

Wow-wee! What a time it's been here for me at BATS! From starting out in the box office in 2021 to finishing that year as the newly minted FoH Manager, to an incredible 2022 spent in the company of some great staff and talented artists, and finally capping off my time here with a successful 2023 Fringe festival that was filled to the brim with amazing shows.

I'm so thankful for everything that I've learned here at BATS, and even more thankful for the wonderful folks I've met during my time here. While I might not be haunting the office corner anymore or offering to print out whatever your heart desires, I look forward to seeing you all around Pōneke and eventually returning to the theatre as an artist.

Big shout out to Dennis for picking up this mantle! You're all going to be in the best of hands with this guy, and Dennis, you've got this e hoa!!

GOODBYE MICHAELLA WE LOVE YOU!



Love, Michaella xx

Kia ora! My name is Dennis Eir Lim and I'll be stepping into the position of Front of House Manager! The transition has been so smooth thanks to Michaella and the rest of the team. I began as an intern here at BATS as part of my Master of Fine Arts at Victoria University of Wellington and just ended up sticking around like a cat that wanders into your flat and never leaves. I have such big shoes to fill and a huge love for Michaella and whatever she decides to do next. She's going to write the next big script, I just know! But enough about her, she's leaving us forever and I am not okay!

I'm the first and only person in the arts from my family. They came to Australia from Cambodia during the Khmer Rouge and I'm a second generation immigrant (which means I was born to immigrant parents in their new home country). I grew up on their traumas and stories and saw first-hand their struggles of being fish out of water in a welcoming, but alien place. I used to try to hide this because I wanted to blend in but I realise now that trying to hide your true self to fit in is just going to dull your shine. I truly believe a diverse range of stories and experiences in life and on the stage is one of the key ways to heal the world.

I look forward to helping shows and patrons with any needs they have and if you see me around town, feel free to say hi!

Nga mihi, Dennis

HELLO AND WELCOME DENNIS!



Interrupting Cow

By Sarah Delahunty



Two women are plagued with annoyance. Shoe laces and global starvation are set to push them over the edge. Cake and music kept behind red tape. We're waiting for God knows what; lost in a puzzle of 395 million 729 thousand 346 pieces that's the size of a mini KitKat. A brand-new surreal comedy about existence.

4th - 12th April 7:30pm \$20 - \$25

One Night Band

By Squash Co. Arts Collective



Over thirteen hours, our team of musicians will work with you to write, record, and mix an entire album from scratch. Writing a new song every hour, on the hour, you're welcome to come along for a single track or stay for the entire album!

Saturday 15th April 10am - 11pm (In Lumen from 10pm) Full \$15/ Multi-Hour-Pass \$30

Cocked & Reloaded

By Comedy Gold



Come horse around with the posse of Comedy Gold as they take on the Wild Wild West. Sharpen your spurs and dust off your cowboy hats. Join the folk that brought you When Booty Calls for this brand new show full to the brim of action, romance, and rootintootinshootin comedy.

18th - 22nd April 7:30pm \$20 - \$25

I'D SWIPE RIGHT FOR YOU TNERS IN CRI

Late Night Knife Fight

By Locomotive



Late Night Knife Fight is the monthly improv battle where three teams face off in a fight for glory, honour, and the audience's favour. The winner returns in the headline spot next month; the losers wail and gnash their teeth.

Saturday 22nd April 8:30pm Saturday 24th June 9:30pm \$18 - \$22

RAW! ASMR

Created & Performed by Amy Grace Laura



100% Comedy. 110% ASMR! Discover your Tingle Immunity with ASMR artist Letitia Lickkit. ASMR is that 'tingling' sensation you might get when someone traces a finger over your back or washes your hair. RAW! ASMR is a raucous celebration of the beauty, relaxing nature, and intimacy of YouTube ASMR videos. It's a fiercely fruitalicious farce about tingles and social media.

