

LET US ENTERTAIN YOU



Mackay Entertainment & Convention Centre
2011 Professional Theatre & Music Season

MACKAY
ENTERTAINMENT
CONVENTION
CENTRE



A BUSINESS UNIT OF
MACKAY REGIONAL COUNCIL

Let us entertain you

In 2011, the Mackay Entertainment & Convention Centre has a fantastic range of shows catering for people of all ages and tastes. Comedy, music, drama, circus and children's shows are all featured, allowing the people of Mackay and visitors to our region access to the very best of Australian entertainment.

Iconic Australian actors and companies feature heavily this year and we are delighted to welcome Reg Livermore, Nancy Hayes and Steve Bisley as well as *The Searchers* (UK), the *Creole Choir of Cuba*, State Opera Company of NSW, Bell Shakespeare Company, Australian Chamber Orchestra (ACO2), and the acclaimed Bangarra Dance Company.

Quite simply there is no reason to leave Mackay to see high quality theatre, it's right here on your doorstep at the MECC.

We are indebted to our sponsors who help us bring this stellar line up to Mackay.

So please let us entertain you in 2011. We look forward to seeing you soon.



MARK FAWCETT
Season Director

Mackay Professional Theatre & Music Season 2011

Why not subscribe to the 2011 Mackay Professional Theatre & Music Season and enjoy a great range of benefits!

Choose a minimum of just five theatre or music shows contained within this brochure to create a package and enjoy the benefits of reduced price tickets and free ticket exchange. Buy a Gold Package and receive a complimentary ice cream at each performance. Package buyers will also receive a range of offers as other shows go on sale during 2011. Our e-news and website will keep you informed of offers during the year.

Remember the more shows you subscribe to, the greater the benefits.

Additional Tickets for Package Buyers

Package buyers have the option to purchase additional tickets to all shows for friends or family. So even if your friends are not package buyers, you can add their tickets to your booking form and all be seated together.

Ticket Exchanges – Theatre Shows

You may exchange your ticket to a theatre show for another performance in the season (where available), provided the ticket is received by the box office prior to the first performance of that show. This service is free for package buyers. Sorry, refunds are not available at any time.

Vouchers

Gift vouchers will only be accepted at time of booking.





Café Rebetika!

In association with Kultour and the Victorian Arts Centre

TUESDAY 26 APRIL > 7.30PM
MECC AUDITORIUM

Café Rebetika! is an epic story of the heart; a passionate and uplifting musical theatre production which tells a dramatic love story set in the slums of 1930s urban Greece amongst the rise of rebetika, the "Greek blues". The darkly beautiful songs of rebetika tell the raw and often bawdy hard-luck stories of outcast people in turbulent times.

Vividly capturing the characters at the heart of the Greek blues — drug addicts, prostitutes, anarchists, refugees, prisoners, Communists, drifters and mangas (men of integrity in this underworld), this is a performance not to be missed.

The 2011 National Tour of *Café Rebetika!* is presented by Kultour (an initiative of the Australia Council for the Arts) in association with The Follies Company. Kultour acknowledges the support of Casula Powerhouse (Kultour Member) in tour development and The Arts Centre, Melbourne, in creative development.

TICKETS >

Adult	\$38.00	Friends	\$30.00
Concession	\$35.00	Group 6+	\$30.00
Student U18	\$22.00	Package	\$28.00
Dinner	\$45.00	Package Dinner	\$38.00

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Melbourne International Comedy Festival Roadshow

Melbourne International Comedy Festival

FRIDAY 29 APRIL > 7.30PM
MECC AUDITORIUM

After being cooped up in the dark rooms of Melbourne for close to a month, the Melbourne International Comedy Festival's most adventurous (and bravest) comedians are chomping at the bit to break out from the barriers and hit the road for a whistle-stop tour of this Great Southern Land.

Now in its 13th year, the Roadshow shares the Comedy Festival vibe with punters outside the Melbourne area code. From Devonport to Darwin, Broken Hill to Bunbury, a cast of big local names, newcomers and overseas guests prove there's nowhere a comedian fears to tread.

If you're lucky this show may contain coarse language, sexual references and material that can offend. It is not recommended for children under the age of 15.

TICKETS >

Adult	\$35.00	Friends	\$28.00
Concession	\$32.00	Group 6+	\$28.00
Student U18	\$22.00	Package	\$26.00
Dinner	\$45.00	Package Dinner	\$38.00

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Motherhood The Musical

Writer Sue Fabisch
 Producer Christine Harris & HIT Productions in association
 with Robert C Kelly

WEDNESDAY 11 MAY > 7.30PM
THURSDAY 12 MAY > 2PM
 MECC AUDITORIUM

A baby is just the beginning. Motherhood is for life.

