

Media Release

Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

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Welcome to the House of Illusions

Theatre students at the University of Tasmania are inviting audiences to step into an upmarket brothel and experience a 'house of illusions' at performances in Launceston and Hobart this month.

The Balcony is a piece of absurdist theatre, written by French playwright Jean Genet, which explores the dynamic shifts of power and obedience between the Madam of a brothel, her visitors and her girls.

The brothel, known as the House of Illusions, blurs the distinction between reality and fantasy; as you step through the doors you unwittingly become a participant in Madam Irma's game.

Directed by PhD student Sean Coyle, *The Balcony* is the graduate production for Theatre majors of the Bachelor of Contemporary Arts at the University of Tasmania.

The Balcony showcases skills the graduating students have obtained throughout their three years of study at the university, with each taking on both an acting and production role in the production.

The Balcony will welcome its audience into a unique atmosphere, mixing theatre, dance and drag for a visually and physically immersive experience; in a House of Illusions nothing can be certain.

Where: The Annexe Theatre, 2-4 Invermay Road, in Launceston and the Peacock Theatre, 65-77 Salamanca Place, in Hobart.

When: 14-17 October, 7pm, in Launceston and 21 and 22 October, 7pm, in Hobart.

Tickets are \$10 for general admission. To book, contact 6324 4450 or TCotA Reception for Launceston shows, or visit www.trybooking.com/JFPA for Hobart shows. Door sales will be available at both venues.

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