

# idk

## By Force Majeure

### Access Guide

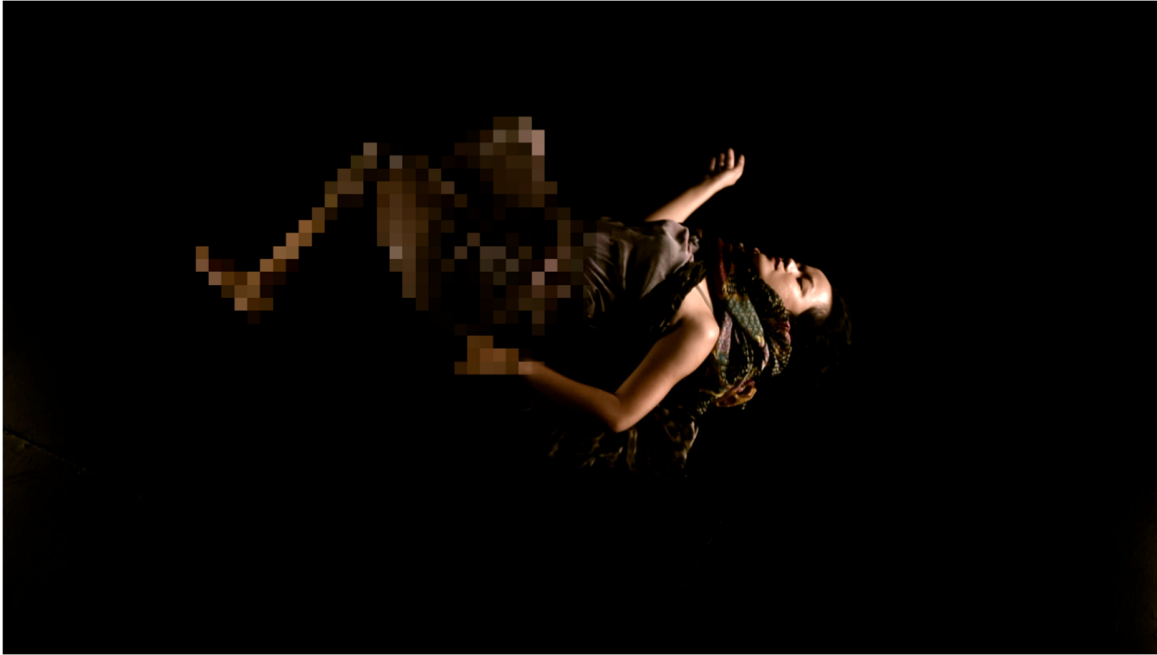


Image: Performer Merlynn Tong is laying down against a dark background with her legs curled up, her arms splayed to either side, and her eyes closed. There is some dark, multi-coloured fabric wrapped around her neck. There is a pixelated effect over the lower half of her body, obscuring the image.

**Image Credit:** Ashley de Prazer

### **Updates to this document**

Please note, this performance is a new work and changes are being made by artists and companies until opening night. We will endeavour to provide the latest access information on performances to ticket holders across key stages of rehearsal and presentation.

Arts House website will contain the most up to date version of this document and all ticket holders will be notified of any final revisions made 3 days prior to the event.

This document was created: **22 August 2023**

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## **Where**

Arts House  
521 Queensberry Street  
North Melbourne VIC

## **When**

Wednesday 30 August, 8pm  
Thursday 31 August, 8pm  
Friday 1 September, 8pm  
Saturday 2 September, 8pm

**Duration: 70 minutes there is no interval**

Consent in Conversation – panel discussion with Force Majeure  
Thursday 31 August, 6pm

## **Access Services**



### **Tactile Tour and Audio Described Performance**

Friday 1 September, 8pm

An audio Described performance will be provided via personal headsets on Friday 1 September at 8pm.

The tactile tour will commence at 7pm at Arts House and run for 30 minutes.



Assistance Animals are welcome.



Assistive listening system available to help amplify or enhance the sound quality of this performance. There is no additional charge for this service, simply ask Arts House staff for assistance on arrival.



Visual Rating 50% – This performance has music and sounds in the back ground.



This performance is fully wheelchair accessible.

## Performers

There are 3 performers in the show



Adriane Daff (she/her)



Gabriel Comerford (he/him)



Merlynn Tong (she/her)

The director will introduce the performance



Danielle Micich (she/her)

## Sensory Elements

### Sound

At times throughout *idk*, there are loud, sudden, high pitched sounds as well as repetitive beats with increasing intensity. Sometimes vibrations may be felt through the body from the base sounds.

There are moments with singing voices overlap. There are some moments that can be intentionally hard to decipher. There are moments that use voice manipulation software to distort the performer's natural voices. There are moments where the performers heavy breathing and quiet conversation are amplified to the audience.

There are some completely silent scenes.

#### Loud sound timings

Approx 15 mins into the performance (after quiet moment with Gabriel and Merlynn on the blue carpet) Dress/cat walk scene.

