

MEDIA RELEASE

Melbourne
Fringe



15 August 2011

2 Gentlemen

2 guys, 2 girls, Shakespeare. What could go wrong?

'2 Gentlemen' is a modern adaptation of Shakespeare's lesser-known comedy about misogyny, friendship and love. Directed by Sharmini Kumar at Gasworks Arts Park for the Melbourne Fringe Festival, this production explores the themes of gender roles and relationships through mannequins and social media.

While seeing a production of 'The Two Gentlemen of Verona', Sharmini was struck by the way male characters treated the female characters as though they were puppets or dolls. This idea shaped the staging of the play, where men often choose to interact with a mannequin rather than a woman.

The plot involves two friends find themselves competing for the affection of one woman - in spite of one man being engaged to another woman. This production takes a playful attitude towards some of the elements common to Shakespeare's plays: love, betrayal and cross-dressing.

In order to provide additional commentary on the play and to allow audience members to add their own comments, an interactive twitter feed will be projected onto a screen in the theatre.

"2 Gentlemen is about how men and women interact." - Sharmini Kumar

"How much have our notions of gender really changed since Shakespeare's time?" - Sharmini Kumar

"With social media we can share people's reactions to what happens onstage." - Sharmini Kumar

<http://2gentlemenfringe.com>

2 Gentlemen

VENUE

Gasworks Studio Theatre
21 Graham St
Albert Park, Victoria 3206

DATES: 21-24 Sept
TIME: 7.00pm (60min)

TICKETS

Full: \$19.00

Concession: \$16.00

Preview: \$16.00

Group: \$16.00

TO BOOK visit melbournefringe.com.au or call (03) 9660 9666

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