



Venue Information pack for Independent Artists



www.nationaltheatre.org.au

The National Theatre Melbourne - Background

The National Theatre Melbourne, a heritage icon of St Kilda and Melbourne, is home to the nationally recognised training institutions, the National Theatre Drama and Ballet Schools as well as the renowned Theatre with a diverse artistic program which consists of a programmed stream of independent and professional productions in addition to regular external hires ranging from community groups and artists to professional theatre organisations.

The National Theatre Melbourne's Program aims provides opportunities for Melbourne's thriving arts scene and community to showcase works in a fully equipped professional theatre space.

The National Theatre Movement was founded in 1935 by Miss Gertrude Johnson, and today encompasses both the National Theatre Ballet and Drama Schools. Miss Johnson, a one-time student of Australian opera singer, Dame Nellie Melba, was herself an accomplished singer who, upon retiring, set up the National Theatre Movement to provide training opportunities for upcoming artists after becoming concerned by the lack of existing opportunities in Australia. It holds a significant place in Australian theatre history, with luminaries from Ray Lawler to John Truscott and many others part of this rich legacy.

Today, The National Theatre Melbourne continues to provide opportunities for upcoming artists through both the National Theatre Ballet and Drama Schools offering full and part time courses for ages 3 to adult, from beginners to elite accredited vocational training. Many graduates move into professional roles.

Building on from the original vision for The National Theatre Movement, the theatre aims to provide a first class performance program which combines both the programmed and external hiring streams to build community engagement, venue usage, revenues and audiences. It aims to utilise and enhance its professional performance spaces for the benefit of its students, not-for-profit organisations, hirers, independent and professional performing arts companies and the community. The National Theatre Melbourne's contemporary programming encompasses drama, dance, cabaret, live music and innovative musical theatre.

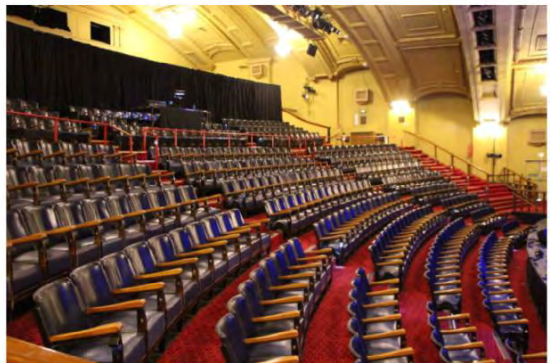
In addition to the 783 seat main auditorium, The National Theatre Melbourne is equipped for smaller spaces via its 1920's style Mezzanine (50 seats), and theatre conversion to reduced capacity (255 seats) and black box configurations (70 seats).

The National Theatre Melbourne - Spaces

The National Theatre Main Auditorium



- Proscenium arch
- Flexible seating available using auditorium curtaining
- Maximum capacity - 783 pax
- Reduced capacity – 255 pax
- Stage area 10m x 10m (plus apron)



The Black Box

- Black box configuration with seating on the Main Stage - 70 pax
- Basic lighting and audio systems
- 6 fly lines available
- Stage area 10m x 6m



The Mezzanine

- 50-80 pax, depending on seating arrangement
- 2.4m x 2.4m stage
- Basic lighting and audio systems
- Meeting space available



Independent Artists at The National Theatre Melbourne

As a commitment to continuing to provide opportunities for emerging and independent arts practitioners, The National Theatre Melbourne is looking for exciting projects that push boundaries and have the capacity to attract a diverse audience to be included in The National Theatre Melbourne's Program.

If you have a show...

Visit www.nationaltheatre.org.au/venue and download a copy of the theatre tech specs. Then, get in touch with Amelia Bartak (CEO (Interim)) via ceo@nationaltheatre.org.au and you'll be asked to provide a formal pitch document outlining your ideas for your show.

Venue Hire

Our performance spaces and rehearsal spaces are also available for hire. Availability for rehearsal studios is limited during the school term.

Email admin@nationaltheatre.org.au for further information.

If you have other ideas...

Please get in touch via ceo@nationaltheatre.org.au if you have ideas for how you would like to see The National Theatre Melbourne used for industry related meetings and events. We are open to your ideas, so tell us what you need.

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