



Dear AMPAG,

It's a bumper month in May, with new and large scale major works taking the stage here and abroad, impacting audiences in many ways, from inspired hearts to vibrant cities. We report back on the Australian premiere *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, which Culture Count estimates generated \$10.7 million in economic benefit for Victoria.

Theatre is huge this month with colourful themes veering wildly from the 2015 NRL Grand Final (Queensland Theatre's *The Longest Minute*) to a hallucinogenic trip of self-discovery (Malthouse Theatre's *Bliss*). In between, the Sydney Theatre Company delights us with the wit and finesse of Austin's *Sense and Sensibility*, Black Swan outdoes *Sex in the City* with *Summer of the Seventeenth Doll*, Melbourne Theatre Company whisks *The House of Bernarda Alba* from Spain and sets it in rural WA, and Belvoir Theatre Company follows Sydney's social elevation from her working class roots in *The Sugar House*.

Dance is set to explode with energy and passion. Sydney Theatre Company's season opens with the World premiere of Rafael Bonachela's electrifying *ab [intra]*, The Australian Ballet enchants delighted audiences with *The Merry Widow*, and Bangarra's EORA– Dark Emu will paint dancers with light at *Vivid Sydney*.

It's all happening in Hobart when for the first time ever, indie rock band Eskimo Joe perform their massive hits with the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra, and in Adelaide, when State Opera SA recreates exotic colonial Ceylon in *The Pearl Fishers*.

State Theatre Company SA and Windmill Theatre Co.'s *Rumpelstiltskin* is set to dazzle audiences in London, while the West Australian Symphony Orchestra chorus is off to woo China. Closer to home, Adelaide Symphony Orchestra's hugely popular *Herman and Rosie* will once again tour metropolitan schools.

What a feast!

Kind regards,
Bethwyn Serow
Executive Director
Australian Major Performing Arts Group

Image Credits: Malthouse, *Bliss*

Latest News

Curious Incident Generated \$10.7 Million for Economy

The Australian premiere of *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, presented by Melbourne Theatre Company and Arts Centre Melbourne, generated an estimated \$10.7 million in economic benefit to the State, a study by Culture Counts has revealed.

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Rumplestiltskin spins gold with UK premiere season

London's iconic Southbank Centre to present Windmill Theatre Co and State Theatre Company South Australia's



Rumpelstiltskin in Queen Elizabeth Hall as centrepiece 2018 Christmas show.

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WASO Chorus to tour China in May

The West Australian Symphony Orchestra Chorus will embark on a 12-day tour of China, with performances in Shanghai, Nanjing and Beijing.

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Upcoming Performances

Queensland Theatre Cairns

The Longest Minute

2018-05-02

Where were you the night of the 2015 NRL Grand Final? The night when long-time underdogs the North Queensland Cowboys won in an all-QLD nail-biter that changed the game, and the state, forever. For one family of Cowboys diehards, their whole lives have led up to this moment.

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State Theatre Company South Australia Adelaide

Sense and Sensibility

2018-05-04

Presented by State Theatre Company South Australia in association with Adelaide Festival Centre, Kate Hamill's sparkling adaptation of *Sense and Sensibility* is Jane Austen on theatrical steroids. In the hands of the State Theatre Company Ensemble it will be a night at the theatre that you won't want to miss.

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Malthouse Theatre **Melbourne**

Bliss

2018-05-04

For Harry Joy, dying was the first in a series of twisted inconveniences.

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Belvoir **Sydney**

The Sugar House

2018-05-09

Narelle is a high achiever, a lawyer, with working-class roots and political clout. But something keeps bringing her back to Pymont.

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Black Swan State Theatre Company **Perth**

Summer of the Seventeenth Doll

2018-05-09

Summer of the Seventeenth Doll is one of the most significant plays in Australian theatre history. This new Western Australian production will mark its presentation by every state theatre company in the country.

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Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra **Hobart**

Eskimo Joe + the TSO

2018-05-12

Iconic indie rock band Eskimo Joe gets the full backing of the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra. Over the past 21 years, Eskimo Joe has had its music released to great acclaim in the US, Canada, Europe and Korea.

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State Opera South Australia **Adelaide**

The Pearl Fishers

2018-05-12

In colonial Ceylon two lifelong friends, Nadir and Zurga, swear never to let the love of a woman threaten their bond.

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Sydney Dance Company **Sydney**

ab [intra]

2018-05-15

Explore the depth of human impulse with the world premiere of Rafael Bonachela's *ab [intra]*, meaning 'from within' in Latin.

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Adelaide Symphony Orchestra **Adelaide**

Herman and Rosie

2018-05-21

Back by popular demand! Following a sellout year in 2017, Herman and Rosie will be touring metropolitan schools once again in 2018.

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Bangarra Dance Theatre **Sydney**

EORA – Dark Emu / Vivid Sydney

2018-05-25

EORA – Dark Emu is a large-scale projection, designed especially for the Sydney Harbour Bridge's Southern Pylon, which marries Aboriginal history, dance, art and architecture in a striking visual aesthetic.

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The Australian Ballet **Canberra**

The Merry Widow

2018-05-25



Irresistibly frothy and lavishly theatrical, *The Merry Widow* has enough tangled affairs, narrow misses and jealous lovers to fuel a French farce.

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Melbourne Theatre Company **Melbourne**

The House of Bernarda Alba

2018-05-31

One of Australia's most eminent and awarded playwrights takes Lorca's classic tragedy out of the villages of Spain and into the heat of rural Western Australia.

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Current Members



