevant issues for qwee black artists. Black Point will be presented in partnership with First Nations Rainbow a local community social support group that aims to celebrate, and reduce stigma and discrimination against the qwee black community.

## **Blak Speakers Platform: Sequins and Giggles**

23 February 10am – 11:30am  
Free

Renowned First Nations Drag artists come together to discuss their practice and issues of performing in a

multitude of spaces, places and communities. Is it all just sequins and giggles?

## **Black Nulla Club Night**

23 February 8pm

\$30 / \$20 Concession

Carriageworks will come alive with celebrated and renowned black drag performers and DJ sets, also featuring participants who have developed works during the Black Nulla development workshop. Party! Community tickets will be available at the door.

Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras and Red Bull Music presents

## **SISSY BALL**

Saturday 23 February

Carriageworks, 245 Wilson St, Eveleigh

Following last year's dazzling sold out debut, Australia's biggest vogue ball returns with more attitude than ever.

Style and precision will once again collide on the runway as Sissy Ball takes over Carriageworks with a celebration of self-expression and identity. Inspired by NYC's iconic vogue ballroom scene, entrants will take centre stage as they battle for judges attention and the prestigious Sissy Ball category titles; awarded for dance, movement, fashion, and air.

After claiming history as Australia's biggest Vogue Ball, Sissy Ball returns to shine a spotlight on Asia Pacific's burgeoning vogue scene by showcasing the fiercest local talent alongside soon to be unveiled legends of the vogue scene. Rounding out entertainment on the night will be live music, DJs and performing artists. Curated by multidisciplinary artist and House of Slé mother, Bhenji Ra, in collaboration with Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras and Red Bull Music, Sissy Ball is once again set to be a festival highlight and sell out event.

Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras presents

## **POOL PARTY**

Monday 25 February

ivy Pool Club, Level 4, 320 George Street, Sydney

2pm – 11pm

From \$71 +bf

18+

Cocktails, tan lines and good times... Every year we fill Sydney's most decadent poolside venue with local friends and beautiful strangers who've just arrived from around the globe for an unforgettable Mardi Gras holiday.

Our Pool Party is the epitome of Sydney's sexy summertime madness. Frolic with style and lap up the atmosphere, perhaps take a dip, get wet and wild, or just check out the talent.

We're serving up delicious cocktails, cabana lounges, and cool local DJs. The Mardi Gras Pool Party is the perfect way to make a splash.

Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras and The Art Gallery of New South Wales present

## **QUEER ART AFTER HOURS**

Wednesday 27 February

Art Gallery of New South Wales, Art Gallery Rd, Sydney

5pm – 10pm

Now in its third year, Queer Art After Hours returns in 2019 with a sparkling line-up of art, music, performance and much more.

Experience the Art Gallery of New South Wales after the sun goes down with some of Australia's best queer creatives bringing the art to life both on and off the walls. With performances tucked into every nook and cranny, discover new perspectives on iconic artworks in one magnificent celebration of the LGBTQI artistic community. Featuring pop-up bars, tongue-in-cheek art tours, hands on workshops, live music and queer art history stories, this is one fabulous night not to be missed.

Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras presents

## **PARADE**

Proudly supported by Destination New South Wales

Saturday 2 March

Oxford and Flinders Streets, Darlinghurst  
7:30pm

Building on four decades of powerful protest and LGBTQI celebration, the annual Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Parade is our biggest night of the year. A bustling extravaganza that brings Sydney to a standstill and shines a global spotlight on LGBTQI lives, culture, communities and creativity.

With spectacular floats, thousands of participants, a veritable smorgasbord of glittering colour and dynamic shape, the parade showcases the glitz and glamour of our community. Drag Queens, Dykes on Bikes, Sydney Lifesavers, community heroes and much much more, come together to produce what has become the parade that stops the nation.

Expect colour, expect life, expect huge crowds of excited parade viewers lining the streets. Make your way to Oxford Street or Flinders Street early to secure a good spot!

Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras presents

## **SIDESHOW**

Saturday 2 March Flinders Street, Surry Hills

6:30pm – 10:30pm

From \$61 +bf

Enjoy an upfront and personal view of every stunning float at our family-friendly viewing precinct on Flinders Street.

