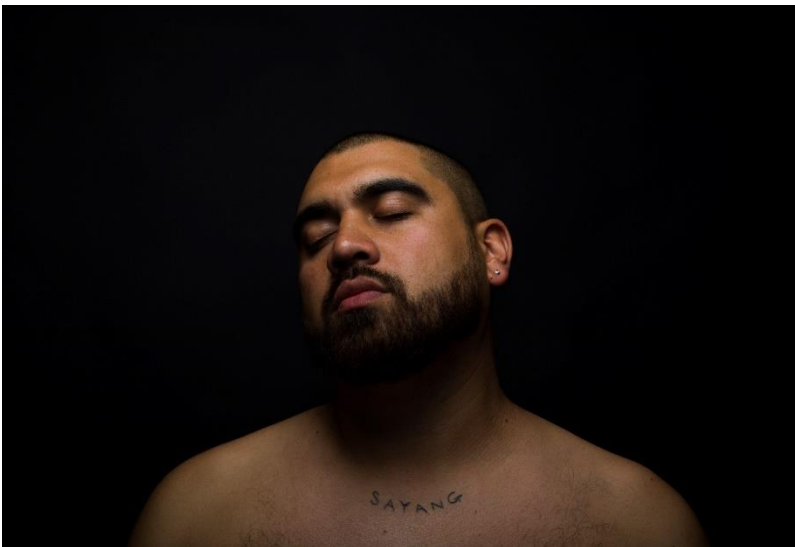


Arts Centre Melbourne and Australian Music Vault present

Since Ali Died

written and performed by Omar Musa
a Griffin Theatre Company Production



I'm standing in a boat next to Muhammad Ali, floating down a dark river...

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, 10 JUNE 2019 – Following its recent critically acclaimed season, [*Since Ali Died*](#) makes its Melbourne debut at Arts Centre Melbourne's Fairfax Studio from 13 – 17 August as part of [*Big World, Up Close*](#).

Rapper, poet and award-winning author **Omar Musa** brings his electrifying one-man show of politically-charged and deeply personal storytelling, rap and song, inspired by the passing of his personal hero, boxing legend **Muhammad Ali**.

At the core, Musa draws on Ali's legacy and spins them into stories of his own life, which hasn't been the same since Ali died. Using this sentiment as a lyrical springboard, Musa surrenders to the freedom of poetry, story and song by shining a light on diverse cultural perspectives.

Musa confronts everything from suburban violence, to lost love, to his Malaysian heritage and the dark realities of growing up as a brown-skinned Muslim boy in Queanbeyan.

Each phrase will hit the ear of the audience in this hypnotic and totally unmissable hour of theatre.

Since Ali Died recently won the Sydney Theatre Award for Best Cabaret.

★★★★ *"raw, honest, authentic; a smash hit"* – **Limelight**

★★★★ *"The show unfurls like the river imagery in Musa's evocative script: borne on a central, unstoppable current, fluid and fluent in a style of its own making."* – **Time Out**

"as personal as it is political" – **Audrey Journal**

Our partners



ticketmaster

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OUTDOOR

Arts Centre Melbourne
100 St Kilda Road,
Melbourne VIC 3004
PO Box 7585, Melbourne VIC 3004
artscentremelbourne.com.au

Arts Centre Melbourne's highly acclaimed series *Big World, Up Close* amplifies vital voices in contemporary performance giving space for fierce storytellers to reclaim and reframe our view of the world today. These stories know no limits and are more urgent than ever. Woven from raw emotion, brutal truths and radical love each story speaks across the fault lines between ancestry and contemporary existence. This year, it turns the spotlight on First Nations artists from New Zealand, Canada and Australia, as well as those representing Cambodian, Malaysian and African diasporas – it's a fearless new world in the making.

The Australian Music Vault charts the story of contemporary Australian music from the 1950s until today showcasing the iconic people, events and places that define Australian music.

Images can be found [here](#).

About Omar Musa

Omar Musa is a Malaysian-Australian rapper, poet and author from Queanbeyan. In his writing and music, he confronts the dark realities of Australian history and culture. He has released two solo hip hop records and an album with international duo MoneyKat. Musa's debut novel *Here Come the Dogs* has received widespread critical acclaim and praise from novelists Irvine Welsh and Christos Tsiolkas. He has recently toured across Asia, USA, Europe, South America and Australia, performing spoken word and hip hop, to launch the book. His diverse career achievements include being long listed for the Miles Franklin Award and named one of the SMH's Young Novelists of the Year in 2015, winning the Australian Poetry Slam in 2008, receiving a standing ovation at TEDx Sydney and releasing three books of poetry: *The Clocks* (2009), *Parang* (2013) and *Millefiori* (2017).

About Griffin Theatre Company

Located in the heart of Kings Cross, in the historic SBW Stables Theatre, Griffin has been dedicated to bringing the best Australian stories to the stage for the better part of four decades. They are passionate about theatre that's written by Australians, about Australians, for Australians to enjoy. Iconic plays such as *The Boys*, *Holding the Man* and *The Heartbreak Kid* all had their world premieres at Griffin. And many of our nation's most celebrated artists started their professional careers with us – Cate Blanchett, David Wenham, Michael Gow and Louis Nowra to name a few.

Creative Team

Written and Performed by: Omar Musa

Director: Anthea Williams

Plus a special guest performer

Arts Centre Melbourne and Australian Music Vault present

Since Ali Died

Fairfax Studio | 13 – 17 August 2019

13, 16 & 17 August | 7:30pm

14 – 15 August | 1pm

Duration: 65 minutes (no interval)

Warnings: adult themes and coarse language

Age: 15+

Bookings at artscentremelbourne.com.au

For more information about Arts Centre Melbourne, please visit www.artscentremelbourne.com.au or phone 1300 182 183. Become a fan of [Arts Centre Melbourne on Facebook](#) or follow [@artscentremelb](#) on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

For further media information and interviews, please contact Media Advisor Kara Bertoncini on (03) 8699 9553, 0438 423 308 or kara.bertoncini@artscentremelbourne.com.au.

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