

## Media Release

### Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

**TUESDAY, MAY 27, 2014**

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# Seven young directors, three seasons, five square metres – endless possibilities

The third-year graduating students of the University of Tasmania's Tasmanian College of the Arts don the title of director for the first time in The Studio Project, a series of seven plays that will take place in the constraints of a 5x5m square in the Annexe Theatre's black box studio from Saturday, May 31.

The seven young directors have combined their hard work to cultivate the three-season festival, which will showcase the results of a semester-long directing process that they have been working through to produce their shows.

Paige Rattray, founder and director of nationally acclaimed independent theatre company ARTHUR, has been supporting the budding directors throughout the process to shape their creative visions.

"The directors have thrown themselves into their work with an impressive and fearless energy," Rattray said.

"They have chosen plays that challenge themselves and will challenge their audiences.

"It is fabulous that the Launceston community will see the work of these important playwrights through the fresh eyes of our soon-to-be-emerging local artists, all in a setting that allows them to experiment with their ideas and take risks."

The plays deal with themes from love to wanderlust to the sad state of the human condition, and come from domestic and international playwrights.

With all seven plays and directors coming from different backgrounds and viewpoints, each production has emerged as a unique reflection not only on the world that the plays inhabit, but the creative process that each director has gone through to achieve their visions for the performances.

One of the directors, Lucy Pullen, said that the process for her has been an interesting one of growth and learning.

“I’ve come a really long way from stepping into the role of a director and having only a few vague ideas about where I wanted to take my show, what I wanted it to mean and how I wanted to achieve that,” she said.

“I think for me it’s been a very organic process - everyone involved with the production has played an integral part in shaping it from just words on a page to a living, breathing performance that will hopefully connect very meaningfully with our audience.”

Season one features three plays: *Far Away*, written by Caryl Churchill and directed by Zoe Whiley; *The Hard Boiled Egg*, written by Eugene Ionesco and directed by Isabelle Allen; and *Objects*, written by Howard Barker and directed by Lucy Pullen.

Season two presents two plays by English playwright Harold Pinter. Zoë Vandervelde will direct *Ashes To Ashes*, and Scott Doyle will direct *One For The Road*.

Season three closes the festival with two plays by Australian playwrights: *Blue Italian*, written by Katie Pollock and directed by Laura Eastley; and *Motel*, written by Angela Betzein and directed by Michael Lemmer.

## THE STUDIO PROJECT

**When:** *Season One:* May 31 & June 1, 7pm. *Season Two:* June 3 & 4, 7pm.  
*Season Three:* June 6 & 7, 7pm

**Where:** The Annexe Theatre’s Studio, Tasmanian College of the Arts, Inveresk

**Tickets:** *Single Night Ticket:* Adult: \$15. Student \$10. Concession \$10.  
*Three Season Pass:* Adult: \$30, Student: \$20. Concession: \$20

**Bookings:** Cultural Activities Office, Tasmanian College of the Arts, Inveresk, 9am – 4pm  
Monday to Thursday Ph (03) 6324 4450, or email [Deborah.Sciulli@utas.edu.au](mailto:Deborah.Sciulli@utas.edu.au)

*Door sales are available 1 hour prior to all performances.*

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