There's a choice of seated or standing viewing, each with exclusive access to bars, food stalls, live screens, bathrooms and delightful hosts who'll give you an outrageous running commentary as the Parade shimmies past.

Take the hassle out of Mardi Gras and join us at Sideshow... you'll be glad you did! Children are welcome.

Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras in partnerships with ANZ presents

## **DIAMOND CLUB**

Saturday 2 March

Taylor Square, Darlinghurst

6:30pm – 11pm

From \$145 +bf

18+

Take your Mardi Gras viewing experience to the next level. Come and join us at Taylor Square, right in the heart of the action, where you won't miss a moment of our dazzling Parade.

Diamond Club is our exclusive standing cocktail area, featuring a private bar, gourmet food trucks and DJs. With unparalleled views, it's the ultimate place to enjoy the Parade for the ultimate VIP experience. Diamond Club is an over 18s venue.

Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras presents

## **PARTY**

Saturday 2 March  
Playbill Venues & Entertainment Quarter  
1 Driver Ave, Moore Park  
10pm – 8am  
From \$108.70 / Member discount available  
18+

After the spectacular Parade, come and enjoy the night with us... and over 12,000 of our newest and closest friends! The Mardi Gras Party is Australia's biggest LGBTQI event of the year. It's our tribe, our people... our time to let loose and dance all night.

Last year's Mardi Gras Party sold out as the new year dawned, so make sure you book early to avoid disappointment. We've got plenty of surprises up our sleeves for 2019, with specially themed fantasy worlds for you to experience including The Neon Playground, Black Palace and The Powder Puff.

The Mardi Gras Party is Sydney's party of the year, renowned for its incredible DJ line-up, spectacular live performances and hedonistic happenings.

Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras presents

## **LANEWAY**

Sunday 3 March  
The Beresford and the Hill Street Laneway, 354 Bourke St,  
Surry Hills  
2pm – 11pm

From \$75 / Members \$65 / VIP \$85 +bf  
18+

The ultimate recovery event to close the Mardi Gras festival's final weekend, Laneway features the hottest DJs, surprise live performances, an eclectic mix of indoor and outdoor party spaces to dance, strut or take the edge off the night before.

VIP tickets are available for access to the Mardi Gras VIP Bar at Upstairs Beresford, featuring an exclusive dance floor, bar and amenities.

All good things must come to an end – and there's no ending quite like Laneway.

## **MORE TO EXPLORE**

There are more than 100 other events in the Mardi Gras Festival program. The following pages include community events, theatre productions, cabaret shows, talks and workshops, live music, art exhibitions and parties.

For the full list of Mardi Gras events and to purchase tickets, head to [mardigras.org.au](http://mardigras.org.au)

We encourage you to get out there and experience our amazing, beautiful, and diverse LGBTQI communities, artists and performers.

There's so much more to explore!

# **Salon78: Rainbow Immigration and Refugees**

FREE

Sunday 10 February 3pm

Upstairs Beresford, 354 Bourke St, Surry Hills

The Gay and Lesbian Immigration Task Force, in which some 78ers were key movers in the 1980s, assists overseas partners of LGBTIQ Australians to migrate here.

Today, 78ers are outraged by the plight of LGBTIQ refugees and asylum seekers. Hear about services and campaigns to support these vulnerable members of our community.

# **Butch vs Femme Roller Derby: Pride Fight**

Venue: [mardigras.org.au](http://mardigras.org.au) for details

General Admission \$20 Concession \$18 / Youth \$15

Under 5 FREE

5pm

Let's Jam! The hard hitting skaters of Sydney Roller Derby are back and battling it out in the annual Butch vs Femme Roller Derby Pride Fight. Will Team Butch continue their winning streak or is it time for a Femme revolution?

The night will feature two spectacular games of Roller Derby, great food, music, vendors and edge of your seat

queer skating action. Bring the family and support your team.

## **Mardi Gras Sunset Cruise**

Thursday 28 February

Man O War Steps, Eastern Forecourt, Sydney Opera House, Port Jackson

6pm

\$89.90

Celebrate Mardi Gras in true Sydney style and sail the Harbour Pink. Enjoy four full hours of mouth-watering canapes, drinks and our awesome party tunes and chilled beats spun live by Sydney's DJ Dom de Sousa.

