



PRESS RELEASE
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THE SEYMOUR CENTRE UNVEILS 2020 PROGRAM

The Seymour Centre has revealed its 2020 line-up, featuring a diverse range of shows addressing issues facing the world today and promoting courage, diversity, inclusion and engagement.

In February, the Seymour Centre will once again become the Mardi Gras festival hub, hosting 12 days of non-stop performances and events. A highlight is the Sydney premiere of ***The Campaign***: a gripping account of Tasmania's decades-long gay law reform. This honest and raw show, directed by White Box Theatre's Kim Hardwick (*Table* from Seymour's 2019 season, *Mercury Fur* at KXT), chronicles a community's journey from exclusion to inclusion, from opposition to acceptance, and from hatred to embrace.

Seymour's support of leading independent theatre companies continues in May, when Secret House productions deliver a contemporary take on an Ibsen classic, ***Hedda Gabler***. Bored by life and feeling trapped in her marriage, Hedda struggles to break free from social norms with tragic results. Produced by Secret House Productions (*Bird* at Old Fitz, *Crime and Punishment* at Limelight on Oxford) and directed by Anthony Skuse (*Wink* at KXT, *Birdland* at New Theatre, *Suzie Miller's Sunset Strip*), *Hedda Gabler* raises important questions about mental health, conformity, manipulation, addiction and suicide.

From Fixed Foot Productions (*Hairworm* and *Are You Listening Now?* at Old 505) comes the Australian premiere of John Donnelly's ***The Pass*** in June. This powerful, timely and sexy drama asks how much we're willing to lose in order to win. Two 17 year old soccer players, on the verge of making it big, are horsing around the night before a big game – and then something passes between them. This one moment reverberates through the next ten years of their lives – a decade of fame and failure, of secrets and lies – in the world of professional sport where image is everything.

Outhouse Theatre Company (*John, The Flick, Gloria*) returns to the Seymour in July with ***Appropriate*** from Pulitzer Prize-finalist playwright Branden Jacobs-Jenkins (*Gloria, Everybody*). When estranged members of a family return to their Arkansas homestead and begin to go through its contents, they collide over clutter and debt. When a disturbing discovery surfaces among their deceased father's possessions, the reunion takes an explosive turn, unleashing a series of crackling surprises and confrontations.

Co-created with Zahra Newman, Declan Greene directs Alexandria Steffensen in ***Wake In Fright*** from Malthouse Theatre Company in August. After receiving rave reviews in Melbourne, this adaptation of Kenneth Cook's iconic novel will be seen at the Seymour for just six performances and is not one to miss.

Griffin Theatre Company's acclaimed ***Prima Facie*** returns for a limited two-week run in September after a sell-out season at Griffin earlier this year. Sheridan Harbridge returns as Tessa – a criminal lawyer at the top of her game who knows that law permits no room for emotion. Suzie Miller's taut, rapid-fire and gripping one-woman show exposes the shortcomings of a patriarchal justice system where it's her word against his.

October brings the Australian premiere of Ming Pfeiffer's ***Usual Girls***, a raw and profoundly relevant exploration of how women are shaped and shamed by men. Told through a series of vignettes from the 1980s to present, *Usual Girls* is a blisteringly honest account of the painful, wondrous transition from girlhood to womanhood.

Finally, the breathtaking musical fantasia set in the hypnotised mind of Russian composer Sergei Rachmaninoff, ***Preludes***, makes its Australian premiere in November. With an eclectic score written by three-time Tony Award nominee Dave Malloy (*Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812*), *Preludes* will take you on an unforgettable and head-tripping journey into the psyche of one of the world's most well-known and respected classical musicians.



Tickets for productions in the Seymour Centre 2020 program are on sale now via <http://www.seymourcentre.com> or the Seymour Centre box office.

SEYMOUR CENTRE 2020 SEASON

DATES	PRODUCTION	PRESENTED BY
11 – 28 Feb	<i>The Campaign</i>	White Box Theatre and Seymour Centre
7 – 23 May	<i>Hedda Gabler</i>	Secret House and Seymour Centre
4 – 27 Jun	<i>The Pass</i>	Fixed Foot Productions and Seymour Centre
23 Jul – 8 Aug	<i>Appropriate</i>	Outhouse Theatre Company and Seymour Centre
12 – 16 Aug	<i>Wake In Fright</i>	Seymour Centre and Malthouse Theatre
2 – 12 Sept	<i>Prima Facie</i>	Griffin Theatre Company and Seymour Centre
15 – 31 Oct	<i>Usual Girls</i>	Green Door Theatre Company and Seymour Centre
13 Nov – 5 Dec	<i>Preludes</i>	Key Change Productions and Seymour Centre

-ENDS-

For further information, interviews and images:

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