

DAREBIN ARTS

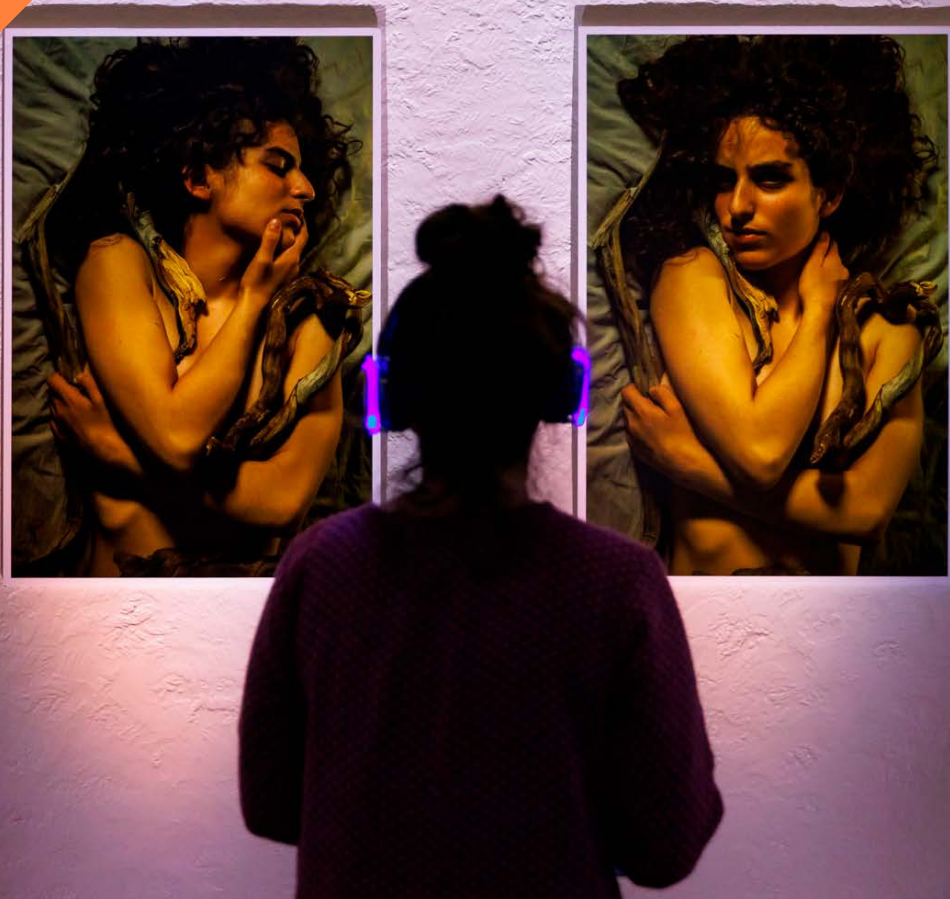
**SPEAKSY**

# CITY OF DAREBIN **2023 DAREBIN ARTS SPEAKEASY PRESENTATION AND DEVELOPMENTS PROGRAM GUIDELINES**



**Darebin  
Arts**

**HYDRA**  
by Double Water Sign.  
Photo by Darren Gill



**The Darebin Arts Speakeasy program recognises the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people who are the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land. We acknowledge their continuing connection to land, water and culture. We pay our respects to Elders past and present.**

The Darebin Arts Speakeasy program partners with artists and organisations to generate thrilling artistic presentations for audiences and our diverse community. It aims to provide the highest quality experiences to audiences at the Northcote Town Hall Arts Centre and the Darebin Arts Centre.

With a strong focus on equity and inclusivity, Darebin Arts Speakeasy plays an integral role in Australia's artistic cultural ecosystem, working with independent artists and small to medium companies to develop and present new Australian works that interrogates our society, celebrates our diversity and champions the world we want to live in.

The program incorporates a suite of access initiatives designed to enable greater accessibility across all aspects of creative cultural activities. This creates opportunities that are accessible to audiences, artists and participants of mixed abilities, including but not limited to ensuring our curatorial panels are made up of a diverse representation of our community. All seasons are provided access services such as Auslan interpreted sessions, audio described sessions and relaxed performances. People of all abilities are represented on stage and off, are empowered in decision making processes and supported to engage with creative culture in meaningful ways.