View the breathtaking sights you've always wanted to see, mingle with our hosts, get your party selves posted, and don't forget the obligatory kiss as we cruise under the Harbour Bridge.

## **Sydney Drag Stars**

Sunday 24 February 7pm

Stonewall Hotel, 175 Oxford St, Darlinghurst

\$25

18+

Sydney has the finest Drag in the world and we want you to join us at an intimate cabaret. Hosted by Candy Box and introducing some of Sydney's premier drag queens to the stage in the upstairs Stonewall Cabaret bar. This is a seated event filled with glitz, glamour and a lot of talent.

Drag Queens are the voices, celebrities and the activists of our wonderful gay scene. Let them entertain you.

## **Bear Essentials 23 – Homo Bearectus**

Friday 22 February

\$5 - \$10 + booking fees

Various venues Party Pack available

The Harbour City Bears are going pre-historic! Bear Essentials is a yearly beary festival for the hairier and larger guy. Expect cave-man themed parties, larger-than-life food experiences, and casual den nights in which you can relax and get to know other bears from far and wide.

## **Mega Malebox**

Wednesday 27 February 9pm

Stonewall Hotel, 75 Oxford St, Darlinghurst

\$20 | MG members \$15

A Mardi Gras celebration isn't complete until you've tripped the light fantastic and rocketed through the fabulous, fantastical and fanciful world of Apollo. Get ready for a day like no other as we twist, bend, warp and re-awaken your sense of wonder. It's a day of delight, surprises, rainbows and magic set inside an extraordinary playground of other-worldly Apollo touches: maximum fun, all-out mischief, hands-in-the-air, anthems and ridiculousness. Get your jetpacks ready... and brace yourself!

## **Apollo The Party**

Sunday 3 March

Metro Theatre, 624 George St, Sydney

From \$99 + bf

2pm–10pm

18+

Mega Malebox at Stonewall Hotel is Sydney's hottest pick-up night and is heating up this Mardi Gras. Held over three floors and four bars, it is a night not to be missed with DJs Shanie D Sydney, DJ Dom De Sousa, DJ Mickey, DJ Ryan John and DJ Tom Pritchard and shows featuring Sydney's hottest male dancers from Boys Bar Up. Join your hostess Marilyn Mootrub and Sexy Maleman Jeanluca. Malebox started 20 years ago at Stonewall Hotel and continues to be the busiest Wednesday night on the strip.

## **Arabian Knights**

Saturday 23 February 10pm

The Med, 33 Oxford St, Surry Hills

\$30

18+

Arabian Knights is an LGBTQI Party featuring Arabic, Greek, & RnB Music for wogs who love Middle Eastern and Mediterranean music. Get ready to shake your booty and clap to the rhythm with DJ Ray Isaac!

## **Candyland**

Sunday 3 March 2pm

ivy Club, 4/320 George St, Sydney

From \$55

18+

Rounding all the delicious men and women in town, from near and far, lick lick candy stick!

It's going to be another EPIC Candyland circuit, starring international DJs Dani Toro (Spain), Guy Schieman (Israel), GRIND (USA), Toy Armada (Philippines).

It will be the biggest, baddest and boldest Daywash ever. A delicious way to sign off an absolutely epic weekend.

## **Diva Party**

Saturday 2 March 10pm

The Med, 33 Oxford St, Surry Hills

\$30

18+

Celebrate the music of the Divas Cher, Mariah Carey, Whitney Houston, Janet Jackson, Celine Dion, Beyonce, Aretha Franklin, Christina Aguilera, Rihanna, Dolly Parton, Donna Summer, Diana Ross, Ariana Grande and more!

## **Girlthing Mardi Pardi 2019**

Saturday 2 March 9pm

Metro Theatre, 624 George St, Sydney

From \$40 | VIP \$120

Sydney's biggest Mardi Gras after party for girls who like girls. Sold out nine consecutive years! Three rooms, 40 + acts and loads of immersive queer performances.

