

SEASON 2020



WELCOME

From Circus Oz to the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, Archie Roach to the Melbourne International Comedy Festival Roadshow - we present a Season of variety to surprise, move and entertain you.

Don't miss the opportunity to catch *Summer of the Seventeenth Doll*, especially if you have not seen it before. As one of the first productions to speak with a truly Australian voice, it was considered a turning point in Australian Theatre history when it was initially staged in 1955. *Animal Farm*, adapted by shake & stir theatre co from George Orwell's satirical fable, is a different sort of turning point - this time about revolution. It is a work that never ceases to be relevant and this version will delight you with its imagination. Another play of contemporary relevance is Red Stitch's *American Song*, a powerful work that will keep you enthralled till its final twist.

We continue our Cabaret Season where we transform Eastbank into a stylish and colourful setting for artists Anya Anastasia and Jude Perl as well as performers from the Shepparton Theatre Arts Group.

A smorgasbord of ballet, circus, cabaret, music and drama awaits you - we look forward to welcoming you in 2020.

Ken Cameron

Manager, Performing Arts and Conventions Riverlinks, Greater Shepparton City Council







AMERICAN SONG By Joanna Murray-Smith

By Joanna Murray-Smith Red Stitch Actors' Theatre and Critical Stages Touring Production Starring Joe Petruzzi

SAT 29 FEB

Venue: Riverlinks Westside Time: 7.30pm Duration: 85 minutes (no interval) Tickets: Full \$39.00 / Concession \$34.00 Riverlinks Member Full \$33.00 / Riverlinks Member Concession \$28.00 Group (6+) \$32.00 / Under 18 \$28.00

If only you could find the moment that started everything...

Andy's experience is common to many of us; the slow accumulation of a good life: love, work, friendship, family. But unforeseen events lead him to places he never imagined. As he heads off to work to give the biggest presentation of his career, he says goodbye to his teenage son Robbie. Eight hours later, everything has changed.

The latest play from acclaimed Australian playwright Joanna Murray-Smith tackles the confronting and heartbreaking issue of gun violence, reaching beyond national or cultural borders on an intimate exploration of love, forgiveness and parental responsibility. With deft wit and compassion, *American Song* makes a difficult topic thoroughly gripping, wryly humorous and deeply moving.

Audience warning: Infrequent coarse language. Suitable for ages 14+.

Please stay for some light refreshments in the foyer after the performance.

Circus Oz presents AURORA WED 25 MAR

Venue: Riverlinks Westside Time: 7.30pm Duration: 70 minutes (no interval) Tickets: Full \$51.00 / Concession \$46.00 Riverlinks Member Full \$45.00 / Riverlinks Member Concession \$42.00 Group (6+) \$44.00 / Under 18 \$32.00 / Family (4) \$115.00

Fun for the whole family, *Aurora* is the latest creation by Circus Oz, featuring a host of silly and loveable arctic characters all performing spectacular acrobatic feats and hilarious physical comedy that will leave you gasping and laughing with delight.

You'll love the adorable antics of the troupe of silly penguins as they ice-slide and fly high through the air. Journey with Polar Bear as she sings, foot-juggles and climbs her way to impossible heights. Watch in awe as an acrobat head-balances precariously upside down, suspended over an ominous vat of toxic waste.

With original live music from the Circus Oz band, *Aurora* will have you chair-dancing and bopping along for all 70 minutes of live actionpacked entertainment.

Aurora is your gateway to a wintry wonderland of stunning visual artistry, jaw-dropping acrobatics and a story of hope for humanity... and polar bears and penguins!

Let your spirit soar with Circus Oz and Aurora.

Image by: Rob Blackburn



HIT Productions presents

SUMMER OF THE SEVENTEENTH DOLL By Ray Lawler

WED 22 APR Venue: Riverlinks Westside Time: 7.30pm Duration: 150 minutes (including interval) Tickets: Full \$44.00 / Concession \$39.00 Riverlinks Member Full \$38.00 / Riverlinks Member Concession \$33.00 Group (6+) \$37.00 / Under 18 \$30.00

Summer of the Seventeenth Doll is a beautifully observed, humorous and poignant play. Based on Ray Lawler's much loved tale of two Queensland cane cutters. For 16 years they have worked in the brutal sugar cane fields 7 months on and 5 months off. In their 5 months off, they travel back to Melbourne for partying and romance with their barmaid girlfriends. But this seventeenth summer will prove challenging for them all.