26th - 29th April 6:30pm \$20 - \$25

Ol' Buttermilk Sky

By Tobyn Gregory and Wade Walker Berben



Ol' Buttermilk Sky' is a contemporary dance work exploring change, overcoming temptation, what brings us together and what pulls us apart, and facing the unknown. A pair of explorers embark on a journey which challenges their relationship in unexpected ways. When the clouds part, what will be revealed?

27th - 29th April 8:00pm \$14 - \$18

Ted Talks Crimes

By Dastardly Productions



Ted is a criminal. Ted's got something to say. Ted. Talks. Crimes. The bananas crime caper of the fall of a criminal empire, as told by Ted the Tickler. The awardwinning Dastardly Productions brings this absurd and joyous comedy back to BATS Theatre. It's The Godfather if The Godfather involved tickling.

2nd - 6th May 7:30pm \$18 - \$22





Specifial Half

A delicious hazy IPA brewed to support our mates at BATS Theatre

Just what's needed to raise the spirits





Celebrating 30 years of great laughs

COMEDY FEST

5 - 28 MAY

COMEDYFESTIVAL.CO.NZ



Crush Season

By Janaye Henry



Aotearoa's flirtiest babe, Janaye Henry, is coming in hot with her 'will you take a breath?' style of comedy to do a deep dive into her love life.

9th - 13th May 6:30pm \$20 - \$25

La Soupco

By Abby Howells



A screenplay written by Abby Howells when she was eleven years old, La Soupco *, is a nautical romance, set in the wake of World War II. No historical research, verification or corroboration was undertaken.

9th - 13th May 7:00pm + 5:00pm Relaxed Saturday 13th May \$20 - \$25

Fifty Shades of Ray

By Ray Shipley



Inside Ray Shipley there's always been a resplendent, five-foot-ten, perfectly put-together, front-covergracing, legendary star of stage and screen, but something has always stopped them getting out. Whatever could it be?

9th - 13th May 7:30pm \$15 - \$20

Here if you Need

By Kura Forrester



Here If You Need is the highly anticipated follow-up to Kura Forrester's 2019 Billy T Awardwinning show, Kura Shoulda Woulda.

9th - 13th May 8:30pm \$20 - \$25

Hōhā Guy

By Kura Turuwhenua



Debuting her first ever solo show, Hōhā Guy, Kura Turuwhenua brings a unique sense of humour that's silly, a little bit dorky and a little bit f*cked up.

Not Where I Thought I'd Be

By Donna Brookbanks



Ever wake up thinking, 'wait, how did I get here?'

9th - 13th May 9:00pm \$15 - \$20 9th - 13th May 9:30pm \$20 - \$25

Into the Multi-Media-Verse

By James Mustapic



James Mustapic shatters the Multi-Media-Verse and travels to strange, new dimensions. Join James on his journey as he meets different versions of himself – 'Straight James', 'Psychic James', 'Goth James', and more.

16th - 20th May 6:30pm \$20 - \$25

ADHD...the Musical?!

By Maria Williams



Maria Williams returns with another theatrical hot-mess of a show! Will it actually be a musical this time? Will it be funny? Or will it just be sad? Or will it, again, 'define characterisation'?

16th - 20th May 7:00pm \$20 - \$25

Just Kidding! Unless...?

By Jadwiga Green & Audrey Porne



Imagine a comedian. Pretty funny and exciting, right? Now imagine TWO comedians.

16th - 20th May 7:30pm \$18 - \$22

Frigid

By Brynley Stent



Reigning Billy T Award winner Brynley Stent brings her newest solo sketch hour to the NZ Comedy Festival.

Ruby Esther Comedy Fester

By Ruby Esther



Ruby Esther is uncomfortable. All the time.

This Is The Last Goldfish That I Am Going To Eat For You

By Grace Jarvis



I have collected, for you, my audience, an anthology of all the weird things I have done in my life to try and make friends. Do not attempt these methods for yourselves.

16th - 20th May 8:30pm \$20 - \$25 16th - 20th May 9:00pm \$15 - \$20 16th - 20th May 9:30pm \$18 - \$22

Just Jolks

By Barnie Duncan



Barnie is known for making shows that involve things that don't usually belong in the world of stand-up. Giant taps. Turntables. Pulsating LED signs.