Approx 20 mins into performance (pornography scene). Sound gradually builds for 4 minutes to an intensity with a high-pitched scream and loud drone sound. Two performers use microphones to creates beats by tapping them on their bodies.

Approx 25 mins into the performance (sound recordist scene). Voice manipulation by Adriane Daff.

Approx 29 mins into performance. Voice manipulation by Gabriel Comerford

Approx 38 mins into the performance (after "eat the cake" scene) there will be a sudden loud music of Toxic Pony. This will go for approximately 3 minutes.

Approx 42 mins into performance. After Adriane drops down from tippy toes, a long suspended drone sound starts and builds in intensity.

Approx 50 mins into performance (after quiet moment with Gabriel and Merlynn on the blue carpet). The bear comes out and does a bear opera with robotic voice manipulation underscored by playful music. At times you can hear the voice manipulation as well as the performers natural voice (yelling). This scene ends in a musical climax with loud drum beats and music. This sequence is about 6 mins total.

## **Lighting**

There are moments of coloured flashing lights throughout the performance. There is a silver high-shine Tarkett floor which sometimes reflects prisms of light around the whole space.

### Flashing lights timings

Approx 20 mins into performance (towards the end of Dress/catwalk scene), there are flashing lights to coincide with camera noises. This goes for about 15 seconds.

Approx 28 mins into performance (towards the end of Sound recordist scene), there are flashing coloured lights coincide with loud beats and AV use. This goes for about 1 min.

Approx 38 mins into the performance (after “eat the cake” scene) there will be a sudden loud sound of Toxic Pony that coincides with coloured flashing lights. This will go for approximately 3 minutes.

Approx 54 mins into performance (after the bear opera) “nightmare” flashing coloured lights for approximately 2 mins.

## **Physical**

The Director, Danielle, will sit in the auditorium with the audience during the performance. She will get up and welcome the audience by talk directly to the them.

The sound design creates vibrations felt by the audience at times.

Mostly the performers interact with one another but there are moments where they make direct eye contact and deliver dialogue directly to the audience- there is only one interactive moment with the audience - during the “bear opera” where there is a small call and response moment.

The audience is invited to come onto the front part of the stage to speak with the performers at the end of the show. The audience is also welcome to leave the theatre.

There are some abstract visual elements that may be challenging for audiences. There is a sound design moment that involves the use of sexually suggestive vocal noises.

## **Smell**

No smells or scents used in the performance.

## **Visual**

The set is comprised of:

- A central runway of high-shine silver Tarkett that sometimes reflects the performer's image or bounce prisms of light around the space
- Central projection screen that is angled downward giving an impression that it may tip forward. There is an overhead camera that sometimes projects overhead images onto the screen.
- Large, coloured carpets that get pulled out, sometimes moved around and manipulated by performers and then suspended above the stage.
- Ladder that the performers climb and move around.
- A large teddy bear that is sometimes worn by a performer and sometimes works as a teddy camera that projects images of the performers.
- The performers wear long, white tunics that they manipulate into different ways to wear them. Sometimes they just wear coloured undergarments.
- Gabriel has long dark hair that comes out from a high bun into a long pony tail.

## **Entry to space**

All audience members will enter the theatre from the foyer. Entry into the space is guided at Arts House ushers. Audiences will enter directly into the seating bank and watch the performance. Audience members are not required to actively participate in the performance.

The audience should try to avoid moving onto the silver Tarkett if possible.

## **Shocks or surprises**

There is a person in a teddy bear costume that moves suddenly that may surprise people. The bear isn't menacing or scary but this may be shocking to people. The bear returns throughout the show.

There are several moments with loud sudden sounds and coloured flashing lights. Please see notes on timings in the lighting and sound section.



## **Audience experience**

The Director, Danielle, will sit in the auditorium with the audience during the performance. She will get up and welcome the audience by talk directly to the them.

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The audience is invited to come onto the front part of the stage to speak with the performers at the end of the show. The audience is also welcome to leave the theatre.

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## **Social expectations**

Audiences may bring in snacks if this will enhance their experience in the theatre.

Stim toys are encouraged if needed.

People can make noise in the space if needed.

There isn't a designated space on the stage where people can move around during the show but if there is a space at the back of the auditorium, they are welcome to move there or leave the theatre and come back in.

## **Performance expectations**

There are three performers on stage and Danielle the Director.

Mostly the three performers (Adriane, Gabrielle and Merlynn) will all be on stage the whole time. The show is sometimes in a literal setting but mostly is abstract. The performers sometimes have characters but mostly they don't have characters per se. As a movement-based theatre company, we use a lot of physical moments to portray emotive states. There is some dialogue and some monologues- sometimes this is presented via video on the screen or direct address to audience. At times Adriane will be in a bear costume, Gabrielle will play a stripper and other male characters. They voice different perspectives and we use voice manipulation software to portray this. We

encourage audiences to be open and see what you think about it and what it makes you think about and reflect upon.

