

Arts Centre Melbourne and Melbourne International Arts Festival present

## *Gender Euphoria*



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, 22 JULY 2019** – After a sell-out, world premiere performance at the 2019 Midsumma Festival, cabaret icons **Mama Alto** and **Maude Davey** return to the stage with the next iteration of [Gender Euphoria](#) as part of the **Melbourne International Arts Festival** from 15 – 20 October in **The Famous Spiegeltent at Arts Centre Melbourne’s Forecourt**.

In what was the first-ever (and largest) ensemble of gender-diverse and Trans performers in Australia to come together on a main stage, *Gender Euphoria* flips gender dysphoria on its head and explores the distinctive joys that can come with being Trans.

The ensemble of 10 – featuring **Mama Alto, Amao Leota Lu, Miss Bailee Rose, Fury, Harvey Zeilinski, Mahla Bird, Mx Munro, Ned Dixon, Nevo Zisin** and **Quinn Eades** – explore gender, identity and personhood in what is a celebration of queer voices, and a rallying cry to empower Trans communities and artistic practices.

This show asks its performers to expand, nourish and extend their artistic practices to the point where many reached a profound sense of meaning through this revelatory experience.

Performer Amao Leota Lu says she “loved every moment” working with “such an amazing group of performers, sharing stories and being a part of something special. The heart is euphorically in love with itself. I’ve never felt prouder.”

Performer Nevo Zisin says “The amount of strength, emotion, Trans power and pain I got to feel through this show was transcendent” while musical director Ned Dixon exclaimed they’d “never been part of a more important and emotional show than *Gender Euphoria*. Receiving a standing ovation from our sold out near-400 strong audience made me so proud to be part of this Trans and gender-diverse storytelling and celebration.”

Trans elder **Karen d’Konyak** was also deeply moved by the performance opening up about how she cried “tears of love and joy. It’s no exaggeration to say the show is magnificent, stunning, inspiring, captivating, empowering. Channelling the emotion of all Trans folk, will be with me forever. Been tearing up with joy ever since I saw the show.”

In this joyous, binary-exploding celebration, audiences are invited to be immersed in the wonder of song, dance, poetry, burlesque and variety in this beautifully moving and insightful work.

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**Arts Centre Melbourne**  
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Melbourne VIC 3004  
PO Box 7585, Melbourne VIC 3004  
[artscentremelbourne.com.au](http://artscentremelbourne.com.au)

★★★★ “A humorous, heartfelt celebration of gender identity” – **Theatre People**

“The joy that comes from embracing Trans identity shouldn’t be so rare” – **The Guardian**

“Triumphant, honest, unpretentious, touching, and a vital celebration” – **Arts Hub**

“Being a part of that audience was electrifying” – **Witness Performance**

Images can be found [here](#).

#gendereuphoriashow

## **Cast & Creative Team**

**Co-Creator/Director:** Maude Davey (she/hers)

**Co-Creator/Performer:** Mama Alto (she/hers)

**Writers/Performers:** Amao Leota Lu (she/hers), Miss Bailee Rose (she/hers), Fury (they/them), Harvey Zeilinski (he/his), Mahla Bird (they/them or she/hers), Mx Munro (they/them), Ned Dixon (they/them), Nevo Zisin (they/them or he/his) and Quinn Eades (they/them or he/his)

**Musical Director:** Ned Dixon (they/them)

**Costumers:** Maddi Kraan and Ruby Slipper

**Head Leis:** Latisha Cooper

**Graphics:** John Frankland

**Auslan Interpreters:** Mac Gordon and Kirri Dangerfield

**Photographer:** Alexis Desaulniers-Lea

*Gender Euphoria was developed with the support of Arts Centre Melbourne, Midsumma Festival, Auspicious Arts Projects Inc. and Dancehouse.*

*This project has been assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, its arts funding and advisory body.*

*This project is supported by the Victorian Government through Creative Victoria.*

*This project is supported by the City of Melbourne Arts Grants Program.*

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***Gender Euphoria***

**The Famous Spiegeltent, Arts Centre Melbourne Forecourt**

**15 – 20 October | Tues – Sat 7:30pm, Sun 5pm**

**Duration: 85 minutes (no interval)**

**Accessibility: Auslan interpreted**

**Bookings at [artscentremelbourne.com.au](http://artscentremelbourne.com.au)**

For more information about Arts Centre Melbourne, please visit [www.artscentremelbourne.com.au](http://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](mailto:kara.bertoncini@artscentremelbourne.com.au).

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