23rd - 27th May 6:30pm \$20 - \$25

Deacon the Vampire - Live!

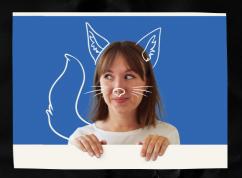
Presented By Jonny Brugh



Join Deacon The Vampire as he attempts to conjure his long dead ex-girlfriend back to life - It might be sexy but it won't be pretty.

Big Bad Beck and the Three Little Pigs

By Becky Umbers



The Big Bad Beck is ready to huff and puff and blow the house down in her debut solo show.

23rd - 27th May 7:00pm \$20 - \$25 23rd - 27th May 7:30pm \$15 - \$20

Hi, Delusion!

By Johanna Cosgrove



She's cusping 30 in a pandemic, slipping into the void and taking everyone down with her.

Bangwagon

By Jim Stanton



With a life full of distraction, derailment and small dependents, Jim Stanton is back on the comedy stage with her unique wit tinged with silliness and frustration.

23rd - 27th May 8:30pm \$20 - \$25 23rd - 27th May 9:00pm \$20 - \$25

Catfish

By Salome Bhanu



Have you ever been Catfished? Then you don't want to miss this show! A hilarious show based on the true story of a chirpy international student who ends up in New Zealand...and it's not the dream that she was sold.

23rd - 27th May 9:30pm \$15 - \$20



E S T I V A L TEWHANGANUI-A-TARA 02-17 JUNE 2023



KIA MAU



CONCERNING THE UFO SIGHTING OUTSIDE MT ROSKILL, AUCKLAND

6-10 JUNE | 6PM

A solo theatre show that tells the story of a young man in 1980's Auckland that is struggling with his growing belief in aliens, and his life as a closeted gay man.

Dana is an average office worker for an insurance company in Mt Roskill, his monotonous life and perspective unravels after he encounters a UFO while out late cruising at a local park.



SHIFTING CENTRE

8-10 JUNE AT 7PM

A cypher of dreams. Shifting our people from the margins, to the centre.

'Shifting Centre' is an exploration of what New Zealand would look like if Pacific Peoples were at the centre of the narrative. Informing public representation, arts, education and government legislation.



THE WORLD'S FIRST LOVERS

13-17 JUNE | 8PM

A heady mix of uniquely Kāi Tahu narrative and a pulsating, smoke-filled, '80s Ōtepoti.

Forged in Te Wai Pounamu and revealed in an ethereal world of theatre, dance and sound, this new work from Jessica Latton (Kāi Tahu, Waitaha), pays homage to Hineahuone...and reminds us all how deeply we belong.

KIA MAU



3 STEPS BACK

13-17 JUNE | 7PM

Explore the pathways of my life. Where they go, where they intersect, and why Chronic Fatigue INSISTS on burning my map!

What paths have lead you to where you are now? Do they change? How come? Where to next? Watch out though, you might even see some of your own pathways reflected.



SLOWING THE SUN

13-17 JUNE | 8 PM

A whānau in a town just outside of a coastal city is burdened by insurmountable challenges. The tamariki o te whānau, Putu, the answers for how you can achieve the impossible lie in the story of Māui slowing the sun.

How can something that has always existed be changed? And what do you do when the people who are supposed to be your pou, are tearing you down?



COOLIE

15-17 JUNE | 7PM

A chance of a lifetime! To work and live in paradise, free travel, accommodation and food provided - The Dream.

Or nightmare for 60,000 Indian's kidnapped or taken through coercion & blackmail to faraway countries to replace the gap left by the slavery system for something almost identical but rebranded.



Our digital theatre, Moana Nui, is a curated online experience of live performance from Kia Mau Festival and from tangata whenua, tangata moana and Indigenous artists throughout the world.



Scan Here Nau mai, haramai ki te Moana Nui!



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Absolutely Positively **Wellington** City Council



Me Heke Ki Poneke





ARTS COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND TOI AOTEAROA