## **Heartbreaker 2019**

Friday 1 March 6pm

Oxford Hotel, 134 Oxford St, Darlinghurst

From \$25

18+

It FEELS so GOOD to be BAD. Heartbreaker Sydney partners up with Lemons with Twist to celebrate Sydney Mardi Gras 2019 with an exclusive dance party over 2 floors of the iconic Oxford Hotel.

Featuring an ALL FEMALE line up, sexy Go-Go dancers, local and international DJs over 2 floors; Heartbreaker is your place to be this Mardi Gras eve as we kick off a massive weekend full of love, celebration and glitter.... so much glitter!

## **Kiki Pool Party**

Monday 4 March 12pm

ivy Pool, 4/320 George St, Sydney

From \$29

18+

We love a good long edging session, so we're gonna keep you begging for it right through to the day with Kiki - GAY DAY POOL PLAY at the glamorous ivy Pool.

Your dance floor mojo will be on overdrive.

This fabulous flesh fest of fly guys spans across one of the most incredible rooftop venues in the country. Grab a cabana and chillax with a cock (tail) in your hand while the Ibiza inspired tunes, smooth sunset and pumpin' pool eases the crowd into automatic flirt mode.

## **Madonna Bar**

Friday 1 March 9pm

The Med, 33 Oxford Street, Surry Hills

\$20 online \$30 door

The biggest and best Madonna Party in Australia is back! Celebrate Madonna's new album release and dance to non-stop Madonna music all night long with celebrity DJ Ray Isaac. Material Girls and Toy Boys Get Together every year for this huge event to Cause A Commotion. So prepare your Rebel Hearts to meet Unapologetic Bitches from all over the Drowned World. Once you decide to start Living For Love you'll only get 4 Minutes to buy your tickets!

## **Matinee La Leche Main Event Closing Party**

Sunday 3 March 3pm

Home The Venue, 101/1-5 Wheat Rd, Darling Harbour

From \$50

18+

The worldwide phenomena La Leche is back due to popular demand with one almighty bang at waterside state of the art club, Home The Venue.

La Leche will bring the next circuit music on the planet and we are thrilled to welcome DJ/Producers Nacho Chapado (Spain) & Oscar Velazquez (Mexico) who will set fire to the dance floor with more DJs to be announced.

## **Strip**

Tuesday 26 February 8:30pm  
Stonewall Hotel, 175 Oxford St, Darlinghurst  
From \$45 VIP \$100

This Mardi Gras, the Stonewall Hotel Cocktail bar on level 1 will transform into a Sexy Strip Club, for one night only. Starring Rhys Bobridge and the hottest strip boys and dancers who will entertain you. Hostess Maxi Shield will keep you entertained through the evening with a host of gorgeous men.

Get your dancers dollars and enjoy the night.

## **Sydney's Biggest Underwear Party**

Thursday 28 February 9pm  
ARQ Sydney, 16 Flinders St, Darlinghurst

It's back!

Sydney's BIGGEST Underwear party is back at ARQ Sydney for Mardi Gras 2019. Come and join some of the hottest men from around the world.

Headlining DJs: DJ Dan De Leon (USA), DJ Jesus Montanez, DJ Bret Law, DJ Sacha Belle and more to be announced.

Tickets also available at Daily Jocks, Teamm8, SAX Fetish, Bodyline Spa and Sauna, Oxford performance centre and ASN.

## **The White Party ft. Aquaria**

Friday 1 March

Home Nightclub, 101/1-5 Wheat Rd, Darling Harbour

\$15

18+

A large scale dance event at Home Nightclub with performances by Aquaria the winner of Rupaul's Drag Race season 10 and a bevy of local DJs.

## **Bianca Del Rio - It's Jester Joke**

Thursday 28 February & Friday 1 March 8pm

The State Theatre, 49 Market St, Sydney

\$91.62 VIP \$122.21

After three consecutive sell-out Australian tours, comedy queen and RuPaul's Drag Race champion Bianca Del Rio returns to Australia with her brand-new comedy show.

The self-proclaimed "clown in a gown" tells tales of her world travels and the outrageous circus that is her life of politics, travel, family and social media. Don't miss your

chance to see the The Queen of Mean in her fiercely funny new show in 2019.

