

SEASON

2020





**Acknowledgment of Country**

Bendigo Theatre Company is on Jaara land, part of the Kulin Nation, and the Committee of Management acknowledges its traditional custodians.



# SEASON 2020

**BTC**

## **LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD**

JANUARY 13, 15, 17, 18, 19, 22, 24, 25, 26

## **TENX10 2020**

MARCH 12, 13, 14, 15, 19, 20, 21, 22

## **BEYOND REASONABLE DOUBT**

APRIL 30

MAY 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10

## **WE WILL ROCK YOU**

JULY 9, 10, 11, 12

## **TWO & TWO MAKE SEX**

AUGUST 13, 14, 15, 16, 20, 21, 22, 23

## **CATS**

SEPTEMBER 25, 27, 28, 30

OCTOBER 1, 2, 3

## **ONE ACT PLAY FESTIVAL**

DATE TBC

**Disclaimer:** Details in this brochure are correct at the time of publication. The Committee of Management reserve the right to modify the programmed season, artists, prices and venues should the need arise.



# WELCOME TO SEASON 2020

2020 is a milestone year for Bendigo Theatre Company; existing in the local artistic landscape for 68 years now, 2020 will see Bendigo Theatre Company perform our 200th production. BTC has become indelibly imprinted into the fabric of our city; we are proud of our work in telling stories, creating experiences, and working together to help build a stronger, more aware, accepting, and empathetic local community.

We are proud of our brilliant successes, and we are proud of our spectacular failures. We are a volunteer-run community theatre group with big ambitions. We are passionate about creating vibrant theatre for the local community, and we are determined to create a safe, all-inclusive, and welcoming environment for all.

For us, Season 2020 feels reflective. We reflect on the past through the lens of the present. What does the mid to late twentieth century tell us about life today? What does it tell us about our world today? How have we grown? What has changed? What hasn't?

We open the season with the much-loved summer pantomime, this year the story of Little Red Riding Hood, followed by the return of our ever-popular and impactful TENX10 project. Tribe Youth Theatre will produce a work for various One Act Play Festivals. Jeffrey Archer's gripping courtroom drama Beyond Reasonable Doubt will have audience members on the edge of their seats, while our major musical We Will Rock You will showcase legendary and iconic tunes.

Our 200th production will be marked by a presentation of Richard Harris and Leslie Darbon's hilarious farce: *Two and Two Make Sex*, transporting audiences back to 1973 to cringe, laugh, and cry along. Our season will conclude with Tribe Youth Theatre's production of the inimitable – if not polarising – production of Andrew Lloyd Webber's acclaimed classic, *Cats*.

BTC is passionate about creating vibrant and memorable theatre for the local community.

Join us in Season 2020 for an exciting year of theatre and experiences.

We can't wait to share it with you.

A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Abe Watson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Abe Watson**

Season 2020 Programme Director

President, Bendigo Theatre Company



**BTC** BENDIGO THEATRE COMPANY'S  
PRODUCTION OF

# Little Red Riding Hood

Mary grabbed her basket of food, donned her beautiful red cape and set off to see her grandmother with the advice to not talk to strangers... we'll see how long that lasts! Taking inspiration from the Commedia dell'arte theatre style, Pantomimes are known for their reworking of traditional fairy tales, adding a slew of hilarious characters, double entendres and tongue-in-cheek music.

The story of Little Red Riding Hood that our Pantomime is based upon has had many adaptations throughout the years but was originally penned in 10th Century Italy with one adaptation being titled 'The False Grandmother'. However, the best known versions were written by Charles Perrault and the Brothers Grimm.

Once again, Bendigo Theatre Company, is proud to bring a summer Pantomime to Bendigo audiences, this time taking it back to the 'Panto' roots with original songs, larger-than-life characters and high energy dances. Join us on our trip to grandma's!

