



PROUDLY PART OF MIDSUMMA FESTIVAL
19 APRIL - 5 MAY 2021

midsumma.
westside.

GO WEST THIS MIDSUMMA!

Midsumma Westside returns with another full program of exciting events that takes place during Midsumma Festival in Melbourne's west.

MESSAGE FROM MIDSUMMA FESTIVAL CHIEF EXECUTIVE, KAREN BRYANT

Each year Midsumma brings us together to share our cultural histories, diverse realities, and imagined futures. This past year we have perhaps each grown to appreciate the things we previously let pass by unnoticed. The importance of connection, the significance of gatherings, and of 'owning' our cities through our activations and the all-important sense of place we bring to them through our art and our events.

We are thrilled that Midsumma Westside has grown to 23 events this year, providing unique and much-needed opportunities to gather, explore new perspectives, and share queer stories.

This year when we come together, a little later than usual, and greet each other with our annual repeated chorus's heralding "Happy Midsumma!" I think we may find that it is more meaningful than ever before. Come join us!

midsumma.org.au



Accessibility: Some accessibility guidance is provided within but please also see midsumma.org.au/info/access-information

MIDSUMMA WESTSIDE PRESENTED BY



HOBSONS
BAY CITY
COUNCIL



wyndhamcity



Bec Reid and Tristan Meecham Artistic Directors - All The Queens Men. Image by Bryony Jackson.

APRIL CULTURE CLUB: ALL THE QUEENS MEN

Online

Wyndham City's Culture Club is designed to expand our knowledge in an online environment with our fellow creative colleagues, friends and collaborators and build the arts network in the deep west.

Bec Reid and Tristan Meecham Artistic Directors of All The Queens Men (ATQM) are world's best practice for community engaged practice.

For April's Culture Club session, Bec & Tristan will share their experience of working with LGBTQ+ and Elder community members. A conversation not to be missed!

7 Apr | Wed 5.30–6.30pm

FREE (registrations at [eventbrite.com.au](https://www.eventbrite.com.au))



FLUID - VERSATILE IDENTITIES IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Wyndham Art Gallery, 177 Watton St, Werribee

The gender binary is up for discussion, no longer fixed, asking us to inspect how binaries of all types inform the way we experience the world. LGBTQI+ people have long led the way in these conversations and continue to investigate how perceived social norms shape our identities. 'Fluid' expands on these ideas to entice new ways of seeing, feeling, engaging and moving through the world.

Artists: Ophelia Bakowski, Nathan Beard, Ebony Hickey, James Lemon, Daniel R Marks, Brooke Van, Gideon Wilonja, and Paul Yore.

As part of the Fluid exhibition you are invited to 'Collage Yourself' at an online workshop led by Peter Waples-Crowe, a Ngarigo visual and performance-based artist.

Online 18 Mar–25 Apr | Gallery open 16–18 April | 11am–4pm
FREE

Collage Yourself (online event) 8 April Thu 6–7.30pm
FREE (register and info wyndham.vic.gov.au/fluid)



DUETS WITH A SHAPESHIFTER

**Bowery Theatre, St Albans Community Centre, 33 Princess St,
St Albans**

Presented by James Welsby AKA Valerie Hex

Duets with a Shapeshifter is a drag fusion project by award winning choreographer James Welsby (AKA Valerie Hex). Lush landscapes, breath-taking costumes, intricate choreography, and striking digital effects create a virtual reality in a 10-minute video project. Separated into four sections, the seasonal theme charts life cycles and enduring transformation.

View the film, hear about the process, and witness the costumes up close at the Special Film Premiere.

**Exhibition 10 Apr–5 May | Mon–Sat | Film Premiere 23 Apr 8–9pm
FREE (bookings required)**

Warning: Adult themes, strobe lights

Supported by City of Melbourne



UNSORTED

Bluestone Church Arts Space, 8A Hyde St, Footscray

In the playful, Mixety world of the Clothings, Jacket is in charge and thinks everyone should be sorted into distinctly defined groups. The problem is, no one knows where to start. Skirt, Stove-Pipe, Sweater, Slacks and Swimsuit are all friends who want to play together, but if they don't sort themselves out and separate according to Jacket's rules, they'll all be banished.

