

Special Event! Panel Discussion on ‘Words in Space: Writing Narratives of Place and Locality’ *Melburnalia* Writers in Conversation with Alison Croggan

In a one-off special event on Sunday 11th November **Lally Katz**, **Ross Mueller**, **Tee O’Neill** and **Alice Pung** will take part in a Panel Discussion with theatre commentator **Alison Croggan**. These outstanding local writers are, along with **Kate Holden**, co-contributors of short plays in White Whale Theatre’s *Melburnalia* which will be presented at fortyfivedownstairs from 1-17 November.

The panellists will discuss the topic ‘Words in Space: Writing Narratives of Place and Locality’ and in particular the experience of writing plays and fiction about Melbourne; the influence of biography; the interplay of different art-forms; and perspectives on life and artistic community in Melbourne. This event will be a fantastic opportunity to meet the writers and hear insights into their creative processes including the challenges of writing for the stage for the first time.



Melburnalia weaves together five short plays (about Kew, CBD, Ringwood, Footscray and St Kilda) in a unique evening of theatre presented by an ensemble of six performers. Directed by David Mence and dramaturged by Melanie Beddie, *Melburnalia* is a thought-provoking exploration of the diverse localities, peoples and meanings that come together to form ‘Melbourne’.

The Ensemble: The *Melburnalia* actors are a diverse and talented group with a wide range of experience – an important feature considering each actor plays at least 3 different characters! **Gareth Yuen, Laura Maitland, Ra Chapman, Terry Brabon, Nadia Coreno and Jonathan Wood** (L to R) have varied backgrounds with the MTC, ABC TV, NIDA and VCA, Australian Shakespeare Company, *Neighbours*, feature films and even as the blue ‘Mighty Morphin Power Ranger’. They play no less than 18 Melbourne characters, including school kids, prostitutes, casting agents, suburban battlers, immigrant kids, waiters, postmen, actors, thieves and an Apocalypse Bear.

WRITERS PANEL DETAILS

\$5 on the door
4.15pm – 5.30pm
Sunday 11th November
Fortyfivedownstairs
Please RSVP - 9662 9966

For high res images, interviews or info please contact Publicity Manager **Peter van der Merwe** on **0439 385 739** or peter@whitewhaletheatre.com or Producer **Kelly Farrow** on **0407 244 501**.

PERFORMANCE DETAILS

Fortyfivedownstairs
45 Flinders Lane
Bookings: 9662 9966
8.00pm: 1-3, 7-10, 14-17 November
6.30pm: 4 & 11 November
\$26 (full) \$22 (concession) \$20 (preview)
www.whitewhaletheatre.com