Motherhood The Musical is a hilarious, musical journey about the lives of four mums. There's Barb, the over-worked, underpaid, stressed-out mother of five. Brooke the lawyer, who works too much and barely sees her kids. Trisha's a single mum who's struggling to juggle it all and Amy is a naive 20-something about to have her first child.

It's the joyous journey and loving look at the blessings and perils of being a Mum.

Brought to you by the Producers of *Menopause The Musical®*, *Motherhood The Musical* will travel nationally for 45 weeks in 2011 to capital city, metropolitan and regional theatre venues throughout Australia.

TICKETS >

Adult	\$38.00	Friends	\$30.00
Concession	\$35.00	Group 6+	\$30.00
Student U18	\$22.00	Package	\$28.00
Dinner	\$45.00	Package Dinner	\$38.00



Breast Wishes *An Uplifting Musical*

Bien-Etre Productions
 Music & Lyrics: Bruce Brown
 Written by: Merridy Eastman, Jonathan Gavin, Richard Glover, Wendy Harmer, Sheridan Jobbins, James Millar and Debra Oswald
 Concept by: Anne Looby

TUESDAY 12 JULY > 7.30PM
WEDNESDAY 13 JULY > 2PM
 MECC AUDITORIUM

Breast Wishes is an uplifting new Australian musical about life, love, family and silicon.

Meet four women: sisters, Lyn & Carol; Mum, Helen & cousin Sal; add a fumbling boyfriend, a well meaning husband and a bra-fitter who's seen it all and you will be taken on a witty and heart-warming journey through laughter to triumph.

With a brilliant cast and some show stopping numbers, *Breast Wishes* is a sophisticated and hilarious glimpse of cleavage and beyond which promises to make your heart sing!

It really is a celebration of breasts...and those who support them.

TICKETS >

Adult	\$38.00	Friends	\$30.00
Concession	\$35.00	Group 6+	\$30.00
Student U18	\$22.00	Package	\$28.00
Dinner	\$45.00	Package Dinner	\$38.00



Krakouer!

by Reg Cribbs
Deckchair Theatre

THURSDAY 14 JULY > 8PM
SARINA CULTURAL HALL

Mount Barker's most famous sons, Jim and Phil Krakouer took the Australian football world by storm in the early 1980s. Their unique and anarchic brand of football, dubbed "black magic", captured the imagination of the nation. This is the story of the challenges they faced in their rise to the top of their game; their skill, daring and resilience both on and off the sporting field, and the controversy and adversity that has met them throughout their lives.

But this is more than a tale of football prowess. This is about two 'Brother boys' who fought with and for each other against racial vilification, gambling addiction, an unforgiving legal system and personal tragedy.

TICKETS >

Adult	\$38.00	Friends	\$30.00
Concession	\$35.00	Group 6+	\$30.00
Student U18	\$22.00	Package	\$28.00



URNS

A pantomime with a twist
Devised and written by Reg Livermore
Christine Dunstan Productions
A stary stary night
Starring Nancye Hayes and Reg Livermore
With Vincent Colagiuri on the keyboard

SATURDAY 16 JULY > 7.30PM
SUNDAY 17 JULY > 2PM
MECC AUDITORIUM

Two icons of Australian Theatre, Nancye Hayes & Reg Livermore take to the stage in the world premiere tour of *URNS* - a reflection on identity, family, show business ... and completely losing your marbles!

Pantomime star Marjory Joy is on her last legs (or is she?). As she reflects on a life spent in show business (or was it?), her son Alistair tries to understand this woman, all women - and to come to terms with one woman in particular ...

URNS was especially created for these two stars - from the pen and vivid imagination - of Reg Livermore himself. Let these two legends take you on a theatrical journey which will surprise and delight you.

TICKETS >

Adult	\$38.00	Friends	\$30.00
Concession	\$35.00	Group 6+	\$30.00
Student U18	\$22.00	Package	\$28.00
Dinner	\$45.00	Package Dinner	\$38.00



The Sum Of Us

Playwright: David Stevens

Producer: Christine Harris & HIT Productions

THURSDAY 29 SEPTEMBER > 7.30PM
MECC AUDITORIUM

Starring one of Australia's top actors, Steve Bisley (*Water Rats*, *Police Rescue*, *The Flying Doctors*), *The Sum of Us* is a bitter sweet comedy that revolves around the devoted and loving relationship between widower, Harry and his homosexual son, Jeff, and their individual search for a partner.