10–25 Apr | Sat–Sun 11am, 1pm (1hr duration)

\$19 full | \$15 conc



Image by Tony Cravens

LET ME GET SOMETHING OFF MY CHEST

Bowery Theatre, 33 Princess St, St Albans

Presented by The Gender Whisperers

A night of polemical rants and righteous queer rage. Ten LGBTIQ+ activists, artists and storytellers take to the stage to let the world know what's been making them angry, bemused or confused this year. Featuring Roj Amedi, Joshua Badge, Tony Briffa, David Mejia-Canales, Kitty, Dean & Sasja from 3CR's Behind Closed Doors, and many more.

19 Apr | Mon 6.30–8.30pm

\$18 full | \$14 conc

Warning: Course language, references to drug use, sexual violence and suicide



CREATING COMMUNITY IN MELBOURNE'S WEST

Laverton Community Hub, 95–105 Railway Ave, Laverton

Created in partnership with the Australian Queer Archives.

Since the 1970s LGBTIQ+ communities have been creating a home in Melbourne's inner west.

From Gay-Skate in Footscray to the famous Sunshine 'Gay' Girl article, this exhibition tells the story of those communities' journey for recognition and understanding from the 1970s until today.

Visit this unique exhibition, a celebration of LGBTIQ+ culture, history, and evolution, and its ongoing connection with the western suburbs.

19 Apr–19 May | Mon–Fri 9am–5pm

FREE



THIS IS GRAYSON

The SUBSTATION, 1 Market St, Newport

Grayson has been in this carpark for ten thousand two hundred and sixty-one years. She's been waiting for you. So she can show you the gaps. Between her world and yours. Not just for kids and not just for adults, This is Grayson is an immersive performance to experience together. You will meet a woman. She will take you to a bus and you will go on an intimate, surreal and immersive journey through Newport's forgotten lands.

Bring your sense of adventure and your curiosity, and let Grayson show you the things hiding in plain sight.

20–24 Apr | Tue–Sat 7pm, 9pm (1 hr duration)

\$30 full | \$25 child | \$49 1 adult + 1 child

Non-traditional sitting

Please note: Masks must be worn at all times



ON SCREEN, IN THE FLESH

Trocadero Art Space, Suite 1, Level 1/119 Hopkins St, Footscray

In an era of digitisation and social media, many queers of today discovered and announced their queer identities on the internet. Some played and developed themselves online whilst unable to do so in their non-digital lives. On Screen, In the Flesh uncovers these experiences, of the queers of today who once upon a time, uncovered their queer identities online.

21 Apr–1 May | Wed–Sat 12–5pm

Opening: 21 Apr 6–8pm

FREE

Venue has limited accessibility



INTERSECTIONS OF DISCRIMINATION

Online

'I can't separate my queerness from my blackness, and it is something I'm really proud of.' - Yamiko Marama

Human lives are not made up of a single category such as gender, race or sexual orientation. Rather, we are more complex. The intersection of these categories can produce oppression or a life of privilege. Join Nevo Zinsin, Yamiko Marama and Krishna Isha as they explore intersectionality sharing their own experiences, joys and concerns and injustices.

This event will be held online. Virtual invitations will be sent prior to the event along with instructions on how to participate.

22 Apr | Thu 6.30–7.30pm

FREE (bookings essential libraries.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/whats-on)



ACE OF HEARTS – SONGS

Bluestone Church Arts Space, 8A Hyde St, Footscray

Presented by Natasha Pearson & Hayden Dun

Songs from queer musical Ace of Hearts performed by co-writers Hayden Dun and Natasha Pearson. Presented on keys/vocals, the performance celebrates difference with a central message of inclusion and belonging. Ace of Hearts is a musical comedy that follows a young woman's discovery that she is Asexual and the implications it has on her friendships, family and dating life.

23–24 Apr | Fri–Sat 6:30–7.30pm

29–30 Apr | Thu–Fri 6:30–7.30pm

\$24 full | \$18 conc

Warning: Coarse language, references to mental health



ABSOLUTELY FEMMEULOUS

Online

Women's Circus presents an online extravaganza featuring Melbourne's darlings of circus and theatre: Mahla Bird (aka Themme Fatale), Kerith Manderson Galvin, and Winter Cyan, alongside fabulous performers from Women's Circus.

