





# must

Monash Uni  
Student Theatre

**Monash Uni Student Theatre** is an engine room of creativity, a department of the MSA that creates vibrant, innovative performances by, with and for Monash students and the wider community.

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This year we're scrutinising what performance can contribute to our increasingly fractured and fractious world. What brings us together, makes our hearts sing, galvanizes us into action or inspires us? In 2015, we're planning to BRING IT!

Our season is teeming with brave new artistic expression. We've got professional remounts, new works, adaptations and pieces exploring immersion, live art, unusual spaces and unadulterated fun!

We look forward to seeing you in 2015 onstage, backstage or in the audience.

**Yvonne Virsik**  
**MUST Artistic Director**

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## GET IN TOUCH

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msa-must@monash.edu  
msa.monash.edu/must  
📍 musttheatre

Ground Floor,  
Campus Centre,  
21 Chancellors Walk,  
Monash University, Clayton



**MUST Artistic Director**  
Yvonne Virsik

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**MUST Technical Manager**  
Jason Lehane

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**Photography by**  
Sarah Walker

**Graphic design by**  
Elizaveta Dilangan



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## SOFTLY POUTING WHILE WALKING INTO BREEZES

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January 14–February 1

When Ben met Toby, his life was changed, like, completely. When Toby broke up with Ben, his life was ruined, like, completely. It was a love and a heartbreak that only Taylor Swift could understand, so don't even bother trying to comprehend it. *Softly Pouting While Walking Into Breezes* follows Ben as he tries to convince himself and others that he's really truly over Toby. Because they broke up like three years ago. It's totally cool. It's fine.

Written by Jake Stewart

Directed by Jessica McLaughlin Cafferty

Produced by Tess Chappell

Presented by La Mama at La Mama Theatre

"Stewart is an exciting writer."

Melbourne. Arts. Fashion

"Bursting with emotion, energy and poignant moments that will make you want to laugh and cry simultaneously."

ArtsHub

 LA MAMA

 MIDSUMMA  
FESTIVAL

A DOUBLE BILL

## PSYCHOPOMP AND SEETHING

February 18–March 1

In an exciting collaboration, Barking Spider Visual Theatre and MUST present a compelling double bill for a small audience. These short works embrace the liminal world in two distinctly different settings; exploring ideas of love, intimacy and terror.

*Psychopomp*: A visual quartet of voices—four isolated people caught in the illusionary worlds that bind them.

*Seething*: A short work for voice and dancer. We are the observers of sensuality, invasion, cruelty and its aftermath.

Written by Penelope Bartlau

Directed and designed by  
Jason Lehane

Presented by La Mama  
at The Carlton Courthouse

"I find myself lost and overcome by  
the visual and aural beauty on stage."  
Theatre Press

"Stunning, focussed spectacle with –  
a very rich script... Please don't miss  
this excellent gem".

Peter Green, 3MBS



LA MAMA

Barking Spider



VISUAL THEATRE

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## **SUPERHEROSHOW MARVEL / DC UNITE!**

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**February 23–26**

4 performances a day throughout O Week!

The O Show is a Monash tradition and a unique event within the MUST season: a free, fun and informative spoof of student life at Monash, created by students to a different theme each year and designed to give first years handy inside tips.

This year, Magneto and Lex Luthor are about to wreak havoc on Monash.

Will a first year be able to defeat them, alongside Peter Parker, Batman, Deadpool and all your favourite Marvel / DC superheroes, in this hilarious rampage?

*Written and Directed by Adrian Black  
and Patrick Collins*

*Musical Direction by William Yates*

*Produced by Krystal Gayton*

*Proudly sponsored by Campus  
Community Division*





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## PEST

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**Sunday, April 19**

**12–6pm**

Union House Theatre, Melbourne University

*A Piercing Examination of Student Theatre.*

After the success of last year's event—the united efforts of three student theatre communities—*PEST* is back!

Utilising the combined theatrical prowess of Monash University, La Trobe University, and the University of Melbourne, *PEST* is an opportunity for students to come together and meet like-

minded individuals from each institution's unique student theatre environment. This free event comprises performances, workshops and a series of talks from successful current students, practicing alumni and Australian arts practitioners.

Like last year, we're seeking answers to the big questions of student theatre: What is it? Why is it important? How do they do it? How do I do it? Where do we go next?

Curated by Trelawney Edgar (Monash),  
Josiah Lulham (Melbourne)  
and Esther Myles (La Trobe)

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## THEM ASPIES

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April 15-25

After the profound impact of its 2014 development season, we're bringing *Them Aspies* to a wider audience.

With the increase in autism diagnoses, and the changes in diagnostic criteria over the past year or so, there is an air of confusion surrounding Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Asperger's Syndrome.

