

FRIDAY, 31 MARCH 2023

FEDERATION PERFORMING ARTS COMPANY LAUNCH THOUGHT-PROVOKING NEW PRODUCTION

Federation University Arts Academy students will take to the stage at the Helen Macpherson Smith Theatre in Ballarat for a thought-provoking new theatre production.

The production *Exquisite Corpse 3.0* features students from Federation's third year performing arts company and draws inspiration from The Uluru Statement of the Heart, while also exploring themes from ancient Persian text *The Conference of the Birds* to invoke a heart touching journey of the soul.

Directed by Kellie Tori and Scott Middleton, with musical direction by Shauntai Sherree and Anthony Crowley, creative mentoring by Zoy Frangos and design by Gus Powers; *Exquisite Corpse 3.0* features two, one-hour acts of imaginative and thought-provoking theatre that combines elements of text, cabaret, music, and movement.

The *Exquisite Corpse* method of artistic collaboration was adapted from the historic game of the same name where participants took turns committing a creative idea or theme to paper, before folding the paper to conceal their contribution and passing it to the next player for further contribution. This method has since been adopted by artists as a way of creatively collaboration.

Exquisite Corpse 3.0 will run at the Helen Macpherson Smith Theatre at Federation's Ballarat Campus (Camp St) on Lydiard Street North with daily shows from Friday, March 31 to Wednesday, April 5. Tickets can be purchased on [Federation University's Eventbrite page](#).

Quote attributable to Federation University Arts Academy Acting Director, Dr Angela Campbell

"Kellie Tori and Scott Middleton (Directors), Shauntai Sherree, Anthony Crowley (Musical Directors), Zoy Frangos (Dramaturge) and Gus Powers (Designer) come together as the creative team who lead our third year students as they dive deep into these rich texts to ask a series of questions: how do we move forward personally across divided territories, how do we share space in an increasingly polarised world, and how do we connect our stories in a country which is also home to the oldest contemporary culture on earth? I warmly invite the Ballarat community to come see this production to enjoy how our students bring these topics to life."

Quote attributable to Musical Director, Shauntai Sherree

"Working with the third-year students has been an incredible experience. I am inspired by their passion, respect and support towards each other and their commitment and dedication to creating something special and memorable for this year's Exquisite Corpse production."

About Federation University Australia

With a history spanning over 150 years, Federation University Australia is Victoria's premier regional dual-sector university with campuses located in Ballarat, Berwick, Brisbane, Gippsland and Wimmera. From 2018-2022 Federation ranked first in Australia for first-generation student enrolments. In a first for Australia, the globally recognised co-operative education model will be embedded across all Federation programs from 2025.