Absolutely FEMMEulous will explore the multiplicity of femme identities and unpack these stories through the radically fierce form of circus. Limited screening - watch from the comfort of home.

Filmed and edited by Jeska Stephens.

Project guidance and development by Sarah Ward.

23 Apr | Fri 6-6.45pm

FREE



RAINBOW FAMILIES IN FRAME

Joel Gallery, 5 Sargood St, Altona

Have your family portrait taken at the Joel Gallery in the Rainbow Frame or download the frame for your photos. Rainbow families, rainbow family friends and rainbow fur babies are all welcome into the frame.

24 Apr | Sat 11am–2pm

FREE

midsumma.westside.

Event Title (in Midsumma Festival date order)	Event Location	Page
FLUID - Versatile Identities in the 21st Century	Wyndham Art Gallery, Werribee	3
Duets with a Shapeshifter	Bowery Theatre, St Albans	4
Unsorted	Bluestone Church Arts Space, Footscray	5
Let Me Get Something Off My Chest	Bowery Theatre, St Albans	6
Creating Community in Melbourne's West	Laverton Community Hub, Laverton	7
This Is Grayson	The SUBSTATION, Newport	8
On Screen, In the Flesh	Trocadero Art Space, Footscray*	9
Intersections of Discrimination	Online	10
Ace of Hearts - Songs	Bluestone Church Arts Space, Footscray	11
Absolutely FEMMEulous	Online	12
Rainbow Families in Frame	Joel Gallery, Altona	13
Rainbow Pride in Altona	Joel Gallery, Altona	16
The Pier Festival	Seaworks, Williamstown	17
Rainbow Music on the Deck	Online	18
4PLAY	Pride of Our Footscray, Footscray*	19
You Can't Say That In Front Of Your Father!	Pride of Our Footscray, Footscray*	20
Ready, Set, Brunch!	Pride of Our Footscray, Footscray*	21
Trans and Gender Diverse Writers Showcase	Bluestone Church Arts Space, Footscray	22
SMUT: Queer Erotic Fan Fiction Salon	Footscray Community Arts Centre	23
I Have a Face	Bowery Theatre, St Albans	24
Rainbow Family Storytime	Newport Community Hub, Newport	25
Park Lounge	Kelly Park, Werribee	26
Tall Branches	Bluestone Church Arts Space, Footscray	27
Sound in the Head Workshops and Gigs	Bluestone Church Arts Space, Footscray	28
Amplify: Crush	Bluestone Church Arts Space, Footscray	29



RAINBOW PRIDE IN ALTONA

Joel Gallery, 5 Sargood St, Altona

Rainbow Pride in Altona is an event for Rainbow families and friends. Rainbow activities, food and fun to celebrate families and love. The best rainbow fun in town!

24 Apr | Sat 11am–4pm

FREE (bookings trybooking.com/BPPJV)



THE PIER FESTIVAL

Seaworks, 82 Nelson Pl, Williamstown

Hosted by Bobby Macumber this is one event not to be missed. We are pulling out all stops to reconnect our community and bring you the ultimate Queer Woman's Music Festival. Featuring Casey Donovan, Hart & Harlow, Tom Boy DJ set plus more.

Immerse yourself in the festival vibes and enjoy market stalls, drinks and food trucks, community group activations, roving entertainment, and much more.

This event is supported by Hobsons Bay City Council through its Make It Happen Grants program.

Partnership with Midsumma

24 Apr | Sat 4-10pm

\$27 full



RAINBOW MUSIC ON THE DECK

Online event via Hobsons Bay Up Instagram @hobsonsbayup

Hobsons Bay UP will host a live stream with your favourite local acts. You'll be able to watch them perform in the comfort of your home. Friends of the LGBTIQA+ community will host the afternoon and you are encouraged to dress up in your favourite rainbow attire, sit back and watch Hobsons Bay's best musos in one place.