## **Other**

### **Content Warnings**

The production of *idk* contains adult themes, strong language, loud dynamic sounds, haze and flashing lights. *idk* explores themes of sexual and other boundaries. Suitable for ages 15+.

If you require further information communicate with a staff member on the night.

If you or anyone you know needs support, you can contact the National Sexual Assault, Domestic and Family Violence Counselling Service on [1800RESPECT](tel:1800737732) (1800 737 732), [Lifeline](tel:131114) 131 114, [Beyond Blue](tel:1300224636) 1300 224 636, [QLife](tel:1800184527) 1800 184 527 or [13YARN](tel:139276) 13 92 76.

### **General Notes**

Danielle will do an Acknowledgement of Country at the top of the show and welcome audience to come and ask questions/speak to the team post-show. No other announcements.

## The Venue



Image: North Melbourne Town Hall features giant red letters that say ARTS HOUSE out the front of it.



Image: a map of Arts House and its surrounding area. [LINK TO MAP](#)

## Front Entrance



## Accessible Entrances



There are two Accessible Entrances. The first is on Errol St next to the Post Office.



Image: Errol Street entrance next to the Post office with wheelchair accessible ramp or two steps with grab rails.



Image: View of door entrance.

The second Accessible Entrance is towards the end of George Johnson Lane.



Image: View of George Johnson Lane from Errol St. The laneway passes through an archway with a brick wall at the end.

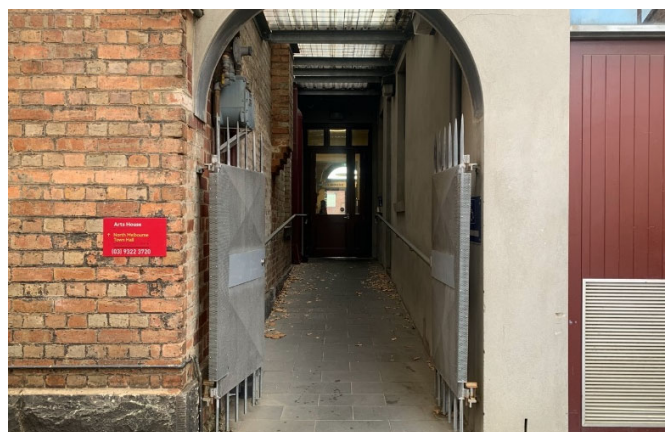


Image: view of the ramp leading from George Johnson Lane to the automated door which opens into the Arts House foyer.

## Box Office



## Ushers



Ushers will be wearing black with an Arts House Logo on the left hand shoulder.

## Bar



Bar staff will be wearing black with an Arts House Logo.

We have a range of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages for sale.

We are a cashless venue and accept EFTPOS, Visa and Mastercard payments.

## Quiet Space



Arts House Quiet Space is located on Ground Level and is nearby reception and opposite the accessible bathrooms. It includes a range of seating options including soft furnishings, dimmable lights, sensory and stimulating objects. It is open during venue opening hours and events as a quiet space, prayer or parenting space.



Image: Quiet space with lights dimmed.



Image: Quiet space kitchenette and book shelf

## Bathrooms

All bathrooms have Dyson hand dryers with sensor activation. There is an accessible bathroom that is single use on ground level opposite the Quiet Space. There is another accessible bathroom upstairs – this is accessible via lift or stairs.



## Performance Space

The Performance is in the Main Hall.

It is on the ground floor.

It is to the left of the box office desk and right of the bar.

An artist statement is available on signage and warnings on the door.





## **Transport**

### **Tram**

Route 57 (High Floor trams only)

Stop 12, North Melbourne Town Hall.

Please note, this is not a wheelchair accessible tram

[GETTING TO ARTS HOUSE VIDEO LINK](#)

### **Train**

Arts House is 1.1km from

North Melbourne Train Station,

approximately 16 minute walk

[North Melbourne Station Information](#)

1.2km from Flagstaff Station,

approximately 15 minute walk

[Flagstaff Station Information](#)

### **Bus**

Bus number: 216

### **Parking**

There is limited paid on-street parking on Queensberry Street and Errol Street.

There are two accessible on street car parking spaces on Queensberry Street (150m to our accessible Errol Street entrance) for holders of a Parking Permit for Disabled people.

## **COVID Safety**

Please follow good health and hygiene practices when visiting Arts House.

Ticket holders who cannot attend their performance due to COVID-19 illness or symptoms are entitled to a full refund.

## **Facemasks**

We strongly recommend wearing a face mask while indoors. We have disposable masks available at reception and in the foyer.

## **Cleaning**

Arts House buildings are cleaned nightly Monday-Friday and on weekends as required. We conduct touchpoint cleaning of spaces between performances.

## **Hygiene Stations**

Arts House provides handwashing and hygiene stations in each amenities area, studio, and office including: hand sanitizer, disinfectant wipes, rubbish bin.

More information about COVID-19 Safety can be found through the links below:

- [Our COVID-19 Safety Plan - Arts House - Melbourne](#)