## SUMMER PANTOMIME

### JANUARY

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
13		15		17	18	19
		22		24	25	26

**Venue: Girton Black Box**

**Tickets: \$18\* Adult | \$16\* Concession  
\$15\* Student | \$8\* Child (Under 12)**

\*Plus \$2 booking fee

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(03) 5434 6100**



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**BTC** BENDIGO THEATRE COMPANY'S  
PRODUCTION OF

# TEN X10

As time has gone by and attention spans have grown shorter, there has been a desire in theatre for something a bit more bite sized for both the performers and the audiences. So running times dwindled from three acts to two acts, two acts to one and then in comes the ten-minute play.

Bendigo Theatre Company's annual TenX10 Season casts a huge net out to writers, directors and performers who want to try their hand at something new. With no barrier to age, gender or experience – TENx10 offers participants the ability to experience the many aspects of theatre within a smaller time commitment - and it's a great way to meet a whole group of folks who are enjoying being involved in the theatre experience.

Audiences leave the TenX10 Season laughing, crying and thinking, with such a broad season drawing from such a wide range of stimulus paired with performers and directors who get the chance to flex their creative muscles. What's not to love?

## SHORT PLAYS

### MARCH

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			12	13	14	15
			19	20	21	22

Venue: BTC Arts Shed

Tickets: \$10\* all

\*Plus \$2 booking fee

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**BTC** BENDIGO THEATRE COMPANY'S  
PRODUCTION OF

# BEYOND REASONABLE DOUBT



There's nothing more gripping than a courtroom drama and when written by Jeffrey Archer, you just won't be able to tear your eyes away.

As Archer's first expedition into the world of playwriting, *Beyond Reasonable Doubt* was unknown territory but with a residence at the Queen's Theatre on the West End that lasted over 600 performances, audiences knew that he'd struck gold.

As somewhat of an immersive experience, the audience is continually referred to as the jury, drawing them into the story of Sir David Metcalf who finds himself accused of the wilful murder of his terminally ill wife. In a struggle to fight for his innocence against the prosecution, Anthony-Blair Booth QC, Sir David has to stand his ground against what seems like insurmountable evidence.

With twists and turns throughout the entire performance and characters that the audience can cling to through this gripping drama, what's not to love?

## DRAMA

### APRIL/MAY

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			30	1	2	3
			7	8	9	10

Venue: BTC Arts Shed

Tickets: \$23\* all

\*Plus \$2 booking fee

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BENDIGO THEATRE COMPANY'S  
PRODUCTION OF

# WE WILL ROCK YOU

BY  
QUEEN  
AND  
BEN ELTON

BY ARRANGEMENT WITH  
DAVID SPICER PRODUCTIONS

[www.davidspicer.com.au](http://www.davidspicer.com.au)

With a career that spanned two decades, countless hits and a set list that is relevant even today, what better backdrop for a musical than the works of Queen.

We Will Rock You is a jukebox musical based on the songs of Queen with a book that was written by Ben Elton that first took the West End in 2002. Winning a variety of awards over its many international performances, the musical is set in a not too distant future where a group of Bohemians are struggling to fight for who they are in a group of people conforming to a single way of thinking.

Following Scaramouche and Galileo, the audience will join the Bohemians in a fight for freedom, individuality and the rebirth of rock and roll. With legendary hits like 'We Are the Champions', 'Bohemian Rhapsody', 'Another One Bites the Dust' and 'We Will Rock You', this is one not to miss.