Who are *Them Aspies*?

This uncompromising new performance piece rips the band-aid off modern perceptions of ASD and reveals that, perhaps, you are more like *Them Aspies* than you ever thought you were.

A devised work created by Jess Gonsalvez, Tom Middleditch and team

"Amongst the most important, valuable and meaningful shows that I've ever seen."  
Benny Dimas

Presented by MUST and A\_tistic



**MUSTBOP**

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## **THE PRIDE OF AFRICA**

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**Tuesday 28 and Wednesday 29 April**

In the Cinema, Campus Centre, Monash Clayton

Take a B-grade film (or documentary), remove the sound, add a live mix of cheeky new dialogue, music and sound effects—and enjoy the spoofing!

Several hundred years after the reign of King Simba, the once majestic Pride Rock has fallen into political uproar. Citizens have grown weary of the oppressive monarchy; the lions are being challenged, and a democratic government seems to be on the horizon.

In this exclusive documentary, we gaze behind the waterfall and explore a society on the brink of change. Encountering animals from all walks of life, we go where no man, woman, or antelope has gone before.

*Created by Alana Coventry and Lucinda Walravens (The PhilosoRAPtors)*

*Created using nature documentary footage, and live dubbing, MUSTBOP: The Pride of Africa, explores what it truly means to be King.*



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## MAN THE BALLOON

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**May 14-23**

The unfortunately named Elliot Schmelliot declares the outbreak of an alarming trend: citizens are spontaneously combusting. First, the butcher's wife explodes in flames leaving only her stumpy legs smoking in the town square. Then, the entire boys' choir detonates on a high note during her funeral!

The population of this small town, inhabited by not-quite-together people who are constantly in analysis, is diminishing quickly. Elliot, a hapless balloon enthusiast, struggles to uncover the cause of the random blow-ups and convince everyone they need help before they all disappear.

*Man the Balloon* is a satirical, absurdly comic parable of an insecure, small-minded society unwittingly bent on self-destruction.

Written by Matt Cameron

Directed by Callum Dale



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## THE HANDMAID'S TALE

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May 28–June 6

In Atwood's renowned work of speculative fiction, a military theocracy has overthrown the government to create The Republic of Gilead.

Offred (Of-Fred) used to have her own name and her own life but now she is a Handmaid, whose sole purpose is to reproduce for the ruling class. If she deviates, she will be hanged at the wall or sent to The Colonies to die of radiation sickness. But even this repressive state cannot destroy desire—neither Offred's nor that of the two men on whom her future depends.

By Margaret Atwood

Adapted for the stage and directed  
by Yvonne Virsik

*"I try not to think too much. Like other things now, thought must be rationed. Thinking can hurt your chances and I intend to last."*





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## THE MUST DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

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A program continuing throughout the year, designed to nurture the development of new work, students' professional growth and dynamic cultural discussion through:

- ✓ Workshops across a wide range of skills
- ✓ Mentoring from skilled students and professionals
- ✓ Forums to encourage conversation and critical thinking
- ✓ Our new blog / online theatre magazine and resource—*MUST*verse

- ✓ Showings of new work in development
- ✓ Readings of new work
- ✓ Engagement with professional companies
- ✓ And more!

*Curated and managed by*  
Tennessee Mynott-Rudland, James O'Donoghue,  
Sian Halloran and Trelawney Edgar

*Please contact the **MUST** development team at [mustdevelopmentteam@gmail.com](mailto:mustdevelopmentteam@gmail.com) to express your ideas or interest.*





## A DIFFERENT LIGHT

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# THE CONTAINER FESTIVAL

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July 31–August 15

A **MUST** enterprise that simply rocks our worlds!

After the enormous success of the last two years, we're going for a trifecta.

The *MUST Container Festival* is a dynamic arts festival, which last year incorporated over 350 performances and events from 600 Melbourne artists and attracted more than 3000 audience members!

A range of shipping containers, a buzzing Hub and lounge bar in the **MUST** space, mini**MUST** and other surprising spaces will be filled with brilliant new music, dance, theatre, visual art, games, interactive performances, poetry, puppetry, burlesque, exhibitions and more!

This year's festival will feature *Tensions*, a multi-venue new work created by Joseph Brown with a group of emerging writers and *Theatresports™* presented by Haydyn Jones.

*The Container Festival* fosters innovation and provides an engine room and showcase for ground-breaking work of all genres. It ignites cultural engagement and provides brilliant, affordable entertainment.

The festival launches with a party in the **MUST** Hub space on Friday 31 July from 6pm 'til late—we'll see you there!