## **Boys Of Sondheim**

Friday 22 February 8pm

City Recital Hall, 2 Angel Pl, Sydney

\$55 / Concession \$49 / Group 6+ \$49 / Under 30 \$40 CRH

Member \$45

**WHEELCHAIR ACCESS & HEARING INDUCTION LOOP AVAILABLE**

Undeniably one of the most significant gay artists of the 20th century, Stephen Sondheim defined an urbane, literate and uniquely New York voice that many would call the most important in musical theatre history.

Sondheim's sweeping repertoire expresses the ache of the metropolitan man; his disappointments, his loves and his secrets.

## **Casino Royale In Concert with Sydney Symphony Orchestra**

Thursday 28 February & Friday 1 March 8pm

Sydney Opera House, Bennelong Point, Sydney

From \$49 Concessions available

For the first time in Australia, audiences will be able to experience Bond on the big screen accompanied by the power of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra performing

composer David Arnold's thrilling musical score live and in sync to the picture!

## **Confessions Of A Mormon Boy**

22 February – 9 March 8pm

Giant Dwarf, 199 Cleveland St, Redfern

\$35

Direct from a successful New York run, 'Confessions of a Mormon Boy' is a one man show which chronicles the life story of writer/actor Steven Fales, a married-with-kids-Mormon missionary who rocks his family and community by coming out as gay, plunging head-on into a reckless world on his journey to self-acceptance and love.

## **Comedy Kiki: Queer Comedy Festival**

Wednesday 27 February – Friday 1 March 7pm

Darlinghurst Theatre Company Eternity Playhouse, 39

Burton St, Darlinghurst

\$36

A three-day comedy festival at Darlinghurst Theatre Company featuring Rhys Nicholson, Jordan Raskopoulos and Maeve Marsden. In this special three-day event, we invite some of Australia's most positive voices in the LGBTQI+ community for a giggle and a kiki.

27 February: Jordan Raskopoulos

28 February: Fat Musicals with Maeve Marsden & Libby Wood

1 March: Rhys Nicholson

## **Lady & Her Tramp**

### **Maxine Jones (En Vogue) & Greg Gould**

Thursday 28 February 7pm

Leadbelly Newtown, 42 King St, Newtown

\$59

18+

En Vogue superstar Maxine Jones & her musical partner-in-crime Greg Gould are about to send hearts pulsing with the biggest hits of the '90s!

You're invited to an unforgettable evening of songs, stories and magical moments, from the sassy silvery sounds of Jones, to the vulnerable powerhouse Gould, the pair glide effortlessly through a repertoire jam packed with some of the greatest songs of all time.

## **My Night With Reg By Kevin Elyot**

Tuesday 5 February 7:30pm

New Theatre, 542 King St, Newtown

\$35 | Concessions & Groups (6+) \$30 MG members \$25

At Guy's London flat, old friends and new gather to party through the night. This is the summer of 1985, and for Guy and his circle the world is about to change forever.

Deliciously funny and bittersweet, My Night With Reg captures the fragility of friendship, happiness and life itself.

A tragic-comic gay comedy of manners, Kevin Elyot's Olivier Award-winning play has been hailed by critics and

audiences alike, confirming its status as a classic of modern British theatre.

## **The Rise And Fall Of Little Voice**

1 February - 24 February, Tue – Sat: 7.30pm Sun: 5pm  
Sat Matinees 9, 16 & 23: 2pm

Darlinghurst Theatre Company Eternity Playhouse, 39  
Burton St, Darlinghurst  
\$60 - Concession \$49

An Olivier Award-winning musical comedy by Jim Cartwright. Little Voice has a hidden talent: she can emulate every chanteuse from Judy Garland to Edith Piaf. She hides in her room, crooning and dreaming of love, while her dishevelled mother, Mari, mistakes a seedy agent's interest as affection rather than enthusiasm for the gold mine buried in her daughter's throat. This is an engaging fairy tale of despair, love and nally hope as Little Voice finds a voice of her own.

## **Wyngarde! A Celebration & Queen**

### **Bette: Double Bill**

Monday 18 February to Friday 1 March 8pm

Old 505 Theatre, 5 Eliza St, Newtown

\$40 Concession \$30

18+

This double bill from G.bod Theatre is running as a two week season at the Old 505 Theatre.

