



BENDIGO SEASON
THEATRE
COMPANY

WHAT IS TENX10?

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?

In 2020, Bendigo Theatre Company is proud to be partnering with the Bendigo Pride Festival for our TenX10 season as one of their pride events. In keeping with this partnership, all of the plays in this season have some link to the theme of 'Pride' and you will enjoy what those links are.

PRODUCTION TEAM

Production Manager	Maree Kennedy
Senior Director	Denton Arthur
Stage Manager	Julie Maree McDonald
Technical Designer	
Technicians	
Programme Designer	Bevan Madden
Photography	Alek Stokes Photography
Cat Hearder	Denton Arthur

ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

Chair - Dawn Colbourne OAM Michael Goss Anne Henshall Annie Young

ACT ONE

Vote 4 Me

Written by Kel Vance

Pronouns

Written by Rachel Nightingale

A Moment of Clarity

Written by Philip Middleton Williams

The Bendigo Committee for Manhole

Covers

Written by Christopher Milne

Family Business

Written by Louise Hopewell

38.40%

Written by Lenka Schirmer

ACT TWO

Gay Expectations

Written by Garrett F Dulton

Filth

Written by Shannon Murdoch

Dolls

Written by Robert Weibezahl

The Last Song

Written by Benjamin MacEllen

Rainbow's End

Written by Alison Knight

WITH THANKS TO...

Shantelle from Start Studio Bendigo Pride Festival The Estate of William Ryall Toyworld Bendigo



Kel Vance is a storyteller from Sydney who writes with women at the heart. Her short plays have been performed both in Australia and overseas, winning festival and people's choice awards, with her first full length play "The Deal" shortlisted for the Silver Gull Play Award in 2019.

VOTE 4 ME

Written By: Kel Vance Directed By: Sam Archer

Starring: Lisa Martin Sharon Newth

What do we want in our politicians - honesty or spin? You might think you know the answer until you see this play.

Pronouns

Written By: Rachel Nightingale Directed By: Max Harris

Starring: Sally Lansdowne Chris Lightfoot Kade Lightfoot Lisa Martin

Paul struggles when referring to his child Ryla, who has recently asked not to be referred to using male pronouns. Change can be challenging.



Rachel Nightingale is the author of the Tales of Tarya series (Odyssey Books) and has had her plays performed in Australia, New Zealand and the Philippines. She is a staunch supporter of social justice and a huge fan of Ru Paul's Drag Race. She lives in Regional Victoria.

A MOMENT OF CLARITY Written by: Philip Middle-

ton Williams Directed by: Sam Archer

Starring: Roger Huthnance Brad Madden

Clyde and his son Dan are sitting at the pharmacy waiting for Clyde's prescriptions to be ready. They engage in conversation – at times a little awkward, as is often the case between father and son.



PHILIP MIDDLETON WILLIAMS is from Palmetto Bay, Florida. "A Moment of Clarity" is about a father and son dealing with the onset of his father's dementia. A TENx10 2020 is the kind of festival that can tell this story in an intimate and caring way.

THE BENDIGO COMMITTEE FOR MANHOLE COVERS

This is Chris's second TenX10 play and he is delighted to again be involved. He has also been writing one act plays for The Mount Players and Kyneton Theatre Company, winning awards for both Best Play and Best Director. Chris formerly wrote

and edited professionally for Neighbours, The Sullivans



Written by Christopher Milne Directed by Evelyn Gibbons Starring:

Lewis Adams Reherra Coles Duane Freestone Elliott Jacobs Chris Lightfoot Georgia Skinner

The five characters are at a council meeting to discuss manhole covers. Funny but perhaps not so far from reality.



FAMILY BUSINESS

Written by Louise Hopewell Directed by Stania Tresize

Starring: Morgan McDermott Daniel Williams

Barry is so proud of his business and has worked very hard to build it up from nothing. Michaela is a new recruit who learns that Barry's life is unravelling fast.

Louise Hopewell is a Melbourne-based writer whose short stories and haiku have been widely published. Her short plays have been staged by Melbourne Writers Theatre and at ARKfest. Louise believes TENx10 is the perfect home for her first comedy. Louise also writes songs and would love to write a musical.