A triumph at its 1955 Melbourne Premier, and highly successful West End season, this 2020 production of the Australian classic, *Summer of the Seventeenth Doll*, directed by award winning Denny Lawrence, celebrates the 65th anniversary of this iconic play.

Audience warning: Adult themes. Suitable for ages 15+.

MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL COMEDY FESTIVAL ROADSHOW WED 29 APR

Venue: Riverlinks Eastbank Time: 7.30pm Duration: 135 minutes (including interval) Tickets: Full \$42.00 / Concession \$37.00 Riverlinks Member Full \$36.00 / Riverlinks Member Concession \$31.00 Group (6+) \$35.00

Australia's favourite comedy convoy is locked, loaded and hitting every corner of the country!

Join the diverse line-up of the hottest acts direct from the Melbourne International Comedy Festival for a very special show that is sure to tickle everyone's funny bone. Featuring a cast of Australian stars, talented newcomers and special guest international performers, we're homedelivering Australia's largest comedy festival in one jampacked night of the biggest and best belly laughs you'll have all year.

Audience warning: performances often contain coarse language, sexual references and material that can offend. Smoke machine/hazer may be used during this performance. Suitable for ages 15+.

ANYA ANASTASIA: CABARET STAR FOR HIRE

Part of the 2020 Cabaret Season

FRI 8 MAY

Venue: Riverlinks Eastbank Time: 7.00pm (meals served at 6.30pm) Duration: 130 minutes (including interval) Tickets: Full \$47.00 / Concession \$43.00 Riverlinks Member Full \$42.00 / Riverlinks Member Concession \$38.00 Group (6+) \$41.00

Anya Anastasia's brand new one woman show highlights her bizarre and riotous CV as she publicly seeks new employment.

Tired of the razzle-dazzle insta-glam showbiz lie, she has crafted this brazen showcase of one woman's failures - admitting to everything she's messed up or covered up in pursuit of her dreams, and the result is hilarious.

From the sublime to the ridiculous and everything in between with very relatable and honest tales from a recently retired showgirl discovering her new life's purpose!

"Queen of Cabaret" **** - The Advertiser

With support act, Grim Fawkner from 7.00pm.

Ticket price includes a one course meal, served at 6.30pm.

NISSION SONGS SONGS PROJECT

By Jessie Lloyd Produced by Performing Lines

TUE 26 MAY Venue: Riverlinks Westside Time: 7.30pm Duration: 60 minutes (no interval) Tickets: Full \$39.00 / Concession \$34.00 Riverlinks Member Full \$33.00 / Riverlinks Member Concession \$28.00 Group (6+): \$32.00 / Under 18 \$28.00

Searching for the secular songs that were sung after church, Jessie Lloyd explores the day to day life on the missions, settlements and reserves through music.

Presented as an acoustic trio, Jessie Lloyd takes audiences on a musical journey across Australia. She engages through intimate storytelling, moving harmonies and historical insights. Using humour and truth, Jessie shares the voices of elders as they would around a warm campfire or kitchen table.

From cultural identity to love and loss, these rare songs are performed by an extraordinary trio of Indigenous musicians and consist of almost forgotten stories that illuminate the history of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait elders, families and communities.

Audience warning: Suitable for ages 12+.

Please stay for some light refreshments in the foyer and meet the musicians after the performance. **Goulburn Valley Concert Orchestra's**

ANNUAL CONCERT SAT 20 JUN

Venue: Riverlinks Eastbank Time: 7.30pm Duration: 150 minutes (includes interval) Tickets: Full \$29.00 / Concession \$23.00 Riverlinks Member Full \$25.00 / Riverlinks Member Concession \$23.00 Under 18 \$13.00

2020 Principal Conductor: Steven Sargant

Goulburn Valley Concert Orchestra's Annual Concert showcases the great musical talent that exists in our community. The orchestra combines the young and old, the professional and the amateur, into one uniform group of people who share a passion for music.