Peter Wyngarde was an accomplished television and theatre actor until his fall from grace: Two arrests and convictions for gross indecency in public toilets in 1975.

Queen Bette is based on the hundreds of interviews Bette Davis gave over her lifetime. Renowned Australian actress Jeanette Cronin returns to the role she was born to play.

## **Booty: Jamie Cole**

Saturday 2 February – Sunday 24 February

Open Wednesday to Sunday, 11am-5pm

Artsite Galleries, 165 Salisbury Rd, Camperdown

Free

18+

**WHEELCHAIR ACCESS BY PRIOR ARRANGEMENT**

Booty is a solo exhibition by Jamie Cole of men ‘I haven’t known!’

The collection of mixed media artworks, explores the raw booty of desire and lust, under darkness and shadow, gold ejaculate and visceral colour.

## **Fragile Masculinity, Handle With Care**

Wednesday 20 February 6pm

m2 Gallery, 4/450 Elizabeth St, Surry Hills

FREE

Queer artist and writer Samuel Leighton-Dore’s first solo exhibition incorporates contemporary ceramic pieces, acrylic paintings and multimedia works in order to tease

popular notions of masculinity. Drawing inspiration from phrenology, a pseudomedicine popular in 19th century, as well as diagrams of the penis distributed by pharmaceutical brands including Viagra, Leighton-Dore presents a cynical portrait of the modern man while maintaining a lightheartedness that is inherently optimistic.

## **Let's Eat Cake**

Saturday 16 February

Venue: [mardigras.org.au](http://mardigras.org.au) for details

FREE

“It’s personal. I have always marched and have felt it important to document our journey, our fight for equality. I am thrilled and am proud that this has happened in my (our) life-time..”

Maylei Hunt is a Social Documentary Photographer. This exhibition and book launch will be celebrating and commemorating all those who participated in the historical Marriage Equality marches in Sydney and Melbourne and follows the journey right to the end to Canberra’s announcement in December 2017.

## **Original Box**

Thursday 21 February – Sunday 24 March

Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-operative, 50-59 Flood St, Leichardt

Opening night: 6-8pm, Wednesday to Sunday 11am-4pm

Free

25th Anniversary of Boomalli's Mardi Gras Exhibition: "Original Box". An art exhibition featuring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander LGBTQI Artists. Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-operative provides a safe space for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander LGBTQI artists to express their sexual orientation and communities.

## **ACCESS AND INCLUSION**

### **Wheelchair Access**

Wheelchair access varies from venue to venue. To check wheelchair accessibility, look for the wheelchair access symbol on the page listing and on the event page on the website.

### **Auslan Interpreted**

Auslan interpreters will feature at several Mardi Gras events and performances. To check an events Auslan Interpreted status, look for the Auslan access symbol on the page listing and on the event page on the website.

### **Companion Card**

Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras proudly supports the Companion Card program. Patrons who require the assistance of a companion or carer can receive a complimentary ticket issued to the Companion Card holder.

### **Accessible Program Formats**

Large print PDF and large print Word versions of the program can be downloaded from the Mardi Gras website [mardigras.org.au/access](http://mardigras.org.au/access)

## **Here to help**

Please get in touch with our team to discuss your access requirements and notify us of your needs.

+61 2 9383 0900

[reception@mardigrasarts.org.au](mailto:reception@mardigrasarts.org.au)

[mardigras.org.au/access](http://mardigras.org.au/access)

## **How to book?**

### **ONLINE**

Please visit [mardigras.org.au](http://mardigras.org.au) for details on how and where to book tickets online for each event.

### **TELEPHONE**

For Mardi Gras Party tickets please call Ticketek on 13 28 49. For all other events please check online ticketing information.

### **IN PERSON**

For Mardi Gras Party tickets please visit your nearest Ticketek outlet. For all other events please check online ticketing information.

Member discount and concessions

Check events for concession pricing and member discounts. We offer generous early bird discounted tickets and tiered release pricing that everyone can take advantage of.

Some of our associated events offer concession tickets. Please check individual listings for details.

## **Contact us**

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