 [TheContainerFestival](#)

Proudly sponsored by  
Campus Community Division

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## BARE: A POP OPERA

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August 27–September 12

A contemporary pop opera that follows a group of high school students wrestling with issues of identity, sexuality and religion at a Catholic boarding school.

When Peter and Jason fall in love, they must fight to keep their relationship alive but hidden from the world they fear won't accept them.

With its rich, vibrant score that draws on many musical styles from rock to pop, *bare* is a beautiful, tragic story of defying society and religion and the roles we play that mask who we truly are.

*Directed by David Kral*

*Musical Direction by William Yates*

*Book by Jon Hartmere and Damon Intrabartolo*

*Music by Damon Intrabartolo*

*Lyrics by Jon Hartmere*

*By arrangement with Origin Theatrical on behalf of Theatrical Rights Worldwide, New York.*



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## THE MINISTRY

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**September**

Secret location, to be announced

If you think something, say nothing. Violators will be taken for re-education and rehabilitation.

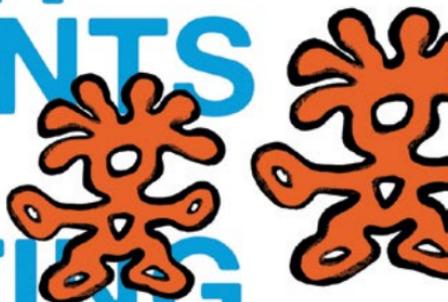
A fusion of large-scale installation and performance, *The Ministry* is an immersive, multi-disciplinary experience inspired by George Orwell's *1984*. Visitors will be granted access into clandestine headquarters and encouraged to uncover guarded secrets and unlock hidden rooms.

What is known will become unknowable. What is sane will become insane. Subject your psyche to *The Ministry*.

Created by Anna Nalpantidis in conjunction with Kin Collaborative Inc.



PROUDLY  
PROVIDING  
STUDENT  
DISCOUNTS  
AND  
ACCEPTING  
COLD  
BEER AS  
PAYMENT FOR  
CRUMPLER  
BAGS SINCE  
1995.





# One World Festival

**APRIL 14 – 16  
CLAYTON CAMPUS**

A THREE DAY CELEBRATION OF CULTURAL DIVERSITY

**STREET FOOD**  **EXCHANGE FAIR**  
 **CULTURAL PERFORMANCES**   
 **MUSIC**  **ACTIVITIES**  **SOCIAL SPORT**   
**COMPETITIONS**  **AND MUCH MORE**

**#ONEWORLDMONASH**



One World Festival

-  One World Festival's feature event
-  Wednesday April 15
-  Learn about studying abroad, whether it be Asia, Africa, Middle East, Oceania, The Americas or Europe.
-  Talk to international universities, exchange students, local students who have studied abroad, and faculties.
-  Learn more at [monash.edu/oneworldfestival](http://monash.edu/oneworldfestival)



MONASH  
SHAKESPEARE  
COMPANY



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## THE MONASH SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

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*A student-run theatre club dedicated to exploring and celebrating the works of Shakespeare and his contemporaries.*

In 2015 the company is staging:

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### **MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING**

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April 30–May 9

*Directed by Sarah McCormick*

A modern day rom-com. Witty insults, love, deceit, scheming friends and awesome dance moves!

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### **SHAKESPLANATIONS**

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*Created by Kevin Turner and Dave Lamb*

An engaging, audience-driven online education resource focused on The Bard himself.

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### **TITUS**

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*Created by James Jackson*  
Off campus in July

A radical reimagining of Shakespeare's *Titus Andronicus*. A commentary on greed, power and race played through a political succession crisis.

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And MSC brings you an **INTRIGUING NEW WORK** directed by a professional director. October 8–17

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✉ [shakespeare@monashclubs.org](mailto:shakespeare@monashclubs.org)

📍 [monashshakespearecompany](http://monashshakespearecompany)

Photo by Debbie Yew and James Jackson

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## AND THERE'S MORE!

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### **The MUST Advisory Committee**

A diverse group of student leaders, chaired by James McGuire, will tackle all things important to MUST.

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### **miniMUST**

What can we create that will fit into a mere 2m x 2m space? Intimate and inventive performances and experiences.

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### **MUST BOOT CAMP**

40 or so student artists and facilitators, removed from their comfort zones (and Melbourne) for a week of workshops, provocations and art-making.

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### **SPIRIT OF THE MOMENT!**

An English translation of the groovy German word *Zeitgeist*.

A series of development works demonstrating bold, immediate ideas and exciting creative potential, curated by James O'Donoghue and presented in October.

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And the year will finish up with our legendary Wrap Party and Awards Night!

[msa.monash.edu/must](http://msa.monash.edu/must)