Our ongoing partnership with the orchestra enables Riverlinks to provide accessible music programs for the community.

The program will showcase a wide range of musical styles to delight all ages and musical tastes.

Regional Arts Victoria presents

ARCHIE ROACH: TELL ME WHY

Part of 2020 NAIDOC Week

THU 9 JUL

Venue: Riverlinks Westside Time: 7.30pm Duration: 80 minutes (no interval) Tickets: Full \$44.00 / Concession \$39.00 Riverlinks Member Full \$38.00 / Riverlinks Member Concession \$33.00 Group (6+) \$37.00 / Under 18 \$30.00

Not many have lived as many lives - from stolen child, teenage alcoholic, seeker, lover, father, musical and lyrical genius, to social advocate and First Nation leader - but it took almost a lifetime to find who he really was.

Archie's new memoir *Tell Me Why* (Simon and Schuster) is an intimate, moving and often confronting account of his resilience and strength of spirit, and also of a great love story. It's an extraordinary odyssey of love and heartbreak, family and community, survival and renewal – and the healing power of music.

The companion album *Tell Me Why* (Bloodlines), considered Roach's 18 song Magnum Opus, reimagines eleven songs which have defined his extraordinary career, together with two songs, previously written but never recorded, two songs of early-influence and three brand new recordings.

Roach voices the joy, pain and hope he found on his path through these songs to become the legendary singer-songwriter and storyteller that he is today – beloved and respected by fans worldwide. Shepparton Theatre Arts Group presents

CHRISTMAS INJULY Part of the 2020 Cabaret Season

FRI 10 JUL Venue: Riverlinks Eastbank Time: 7.30pm (meals served at 7.00pm) Duration: 110 minutes (including interval) Tickets: Full \$47.00 / Concession \$43.00 Riverlinks Member Full \$42.00 / Riverlinks Member Concession \$38.00 Group (6+) \$41.00

Get those bells ready to Jingle in July with Shepparton Theatre Arts Group.

Presenting your favourite traditional Christmas carols with a Broadway-Jazz feel that will have you tapping your toes and clapping along.

Let's celebrate Christmas in July!

Ticket price includes a one course meal, served at 7.00pm.



Victorian State Ballet presents

DON QUIXOTE SUN 19 JUL

Venue: Riverlinks Eastbank Time: 2.00pm Duration: 140 minutes (including interval) Tickets: Full \$38.00 / Concession \$34.00 Riverlinks Member Full \$33.00 / Riverlinks Member Concession \$29.00 Group (6+) \$33.00 / Under 18 \$20.00

Following sell-out seasons, Victorian State Ballet is proud to present this exciting and festive classical ballet treat to audiences. Featuring a cast of internationally recognised artists, *Don Quixote* will bring to the stage the superb and highly skilled artists of the Victorian State Ballet.

Don Quixote is a festive and flamboyant ballet, considered as one of the most exciting ballets. Its fiery passion and musical score will have audiences on the edge of their seats from beginning to end. The story is retold through superb classical ballet technique and choreography.

Bring the family and your friends along to experience the sheer delight and beauty of this classical ballet.

INTER

ANIMAL FARM

Created by shake & stir theatre co

TUE 11 AUG

Venue: Riverlinks Westside Time: 7.30pm Duration: 90 minutes (no interval) Tickets: Full \$44.00 / Concession \$39.00 Riverlinks Member Full \$38.00 / Riverlinks Member Concession \$33.00 Group (6+) \$37.00 / Under 18 \$30.00

Animal Farm, one of the most enduring political commentaries returns in a multi-award winning, critically acclaimed theatre production.

Revolution has taken place at Manor Farm. The pigs have assumed control and all the animals, fueled by enthusiastic camaraderie and guided by a set of self-imposed rules, are promised a better life free from the self-serving greed of humans.

However, it is not long until the rules that promised quality and freedom become the shackles that bind the animals once again.

Audience warning: Haze, smoke and strobe effects will be used, as well as loud music. Suitable for ages 12+.

Please join the cast for some light refreshments in the foyer after the performance.