24 Apr | Sat 3-4pm

FREE



4PLAY

Pride Of Our Footscray, 1/86–88 Hopkins St, Footscray

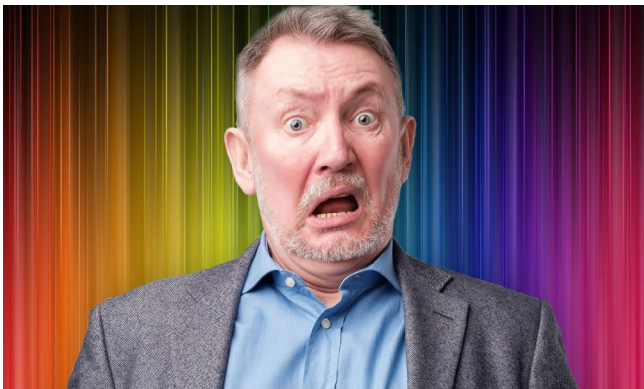
Presented by Max The Drag Queen, Menorah Foxx, Lynnduh and Rubi Taboo. 4PLAY consists of some of Melbourne's most sensational drag entertainers. Encompassing various aspects of drag performance from bust-a-gut hilarity to splits 'n' dips, 4PLAY is the warm up, the main course, and the climax you've been longing for.

24 Apr–2 May | Sat 9:30–11.30pm, Sun 7:30–9.30pm

\$26 full

Warning: Coarse language, strobe lights, smoke/haze

Venue has limited accessibility



YOU CAN'T SAY THAT IN FRONT OF YOUR FATHER!

Pride Of Our Footscray, 1/86–88 Hopkins St, Footscray

It's queer comedy at its funniest in Footscray this Midsumma. Pride of our Footscray Community Bar turns Comedy Club and comes alive with the sound of laughter as some of our funniest queer friends tell us how it is. We're here, we're queer, we're fabulous, we're funny! Hear from comedians from all shades of the rainbow divulge stories you wouldn't say in front of your father! Queer life is never dull! On any night you could hear the queerest from Kirsty Webeck, Gavin Roach, Annie Louey, Maddy Weeks, Frankie McNair, Julien Furnace & more. The finale spectacular hosted by the incomparable Dolly Diamond!

24 Apr–2 May | Sat 7–8.30pm, Sun 5–6.30pm

\$23 full | \$16 conc

Warning: Coarse language

Venue has limited accessibility



READY, SET, BRUNCH!

Pride Of Our Footscray, 1/86–88 Hopkins St, Footscray

Pride of our Footscray brings to you a riotous bottomless brunch featuring the dynamic duo of Aurora Arsenic & Joslyn Bosoms. The westie besties will serve you high camp shows, on point choreography (they try), games, science experiments (Aurora found a lab coat at Savers), the best dad jokes (the highlight of Pride's lockdown online show Gay, Gay it's Saturday) and more - whilst you enjoy bottomless mimosas, bubbles, Cavallero's famous cannoli and more of Footscray's finest food offerings.

25 Apr, 2 May | Sun 1–3.30pm

\$69 full | \$65 conc

Venue has limited accessibility



TRANS AND GENDER DIVERSE WRITERS SHOWCASE

Bluestone Church Arts Space, 8A Hyde St, Footscray

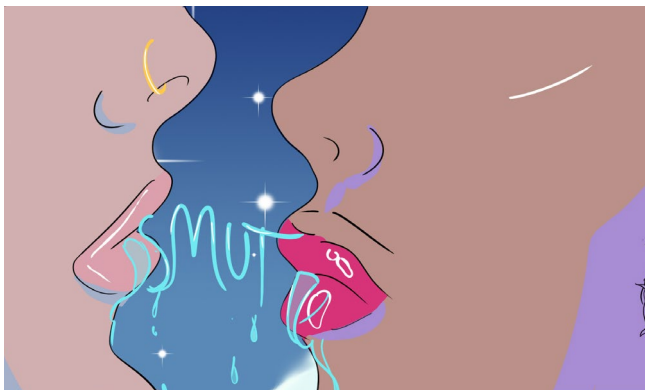
Presented by Spilling the T Collective

Join us for a night of memoir, fiction and poetry readings by upcoming trans and gender diverse writers from across Australia and help us fundraise to print our debut anthology. This event takes place on the unceded lands of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation.