## MAJOR MUSICAL

### JULY

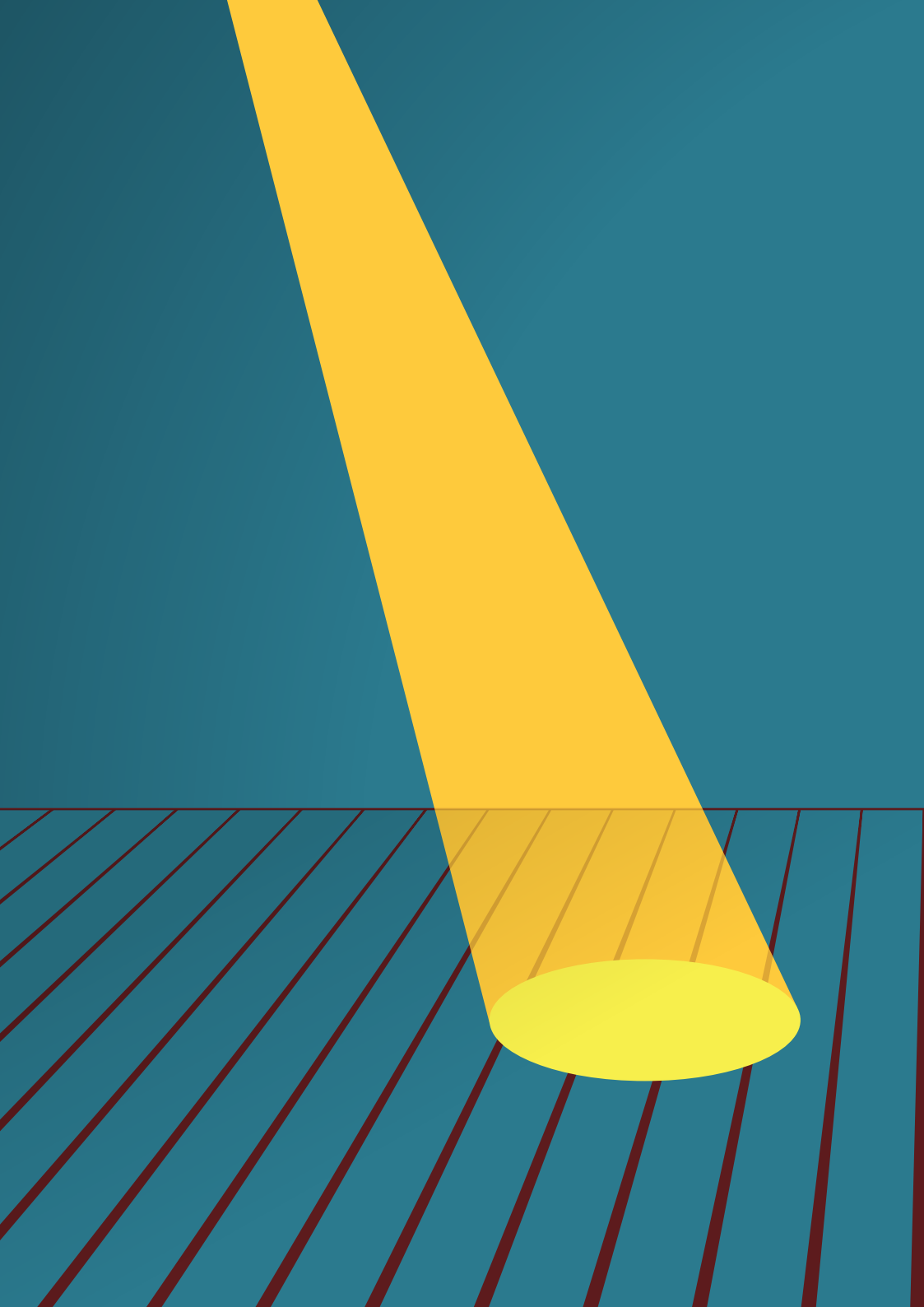
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					9	10
					11	12

Venue: Ulumbarra Theatre

Tickets: \$58\* Adult  
\$50\* Concession/Student  
\$180\* Family (2x Adult, 2x Child)  
\$38\* Child (Under 12)

\*Plus \$2.00 booking fee

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# ONE ACT PLAY Festival

A one act play is a performance project which gives theatre makers the opportunity to create inspiring and informative works comprising one act. With opportunities for young theatre makers in performing and stagecraft, a one act play is a great place to develop creative skills and teamwork.