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL PIANO AWARD

Venue: Riverlinks Eastbank Launch: Tuesday 18 August Solo recitals: Monday 7 - Thursday 10 September, 1.00pm & 7.30pm Semi final: Friday 11 September, 12.00pm Grand final: Saturday 12 September, 7.30pm Solo recitals and semi final tickets: Full \$10.00 / Concession \$5.00 Grand final tickets: Full \$32.00 / Concession \$27.00 Riverlinks Member Full \$27.00 / Riverlinks Member Concession \$24.00 Ticket for the week (all solo recitals + semi final + grand final): Full \$100.00 / Concession \$60.00

Spring will flourish in Shepparton, as it hosts the biennial Australian National Piano Award, showcasing some of Australia's most brilliant emerging classical pianists.

Over a week of solo recitals, the selected pianists will strive to win over \$65,000 in prize money and perform impressive classical masterpieces that range from Bach, Haydn, Schubert, Mozart, Beethoven, Chopin and many other composers.

Repertoires throughout the inspirational recital series will feature music from the Baroque, Classical, 19th Century Romantic and French Impressionist eras, as well as music written after 1950, including Australian classical works.

In the lead up to the grand final, three judges will listen and observe every performance, while audiences can vote for their favourite pianists in the Lorna Speechley Memorial Prize for the People's Choice.

Riverlinks and Greater Shepparton City Council are proud supporters of the Australian National Piano Award.

Audience warning: audiences should acknowledge that the Australian National Piano Award is a competition and respectfully remain quiet throughout all Award finalist performances during the solo recitals, semi final and grand final.

MELBOURNE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA TUE 6 OCT

Venue: Riverlinks Eastbank Time: 7.30pm Duration: 110 minutes (including interval) Tickets: Full \$51.00 / Concession \$46.00 Riverlinks Member Full \$45.00 / Riverlinks Member Concession \$42.00 Group (6+) \$44.00 / Under 18 \$32.00

Sophie Rowell - director / violin

The Melbourne Symphony Orchestra presents an evening of breathtaking masterworks led by Concertmaster Sophie Rowell.

From two of Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* to Beethoven's Fifth Symphony and the overture to Mozart's *Marriage of Figaro*, this exhilarating concert will delight with treasured favourites.

Enhance your concert experience by attending a free pre-concert talk at 6.30pm. Join us for an informative conversation about the evening's program, where you'll learn about the composers and gain insights into the music.

Regional Arts Victoria presents

JUDE PERL: I HAVE A FACE Part of the 2020 Cabaret Season

THU 15 OCT

Venue: Riverlinks Eastbank Time: 7.00pm (meals served at 6.30pm) Duration: 105 minutes (including interval) Tickets: Full \$47.00 / Concession \$43.00 Riverlinks Member Full \$42.00 / Riverlinks Member Concession \$38.00 Group (6+) \$41.00

Ever wondered if you're doing it right? Well did you read the label? Life didn't come with a label, but you will be told your whole life how you should behave or who you should be. You will be told that if you have a problem, there's a quick fix you can buy... but somehow the problem doesn't ever seem to really go away.

Jude Perl's insight into her personal and relatable mental health struggles of being an adult, will make you want to sing along, cry and laugh all at once. Jude reminds us when to be aware of labels, and when the labels are totally useless - and most importantly, that we are not alone. She'll talk about some tough stuff, make you laugh and make you feel truly human.

With support act, Briana Lee from 7.00pm.

Ticket price includes a one course meal, served at 6.30pm.

Audience warning: Suitable for ages 15+.

Photo by: Nick Manuell

AFTERNOON DELIGHTS

The Afternoon Delights Season is all about providing an opportunity for you to get together with friends and enjoy a social afternoon with live music and a delicious Devonshire Tea with scones, jam and cream.

Each month from February to December Riverlinks Eastbank comes to life with the Afternoon Delights Season. For more information about our shows, please pick up a copy of the Afternoon Delights flyer from the Box Office.

We look forward to welcoming you in 2020.