38.40%

Written by Lenka Schirmer
Directed by Barb Billings
Starring:
Jakoby Appleby
Carel Fourie
Lucy Mills
Sharon Newth
Georgia Skinner

Voiceover - Billows from MMM 38.4% of Australians voted no in the Same Sex Marriage Postal Survey. Pam and Andrew, conservative parents of Ethan and Maddison, believe that this is a significant number and the no voters shouldn't be ignored when changes are made.



When Lenka was fifteen she got involved in theatre for the first time, and was shaken out of her conservative up bringing by meeting gay and queer folk for the first time. Lenka couldn't be happier to celebrate the ways the world has become more inclusive since those days.

GAY EXPECTATIONS

Written by Garrett F Dulton Directed by Kimmie Godfrey

Starring:
Connor Cantwell
Jamie Morgan
Bridget Nally
Olivia Ryan
Stania Tresize
Denton Arthur

Parents Michelle and Jason are very upset when their son, Spencer, comes out . . . as straight. A play about bandwagons and expectations.



Garrett has been invovled in the arts for many years and has very much enjoyed the research and rewrites it took to develop 'Gay Expectations'. Garrett hopes that audiences catch the irony in the piece as it goes whizzing past and would like to thank BTC for the opportunity that TENX10 gives so many.



Shannon Murdoch hails from Footscray, Melbourne. As a long-time admirer of Bendigo Theatre Company, she is thrilled to be having her first production in Bendigo with Filth as part

of TENX10. Other plays of hers have been produced in the USA, UK and Australia. She can be found at www. shannonmurdoch. com.au



Written by Shannon Murdoch Directed by Rachel Le Rossignol

Starring Georgia Campbell Jozie Robinson

A play about love and loss presented sometimes in the surreal realm. What others think of us can be more powerful than what we think of ourselves.



Robert Weibezahl is honored to be included in BTC's TENX10 for the second time: his play, "Mission," was part of the 2018 festival. A native New Yorker, but longtime California transplant, Robert has written a number of full-length plays, including And Lightning Struck, Which Way the Wind Blows, and Hold On.

DOLLS

Written by Robert Weibezahl Directed by Thomas Moore

Starring: Juliana Cafarella Alicia Gunston Jenni Jenkins

The search for the most treasured gift for children and what can happen when desperation and assumptions collide.

THE LAST SONG

Written by Benjamin MacEllen Directed by Melanie Thoren

Starring: Jacob Baird Graeme Murray Ryan Peterson Jake Russell Hayden Wilkinson

A young trans man is dying and waiting-hoping that his estranged father will come to mend their relationship before he passes.



Benjamin MacEllen is a memoirist, performer, playwright and activist. He speaks extensively about his experience as a transgender man which is also the focus of his memoir, 'A Cut Closer to Whole'. Ben will be treading the boards with a second season of his one-man show 'Transmansplaining' during the Bendigo Pride Festival 2020.

Rainbow's End

Written by Alison Knight Directed by Julie Maree McDonald

Starring: Judith Chalmers Lucy Mills Ross Simmons

Rubylove is an elderly trans woman who is now in aged care. Robert is in the same facility and visits Rubylove to meet her for the first time. Mary-Lou is a carer in the facility and has very little English. An exploration of modern life and concerns.



Having enjoyed seeing her play 'Anna by Lamplight' in TENx10 2019, Alison looked forward to further involvement. 'Rainbow's End' was inspired by an Age article that opened her eyes to aged care issues for the rainbow community. Alison hopes this play might do the same for others. She lives in Mount Waverley, Melbourne.

BTC COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

Executive Committee

President.....Abe Watson
Vice President.....Ken Wells
Secretary.....Jenni Clohesy
Treasurer....Maureen Fleiner

General Committee

Seamus Allan Barb Billings Keva Lloyd Bevan Madden Rebecca O'Sullivan Stania Tresize



Ben **MacEllen** Transmansplaining

The Engine Room, Bendigo 8pm Friday 20th March 8pm Saturday 21st March



http://tiny.cc/transmansplaining

transmansplaining.com fo atransmansplaining

















Tickets to Season 2020 are now available from gotix.com.au.