As detailed in the new [Darebin Council Plan 2021 - 2025](#), the Darebin Arts Speakeasy program supports many of Darebin's **strategic goals**:

- Supports the creative industry to recover from COVID-19
- Celebrates Darebin's diverse community
- Builds partnerships with organisations that leverage investment from all levels of government and the philanthropic sector
- Promotes Darebin as a cultural and event destination
- Helps to build an inclusive and empowered community
- Increases access to Council's services by groups who are under-represented
- Deepens Darebin's commitment to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
- Improves access to services and infrastructure for people living with a disability
- Promotes and supports the participation of women
- Supports the inclusion, rights and wellbeing of Darebin's LGBTIQA+ communities



Applications are now open for both Developments and Presentations of performance-based works at Darebin arts venues in 2023. All artists and companies are encouraged to apply, you do not have to be a Darebin resident.

This year, Darebin will offer two different methods of submission:

1. Written submissions
2. Video submissions

Please contact Darebin Arts if you have questions or need help determining which application style is best suited to you.

The latest round of this highly successful program aims to build upon our previous partnerships in staging a broad variety of works to enthusiastic audiences. Performance works for both Northcote Town Hall Arts Centre and Darebin Arts Centre are invited to apply. The available spaces at the venues for Presentations include:

- Northcote Town Hall Main Hall, Studio 1 and Studio 2
- Darebin Arts Centre Main Theatre and Grevillia Room

We are looking to program works that can demonstrate an empathy with Darebin's goals and are viable in their development and presentation. As Darebin is making a considerable investment in the works, each company is required to collaborate with the Arts Programming team in the delivery and marketing of the shows.

The two streams open for application are:

- **Developments** – works that are not to be presented with us in 2023, but are ready to develop within a studio space
- **Presentations** – Works that are at a further stage of formulation and only require up to four weeks in our spaces before they are presented to an audience. Presentations are required to have their teams mostly confirmed at the time of application and a clear plan for obtaining additional financial support if needed.



Festivals, artists and companies involved in previous Speakeasy developments and presentations include:

**Rawcus**, Double Water Sign, **Susie Dee and Melissa Reeves**, Joel Bray, **Michele Lee**, Alisdair Macindoe, **Riot Stage**, Richard Frankland and Biddy Connor, **Stephanie Lake and Robin Fox**, ILBIJERRI Theatre Company, **Melbourne Comedy Festival**, Next Wave, **Melbourne Festival**, Melbourne Fringe, Hot Brown Honey, **Emilie Collyer**, Mish Grigor, **Dancenorth**, Taree Sansbury, **Counterpilot**, Anna Seymour, **Sarah Houbolt**, Lab Kelpie, **The Listies**, Joshua Pether, **Kerensa Diball**, Yuhui Ng-Rodriguez, **Disability Slapstick Plan**, Victoria Chiu, **Joseph O'Farrell (JOF)**, Everybody NOW, **Lemony S Puppet Theatre**, Ridiculusmus, **LaBoite**, Maurial Spearim, **Little Ones Theatre**, Bec Jensen and Sarah Aiken, **New Working Group**, House of Vnholy, **Patrick McCarthy**, Speak Percussion, **Zoey Dawson and Declan Greene**, Rachel Perks, **Elbow Room**, Daniel Kitson, **Gravity & Other Myths**, Yana Alana, **Family of Strangers**, MKA – Theatre of New Writing, **Paula van Beek**, No Show, **The Hayloft Project**, Sammy J, **Candy Bowers**, James Welsby, **Amy McPherson**, Emma Fishwick, **Thomas ES Kelly**, The Wau Wau Sisters, **Zoe Coombs Marr**, Sandra Long, **Evelyn Krape**, Anni Davey, **Yumi Umiumare**, Circa, **Finucane and Smith**, Troy Nankervis, **Angela Goh**, Dylan Sheridan, **Elise Hearst**, Stella Young, **Sabrina D'Angelo**, Tommy Bradson, **The Last Tuesday Society**, Nat Abbott, **Nat Cursio Co.**, Nicola Gunn, **Louris van de Geer**, Bron Batten and many more...

## What We Provide For Developments

- Free time in our venues (up to two weeks)
- A stipend payment of \$2,000
- Access to our Arts Programming and Venue staff for engagement and advice on further development of your work to get it to the next stage of presentation

## What We Provide For Presentations

We provide a total package of around \$40,000 for each presentation of a season. A typical Speakeasy production season involves 10 performances across two weeks. For smaller seasons and one-off events this package will be less. Please note that fees, staffing, equipment provided, theatre hire hours etc. varies from project to project and is negotiated and modified depending on each show's specific needs.