Christmas with Karen Knowles Thursday 17 December, 2.00pm



Rachael Beck: This Girl Tuesday 9 June, 2.00pm

FAMILY AND EDUCATION

SPLASH TEST DUMMIES Tuesday 7 April, 10.30am



ROLLING ON THE FLOOR LAUGHING SO HARD A LITTLE BIT OF WEE COMES OUT Tuesday 29 September, 10.30am WOLFGANG'S MAGICAL MUSICAL CIRCUS Thursday 2 July, 6.30pm



Photo: Damien Bredberg

CUSHION CONCERTS Wednesday 4 March, Wednesday 6 May, Thursday 3 September, Thursday 12 November Riverlinks is committed to providing a program that will inspire and excite young people, leaving them with a unique experience that resonates long after the show is over.

THE GRUFFALO'S CHILD Friday 13 March, 10.30am & 100000 AURORA Wednesday 25 March, 1.00pm

Photo: Rob Blackburn

> MELBOURNE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA esday 7 October,

Wednesday 7 October, 10.00am & 11.30am

MAGIC BEACH Tuesday 15 September, 10.30am & 1.00pm

IN YOUR TOWN

SHEPPARTON BRASS AND WIND

Venue: Dookie Memorial Hall Date: Sunday 15 March Time: 2.30pm Duration: 105 minutes (including interval) Tickets: No bookings required. Gold coin donation

Venue: Tatura Victory Hall Date: Sunday 22 March Time: 2.30pm Duration: 105 minutes (including interval) Tickets: No bookings required. Gold coin donation

RIVERLINKS COMMUNITY



Riverlinks is proud to support many local arts and music groups to encourage participation in the performing arts community. Whether it is watching our region's talent on stage, working behind the scenes to help deliver an event, or taking part in one of the many community events, there is a vast array of opportunities to be part of the Riverlinks Community.

Want to learn more? Visit **riverlinksvenues.com.au/get-involved**.

COMMUNITY ARTS GRANTS

Greater Shepparton City Council is pleased to offer funding for projects which build or strengthen Greater Shepparton communities through its Community Arts Grant. Grants of between \$500 and \$2500 are available for projects.

Providing funding to community groups for these arts projects and events gives Council the opportunity to enhance the community spirit and encourage arts participation across all sectors of the community.

These grants aim to support and engage the community by embracing cultural harmony and diversity. There are two rounds available each financial year.

For more information on this program please contact Council's Community Arts Grants Coordinator on **03 5832 9526** or visit **www.greatershepparton.com.au/ community/grants-and-funding/community-arts-grants**

OUR VENUES

RIVERLINKS EASTBANK

70 Welsford Street, Shepparton

Riverlinks Eastbank comprises Eastbank Auditorium, recital spaces, function rooms and Eastbank Café.

Parking: The best off-street parking is on the Goulburn River side of Eastbank, accessed from Marungi Street. The river side or Marungi Street door is open for all performances and delivers patrons directly to the Riverlinks Box Office.

Pre-Show Meals: There's more to us than just great theatre and music! Come in before your show at Riverlinks Eastbank and let Eastbank Café look after you while you sit back and enjoy a glass of wine and a meal, all served in good time before the curtain goes up.

RIVERLINKS WESTSIDE

Corner Homewood Drive & Echuca Road, Mooroopna

Riverlinks Westside is owned by the Department of Education and Training and managed by Greater Shepparton City Council.

Parking: The best parking can be found off Homewood Drive, to the rear of Westside. There is also easy street parking on Echuca Road opposite the theatre.

MEMBERSHIP

Live entertainment, socialising and discounts. Riverlinks has something for everyone and we have just the ticket for you.

Riverlinks Members enjoy exclusive discounts on ticket prices to all shows presented by Riverlinks, as well as select shows from other presenters.

How does it work?

A silver membership focuses on ticket discounts for individuals, while the gold membership offers additional saving benefits for couples, families and groups of up to 4 people.