30 Apr | Fri 8–10pm

\$16 full | \$12 conc

Warning: Coarse language, references to sexual violence, drug use and suicide



SMUT: QUEER EROTIC FAN FICTION SALON

Footscray Community Arts Centre, 45 Moreland St, Footscray

Presented by Midsumma Festival, Footscray Community Arts Centre and Sissy Screens

Join queer screen culture magazine, Sissy Screens, for a night of smutty storytelling this Midsumma Festival.

This event will feature sultry readings by Alistair Baldwin, Jinghua Qian, Nkechi Anele, Tali Polichtuk, Vidya Rajan and Zoey Dawson; salacious performances by Ruby Slippers and Wilk Crate and a few kinky surprises.

30 Apr | Fri 7:30–9.30pm

Auslan Interpreted

\$15 full (bookings [footscrayarts.com/event](https://www.footscrayarts.com/event))



I HAVE A FACE

Bowery Theatre, 33 Princess St, St Albans

Presented by Jude Perl

Presented by Regional Arts Victoria and Creative Victoria

In her award-winning show *I Have a Face*, Jude Perl is embarking on an adventure to solve all of our collective inner angst... With lots of bright colours! Dazzling sounds! And prizes!* Are you feeling overwhelmed? Are you perpetually confused about everything? Well, look no further, because when it comes to confusion, Jude Perl has all the answers. *Kidding

30 Apr | Fri 8–9pm

\$28 full | \$22 conc | group 6+ \$20 each

Suitable for ages 15+

Warning: Coarse language, sexual references, mental health themes



RAINBOW FAMILY STORYTIME

Newport Community Hub, 13/15 Mason St, Newport

Join drag performers Rex Spandex and Walter Melon for a very special Storytime celebrating diverse families, identity, and embracing who you are. We'll be sharing our favourite rainbow books, singing songs, and having a fabulous time! All families welcome.

1 May | Sat 10.30–11.15am

FREE (bookings essential libraries.hobsonsabay.vic.gov.au/whats-on)

Non-traditional sitting



PARK LOUNGE

Kelly Park, Cnr Cherry & Synnot St, Werribee

Join us in the park for a luminous evening performance of music, theatre and dance to delight and entertain you with all the colours of the rainbow! Presented by Wyndham City, Park Lounge is a free event open to everyone to celebrate the wonderful world of queer culture with our LGBTIQ+ community and friends.

1 May | Sat 5–9pm

FREE



TALL BRANCHES

Bluestone Church Arts Space, 8A Hyde St, Footscray

Diimpa, avant-composer and multi-instrumentalist, is joined by a chamber ensemble for a sonic voyage through confrontation and healing. From his experience as a queer autistic person, Diimpa traverses his conflicting family history of Aboriginal First Nations connection lost through the Stolen Generation, to white colonial sugar plantations and the blackbird trade.

1-2 May | Sat-Sun 7pm

\$20 full | \$15 conc

Warning: Smoke/haze, images/recordings of Aboriginal people who have passed away



SOUND IN THE HEAD WORKSHOPS AND GIGS

Bluestone Church Arts Space, 8A Hyde St, Footscray

Presented by Jessica at Birth

An opportunity to tell a story through music, sound, song in a safe space to peers.

Two hour workshops and thirty minute live performances will prepare participants for the opportunity to explore improvisation, outsider art music.

1-2 May | Sat-Sun | Workshop 2-4pm | Gig 6-6:30pm

Door sales only

Workshop: \$50 full | \$25 conc

Gig: \$25 full | \$15 conc



AMPLIFY: CRUSH

Bluestone Church Arts Space, 8A Hyde St Footscray

Presented by Izzy Roberts-Orr

In the wise words of Jennifer Paige, it's just (aah) a little crush (crush)... First crushes, worst crushes, celebrity crushes, the crush of unrequited love. Amplify: Crush brings together a lineup of bold Queer artists from the West singing songs and telling tales that will break your heart and then mend it again."

3 May | Mon 6:30–8pm

\$5 online | \$15 conc | \$20 full

GO WEST!
THIS MIDSUMMA

Cover Image: *Duets with a Shapeshifter* - Photo by Rachel Main
Midsumma Westside collateral design by Hello Idea