Jeff is interested in Greg, a young public works gardener he met at a local pub and Harry begins dating Joyce, a woman he met through a dating service. Harry's unconditional love and acceptance of his son's sexuality is a bit too daunting for Greg, whose homophobic father keeps Greg in the closet and wary of the comfortable relationship Harry and Jeff share.

The play illuminates the eternal human need to transcend our separateness, to embark upon the difficult but necessary road to an accepting and loving connection with others.

TICKETS >

Adult	\$38.00	Friends	\$30.00
Concession	\$35.00	Group 6+	\$30.00
Student U18	\$22.00	Package	\$28.00
Dinner	\$45.00	Package Dinner	\$38.00

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Bell Shakespeare

Julius Caesar

By William Shakespeare

Directed By Peter Evans

With Alex Menglet and Kate Mulvany

SATURDAY 1 OCTOBER > 2PM & 7.30PM
MECC AUDITORIUM

To see the future one must only look to the past.

They conspired. They persuaded. They whispered it was for the good of the country. All they needed to succeed was Brutus. Poor patriotic Brutus. He was like a son to Caesar and a poster boy for the republic. But not even a front-man of such unimpeachable integrity could avert the total and utter disaster their daggers set in motion.

Peter Evans, Bell Shakespeare's new Associate Artistic Director, takes this momentous piece of Roman history and transports it to the corridors of backroom politics. This time, when Caesar gets the axe, it's the media who roar like an angry mob.

This sharp political drama puts friendship to the test and reveals a stark contrast between our intentions and our actions.

TICKETS >

Adult	\$38.00	Friends	\$30.00
Concession	\$35.00	Group 6+	\$30.00
Student U18	\$22.00	Package	\$28.00
Dinner	\$45.00	Package Dinner	\$38.00

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Bangarra Dance Theatre **Mathinna**

A girl's journey between two cultures
A work by Stephen Page

WEDNESDAY 9 NOVEMBER > 7.30PM
MECC AUDITORIUM

Inspired by a girl's journey between two cultures, *Mathinna* traces the history of an Aboriginal girl removed from her traditional life, adopted into Western Colonial society to be ultimately returned to the fragments of her original heritage. *Mathinna* became the archetype of the 'stolen child' and, in this work, Bangarra Dance Theatre recreates her powerful story of vulnerability and searching in an era of confusion and intolerance.

"The theatrical strength of the dance and its ideas make *Mathinna* a benchmark in Bangarra's repertoire."
Sydney Morning Herald

TICKETS >

Adult	\$38.00	Friends	\$30.00
Concession	\$35.00	Group 6+	\$30.00
Student U18	\$22.00	Package	\$28.00
Dinner	\$45.00	Package Dinner	\$38.00



This tour has been made possible
by the New South Wales
Government through Arts NSW.



Communities
arts logo

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The Ten Sopranos

SUNDAY 20 MARCH > 7PM
MECC AUDITORIUM

The Ten Sopranos are a combination of classical and contemporary singers from the State Opera Company of NSW. They deliver a varied repertoire of operatic favourites and well chosen popular songs from Puccini to The Beatles. The Ten Sopranos are visually pleasing, artistically clever and vocally exciting, they will simply mesmerise you with their vocal abilities. Featuring the critically acclaimed soprano Penny Pavlakis, this show is original, world class and beautifully delivered.

TICKETS >

Adult	\$38.00	Friends	\$30.00
Concession	\$35.00	Group 6+	\$30.00
Student U18	\$22.00	Package	\$28.00
Dinner	\$45.00	Package Dinner	\$38.00

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Julien Wilson Trio

SUNDAY 7 AUGUST > 7PM
MECC NORTH FOYER

Julien Wilson has stood out as an exceptional talent since winning the National Jazz Award in 1994. Since then he has recorded and performed with Australia's finest musicians.

The *Julien Wilson Trio* has mesmerized audiences with their intimacy and special magic, having performed at major venues in Australia such as the Sydney Opera House and the National Gallery of Victoria. They have also been featured at many of Australia's premier festivals including the Melbourne International Arts Festival, Wangaratta and Eltham Jazz Festivals, and the Queensland and Queenscliff Music Festivals.

TICKETS >

Adult	\$35.00	Friends	\$28.00
Concession	\$32.00	Group 6+	\$28.00
Student U18	\$22.00	Package	\$26.00
Dinner	\$45.00	Package Dinner	\$38.00

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ACO2

THURSDAY 18 AUGUST > 7.30PM
MECC AUDITORIUM

ACO2 connects the next generation of talented young Australian musicians with the stars of the ACO, creating a combined ensemble with a fresh, energetic performance style.