Benefits include:

- Discounted tickets
- Priority booking period members will have exclusive access to purchase tickets directly after the 2020 Season Launch on Monday 2 December to Monday 16 December.
- Extended hold period for tickets
- Exclusive members-only promotions
- Your own membership card
- Exclusive special offers via email

Your investment

Gold Membership: Full \$60.00 / Concession \$50.00 Silver Membership: Full \$30.00 / Concession \$25.00

FOOD @ Eastbank

Eastbank Café is open an hour before performances at Riverlinks Eastbank. Book your pre show meal at Eastbank Café or online at **riverlinksvenues.com.au/your**visit/food-and-drink



HOW TO BOOK

Online

You can book online at any time, night or day, for any Riverlinks shows. Go to **riverlinksvenues.com.au** for show details and follow the link to purchase tickets. You are able to select your preferred seats at the time of booking and tickets can be posted to you for a small fee. You can also print your own tickets from home for selected shows.

In Person

Come in and see the friendly staff between 10am and 5pm Monday to Friday. The Riverlinks Box Office is located at Riverlinks Eastbank, 70 Welsford Street Shepparton.

The Box Office is also open at the venues 45 minutes prior to show times.

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By Phone

Call 03 5832 9511 during opening hours.

Credit Card payments can be made by phone.

By Mail

Post to Riverlinks, Locked Bag 1000, Shepparton, Victoria 3632.

Please make cheque payable to 'Riverlinks - Greater Shepparton City Council.'

Payment

All tickets must be paid for at the time of booking.

Riverlinks Members may hold tickets on reserve for up to a week.

Groups may hold reservations for up to two weeks. Group tickets must be paid for in one transaction.

CUSTOMER INFORMATION

Concessions

Pensioners, seniors card holders, unemployed and students all qualify for reduced ticket prices on selected performances. Evidence of qualification for the discount is required when making the booking.

GST

All ticket prices include GST and ticket fees unless otherwise stated.

Refund Policy

Refunds are available up to 24 hours prior to the performance. An administration fee of \$4.90 will be charged per ticket.

Access All Abilities

Riverlinks aims to cater for all and supports the Companion and Carer Card programs. Wheelchair access is available at both venues (Row A only).

Hearing assistance packs are available at both venues and should be requested at the Box Office when booking. A hearing aid induction loop is available at Eastbank, suitable for rows A to G, seats 5 to 39. Hearing aids should be switched to T mode for both systems. Please consult your Audiologist in advance to ensure your device is compatible.

Please contact the Box Office to discuss special needs and ensure you make the Box Office aware of your requirements on booking.

Assistance for hearing or speech impaired, National Relay Service: 133 677 (Quote (03) 5832 9511).



OUR SUPPORTERS

The 2020 Riverlinks Season is proudly presented by Greater Shepparton City Council and supported by Creative Victoria.





CONNECT WITH US

Ever wished you could make your theatre experience last beyond the live show, or go behind the scenes of our productions before the curtain rises?

Here's how you can:

eLink

Our fortnightly email newsletter is the best way to stay up to date with everything that's happening at Riverlinks.

By signing up you'll also ensure you're the first to know about any special offers, performances and events.

Subscribe at riverlinksvenues.com.au.

Social Media

Receive frequent updates about our shows and behind the scenes photos and videos by connecting with us on social media. While you're there, you can also share your thoughts on the shows you've seen and join other theatre-goers in the conversation.

Share via **#riverlinks**

facebook.com/riverlinks

- youtube.com/riverlinksvenues
- (O) instagram.com/riverlinks
- pinterest.com/riverlinks
 - twitter.com/riverlinks

Volunteer

Each year, Riverlinks presents or hosts over 150 shows, and every show needs ushers.

Ushers not only get to experience live theatre and be a part of the Riverlinks family, they also receive valuable training and earn rewards such as tickets to attend shows with friends.

To register your interest: greatershepparton.com.au

Call **03 5832 9865** or email **operations@riverlinksvenues.com.au**

CONTACT US

Box Office: 03 5832 9511 boxoffice@riverlinksvenues.com.au Admin & Technical: 03 5832 9865 **riverlinksvenues.com.au**



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Disclaimer: Whilst Riverlinks makes every effort to ensure the accuracy of this information, it cannot accept responsibility for any loss, damage or inconvenience which results from the use of this information.

Riverlinks reserves the right to vary advertised programs and to add, withdraw or substitute artists or performances as necessary.