This project will be developed, rehearsed, and then 'taken on the road' to one act play festivals in the second half of 2020.

**YOUTH PRODUCTION**







**BTC** BENDIGO THEATRE COMPANY'S  
PRODUCTION OF

# Two & Two Make Sex

Flared jeans, mini skirts and kipper ties. The 1970s. A time when things were a little more relaxed, politically, socially and maybe even romantically!

Two and Two Make Sex is a British farce written by Leslie Darbon and Richard Harris that explores infidelity, secrecy and a whole lot of hilarity. Set in 1973, we follow two couples differently situated but with similar struggles. Nick and Jane share a rickety bedsitter and are unsure about how their relationship is defined compared to George and Clare who are not-so-happily married with George looking to 'spice up his life' a little. To inject that little bit of excitement, he finds the young and attractive Jane whilst Clare is treated by a new and handsome psychiatrist Nick.

With perfect timing, hilarious confusion and a good bit of British humour, audiences will be transported back to 1973 to cringe, laugh and cry along with Two and Two Make Sex.

## COMEDY

### AUGUST

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			13	14	15	16
			20	21	22	23

Venue: BTC Arts Shed

Tickets: \$23\* all

\*Plus \$2 booking fee

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# Cats

Music by  
Andrew Lloyd Webber

Based on "Old Possum's Book of  
Practical Cats" by T.S. Eliot

"Prologue – Jellicle Songs for Jellicle Cats" additional material written by  
Trevor Nunn and Richard Stilgoe.

"Memory" additional material written by Trevor Nunn.

BY ARRANGEMENT WITH ORIGIN™ THEATRICAL  
ON BEHALF OF THE REALLY USEFUL GROUP LIMITED

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Jellicle cats come out tonight. Jellicle cats come one, come all.  
The Jellicle moon is shining bright. Jellicles come to the Jellicle ball.

Andrew Lloyd Webber's Tony award-winning classic Cats has  
remained in the public eye since opening initially on the West  
End in 1981 and further flourishing into an 18-year Broadway run,  
countless touring productions, and most recently an allstar cinematic  
adaptation set to open in cinemas this December.

The unconventional musical is inspired by T. S. Elliot's 1939 poetry  
collection Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats and follows a tribe  
of colourful characters on a journey of personal anecdotes, spiritual  
identity and ultimately rebirth. Andrew Lloyd Webber's sung-  
through score forgoes conservative scenic structure and relies on  
choreography and orchestration to convey the emotional intensity  
of this intergenerational hit.

With a conceptual and eclectic style, Cats is somewhat of a polarising  
piece of theatre however it still delights audiences around the world.

## MUSICAL

### SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				25		27
28	30	1	2	3		

Venue: Girton Black Box

Tickets: \$30\* Adult | \$28\* Concession  
\$25\* Student | \$22\* Child (Under 12)  
\$83\* Family (2x Adult, 2x Child)

\*Plus \$2.00 booking fee

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# BTC COMMITTEE

## Executive Committee

**President** \_\_\_\_\_ Abe Watson  
**Vice President** \_\_\_\_\_ Ken Wells  
**Secretary** \_\_\_\_\_ Jenni Clohesy  
**Treasurer** \_\_\_\_\_ Maureen Fleiner

**General Committee** \_\_\_\_\_ Seamus Allan  
Barbara Billings  
Emma Fletcher  
Keva Lloyd  
Bevan Madden  
Rebecca O'Sullivan  
Stania Tresize

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**BTC Patron** \_\_\_\_\_ Cr. Rod Fyffe

**BTC Life Members** \_\_\_\_\_ Anne Ball  
Mrs Ball (Dec.)  
Colin Brown  
Grace Cox  
Gael Emond  
Greg Harris  
Patricia Lyon (Dec.)  
Jack Paynting (Dec.)  
Annie Smith  
Stania Tresize  
Vern Wall  
Ken Wells  
Madge Welsh (Dec.)