The young musicians have all participated in the ACO's Qantas Emerging Artist program. Many already play in the state symphony orchestras but choose to spend time experiencing the ACO's high-octane performance style. If you have the opportunity to attend an ACO2 concert, you will leave feeling confident about the future of music-making in Australia.

TICKETS >

Adult	\$38.00	Friends	\$30.00
Concession	\$35.00	Group 6+	\$30.00
Student U18	\$22.00	Package	\$28.00
Dinner	\$45.00	Package Dinner	\$38.00

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PRESENTING PARTNER



MAJOR PARTNER





SPECIAL EVENT

The Searchers

Presented by ATA All Star Artists
and Mackay Entertainment & Convention Centre

FRIDAY 11 FEBRUARY > 8PM
MECC AUDITORIUM

The Searchers are as much in demand today as they have been throughout their fantastic career which now remarkably spans five decades.

Enjoy a night of memories full of *The Searchers'* legendary hits, 'B' sides, favourite album tracks and a whole bunch of terrific new material. Combined with anecdotes and reminiscences delivered in an intimate and personal way that is unique to *The Searchers*, the band regularly packs theatres both in their home country of England and abroad.

In 2008, *The Searchers* made a welcome and deserved return to the UK album charts with the release of '*The Very Best of The Searchers*'. A 25 track compilation of all their classic hits including *Sweets For My Sweet, Needles and Pins, Don't Throw Your Love Away, When You Walk In The Room, Sugar and Spice, Love Potion No. 9* and many others.

Don't miss *The Searchers* live in Mackay!

TICKETS >

Full	\$55.00	Friends/Subscribers \$45.00
Concession	\$49.00	



SPECIAL EVENT

The Creole Choir of Cuba

Presented by ATA All Star Artists
and Mackay Entertainment & Convention Centre

SUNDAY 3 APRIL > 7PM
MECC AUDITORIUM

Prepare to be blown away! This vibrant 10 piece choir – five men and five women who dance when they sing are a cornucopia of remarkable voices. They hail from beautiful Camaguey, Cuba's third city and a designated UNESCO World Heritage site.

Multiple award winners, this Grammy nominated Choir sings the vital music from their Cuban homelands, songs learnt at home from grandparents and parents as well as contemporary songs from the Haitian scene. *The Creole Choir of Cuba* has been chosen by Peter Gabriel to record their debut album on Real World Records (Peter's record label), after he saw them perform at WOMAD.

The Creole Choir has received rave reviews around the world and a five star rating at the 2009 Edinburgh Fringe Festival. They are touring Australia's capital cities and other select venues in 2011 including Mackay! Phenomenal, sensational and exquisite are just some of the words used to describe this world class act.

TICKETS >

Full	\$65.00	Friends/Subscribers \$55.00
Concession	\$59.00	



Treat yourself to a visual & culinary feast...

Make a night of it and select a pre-dining option to compliment your show.

MECC's in-house award winning catering by '**Grinders Corporate Catering**' will provide the perfect touch to ensure a great night out.

Seasonal menus are created and are available with all MECC shows. Make your selections from the menu provided online or simply request the show menu when you book by phone.

The Centre's Box Office and dining facilities open 90 mins prior to the commencement of the evening performance.

Meals must be pre-ordered prior to the performance day. Our retail cafe is able to supply light meals for those who have not pre-ordered.

PLACE YOUR ORDER TODAY
P 4961 9777 OR F 4961 9778

Year at a Glance

THEATRE SHOWS

Day	Date	Show	Time
TUE	26 APR	Café Rebetika!	7.30pm
FRI	29 APR	Melbourne International Comedy Festival Roadshow	7.30pm
WED THU	11 MAY 12 MAY	Motherhood The Musical	7.30pm 2pm
TUE WED	12 JUL 13 JUL	Breast Wishes	7.30pm 2pm
THU	14 JUL	Krakouer!	8pm
SAT SUN	16 JUL 17 JUL	URNS	7.30pm 2pm
THU	29 SEP	The Sum of Us	7.30pm
SAT	01 OCT	Julius Caesar	2pm 7.30pm
WED	09 NOV	Mathinna	7.30pm

MUSIC SHOWS

Day	Date	Show	Time
FRI	11 FEB	The Searchers	8pm
SUN	20 MAR	The Ten Sopranos	7pm
SUN	03 APR	The Creole Choir of Cuba	7pm
SUN	07 AUG	Julien Wilson Trio	7pm
THU	18 AUG	ACO2	7.30pm



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