Presentations receive:

- Up to four weeks of rehearsal time in Darebin arts venue spaces
- Up to two weeks of presentation time in either Northcote Town Hall Arts Centre or Darebin Arts Centre
- The use of basic technical equipment (see the Darebin Arts website for technical specifications of each space)
- An artist/company fee – this is dependent upon the size and shape of the project
  - A 10 performance Speakeasy production season receives up to \$18,000 in artist/company fees and a box office split of 80/20 (Darebin obtaining 80%)
  - Smaller production seasons receive a lower artist/company fee and a different box office split in proportion to the production and potential box office
- Access to Technical, Front of House and Box Office Staff (as budget permits)
- Access services – each season will be provided with an access service fitting to the event. This usually includes either an Auslan interpreted performance, an audio described performance or a relaxed performance. Please ensure that accessibility is considered as part of the project from the beginning of your process.
- Marketing and publicity support – marketing is a collaborative effort between the artist/company and Darebin Arts' marketing team. Successful applicants must run their own marketing campaign that compliments Darebin's campaign (our support normally includes publicity and a mix of digital and print distribution).
- A Publicist

**It is worth repeating that fees and support are subject to change depending on the requirements and needs of each show.**

**Archimedes War**  
by Melissa Reeves.  
Photo by Pia Johnson



**Within Walls**  
by Kalina Lauer.  
Let's Take Over 2022.  
Photo by Yunis Tmizeh

## Criteria.

Applications will be judged by the following selection criteria:

### **Quality of the idea**

- Is rigorously thought out
- Demonstrates an awareness of the work's artistic and cultural context
- Interrogates current community concerns and celebrations

### **Empathy with Darebin's strategic goals**

- Supports the creative industry
- Is inclusive of our diverse communities, including but not limited to our priority communities: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, multi-cultural and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) communities, people living with disability, women, young people and LGBTIQ+ people

### **Viability of development and presentation**

- Is logistically feasible to deliver at Northcote Town Hall Arts Centre or Darebin Arts Centre
- Demonstrates the ability to deliver the work in the timeframe required
- Evidence of further support (government, philanthropic, private, etc.) as well as support from other sector and community organisations. A coherent and realistic plan to attract the required funding to stage the work is highly recommended

**Please note:** we are looking for a broad mix of artistic disciplines – circus, music, dance, theatre, live art, participatory work, etc. We are also looking for work aimed at both adult and family audiences.



## Assessment Process.

We have endeavoured to make the application process as streamlined as possible. The three stages for programming selection are:

**Stage 1** - Initial application - applications are assessed by a rotating panel made up of a diverse representation from the local creative community. This year, Darebin will offer two different methods of submission:

- **Written online submission:** a similar process to previous years but with simplified and streamlined questions.
- **Video application:** Video application: submit a truncated application form that consists of brief answers alongside a video recording of you answering key questions within the application. The questions required to answer on video will be marked with an asterisk (\*)?
- Please contact Darebin Arts if you have questions or need help determining which application style is best suited to you.

**Stage 2** - Further detail – only applications progressed to Stage 2 will be asked for further detail to assist in formulating the support package, key milestones and contracts. Once this information is provided a support package offer will be made.

**Stage 3** – Contracting

**Stage 4** – Successful applications will then move to the delivery stage, working closely with Arts Programming and the venues teams to deliver the projects to set milestones. Milestones including the confirmation of ticketing, production and marketing details must be met in order for the projects to be delivered.





## How to apply:

Applications are submitted on-line using: <http://darebin.smartygrants.com.au>

**Step 1:** Access the SmartyGrants webpage - by using the above link

**Step 2:** Log in (if you haven't used SmartyGrants to submit an on-line application form before, you need to register. To do this you need to have an email address and set up a password.)

**Step 3:** Select **Darebin Arts Speakeasy Developments 2023** or **Darebin Arts Speakeasy Presentations 2023** and begin your application

**Step 4:** Select one of two ways to submit a Presentation application:

- Written application
- Video application

**Step 5:** Ensure you have provided as much information as possible and contacted Darebin Arts if you have any questions.

## Key Dates

**Applications Open:** 9am Monday 27 June.

**Applications extended & now close 11.59pm Sunday 31 July.**

Presentations will occur between February and November 2023

## For further information contact:

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**Stella Charls**

Arts Programmer:

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